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\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

Budget stalled as Rada makes its modifications

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Two weeks after it received an amended 1999 budget proposal from the Cabinet of Ministers, the Parliament's Budget Committee has made drastic changes to it, including raising spending on social programs by 33 percent and balancing the budget with optimistic revenue expectations.

The budget proposed by the Budget Committee, which is chaired by National Deputy Yulia Tymoshenko, a political antagonist of President Leonid Kuchma and leader in the Hromada Party's shadow government, could not gain sufficient votes from legislators to pass a first reading on December 3.

This is not the first time the Verkhovna Rada has had problems approving a fiscal plan. In 1997 a budget was not in place until half the year was over. But this year — with politicians keenly aware that 1999 is a presidential election year — the expectation is that putting an approvable budget together

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Lazarenko arrested by Swiss authorities

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Pavlo Lazarenko, former prime minister of Ukraine and current national deputy, was arrested by Swiss authorities on December 3 and is being held in a Geneva jail as Swiss prosecutors prepare to charge him with money laundering.

Swiss Customs officials detained Mr. Lazarenko on the French-Swiss border near Basel, Switzerland, after he attempted to enter the country with a Panamanian passport. He was traveling from Brussels, Belgium, where he had attended a meeting of the European Commission's Parliamentary Assembly as a member of the Ukrainian delegation. He had left the official delegation after the meeting and was returning to Kyiv by private automobile.

Some news sources have stated that the former prime minister was carrying as many as eight passports at the time of his arrest.

Mr. Lazarenko is currently being held in Geneva until a determination is made by Swiss authorities whether he can be freed on bond. On December 9 the Ukrainian national deputy's Swiss attorney,

Paul Gully-Hart, suggested that his client was ready to put up \$3 million for his release. A December 8 bond hearing was rescheduled for December 11, when the Geneva investigative judge in charge of the case, Laurent Kasper-Ansermet, returns from Kyiv, where he is concluding an investigation into Mr. Lazarenko's financial activities.

If Mr. Lazarenko is not allowed bond, he could remain locked up in Switzerland for up to three months as the judicial process proceeds.

The arrest of Ukraine's most controversial politician and perhaps its richest citizen, has incensed politicians associated with the Hromada Party that Mr. Lazarenko leads, who have accused the Ukrainian government of failing to come to the former prime minister's aid and of complicity in his arrest.

National Deputy Stanislav Safronov of the Hromada Party said the arrest of his party's leader was a political act by the Kuchma administration to discredit a political adversary and clear the president's path to re-election. Presidential elections in Ukraine are scheduled for October 1999.

"This was done to destroy perhaps the single strongest opposition in Ukraine," said Mr. Safronov.

Fellow Hromada Party member Tatianna Zadorozhna suggested that the Swiss investigative judge is in Kyiv, not to investigate Mr. Lazarenko, but to consult with the Kuchma government on how to proceed. "It was interesting to see the judge enter the Presidential Administration building through the doors reserved for heads of state," said Ms. Zadorozhna. She said that the actions of Swiss officials "are without precedent in the history of Switzerland."

Ms. Zadorozhna also said that, contrary



Efrem Lukatsky

Pavlo Lazarenko

to official information, Mr. Lazarenko showed a Ukrainian passport at the Swiss border, and that the Panamanian travel document was found on his person afterward. Asked how he had obtained such a passport, she replied, "Panama extends passports as a means of developing revenue for its country."

She accused Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs of neglecting to file a protest against the arrest of a prominent Ukrainian leader or beginning extradition proceedings, and of failing to meet with Mr. Lazarenko in his jail cell. Mr. Zadorozhna also said that she was told by the Swiss ambassador in Kyiv that Mr. Lazarenko was detained strictly at

(Continued on page 4)

Ukraine's representatives attend meeting on assets confiscated during World War II

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON — Representatives of 44 countries, including Ukraine, and 13 non-governmental organizations gathered here on November 30-December 3 in a continuing effort to resolve the problem of assets confiscated during and just preceding World War II.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Washington Conference on Holocaust-Era Assets was a follow-up meeting to an international conference on Nazi-confiscated gold held last year in London. The Washington meeting focused on looted works of art, unpaid insurance claims and restitution of communal property.

Danylo Kurdelchuk, the president of the Ukrainian Foreign Bar Association and one of the five members of the Ukrainian delegation, said Ukraine is satisfied with the conference results.

"The general thrusts were wise, noble and balanced. I would say that with such an approach, problems can be resolved," he said. "But this is only the beginning of the major task before us."

While the conference focused mainly on restitution to Jewish Holocaust

survivors, the Ukrainian delegation in its presentations tried to broaden the scope to include compensation for non-Jewish victims as well.

Volodymyr Lytvynov, chairman of the International Movement of Former Juvenile Prisoners of Fascism, said the Ukrainian delegation made a presentation on behalf of the more than 600,000 Nazi slave labor camp survivors who were being ignored in various negotiations and agreements about just compensation. Recently, he said, there was an agreement reached between Jewish organizations and the German government to pay former Jewish prisoners a monthly compensation of 250 German marks.

"You know, on the one hand, we are happy for our Jewish brethren, whose fate was shared by non-Jewish prisoners. We are glad that justice triumphed in their case," he said. "But on the other hand, our hearts and souls ache over why the non-Jewish victims were forgotten."

There is a danger that this inequality may give rise to feelings of jealousy and possibly anti-Semitism, Mr. Lytvynov said.

"Try to explain to an elderly woman

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Ukrainian American Coordinating Council holds convention, elects Gawdiak president

by Marianna Liss

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WARREN, Mich. — The theme of the fourth convention of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council held here on November 21-22 was change. The discussions on the floor, the resolutions of the convention, the panel discussion and the keynote speech all reflected the shift in the life of the Ukrainian community in the U.S. and in Ukraine.

Ihor Gawdiak, previously chairman of the UACC's National Council and director of the organization's Washington office, was elected president of the Ukrainian American umbrella body. He succeeds Ulana Diachuk, president of the Ukrainian National Association, who did not seek a third term as UACC president.

The full list of the UACC executive board, auditing committee, arbitration board and National Council is to be released shortly.

A special panel discussed "The Ukrainian Diaspora in the 21st Century." (See sidebar on page 3.)

The convention decided to raise funds for a formal office in Washington to serve as its national bureau. The UACC's new president announced that he plans to cooperate with The Washington Group's upcoming Ukrainian organizational conference.

The keynote speech at the convention was delivered by Ukrainian National Deputy Mykhailo Syrota, head of the Verkhovna Rada's Constitutional

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Hrushevsky monument unveiled in Kyiv



Roman Woronowycz

A monument to Ukraine's most distinguished historian, Mykhailo Hrushevsky, chairman of the Ukrainian Central Rada and president of the Ukrainian National Republic, was unveiled in Kyiv on December 1 in the square next to the Teachers' Building before which the independence of Ukraine was declared on January 22, 1918. The monument was unveiled in conjunction with the seventh anniversary of the December 1, 1991, referendum that upheld the Verkhovna Rada's August 24, 1991, proclamation of Ukraine's independence. The large stone marker reads: "Monument to the noted state and civic activist, Ukrainian historian Mykhailo Hrushevsky, 1866-1934. Built with funds of the City of Kyiv, December 1, 1998." President Leonid Kuchma headed the list of dignitaries in attendance at the ceremonies.

Accused serial killer Onopriienko unrepentant during trial in Zhytomyr

Eastern Economist

ZHYTOMYR, Ukraine – The trial of accused serial killer Anatolii Onopriienko, 39, finally got under way on November 23 in Zhytomyr.

A graduate of a regional sea navigation institute, he is accused of murdering 52 people – 10 of them children – over a seven-year period. Mr. Onopriienko has refused to repent, instead referring to himself as the biggest evil-doer of all time. On the basis of a psychological analysis carried out in the summer of 1997, the defendant has been ruled mentally fit to stand trial.

In all, 5,000 law enforcement officers were involved in the operation to catch Mr. Onopriienko. The case is the biggest criminal case in Ukraine in recent memory.

Proceedings started late because there was simply not enough money to bus in the hundreds of witnesses who are to testify at the trial; 310 witnesses were invit-

ed to participate in proceedings from Russia, Ukraine and Poland. The 150,000 hrv bill for their transportation was paid by the regional court.

Mr. Onopriienko again admitted his guilt on November 26 as his trial continued. A former soldier and sailor, he said lost his mother at age 4 and claimed that his father and brother consigned him to an orphanage at the age of 7. He claimed to possess telepathic powers and has said that he heard voices telling him to carry out the atrocities.

Mr. Onopriienko refused to testify on November 30. Instead, he made a number of requests for a new lawyer, which the court refused. He is currently being represented by a court-appointed attorney.

Experts speculated that Mr. Onopriienko is trying to delay the court hearing as a new lawyer would require time to get acquainted with the case.

Co-defendant Serhiy Rogozin, 36,

(Continued on page 13)

NEWSBRIEFS

Land mine campaign marks anniversary

KYIV – The first anniversary of the signing of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines, and on Their Destruction was celebrated on December 3 by the 133 countries that have signed the convention in the course of the year. According to the International Campaign to Ban Land Mines, Ukraine, with over 10 million land mines in storage, has yet to join the convention. In March and April, Ukraine unilaterally destroyed 101,000 of its mines, which was seen as the first step in moving toward official acceptance of the convention. With the initiative of the Canadian government and support from the Canadian Embassy in Ukraine, the International Campaign to Ban Land Mines is presently conducting activities aimed at securing Ukraine's accession to the convention in the near future. (Eastern Economist)

Kuchma blasts Ministry of Energy

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma criticized Energy Minister Oleksii Shebertsov and his ministry on December 7 after a nuclear reactor was shut down for safety reasons, the Associated Press reported. Mr. Kuchma said he will hold energy sector leaders personally responsible for continued problems. Reactor No. 2 at the South Ukraine nuclear power station was automatically shut down by its safety system, said Nadezhda Shumak, a spokeswoman for the state-run nuclear energy company Energoatom. She said no radiation was released. The station, which is located about 300 kilometers south of Kyiv, had been running only for two days after undergoing nearly five months of repairs. Ms. Shumak said its shutdown is likely to cause brownouts. (RFE/RL Newline)

Kuchma vetoes bill raising minimum wage

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on December 8 vetoed a bill that would have raised the country's minimum wage, the Associated Press reported. Mr. Kuchma said the hike would force the government to lay off workers and either print more money or raise taxes. The legislature voted last month to nearly triple the minimum monthly wage from 55 hrv (\$16) to 148 hrv. The government had appealed to the Parliament to reconsider that decision, saying such an increase would be destructive for the economy. (RFE/RL Newline)

Household inflation continues upward

KYIV – The price of a consumer basket consisting of 22 basic products was up 8.6

percent on November 25 over October figures and equaled 70.2 hrv per person. According to the State Statistics Committee, the consumer basket was the most expensive in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast at 80.13 hrv, cheapest in Ternopil at 59.64 hrv. Among foodstuffs, sunflower oil saw the biggest increase in price by 13.6 percent, and potatoes, beets, carrots, onions, eggs and fish increased in the price range of 3.3 percent to 8.7 percent. The average salary in Ukraine in October equaled 156.07 hrv. (Eastern Economist)

Council of Europe extends Ukraine's term

KYIV – The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe extended until July 1999 the term for Ukraine to fulfill obligations accepted upon entering the Council of Europe. Of primary importance is cancellation of the death penalty. (Eastern Economist)

Rada returns draft budget for revision

KYIV – By a vote of 312 to 19, the Verkhovna Rada on December 3 postponed the first reading of the 1999 draft budget until December 9 so that the Budget Committee can revise the document. Many lawmakers echoed the government's criticism that a budget with a zero deficit is unrealistic and questioned some revenue sources proposed by the committee. In particular, the committee has proposed raising extra money by taxing commercial banks, imposing fees for using Ukraine's air space and pressuring enterprises to repay loans received under government guarantees. Rada Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko commented that Ukraine's economy is not yet ready for a balanced budget, Interfax reported. (RFE/RL Newline)

World Bank criticizes Rada for delays

KYIV – Paul Siegelbaum, the World Bank's director for Ukraine and Belarus, said he is concerned that the Parliament in Kyiv is blocking World Bank projects, the Associated Press reported on December 4. Mr. Siegelbaum said several projects have been neither ratified nor begun. He added that the bank will suspend \$140 million (U.S.) in energy loans unless the Constitutional Court overrules a recent parliamentary ban on raising utility costs. (RFE/RL Newline)

Parliament rejects deal with World Bank

KYIV – Lawmakers on December 1 voted 167 to 74 to reject an agreement signed by the government of Ukraine and

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Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
Editors: Roman Woronowycz (Kyiv)
Andrij Kudla Wynnnyckyj (Toronto)
Irene Jarosewich
Ika Koznarska Casanova

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UACC convention panel discusses diaspora in the 21st century

by Marianna Liss

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WARREN, Mich. — Among the highlights of the fourth convention of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council was the panel discussion on "The Ukrainian Diaspora in the 21st Century."

Panelists were: Dr. Mykola Hryhorczuk of Detroit, a professor at Wayne State University and member of the Ukrainian Society of Philatelists and Numismatics; Jaroslav M. Berezowsky, a Michigan attorney who is active in the local Ukrainian school system; Nadia Komarnycky McConnell, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation; and journalist R.L. Chomiak.

"With the declaration of Ukrainian independence, some people in our community thought their duty toward the struggle for Ukrainian independence had fallen from their shoulders, ... Unfortunately, the situation is not that simple," began Dr. Hryhorczuk.

Since Ukraine's independence and sovereignty are not assured, the task facing the Ukrainian community outside Ukraine is more subtle. The community's first job, he stated, is to know what its goal is in this new unsure reality.

Though Ukraine is very sensitive to ideological meddling, especially from Ukrainian organizations in the diaspora, "sound critiques are welcome," Dr. Hryhorczuk said. He suggested that, rather than directing Ukraine, the Ukrainian community should create an atmosphere that will support good people in Ukraine working toward laudable goals.

He gave an example of the work of the Ukrainian Society of Philatelists and Numismatics, which gives prizes for the best Ukrainian stamp design, and is engaged in "earnest critique" of past designs inherited from the Soviet era. He complimented Ukraine Post for supporting Ukrainian themes in its postal issues.

Secondly, he observed, the diaspora itself is changing, even as it attempts to influence American policy toward Ukraine. Younger generations should be encouraged to take an active part in American political life and in doing so influence Ukraine itself.

The second speaker had another perspective on what the Ukrainian community should do.

"I am approaching the question from a different angle than Dr. Hryhorczuk: I want our community to exist for its own sake," said Mr. Berezowsky.

In order to keep the community alive there has to be a better appreciation of the role that Ukrainian schools play in acculturating the younger generation, Mr. Berezowsky stated.

There are significant problems that the community faces internally, he continued. There are fewer people who can pass on the language and culture, what the speaker called "Ukrainian spirituality."

Thus, the role of Ukrainian schools becomes more significant, yet the community does not appreciate their role in the lives of the younger generation. "If the school does not exist, if the children do not attend, there will be no children growing in the understanding of their duty," he said.

He suggested that it is time to focus on the critical part that schools of Ukrainian studies are now playing, and suggested that Ukrainian organizations should help that educational system develop new materials for a new generation.

Drawing on his own active role in Ukrainian studies schools, Mr. Berezowsky said the community has to acknowledge a growing reality: the lack of Ukrainian fluency. He asked if it is not better for patriotic Ukrainians to get together in English to discuss common issues, than not to get together at all.

He ended by thanking the older generations, those who came from Europe, for their hard work in developing and keeping

the community alive.

Mrs. McConnell continued the topic of how to help Ukraine, especially as fewer and fewer dollars are available from the Ukrainian diaspora. There are two approaches and both entail going outside of the Ukrainian community for material help and alliances, she noted.

"First," she emphasized, "it is very important to continue and again to strengthen our political activity in Washington. It is extremely critical." The reason: there are real consequences for Ukraine, and there is a lot of competition throughout the world for U.S. assistance.

Secondly, there are other sources for help outside of the government. As an example the speaker cited the Ukrainian-American Business Council, which has as members American companies wanting to do business in Ukraine, as well as various foundations.

Mrs. McConnell reported that she is working to bring together smaller American cities with Ukrainian ones. She emphasized, for instance, the empathy toward Ukrainians she found among most Southerners because "they lost the Civil War."

Mrs. McConnell concluded by stating that she is hopeful regarding the future of Ukraine, and related that the Ukrainian community has yet to tap all the resources now available to it in order to help Ukraine.

Mr. Chomiak, a veteran journalist, encouraged the community to refocus and reorient itself to new realities.

Reporting that "today, we have a very different situation," Mr. Chomiak provided a brief examination of the new roles of tra-



Marianna Liss

Panelists who discussed the diaspora's future: (sitting from left) Mykola Hryhorczuk, R.L. Chomiak, Nadia Komarnycky McConnell and (standing) Jaroslav Berezowsky.

ditional community institutions, such as Churches and fraternal associations, that had worked so well in the past and now are facing new strains.

"There was a real need for surrogates — Churches and fraternal organizations," he said, because there was no representation of Ukrainian interests in the world. However, now things have changed, he noted, emphasizing the different mission of Churches and community organizations.

He suggested that use of the Church as a surrogate embassy should be relinquished in favor of the real thing, because a narrow focus on the type of religion that Ukrainians

have either in Ukraine or here, he argued, is counterproductive in an era when Ukrainians could be Muslim or Protestant.

He related that the real material help for the poor in Ukraine provided by evangelical groups has been looked at with suspicion rather than with gratitude.

Fraternal organizations also should refocus their purpose, Mr. Chomiak stated. In such organizations, he commented, there needs to be — as in the case of the Sears company's reorganization — a rededication to the original purposes of fraternal associations in order to regain financial strength and, in turn, to continue their good work.

OBITUARY: Bohdan T. Hnatiuk, aeronautical engineer, community leader

MERION PARK, Pa. — Bohdan Taras Hnatiuk, aeronautical engineer and consultant, and professor emeritus at Drexel University, died on November 28 at the age of 83.

Dr. Hnatiuk was born on July 25, 1915, in Zalischyky, western Ukraine. He received his engineering degrees from the Technical University in Danzig, Germany, including a doctorate in engineering in 1945. During his student years in Danzig, he was president of the Ukrainian Students' Association and vice-president of the Ukrainian National Alliance.

During World War II Dr. Hnatiuk did research work at the University of Vienna on high-speed aerodynamics and turbo-jet engines. With the imminent invasion of Vienna by the Soviet Army, he was granted a transfer to a large aviation facility on the Swiss border. At the end of the war, and until 1949, he worked for the French Air Ministry in the French Zone of occupied Germany. He also was the director and a teacher at the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) Mechanic Training School, in Tettang, Germany.

Dr. Hnatiuk emigrated to the U.S. in 1949. He was an associate professor at the University of Notre Dame in 1951-1957 and professor at West Virginia University in 1957-1960. In 1960 he joined the faculty of Drexel University, where he taught mechanical engineering and worked as advisor until 1995.

While in Indiana, Dr. Hnatiuk also worked as a consultant for the Bendix Aviation Corp., Guided Missile Section, on the U.S. Navy Talos Project (1955-1957). Subsequently, he was a consultant also to the U.S. Navy's Allegheny Ballistic Laboratory and to Pneumodynamic Corp. in Washington. In 1967-1969 Dr. Hnatiuk was engaged in space research for NASA at the Alabama — George C. Marshall Space Flight Center.

Dr. Hnatiuk was a member of many professional societies, among them: the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), American Society for Engineering Education, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Association of University Professors, Air Force Association, American Ordnance Association, and the West Virginian Society of Science.

Among various awards, Dr. Hnatiuk was the recipient of the AIAA's 40-year service award for sustaining contributions to the field of aeronautics and astronautics (1993), as well as the institute's outstanding faculty advisor award at Drexel (1972). Dr. Hnatiuk was accorded honorary membership in the Chapel of Four Chaplains in 1981.

His membership in honorary engineering societies included: Sigma Gamma Tau, the National Honorary Society of Aeronautic Engineering; Pi Tau Sigma, Honorary Mechanical Engineers' Society; and Tau Beta Pi, the Engineers' National Honor Society.

An active member of the Ukrainian community in America, Dr. Hnatiuk was a member of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America, the Shevchenko Scientific Society, Ukrainian American Association of University Professors and the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council.

He was a member of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists; founding member of the World Congress of Free Ukrainians; honorary member of the presidium and longtime president of the Organization for the Rebirth of Ukraine; vice-president and treasurer of the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee; chairman of the board of directors at the Olzhych Research Foundation; and member of the executive committee and Philadelphia branch presi-



Dr. Bohdan Hnatiuk

dent of the National Committee to Commemorate the Millennium of Christianity in Ukraine.

Dr. Hnatiuk was a member of the Ukrainian National Association Supreme Assembly, serving as auditor in 1970-1986. He had been an honorary member of the UNA Supreme (now General) Assembly since 1982.

A panakhyda for Dr. Hnatiuk was held December 3 in Philadelphia. On December 4 a requiem service was held at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, followed by interment at St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery in Fox Chase, Pa.

Dr. Hnatiuk is survived by his wife, Irene (nee Tomkiw); daughters, Wolodymyra and Irene; son, Oleh; 14 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; brother, Myroslav, with wife, Anna and sons, Bohdan, Yuriy and Andriy and their families; as well as relatives in Canada and Ukraine.

New York/New Jersey professionals elect ninth president

by Areta Pawlynsky

EAST HANOVER, N.J. – Leonard L. Mazur of Mountain Lakes, N.J., the founder and CEO of Genesis Pharmaceutical Inc., was elected the ninth president of the Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons Association of New York and New Jersey (UAPBA) at the association's meeting on November 21.

Prior to his election, Mr. Mazur had served on the association's board of directors. Both a businessman and an inventor, Mr. Mazur holds a B.A. and an M.B.A. from Temple University. Prior to launching Genesis, Mr. Mazur held numerous executive positions at various pharmaceutical companies in the U.S., including Cooper Laboratories and BASF. He is listed in Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare, Who's Who in America and Who's Who in the World.

Before the election of new officers,

acting President Bohdan Vitvitsky briefly summarized the UAPBA's activities over the last two years, which included nine general membership meetings featuring a lecture or presentation, publication of a new membership directory, ongoing publication of a newsletter, launch of a website (<http://www.brama.com/uapba-ny-nj/>), and The Year 2020 Conference. Dr. Vitvitsky also spoke briefly about the unusually large number of positive reactions that The Year 2020 Conference has generated.

Upon his election, Mr. Mazur spoke about his desire to contribute to the UAPBA's notable track record. He also spoke about the desirability of finding more effective strategies for reaching out to members of the "Fourth Wave" of Ukrainian immigrants and for helping to integrate them into the community. Mr. Mazur wants to attract more university students and recent graduates, perhaps

through a mentoring program.

The following individuals were elected to the UAPBA board of directors to serve a two-year term: Bohdan Vitvitsky, vice president; Alexandra Isaievyh Mason, secretary; Alex Pidwerbetsky, treasurer; Yaroslav Stawnychy, membership; Walter Chudowsky and Adriana Pidwerbetsky, New York coordinators; Areta Pawlynsky, newsletter, Mark Kaprj, website information; Oksana Bauer, special events; and Roman Barniak and Oksana Trytjak, members at large.

The evening's feature presentation was a screening of "Eternal Memory: Voices from the Great Terror," a powerful 80-minute documentary about Stalinist terror in Ukraine in the 1930s and 1940s. The film is narrated by Meryl Streep and features both historical and contemporary footage from Ukraine, interviews with witnesses and survivors, as well as interviews with

Zbigniew Brzezinski, Roman Szporluk and Robert Conquest.

At the end of the screening, the film's director/producer, David Pultz, described the six-year process involved in making the film and answered questions from the audience.

To date, the award-winning film has been shown mostly at various film festivals, which attract relatively small audiences, but result in published film reviews. Mr. Pultz would like to find a distributor to promote mainstream access to the film. Unfortunately, television channels, such as PBS and the History Channel, have not shown interest in the film.

Next year, Mr. Pultz expects to show the film at a festival in Kyiv. He said he believes that it is critical to establish an archive of interviews as eyewitnesses are growing older and dying, and for Ukraine to institutionalize the process of remembrance of the Great Terror.

Lazarenko arrested...

(Continued from page 1)

the request of Ukrainian government authorities.

Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry categorically rejected accusations that it had failed to concern itself with Mr. Lazarenko's situation on December 8. "Our ability to help is complicated by the fact that in reality the Panamanian passport rules at the moment, and because Mr. Lazarenko has refused to communicate with us," said Oleksander Maidannyk, vice minister of foreign affairs. He said that the ministry "must act according to law, not according to emotions."

In an effort to appease the Hromada Party and Lazarenko supporters, who demonstrated before the Swiss Embassy and outside the Verkhovna Rada early in the week to demand the release of Mr. Lazarenko, Foreign Minister Borys Tarasyuk sent an official explanation for the ministry's actions to the Hromada Party on December 9.

Viktor Kiryk, head of the Foreign Affairs Ministry's Consular Division, explained that Mr. Lazarenko could have been carrying as many as eight passports when he was detained, but that was not unusual or unlawful for a politician, especially one with Mr. Lazarenko's past and current positions. High-ranking government officials and politicians who travel often are given several passports to simplify the process of obtaining visas from several countries concurrently, explained Mr. Kiryk.

Rumors, which have persisted since Mr. Lazarenko was relieved of his duties as prime minister by President Leonid Kuchma in July 1997, that he held illegal Swiss bank accounts, to which he transferred money taken from government coffers, have never been substantiated.

However, Ukraine's Procurator General Mykhailo Potebenko has said more than once that if Ukraine's Parliament would vote to remove Mr. Lazarenko's criminal immunity, he would detail the charges to be leveled at the Hromada leader.

Mr. Lazarenko has carried on a high-profile attack on the policies of the Kuchma administration since he was sacked by President Kuchma as head of government for failing to move on reforms and being lax on corruption. In what many press-monitoring organizations consider attempts to stifle the Lazarenko-led opposition, several newspapers with connections to Mr. Lazarenko and his Hromada Party have been shut

down or hauled into court on dubious charges.

The former prime minister, once a close political ally of Mr. Kuchma, has suggested that, should he ever face criminal prosecution in Ukraine, he would reveal information on the illegal financial dealings of other top Ukrainian political leaders.

In recent months Ukrainian officials turned to Swiss banking authorities with requests to determine whether any Lazarenko-controlled bank accounts exist in Switzerland. According to the Kyiv Post, Swiss federal police spokesperson Folco Galli confirmed on December 4 that some 20 such requests had been made since February 1997 before Swiss authorities discovered and froze the accounts.

Mr. Galli said that some documents had already been turned over to Ukrainian officials and that they were all "tied to criminal proceedings against Mr.

Lazarenko and other figures."

Although the Swiss government has refused to reveal the amounts held in the accounts discovered, Swiss newspapers have reported figures ranging from \$20 to \$40 million, according to several Ukrainian news sources.

No one has given a verifiable reason for why Mr. Lazarenko decided to travel to Switzerland when he did. Among the rumors printed in the Kyiv press are that he was going to salvage what money he could from his accounts, while another rumor suggests that he was traveling there to meet with Sergei Mykhailov, a Moscow mafia kingpin, who is on trial in Geneva on racketeering charges. Mr. Mykhailov, who hails from the Dnipropetrovsk region of Ukraine, as does Mr. Lazarenko, was allegedly carrying a document identifying him as an aide to Mr. Lazarenko at the time of his arrest. None of the allegations have been confirmed.

Ukraine's representatives...

(Continued from page 1)

or man, who may have finished only a couple of grades in school, why is it that they, who shared the same past and fate, receive nothing, while their neighbors across the street or within the same building, receive compensation – and they are members of the same organization."

"And we simply cannot explain it to them," Mr. Lytvynov said.

He said that on the last day of their meeting at the State Department, the Ukrainian delegation asked that the United States intercede with Germany on the point of just compensation.

In his concluding remarks to the conference, the chairman of the U.S. delegation, Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat, expressed his appreciation to the Ukrainian and Russian delegations for raising the issue of non-Jewish camp survivors and their needs.

"This merits our serious consideration," Mr. Eizenstat said. "As Elie Wiesel has said: 'All Jews were victims, but not all victims were Jews.'"

The conference reached agreement on principles intended to guide governments in dealing with Nazi-confiscated art. The non-binding guidelines call on governments to provide access to existing records and archives and resources for identifying stolen art, and to help negotiate fair solutions of claims.

Two weeks earlier a Ukrainian delegation to a meeting of the joint U.S.-Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Commission had asked the U.S. government to help it

recover a number drawings by Albrecht Dürer, which were taken by the Nazis from Lviv's Stefanyk Library in 1941 and ultimately ended up in a number of American and European museums and galleries, including The Metropolitan Museum in New York City and the National Gallery of Art in Washington.

A Ukrainian member of that commission, Oleksander Fedoruk, who chairs the Ukrainian Commission on the Restitution of Cultural Treasures, said in an interview on November 22 that he first raised the Dürer case at an international conference in back in 1995.

Mr. Kurdelchuk said that issue was not pursued at the Holocaust-era conference, because it was not meant to deal with specific cases of stolen art. But it was raised again, he added, during the Ukrainian delegation's meeting at the State Department at the conclusion of the conference on December 3.

Ukraine, he admitted, has yet to initiate any action directly with the museums and galleries concerning the artworks' return.

"We are laying the groundwork to this issue and until now we have decided to limit ourselves to discussions with government entities," Mr. Kurdelchuk said. "There is a special commission in this matter, and I think that in due time it will resolve this problem."

National Gallery of Art spokesperson Deborah Ziska said the gallery has one of the Dürer pieces from Lviv and confirmed that it has not yet been approached about it by Ukraine.

The 10-by-5-inch pen-and-ink drawing "Male Nude Holding a Mirror," dated at

about 1500, was presented as a gift to the National Gallery of Art (NGA) in 1991.

Ms. Ziska said that with respect to art confiscated during the Nazi Holocaust era, the NGA adheres to the June 1998 guidelines of the Association of Art Museum Directors (AAMD), which, among other things, recommends that member museums, "if they have not already done so, should begin immediately to review the provenance (origin) of works in their collection to attempt to ascertain whether they are unlawfully confiscated during the Nazi/World War II era and never restituted."

If it is determined that a piece of art in its collection has been illegally confiscated during that period and not restituted, AAMD guidelines state that the museum "should make such information public" and: "In the event that a legitimate claimant comes forward, the museum should offer to resolve the matter in an equitable, appropriate and mutually agreeable manner."

The National Gallery's webpage provenance of the Dürer piece contains a 21-year gap between removal from Lviv's Stefanyk Library in 1941 and its first listed sale at Sotheby's in 1962:

"Prince Heinrich Lubomirski [1770-1850]; Lubomirski Museum, Lemberg (now Lvov, Poland [sic]); Dr. and Mrs. Vitale Bloch (sale, London, Sotheby's, 28 June 1962, lot 87); private collection, Nuremberg; (Rolf Kistner, Nuremberg); purchased by Ian Woodner, New York, 14 May 1985; by inheritance to his daughters, Andrea and Dian Woodner, New York, 1990; gift to NGA, 1991."

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

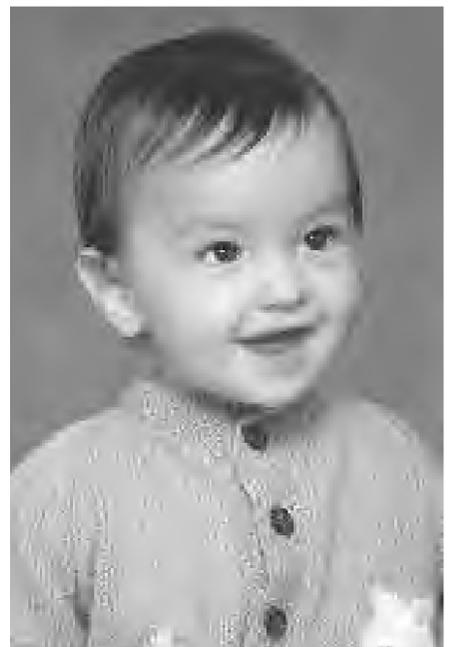
Young UNA'ers



Gregory Oleh (left) and Maya Lidia Lopatynsky, children of Alexandra and Andrew Lopatynsky, are new members of UNA Branch 194 in New York City. They were enrolled by their grandparents Oleh and Oksana Lopatynsky.

Philip Albert Razza, son of Anna and Tony Razza, is a member of UNA Branch 8 in Yonkers, N.Y. He was enrolled by his grandmother Ewhenia Babiak.

Austin Joseph Lively, son of Michelle Lynn and James Lively, is a new member of UNA Branch 292 in Warren, Mich. He was enrolled by his grandparents Walter and Janette Marfey.



Maksym Nicholas Holowaty, son of Andrey Holowaty and Marta Huta-Holowaty, is a new member of the UNA. He was enrolled by his parents into Toronto's UNA Branch 432, of which his brother Andrew Matthew also is a member.



Georgia Kathryn Kral, daughter of Alison and George Kral of Derby, Conn., is a new member of UNA Branch 67. She was enrolled by her grandparents Edwin and Alice O'Doy.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT		Ukrainian National Association	
INCOME FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998		Nine-month report	
Income for the nine months ended September 30, 1998 Dues From Members: 1,680,643.53 Annual Premiums From Members: 148,381.45 Unassigned Life Premiums: 128,997.76 Premiums: 47,784.90 Government Grants: 13,070.00 Special Fund "Widow's" Donation: 281,686.77 Investment Income: Bonds: 8,015.88 Stocks: 5,548,786.31 Commercial Loans: 54,821.48 Mortgage Loans: 881,910.68 Real Estate: 1,124,728.48 Short Term Investments: 45,185.70 Royalty: 582,248.75 Other Received/Contributed: 111,128.00 Total: 7,161,325.17	Field Expenses: 13,020.00 Medical Expenses: 8,400.00 Record of Births/Deaths/Expenses: 173,819.00 Received To Organize: 33,252.78 Received To Special Operations: 173,871.80 Medical Expenses Fee: 3,500.00 Voluntary Expenses-Special Operations: 19,071.24 Total: 410,943.82	Total: 2,764,633.37	Total: 2,764,633.37
Retirees: Annuity: 860.00 Annuity Benefits And Partial Withdrawals Returned: 3,894.00 Cash Disburse: 801.18 Cash Surrender: 4,011.88 Corporate Expenses: 16,030.99 Employee Benefit Plan: 11,210.12 Employment Medical: 8,230.95 General Other Maintenance: 129.33 Income Department Fees: 1,784.00 Insurance Expenses: 527.00 Medical Expenses: 80.00 Postage: 44.34 Printing & Stationery: 40.00 Rent: 3,416.84 Reward To Organizer: 880.35 Reward To Secretary's Executive: 196.71 Reward To Special Organizer: 580.00 Scholarship: 381.00 Travel Federal, State & City On Employee Request: 818,884.00 Traffic: 34,398.04 Telephone: 410.02 Travel Expenses-Organized: 101.64 Total: 897,888.70	Green Expenses: Annual Field National Expenses: 5 84,058.00 Cash Disburse: 6,290.34 New Chapter For Greening Account: 11,707.13 State And Provincial: 3,288.81 Due To Provincial Congress: 8,610.00 Printing & Stationery: 10,022.00 Special Office Maintenance: 20,021.87 Insurance Department Fees: 32,631.97 Legal Expenses-Contract: 27,170.16 Operating Expense Of Greening Dept: 1,032.00 Housing: 34,740.71 Health and Security: 29,730.00 Rental Of Equipment And Services: 17,704.43 Telephone, Telegraph: 94,574.88 Training Expenses-General: 7,164.13 Total: 467,987.54	Total: 467,987.54	Total: 467,987.54
Miscellaneous: Award Of Unpaid On Bonds: 3 48,740.24 Annuity Surrender Fees: 4,084.00 Due To Life Nat'l Foundation: 4,387.02 Dividend Accumulations: 4,384.25 Donations To Fraternal Fund: 5,625.00 Donations To Fund For The Return Of Members: 3,665.20 Full Fund Received: 1,000.00 Insurance Reserve-UNA/UC: 450,832.00 Legal Exp - General: 86.78 Profit On Bonds and Other Sold or Bonds Maturity: 300,870.00 Reinsurance Received: 8,326.27 Reserve For Unpaid Checks: 782.50 Sale Of "Ukrainian Encyclopedia": 695.04 Transfer Account: 2,327,388.74 Total: 8,626,258.98	Miscellaneous: Actual Interest On Bonds: 8 20,851.87 Building Construction Expenses: 5,447.00 Conversion Expense: 647,160.15 Donation From Fund For The Return Of Unpaid: 34,588.18 Deductions From Unpaid Return Through Greening Dept: 317.00 Donation To Fraternal Fund: 1,000.00 Duplicates: 1,000.00 Due From Ukrainian National Foundation, Inc: 3,077.00 Dues From Member Received: 2,539.42 Exchange Account-UNA/UC: 165,422.00 Expense Of Annual Session: 387.10 Fraternal Account: 2,480.80 Insurance Expense: 3,257.10 Loan On Bonds, Stocks and Foreigning Property: 13,844.25 Loan On Children Exchange: 886.20 Moving Expense: 1,842.00 Professional Fees: 24,487.00 Rent: 383,540.00 Reserve For Unpaid Checks: 1,337.86 Transfer Notice: 7,304,788.88 Fund Status Adjusted: 1,781.10 Total: 8,871,888.10	Total: 8,871,888.10	Total: 8,871,888.10
Investments: Bonds: 8 3,047,370.00 Corporate Loans: 40,101.80 U.S. Gov't Securities: 31,897.70 Mortgage: 207,873.38 Real Estate: 6,407.98 Short Term Investments: 18,485,249.73 Stocks: 4,288,812.18 Total: 28,767,444.88	Disbursements For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 1998: 47,089,442.60	Total: 28,767,444.88	Total: 28,767,444.88
Income For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 1998: 47,526,858.48	Income For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 1998: 47,526,858.48	Total: 47,526,858.48	Total: 47,526,858.48
DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998	ASSETS	LIABILITIES	
Paid To Of For Members: Annuity Benefits And Partial Withdrawals: 4 1,516,511.84 Cash Surrender: 117,348.94 Cash Benefits: 717,034.38 Dividend Accumulations: 21,298.23 Employment Medical: 894,386.56 Hospital Benefits Distributed: 112,188.90 Interest On Death Benefits: 86.30 Policy Death Benefits: 86.24 Reinsurance Premiums Paid: 100,375.78 Scholarships: 81,160.00 Trust Fund Disburse: 15,420.00 Total: 3,613,824.88	Cash: 840,800.00 Short Term Investments: 1,867,476.70 Bonds: 40,070,878.10 Mortgage Loans: 6,735,803.08 Certificate Loan: 798,450.24 Real Estate: 3,000,318.00 Printing/Paid & P.D.Y: 341,202.81 Equipment: 7,020,702.00 Stocks: 4,288,812.18 Loan To U.N.A./UNA: 108,351.00 Housing Corp: 2,300,000.00 Loan To U.N.A./UNA: 2,300,000.00 Total: 68,845,810.35	Life Insurance: 87,107,216.18 Accidental D.D: 2,290,353.64 Fraternal: 5.00 Organs: 418,878.45 Old Age Home: 0.00 Emergencies: 47,526.86 Total: 89,265,410.10	Total: 68,845,810.35
Operating Expenses: Travel Expense: 3 1,448,382.74 Website Expense: 1,005,881.97 Organizational Expenses: Renting: 20,500.00 Commission And Overhead On Unpaid Dues: 20,386.88	Total: 68,845,810.35	Total: 89,265,410.10	Total: 68,845,810.35

STEFAN KACZARAJ
Treasurer

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

St. Nicholas or Santa Claus?

It's that time of year again. You know, when children are looking forward to gifts from St. Nicholas, or Santa Claus (of course, they all were good...). Many Ukrainian parents face questions from their children about St. Nicholas and Santa Claus: Are they one and the same, is there a difference? And, many adults may wonder: Does it matter?

Even though we know the figure of Santa Claus is based on St. Nicholas, we do see a difference – something that came to light recently in a run-of-the-mill conversation. And we believe this difference makes all the difference in the world. When one acquaintance recently suggested putting St. Nicholas on a clip-out coupon for a product promotion we reacted with horror: You can't do that. He's a saint!

Food for thought ... we thought. Ergo, this editorial.

"Our" St. Nicholas definitely is not the over-commercialized ubiquitous Santa who says "Ho, ho, ho, Merry Christmas," drives a sled led by Rudolph and promotes pre-Christmas sales. St. Nicholas has been a saint since the ninth century and thus has been revered by people in many lands through the centuries. There are countless legends around the world, including Ukraine, about this saint known as "The Wonderworker." He is the patron of the poor and orphans, fishermen and sailors; he is an intercessor for anyone in times of need, trouble or illness.

Who was this St. Nicholas whose feast day we celebrate on December 19 according to the Julian calendar (December 6 according to the Gregorian)? He lived in the late third century, or early fourth century in Asia Minor, in the city of Patar, where his uncle was the bishop. After the death of his parents, the young Nicholas decided to distribute his inheritance from their estate as good works of charity. He became the bishop of Myra after the bishop of that city died and other bishops gathered to elect a new prelate, asking God to show them a worthy man. Legend has it that the oldest of the bishops had a vision in his sleep to consecrate the first man who entered the church in the morning to pray. That person was Nicholas. Once a bishop, this holy man did not change his behavior, but intensified it. He dedicated all his time to prayer and works of mercy. And God assisted him in his works – which often were miraculous. Miracles attributed to Nicholas continued after his death.

The Beacon, a Ukrainian Catholic magazine published in Canada, notes that St. Nicholas is held in high esteem among the Ukrainian people. "In our parishes there are many St. Nicholas Churches and his holy picture is on every iconostasis and in almost every home. St. Nicholas is commemorated in church services. ... [He] was the ideal of all those virtues which prove great love for God and neighbor."

But, getting back to where we started, for our children he is, first and foremost, the saint who brings gifts to deserving children. They all know the song about St. Nicholas "O, khto, khto Mykolaia liubyt," which advises: "Who loves Mykolai and serves him will be helped by Mykolai at all times." And that perhaps, is the best reason St. Nicholas the Wonderworker should be special at this time of the year and always, as we recall and emulate his good works.

Dec.
13
1993

Turning the pages back...

Five years ago on December 13, the Great Famine in Ukraine became a heated issue in the New Jersey State Legislature.

In a news story published in The Weekly on December 26, 1993, Walter Bodnar wrote: "A Ukrainian famine amendment to the Holocaust studies bill has caused a furor in the New Jersey State Legislature. On December 13 State Sen. Ronald A. Rice introduced an amendment to S-2155 (after it passed in the State Assembly as A-2780), which stated that the genocidal 1932-1933 famine in Ukraine should be added to its list of genocides as part of the state's high school curriculum." The amendment was accepted by a vote of 27-0. Another amendment sponsored by Sen. Randy Corman to include the Polish Katyn genocide was passed 28-0.

The original bill was introduced in September by Assembly Speaker Garabed Haytaian, who is of Armenian descent, and Assemblywoman Harriet Derman, with a proviso that in addition to mandating the teaching of the Nazi Holocaust in the high schools of New Jersey, the Cambodian and Armenian genocides were to be included in the bill.

Jewish organizations, as reported in The Record, New Jersey's second largest newspaper, threatened "to withdraw political support from legislators if they insisted on putting Jewish victims of the Nazis in the same bill with Poles and Ukrainians, who they said suffered atrocities but, they said, also took part in the killing machine as camp guards." Paul Winkler of the state's Commission on Holocaust Education was quoted as saying: "The tragedy of the Holocaust with its victims and survivors is diminished when placed in the same paragraph with other events not as catastrophic as the Nazi systematic planned extermination of a whole nation or ethnic group."

Ultimately, the bill, stripped of its Ukrainian and Polish amendments, failed to reach the floor during the legislature's final session. In March of 1994 during the legislature's new session, another bill mandating the teaching of the Holocaust and other genocides in New Jersey's elementary and secondary schools was passed. The difference was that this bill left open the possibility of studying all genocides, spurring Mr. Bodnar to write that the curriculum bill is "an opportunity to be used."

The final chapter to this episode came in January 1997 when the NJEA Review, the official publication of the New Jersey Education Association, published an article on teaching about genocide. Noted as a resource that can be used by educators in that curriculum was The Ukrainian Weekly's 1983 booklet "The Great Famine in Ukraine: The Unknown Holocaust." In the article, the same Dr. Winkler who had argued against amending the Holocaust curriculum bill, described the Famine as "the planned starvation of a group of people ... [which] happened between 1932 and 1933 when the Soviet Union carried out a policy that led to the starvation of up to 10 million Ukrainian people."

Source: "Famine amendment causes furor over genocide studies bill in N.J." by Walter Bodnar, December 26, 1993, and "The noteworthy: events and people" in "1994: the year in review," December 25, 1994, both in The Ukrainian Weekly; and 1997 report of The Ukrainian Weekly Editor-in-Chief Roma Hadziewicz.

AN APPEAL FOR INVOLVEMENT

Let us help Ukraine's intelligentsia

When political repressions waned during the thaw of the 1960s, Ukraine rose from the abyss of Stalinist tyranny only because the Ukrainian intelligentsia – writers, artists, scholars and cultural workers – spoke loudly and clearly in the name of the Ukrainian people. Sensing danger, the empire punished them with utmost severity.

However, 20 years later, possible retribution did not discourage the intelligentsia of the 1980s. When the opportunity again arose, the intelligentsia assumed a leadership role in the national re-awakening. Within the walls of the Writers' Union of Ukraine the Ukrainian Language Society was born, and soon thereafter Rukh, the Popular Movement of Ukraine.

Although the independence of Ukraine was proclaimed in 1991, fate dealt a severe blow to many of those who had lifted Ukraine from its knees. Numerous scholars, artists and writers could not adjust to the new market-oriented conditions. Although they burn with a creative spirit, possess great knowledge and have an overwhelming desire to work for the good of Ukraine, some of them, due to unbearable economic conditions, poor health and infirmities, cannot lead a full, creative life. Neither the government nor professional societies are capable of providing them with adequate social safeguards.

The Ukrainian American community can accomplish a great deed for the land of our fathers by providing material support for some of these unfortunate, but very valuable resources of its culture and knowledge.

We appeal to all who are uneasy about the systematic elimination of the Ukrainian language from public and daily use, the decline of science and education, and the flight of the best talents to foreign lands, to once again make a financial sacrifice for the sake of the Ukraine's national heritage.

Let us become sponsors of Ukrainian poets, writers, artists and scholars who fined themselves in dire straits and provide them with an opportunity to work

and live productively for their own people. We hope that many of you will donate \$400 to 500 as sponsors, \$200 to 250 as co-sponsors, or perhaps \$100 as supporters to this important and noble cause.

How can this be done?

The Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine (U.S.A.) has carefully analyzed the possibilities and needs, and has developed a detailed program for conducting this patriotic and philanthropic action. The CCAU has experience and is prepared to coordinate a program of 200 stipends in 1999.

In January 1999 local committees to aid Ukraine will receive verified lists and biographies of the most deserving and needy candidates for our stipends. Their councils will seek sponsors among individual families and local organizations. Let us generously support their efforts.

We appeal to our community financial institutions (credit unions and banks), to business enterprises, professional partnerships and organizations, and to all individuals to generously support this program of Ukrainian national solidarity.

In communities where there are no active committees to aid Ukraine, those who would like to become sponsors can send their pledges and checks directly to: CCAU, 66 Susan Drive, Chatham, NJ 07828; telephone, (973) 635-8814; fax, (973) 701-9040.

Individual sponsors and contributing organizations will be announced in the Ukrainian American press. Names and addresses of sponsors will also be given to the stipend recipients in Ukraine in order to enable the recipients to acknowledge the assistance. However, requests for anonymity will be respected.

Contributions toward these stipends are tax-deductible if checks are made payable to CCAU, or to its local branches and affiliated groups that are tax-exempt.

– The Executive Council
and the Board of Directors of the
Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine

International relief efforts continue for flood's victims in Zakarpattia

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Though the rains have stopped and flood waters have receded, assistance to flood victims in the Zakarpattia (Transcarpathia) region continues. Since the beginning of the flood in early November, more than 400,000 people have been directly affected by the disaster, losing food, shelter, livestock, electricity, transportation and supplies. An extremely harsh winter has set in, and the region still suffers from mudslides.

Caritas Ukraine, a member of Catholic Charities in Eastern Europe, has undertaken a large assistance and relief effort, and is seeking contributions to help victims of the flood.

Contributions can be sent directly via bank transfer to: Account 04-400-562 of Electron Bank, Lviv, Ukraine, with Bankers Trust Co. NY, USA, SWIFT BKTRUS 33, designated for charitable organization "Ukrainian Central Caritas," account 2600.2000000260/3901.5000000001.

For those who would rather write checks than directly transfer money between banks, two organizations are authorized to accept and process

checks and will forward all contributions to Caritas Ukraine. Please make checks payable to: Ukrainian Central Caritas and send to: Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, 142 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003; or to: Catholic Charities, Att'n. Rosemary Winder Strange, Executive Director, Diocese of Venice, 1000 Pinebrook, Venice, FL 34392.

All contributions to Caritas Ukraine are tax-deductible.

Caritas Ukraine can be contacted directly at: Anatolii Kozak, Coordinator, Aid to Flood Victims Program, Caritas Ukraine, vul. Ozarkevycha 4, Lviv 290016 Ukraine; telephone, 380-322.97-12-56; fax, 380-322-72-00-07; e-mail: caritas@caritas.lviv.ua; website, <http://www.caritas.lviv.ua/>.

As reported earlier, among other organizations that have begun fundraising for flood relief efforts are:

- The Ukrainian National Foundation, an affiliate of the Ukrainian National Association, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

(Continued on page 13)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Donors can help prevent blindness

Dear Editor:

Preserving the eyesight of individuals suffering from diabetes or glaucoma in Ivano-Frankivsk, is a priority that needs to be addressed immediately. In my six trips to Ivano-Frankivsk during the past six years, I have found that a desperate need exists to obtain a laser and train an ophthalmologist in its appropriate use for eye surgery.

It is imperative that we do all we can to alleviate the pain and suffering, rather than allow these patients to succumb to blindness.

Presently, there is no laser available in Ivano-Frankivsk that can be used for eye surgery. Travel to Kyiv or Odesa, the closest locations where such equipment is available, is difficult (if not impossible) for those patients who require several treatments to achieve the necessary results.

I have negotiated the purchase of a \$70,000 laser unit for approximately \$38,000, including lenses and accessories. It appears that I may be able to obtain a matching grant from Lions International for half the required amount. The RB Lions, of which I am a member, has agreed to be a sponsor, and has pledged \$5,000, and the California Association to Aid Ukraine has pledged \$2,000. We still need approximately \$12,000.

I appeal to readers of The Ukrainian Weekly to help us prevent blindness by donating to the Laser Fund through the California Association to Aid Ukraine (CAAU), a tax-exempt organization under IRS Code 501(3)(c), ID# 95-4352938. Please make your check payable to CAAU, note that it is for the Laser Fund, and mail it to: CAAU, 5325 Teasdale Ave., North Hollywood, CA 91607

Pledges and donations need to be recorded by the end of December 1998 in order for us to apply for the Lions International Matching Grant.

Please help us meet our goal. Time is short.

William Selezinka, MD, FACS
San Diego

The writer is emeritus professor of ophthalmology.

Re: participating in United Way

Dear Editor:

In his recent letter to the editor of The Ukrainian Weekly, Bohdan Nehaniv of Troy, Mich., asks why more Ukrainian charitable organizations are not recognized by the United Way's Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) for federal workers. This is an important question, as a number of our non-profit agencies could benefit from United Way earmarks not only by federal workers but also by employees of private companies, state and city governments.

In recent years, the Children of Chornobyl Relief Fund has been fortunate to receive donations through the United Way in several counties because employees specifically asked to have the CCRF listed among their giving options. Two years ago, we worked together with the United Way of Scranton, Pa., to organize a successful golf tournament with football players from the NFL. Unfortunately, the United Way requires the initiative of local donors to ensure that the CCRF and other important

charities remain included in the list of alternative charities.

Supporters of Ukrainian charities need to be aware that nearly all United Way campaigns are organized on an independent basis, usually county-by-county. Local businesses and their employees have a much greater voice in setting the roster of designated charities than the national office of the United Way. Local participants in the United Way must request that their preferred Ukrainian charity be listed on their local roster. Requests from three or more employees may be sufficient to get Ukrainian charities on the list.

There is tremendous pressure on each United Way chapter to meet its fund-raising goals for certain designated charities within the local community. Campaign chairmen are not especially eager to extend payroll deductions to other non-designated groups. However, their campaign will get credit for the total amount of funds gathered through the United Way Appeal. If they understand that a number of Ukrainian American donors would be likely to give more generously to charities of their choice, they may agree to the request.

Besides the United Way, employees often fail to take advantage of another valuable option for strengthening their corporate contribution. Many employers have "matching gift" programs that double or even triple the size of their employees' contributions to their favorite charities. The CCRF and other Ukrainian community-based charities could sharply increase their budgets if more donors in our community were mindful of this option. It is a shame to waste this opportunity or to dilute the potential impact of one's generosity.

We are grateful to Mr. Nehaniv for drawing attention to this issue, and we will do everything within our influence to increase the visibility of our programs through the United Way.

Orest T. Dubno
New Haven, Conn.

The writer, chairman of the board of the Children of Chornobyl Relief Fund and former revenue commissioner for the State of Connecticut, played a leading role in several local United Way campaigns.

The Famine was act of genocide

Dear Editor:

The November 15 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly ran an editorial, "Famine denial," and several news items referring to the same Famine. Many readers will know that you were referring to the genocide in Ukraine in 1933, but will not learn that the Famine was used along with executions and exile to Siberia as part of Stalin's genocide scheme.

Groups that arrange public memorials with the intention of informing the non-Ukrainian American public about the 1933 genocide in Ukraine, referring to it as a famine instead of genocide, are losing the opportunity to use appropriate terminology and thus diminish the impact of these events.

J.B. Gregorovich
Mount Forest, Ontario

The writer is chairman of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association.

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed (double-spaced) and signed; they must be originals, not photocopies.

The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Time to cut bait

With Askold Lozynskyj's election as president of the Ukrainian World Congress, it's time for the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, one of two Ukrainian American umbrella organizations, to stop trolling for power and cut bait.

For the benefit of Ukrainian Americans under the age of 30 who may not know how our community came to have two "umbrella" organizations, a brief historical overview is in order.

It all began at the 1980 Ukrainian Congress Committee of America convention when, to put it in the simplest of terms, a slate supported by the Banderite faction of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists [OUN(B)] was elected over the objection of the "democratic" opposition. Since adopting decisions by consensus was the foundation of the UCCA's activity, when efforts at compromise failed, delegates representing 27 organizations – including the Ukrainian National Association, Ukrainian Fraternal Association, Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Plast, ODUM and the Organization for the Rebirth of Ukraine walked out in protest. For the first time in 40 years, the Ukrainian American community would not present a united front.

When reunification talks – which continued for two more years – yielded nothing, the dissidents moved to create a second organization, the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council. A convention was convened in Washington on October 1, 1983, and John Flis was elected president. The following day the UACC-initiated National Committee to Commemorate Genocide Victims in Ukraine 1932-1933 sponsored a rally and march that began at the Washington Monument and ended at the Shevchenko statue. Some 18,000 people from 11 states participated in what was the largest single gathering of Ukrainian Americans since the unveiling of the Shevchenko monument in 1964.

As a vice-president of the newly established UACC, I was most optimistic about its future. With the two largest fraternal and the entire democratic front supporting it, there was no reason it could not offer healthy competition to the more narrowly constituted UCCA which, after all, had fewer organizations and fewer members. Competition, I reasoned, would be good for the entire community.

I was wrong. During the 1980s both the UCCA and the UACC were diminished as community interest waned and donations dried up. Some of the original UACC member-organizations later declared their "neutrality" and became independent, while the original UCCA member-organizations, still loyal to the Liberation Front-OUN(B) bloc, became more intransigent. In time, both sides were merely going through the motions whenever they met to discuss reconciliation. Leaders in both camps seemed unwilling to lose their power base.

By the middle of the 1990s, the UCCA was making a comeback. The leadership, both at the local and the national levels, was younger and more active. A program was in place. Finally, and this is a crucial, the UCCA had "Indians" (or grunts), the UACC had "chiefs." Today, unity with the UACC is not even on the UCCA agenda.

Uniting our community has never been an easy task. The first such effort occurred in 1903 when Catholic clerics and lay leaders came together in Yonkers, N.Y., to establish the Ruthenian National Committee. Soon after the arrival of America's first Ukrainian Catholic bishop, the committee passed out of existence.

The next attempt to organize a representative national organization began in 1914 following the eruption of hostilities in Europe. Three secular fraternal groups convened the first Diet of Ukrainians in New York City on October 30, 1915, with 295 delegates holding mandates from 457 local, non-sectarian organizations. The result was the Federation of Ukrainians in the U.S.

Once again, unity was short-lived. Charging the federation with having failed to carry out the mandates of the diet (the real reason was that the federation was dominated by the Ukrainian left), the UNA joined forces with Ukrainian Catholics and other organizations to establish the antithetical Ukrainian Alliance of America. With the end of the war, member-organizations regrouped and created the Ukrainian National Committee (UNC).

A unity of sorts was finally achieved after both the federation and the committee disappeared. Another coalition, the United Ukrainian Organizations of America came into being in 1922. The most active and visionary organization thus far, the UUOA piloted the community through the incredibly difficult 1920s and 1930s. The UUOA called America's attention to western Ukraine's struggle for independence, Polish pacification in western Ukraine, famine in eastern Ukraine and the Ukrainian freedom crusade. With the exception of the Communists, it united most of our community. Its influence in Washington began to wane, however, once Ukrainian American Communists, the Communist-controlled Popular Front and the Anti-Defamation League initiated a smear campaign labeling the UUOA a "fascist" enterprise.

Believing that a new beginning was called for, 805 delegates from 168 Ukrainian American organizations came together in Washington on May 24, 1940, and established the UCCA, a coalition that has survived longer than any other such representative organization.

So where do we go from here? I have some unsolicited suggestions. My first recommendation concerns the UACC. Both the UNA and the UFA should withdraw from this largely moribund organization and declare their neutrality. UACC membership has done nothing for these two fraternal and in some instances has actually hurt.

My second proposition involves the UCCA leadership. Can Askold Lozynskyj remain president of the UCCA while heading the Ukrainian World Congress? I think not. The UWC needs more than cursory attention. The best thing Mr. Lozynskyj can do is to turn over the UCCA reins to Executive Vice-President Orest Baranyk and focus on the UWC. Mr. Baranyk can then begin work to unite the community.

Here's one final recommendation for Mr. Lozynskyj, someone I have known (and disagreed with) for decades. He is bright, brash, articulate (often given to demagoguery), thoroughly bilingual and dynamic. I have watched him mature over the years from a firebrand Banderite to a more nuanced Banderite. Now that he is head of what is potentially the most significant Ukrainian organization outside of Ukraine, he is in a position to truly unite all corners of the diaspora, but only if he moves well beyond his ideologically limited parameters. The choice is his to make.

I congratulate Mr. Lozynskyj on his election and wish him godspeed.

Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com

Harvard publication wins prestigious history prize

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Dr. Timothy Snyder, currently an Academy Scholar at Harvard's Academy for International and Area Studies at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, will be awarded the Oskar Halecki Polish and East Central European History Award for his book "Nationalism, Marxism and Modern Central Europe: A Biography of Kazimierz Kelles-Krauz, 1872-1905."

The book was published in 1997 by the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. The Halecki Prize is administered by the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America. This is the second HURI book to win the prize since its inception four years ago.

Dr. Snyder's book traces the development and intellectual growth of Kelles-Krauz, an important social thinker in the traditions of Polish socialism, European positivism and liberal nationalism. Believing that national identity proceeds in tandem with modernization, he challenged the school of thought championed by Rosa Luxemburg that treated nationality as historically transitory and inherently reactionary.

Kelles-Krauz's conception of the importance of national identity as the basis of the future European order was prescient; he was one of the first Polish intellectuals to openly express a desire to see the peaceful coexistence of Poles, Jews and Ukrainians, with each having their national aspirations met. Much of his philosophical and sociological work has great resonance for the current situation in Central and Eastern Europe.

Dr. Snyder, a native of Centerville,

Ohio, received his B.A. from Brown University in 1991 and his Ph.D. from the University of Oxford in 1995. His book is based on his doctoral dissertation. His previous honors include a British Marshall Scholarship, an ACLS dissertation fellowship, and numerous research grants. He has published extensively and carried out a great deal of archival research abroad. His experience and intellectual achievements are exceptional for a scholar who is not yet 30 years old.

He presently is working on an extended research project on Poland's relations with its eastern neighbors including Ukraine, Lithuania and Belarus, through the prism of national history.

The Halecki Prize selection committee was composed of a number of eminent scholars of Polish and East Central European History. They include Prof. Piotr Wandycz of Yale University, Prof. Paul Knoll of University of Southern California, Prof. Stanislaus Blejwas of Central Connecticut State University, Dr. Neal Pease of the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee and Prof. M. B. Biskupski of St. John Fisher College.

The committee cited the book for "providing insights into the thinking of arguably the most interesting and original Polish socialist linked with the Polish Socialist Party."

"Nationalism, Marxism and Modern Central Europe" (351 pp., black and white photographs, maps, softcover, ISBN 0-916458-84-9) is available for \$18, plus \$4 shipping and handling. Call 1-800-448-2242 or visit the Harvard University Press website at <http://www.hup.harvard.edu/>.

Ukrainian American...

(Continued from page 1)

Committee in Ukraine and a leader of its democratic bloc. The 43-year-old parliamentarian represents his native Cherkasy region.

"What concerns Ukraine, today?" Mr. Syrota addressed that question before delegates and guests assembled at the UACC convention banquet on Saturday evening.

His answer gave the audience a rare insider's view of the political struggles under way in the Ukrainian Parliament and government.

Squarely in the heart of the fight, according to this member of the Verkhovna Rada, has been the effort to place the rule of law at the center of the nation's development.

"It was clear to us," he said, describing the concerns of the democratic bloc, "that either we ratify the [revised version of the new] Constitution — with it becoming the stabilizing factor in our further development — or the ideal of building an independent Ukrainian government would remain doubtful."

The voting came down to the wire with a presidential threat hanging over the Ukrainian Parliament: President Leonid Kuchma said he would dissolve the Verkhovna Rada and submit the original version of the new Constitution of Ukraine to a national referendum. This threat, Mr. Syrota commented, finally "pushed the wavering members to support the Constitution." They started the debate at 10 in the morning on June 27, and the Constitution was ratified the following morning, June 28.

Mr. Syrota related that he feels rather like a father asked to critique his child. His proudest achievement is the Constitution's preamble, which he calls "the quintessential part of the document." It refers to developing Ukraine in accordance with God's laws, personal dictates of conscience and in memory of the struggles of past gen-

erations, and is dedicated to the nation's children and grandchildren.

"The constitutional process continues," he warned. There are plenty of fundamental issues that are being fought over, including the fight for the use of Ukrainian as the government language, the struggle for economic development and private property, and the push by Communists and others to unite into a reconstituted Soviet Union. Deputy Syrota quipped: "In my experience, a union of paupers does not create wealth."

Mr. Syrota also noted that economic reform is likely to slow down because of the upcoming elections, with candidates for the presidency in the Verkhovna Rada and their supporters dragging their feet on reform because a good economy would favor the incumbent. "These people are no longer concerned about the interests of the nation," he underlined.

However, he added that the relatively decent performance of the Ukrainian economy during the recent monetary free-fall of the Russian ruble has somewhat silenced critics.

Furthermore, he voiced his hope in the "new wave" of businessmen-politicians, and the potential bloc of about 270 parliamentary members who are not Communists and, as he put it, "are interested in seeing the country develop in a customary way to most European governments."

Finally, he thanked the diaspora for its help in supporting Ukraine's emergence as a legitimate government, for "establishing our authority." For that reason, he noted, there is a section in the Constitution of Ukraine dedicated to all those of Ukrainian descent.

Mr. Syrota expressed his faith that all these current battles will be won in favor of Ukraine's growth and independence. Quoting Ukraine's national poet Taras Shevchenko, he said: "Our bitter enemy will be gone, and in his stead a mother and a son — human beings will live in our land."

Budget stalled...

(Continued from page 1)

could become almost impossible.

National Deputy Viktor Suslov, a former minister of the economy, said he believes the proposal by Ms. Tymoshenko's Budget Committee is a populist effort to attract Ukrainians with promises of repaid wages and salaries and to generate optimism with a promise to end a deficit-burdened government's need to borrow on foreign markets. "But it is not reality," he underlined.

Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko said on December 7 that the Budget Committee must stick to realistic revenue figures. "Incorporating dubious receipts into the national budget will not in any way help to solve our problems," said Mr. Tkachenko.

President Kuchma also criticized the budget as proposed by the Budget Committee, and called the idea of a balanced budget a dream. "A deficit-free budget is nothing but a nice wish, which cannot come true in such economic conditions," said the president. The budget that the president and the Cabinet of Ministers submitted to the Budget Committee projected a deficit of 0.6 percent.

The Verkhovna Rada has set itself a deadline of December 25 to approve a budget for 1999, but many legislators believe that approval by that date is unachievable simply because the Cabinet of Ministers proposal and the one officially presented by the Budget Committee are so out of synch that much debate and rewriting still needs to take place.

"Until the revenue side of the budget is more realistic and is more closely in

line with the government's proposal, we will not have a budget," said Mr. Suslov, who spoke after a second scheduled presentation by the Budget Committee was canceled on December 9.

But Ms. Tymoshenko, who rejects any assertions that the budget figures have been exaggerated to gain political benefit by acceding to populist demands, said the only thing standing in the way of a strong budget for Ukraine that addresses the needs of all the citizens of Ukraine is the present administration.

"There is a strong lobbying effort being made not to allow this budget to be approved," said Ms. Tymoshenko. "There will be no ability to implement our budget even if it is passed. It will be halted by the government," she added.

In addition to the enhanced revenue side of the Budget Committee proposal, Ms. Tymoshenko unsettled her parliamentary colleagues with a call for a monetary emission of 5.5 billion hrv, to cover expenses that even exaggerated revenues could not stretch to meet.

"I believe that 5.5 billion hrv can be released without any resulting inflationary trend," said Ms. Tymoshenko.

Judging by reaction last week, the International Monetary Fund does not agree. Concerned that Ukraine again might renege on promises to cut spending, control inflation and develop a realistic budget, the IMF said on December 5 that it would withhold the next scheduled credit tranche, which Ukraine expected to be \$74 billion, until February and only if a realistic budget was passed. The IMF has strongly warned Ukraine to avoid monetary emissions to pay wage and debt arrears, and to keep the budget deficit below 2.5 percent.

The Perfect Gift for the Informed Ukrainian Mind: КРИТИКА



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FOCUS ON PHILATELY

by Inger Kuzych

By way of introduction...

I'm an addict. I admit it. I am addicted to collecting colorful little pieces of gummed paper. At the same time, I'm also a connoisseur. I enjoy examining and critiquing the art that appears on those small pieces of paper.

However, to properly analyze artwork one must have knowledge, not only of the artistic process, but also of the subject matter being depicted. So some learning is required: this may touch on history or geography, folklore or sport, film or heraldry; it may deal with war or peace, religion or science. In short, just about any topic capable of being presented visually. This brings me to the very core of why I collect: I love to learn, and I find philately is a great learning facilitator.

Other people collect for other reasons: investment, social interaction with fellow philatelists (of all ages), or therapy. (Although it has yet to be definitely proven that stamp collectors live longer than non-collectors, philatelists definitely continue to be mentally sharper into advanced age than folks who do not pursue a hobby.) Nevertheless, deep down inside, I believe most philatelists also share my passion for learning new things.

I'm convinced that many of The Weekly's readers, too, are of an inquisitive bent and might eventually also benefit from the many advantages to be found in the philatelic hobby. With that aim in mind, and with the support of The Weekly Editor-in-Chief Roma Hadzewycz, I'm kicking off this new monthly column. I'm open to suggestions about what philatelic topics readers might wish for me to cover in future articles, and welcome feedback of any kind. My address is: P.O. Box 3, Springfield, VA 22150

Taras Shevchenko on stamps

What is great about philately is that there is no right or wrong way to collect, you simply go after what you like. Every person is unique, and so are his/her interests. Philatelists, however, can be grouped into one of four broad categories of what or how they collect: by country, by time period, by topic (e.g., airplanes, art, Christmas, scouting) or all of the above.

One of the most popular topics among Ukraine collectors, if not the all-time favorite, is Taras Shevchenko. The beloved poet and artist has been granted many

laudatory titles over the years, but I like to think of him as the "inventor" of Ukraine: the first person to clearly define the very essence of his cherished homeland. In one of his poems Shevchenko once asked: "When shall we get ourselves a [George] Washington, to promulgate his new and righteous law?" What he failed to realize is that in many ways he was that Washington. Although himself not a leader or a legislator, he nevertheless led the way in forging the path to eventual Ukrainian nationhood. It would not be a far-fetched statement to say that without Shevchenko we would not have an independent Ukraine today.

One would expect Shevchenko to be depicted on modern Ukrainian stamps and he has appeared on five issues so far. However, people are always surprised by some of the other countries that have honored "The Bard." Would you believe Paraguay?

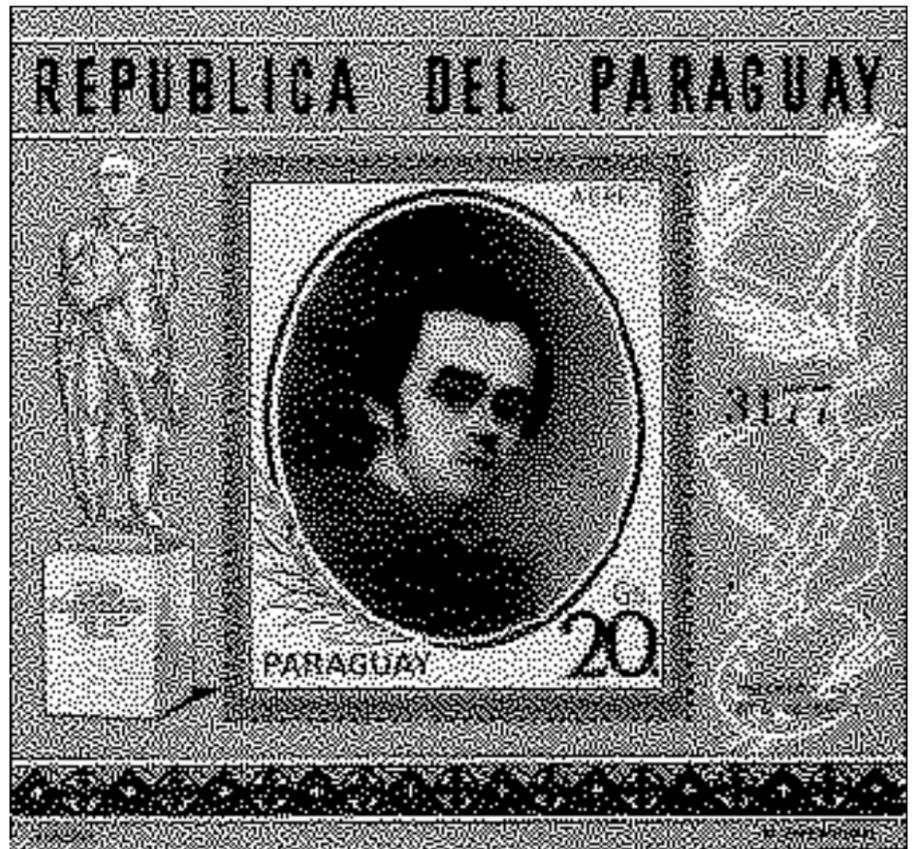
The largest number of Shevchenko stamps was issued by the Soviet Union. In order to deflect Shevchenko's denunciations of oppression and foreign occupation, Soviet literature distorted the true meanings of his writings by claiming that Shevchenko's attacks were aimed at the Russian and Polish bourgeoisie of his time. The Soviets modeled him as a revolutionary before his time who would have approved of their regime. The first Soviet stamp commemoratives (a set of three) were released in 1939, on the 125th anniversary of Shevchenko's birth. Subsequent issues were produced for the 150th (six stamps) and 175th (one stamp) anniversaries, as well as for the centenary of Shevchenko's death in 1961 (three stamps).

Shevchenko statues in Kaniv and Kharkiv were depicted on two stamps from a 1954 set marking the 300th anniversary of the "Reunification of Ukraine with Russia." This set also showed Shevchenko University in Kyiv.

Finally, Soviet stamps also recognized Shevchenko the artist. His famous painting "Kateryna" was reproduced twice, in 1957 and 1979.

Not surprisingly, two Soviet satellite countries, Bulgaria (in 1961) and Czechoslovakia (in 1989), also prepared Shevchenko issues.

Alas, neither the U.S. nor Canada have ever printed a Shevchenko stamp.



Among the Shevchenko stamps issued around the world are the ones reproduced above: (beginning with top row, from left) Paraguay (1971), Bulgaria (1961), Czechoslovakia (1989), the Ukrainian National Republic (1920) and the USSR (1961).

Concerted write-in efforts in the early 1960s – coinciding with the 150th anniversary of the poet's birth or the centennial of his death – proved unsuccessful. However, many commemorative postal cancellations have been produced over the years.

The story behind Paraguay's Shevchenko issue is a bit bizarre. The Ukrainian diaspora in Argentina raised the

funds necessary to erect a Shevchenko monument in Buenos Aires in 1971. It was felt that a stamp commemorating the special event would be appropriate and one was designed. However, try as they might, Ukrainian representatives couldn't get the Argentine postal authorities to agree to a stamp release. Incredibly, postal officials in

(Continued on page 18)

Austrian philatelic issues feature Ukrainian themes

VIENNA – In conjunction with new releases in Austria's stamp series titled "National Customs and Folkloristic Treasures," the Ukrainian Stamp Collectors Club of Austria has thus far released three covers and special cancellations, all by Lviv artist Ivan Turetskyi.

The first, dated November 21, 1997, depicts a medieval horn player against the backdrop of the Lviv City Hall.

The second, dated April 3, 1998, depicts the icon "The Advent of Christ into Jerusalem" by Moses Subotic (1775) from the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church of St. Barbara in Vienna.

The third, dated June 5, 1998, features the wooden sculpture of Samson that stands in Contract Square in Kyiv.

Other recent releases by the Ukrainian Stamp Collectors Club of Austria include:

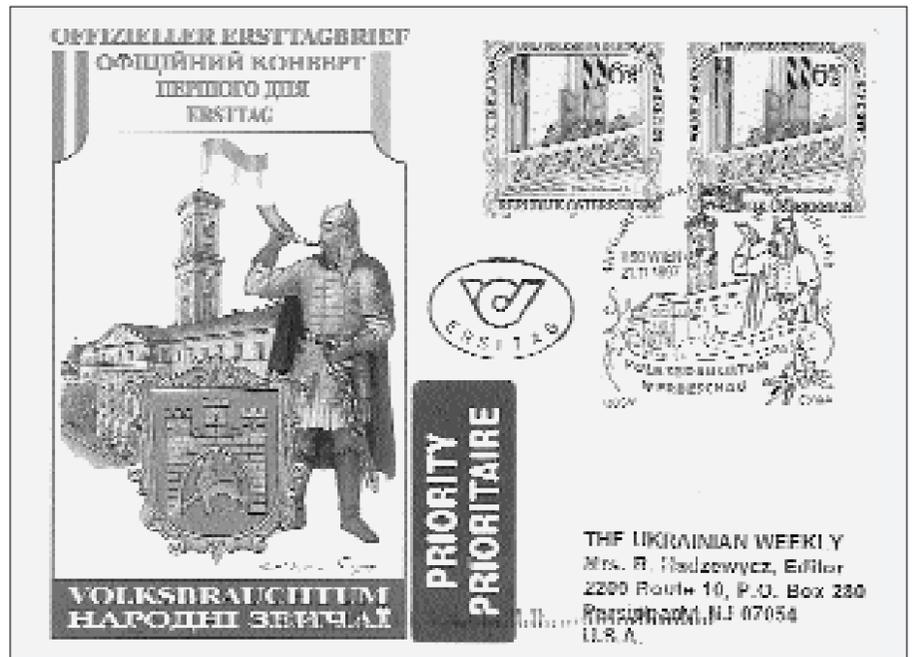
- "Life in the Camp 1915-1918:

Ukrainian Refugees in Gmünd," a cover and a postmark dated October 18, 1997, featuring sculptor Gregor Kruk's monument to refugees located in that Czech city;

- "U.N. Day," featuring an official cover depicting an old steam locomotive, a Diesel locomotive and the railway station in Lviv, and a special cancellation showing a Diesel locomotive of the Ukrainian railways, issued on November 29, 1997;

- "Air Mail," dedicated to a historical first: the establishment of world's first regular air mail service on the route Vienna-Krakow-Lviv-Kyiv on March 31, 1918, during World War I, using Austro-Hungarian military planes, and a cancellation dated August 25, 1998.

For information contact: Ukrainischer Briefmarken-Sammler-Verein in Osterreich, A-1010 Wien, Schonlaterngasse 7/8, Austria.



A cover and cancellation depicting a medieval horn player against the backdrop of the Lviv City Hall issued by the Ukrainian Stamp Collectors Club of Austria.

DATELINE NEW YORK: A spiritual launching for earthly delights

by Helen Smindak

The Ukrainian Institute of America, dressed up for its yearlong 50th birthday celebration with lavish window coverings and fresh wall paint, became a veritable garden of earthly delights for the November 14 premiere of the Woskob Collection of 20th century art from Ukraine, on exhibit through December 27. The opening was attended by visitors from England, Canada and Ukraine, and many New York dignitaries.

Immense arrangements of fresh and dried flowers mixed with exotic foliage greeted throngs of visitors in the lobby and second-floor ballroom of the turn-of-the-century French Renaissance-style chateau. Votive candles in red glass holders and dainty arrangements of fresh roses wrought magic in another room.

More than 400 guests moved from room to room on three floors, examining 125 paintings and 40 watercolors as they sipped champagne and Perlova vodka, the Lviv-distilled vodka that took the gold medal in the premium category at the Wine and Vodka Fair in St. Petersburg last June. Bandurist Michael Andrec played in the paneled library, while waiters in evening dress moved through crowded rooms and stairways with platters of delicious hors d'oeuvres.

The works of 25 Ukrainian artists, the flowers and the champagne were there thanks to the generosity of philanthropists Helen and Alex Woskob of State College, Pa. (The refreshments were provided by the institute, and Perlova donated the vodka.) After collecting traditional, contemporary and modern Ukrainian art for 40 years, Mr. and Mrs. Woskob arranged with the institute to show their private collection, the first time these works have been on exhibit in the United States.

The event received an auspicious and spiritual launching with the entrance of Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, then on a visit to the U.S. The prelate gave his blessing to the exhibit and presented Mrs. Woskob the Church's St. Volodymyr Medal in recognition of her untiring efforts to nurture Ukraine's cultural rebirth.

In his remarks, Patriarch Filaret said: "We are deeply indebted to Pani Halyna [Mrs. Woskob] for taking upon herself

such a tremendous project, collecting so many examples of Ukrainian art, to show the world our Ukraine and its finest representatives. This exhibit will reveal to everyone who visits it that Ukraine has its own independent state, but that it also has its own rich culture which originated in the time of Volodymyr the Great. The canvases here show the great history of Ukraine, as well as its struggles; they will not let us forget such tribulations as the Great Famine of 1932-1933 or the Stalinist repressions, which took millions of Ukrainian lives."

Attending the event were the Woskobs' two sons, both residents of State College – George, with wife, Nina, and children Laryssa, George and Alexander, and Victor, with his children Victor Jr., Ashley and Jonathan. Mr. and Mrs. Woskob's daughter Laura, flew in from London, England, with her husband, Alex Gryshchuk, and their children Alexa, Nicholas and Laryssa.

Other Woskob relatives on hand included Mrs. Woskob's sister, Marilyn Lenny, of Toronto, who was accompanied by her husband's sister, Halyna Pankiw, also of Toronto, and Woskob nieces Sonya Zhuk, Olenka Drobot and Oksana Demario with her husband, Robert.

The formal presentation of bread and salt to Patriarch Filaret was made by Iryna Koziar, with young George and Laryssa Woskob, in Ukrainian costumes, presenting bouquets of flowers. Maria Kond of Miami, media coordinator for the exhibit, greeted the throng in Ukrainian, noting the special efforts of Mrs. Woskob to promote the work of Ukrainian artists and show them off to the world. UIA president Walter Nazarewicz expressed thanks to everyone "for taking time to join us for what we consider is a very important event in the Ukrainian American community."

The evening was graced by the presence of dignitaries from the Ukrainian Mission to the United Nations, including Ambassador Volodymyr Yelchenko, Ukraine's permanent representative to the U.N., as well as representatives of many Ukrainian organizations. Frances Archipenko, the widow of noted sculptor and painter Alexander Archipenko, attended with a group of friends.



Yaroslav Kulynych

Patriarch Filaret at the opening of the Woskob collection of art at the Ukrainian Institute of America with (from left) Helen Woskob, and Ambassador Volodymyr Yelchenko with his wife, Iryna.

Visitors from Ukraine included Vitalii Karpenko, editor of *Vechirnyi Kyiv*, journalist and poet Nina Bai, and Oleksa Dykyj of Radio Ukraine.

Though the Woskob Collection on display includes the work of world-renowned masters, the exhibit primarily promotes the original work of young artists. One-third of the works are for sale, with prices ranging from \$1,200 to \$3,800 and watercolors priced at \$240. Part of the proceeds is earmarked for the Ukrainian Institute of America.

More than 20 works are the creation of Ivan Baldukha, an artist from Ukraine's Vinnytsia Oblast who specializes in religious art and has painted more than 2,500 icons. Currently working on religious murals on the walls of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Cooper City, Fla., Mr. Baldukha was present at the opening and happily conversed with guests about works like his enigmatic oil "Chornobyl Madonna."

Ancient Kozaks and scenes of Kyiv are the focus of several pieces by Yuri Kucharenko from the Kirovohrad region, who is attracted to Ukraine's glorious past. Kyiv resident Alexander Ivakhnenko presents clear and precise compositions with a lyric style, as seen in his oil paintings "The Harvest" and "Spasa" (Blessing of Fruit).

Olena Zvyahinzeva from Zaporizhia is represented by a dozen works that show her individuality; she strives to find a new, appropriate artistic resolution for every work or cycle of works, as demonstrated in her 1995 oil "Old Times Duet." Ukrainian folk dancers are spotlighted by Svitlana Novhorodska-Kucharenko in her compositions, while village scenes are captured in the color etchings of Kyiv-born Katerina Korniychuk.

The exhibit includes framed wood-carved scenes by Serhiy Karpenko, wood-inlay works by Anatoly Konovalenko and metal reliefs by Rem. There are landscapes by Rostyslav Zvyahinzev that continue the traditions of the Ukrainian school of realism, such as his 1983 oil titled "Winter."

Canvases by Anatoli Burtovy depict the unity of man, earth and sun, while those by Mykola Malynka follow the tradition of realism. A monumental work by the late Victor Zaretsky of Kyiv, portraying the national actress T. Tsymbala, appears at first glance to be a mosaic design but is actually a painting.

Two abstract works by Alexander Archipenko, who originated a new style of representation of the human figure – a cubist and purely abstract form – and three watercolors by Alexis Gritchenko (Oleksa Hryshchenko), an aficionado of

modern painting, particularly cubism, draw the attention of every viewer.

The contributions of Sophia Homeniuk, who has mastered the ancient method of painting with unique short-handled brushes made of forest grass, are characterized by fold paintings, wherein one side of a work is a mirror image of the other side.

Watercolorist Nadezhda Kozylo is the talented artist whose light-hearted, fanciful works fill the entire third-floor gallery.

The exhibit is rounded out with Mykola Varennia's impressionistic landscapes of Ivano-Frankivsk environs, etchings on paper by Eva Biss, a tempera work by Volodymyr Botsvin, and oils by Victor Tkachenko, Ruslan Kutnyak, Mykola Myliaretz, Alexander Sopilkin and Mykola Zhyravel.

A host of American and Ukrainian American visitors, among them Met Opera star Paul Plishka, turned out for a preview of the exhibit on November 12. That function, though less crowded, was a shining forerunner to the formal opening two days later.

After concluding its run at the Ukrainian Institute, the Woskob Collection will travel to Toronto, Philadelphia and California.

Mr. and Mrs. Woskob, known in Ukrainian circles as Oleksij and Halyna Woskobijnyk, are dedicated to the economic, social and artistic development of Ukraine, a zeal for which the Ukrainian government awarded them the Order of Merit. The award was presented by Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma.

Mr. Woskob, a successful builder and real-estate developer, received the Order of St. Volodymyr the Great from Patriarch Filaret when the prelate visited St. Nicholas Church in Cooper City on October 25.

Artists on the move

So many events and happenings have filled the Dateline calendar in recent weeks that it's impossible to give each one full coverage. Following a report on some of the happenings, in capsule form.

- Odessa-born soprano Maria Guleghina, who made her Metropolitan Opera debut in 1991, received a rave review from The New York Times music critic Paul Griffiths for her performance in the season premiere of "Aida." Mr. Giffiths devoted most of his review to praises of Ms. Guleghina's vocal powers and acting ability. On October 30, The Times announced that "the Ukrainian soprano Maria Guleghina, who drew

(Continued on page 12)



"Kozak Mamai" by Yuri Kucharenko (oil, 1997).

“Treasures from the Ukrainian Steppes” premieres in Montreal

MONTREAL – The international exhibition “Treasures from the Ukrainian Steppes” explores the history and archaeology of the Ukrainian steppes, giving a representative overview from the Paleolithic to late antiquity.

The international exhibition is the joint effort of the Institute of Archaeology of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and host museums in Canada and the U.S.

The exhibition presents a collection of 350 highly significant pieces on loan from the Institute of Archaeology in Kyiv, including objects that have been recently discovered. Many of the artifacts are being exhibited for the first time in North America.

In featuring archaeological riches from the Ukrainian steppes, the exhibit highlights sites from the Paleolithic Age and the Trypillian culture of the Neolithic, and goes on to explore the Cimmerian, Scythian and Sarmatian civilizations, as well as the Olbia site at the mouth of the Dnipro, representing the ancient Greek presence on the northern shores of the Black Sea.

The pieces exhibited date from the Stone Age to the third century A.D. Among artifacts on display are mammoth bones, pottery, figurines, tools, harness ornaments, weapons, as well as magnificent gold jewelry and ceremonial items, and clothing. The majority of items were found in kurhans, or burial mounds.

“Treasures from the Ukrainian Steppes” had its world premiere in Montreal at Pointe-à-Callière, the Montreal Museum of Archaeology and History, where it opened on October 7, and will run through February 7, 1999.

The museum’s director, Francine Lelièvre, considers the exhibit “... an

extremely significant collection in terms of what it adds to our knowledge and of its very high quality and great rarity. It is also an international first for Montreal, as it is one of the rare collections of its kind not to have been exhibited around the world.”

Pointe-à-Callière, which opened in 1992, is known for its innovative approach to museology both in Europe and the U.S. and is held up as a model to be emulated in many fields.

The exhibition hall at Pointe-à-Callière has been transformed to give the antiquities, arranged in chronological order and by theme, the setting they deserve. A multimedia fresco recreates the atmosphere of the steppes in the first millennium, bringing the immensity of the steppes to life, with the thundering charge of mounted nomad warriors.

The exhibition introduces visitors to the civilizations that forged Ukraine, in particular the nomad herdsmen, horsemen and warriors who ranged through this land – a natural corridor between Europe and Asia, leaving a precious heritage illustrating their lifestyle and refined culture.

The Ukrainian curator for the “Treasures from the Ukrainian Steppes” exhibition is Prof. Denys Kozak of the Institute of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. The exhibition at Pointe-à-Callière was organized by Ms. Lelièvre, the museum’s director, with Michel Lambert, as guest curator for the exhibit.

Among the scientific advisors to the exhibition are Elena Fialko, Institute of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine; and Véronique Schiltz, an eminent Scythian specialist from Paris and author of the catalogue essay titled “Ukraine Rediscovered: History and Archaeology.”

The essay deals with the issue of Ukrainian identity as distinct from a Russian one in terms of “historic roots and ethnogenesis of the different peoples,” the controversies regarding the Kyivan Rus’ state, and the need to go further back into the archeological past of the Ukrainian steppes – the crucible of the Ukrainian identity.

Ms. Schiltz writes that “The Ukrainian identity has been forged from many different ores. It is nonetheless real, and the Ukrainian state, at once very young and very old, is determined to reclaim its past in all its diversity.”

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue, with prefaces by Piotr (Petro) Tolochko, eminent archaeologist and director of the Institute of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, and Point-à-Callière Museum Director Ms. Lelièvre. Among contributors to the catalogue are Prof. Kozak, Ms. Fialko, Mr. Lambert, Annick Poussart and Ms. Schiltz.

Transliteration of proper names, as well as archaeological terms as they appear in the catalogue and in the descriptive texts of the exhibit, are, unfortunately, from Russian, not Ukrainian. Thus one encounters such terms as “kurgan” rather than “kurhan,” “Soboleva Mogila” rather than “Mohyla,” etc.

Following its world premiere in Montreal, the collection will travel in the United States, visiting the Arts Museum of San Antonio (October 1999-January 2000); the Walters Gallery in Baltimore (March to May 2000); the County Museum of Los Angeles (July-September 2000) and the Brooklyn Art Museum (October 2000-January 2001); with Boston still to be confirmed.

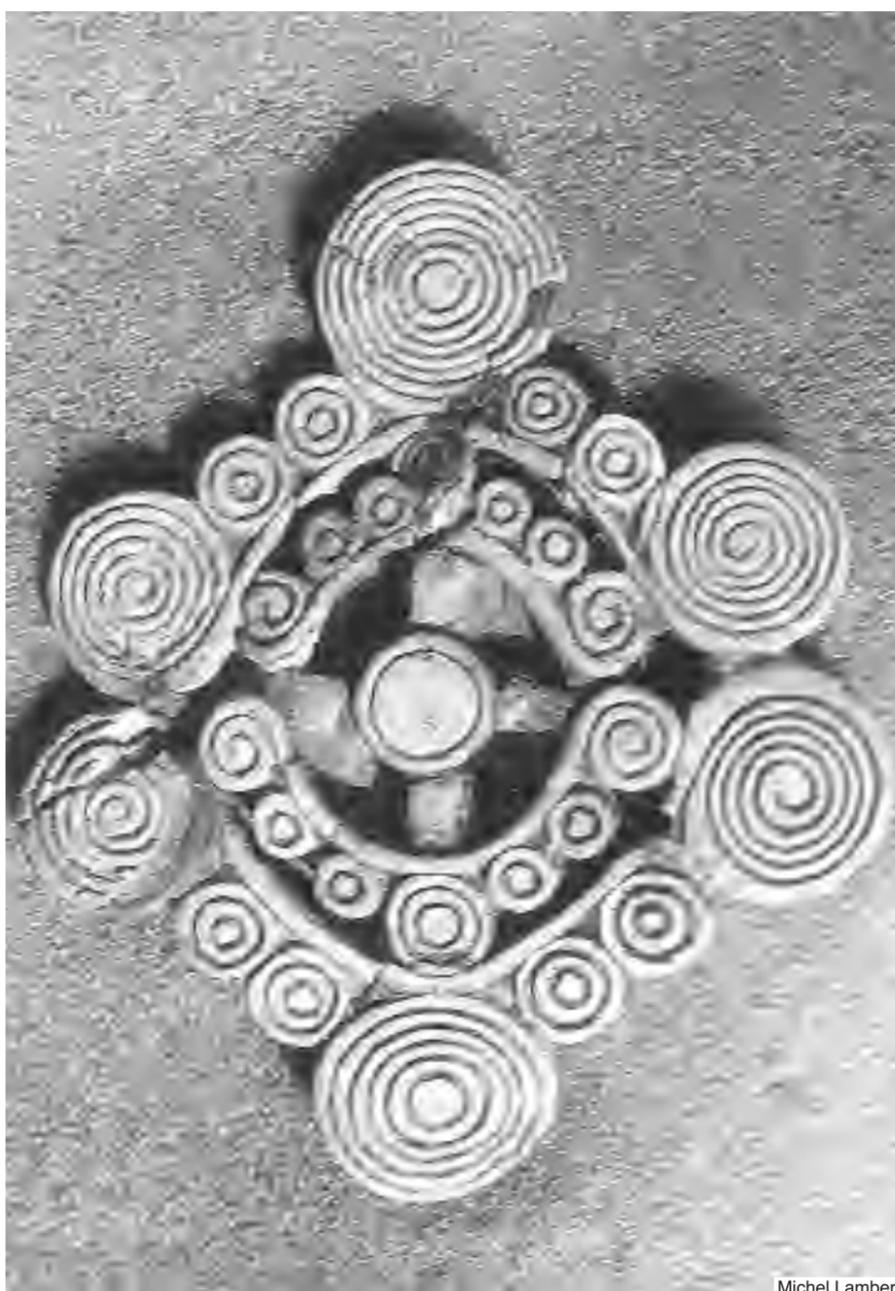
“Treasures from the Ukrainian Steppes” is currently on view at Point-à-Callière; the museum is located at 350 Place Royale, corner of de la Commune, in Old Montreal. For more information call (514) 872-9150; website, <http://www.musee-Pointe-a-Calliere.qc.ca/>.



For the Scythians, who were among the first to domesticate the horse, their steeds were their most precious possession. A Scythian masterpiece – this golden ritual vessel or phiale, decorated with horses on its base, was discovered in 1990 in the Bratoliubovsky Kurhan, in the village of Olhyno in Kherson; it dates from the fifth century B.C. With the curved and flowing lines typical of Scythian art, this work immortalizes the vibrant spirit of the horse and the nomad.



A clay figurine from the Trypillian culture, excavated in 1993 in the village of Bernachivka, Vinnytsia region. The figure dates from 3,000-2,600 B.C. The holes at the shoulders and hips are a possible indication that such figurines may have been worn on a cord as amulets to ward off evil.



Cimmerian harness trapping, excavated in 1959 at Kurhan No. 1 in the village of Zolnoye, near Simferopol, in Crimea; the ornament dates from the second half of the eighth century B.C.

Michel Lambert

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A spiritual launching...

(Continued from page 10)

strong reviews for her recent Met 'Aida,' will sing the title role in 'Tosca.' Ms. Guleghina will return to the Met stage in March and April to reprise the title role in "Aida." Following the 23rd annual benefit concert of the Richard Tucker Music Foundation on November 15, The Times' reviewer Anthony Tommasini reported that Ms. Guleghina was "especially compelling" in Lady Macbeth's first-act scene from Verdi's "Macbeth."

• Popular Met bass Paul Plishka used his booming voice and stylistic know-how to great effect in the Metropolitan Opera's November performances of "Aida." Mr. Plishka has a busy Met schedule coming up: "Lucia di Lammermoor" in January, "Il Trovatore" and "Simon Boccanegra" in February, and "Aida" in April.

• Baritone Vassily Gerello, born in the Chernivtsi region of Ukraine, will appear in March productions of Tchaikovsky's "The Queen of Spades" at the Met. He made his Met debut in January 1997 in the role of Alfio in "Cavalleria Rusticana." Mr. Gerello recently performed with the Kirov Orchestra and Opera Chorus at Carnegie Hall in Tchaikovsky's "Iolanta" (The Times' Bernard Holland called his performance "strong"). He also sang with the Kirov Chorus when it presented Rachmaninoff's "Vespers" and Tchaikovsky's "Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom" at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola on November 6.

• Other Ukrainian singers appearing in Met productions this season include tenor Vladimir Grishko, who will perform in "La Bohème" in February and "Khovanshchina" in March; bass Vladimir Ognovenko, also scheduled to sing in "Khovanshchina"; and mezzo-soprano Elena Zaremba, who will make her Met debut in "Il Trovatore" in February.

• Appearing in the New York City Opera production of Puccini's "Madama Butterfly" (a new production said to be a fresh and affecting take on this repertory staple), soprano Oksana Kroyvtska made "a deeply moving, though vocally uneven Butterfly," according to The New York Times. Back in March, when Ms. Kroyvtska sang in the standard New York City Opera production of the Puccini opera, The Times' Allan Kozinn wrote that the Ukrainian soprano's vocal agility, graceful movement and dramatic sensibility "make the title character's ingenuousness both believable and touching" and called her "the Butterfly Puccini wanted."

• Canadian jazz pianist John Stetch, who arrived in New York in 1993, gave his first New York concert before a Ukrainian audience on November 21 and left listeners at the Ukrainian Institute of America hoping for more. The John Stetch Trio, with Mr. Stetch at the piano, Mark Turner on saxophone and Johannes

Weidenmueller on bass, performed two sets of music - pensive melodies like "I'll Remember April," Jerome Kern's "All the Things You Are" and Duke Ellington's bluesy "Things Ain't What They Used To Be." In the second half, the trio offered jazz improvisations of Ukrainian folk music that included the title tune from Mr. Stetch's most recent CD "Kolomeyka Fantasy," as well as "Chervona Ruta," a recently written work called "Zabava" and "Carpathian Blues," based on the Arkan dance melody. Mr. Stetch can produce tinkling notes that sound like gentle raindrops and loud bass chords that simulate thunder; his work is creative and refreshingly unpretentious. Winner of the 1998 Prix de Jazz du Maurier at the Montreal International Jazz Festival, Mr. Stetch was described by Roger Levesque of The Edmonton Journal as "one of the best young pianists and composers in the country ... As a soloist, he's less interested in showing off than he is in finding delicious harmonies and a thoughtful inner momentum."

• After four years of partying and living life on a very dangerous edge, 1994 Olympic gold medalist Oksana Baiul is making a comeback. Ms. Baiul has been training since August with Natalie Linichuk at the University of Delaware in Wilmington, and says she hopes the International Skating Union will let her regain amateur status and Olympic eligibility. Performing before a crowd of 2,000 at the university's Rust Arena on November 8 as the final act of the "Stars of the Present and the Future" exhibition, she tried a few triple jumps and landed all but one. The Ukrainian-born figure skater, who turned 21 last month, told TV talk show host Oprah Winfrey on November 16 that "it's very important for me to compete again." Two days later she was seen on TV doing just that - competing as a professional skater in "Ice Wars" with Tara Lipinski, Nancy Kerrigan and Surya Bonaly. She came in first in the first half of the competition, but lost by one point in the second half to Ms. Lipinski. It's good to see her back on the ice!

• In the media: During one of her mid-November TV shows, homemaking guru Martha Stewart interviewed Jerry Kurowycy Sr., who showed how the Kurowycy Meat Marekt's delicious hams are smoked, baked, glazed and carved. The Kurowycy market was also featured last month in the Zagat Survey on New York's cable TV, Channel 1.

• The October issue of Victoria magazine ran a photo story on the autumn wedding of Christine Gilbert and Taras (Terry) Solomon at Soyuzivka, where the two had met three years earlier. The bride, wearing a Vera Wang gown, and the groom, were pictured in front of the Ukrainian Orthodox chapel on the grounds of the Ukrainian National Association's resort. Both are of Ukrainian ancestry.

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International relief...

(Continued from page 6)

• The United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, 1206 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 10111.

• Ukrainian World Congress, 2118A Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ontario, M6S 1M8.

In addition, the following organizations are arranging aid for Zakarpattia.

• The Ukrainian National Women's League of America has organized and will continue to organize donation drives through local chapters to accept donations

of warm clothing, blankets and over-the-counter medicines. For information call the UNWLA headquarters, (212) 533-4646.

• The Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, based in Short Hills, N.J., is continuing to accept contributions through its Transcarpathian Relief Fund in order to supplement the first relief shipment that was sent the second week of November. Contact: (973) 376-5140.

American government organizations in Ukraine, Counterpart and Peace Corps, also are helping organize direct assistance from private organizations, business and individuals in the U.S.

Accused serial killer...

(Continued from page 2)

who denies charges of helping in nine of the killings, later described Mr. Onopriienko as an intelligent and normal person, and claimed that the two had been friends. Mr. Onopriienko denied that he had been helped by Mr. Rogozin in the killings.

On December 3 Mr. Onopriienko claimed that in 1982 he was recruited by the secret service and killed people only to fulfill their orders. The court presented his testimonies from previous questioning, in which Mr. Onopriienko had claimed that he was led by "heavenly forces," and asked him to make up his mind. He replied that he "had lied, is now lying and will continue to lie," and refused to answer further questions.

Public opinion is strongly in favor of administering the death penalty in this case, which would take two years under Ukrainian law to carry out. The Zhytomyr court has already passed two death sentences this year alone.

In related news, Amnesty International

has accused President Kuchma of violating the principle of the independence of the judiciary and the right of the accused to be presumed innocent in the Onopriienko case. The reason for the charge was that Mr. Kuchma had said on November 23 that "As a human being I cannot see any punishment for him other than death." Amnesty International also said the president's statement puts at risk the existence of a moratorium on executions in Ukraine.

President Kuchma's spokesman dismissed the criticism, saying that the president "has always considered Ukraine's judiciary to be independent."

Amnesty International also pointed to what it said is a series of civic rights violations throughout investigations of Mr. Onopriienko. Spokespersons for the international human rights organization said that they expect to be allowed to hold independent psychiatric examinations of Onopriienko as they doubt his psychological health.

If found to be insane, Onopriienko would be deemed unfit to stand trial for murder under Ukrainian law and would instead be committed indefinitely to a mental asylum.

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Parma school receives Governor's Award for Excellence in science accomplishments

PARMA, Ohio – St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral School and science teacher Daria Kulchytsky were among those who received the Governor's Award for Excellence in Youth Science Opportunities for their accomplishments during the 1997-1998 school year.

To qualify for the award, the school held an annual Science Fair, followed by an open house for the public; the students participated in the West Side Catholic Elementary Science Fair at St. Edward's High School; followed by the Northeastern Ohio Science and Engineering Fair at Cleveland State University, the Western Reserve District 5 Science Day in Akron and the State Science Day at Ohio Wesleyan University.

The award program, initiated by the Ohio Academy of Science in cooperation with the Office of the Governor and the Ohio Department of Education, recognizes schools and teachers who stimulate student scientific research and who extend science education opportunities beyond the traditional classroom activities.

A letter from Gov. George V. Voinovich and the Ohio Department of Education was sent to the principal, Sister Miriam Claire, to notify the school about the award.



Students at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral School in Parma, Ohio, with their science teacher, Daria Kulchytsky, display the awards they received from the governor for their science accomplishments.

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

the World Bank, the Associated Press reported. That agreement would have allowed the Cabinet of Ministers to provide guarantees to foreign creditors and investors to protect them from possible losses or other risks linked to Ukraine's economic instability. The World Bank pledged to back the guarantees by a special fund amounting annually to \$120 million (U.S.). The vote came on the same day as a World Bank

mission arrived in Kyiv to discuss new projects and loans. Valerii Alosyn, head of the Parliament's Finance Committee, commented that the failure to ratify the document stemmed from the "general negative attitude [among lawmakers] to any deals that have to do with foreign loans." (RFE/RL Newsline)

...prohibits president from altering tax laws

KYIV – On December 1, the Verkhovna Rada voted (342 for, with one abstention) to override President Leonid

Kuchma's veto on a tax law that forbids the president from setting tax rates and granting tax exemptions. Mr. Kuchma had argued that the legislation could lead to lower budget revenues because it would not allow the president to change excise and import taxes if necessary. Serhii Teriokhyn of the Parliament's Finance Committee urged lawmakers to override the veto, arguing that the Constitution grants them the exclusive right to determine tax rates and breaks. Earlier this month the Parliament had approved amendments prohibiting the president from limiting state spending on certain items in the budget. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainian miners on strike again

KYIV – Hundreds of miners demonstrated outside the Verkhovna Rada building in Kyiv on December 2, demanding increased state support for the mining sector and the payment of back wages, the Associated Press reported. According to Mykhailo Volynets of the Independent Miners' Union, some 40,000 miners in 20 mines launched an indefinite strike in support of the demonstrators' demands. The miners want the Parliament to increase

budget allocations for their industry to 5.5 billion hryv (\$1.6 billion U.S.) from the projected 3.1 billion hryv. Wage arrears to the mining sector, according to governmental data, amount to 2.4 billion hryv. The Parliament responded to the protests by passing a resolution ordering the government to speed up repayment of wage arrears. The government responded by ordering mines to give the payment of wages a top priority. It also granted mines tax breaks for 1999 and included next year's expenditures for the coal sector on the list of budget items that cannot be reduced. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Canadians study democracy in army

KYIV – Canadian scholars Natalie Mykhailyshyn and historian Orest Subtelny begin studying the level of democratic control over the army in Ukraine on December 8 in Kyiv, reported Canada's Military Attaché Richard Williams. Their work is being conducted within the framework of the program on civilian and military relations called Democratic Military Relations. Mr. Williams noted that the program is aimed at developing civilian and military relations in Central and East European countries. (Eastern Economist)

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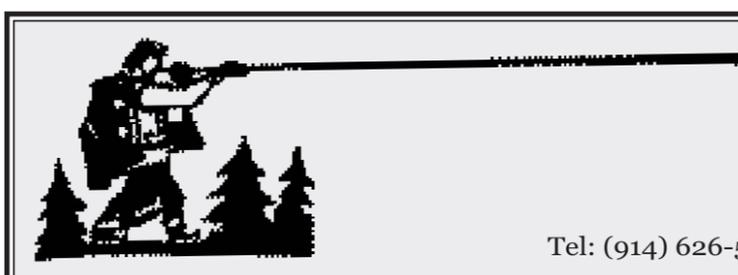
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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Kerhonksonians honor Slobodian

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — “When they write the history of tiny Kerhonkson’s tiny Ukrainian community, they should start with Daniel Slobodian,” wrote Jeremiah Horrigan, staff writer for The Times Herald-Record in the lead to his news story about a testimonial dinner held in the Ukrainian American community activist’s honor recently at Soyuzivka.

Mr. Slobodian, 79, one of the pioneers of Soyuzivka, the upstate New York resort of the Ukrainian National Association, was feted on Sunday, September 27, at a dinner organized by local Ukrainian community activists. In attendance were some 150 persons: friends, colleagues and fellow UNA’ers, including UNA President Ulana Diachuk. Also present was Rep. Maurice Hinchey (D-N.Y.). Family members present included his wife, Anna; daughters Roma Halatyn and Olena Castelli; and brother, Gregory.

A feature article about the tireless community activist was published in the October 3 issue of The Times-Herald Record under the headline “Ukrainian patriarch honored; Slobodian a Kerhonkson institution.”

Mr. Slobodian was born on February 3, 1919, in Philadelphia into a prominent family of UNA’ers. He is the son of Roman and Anna Slobodian; his father was the longtime supreme treasurer of the UNA.

He has been active in various

Ukrainian community organizations since his youth, which he spent in New Jersey/New York. As a 14-year-old he marched with his father in a mass demonstration organized by Ukrainians in New York to protest the man-made Famine in Ukraine. Mr. Slobodian sang in the church choir, as well as in the Metropolitan Choir of New York and New Jersey, and performed with the renowned Koshetz Choir during its 1940 tour.

After attending New York University, he served in the U.S. Army during World War II, attaining the rank of captain, and was wounded while serving in France. Soon thereafter he was elected president of the Ukrainian Youth League of North America. Later he became the first manager of Soyuzivka and then co-manager with Walter Kwas.

At the testimonial in his honor, Mr. Slobodian was welcomed with resounding applause as he and his family entered the Veselka hall. He was presented a bouquet of flowers by Dr. Stefania Baranowsky, who chaired the event’s organizing committee.

After prayers were recited by the Rev. Iura Godenciuc and Emile Sharanevych, the Zoloty Homin Choir, directed by Dr. Oleh Wolansky, intoned the hymn “Sotvory Hospody.” Introductory remarks were delivered by the Rev. Sharanevych, and the program’s master of ceremonies, Mykola Wasyluk, spoke in Ukrainian and English about the honoree’s activity and dedication to his community.

The culmination of the program

(Continued on page 18)



Daniel J. Castelli

Daniel Slobodian (left) during the testimonial with Rep. Maurice Hinchey.



The testimonial dinner’s organizing committee presents a plaque to the honoree.

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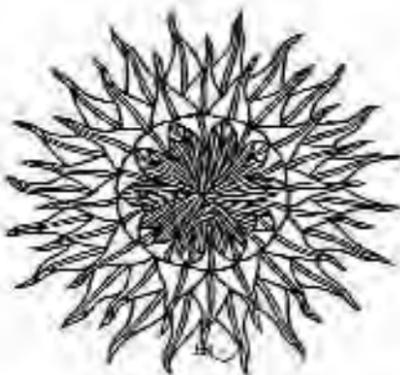
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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

The Gretzky goal standard

The Great One just keeps going from Edmonton to Los Angeles to St. Louis to Manhattan, but one thing has remained constant: Wayne Gretzky has always scored goals. Always!

As part-Ukrainian Gretzky achieved yet another milestone in his brilliantly offensive career, a horrific thought occurred. What if the Great One were just beginning his professional hockey career? Would he go on to score over 900 regular season goals in over 1,300 games over 20 seasons? Best never to underestimate Gretzky, but it's difficult to believe anyone, even No. 99 in his heyday would be able to rack up 92 goals in one season if it were being played in today's goal-challenged NHL.

Some 10 years ago, netminder Brian Hayward had the NHL's best goals-against average, with a mark of 2.81. By contrast, no fewer than 30 goalies in today's NHL boast a GAA of 2.75 or less. What a difference a decade makes. Where have all the goals gone? It's a truly valid question, but no matter what is happening on the league front, Gretzky just keeps scoring. He would be dominant in any era.

In the 1997-1998 regular season, Gretzky amassed 23 goals with 67 assists for 90 points in 82 games, tying for third in league scoring. Amazing. Gretzky scored 46 goals in his first pro season with the Indianapolis Racers (three) and Edmonton Oilers (43) of the old World Hockey Association. And he has over 850 NHL goals with the Oilers, Los Angeles Kings, St. Louis Blues and Rangers.

Only Mr. Hockey scored more. Gordie Howe had 174 WHA goals and 801 NHL goals for a grand total of 975. Gretzky is currently trailing Howe by some 65 goals (as of December 2).

Of course, there are other angles on the scoring race for the title of greatest goal scorer of all-time. One is games played. Howe required 2,186 games to get his 975 goals. Gretzky has 910 in only 1,438 games. The other is to factor in playoff goals. Howe had 28 in the WHA and 68 in the NHL. Add those to his 975 and the revised total is 1,071. Gretzky had just 10 playoff goals in the WHA, but has 112 in Stanley Cup play, for a grander sum of 1,032. With playoff goals included, Gretzky trails Howe by only 39.

Anyone out there playing in today's game who has a legitimate shot at even coming close to old No. 99's numbers? Jaromir Jagr you say? Paul Kariya or Eric Lindros? These up-and-coming superstar snipers would have to average close to 80 goals per year for some 10 years to make a run for the record books. Forget the projections and what might be. Gretzky broke the 900 barrier and there were no ifs, ands or buts about getting the milestone.

To mark his accomplishment, The Hockey News asked Gretzky to recollect his five most memorable goals. Four of the five were scored during the regular season. Here's his list:

• April 21, 1988: Gretzky scored the overtime winner, at 7:54 of the first extra period, to give the Oilers a 5-4 victory over the arch-rival Calgary Flames in Game 2 of the division final. Edmonton went on to win the series 4-0 en route to a Cup final victory (Gretzky's last with Edmonton) over Boston. Gretzky has always had a fascination with this goal, a

splendid short-handed effort on a long slapper that beat Mike Vernon in the midst of a seemingly routine playoff sweep of the Flames.

• December 30, 1981: This was the night Gretzky scored his 50th in 39 games to eclipse Montreal Canadiens' superstar Maurice (Rocket) Richard's long-standing mark of 50 in 50. Gretzky scored five goals on the Philadelphia Flyers that night – four on goaltender Pete Peeters and No. 50 into an empty net.

• February 24, 1982: Just a couple of months after obliterating Richard from the record book, Gretzky did the same to Boston Bruins' great Phil Esposito, who held the single-season scoring record of 76 goals. Gretzky scored No. 77 in Buffalo against Sabre goalie Don Edwards with six and a half minutes left in the game. For good measure, he added Nos. 78 and 79 before the game was over and celebrated by posing for pictures with Hollywood's hottest, Burt Reynolds and Goldie Hawn, who were in Buffalo filming a movie.

• March 23, 1994: Gretzky calls it the most "significant goal" of his career, the night he tallied No. 802 to become the NHL's all-time leading goal scorer, eclipsing Howe. Gretzky beat Vancouver Canucks' keeper Kirk McLean at the Great Western Forum in a 6-3 Kings' loss.

• October 14, 1979: This was Gretzky's first NHL goal, a fanned shot that dribbled by Vancouver's Glen Hanlon. It was not unlike the shot he took to score his first-ever pro goal against the WHA Oilers.

Those were the good old days. Goals, goals and more goals. Today, the power outage in the NHL is nothing if not striking. Back in the early and mid-80s, when Gretzky and the high-flying Oilers were running amok, the average number of goals scored per game was in the range of 7.7 to 8.3. This season, the numbers have plummeted to around 5.3. Ten years ago, 3 percent of all NHL regular season games were shutouts. That figure jumped to some 15 percent in 1997-1998. This most recent trend has continued into the current campaign despite a series of rule changes designed to open up the offense.

Why? Theories abound. Too much clutching and grabbing. Too many teams (with expansion) and not enough good players. Too many good goaltenders. Too many good goaltenders with illegal equipment (since outlawed in one of the rule changes). Where Gretzky is concerned, it doesn't much matter. He had banked his goals – 910 and still counting!

Ukrainian transactions

(A detailed listing of all trades, signings, assignments, suspensions, terminations and up-to-the-minute injuries of all Ukrainian pro hockey players from last summer through early November of the current NHL campaign.)

BOSTON – Dimitri Khristich, RW, signed one-year contract, separated shoulder, day-to-day.

CALGARY – Daniel Tkaczuk, C, returned to Barrie (OHL); Greg Pankiewicz, RW, concussion, day-to-day; Todd Hlushko, RW, traded to Pittsburgh; Sergei Radchenko, D, assigned to St. John (AHL).

(Continued on page 17)

Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 16)

CAROLINA – Andrew Lucuik, LW, signed contract as free agent; Steve Halko, D, signed multi-year contract, assigned to New Haven (AHL), then recalled and returned.

CHICAGO – Ryan Huska, LW, released; Ed Olczyk, RW, signed as free agent, assigned to Chicago IHL.

COLORADO – Wade Belak, D, strained groin, day-to-day.

DALLAS – Future considerations traded to Nashville for Tony Hrkac; Richard Matvichuk, D, signed one-year contract, torn left knee ligament in late October; Brad Lukowich, D, assigned to Michigan (IHL).

EDMONTON – Tony Hrkac, C, traded to Pittsburgh; Drake Berehowsky, D, traded to Nashville.

FLORIDA – Peter Ratchuk, D, signed contract as free agent; Joey Tetarenko, D, assigned to New Haven (AHL); Ratchuk and David Nemirovsky, RW, assigned to New Haven.

MONTREAL – Steve Cheredaryk, D, assigned to Fredericton (AHL).

NASHVILLE – Tony Hrkac, C, selected in expansion draft.

NEW JERSEY – Peter Sidorkiewicz, GT, recalled from Albany (AHL); Steve Zoryk, LW, assigned to Albany; Mike Buzak, GT, signed multiyear contract as free agent, assigned to Albany.

N.Y. ISLES – Yevgeny Namestnikov, D, signed two-year contract; Ryan Huska, LW, signed as free agent; Namestnikov and Huska assigned to Lowell (AHL).

N.Y. RANGERS – Lee Sorochan, D, agreed to contract, assigned to Hartford

(AHL); Brent Fedyk, RW, signed as free agent, mild groin strain, then broken left foot in early December.

OTTAWA – Dave Chyzowski, LW, signed to contract and assigned to Kansas City (IHL); Glen Metropolit, LW, released.

PHILADELPHIA – Dave Babych, D, bruised left foot, strained back, day-to-day; Mike Maneluk, RW, signed one-year contract; Sergei Klimentiev, D, signed contract as free agent, Todd Fedoruk, LW, returned to Regina (WHL).

PHOENIX – Darcy Wakaluk, GT, retired; Konstantin Simchuk, GT, assigned to Las Vegas (IHL); Keith Tkachuk, LW, suspended on September 12, signed one-year contract extension; Andrei Vasilyev, LW, assigned to Las Vegas.

PITTSBURGH – Boris Protsenko, C, assigned to Syracuse (AHL); Todd Hlushko, LW, assigned to Grand Rapids (IHL).

SAN JOSE – Kelly Hrudey, GT, retired; Robb Palahnuk, LW, returned to Sarnia (OHL).

TAMPA BAY – Daniel Hulak, D, returned to Swift Current (WHL); Mikhail Nemirovsky, F, released; Kyle Kos, D, returned to Red Deer (WHL).

WASHINGTON – Steve Konowalchuk, LW, wrist surgery, sprained left ankle, day-to-day; Brian Bellows, LW, signed contract as free agent; Rick Kowalsky, RW, assigned to Portland (AHL); Andrei Nikolishin, C, signed two-year contract.

Coming up: More in-depth features on Ukrainian pro pucksters, a glance at the Uke minor league circuits and up-to-the-minute scoring statistics through this season's first quarter...with some juicy Ukrainian utterings, too...

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всього найкращого в 1999 році!*

– Андрій, Рома, Маркіян і Павлусь Гадзевичі

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to our relatives and friends

from

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By way of...

(Continued from page 9)

neighboring Paraguay were persuaded to produce a lovely airmail souvenir sheet (a stamp surrounded by a large commemorative margin) showing not only a Shevchenko portrait, but part of the new monument in Argentina. By coincidence, Ukraine's most recent Shevchenko stamp depicts the same monument.

Collecting Shevchenko memorabilia is not limited to just stamps. The Soviet Union issued dozens of commemorative envelopes showing the poet or monuments or buildings named after him. They also issued a commemorative coin featuring Shevchenko. Present-day Ukraine has continued these practices. Other collectors try to obtain used envelopes (called covers) showing cancellations from the dozens of towns in Ukraine or former Soviet Union named Shevchenko, Shevchenkove, Shevchenkivka, etc. So, you can see, there is much that can be added to a Shevchenko collection.

One of the finest Shevchenko collection-

exhibits ever assembled was recently acquired by the Taras Shevchenko Museum in Toronto. If you are ever in the area, it's worth the stop – not only to see the philatelic materials, but to examine other exquisite items as well. The most memorable for me was the opportunity to view one of only two death masks of Shevchenko in existence. This small but fascinating site is located at 1614 Bloor St. Call (416) 535-1063 to set up an appointment.

Dr. Inger Kuzych started "collecting Ukraine" 14 years ago, shortly after he finished his studies at Michigan State University and after he landed "a regular job." Twelve of those years were spent as editor of Ukrainian Philatelist, a publication he turned into the premier journal in Ukrainian collecting and one that garnered many awards, both domestically and internationally. Dr. Kuzych has also picked up many prizes for his outstanding philatelic exhibiting. He has authored numerous philatelic articles and has edited or written several philatelic handbooks. His chief collecting interests (after Ukraine) are: Austria, Canada, Hawaii and flags on stamps.

Kerhonksonians...

(Continued from page 15)

came when representatives of the organizing committee and local branches of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, Plast Ukrainian Youth Organization and the Ukrainian National Women's League of America presented a plaque to Mr. Slobodian.

The keynote address was delivered by UNA President Diachuk who commented about Mr. Slobodian's achievements, including the leading role he played in Ukrainian community life in Kerhonkson and his efforts in the construction of Holy

Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church. Also present to honor Mr. Slobodian was former UNA Supreme President Joseph Lesawyer.

Greetings were delivered by a host of community representatives, including speakers from the Ukrainian American Veterans, Holy Trinity Parish, the local Ukrainian Orthodox Community, the Selfreliance Association and the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, as well as leaders of the Lions Club and the Republican Party. Local political officials presented a certificate of recognition to Mr. Slobodian.

The program was rounded out with performances by the Zoloty Homini Choir and a singing quintet of UNWLA members.



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - The Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Philadelphia, Pa., seeks a part-time executive director, beginning January 1, 1999. Position could become full-time. Duties include managing and overseeing all operations of the organization including fund-raising, booking performances, marketing, budgeting, artist relations and working with the artistic director and board of directors. Voloshky is an established 501(c)3 35-member dance ensemble performing approximately 25 shows per season. Candidate should have strong management skills, knowledge of grant applications, presenting arts background, budget skills, strong communications skills and experience in long-range planning. Base salary plus commissions. Send resume, references to: James K. Jubinski, Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, 1558 Carousel Drive, Warminster, PA 18974-1834.

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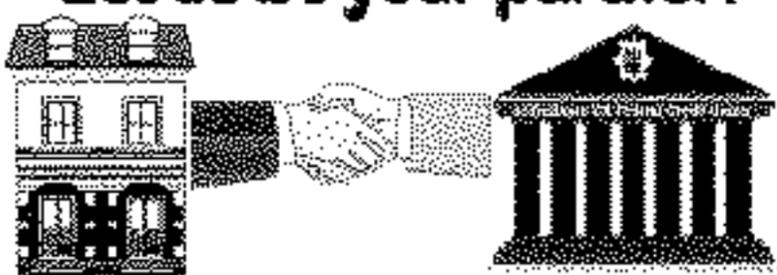
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, December 19

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Engineers' Society will host its traditional "Yalyinka" celebration together with the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America and the Ukrainian Institute of America. Members, their families, friends and the Ukrainian community are cordially invited to join in the festivities, which include a musical Christmas program followed by refreshments. The "Yalyinka" will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 79th Street and Fifth Avenue. Admission: \$25; \$15, seniors. For more information call Alex, (973) 777-7346.

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society will host the presentation of a book of plays titled "6x0" by Ukrainian American avant-garde poet and writer Yuri Tarnawsky. Taking part in the presentation will be Dr. Tamara Hundorova, senior research fellow, Shevchenko Institute of Literature, Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv, and Fulbright visiting scholar, Columbia University; and Dr. Larissa M.L.Z. Onyshkevych of the Princeton Research Forum, first vice-president, Shevchenko Scientific Society. As part of the presentation there will be a video featuring selections from the staging of a play by Mr. Tarnawsky as directed (and simultaneously filmed) by Montreal-based Gregory Hlady. Mr. Tarnawsky is member and co-founder of the New York Group, a member of the Writers' Union of Ukraine and of the Fiction Collective. Apart from the plays that form "6x0," he is the author of 12 published collections of poetry and three novels. Mr. Tarnawsky writes in both Ukrainian and English and has numerous translations (from Spanish, German and English; and from Ukrainian into English) to his credit as well as articles on literary themes. The presentation will be held at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave., at 5 p.m.

PASSAIC, N.J.: The Plast Ukrainian Youth Organization, Passaic branch, invites all children, young and old, to a Christmas play followed by a visit from St. Nicholas at St. Nicholas School Hall, 212 President St., at noon. The "heavenly office" will open at 10 a.m. (Please mark packages clearly.)

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in the U.S. is holding a lecture (in Ukrainian) by Natalia Chechel, docent/lecturer, Karpenko-Karyi Theater Institute, Kyiv, and Fulbright visiting scholar, on the topic "Principle of Aesthetics in the Theater of Les Kurbas." The presentation will be held at the academy's building, 206 W. 100th St., at 2 p.m.

CHICAGO: An event commemorating the 125th anniversary of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) will take place at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, Oakley Boulevard and Chicago Avenue, at 1:30 p.m. Prof. Leonid Rudnytsky, president of the NTSh, will deliver the keynote speech. There will be six other brief scholarly presentations as well as an exhibit of the NTSh publications. Snacks and refreshments will be served. Admission: \$10. All are welcome. For more information call (773) 489-1339, daytime, or (773) 384-7559, evenings.

Monday, December 21

NEW PALTZ, N.Y.: A concert featuring Volodymyr Panteleyev, cello; Artur Girsky, violin; and Volodymyr Vynnytsky, piano; will be held at the Mohonk Mountain House, Lake Mohonk, at 9 p.m. The program includes Rakhmanoff's Elegiac Trio for violin, cello and piano and works of Chopin as performed by Mr. Vynnytsky. For further information call (914) 255-1000.

Friday, December 25

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va.: The Rev. Taras Lonchyna will celebrate a traditional Ukrainian Catholic liturgy on Christmas Day at 3 p.m. in the chapel of the Church of the Holy Family. The church is located at the corner of Great Neck Road and First Colonial Road. For more information call Olga Cehelska, (757) 496-3560.

Thursday, December 31

EAST HANOVER, N.J.: The Orden Khrestonostsiv Plast Fraternity is holding a New Year's Eve Ball at the Ramada Hotel, to benefit the Vovcha Trova Plast Camp. Music will be by Vodohray. Dinner will be at 7:30 p.m., followed by dancing starting at 10 p.m. Evening attire. Tickets: \$85, includes dinner, ball, and open bar; \$50, ball and open bar; \$35, ball only (youths under 21). For room reservations and tickets call the Ramada, Route 10, (973) 386-5622. Reservations should be made by December 19.

JERSEY CITY, N.J.: The Ukrainian National Home, 90-96 Fleet St., invites the community to its New Year's Eve dance, to be held at 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Music will be by Lvivian. Admission: \$20 per person. For additional information and reservations call Mary, (201) 656-7755.

Sunday, December 20

NEWARK, N.J.: St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School is holding its annual Christmas concert at St. John's Church, 719 Sandford Ave., at 1 p.m. All are invited to come and celebrate this holy and joyous season of Christmas. For more information, call the school, (973) 373-9359.

PLEASE NOTE PREVIEW REQUIREMENTS:

- To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information written in Preview format (date, place, type of event, admission, sponsor, etc., in the English language, providing full names of persons and/or organizations mentioned, and listing a contact person for additional information). Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published. Please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours.

- Preview items must be received one week before desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Listings are published only once (please indicate desired date of publication) and appear at the discretion of the editorial staff and in accordance with available space. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.