

A young boy with dark hair is sitting in a lush green field, playing a traditional stringed instrument. He is wearing a light blue long-sleeved tunic with a red and gold striped collar and cuffs, over a bright blue turtleneck. He is also wearing black pants and white socks with dark patterns. The instrument has a wooden body and a long neck with a decorative wooden peg. The background is a dense field of tall green grass.

**ALTAI**  
**MIR**  
**UNIVERSITY**

**2008 annual report**



## mission

Together, we access peace by bridging ancient wisdom with today's world.

## objectives

- We facilitate the use of the unique energy field of Altai as a resource for global renaissance.
- The best of the carefully sustained wisdom of indigenous cultures forms a framework for sustainable human existence on Earth.
- The valuable culture and ecology of the Altai region are internationally nurtured according to local indigenous leadership, so that the legacy is available to meet global needs, especially the health and spiritual resources for which the region is renowned.
- Special efforts are made to find positive, inclusive solutions to the issue of land registration and ownership—especially communal and ancestral lands.

## from the president

**In 2008, our core group realized that nobody else had stepped forward with the necessary resources for legal registration of traditional Altai lands -- and the January 1, 2010 deadline was fast approaching. We mobilized.**

Our main thrust this year was to raise funds to save traditional Altai lands from commercial development. We'll continue this in 2009.

In the process, we re-assessed our priorities, and modified our mission and objectives away from technical communication infrastructure toward the sustainable development of "human technologies," especially those of indigenous peoples, for the benefit of all of humanity.

We reached out to indigenous peoples in the Americas and continued our efforts to connect Altai people with Native Americans.

I strengthened my personal ability to be a bridge between Altai and the world by making my annual trek to Mt. Belukha, and by creating 52 visionary paintings that transmit the Altai energy. And I continue to work on learning the Russian language.

We welcomed new Board member Clarice Sieden and bid farewell to Board members Jackie Stratton and Susan Quattrociocchi.

All in all, 2008 was a great step forward for our organization, and we are looking forward to 2009. Huge thanks to all of you who have supported our work!

*Carol Helmer*





# milestones

Detailed written reports on all our activities, with maps and photographs, are available on-line at [www.AltaiMir.org/events.htm](http://www.AltaiMir.org/events.htm).

**Objective: Special efforts are made to find positive, inclusive solutions to the issue of land registration and ownership—especially communal and ancestral lands.**

- Raising funds to support culture-enhancing communal ownership of traditional and sacred lands in Altai was our major thrust for 2008.

With the help of a challenge grant from GlobalGiving.org, our dedicated team raised \$7,000 from about 250 donors, which was leveraged by our heroic Altai colleague Svetlana Katynova to pull together a collective of ten of the least financially able people in Tyungur/Kucherla villages at the base of sacred Mt. Belukha, where indigenous land ownership is particularly important.

These traditional lands are totally necessary for the continued health of the Altai culture, which stewards an ancient and mysterious system of land forms that funnel cosmic energy into the Earth.

New Russian Federal laws required privatization. But perhaps because these lands are *so* valuable, the land registration system was not set up properly in Altai, so specialized legal skills and a *huge* amount of red-tape snipping were required by Svetlana Katynova and her team of local volunt\_eers.



# milestones

***Objective: The valuable culture and ecology of the Altai region are internationally nurtured according to local indigenous leadership, so that the legacy is available to meet global needs, especially the health and spiritual resources for which the region is renowned.***

- We participated in the formation of the Altai Alliance, an international consortium of organizations and individuals actively working to accomplish this objective. AMU shared our reports and interviews with local Altai indigenous leaders about local initiatives for cultural/economic sustainability and stewardship of sacred lands.
- We continued discussions and strategizing with local Altai leaders, and wrote numerous articles on the topic, as well as grant proposals supporting local strategies as the opportunities arose.

***Objective: We facilitate use of the unique energy field of Altai as a resource for global renaissance.***

- In the winter and spring especially, various board members developed relationships with members of Native American nations. Native American cultures, in general, intrinsically understand what the Altai energy field is, and are therefore powerful allies in the facilitating its use.
- During the summer and fall, Carol created a series of 52 paintings of sacred feminine archetypes based on visions that came to her through the energy of Altai. Not only did she post these on the website, make reproductions available for sale, but she also gave free use of the images to several international groups that foster global renaissance.



# milestones

- AMU was a sponsor of the 10th Global Leadership Forum in Novosibirsk in June, using it as a vehicle to raise awareness around the world of the Altai energy field as a resource. After the Forum, several participants made an excursion to Altai.

***Objective: The best of the carefully sustained wisdom of indigenous cultures forms a framework for sustainable human existence on Earth.***

- We hosted Alaskan Tlingit Chief Rudy James' visit to Altai to share his wisdom about indigenous land rights with the Altai people. Local shamans, throat-singers, and activists welcomed him as a brother. Indeed, he almost certainly is, considering the similarity of the Tlingit name with that of the Altai Telengit people. He also made a presentation at the 10th Global Leadership Forum in Novosibirsk.
- Although we were unable to arrange for an Altai representative to personally attend the Tenth Native Gathering of the Americas in Puerto Rico in April, Carol attended, and made some useful connections.
- We continue to network internationally through the internet, with groups working to create just, sustainable, human society on the planet.



# looking ahead

In 2009, we will build on the successes of 2008, and continue our focus on the urgent issue of land registration, with more fund-raising efforts.

And, as that runs out of time toward the end of 2009 (because the law changes), we'll continue working with Altai leaders to foster sustainable, culturally appropriate project and enterprises.

We will also seek ways to foster the sustainable “human technologies” offered by Native American wisdomkeepers.

Carol anticipates returning to Altai. For the past several years, she has spent half her time in Russia. Her activities are along three lines: 1) to develop her personal capacity to sustain and convey the energetic/health benefits she experiences in Altai, through her person and through her paintings, and 2) to use her international perspectives and resources to facilitate the Altai people as they re-gather their vibrant culture, and 3) to seek economically and culturally beneficial avenues through which Altai culture/products/energy can be exported.

All donations to Altai Mir University go directly toward our work in Altai.

Starting with our dedicated core group in Seattle, the global community of support for Altai Mir University continues to expand as people become aware of Altai and/or find us on the internet.





## **Board of Directors**

Carol Hiltner, President  
Carolyn Cilek, Secretary  
Clarice Sieden  
Juliette Engel, MD



## **International collaborative team**

Marina Tyasto, Director for International Relations, Siberian Academy for Public Administration, Novosibirsk  
Lyudmila Komkova, NCP Siberian Educational-Consulting Center  
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Alex "Sparky" Klimenko and Victoria Yakovleva, Moscow  
Svetlana Katynova, Director of NGO "Sacred Altai," Altai Republic  
Danil Mamyev, Director of Association of Protected Areas of Altai  
Leonid and Tais Bolgov, "Belukha Retreat Center," Altai Republic

## **[www.AltaiMir.org](http://www.AltaiMir.org)**

Comprehensive reports, with photos, of our initiatives are available on our website, in English and/or Russian.

Unaudited financial report available on request.

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