

KONOVALOV—RUSSIA

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Shopping for office furnishings at Ikea

doctor's offices are lacking. They usually look and feel very "cold" and uninviting. We want to change that stereotype. We purchased rugs for the floor, a corner desk, some frames for the chiropractic posters, a very nice Da Vinci's "perfect man" for the wall, a curtain to separate the two rooms and a couple of other things. We took a few of the items with us and had the rest to be delivered to the hospital within the next two days.

When we returned to the hotel we all had pizza and continued the work on the WHO document into the wee hours of the morning. It was different this time; Elena had found the "little stickers!"

FRIDAY

We came to the hospital a few hours before the arranged meeting with Dr. Taits. We did that so we had enough time to work with the office and to take care of a number of other things. We carefully planned the exact location of each item to make the office the most efficient. We didn't have everything we purchased the day before but the plans we drew were of great help to me the following week.

By then it was time to meet with Dr. Taits. We updated him on the project and signed the final formal agreement.

After that we met with the head of Radiology and checked the hospital's x-ray capabilities to see how they could best facilitate our radiographic needs. Full spine films were out of the question and we hope to be able to help them improve their quality and capacity. *If you know anyone or any institution who would like to donate a used functioning x-ray machine please let Dr. Durrett know as she is coordinating this effort as well.*

I also had the chance to check out the mini-hospital there within the hospital, which is like a small apartment. This would serve as my home for the next two or so weeks.

We returned to the hotel and got dressed up for the evening. I can hardly call it "dressed up", as we wore suits and ties most of the time. Dr. Tetrault and I walked the city's famous Nevsky prospect. We continued to discuss Chiropractic and its future in Russia.

The evening was a perfect conclusion to the entire trip. A traditional "Russian Dinner" at Davidoff restaurant. Joining us for dinner were a few of the local individuals who had been instrumental in some of the successes that we experienced during this week.

We got back to the hotel past midnight as usual. Dr. Durrett and Dr. Tetrault fin-



We had an important meeting with Dr. Nikolii Blinnikov (R), and Dr. Petrov of the International Department of St. Petersburg Public Health Committee.



Meeting with everyone and getting all agreements formalized. L to R: Dr. Boris Taits, Dr. Alexandre Taits, myself, Dr. Michal Tetrault and Dr. Sherry Durrett.

ished packing while I looked through my notes and asked last minute questions. We continued talking and discussing upcoming events and steps till I was standing in the middle of the empty street in the early morning looking at a small green car sprinting away.

Making the move

Currently I am in Moldova packing and picking up my new Russian passport that will allow me the opportunity to move there, work, and be a Russian citizen. I will be returning to St. Petersburg to begin practicing in the clinic that we set up in the out-patient clinic of St. Elizabeth Hospital in July.

Much work and support is still needed on this project. More clinics



Enjoying a traditional "Russian Dinner" the night before my friends and colleagues have to return home and I stay behind to start my new life and work in St. Petersburg.

need to be opened as well as plans for a Chiropractic College/s. If you would like more information on this project or wish to help, please check out the website www.csintl.org/russia.html or contact Dr. Sherry Durrett at drdurrett@msn.com.

Alexandre Konovalov, D.C. graduated from Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport in 2004. He returned to Moldova to start a practice in that country and met with Dr. Sherry Durrett in 2005 and became interested in the "Russia" project. Dr. Konovalov's wife and son are still in Iowa and will be joining him in St. Petersburg later this year as soon as he is more settled in his new "home."

WELSH—COMMENTARY

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of the authors? I know this is not the intention of COCSA, nor is it the intention of the CCGPP. It seems that there has been a huge disconnect between the expectations of the council and the ability of the research commission to meet those expectations. You all know what they say... "Nice try, but no cigar."

Stephen Welsh, D.C. was elected to the ICA Board of Directors in May 2006 and is one of the members appointed to the Presidential Committee to review the CCGPP Guidelines. A graduate of Life University, Dr. Welsh is currently president and CFO of Care-More Enterprises, Inc. in Roswell, Georgia.

Editor's Note:

Dr. Sherry Durrett is the "Project Manager of the Russia initiatives. Thanks to her consistent and dedicated efforts as well as the commitment, help and contributions of many other DCs and friends, this project now has it's first chiropractor at St. Elizabeth Hospital in St. Petersburg, Russia.

But help in the way of sponsors is still needed. Dr. Durrett says their ultimate goal is to establish a chiropractic college in St. Petersburg. If chiropractic is to grow and serve the Russian population, she said, there must be a school to teach and graduate Russian chiropractors.

Dr. Durrett, who is based in Texas, is one of the first Philosophy Diplomates of the ICA Council on Chiropractic Philosophy. For more information you may contact Dr. Durrett at drdurrett@msn.com.

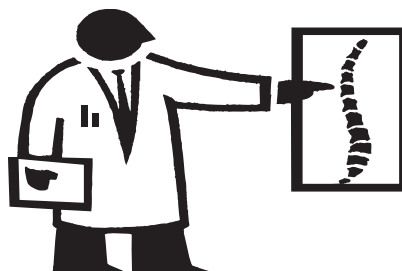
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