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WINDHAM

Sister City Committee

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DECEMBER, 2006: 2006 marked the 14th year of Windham's relationship with our Sister City, Suzdal, Russia. During the year, there was much contact between citizens of Windham and citizens of Suzdal, although no actual exchange of delegations occurred. A planned trip to Suzdal in August was postponed because of the late arrival of the official invitations. Telephone calls and email messages have kept the Committee updated on happenings in Suzdal and kept Suzdal updated on Windham news as well.

The Administration of Suzdal is very anxious to have more Windham citizens, including more Windham elected officials, visit their town.

The next planned visit by the Windham Committee is planned for April school vacation in 2007. During this visit the committee plans to begin the arrangements for another Suzdal student exchange for the fall of 2007. The visit will be similar to the visit in May 2004 by nine 13 and 14 year old students and their English teachers. The students will spend time at Windham Middle School, visit historic sites and live with host families. When arrangements for this exchange are complete, the Committee will ask for assistance from any who wish to assist during the two week stay.

Each year the budget of the Town of Windham has an appropriation of \$500.00, which is carried to the Directors of the orphanages (Children's Homes #2 and #5). The Mission Committee of the Windham Presbyterian Church has also donated a gift of \$1000.00 to this special cause. Each time the Committee visits these Homes, the Directors are eager to show what our contributions have helped to accomplish. Our connection with these orphanages has special meaning. Each time we visit, there are new faces replacing those of the beautiful children who have been adopted, to European countries and to the United States. It is very pleasing to see three adopted siblings living a happy, healthy life right here in Windham.

The Committee continues to have a relationship with the women of the quilt club, Suzdal Swatch. Wall hanging quilts are made by these women and are for sale by the Committee with 100% of the money being returned to the author of each quilt. A few quilts are displayed at the Tax Collectors office and more quilts may be seen by calling 898-9520 or email bacrdh@aol.com.

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