Russian botanist visits Arboretum

By Forrest Adams

The enthusiasts in Yurii Samoilenko’s “Name, face, place, time ...” is following his passion. Yurii, a director of a botanic garden in Moscow, has worked with students and staff at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum for the past 30 years. He visited the arboretum in December as part of a month-long visit.

Samoilenko calls his enthusiasm for botany passionate and very serious and lets people know that it’s not just a job after all. “People are very nice in the city,” he said.

The Russian professor speaks genuinely about his love of botany and his desire to continue his studies through his time in St. Paul. He is a director of a 13-year-old public garden which, as recently as the 90s and 70s, was “nobody caring for it.”

There was new construction, but he, along with his students, still put seed into the garden. “It was a hard project,” he said. For this project, the professor contacted the Yurii Olovskiy, head of the garden.

“Then he decided to contact the University of Minnesota Arboretum for help and the Arboretum director, ommitts, decided to help and develop the project and the arboretum became a place of more significance.”

Samoilenko and the collaboratation with the University of Minnesota Arboretum will provide work for the Yurii University and bass the Russians. The Russians continue to keep them involved, and will help them with the plants and the project.

The work is as follows:

1) Provide new magnetic signs and information about the Arboretum.
2) Provide new liquid fluoride in the water system.
3) Provide new digital project information.

A meeting to discuss the plan will be on December 1, 2010, at 4 p.m. for the planning committee.

For more information, contact Yurii Olovskiy, Arboretum director, at 612-724-1915 or e-mail olvskiy@umn.edu.

Jean’s Day for Charity a SUCCESS!

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Jean’s Day was celebrated the last Friday of each month!

Upcoming Charity: December 31 — Carver Scott Humane Society

If your organization is interested in participating please contact Jennifer Sorenson at 952-345-6477 or jenniferw@me.com