I'm probably old fashioned, but I still think that an intelligent man is the one who reads books. I agree gadgets are very important and our life is almost impossible without them, but I do consider that reading glorifies the man. So, the topic proposed for this quarterly meeting was: *The book is a cold friend, but a sure one.*

I thought that winter holiday would be the perfect time for everybody to read at least one book, to tell their mates about it and why not persuade them to read it. More students, more books, and more morals to be discussed. For sure we have students who live among books and read them regularly, as for example Victor Organ. Oxana and many others are fond of reading too. They amazed us with the ideas gleaned from these books and successfully persuaded others to read what they did. They were very compelling and I'm sure that those who haven't read anything, yet, will do so during the winter holiday.

Of course, we also discussed winter, Christmas, New Year and other winter holidays that Moldova celebrates. The 1st of December was the start of the holiday season. Our Capital puts on the decorative hood of wreaths, garlanding the streets, the Christmas trees and even some buildings. The spirit of winter holidays has firmly took hold in everyone’s hearts, bringing joy, peace, happiness and of course many, many hopes for a better future. Our students also shared their dreams and seemed very determined to work hard and make fruitful changes in this country.

We ended the meeting with a delicious Christmas luncheon. Besides the traditional meals, students had ice-creams and cakes. The Sponsorship program offered them a Christmas cup, a box of tea, Christmas napkins and of course the best candies from Moldova. We talked, laughed, said a warm goodbye to the year 2016 and wished each other a Happy New Year.
NEWS OF OUR STUDENTS

Soloduh brothers - were accepted to play in the 1st league of Moldova (volleyball) and this is an honor for them. They continue to train a senior girl’s volleyball team, and they work to expand the team. Their dream is to keep improving and become a volleyball professional team.

Gheorghe Garstea - can harmoniously combine finances and dances! Besides the Financial College, he attends a School of Dancing. Recently he participated at a dance sport championship in Romania and won 3rd place; in Moldova, he won 2nd place.

Mihai Galbura - Between 1 October and 5 December, Mihai toured in Great Britain and Ireland. He had a very complicated program with Aiba, Bohema and Nabucco Opera. The orchestra and chorus were from different countries: Ukraine, Romania, Moldova, France, Spain. The tour was organized by International Opera and Ballet. He has a similar tour again between 4 February and 8 May.

Ion Terna - he participated at the European Championship and received the bronze medal for his success. He had hoped for a better result, but he had an injury before the championship.

Victor Organ - is in his last year at the academy. For his diploma license, he must make a film and he has already begun working on it. The film will focus on the Moldovans’ fight against the Soviet regime. It will be a historical film. The film is planned to be short and will have 8 actors and a technical team of 7-9 people. The film will be shot at the end of February- beginning of March because it requires a severe winter with snow. The most difficult part is the financial part, because Victor needs money to book a house in the village and work in it, special epoch technique and equipment, transportation and food for the team and many other things. (If anyone would like to help support this project, please let us know!)

Dear Sponsors,
May the holidays flood your homes and hearts with happiness, success and health!
A blessed Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!