



### **LARAC MISSION STATEMENT**

The Los Angeles Russian American Club offers a friendly environment for Russians to get together with other Russians to hang out for the purpose of conversing and doing interesting activities. Some activities can be Russian cultural in nature like going to a concert, ballet, theatre or having a poetry recital. Other examples are attending Russian movies, festivals or a banya. A strong emphasis is put on health by promoting physical exercise such as: hiking, kayaking, biking, playing tennis, etc. If you don't see something you'd like to do, we will offer the support needed to help you set it up. Some examples of outings that have been or are being set up by members are: (1) a Monthly Informal Russian Evening with the Russian American Club where we dine out at restaurants in the West Hollywood area; (2) a monthly picnic/pot luck in a tranquil park in the nearby hills with a lake frequented by wild birds; (3) opportunities for interested members to help promote a social cause to aid a group of needy children who live in Russia.

This is a good place for Russians who don't get a chance to use their native language and would like people to talk with so they can keep from forgetting it.

This is a good place for native English speaking Americans to have an opportunity to hear Russian conversations between native Russian speakers so as to improve on the Russian you have learned and studied in school.

Different cultures have different standards and mores. Russians who are new to this country may become perplexed by the American culture; likewise for Americans visiting Russia. The Los Angeles Russian American Club offers a safe and fun place to learn about the subtle differences between our cultures. Because this Club has native speakers of Russian and English, it is a great place to get help to prevent making those potentially embarrassing mistakes by accidentally saying something insulting or inadvertently doing something offensive.

A person who is born and raised in a country knows more about that country, its culture and proper ways of doing things than any person who is new to that culture can possibly know. The importance of LARAC is to offer each other the help we need in knowing how to proceed in our mutual cultures of interest.