



New York State Assembly

Citation

HONORING St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary at the Crestwood Historical Society's Awards Ceremony to be held at said establishment on Friday, October 17, 2008

WHEREAS, It is fit and proper to commend religious institutions that have distinguished themselves by their outstanding dedication and achievement in the community and in historical preservation; and

WHEREAS, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary is one of only three seminaries in the United States providing a graduate education and its dedication to rescuing Orthodox literature from destruction from the Eastern Bloc Communist governments can be proved from its library containing the largest collection of such literature in the English speaking world; and

WHEREAS, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary has taken on the great task of translating the rescued Russian texts into many languages so it can be understood and appreciated world wide, in addition to becoming the largest publisher of new Orthodox works and helping new Orthodox Seminaries to maintain and broaden the education of the vast number under the Orthodox faith; and

WHEREAS, Affected tremendously by the Cold War, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary's important role during the period included a Radio Free Europe program broadcast weekly by the Very Reverend Father Alexander Schmemmann, Dean of the Seminary; from 1960 through 1983, the Dean broadcasted the Mass, lectures, and sermons to beyond the Iron Curtain; and

WHEREAS, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary once again made news when it was the first place Alexander Solzhenitsyn visited after his 1974 expulsion from the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary takes pride in reaching out to the Yonkers community, of which it is a vital member, its employees are working with the City of Yonkers in developing Community Emergency Response Teams which responsibilities would include disaster preparedness, fire safety, and emergency health operations; and

WHEREAS, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary is also committed to improving the quality of rivers and streams in Westchester County through its examination of the Bronx River Watershed starting with the "Troublesome Brook" which flows through the campus and to the Bronx River and Long Island Sound; and

WHEREAS, The Crestwood section of Yonkers, in whose boundaries St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary resides, is grateful for the seminary's invitations to participate in its local activities by offering the use of its outstanding library and facilities for meetings and celebrations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That I, as a duly elected Member of the Assembly of the State of New York, recognize St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary as the recipient of the Crestwood Historical Society's Exemplified Civil Spirit Award.

October 17, 2008

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto
Set my hand and Signature*

MIKE SPANO
Member of the Assembly