

Michael Kotliar With His Pupils



This is a picture of me and my pupils was taken in 1972 during my job as a tutor and organizer of a center for teenagers. We are walking down the main street in Chernovtsy. After graduating from the Faculty of Geography at Chernovtsy University I found a job as a methodologist at a tourist station. I worked there for more than ten years. Later I was asked to accept the job of a tutor in a club for teenagers. When I came to the building on the outskirts of town I found it damaged, dirty and abandoned. There were different children in this club: children from well-off families and teenagers with problems. There were even teenagers who were registered in the militia for their conduct. We repaired and fixed the building, and the children got involved in various activities. We had different sections: a chess club, a tourist section and even a motor club. The children changed for the better and developed many interests. We got broken cars that we fixed and taught the children to drive. Many of the teenagers became good drivers when they grew up. We had wrestling and boxing sections and a dance club. I found enthusiasts that agreed to work with the children at no cost. The children, their parents and my management respected me. I retired after 22 years of work.