RapAroundRapAroundRapAround

RapAround

JOAN M. SMITH, Editor

Brother John Reidy (in hat) wasn't taking any chances with the weather while over in the Soviet Union. He was bundled up for whatever atmospheric conditions Russia offered. Above, he, Kevin Colin, Mike Krowl and Paul Pohunow paused for photo during the hectic commotion of boarding their plane for New York.

Travels With Brother Reidy

By Joan M. Smith

Brother John Reidy's voice crackled with excitement when describing a recent visit to the Soviet Union. Brother teaches Social Studies at Bishop Kearney High School and he along with faculty members Brother DeLorenzo, Ms. Barbara Hurysz, Doris Britt, Margaret Mueller and 16 students toured Moscow and Leningrad.

"The weather was beautiful," he exclaimed. "Sunshine everyday except for our first day."

He described Moscow as the most interesting of the two cities but said, "Leningrad was a whole different ballgame." He referred to the people who he said were more open, more willing to smile and weren't as provincial as the Moscovites.

While in Moscow, the group visited Red Square with its imposing edifice of St. Basil's Cathedral, the Kremlin and rode the crack Moscow subway. Everyone was impressed with the white marble stations which are kept immaculately clean.

They toured Moscow University where a Russian student class in English class to meet with the BKers and show them around. They had a great time talking about Western music and records.

According to Brother, there is an intensive of preparation for the 1980 Summer Olympics. While visiting Lenin Stadium, the group noticed four huge light towers being erected as well as a vast amount of building and renovation being conducted.

Another tour included a visit to Moscow's Children's Palace which offers a variety of activity for Russian children of all ages. The Moscow school day is from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. after which the students have the option of either staying for private academic lessons or going to a children's center where they pursue athletic training and athletic training in various sports.

The travelers were amazed at the Soviet preoccupation with snow removal. Every street and every corner had its group of women who constantly shoveled and swept away the snow drifts.

From Moscow it was the overnight train to Leningrad where they stayed at the Astoria Hotel situated across the square from St. Isaac's Cathedral. A particular highlight for them in Leningrad was a tour of the Hermitage which contains room after room of art; everything from Rembrandt to Picasso.

Every journey has its anxious moments and this one was no exception. Brother Reidy told about the student who the night before they were to leave, discovered he had lost his money declaration. This can be a difficult situation in Russia. Soviet money is not allowed outside the country, therefore, all money transactions are carefully recorded on this declaration. This form is then checked, at the airport, with purchases and the Russian money left. Luckily, the young gentleman had spent all his money and there wasn't a problem.

What was the overall feeling about the Soviet Union?

"My own feeling," said Brother, "is it is very sad that they have wiped out their whole culture." He noted, however, that the government is beginning to do an excellent job of restoration — especially with the churches.

Would he go back? "Yes," he said and indicated that it would be to Siberia and the Lake Baikal region next time.

On The Go

AQUINAS

Friday, March 23 — Red Cross assembly.

CARDINAL MOONEY

Thursday, March 22 — Candy drive begins and continues to April 3.

Saturday, March 24 — Notre Dame University Concert Band, auditorium, 8 p.m.

Sunday, March 25 — Freshmen Liturgy and Communion Breakfast.

March 26-30 — Pre-registration interviews.

MCQUAID

Tuesday, March 27 — Penance Service and confession, 8:47 a.m.

NAZARETH

Thursday, March 22 — Junior class meeting; sophomore class meeting, gym; senior class meeting, room 317. Theology and Art department meetings.

Monday, March 26 — Finance meeting, 4-5:30 p.m.; Music department meeting, 6:15 p.m.

Tuesday, March 27 — Black Seeds assembly, 1:35 p.m.; principals meeting at Mercy.

NOTRE DAME

Friday, March 23 — Faculty prayer, 8:10 a.m.; vocations program; Liturgy 10 a.m.

Monday, March 26 — Liturgy, 8:45 a.m.

Wednesday, March 28 — Liturgy, 9:30 a.m.

OUR LADY OF MERCY

Friday, March 23 — Spaghetti Supper, 6-8 p.m. Mission Bazaar, 7:30-11 p.m.

Saturday, March 24 — Pizza Supper, 6-8 p.m.; Mission Bazaar, 7:30-11 p.m.

Monday, March 26 — Report cards distributed; administrative board meeting, 3 p.m.

ST. AGNES

Wednesday, March 21 — Chorus Concert, St. John's Home.

Friday, March 23 — American Cancer Society Daffodil Day.

Wednesday, March 28 — Mini Recital, auditorium, 3 p.m.