

**INSIDE:**

- Two new accounts of Ukraine, past and present — page 9.
- Upcoming film to focus on Ukraine in World War II — page 12.
- Ukrainian poet receives prestigious PEN Literary Award — page 13.

# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a fraternal non-profit association

Vol. LXVIII

No. 22

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2000

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Austrian forced labor talks progress quickly

by Myroslaw Smorodsky

VIENNA — Representatives of five Central and East European countries — Belarus, the Czech Republic, Poland, Russia and Ukraine — successfully concluded their first plenary negotiating session with the Austrian government on the issue of compensation to forced laborers who were deported to Austria during World War II.

Unlike recent German negotiations, which had been protracted for over one year, the Austrian discussions were initiated in April on a bilateral basis with each country individually and will, in all probability, be concluded by July with payments to begin before year's end.

Austria has announced that it will not only pay former slave and forced laborers in industry, but it will also voluntarily pay farm workers. This is unlike the German settlement, which left compensation for farmers to the discretion of each participating country foundation.

In addition, women who gave birth while in forced labor will also be compensated as will children up to age 12 who accompanied their deported parents into Austria. Children under age 12 can claim the same amount as their parents.

The payment amounts are as follows (values based upon a 15/1 exchange ratio of the Austrian shilling to the U.S. dollar): slave laborers — 105,000 Austrian shillings, 15,000 DM, \$7,000; forced industrial laborers — 35,000 shillings, 5,000 DM, \$2,333; forced agricultural laborers — 20,000 shillings, 2,857 DM, \$1,333; women who gave birth while in forced labor — 5,000 shillings, 715 DM, \$333.

It is estimated that approximately 220,000 forced laborers who were deported into Austria are still alive and approximately 43,000 of the victims reside in Ukraine.

The Austrians will be able to achieve swift results only if they are able to separate the issue of compensation of slave and forced laborers from the property and insurance claims of the other victim claimants. The inclusion of all the various claims into one global settlement was the key factor that caused extensive time delays in the German settlement discussions. After the forced labor settlement is concluded, the Austrians will then attempt to resolve the property and insurance claims of other victims.

Observers note that the reconciliation foundations that presently exist in each country will distribute compensation to residents within the five Central and East European countries. Victims who reside outside these countries will be paid through an Austrian foundation. The Austrian government will provide global notice of the settlement, eligibility criteria and the registration process once negotiations have been concluded.

## Ukraine draws nearer to European Union

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Successful meetings between Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko and European leaders on May 22-23 may lead to closer and more liberalized trade relations that the Ukrainian side hopes will give it associate membership in the European Union by the end of the year.

After returning from a meeting of the Council on Ukraine-European Union Cooperation, Mr. Yushenko and the Ukrainian delegation were optimistic that the talks had changed the way Ukraine and Western Europe cooperate. While the prime minister said he is certain that now "the dialogue with the EU will broaden" and that they had laid the groundwork for "serious cooperation," his press spokesperson, Natalia Zarudna said the talks "managed to change the way the EU looks at Ukraine."

Ukrainian officials tempered their satisfaction with the results of the discussions by stating that no firm decisions on liberalized trade quotas or associate membership for Ukraine had been agreed upon. But they underscored that a process had been put into place that leads in that direction.

"You can't expect that a country that had a partnership agreement with Europe

will immediately be given associate or full membership," explained Anatolii Lytvvyskyi, presidential advisor to the Cabinet of Ministers, who was part of the Ukrainian delegation. "You can't expect that all the trade problems between us would be resolved in one moment. The process will continue," he noted.

Mr. Lytvvyskyi said that, nonetheless, Ukraine hopes to receive both free trade status, which would come with its designation as a free market economy, and associate EU membership before the end of the year. He said the two sides agreed in principle on the need for the expansion of trade quotas and on what Ukraine needs to do to receive free market status. Mr. Lytvvyskyi explained that a final plan should be ready for signing in the fall during the annual Ukraine-EU summit.

Prime Minister Yushenko came to the Brussels bargaining table with the primary goal of opening up a dialogue on giving Ukraine free trade status within the organization, which would allow it to maneuver around European anti-dumping laws and quotas that have limited Ukraine's ability to export certain commodities in large numbers, among them textile products and scrap metal. He also wanted to continue and expand talks on Ukraine achieving associate membership

in the union, a prelude to eventual permanent membership.

The Ukrainian government was eager to show that economic reforms were moving forward full throttle, and that it was making necessary changes to meet European trade standards.

Along with that, Ukraine needed to convince the Europeans that it had made headway in resolving 19 points of friction in trade relations, including resolution of an embargo on European used cars more than five years old that Ukraine had undertaken under pressure from the Korean car-maker Daewoo. Daewoo had insisted on a law banning entry into Ukraine of such vehicles in return for opening a manufacturing facility in the country.

In recent weeks Ukraine had lifted the embargo and began talks with Daewoo on the restructuring of other portions of the contract that give Daewoo financial and trade perks, which the EU has said it considers barriers to free trade.

Romano Prodi, the president of the EU's executive arm, the European Commission, said after his meeting with Mr. Yushenko that he looks positively upon the reform process currently going on in Ukraine. "We trust the politics of

(Continued on page 14)

## Ukraine hopes to match its 1996 performance at this year's Olympics

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — With about four months to go to the beginning of the Sydney Olympic Games, Ukraine looks poised to match its 1996 overall performance in Atlanta, where the Ukrainian team took 23 medals, nine of them gold, and achieved a very respectable ninth place in the medal standings.

Some of the stars of 1996, the likes of multi-medal winner in gymnastics Liliya Podkopayeva and boxer Volodymyr Klychko, have retired or moved on to the professional ranks, but others, such as Olympic mainstay Serhii Bubka, as well as Atlanta high jump gold-medalist Inessa Kravets and long jump bronze-medalist Inga Babakova, should be back. Ukraine also has been successful in replenishing its team with new faces, notably gymnast Viktoriya Karpenko and swimmer Yana Klochkova, who are expected to take several medals in individual events.

The various athletes and teams that will compete for Ukraine continue to have the same general problems in preparing for these Games as they did in Atlanta, and, once again, it all boils down to money. Much of the equipment that was financed or donated by the

Ukrainian diaspora and Western companies prior to the 1996 Olympics is already outdated or worn. The National Olympic Committee of Ukraine (NOC-Ukraine) still lacks sufficient funds to take care of the athletes' final preparations and acclimatization necessities. But those close to the NOC believe that adequate preparations have been made in Kyiv and by the Ukrainian organizing committee in Sydney to assure that Ukraine fields a competitive team.

"Today, the prognoses are that what the Ukrainian team achieves in Sydney should come very close to what they achieved in Atlanta," said Laryssa Barabash-Temple, who guided the NOC-Ukraine for the 1996 Olympics organizing efforts from the United States. Ms. Temple remains a member of the NOC-Ukraine and is directing preparations for the Salt Lake City Winter Games scheduled for 2002.

According to an analysis obtained from the NOC-Ukraine, the Ukrainian Olympic contingent is expected to number 242 athletes who will compete in 26 events — which would again make it one of the largest Olympic teams.

Ms. Barabash-Temple said the Ukrainians will face even stiffer competition at these Games, which experts are predicting will result in more coun-

tries making it into the medal standings.

As in 1996, in Atlanta the team should be strong in weightlifting, gymnastics, track and field, yachting, rhythmic gymnastics, cycling and archery.

Although there are no sure bets in the Olympics, where any number of unexpected factors can ruin years of preparations, the Ukrainian team has high hopes for several athletes.

First there is the women's yachting team of Ruslana Taran and Olena Pakholchik — currently ranked No. 1 in the world. They have competed extensively in Australia and are familiar with the waters in which the competitions will be held. They are ranked very highly in their individual categories, and are definitely medal favorites.

Then there is weightlifter Denis Gotfrid, who took a bronze in 1996 in the 99 kilogram category. He is the star of the team and should ensure that Ukrainians don't miss Atlanta gold medalist and world record setter Taimur Taimazov, who has retired. NOC officials said that Mr. Gotfrid has improved dramatically since Atlanta and has the ability to compete for a top spot in Sydney.

Ukraine again should be strong also in track and field and gymnastics, two

(Continued on page 3)

## ANALYSIS

## East European countries' interest in NATO shows fear over developments in Moscow

by Paul Goble  
RFE/RL Newsline

PRAGUE – Several East European countries are calling on NATO to admit all nine applicant states in 2002 – an appeal that reflects their concerns about developments in Moscow and their fears that the alliance may put off any further expansion well into the future.

Lithuanian Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Vygaudas Usackas has labeled this the “big bang” approach, as he explained at a meeting of applicant states in Vilnius late last week. According to Mr. Usackas, this idea is designed to re-energize discussions about European security by highlighting the anxieties of the countries located between NATO and the Russian Federation.

After admitting Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic in 1999, the alliance pledged that the door to NATO membership would remain open to all other countries interested in joining. But as Munich's *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* pointed out on May 17, this door has turned out to be “a very closely guarded” one.

On the one hand, NATO's current members are experiencing some difficulties in fully integrating the three newest members and also in defining what role the alliance should play relative to other defensive organizations such as the West European Union and the European Union's security initiative. Moreover, several NATO countries, including the United States, are now involved with elections or recent changes in government that have in effect stalled foreign policy initiatives, such as NATO expansion.

On the other hand, many NATO countries appear reluctant to move the borders of the alliance further east out of concern over

Paul Goble is the publisher of RFE/RL Newsline.

a Russian backlash. Moscow has made it very clear that it would view any further expansion of the alliance as a hostile act, and, as a result, the alliance has devoted a great deal of work to restoring ties with Russia.

Last week, for example, the Russia-NATO Joint Permanent Council met in Brussels at the ambassadorial level. That meeting set the stage for Russian participation at the ministerial level in the NATO council meeting in Florence on May 24 – the first time since NATO's Kosovo operation that the Russian government will have been represented at that level.

The nine countries which seek to join the alliance – Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Macedonia and Albania – have drawn various conclusions from this.

Some have expressed doubt that NATO will ever take in any new members. Estonian Prime Minister Mart Laar, for example, said recently that “the big question is less a matter of who will be admitted in the next NATO expansion than whether there will be another round of expansion at all.”

Others have counted on being among the chosen few, an approach that has sometimes put these countries at odds with one another. Slovakia, for example, is counting on Hungarian backing. Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban has pointedly said that “without Slovakia, there won't be a second expansion round.”

Mr. Usackas's call for a “big bang” approach to expansion is clearly intended to overcome both these competing assessments and what many of these countries see as a certain Western complacency about developments in Russia. Many of these countries are extremely worried by the newly assertive Russian foreign policy of

(Continued on page 14)

## Ukraine's Cabinet wants cash for energy

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

PRAGUE – Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers has revoked 23 resolutions allowing non-cash payment for energy and fuel supplies, Interfax reported on May 12. Among the resolutions canceled was the May 21, 1999, resolution “On Improving Payments for Heat and Electricity,” which introduced barter settlements between thermal power plants and their customers and the January 21, 1998, resolution “On Securing the Supply of Fuel, Equipment and Materials to Nuclear Power Stations,” which allowed the national atomic energy company, Enerhoatom, to supply cheaper electricity as well as use middlemen in deals involving barter. In 1999 cash was paid for only 7.7 percent of all electricity sold in Ukraine, while nearly 70 percent of electricity was traded in barter deals.

In what seems to be an immediate response to the Cabinet's decisions, Enerhoatom on May 12 cut off power supplies to eight enterprises in Vinnytsia Oblast, demanding 100 percent cash payments for electricity.

Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who is overseeing reform in

Ukraine's energy sector, told the newspaper *Den* on May 15 that “the government and I personally have stirred all the quagmire that exists in the energy sector. We have stirred it not just to frighten a little or threaten [somebody]. No. We are constructing new rules of the game – transparent, clear-cut, understandable for everybody. ... And we have already achieved a result – we are actually limiting the shadow sphere in an essential way and introducing normal market instruments that do not give opportunities to steal from the state.”

Mykhailo Brodskyi, head of the Verkhovna Rada's Committee on Industrial Policy, expressed doubts about the government's achievements in generating more money for energy supplies.

He told *Den*: “I do not think that the government is making any progress. I think that the government now is a talk shop. Everybody has forgotten, for some reason, that it was I who announced that Enerhoatom had been ruined, that benefiting comrades had been stealing money [from] there. The government has won an incomprehensible victory – it has begun to collect 100 million [hrv] instead of 10 [for power supplies]. I have a question: And where was that 90 million – which appeared suddenly – taken from? Who had been taking that 90 million every month until now? [Has the government] clarified this question?”

Jan Maksymiuk is the Belarus, Ukraine and Poland specialist on the staff of RFE/RL Newsline.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Kissinger warns of new Cold War

WASHINGTON – Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has warned against a new Cold War that could be triggered by the widening of Russia's strategic interests to include its neighbors, such as the Baltic states, the BNS news agency reported on May 17. Writing in *The Washington Post*, Dr. Kissinger stated that the Baltic states are “under permanent Russian pressure,” even though they do not belong to the common economic space being created by Russia. “If Russia's strengthening as a result of reforms leads to territorial expansion, which all her neighbors fear, Russia's desire to dominate will sooner or later provoke a new Cold War,” Dr. Kissinger warned. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### PM promises improvement this fall

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yuschenko said during his visit to Ternopil Oblast on May 19 that Ukrainians will notice improvements in their living standards as soon as this fall. “Believe me, this will happen,” Interfax quoted him as saying. He added that his government has managed not only to ensure the timely payment of current wages and pensions but also to reduce wage and pension arrears by 14 percent. Mr. Yuschenko pledged to remove the entire pension backlog “in the next four to five months.” The State Statistics Committee reported a 10.4 percent growth in industrial output in the period of January-April, compared with the same period last year. Inflation, however, was 12.1 percent over the same period in 1999, which is double that forecast by the government. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Servicemen receive pay raise

KYIV – The government on May 22 announced it is raising the wages of servicemen in Ukraine's armed forces, border troops and internal affairs and civil defense forces, Interfax reported. Defense Minister Oleksander Kuzmuk praised the decision, adding that wages will be increased by an average of 30 to 40 percent. The monthly wage of career soldiers in Ukraine ranges from 120 hrv (\$22) to 180 hrv, depending on rank. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Russia could become NATO member

MOSCOW – In an interview with *Izvestiia* published on May 24, NATO Secretary-General Lord Robertson said he endorses the Kremlin's viewpoint that Russia might eventually join the Atlantic alliance. “When President Putin was asked if Russia might become a member of NATO, he said, ‘Why not?’ My position is the same. But it's not on the current agenda,” Mr. Robertson noted. First, however, it

is necessary for “misunderstandings” to be cleared up between the two sides over NATO's new strategic concept and Russia's new military doctrine, which, he said, has raised questions in the West, especially over the provision on “strengthening the role of nuclear weapons.” He also stressed the importance of opening a NATO information center in Moscow, which is currently under discussion. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Lviv's veterans receive cars

LVIV – The Lviv Oblast Administration on May 21 presented 60 Tavia cars to veterans of World War II from both the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and the Red Army. The cars were handed over on Hero's Day, a holiday established by the regional authorities two years ago. Yaroslav Klymovich, head of the internal policy department in the Lviv Oblast Administration, told RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report that Hero's Day was established to honor all those who fought totalitarianism, whether Stalinist or Nazi. The UPA, which Ukrainian émigré historians estimate was 40,000-strong, was set up by the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists during the Nazi occupation in Ukraine and fought German occupation troops as well as Soviet and Polish guerrillas – primarily in Halychyna, Volyn and Polissia – in a bid to establish an independent Ukrainian state. UPA veterans have not been officially recognized by the government and do not have the right to social benefits, unlike their Soviet counterparts. (RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report)

### Medvedchuk: no reason to join union

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Vice-Chairman Viktor Medvedchuk has said “there are no economic, political or any other grounds” in Ukraine for joining the Belarus-Russian union, Interfax reported on May 19. Mr. Medvedchuk was responding to Russian State Duma Chairman Gennadii Seleznev's statement in Minsk last week that Armenia and Ukraine will join the union “in the near future.” Mr. Medvedchuk noted that this is “Seleznev's personal viewpoint,” adding that such statements have already been voiced more than once. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Yuschenko sees integration with Europe

KYIV – “Ukraine's integration into the European Union is not a question of choice, it is a question of time,” Viktor Yuschenko said in Brussels on May 22 at a forum devoted to EU-Ukraine relations, Interfax reported. The prime minister added that Ukraine's membership in the EU is an

(Continued on page 23)

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Yearly subscription rate: \$50; for UNA members – \$40.

Periodicals postage paid at Parsippany, NJ 07054 and additional mailing offices.  
(ISSN – 0273-9348)

The Weekly:  
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510

UNA:  
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

Postmaster, send address changes to:  
The Ukrainian Weekly  
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280  
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz  
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The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: [www.ukrweekly.com](http://www.ukrweekly.com)

The Ukrainian Weekly, May 28, 2000, No. 22, Vol. LXVIII

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## Ukraine hopes...

(Continued from page 1)

of the glamour sports of the Olympics. Although its track and field team has been revamped extensively, several stars of the 1996 Games will return to add stability to the young team.

The team's backbone remains Mr. Bubka, the aging (for an athlete) but still dangerous pole vaulter, who suffered a major disappointment in Atlanta when he was forced to withdraw from competition with a torn Achilles heel. Mr. Bubka, who is nearing 40, still has not won a gold medal at the Olympic Games. However, he returned from his 1996 injury to win the 1998 World Championship and retains hope that he can achieve the one thing he has not in athletics: Olympic gold.

There is also Oleksander Bahach, shot putter extraordinaire and 1996 bronze medalist, who is looking to do even better in Sydney, where he is a gold medal favorite.

Ms. Babakova also will be back, better than ever and eyeing Olympic gold. The Atlanta bronze medalist in the long jump has only improved in the last four years. In 1999 she gave birth to a baby, and then weeks later at the world championships showed up the last day and won the gold medal.

Ms. Kravets also should help the team if she can qualify. After initially signaling that she would not compete in Sydney, she has decided to go for it. She stands an outside chance of repeating her gold medal performance in the high jump, but must first qualify at an international event, which she is expected to do.

The Ukrainian squad is also counting on Zhanna Pintusevych, the short-distance speed specialist, who finished eighth in Atlanta in the 100-meter dash. Although she has been inconsistent in international competitions recently, NOC-Ukraine predictions place her as a possible bronze medalist in the 200 meter.

In gymnastics, Ukraine will have a difficult if not impossible time replacing Podkopayeva, who overcame much adversity and the much-vaunted U.S. gymnastic squad to take three medals in Atlanta. The team is putting much hope on Ms. Karpenko, a 19-year-old with extensive international experience, to fill the void left by the departure of Podkopayeva.

Ms. Karpenko has been injury-prone and has not really delivered what was expected from her in international competitions. But she is healthy now and, if she gets sufficient time on Olympic-grade equipment and peaks at the right moment, NOC-Ukraine officials predict that she could win three medals in Sydney: a gold, silver and a bronze.

The team also has Olha Rozhshchupkina, who, at 15, is about the right age for a modern-day gymnast. Hopes are that she will take a bronze on the beam. She is considered an up-and-coming gymnast, but does not have the international ranking that Ms. Karpenko does.

In the other sport of tumbling and balance, rhythmic gymnastics, Ukraine has consistently fielded strong teams and should do so again this year, but much depends on its star, Elena Vitrychenko. Vitrychenko did poorly in the last world championships and has yet to

decide whether she will retire or go for gold in Sydney. In Atlanta she took third place behind gold medalist Kateryna Serebrianska, who retired in 1997 after ending up on the wrong end of a feud between her club and Vitrychenko's.

Wrestling also faces an uphill fight after doing very well in Atlanta. The team must make do without its coach, Borys Savlokha, who was jailed this year after a conviction on racketeering charges. They also will be without gold medalist Viacheslav Oliynyk, who has retired. But they have two returning stars, Ruslam Adzhi and Heorhii Soldadze, which should give the team continuity and stability. Even with the setbacks, the NOC-Ukraine still is expecting at least two medals from the wrestlers.

Swimming may be an area where Ukraine will pick up the slack should the wrestlers find it difficult to overcome their problems. The team is led by Ms. Klochkova, who is ranked near the top in several events and has shown consistency in her performances. Today she is one of the favorites in several categories. The team can also rely on Denis Sylantiev and Ihor Snitko, who competed in Atlanta. The NOC-Ukraine has pegged the group for a total of three medals.

To a large degree what Ukraine finally accomplishes in Sydney will depend on how well they complete their preparation in the final weeks before the Games. Proper facilities and equipment and a good acclimatization program make as much difference between a medal and a fourth-place finish as do talent and training.

Most of the various Ukrainian squads will spend the weeks leading up to the opening celebrations training near the cities of Melbourne and Albury-Sodonga, which are located quite a bit further from the main Olympic venues than were the 1996 team's training sites in Atlanta. Melbourne is about 850 miles from Sydney, while Albury-Wodonga is only slightly closer, just under 600 miles away. The distance and possible associated transportation problems are a primary concern in the NOC-Ukraine's preparations.

The athletes, team officials and their guests will be made to feel quite at home while competing in Sydney, according to Ms. Barabash-Temple. She said that, just as their Atlanta counterparts did, the Australian Friends of the NOC-Ukraine organizing committee will have a "Ukrainian Home" available to the athletes, the official Olympic delegation and VIP dignitaries, which will function during the entire period of the Games to provide entertainment and hospitality around the clock.

The NOC-Ukraine and the athletes who have already been to the land down under all say that the Ukrainian Australian organizing committee is getting the job done, Ms. Barabash-Temple added.

"I have been able to talk to representatives of teams that recently have returned from Australia, who were there for qualifying events, and the athletes in particular were extremely pleased with the quality of care they received from the Ukrainian community there," said Ms. Barabash-Temple. "And that, essentially, is the reason we do this; to make sure that our athletes do feel special and get special care."



Gymnast Olha Rozhshchupkina, a potential bronze medalist at the Olympics.



Viktoria Karpenko, who is expected to win several gymnastics medals in Sydney.

## UCCA hosts Belarusian NGOs

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

NEW YORK, N.Y. – A delegation of NGOs from Belarus that participated in a U.S. Department of State program titled "National Minorities and Civil Rights in the United States" met on April 27 with representatives of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America's National Office.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how ethnic communities function in the United States, including: methods of financing, community programs and project coordination, cooperation with other ethnic communities, educational projects and dissemination of information.

Members of the delegation of non-governmental organizations represented Ukrainian, Jewish, Lithuanian, Tatar-Moslem and Polish minorities active in community life in Belarus. Following an overall review of UCCA activities, an informal discussion ensued that touched upon a variety of subjects, varying from not-for-profit status, to methods of cooperation among ethnic organizations. Also highlighted were various challenges and problems faced by ethnic communities.

One problem facing these ethnic minorities in Belarus is that their respective schools are being shut down due to the government's denial of space for the needs.

One of the challenges faced by Ukrainians in Belarus is the lack of accurate accounting of the Ukrainian population. According to official statistics, the Ukrainian minority numbers under 2,000; however, the actual population is said to be close to 1 million. The reason for the discrepancy in these numbers, according to Valentina Logvin, president of the Center of Ukrainian Culture, is that many second- and third-generation Ukrainians consider themselves Belarusian, even though they speak Ukrainian.

The delegation members thanked the UCCA for its openness in discussing not only the positive aspects of community life, but sharing the challenges as well.

Ms. Logvin expressed a particular desire to maintain and strengthen contacts between the Ukrainian communities in Belarus and the United States, and urged Ukrainian Americans not to forget their Ukrainian brethren in Belarus.

## Quotable notes

Following is the text of a message sent by Jim Florio, former U.S. congressman from New Jersey and today a candidate for the U.S. Senate, to the Ukrainian community on the occasion of the anniversary of the Chornobyl nuclear disaster. The message was read at commemorations held at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N.J., on April 26.

Dear Friends in the Ukrainian American Community:

I am honored to join you in the solemn observance of the 14th anniversary of the Chornobyl nuclear disaster of April 26, 1986.

The Chornobyl disaster left a terrible wound on the people of Ukraine that will never be fully healed. Those who lost their lives and the families who continue to suffer must never be forgotten. It is fitting that this sad anniversary be observed.

As you know, I have been a strong supporter of providing help for Chornobyl's victims. I will continue to work for effective international safeguard standards for all nuclear power facilities, so that another Chornobyl tragedy will never happen again.

The Ukrainian American community of New Jersey has extended its hand to me in friendship and support for many years. I have appreciated the rich heritage that Ukrainian Americans have brought to New Jersey. I have celebrated with you the long-awaited independence of Ukraine. With you, I share the hope that Ukraine will swiftly achieve its rightful place as a strong leader among the family of nations.

You are in my thoughts as you remember Chornobyl. Thank you for your many past kindnesses to me. I look forward to continuing my strong relationship with you as your United States senator.

Jim Florio

# Veterans' post in Yonkers finds its niche: humanitarian activity

by Roma Hadzewycz

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Thanks in part to a neophyte group of Ukrainian American Veterans in Yonkers, N.Y., a little boy from Ukraine will be able to lead a normal life.

Denis Bastruchenko, 9, whose heart ailment – a narrowing of the aorta – was discovered when he was only 10 months old, came to this country for special treatment that was not available in Ukraine. After surgery at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx, the future seems brighter for the little boy from Kitsman, near the city of Chernivtsi, in the Bukovyna region of Ukraine.

Denis and his mother, Zinaida, arrived in the United States on April 14. (Originally, Denis was to be accompanied by his father, Volodymyr, but, ironically, Mr. Bastruchenko suffered a heart attack only three weeks before the scheduled trip.) The Bastruchenkos' trip was funded by the Rotary Club's Gift of Life program, a not-for-profit organization of the Rotarians of District 7520 whose purpose is to provide open-heart surgery to needy children around the globe.

Recalling how it all came to be, Mrs. Bastruchenko said her son was on the list of patients awaiting medical attention at the cardiology institute in Kyiv. In July 1999 check up results revealed that Denis' condition had worsened and that the only solution was surgery. Denis, she added, was not aware of this. His medical profile, along with that of other children, was sent off to the United States for evaluation.

Then, in February of this year, the Bastruchenkos received word: Denis was selected for treatment in the United States at Montefiore. "We were in shock. We did not expect this," his mother related. "We began to get our documents in order for the big trip."

Meanwhile, in this country, the Rotarian Harold Bochonko, an active member of the Ukrainian American Veterans, enlisted the aid of Ukrainian American Veterans of newly founded Post 301 in Yonkers. The post, which unites veterans from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines who served in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm and several peacekeeping operations, adopted the Bastruchenko case; Post Commander Taras Szczur, 44, a former Marine sergeant, opened his home to Denis and his mother, serving as their host in this country. Peter and Theodore Oleschuk, who are affiliated with the Gift of Life Program, were instrumental in arranging the family's travel.

On his fourth day in the United States, Denis went into the hospital, still unaware that he was a candidate for surgery. On the next day, April 19, he underwent angioplasty performed by Dr. Henry Issenberg, associate professor of pediatrics, radiology and cardiothoracic surgery at the Children's Medical Center at Montefiore, Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Both Montefiore and Dr. Issenberg waived their fees for the life-saving surgery.

### The prognosis: very good

During an interview at the editorial offices of The Ukrainian Weekly less than a month after his successful operation, Denis, an animated third-grader, commented: "I feel better; I feel that I have a lot more energy." His mother, a nurse with 24 years of experience who works at the children's trauma center of the Chernivtsi City Hospital, chimed in, adding that "It will take a while for his body to catch up, but the prognosis is very good. In a year we will go for a check-up in Kyiv."

Noting that Denis is a very active child, both physically and mentally, Mrs.



Denis Bastruchenko (center) with his mother, Zinaida, and Taras Szczur, commander of Ukrainian American Veterans Post 301 of Yonkers, N.Y.

Bastruchenko said, "He has to take it easy for a while, but he should be able to lead a totally normal life."

Speaking just days before he returned to Ukraine, Denis said he enjoyed his brief stay in the United States. "I like it here, I feel quite at home. I'd like to see more," he noted. His mother added: "We feel as if we are not foreigners here; we are among our people, fellow Ukrainians, who are taking such good care of us. We do not feel as if we are far away from home."

Mrs. Bastruchenko emphasized that she and her family are very moved by the kindness of strangers who have literally changed their lives. She expressed thanks "to all the doctors and others who felt our pain and helped us – especially the Szczur family. We thank God that such people exist, and we are grateful for the Ukrainian diaspora."

That gratitude was very much in evidence as Denis and his mother arrived on May 20 in Kyiv, where they were greeted with TV cameras. Ukrainian national television aired footage showing Denis as he got off the plane, waving the American flag given him by Commander Szczur and thanking his new American friends.

### Back to the beginning

Sometimes there's a reason that things happen when they do. That's fate.

In mid-April 1999, just as a newly established post of Ukrainian American Veterans, Post 301 in Yonkers, N.Y., was gearing up for its official blessing ceremony and installation of officers, news broke of a Ukrainian cargo ship, the Mikhail Stenko, stranded without supplies in Yonkers. The vessel was docked at the Jack Frost Sugar Refinery, where it had arrived to deliver sugar picked up in the Dominican Republic.

A local Ukrainian activist, Mr. Szczur, paid a visit to the ship. He learned of the crew's dire straits when he innocently asked to see the ship's galley and saw that the refrigerator was, for all intents and purposes, empty.

"As it all happened, within a few hours' time span from the time the news broke we got food for them," recalled Mr. Szczur. His post delivered \$1,300 in supplies to the cargo vessel and its crew of 25.

The post's official blessing and installation of the post's first officers – Commander Szczur, Vice-Commander Nicholas Skirka and Stephen Rudyk, Financial Officer William Zakotiria, Quartermaster John Tkachuk and Chaplain Peter Olijarczyk – took place just a couple of days later, on April 17, 1999, at St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Ukrainian Youth Center in Yonkers, N.Y. Among the many dignitaries in attendance UAV National Commander Steven Szewczuk, Yonkers Mayor John Spencer, Ukraine's Military

Attaché to the United Nations Vasyl Sydorenko, representatives from the New York governor's office and the county government, as well as officials of 18 local veterans' groups.

Local newspapers reported on the post's formation, as well as on its first, very visible, humanitarian mission. "Yonkers rallies to help Ukrainian sailors" read one headline in The Journal News.

"The publicity helped us make others aware of who Ukrainians are and what they have to contribute towards the community," Commander Szczur recalled.

A mere four months later there was news of another stranded cargo ship – this one the Znamia Oktiabria (Banner of October) anchored in Gravesend Bay off Brooklyn. The ship, with its crew of 26, had actually been in port since April, its further progress halted due to the Azov Shipping Company's canceled shipments. Four months later the crew found itself in desperate need of supplies. Once again Post 301 came through with donated food and supplies – a ton and a half – delivered by Commander Szczur and Vice-Commander Skirka.

The post's second relief mission also made headlines, this time even in The New York Times.

### The mission becomes clear

Mr. Szczur related: "When we founded the post we had no idea what type of work we'd be involved in."

Now, it seems, the post's mission has crystallized. "By being in the right place at the right time, we became involved in humanitarian causes, and we have pledged to continue this work," he stated.

And thus, the veterans of Yonkers who served their country in the U.S. military continue to serve.

Three of post's members are on the Central Committee of War Veterans (Mr. Szczur is the committee's senior vice-commander), which unites 19 veterans' groups in Yonkers and coordinates such activities as decorating the graves of veterans, police officers and firefighters in Yonkers cemeteries in advance of Memorial Day and the annual Memorial Day parade.

On April 5 Post 301 held its first annual elections. Re-elected were: Commander Szczur, Vice-Commanders Skirka and Rudyk; Quartermaster Tkachuk and Chaplain Olijarczyk; new members of the slate are Financial Officer Eugene Brozyna and Sergeant-at-Arms Peter Kaszczak.

The one-year-old post blessed its flag in special ceremonies held on Sunday, May 21, at St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, with some 30 to 40 veterans from Yonkers – both Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians – attending.

(Continued on page 6)

## The Ukrainian Weekly

# Wedding Announcements

will appear in our July 16, 2000 issue.

This past spring we introduced a new section –  
The Ukrainian Weekly Wedding Announcements.

We're very excited about this new section, since not only are weddings wonderful events in each of our lives, but we look forward to helping you share your joy with others in our community.

This section will be published four times a year.

**For a wedding announcement to be included in the July 16 issue, all information must be received in our offices by July 6.**

Along with wedding announcements, we will include greetings from friends, family members, bridesmaids and ushers – from all those who wish to share in the excitement of a new marriage.

We hope you will announce your wedding in  
The Ukrainian Weekly, or send a greeting to your favorite newlyweds.

### Rates for announcements and greetings:

One-column wedding announcement: \$100

Two-column wedding announcement: \$200

Wedding greeting: \$75

For further information or to request a brochure,  
please call (973) 292-9800, ext. 3065 (Irene) or ext. 3040 (Maria).  
Visit [www.ukrweekly.com](http://www.ukrweekly.com) to view a wedding announcement sample page.

# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## Northern N.J. District holds annual meeting

by Andre Worobec and Roma Hadzewycz

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Northern New Jersey District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association held its annual meeting here at the UNA Corporate Headquarters on Friday, March 3.

The meeting was brought to order by UNA Advisor Eugene Oscislawski, the district chairman, who welcomed branch representatives and district officers, as well as members of the UNA General Assembly: President Ulana Diachuk, National Secretary Martha Lysko, Treasurer Stefan Kaczaraj, Advisor Andre Worobec and Honorary Member of the UNA General Assembly Walter Sochan. Also present was former UNA Advisor Andrew Keybida.

Mr. Sochan was elected to chair the meeting; while Mr. Worobec was elected secretary of the annual meeting. Mark Datzkiwsky read the minutes of the 1999 annual meeting.

Next came remarks by the UNA executive officers. President Diachuk described the organizing achievements of the Northern New Jersey District, which was in first place among all districts in terms of the number of members organized in 1999, having enrolled 121 members insured for \$1,257,461 and achieving 93.08 percent of its annual quota of 130 new members.

Mrs. Diachuk emphasized that the UNA needs to increase its membership and that new approaches must be used in attracting new members. She also encouraged members to organize trips to Soyuzivka for the annual Father's Day program.

Other topics discussed by the president included: the UNA's official publications, Soyuzivka, UNA scholarships, and proposed changes to the UNA By-Laws.

National Secretary Lysko presented the Northern New Jersey District Committee, which comprises 21 branches,



Participants of the Northern New Jersey UNA District's 2000 annual meeting held at the UNA Corporate Headquarters in Parsippany, N.J.

with a reward check in the amount of \$484 for its organizing activity. She then proceeded to speak about the UNA's new insurance products, as well as promotional materials available in both the Ukrainian and English languages.

Treasurer Kaczaraj compared the financial status of the UNA for 1998 and 1999, underlining that though there is a significant improvement in the finances of the UNA's publications, Soyuzivka still has a major deficit. The bottom line, he said, is that the UNA must sell more insurance to increase its income.

A question and answer session followed. Topics covered included: prices at Soyuzivka, creation of a separate fund to support the UNA resort, the UNA's deficit on its headquar-

ters building; and the decrease in the UNA's surplus. Mr. Kaczaraj stated that though there was a decrease in surplus, the UNA remains in a sound financial position.

District Chairman Oscislawski delivered a report on the past year's activities, which included participation in Ukrainian festivals in South Bound Brook in August and Cedar Knolls in September, as well as a clothing drive for Ukraine organized for the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee. He also noted that he had been tapped to fill the vacancy on the board of directors of the Ukrainian National Urban Renewal Corp. after the death of UNA

(Continued on page 18)

## Woonsocket District achieves organizing quota for the year

by Martha Lysko  
National Secretary



Leon Hardink, top organizer for first quarter of 2000.

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Leon Hardink, secretary of UNA Branch 206 and chairman of the Woonsocket District, is the UNA's organizing champion in the first quarter of 2000.

His district surpassed its annual quota in the first quarter by organizing 11 new members.

Ms. Hardink himself organized 10 members, insured for a total amount of \$285,000, out of these enrolled by his district. Mr. Hardink has been secretary of Zaporoska Sich Branch for over 36 years and has always been an active organizer. Mr. Hardink, who will celebrate his

(Continued on page 18)

## MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS FOR ALL DISTRICTS FIRST QUARTER 2000

Number of districts	27
Number of branches	259
Enrolled new members	122
Total insurance	\$2,357,650
Average amount of insurance per person	\$19,325
Assigned quota	1,250
Quota achieved	9.76%

UNA district	Annual quota	New members	Percentage of quota achieved	Total insurance
1. Woonsocket	10	11	110.00 %	\$288,000
2. Various	50	24	48.00 %	\$289,000
3. Central	10	2	20.00 %	\$10,000
4. Buffalo	40	7	17.50 %	\$150,000
5. Montreal	25	4	16.00 %	\$20,000
6. Connecticut	35	5	14.29 %	\$163,000
7. Shamokin	45	6	13.33 %	\$63,000
8. Albany	40	5	12.5 %	\$40,000
9. New York	95	10	10.53 %	\$128,000
10. Baltimore	20	2	10.00 %	\$5,000
11. Northern New Jersey	165	16	9.70 %	\$827,650
12. Central New Jersey	45	4	8.89 %	\$75,000
13. Syracuse	35	3	8.57 %	\$55,000
14. Pittsburgh	70	5	7.14 %	\$30,000
15. Allentown	30	2	6.67 %	\$20,000
16. Chicago	95	6	6.32 %	\$113,000
17. Detroit	80	3	3.75 %	\$25,000
18. Philadelphia	135	5	3.70 %	\$48,000
19. Cleveland	60	2	3.33 %	\$8,000
20. Youngstown	10	0	0.00 %	\$0
21. Winnipeg	10	0	0.00 %	\$0
22. Wilkes-Barre	20	0	0.00 %	\$0
23. Toronto	50	0	0.00 %	\$0
24. Rochester	40	0	0.00 %	\$0
25. Niagara	15	0	0.00 %	\$0
26. Minneapolis	10	0	0.00 %	\$0
27. Boston	10	0	0.00 %	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>9.760 %</b>	<b>\$2,357,650</b>

## ORGANIZING RESULTS BY PREMIUM AMOUNT FIRST QUARTER 2000

Organizers	Annual premium	Amount of insurance	Branch	District
1. Joseph Hawryluk	\$3,406.90	\$150,000	360	Buffalo
2. Myron Pylypiak	\$3,296.64	\$99,000	496	Various
3. Barbara Bachynsky	\$2,622.70	\$63,000	184	New York
4. Paul Fuga	\$2,265.00	\$5,000	269	Central New Jersey
5. Longin Staruch	\$2,021.83	\$106,000	371	Northern New Jersey
6. Helen Karachewsky	\$1,795.00	\$3,000	221	Chicago
7. Andre Worobec	\$1,302.20	\$485,000	76	Northern New Jersey
8. Eugene Oscislawski	\$1,193.08	\$111,650	234	Northern New Jersey

## Organizers Results by Membership

Organizers	Members organized	Amount of insurance	Branch	District
1. Myron Pylypiak	15	\$99,000	496	Various
2. Leon Hardink	10	\$285,000	206	Woonsocket
3. Joseph Hawryluk	7	\$150,000	360	Buffalo
4. Jacek Koczarski	7	\$155,000	777	Various
5. Joseph Chabon	6	\$63,000	242	Shamokin
6. Larisa R. Paschuk	6	\$60,000	325	New York
7. Eugene Oscislawski	5	\$111,650	234	Northern New Jersey
8. Longin Staruch	5	\$106,000	371	Northern New Jersey

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Why mark Memorial Day?

The question above was answered most eloquently by Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. back on May 30, 1884, two years after what was once known as Decoration Day in honor of the Civil War dead became known as Memorial Day observed in honor of all soldiers who paid the supreme sacrifice. The eminent U.S. Supreme Court justice (who at the time was a justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court) delivered a speech titled "In Our Youth Our Hearts Were Touched With Fire ..." in which he explained that Memorial Day "celebrates and solemnly reaffirms from year to year a national act of enthusiasm and faith. It embodies in the most impressive form our belief that to act with enthusiasm and faith is the condition of acting greatly."

"To fight out a war, you must believe something and want something with all your might," Justice Holmes stated. "So must you do to carry anything else to an end worth reaching. More than that, you must be willing to commit yourself to a course, perhaps a long and hard one, without being able to foresee exactly where you will come out. All that is required of you is that you should go somewhither as hard as ever you can. The rest belongs to fate. ..."

On the occasion of this year's observance of Memorial Day, Bishop David B. Brown, national chaplain of the 2.8-million member American Legion, the nation's largest veterans' organization, states: "More than 1 million men and women have lost their lives fighting for freedom in the U.S. armed forces. We can never reimburse the price they paid. We can summon no words to allay the pain of their loved ones."

In a commentary released on the occasion of this national day of remembrance, Bishop Brown cites three pledges on Memorial Day that Americans, as beneficiaries of their departed heroes, should make to ensure that the sacrifice of this nation's war dead – among them countless Ukrainian Americans – are not in vain.

"The first pledge we should make is to fly the U.S. flag and to participate in our community's commemorative events. America's patriots shed their blood in defense of our nation's core values of freedom, justice and equality, as well as the U.S. flag that symbolizes our values. Memorial Day should unify all Americans in solemn tribute to those who did not come marching home and to consecrate the principles for which they fought.

"The second pledge we should make is to teach our children and grandchildren that the freedoms they may take for granted were purchased by incredible sacrifice. When we lead by example, by bringing our children and grandchildren with us to Memorial Day public observances, we teach the leaders of tomorrow that freedom is not free.

"The third pledge is to participate in our democracy in order to give patriots-present the best opportunity to triumph against evil. Today's troops form the light of hope that pierces the darkness of tyranny, but that light is growing dim due to inadequate military spending and foolhardy defense policy. ..."

"We can, and we should, honor America's war dead on Memorial Day," asserts the American Legion's chaplain. "More than 1 million men and women ... sacrificed all of their tomorrows while fighting for America's unifying virtues. Surely we can honor their sacrifice, transmit the values for which they fought, and preserve the common defense that is liberty's backbone. By our vigilance, the sacrifices of America's departed heroes shall never be in vain."

May  
30  
1997

### Turning the pages back...

Russia's President Boris Yeltsin came to Ukraine three years ago on May 30 on his first official state visit and signed a comprehensive treaty on friendship and cooperation with his Ukrainian counterpart, President Leonid Kuchma. In that document Russia

formally recognized the sovereignty and territorial integrity of a country that for centuries was a centerpiece of its empire.

The treaty marked a new era in relations between the two countries.

At a ceremony at the monument to the "Liberator Soldier," President Yeltsin unequivocally declared Russia's recognition of the independence of Ukraine. "Ukraine is an independent country, and we will hold this premise sacred ... [Russia] does not lay claim on any part of Ukraine or on any of its cities."

The two presidents signed three documents at the Mariinsky Palace in Kyiv on May 31: the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership, a statement on the Black Sea Fleet and an agreement of cooperation in the development of a common space industry.

The bilateral treaty, which has a lifespan of 10 years but is automatically extended unless either side calls for its cancellation, was a far-reaching document that addressed increased military, political, cultural and economic relations between the two countries. In the document the two parties agreed on the inviolability of their territories, and pledged to build mutual relations on the basis of "non-use of force or threat of force, including economic or any other means," and "not to conclude with third parties any agreements aimed against the opposite side."

The treaty underscored compliance with the United Nations Charter and the Helsinki Accords and its subsequent agreements, and reaffirmed adherence to the Tripartite Statement signed by the presidents of Ukraine, Russia and the United States in January 1994 and the Budapest Memorandum of security guarantees given Ukraine by the nuclear states in December 1994.

The document also contained statements on the development of free trade between the two neighbors, cooperation in scientific-technical development in the fields of outer space exploration, aircraft and nuclear engineering, metallurgy, electronics, and the fuel and energy sector; and establishment of informational-cultural centers in Kyiv and Moscow.

Speaking to reporters as he saw President Yeltsin off at Boryspil Airport, President Kuchma said, "This was an event of huge importance that opens a new stage in relations between our two countries. ... there are fewer politicians in Russia now who think that Ukraine can be strangled by force and kept as a vassal."

Source: "Ukraine, Russia sign long-awaited bilateral treaty" by Roman Woronowycz, Kyiv Press Bureau, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 8, 1997, Vol. LXV, No. 23.

## NEWS AND VIEWS

### Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus looks to you for the future

by Oleh Mahlay

We do more before nine in the morning than most people do all day. All right, this may be a slight exaggeration, but in some ways it is true. Although its members are scattered throughout the North American continent, the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus (UBC) has been able to do more in 12 months than many choirs accomplish in a year.

In 1999 the award-winning chorus celebrated 50 years of artistic work in North America. Over the course of the many years since the group's inception in 1918 members of this ensemble have performed in front of tens of thousands of adoring fans, presenting bandura and male choral music of the highest quality.

The UBC has crossed paths with American and Ukrainian presidents, had adventures throughout the Canadian Rockies, Australia, Europe, Ukraine, left its imprint on unique recordings, and shared the stage with various talented artists such as Paul Plishka, Jack Palance and bandurist Roman Hrynkiw.

In order to achieve even higher goals and greater artistic excellence, we are looking for qualified and dedicated musicians to join the ensemble as we write the new chapters in the rich history of bandurist brethren. The UBC is also looking for singers and bandurists who have the potential and dedication to be part of this unique ensemble that is more than just a singing group. We are committed to the development of young people who have an interest in improving their musical skills while working with the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus.

In the next few years, the chorus is

*Oleh Mahlay is the conductor and artistic director of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus*

planning a series of sacred music concerts, along with joint concerts with the highly acclaimed Toronto-based Vesnivka female choir. The repertoire for the coming 2000-2001 concert season includes sacred music by masters like Bortniansky, Berezovsky and Stetsenko, and arrangements by contemporary composers such as Lawryshyn, Kytasty and Mahlay.

UBC bandurists will be focusing on the development of the Kharkiv bandura technique. On the horizon is a trip to Western Europe. The UBC last toured Europe in 1958, traversing through England, France, Portugal, Spain, Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands. What awaits the chorus beyond that may be up to the new members joining the group today.

The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus will be holding auditions in three major North American cities over the next few months. These auditions will be for musicians that are ready to perform immediately, as well as other singers that lack experience, but have potential and desire. Those interested in auditioning should be prepared to sing or play a song of their choosing, inform us of their musical background, and have adequate music reading skills. Knowledge of the Ukrainian language is preferred, but not necessarily a requirement.

Auditions will be held in the following cities:

- Detroit – Saturday, June 10, 10 a.m. to noon; contact Anatoli Murha at (734) 953-0305;
- Cleveland – Saturday, June 24, 9 a.m. to noon; contact Zenon Chaikovsky at (216) 226-6388; and
- Toronto – Saturday, July 29, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.; contact Bohdan Sklierenko at

(Continued on page 14)

## ACTION ITEM

### President Clinton's visit to Kyiv

During an extended European tour to Portugal, Germany and Russia, President Bill Clinton will also officially visit Ukraine on June 5-6. The president will meet with Ukrainian government officials and other leaders; much like his previous visit to Ukraine in 1995, President Clinton's schedule calls for a public appearance – this time at St. Michael's Cathedral complex.

Off to the side of the entrance to the cathedral's complex is the Ukrainian Famine Memorial, dedicated to the victims of the 1932-1933 Soviet-engineered genocide in Ukraine. It would be appropriate for President Clinton to acknowledge the Ukrainian Famine and place a wreath at the memorial.

The Ukrainian American community is requested to write letters to the White House requesting that the President Clinton visit the memorial site. Letters may be sent to: The President of the United States, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20500; fax, (202) 456-6218.

– submitted by the Ukrainian National Information Service, Washington.

## Veterans' post...

(Continued from page 4)

### What's in store

So, will the post take a respite for the summer? Don't bet on it.

There's another child, a 12-year-old girl from Kryvyi Rih, arriving from Ukraine for life-saving surgery via the Gift of Life program, and the post – which now encompasses 30 veterans whose average age is in the early 40s – is in the planning stages of starting a Gift of Life group in Yonkers.

Then there's the post's participation in the annual "Zeleni Sviata" (a Ukrainian remembrance day) memorial services at

Holy Spirit Cemetery in Hamptonburgh, N.Y., where the veterans will decorate the graves of their fellow soldiers, as well as the annual Ukrainian Festival in June on the grounds of St. Michael's Church, where the group will promote awareness of its work and that of the UAV in general.

In the fall the Yonkers vets are organizing a fund-raising dance featuring the Burya band of Canada, plus two treats for children: a "Barabolya" concert and a circus.

Add to all this the post's involvement with the national UAV in lobbying the U.S. Congress for passage of a bill to grant a national charter to the Ukrainian American Veterans – and the sum is a busy schedule for any organization.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Congratulations on Weekly 2000

Dear Editor:

It was a wonderful surprise to open the mail from The Ukrainian Weekly to find, not an almanac for the year 2000, but a historical anthology of the Ukrainian diaspora in North America.

We tend to think that history starts and ends with us, but in fact the Ukrainian American community struggled for years with various political and socio-economic questions concerning its own status and that of Ukraine.

This is a history not digested by historians, but raw material as seen and reported by journalists. This book should be part of every school and private library.

Congratulations to you and your staff for this extraordinary achievement. I'm looking forward to the subsequent volume.

**Olya Paluch Stawnychy**  
Rutherford, N.J.

### Florio deserves N.J. voters' support

Dear Editor:

With the string of presidential primaries running its course, New Jersey has a contest for U.S. senator that is drawing a lot of interest. The League of Ukrainian Voters (LUV) is endorsing James Florio in the June 6 primary for the nomination to the U.S. Senate on the Democratic party ticket. The reason for this endorsement is his long record of supporting Ukrainian issues of substance while in the U.S. Congress and as New Jersey governor.

He was one of the primary initiators of the bill that established the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine created in 1986 in order to study the causes and effects of 1932-1933 Famine in Ukraine. Therefore the LUV encourages all eligible voters to give him their support.

**Walter Bodnar**  
Newark, N.J.

*The writer is public relations director of the League of Ukrainian Voters.*

### Re: entrepreneurs and aid to Ukraine

Dear Editor:

Anna Anderson's letter to the editor (May 7) in response to my article "Aid to Ukraine and why it doesn't work" (April 9) is so misguided that it begs a proper response lest someone think that silence equals affirmation.

Either Ms. Anderson has never lived in Ukraine or has been there for a short visit, because her comments have little to do with reality.

First of all, no nation in the modern world can do without aid. This fact was recently made most evident by the salvaging of the Indonesian, Thai and Korean economies by the International Monetary Fund and/or the World Bank. Similarly, where would Europe be today without the Marshall Plan? Also are we to forget aid to Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and countless other nations that has enabled them to at least partially compete in the present-day economic world? But let's not go even that far – what about the aid to Chrysler that enabled it to not only survive but to transform itself back into a powerhouse?

Aid in itself is not wrong, it is only the way it is distributed that makes it effective or wasteful. Ms. Anderson loses sight of the fact that my article addresses the same concerns that she points out – namely that most aid does not get to the recipients that can make the best use of it. In market economies, it is business and enterprise that create jobs and help the countries' economies grow. How can one expect the bright Ukrainian software and web development geniuses to compete in a technical world against Microsofts and Oracles without having so much as enough money for their own computers?

Ms. Anderson may be under the misguided notion that the entrepreneurs (whom she so readily condemns) who came to Ukraine are the "carpet-baggers" of the old South. The fact, is that most of those who came to Ukraine (myself included) did so with substantial investments to help build businesses and enterprises. This we did because we saw emerging countries like Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Taiwan, India, Vietnam and yes, even China, grow from post-war ashes into modern economies.

Without entrepreneurs like Bill Gates, or Ford, or Bezos, or Marc Andreessen, or Steve Jobs, or countless others, would we have what we have today? I think not. I can also say with certainty that the "red foxes" (bureaucrats) Ms. Anderson seems to want to protect would definitely not be the ones to create the wondrous technologies that we now take for granted.

As to Ms. Anderson's statement that I am ignorant of history and allegedly I did not know that the "forces" of Bolshevism and despotism came uninvited and forced themselves on Ukraine: may she be equally bathed in such ignorant bliss.

Perhaps I have forgotten that my father lost all his brothers to these "forces" or that my father's and mother's families lost all their substantial wealth and holdings to these same despots, or that our immediate family was bounced around Europe for 11 years in conditions that leave much to be desired even for today's poorest.

But one thing that I have not forgotten is that people make their own destinies. If a people are truly tired of their despots, or if they really want change, they always have the means to do so. At a sacrifice, yes, but they always have a choice. The daily papers are full of circumstances where people are willing to make sacrifices and to demand change.

I still cannot clearly see the reason for Ms. Anderson's abusive remarks, since on most issues we seem to be in agreement (except for her anger with entrepreneurs). A valid suggestion would be for her to come to live in Ukraine, as many of us did, and to try to make an honest living by either working within the present system or by starting a business and nurturing it to a level where she could employ and assist the very people she wants to protect.

**Walter Prochorenko**  
Kyiv, Ukraine

**The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries on a variety of topics of concern to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities. Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.**

## Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



### Hola Argentina!

For years an old friend Michael ("Mishko") Kos has been promoting Argentina. Like other Ukrainian American notables – Bohdan Futey, Ihor Wyslotsky, Oleh Wolowyna – Mishko spent his formative years there and is now Argentina's biggest booster among Ukrainians in Chicago. He prides himself on preparing the best "asado" (Argentinean barbecue) in our community.

"Argentina is wonderful," Mishko would exult at every opportunity, "the people, the climate, the food, the style of life; you haven't lived until you've experienced it."

Another friend of ours, the Rev. José Hazuda, an Argentinian native and pastor of our Ukrainian church in Palatine for a few years, also is an enthusiast of the land of the pampas. Father José now serves Argentinian Ukrainians in the northern province of Posadas and has been urging us to visit for years.

After accumulating enough frequent-flier miles, Lesia and I were able to make the 12-hour flight to Buenos Aires a few weeks ago. We were not disappointed. Autumn was barely under way and the weather was mild – sunny days with temperatures in the high 60s and lower 70s. Perfect!

The food was outstanding. Steaks like you wouldn't believe. We saw more restaurants in Buenos Aires (sometimes three to a block) than in any other city we've visited. Called "portenos" (people of the port), the people of Buenos Aires generally go out for dinner between 9 and 10 in the evening. The only advantage of being early eaters like us (we were starved by 5 p.m.) was that we were usually the only people in the restaurant at 6 p.m. Great service, but little opportunity to observe portenos at play.

Leather goods and silver are a bargain in a country where one peso equals \$1 (U.S.). Argentinians have even adopted the dollar sign (\$) for the peso. For Americans this was most convenient.

Tango bars made us wish we were younger, although I doubt Lesia and I could ever dance the tango the way they do in Buenos Aires – one has to be an acrobat. We learned to tango at Soyuzivka back in the 1960s when tangos were the rage among people our age. Today the only tango we hear is at Ukrainian weddings.

We visited an estancia (ranch) to see how the gauchos live. There are few gauchos on the pampas any more, so what we witnessed was a performance for tourists. It was still marvelous. As I looked across the pampas I was reminded that the Hollywood film "Taras Bulba" was filmed in Argentina because at the time it was the only country that still had large numbers of men who could ride horses. Our hosts invited us to ride horseback, but at our age we opted for a less strenuous experience, a horse and buggy ride. Safe and sedate.

Buenos Aires, one of the largest cities in the world (some 12.5 million inhabitants in the metropolitan area) has often been described as the "Paris of the Americas." We've never been to Paris so we can't comment, but the city was very cosmopolitan, reminding us of Budapest and Vienna. Everyone seemed to be fashionably dressed, except American tourists and teenagers, the latter having adopted the American hip-hop/gang style.

The first Ukrainians to settle in Argentina were 12 families who arrived from Galicia in 1887 and established a community in Apostoles, in the province of Misiones, a sparsely populated region of subtropical forest and pampas. As in the United States there were four waves of

immigration: prior to the first world war (some 10,000 to 14,000), between the wars (approximately 50,000), following the second world war (some 5,000 still remain) and the post-Soviet immigration, estimated at approximately 4,000. It is estimated that Argentina is home to about 200,000 persons of Ukrainian ancestry.

I had the privilege of breaking bread with Prof. Mychailo Vasylyk, an immigration historian whose book "Immigration of Ukraine in la Republica Argentina" was recently published to honor the 100th anniversary of Ukrainian community life in Argentina. Dr. Vasylyk explained that while the rate of assimilation among Ukrainians in the cities is proceeding at a pace not unlike our own, the province of Misiones, some 800 miles north of Buenos Aires, seems to be holding its own. There the Ukrainians live in more tightly knit communities, similar to the way Ukrainians live in the western Canadian provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. As much as we wanted to visit Misiones, our time constraints were against it. Next time.

As in the United States, the Ukrainian community was once politically divided among the old Ukrainian Communists and the nationalists, who in turn were divided between the Melnykivtsi, OUN(M) and Banderivtsi, OUN(B). Two pre-World War II organizations, Prosvita and Vidrozhennia, are today associated with OUN(B) and OUN(M), respectively. In 1947 the Ukrainian Central Representation (UCR) was established as an umbrella organization similar to what was once the UCCA.

Thanks to the efforts of Oleh Jachno (who invited us to his home and treated us to an exceptional dinner) and Alexjandro Cham (who showed us the Shevchenko monument and other sights), UCR Chairman Jorge Ivanyk, invited me to speak to the community about Ukrainians in the United States. Some 50 people attend the presentation, including two young representatives from the Embassy of Ukraine, Victor Kharaminsky and Ihor Tumassov. The two gentlemen were most impressive, speaking fluent Ukrainian, Spanish and English. Their willingness to openly discuss shortcomings in Ukraine was refreshing. (The varenyky served following my remarks were superb, as was the wine and local "Nacional" beer.)

Since the reception was at the Prosvita Hall, I decided to visit the Vidrozhennia Hall in order to keep peace in the Kuropas household. I was greeted by the erudite Bohdan Kowal, an Argentinian-born Ukrainian with whom I had an opportunity to discuss Ukraine and Ukrainian politics in the diaspora in general, and the actions of OUN(M) leader Mykola Plawiuk in particular. Mr. Kowal remains a Plawiuk loyalist.

During my trip I was informed that The Ukrainian Weekly is read in Argentina, occasionally arriving within a week or two after publication. Considering how long it takes for The Weekly to get to Canada and my hometown of DeKalb, Ill., this was an amazing revelation.

Lesia's and my sojourn to Argentina met all of our Mishko-generated expectation and more. What a country!

Only one disappointment. I learned that the Banco de Galicia, which has branches throughout Buenos Aires, is not headquartered in Lviv. Bummer!

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

## Author Irene Zabytko in the spotlight at book signings at Seton Hall and Yale

NEW HAVEN, Conn. – Ukrainian American author Irene Zabytko participated in book-signing ceremonies and public readings of her newly released novel "The Sky Unwashed" at the Yale University Bookstore on April 25 and at Seton Hall University on April 26. The book readings coincided with the 14th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, which is the subject of her highly acclaimed novel.

Ms. Zabytko has been nominated for Barnes & Noble's "Discover Great New Authors" series, and her novel has been widely praised as a "poignant debut" and an "unforgettable" and "riveting" tour de force by several prestigious literary critics.

The novel traces the life of an elderly woman (Marusia Petrenko) who returns to the Chernobyl exclusion zone after being evacuated with her family at the height of the Chernobyl emergency.

Ms. Zabytko was hosted by the School of Diplomacy and International Relations at Seton Hall University in South Orange, N.J., where she was welcomed by Ambassador Clay Constantinou and former White House Ethnic Relations Coordinator Marilyn DiGiacobbe, concurrently associate dean for external affairs at the university.

Despite the fact that her appearance fell within the stressful period prior to final exams, Ms. Zabytko addressed a sizeable audience of faculty and students as she read excerpts from her book. Many attendees remained after the presentation to ask questions and to buy signed copies of the novel.

One day earlier, on April 25, Ms. Zabytko signed copies of her book in New Haven, Conn., at the Yale University (Barnes & Noble) Book Store, where she was greeted by enthusi-

asts who came from several states to meet the author. Her comments were broadcast on two college radio stations: WQUN from Quinnipiac University and WUNH from the University of New Haven.

"I hope that my book encourages other Ukrainian Americans to write their own novels and short stories. Given Ukraine's wonderful literary tradition of Shevchenko, Franko and other world-class writers, it is really a shame that our works are not read by a broader audience. I would like to think that our time has come," he said.

Ms. Zabytko shared her experiences in preparing her novel for publication. "You have to be prepared for a lot of rejection before your work is finally published, and you have to be prepared to go through multiple re-writes and edits. This is a very humbling process."

Despite the difficulties involved, Ms. Zabytko said she was deeply gratified to be able to tell the story of "these strong Ukrainian women with whom we've all grown up." Although the plight of the Chernobyl survivors was very tragic, Ms. Zabytko stressed that ultimately, their experience was a triumph of the human spirit.

As a journalist with the Orlando Sentinel, Ms. Zabytko was also invited to address the United Nations Correspondents Association during a special press conference on the occasion of the Chernobyl anniversary on April 26.

To obtain a copy of "The Sky Unwashed" readers should contact their local branch of Barnes & Noble or Waldenbooks. Copies are also available from the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund and may be ordered by calling (973) 376-5140.



Following her presentation at the School of Diplomacy and International Relations of Seton Hall University, Irene Zabytko meets with Associate Dean Ami Talkow, Marilyn DiGiacobbe, Wilmara Manuel and CCRF Chairman Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky.



Irene Zabytko signs books for students and faculty at the Yale University Book Store. From left are: Prof. Joseph Levitsky, (department of engineering); graduate student Olena Maslyukivska, sophomore Adrian Slywotsky Jr., Irene Zabytko, medical student Natalia Uboha, Prof. Halyna Hryn and law student Anatoliy Bizhko.

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20.00	Luba Melnyk	Wilsonville, Ore.	George Mutlos	George Mutlos	Clifton, N.J.	<i>SINCERE THANKS TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS TO THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY PRESS FUND. THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY PRESS FUND IS THE SOLE FUND DEDICATED EXCLUSIVELY TO SUPPORTING THE WORK OF THIS PUBLICATION.</i>
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BOOK NOTES

**Book recounts "one woman's journey into the country of her past"**

*"Return to Ukraine" by Ania Savage. College Station, Texas: Texas A&M University Press: Eastern European Studies, No. 12, 2000, 272 pp., \$29.95 (cloth).*

by **Martha Bohachevsky-Chomiak**

Billed as "one woman's journey to the country of her past," Ania Savage's "Return to Ukraine" is memoir literature on the contemporary period.

Three books are enfolded into this elegant and readable volume. One is a first-hand account of the very first months of Ukraine's existence as an independent state upon the collapse of the USSR. The other is an amusing travelogue through Crimea and the Caucasian coast of the Black Sea. The third is the personal story of a daughter-mother relationship – made all the more poignant by the onset of the mother's Alzheimer disease.

Ms. Savage, an American journalist born during World War II in Ukraine, which her parents fled before the arrival of Soviet forces, is invited by the still existing Soviet Ukrainian government to teach a course on American journalism. She arrives in Ukraine in 1991 – two days after the aborted putsch put an end to the existence of the USSR.

Accompanied for a few weeks by her ill mother, as well as by her spry octogenarian aunt, Ms. Savage begins the Ukrainian

travels in Slavsk, a Carpathian village that has just begun exhuming the remains of soldiers of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA).

A seasoned journalist, Ms. Savage weaves together the complex story of the fate of Ukrainians during the second world war and the Soviet takeover in a way that engages the reader new to the topic without in any way simplifying the story.

As she captures the tentativeness of the first post-putsch days, Ms. Savage is able to recreate the terror of the population at the time of the execution of the UPA men and women. Later in the story we learn that a child's skeleton also was exhumed.

As she wends her way through Lviv and on to Kyiv, and eventually to Donetsk, Odesa and other cities, Ms. Savage is the consummate journalist, blending with the population and eliciting their reactions. She ends up teaching and living in Kyiv at what had been the Higher Communist Party School, and also teaches journalism at Kyiv State University.

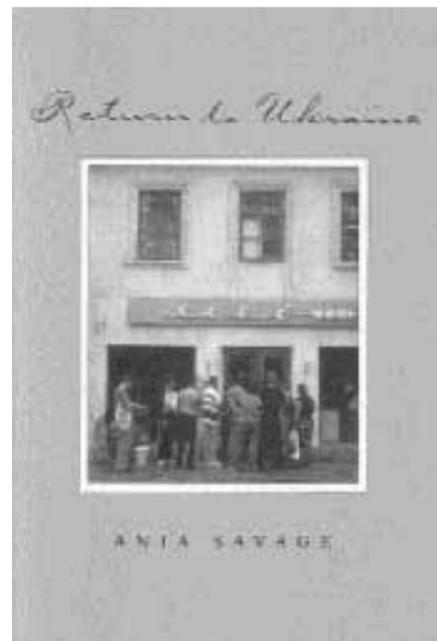
What makes the book courageous within the Ukrainian American setting is the injection of the personal story, especially the relationship of Ms. Savage with her mother, Anna Bojcun. That personal aspect makes the experiences in Ukraine come alive for the American reader. Although the Ukraine described in this book is almost a decade old, the people, the feelings and the events remain vibrant on each page. What's more, this book provides a wonderful introduction for those not familiar with Ukraine and with the intricacies of being a Ukrainian American.

The book is must reading for all ages – and an excellent gift for non-Ukrainians.

"... Going back became one of the highlights of my life," Ms. Savage writes. "I was lucky to be in Ukraine during a time history will remember. I saw centuries of history being relived, re-examined and reordered. Men and women on the streets walked, smiling and elated, rejoicing at the end of tyranny."

She describes her work in Kyiv and speculates on how her Ukrainian heritage and American youth and education influence her view of the people and places she encounters in Ukraine.

Ms. Savage is a journalist who has taught at the University of Denver and the



Metropolitan State College of Denver. Her writings have appeared in such national publications as The New York Times and USA Today.

"Return to Ukraine" is available at stores or direct from Texas A&M University Press (800-826-8911); secure online ordering at [www.tamu.edu/upress](http://www.tamu.edu/upress).

**"Borderland" presents history via collage of varied perceptions**

*"Borderland: A Journey Through the History of Ukraine" by Anna Reid. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, 1999, 259 pp., \$25 (cloth).*

Originally released in the United Kingdom in 1997, Anna Reid's "Borderland: A Journey Through the History of Ukraine" was released in hard cover in the United States by Westview Press in mid-1999. According to David Tobey of Westview Press, a paperback release is planned for summer 2000 that will include an update by Ms. Reid to the book's final chapter.

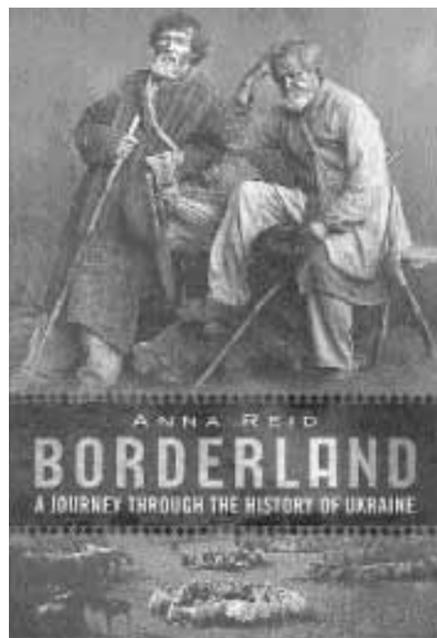
Ms. Reid, a British journalist who lived in the Ukrainian capital for several years, working as the Kyiv correspondent for The Economist and the Daily Telegraph, tells the story of Ukraine through the eyes of its citizens. The authors paints an image of Ukraine as a borderland that for centuries was also a battlefield.

In compiling this book Ms. Reid spoke with villagers, politicians, political dissidents, Ukrainians, Jews, Russians, survivors of both the Great Famine of 1932-1933 and the Holocaust, and others. The author also delves into Ukraine's history, from its beginnings as Kyivan Rus' to the wartime years and the recent past, and uncovers differing perceptions of the country's history that color and influence its present.

Ms. Reid takes her readers to several Ukrainian cities, among them Kyiv, Kamianets-Podilskyi, Donetsk, Odesa, Ivano-Frankivsk and Chernobyl.

As noted on the book's jacket, "... the book explores Ukraine's struggle to rebuild its national identity, an identity that faces up to a bloody past, and embraces all the peoples within its borders."

The book has received good reviews. The Financial Times writes: "A beautifully written evocation of Ukraine's brutal past and its shaky efforts to construct a better future. ... Reid succeeds in vividly conjuring up dozens of little-



known heroes and villains of Ukrainian history. ... [She] summons up the rogues and poets of Ukraine's past with a deft touch, but her real theme is the tragedy which has been Ukraine's lot for much of its history. ... 'Borderland' is a tapestry woven of the stories of all its inhabitants, recording their triumphs and their conflicts with the fairness of a compassionate outsider."

The Independent (London) writes: "This book takes the reader on a fascinating and often violent odyssey, spanning more than 1,000 years of conflict and culture. She translates her obvious mastery of her subject into an accessible work, which should enrich the experience of any traveler to this new country."

The book, which sells for \$25, may be ordered by calling Westview at 1-800-386-5656 or visiting the publisher's website at [www.perseusbooksgroup.com](http://www.perseusbooksgroup.com).

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## Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute

### 2000—HUSI's 30th Session



# DATELINE NEW YORK: Ukrainians shine in ABT's spring season

by Helen Smindak

Performing in an all-star cast for American Ballet Theater's season opener at the Metropolitan Opera House on May 8, dancers Vladimir Malakhov, Maxim Belotserkovsky and Irina Dvorovento added their glittering talents to the gala celebration of ABT's 60th anniversary celebration. Mr. Malakhov, a principal dancer with ABT since 1995, partnered Amanda McKerrow in Balanchine's "Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux" and appeared in the New York premiere of Twyla Tharp's newest work for the company, a formal and rich ballet "Variations on a Theme by Haydn," set to music by Brahms.

Ms. Dvorovento and Mr. Belotserkovsky, also featured in "Variations," received praise from The New York Times' reviewer Anna Kisselgoff, who said they "stood out in brief, fast solos woven into the choreography's texture."

Tipper Gore, honorary chairman of the gala along with Vice-President Al Gore (who was not present) was introduced by Caroline Kennedy, a co-chair of the benefit evening, and Sen. Charles Schumer of New York. Mrs. Gore urged an appreciation of "the arts as part of our national heritage." At the end of the evening, following a mass curtain call for the company, Mrs. Gore joined ABT dancers, guests and former ABT alumni, among them Cuban ballerina Alicia Alonso, at a festive dinner in a huge tent at Lincoln Center.

While Mr. Malakhov has always been the darling of opera fans and critics alike (he's an award-winning dancer who was named "best male dancer in the world" by Japan's Dance Magazine for three consecutive years), the opening weeks of this season have brought glory to Mr. Belotserkovsky. He has been lauded by Ms. Kisselgoff for his dramatic debut performance as the lover in an arranged marriage in the revival of Anthony Tudor's exquisite "Jardin aux Lilas," as well as for a powerful portrayal of "sinister elegance" (Ms. Kisselgoff's description) in Kevin McKenzie's new staging of "Swan Lake."

During these first weeks of the ABT season, Mr. Belotserkovsky has been paired with Ms. Dvorovento in "Don Quixote." Their performance on May 18 prompted this praise from Ms. Kisselgoff: "The last 'Don Quixote' of the season had Irina Dvorovento and Mr. Belotserkovsky in a stunning display of integrated artistry and technique, a truly flawless and exciting performance."

We can expect other glowing reviews for ABT's Ukrainian dancers during the company's eight-week season. Mr. Malakhov, who made his debut as Prince Siegfried in "Swan Lake" on May 22, was scheduled to lead the season's first performance of "Romeo and Juliet" on May 26 and will have a principal role in the epic "La Bayadère." Mr. Belotserkovsky will be performing in "Diversion of Angels" and "Pas des Déesses," and both artists will dance roles in "Études," the lavish "Le Corsaire" and a full-length "La Sylphide."

Ms. Dvorovento is scheduled for several roles in June, including the comic "The Taming of the Shrew," "La Bayadère," "Pas des Déesses," and "Études."

We can also look forward to critical response to the performance of another ABT dancer who was born in Kyiv - Vladislav Kalinin. Mr. Kalinin, who somehow escaped our scrutiny in an earlier search for Ukrainians on the ABT roster, began his ballet training at age 12 at the Ukrainian Ballet School. Since joining American Ballet Theater as a member of the corps de ballet in 1993, he has performed roles in "La Bayadère," "Cinderella," "Don Quixote" and other ballets. This weekend, he makes his debut as Mercutio in the Saturday matinee performance of "Romeo and Juliet."

## A solo exhibit for Solovij

The work of Jurij Solovij, a Lviv-born artist who lives in Rutherford, N.J., reveals the strong imprint of the war years in Ukraine and displacement in Germany before his emigration to the United States in 1952. His contemporary abstract art is filled with existential themes - the pain of birth and death, martyrdom, Crucifixion, childhood experiences and images of war - covering his canvasses with dark and often violent explosion of color and disfigured shapes.

During the past month, the Ukrainian Institute of America devoted three floors to an exhibit of some 100 Solovij paintings. The exhibition, sponsored by the Daria Hoydysh Endowment for the Arts, included 50 huge oils and gouaches, as well as some works from the artist's "Thousand Heads" period that first emerged in 1970.

In developing the fascinating "Thousand Heads" theme, Mr. Solovij executed the first 1,000 paintings, sculptures and drawings of the series in six weeks, eventually producing more than 2,000 small-scale works.

In April, when the show opened, the Daily News carried a story on the artist and exhibit and a photo of his 1967 work "Eternal Matter."

Regarded as the most forceful and singular promoter of modern art among Ukrainian émigré artists after World War II, Mr. Solovij is also known for the art work he conceived for publications of the New York Group, especially 12 annual issues of the Group's "New Poetry" publication.

## A priest and an actor

The Rev. George Drance, a member of the Wisconsin Province of Jesuits who teaches a theater course at Fordham University in the Bronx, is currently directing a spirited transition of the 17th century Pedro Calderon de la Barca comedy "Life is a Dream." The production, which enjoyed a successful 10-day run at Marquette University in Milwaukee last February, will be presented here at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine on June 8, 9 and 10.

"Life is a Dream" brings the audience into a world of cosmic struggle dictated by the presence in life of good, evil, reason, will and wisdom. The tone of the work is set by contrasting elements of vaudeville and melodrama, with towering 11-foot puppets representing Power, Wisdom and Love.

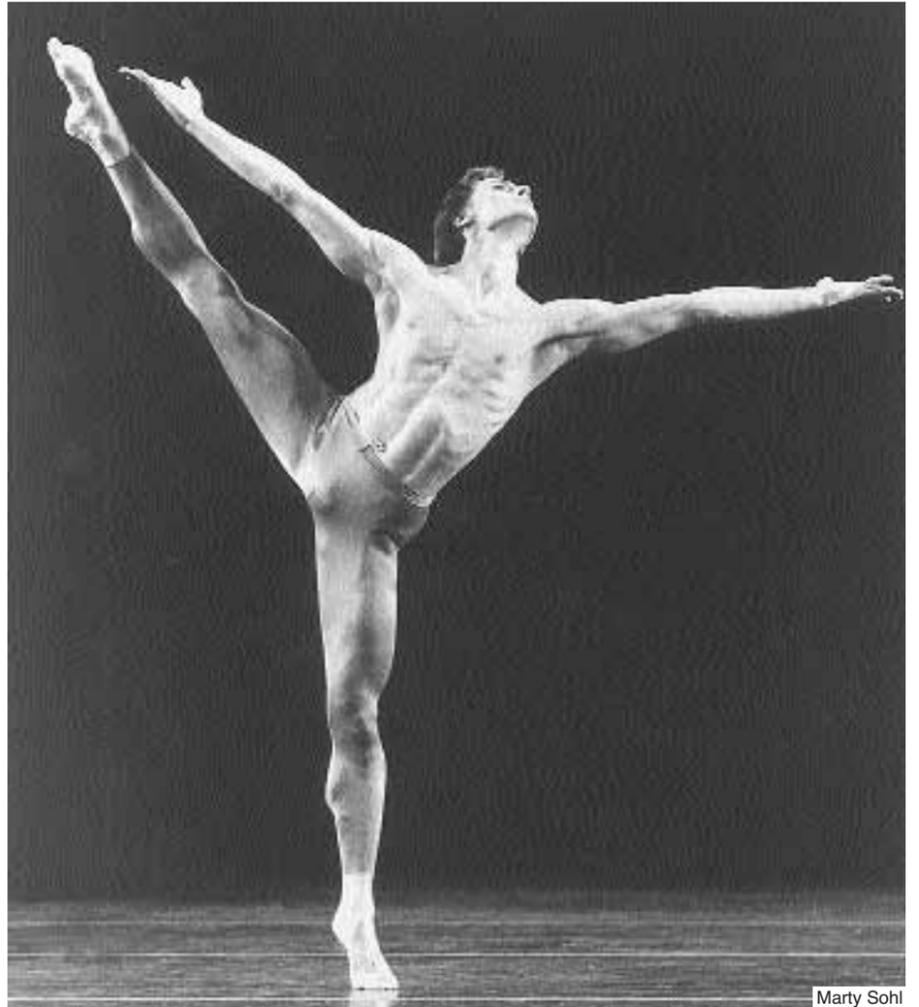
The puppets are adaptations of traditional renderings of the Archangels Michael and Gabriel frequently seen in Ukrainian churches. An iconographer as well as a

(Continued on page 21)



Vladimir Malakhov in "La Bayadère."

MIRA



Maxim Belotserkovsky of the American Ballet Theater.

Marty Sohl



A selection from Jurij Solovij's series "Thousand Heads" (1970, oil on canvas, 80 by 40 inches.)

## INTERVIEW: Film producer Nowytski on Ukraine during World War II

TORONTO – “Between Hitler and Stalin – Ukraine in World War II,” a film sponsored by the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center has entered its editing phase. Its director and producer, Slavko Nowytski, was in Toronto on April 7-10 to oversee the editing and meet with the UCRDC film committee. The following interview about the progress of the film was conducted by Oksana Zakydalsky.

**Please give us an update on where you are with the film “Between Hitler and Stalin – Ukraine in World War II.”**

The film is being edited into a work print. A work print is essentially the way that the visuals and sound look and sound in script order. There may be a few elements missing, like sound effects or music but, basically, all of the cover footage and all the narration, the sound bites and the interviews are already in place, so that you can see whether the film moves the way you want it to. We also have most of the graphics done.

In our case, the main idea behind preparing a work print is to enable the film committee to actually see how it works for them. For the inexperienced, there is a danger in watching a work print because they may see it as a finished product. But if you know what you’re looking for – if all of the narration is correct, if all of the cover footage fits the narration – then if something is found that isn’t right, it can be fixed.

To avoid paying for an expensive narrator, I myself read the narration as a cue track. We have to have some of the interviews translated from non-English languages (the first version of the film will be in English). We need at least one male and one female translator voice. Once you actually hire a narrator and then find that you have to change the script, it can be very costly.

After the work print is approved, there should be no changes whatsoever. The next step will be to see the fine cut; in our case, the fine cut will look like the finished film.

**Could you explain the editing process?**

The editing is being done on a computer – not on film, but electronically. We are using the Avid system where we have random access – we don’t have to be linear in putting the film together. Substitutions can be made very easily; anything can be taken out.

Although I could do the editing myself, it would be slow and not cost-effective. So I have engaged professionals to do the editing – the firm VCR Active Media here in Toronto. I had the film all prepared in my mind – marked the script and prepared a paper edit so that the editor would know, shot by shot, what needs to be done. I was told it would take about 40 hours to create a new print.

The editing is being done in Toronto for two reasons: I have to check the editing and the committee is here and will have easy access to the work print. Secondly, it is more cost effective to do the editing in Canada. There are good facilities here, just as good as we have in the United States.

**What are the sources for visual information in the film?**

This film consists of many elements. We started with interviews with people who lived through the war and what they remember of it. These were specific groups of people such as the Ostarbeiters who were taken to Germany to work; those that took part in the UPA [Ukrainian Insurgent Army] or the Ukrainian Division and survived, or those who were victims of one repression or another. These interviews were done first

– so that we would have a basic witness foundation. I did many of the interviews in Ukraine myself. I had a partner there who found me people who were witnesses and I filmed them.

The second element is the use of an authoritative figure telling the story from a historical point of view and tying things together. We have the historian Norman Davies, a specialist in the history of Eastern Europe, especially Poland and Ukraine. He works at the University of London, but I filmed him in Cambridge.

The third element is other authorities on specific subjects. In the film we have Robert Conquest, a specialist on the famine in Ukraine and the Soviet Union of the 1920s-1930s, and John Armstrong, who has written extensively on Ukrainian nationalism. I filmed Dr. Conquest in California, while Dr. Armstrong came to Washington. Another specialist, the commentator on Ukraine in World War II from an American point of view, is Zbigniew

***The main aim in making this film is to inform the English-speaking world about the realities of Ukraine. ... how much Ukraine suffered, how many Ukrainians died in World War II is astounding ...***

Brzezinski, who has strong opinions on Ukrainian independence and Russian imperialism.

The fourth element – archival motion picture footage of World War II – came from two main sources, Soviet and German archives, although some material from U.S. archives also was used. We have a Ukrainian producer, Volodymyr Kmetyk, who will take care of the distribution of the film in Ukraine – and he, at my request, bought the material from the archives in Kyiv and in Moscow. He acquired about nine hours of archival material, mostly documentaries.

Finally, we have still photos from the archives and from various other sources: from Ukraine, from the UCRDC’s collection, from Petro Sodol of Litopys UPA and also documents, supplied mostly by the UCRDC or shot from books.

**How many years have you already spent on this film?**

Initially this project was to be a six-part series, and we worked on that for about a year or two before it was changed to a one-hour format. The agreement under which I have been working with the UCRDC is

dated 1994. Working on this film has proven to be very difficult for me as this is not a full-time job for me – I have a day job. All these years I haven’t had any life to speak of – I get up at 5.15 a.m., I’m at work at 7-7:15, out by 4 p.m., have something to eat, and then I work on the film. How much can you do after you’ve worked a full day?

**What is your day job?**

I’m an international television broadcaster – now this is called a video journalist. I handle my own digital camera and cover stories for a program called “Window on America” and for some other programs. “Window on America” was formerly funded by the USIA and is now under the International Broadcasting Bureau. Everything we do is for foreign (outside the United States) consumption.

“Window on America” is a one-half-hour weekly magazine-type show that is beamed to Kyiv and then broadcast throughout Ukraine on a Ukrainian net-

work. I am in charge of a segment on this program – I can often choose the subject, write the script and shoot the film.

Before coming to Washington, I lived in Minnesota, where I worked as a producer and director of documentaries, both on film and video. My training is in acting and directing – at the Pasadena College of Theatre Arts in California. Then I enrolled at New York’s Columbia University, where I pursued motion picture studies in the department of communication and graduated with an MFA degree in 1964. My first job was in Canada – at Montreal University, where I worked in musical theatre. I then moved to Toronto and in 1959-1960 I worked in live television drama. I also began to make documentaries – my films on Leo Mol and on Ukrainian settlement in Canada, “Reflections of the Past” – were made in Canada.

**You were the director and producer of “Harvest of Despair,” which came out in 1984. How would you compare working on that film with working on this World War II film?**

“Harvest of Despair” was done on 16mm film. Working with videotape is

quite different. The main problem with working with tape is that the source material is not in one format – I am working with five formats: digital, high 8, VHS, Beta, SVHS, also in two systems, the European Pal/Secam and the North American NTSC. Each format required a separate machine, so that there was a lot of technical stuff around me that I had to deal with until I was done with the paper edit. Each shot had to be given its address so that the editor would be able to find it exactly and, through the use of a time code, know where I wanted the shot to begin and to end and where it fit in the script.

If you have various sources with different tape formats, it is hard to achieve a unified look. They all had to be brought into one format, which is now in the hands of the editor who still has some freedom to do things. Electronic editing has the advantage that you can add all kinds of special effects – zooms, pans – even though you didn’t shoot it that way.

On “Harvest of Despair” I worked closely with Yuri Luhovy, who was co-director and editor of that film. The most difficult thing for me on this film is working by myself. I like working with somebody, bouncing things back and forth. Working by yourself is a very lonely job and, if you work alone, you can get too close to the subject. Furthermore, working by yourself requires more discipline – I found I couldn’t work more than a couple of hours a night. I had to rely on Saturdays and Sunday afternoons. I had to do a lot of shooting myself – not just the interviews, but also the stills, the books.

But what I enjoyed most about this film was meeting all the people, doing the interviews with the people who actually lived through the period, asking the questions, getting replies, living through it with them again – that was most interesting. We have a total of about 80 hours of interviews from Ukraine; they are very valuable and the center will keep them in its archives.

“Between Hitler and Stalin” is a much more complicated story than “Harvest of Despair,” which dealt with only one subject – the famine. With the story of Ukraine in World War II you are dealing with a lot of topics. With only one hour of film, the greatest difficulty was that so much had to be said and so much had to be left out. How can you say it all in one hour? It’s not even an hour – it’s actually 56 to 58 minutes. And yet that’s the reality of television. Something had to go. But what? You have to simplify. But if you simplify, what do you leave out?

Although we did have a writer, Kristi Wheeler, it ended up being pretty much a script by committee, because everyone kept contributing, making suggestions and various cuts. It took longer, but I think it’s better to have several sources of information and new input, because many people checked the facts and the treatment, many people gave their ideas and feedback. Of course, it was difficult to integrate all that needed information and still have a script that would not only read well, but sound well and allow space for dramatic pauses, for music and so on.

The main aim in making this film is to inform the English-speaking world about the realities of Ukraine. Although now a lot more people know about Ukraine, still the fact of how much Ukraine suffered, how many Ukrainians died in World War II is astounding – more than the total military losses of the United States, Canada, the British Commonwealth, France, Germany, Italy and Japan together. So many films have been made about World War II, but who cares about Ukraine? There are still amazing facts that will be shown in this film for the first time. Most films just feature the bigger picture, but it’s the smaller picture that concerns us and that’s what we want people to know.



Slavko Nowytski (foreground) and editor Dominic Ubaldino at the VCR Active Media editing studio.

# Ukrainian poet Lysheha and his translator receive PEN Literary Award

by Olena Welhasch

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

NEW YORK – In the small world of American literary intellectuals, a barely known Ukrainian poet and his dear friend and fellow translator shine like rare gems on stage. Poet Oleh Lysheha and Dr. James Brasfield sat among renowned playwrights, essayists, novelists, poets and translators awaiting the presentation of the prestigious PEN Literary Awards at the Walter Reade Theatre at Lincoln Center.

"The Selected Poems of Oleh Lysheha," a book translated into English by Mr. Lysheha and Dr. Brasfield and published by Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute Press, was this year's winner of the 2000 PEN Literary Award for Poetry in Translation. On May 15 Mr. Lysheha and Dr. Brasfield accepted their joint \$1,000 award among fellow nominees and winners, including writers John Updike and Annie Dillard.

PEN, an international membership association of prominent literary writers and editors, is a major voice of the literary community. Since 1921 the organization has been working to advance literature, to promote a culture of reading and to defend free expression wherever it may be threatened. It annually recognizes literary achievements with the PEN Literary Awards.

Literary translation is often a cornerstone of communication and understanding between nations, and the 2000 PEN Literary Award for Poetry in Translation celebrates a distinguished book-length translation of poetry published in 1999. Besides Mr. Lysheha's book, nominees for the award included poetry translations from Greek and French. Two other awards presented also recognized poetry in translation, however, Mr. Lysheha's success is unique in that, of all of the translated poetry nominated, he is the only living poet.

Rachel Hadas, the judge of the books of poetry in translation, presented Messrs. Lysheha and Brasfield their award as she expressed her praise of the achievement: "Of all the translations of poetry I took pleasure in reading as I judged this contest, 'The Selected Poems of Oleh Lysheha' was the strangest, most elegant, and most familiar. Strange: Lysheha leads us into a nocturnal world where dark trees, icy ponds and buried beings betoken an alternative universe where you may lose or find anything. Elegant: the translations, confident, fluent, dignified, are in eloquent and graceful English, providing a clear map to a murky world. Familiar: the loneliness, fear, and sublimity that is the native land of Lysheha's poetry is a region lovers of poetry will have visited before, for these original lyrics are also avatars of a strong poetic tradition."

Mr. Lysheha's poetry is indeed influenced by literary giants. His poetry's breath units (the expression of a thought in the time of a breath) resemble those of D.H. Lawrence and Ezra Pound, whose poetry Mr. Lysheha has translated into Ukrainian. Other translated works include those of poets John Keats, Henry David Thoreau, Robert Penn Warren and Sylvia Plath. He is considered the "poets' poet" of contemporary Ukraine. In Mr. Lysheha's work, questions of life, death and reincarnation reflect his Buddhist and Taoist influences, and shamanic undercurrents in his autobiographical compositions. He has an innate understanding of nature and many of his poems offer realistic personifications of animals.

In the poem "Swan" he joins the moon in a dance as he walks through the woods. His identity is unclear. He may be man or

wolf, or both, however, it is his song that keeps the rain falling and nature one.

"Swaying, he kept on singing..  
Otherwise, he would have fallen  
And the rain stopped..  
He danced his own rain  
Under that tree..  
I can't do such things..  
Perhaps it was a wolf?"

Mr. Lysheha was born in 1949 in Tysmenytsia in the Carpathian region. He played an integral role in the Lviv Bohema, a late 1960s dissident group of writers, painters, sculptors, musicians and critics. During this time, just one semester short of completing his degree in American and English literature at Lviv State University, Mr. Lysheha was expelled for publishing poems and an essay in the "samvydav" literary almanac "Skrynia" (The Chest). His work was neither nationalistic nor one of protest, yet Communist Party officials felt that it violated official aesthetic and ideological dictums.

Shortly after his expulsion, Mr. Lysheha was drafted by the Soviet army and was eventually exiled to Buryatia, where he served as a schoolteacher. He continued to teach there even after being discharged from the army in 1974. A region in which many of the people had converted to Tibetan Buddhism in the 18th century and strongly resisted a Russian presence, Buryatia has influenced much of his work.

Mr. Lysheha returned to Tysmenytsia in 1975; in 1977 he published his first collection of poetry, "Winter in Tysmenytsia." More of his poetry appeared in a journal, a poetry collection and an anthology in the 1980s. His first book of poetry, "Velykyi Mist" (Great Bridge) was published in 1989. Additional works were published in the 1990s, including essays on poetry, the play "Friend Li Po, Brother Tu Fu" and his translations from Ezra Pound and D.H. Lawrence.

Mr. Lysheha spent a year in the United States as a Fulbright scholar in 1997-1998 at Pennsylvania State University.

Still jet-lagged from his flight from Ukraine the previous day, Mr. Lysheha prefaced his thank you to the PEN American Center with an autobiographical note. Overwhelmed by the honor of the award, Mr. Lysheha felt he could not fully express his gratitude to American society due to his self-described poor English. However, on the contrary, the poet's characteristically impromptu, stream of consciousness speech was quite poetic and made quite an impression on the assembled guests. He modestly stated that his appearance was that of "an old man in springtime, worn out by verses." Yet the handful of silver strands in his auburn beard barely hint at the 51-year-old poet's age. He smiled radiantly as he thanked PEN for honoring him and concluded his enthusiastic comments with the pleased proclamation: "You now know that Ukraine exists!"

Dr. Brasfield, a poet and lecturer of English at Pennsylvania State University, has been collaborating with Mr. Lysheha on translating the latter's poetry since 1993. As he accepted the award, Dr. Brasfield briefly informed the audience of Ukraine's political, linguistic and literary history. "To many Americans, Ukraine was a place in Russia, a region called 'the' Ukraine. Many Americans do not know that the Ukrainian language and thus its literature were forbidden. For a large audience now, 'The Selected Poems of Oleh Lysheha' will be a further step for Ukrainian culture from the dark of the Russian and Soviet shadow.

Dr. Brasfield thanked Michael Naydan



Oleh Lysheha (right) with the translator of his poetry, James Brasfield, at Lincoln Center for the presentation of the PEN Literary Awards.

of Pennsylvania State University, the Fulbright program, and Robert De Lossa and Daria Yurchuk of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute for their faith in this book and for their work and their vision.

Dr. Brasfield lived in Ukraine where he was a lecturer in American literature. He completed his first Fulbright assignment in Kyiv at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in 1993-1994 and the second in Chernivtsi during the 1999 spring semester. He describes himself as a Ukrainian nationalist and explains that the mandatory Ukrainian in schools is necessary to Ukraine's emerging democracy. In an interview with Research Penn State, Dr. Brasfield expressed his respect for Ukrainian artists: "Artists don't make a place in their lives for art. Art is their life, despite all the difficulties." In 1993 Dr. Brasfield first traveled to the Carpathian Mountains and Lviv with Mr.

Lysheha. In turn, Mr. Lysheha was a visiting Fulbright scholar on Dr. Brasfield's home turf, Penn State.

The following evening, May 16, the duo read their work in Ukrainian and in English at an evening sponsored by the Shevchenko Scientific Society. Unlike the older crowd that usually attends Shevchenko Scientific Society events, about half of those attending the poetry reading were quite young, according to Nadia Svitlychna, a former dissident author and now editor-in-chief of the international Ukrainian Orthodox magazine *Vira* (Faith). Ms. Svitlychna had only compliments to offer of the two-hour program and noted with pleasure Dr. Brasfield's eloquent reading of the English translation of Mr. Lysheha's poetry, which was followed by Mr. Lysheha's reading of his poetry and prose in the original Ukrainian.

(Continued on page 14)

## HURI also present at Lincoln Center

by Robert DeLossa

NEW YORK – In the 1960s the Ukrainian American community came together with Harvard academics and fund-raisers at the Ukrainian Studies Fund to establish a university-based publications program devoted to Ukraine. Perhaps at that time they dreamed of such a moment as happened on May 15 at Lincoln Center. I was in kindergarten when the first volumes of the Harvard Series in Ukrainian Studies started rolling off the presses, so I do not know for sure. But I cannot help being struck by the perspicacity with which these men and women planted a seed that has yielded so much.

The presence of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute at the PEN America gala seemed an anomaly – a little David among the Goliaths of publishing such as Knopf, Viking, and Farrar, Strauss & Giroux. People could be heard asking, "Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute – what's that? Why are they here?" But by the time that Dr. James Brasfield and Oleh Lysheha had made their speeches, these doubters knew a bit more about Ukraine. And they also knew that there is a special place at Harvard that publishes first-rate books about Ukraine.

Robert DeLossa is director of publications at the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University.

Each of HURI's publications is both an ambassador and a visiting professor, whether to an individual home, a community library or a university classroom. When he became director of the institute, Dr. Roman Szporluk especially emphasized the need for translation of cultural materials, and Dr. George Grabowicz brought the Lysheha translation to HURI through his personal relationship with Messrs. Lysheha and Brasfield.

In line with HURI's basic commitment to bringing Ukrainian culture to the American public, Mr. Lysheha's poems have presented Ukraine to the imagination of new audiences, while providing enduring proof of the vitality of Ukrainian thought and literary skill to those who long have been mindful of Ukraine.

At the same time, the institute's publications continue to go out into the world at the highest standard, as witnessed this year by the presentation of the American Association for Ukrainian Studies' book prize to the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak's "Crisis and Reform" and the Milewski Prize, awarded in Warsaw, to Murray Rosman for his HURI book "The Lords' Jews."

So, to those wise men and women who planted so fertile a seed many years ago, and to those who continue to donate to our institute in order to make sure it remains healthy and vibrant: thank you. We will try to make sure that it continues to produce the finest fruit possible.

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# NTSh elects new officers

NEW YORK – A new slate of officers was elected at the annual meeting of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh), which was held Saturday, May 20, at the society's headquarters building on Fourth Street in Manhattan and was attended by more than 100 members.

The new executive officers include: Dr.

Larissa M.L. Onyshkevych, president; Prof. Roman Andrushkiw, first vice-president; Dr. Sviatoslav Trofimenko, second vice-president; Dr. Anna Procyk, third vice-president; Dr. Vasyl Markus, fourth vice-president.

The complete list of new committee chairs will be released at a later date.

# Ukrainian poet...

(Continued from page 13)

Ms. Svitlychna described the poetry as untraditional and very metaphorical, at times difficult to understand, but the challenge proved worthwhile. She said that Mr. Lysheha's reading influenced her as music does and many of the topics were very close to her heart. She wanted to hear more, and this, she noted, is the best indicator of good poetry.

In the next several weeks Mr. Lysheha will return to Penn State and will revisit his beloved forests in central Pennsylvania. He plans to write a book about his experiences, titled "America," which will also include Ukrainian translations of Robert Frost's poetry, as well as prose depicting his impressions of the American world.

At a formal gallery reception following the PEN award presentation, Mr. Lysheha's eyes twinkled as he confided that his friend and colleague, Ukrainian comic author Yuri Andrukhovych, predicts "America" will be his best work yet.

Mr. Lysheha's straightforward language creates an intricate web in its organization, and this premonition of greatness is not beyond his breadth. One could expect that some of the subject matter will be very reminiscent of Henry Thoreau's and the prose much more engaging. Mr. Thoreau's philosophy has greatly influenced Mr. Lysheha's life; in fact, Mr. Lysheha visited Walden Pond during his first visit to the United States.

During his 10-month Fulbright fellowship, Mr. Lysheha lived in isolated circumstances similar to Thoreau's at Walden, in a cabin in the woods of Lemont, Pa., as he contemplated his nascent masterpiece. However, from his gentle and benevolent demeanor in New York City among sophisticated, international authors, one should hardly expect a condemnation of the United States comparable to the one in the conclusion of "On Walden Pond."

Dr. Brasfield will continue teaching at Penn State, and may extend his interest in translation to create a new English course. He also plans a return visit to Ukraine.

# Ukraine draws nearer...

(Continued from page 1)

reform that the Ukrainian government is undertaking," said Mr. Prodi.

He added that the EU is ready to substantially increase its support for the expansion of ties between Ukraine and the EU, according to Interfax-Ukraine. He explained that he had spoken with Mr. Yushchenko about expanding bilateral trade relations into other fields, especially in telecommunications, while underscoring that Ukraine today has a much better business environment for European investors.

Prime Minister Yushchenko also met with NATO Secretary General George Robertson during his stay in Brussels, which some today call the "capital of Europe" because of the several pan-European institutions housed there. According to Ms. Zarudna, Mr. Robertson voiced support for the progress made in economic reforms since his last visit to Kyiv in February. The two discussed a variety of aspects of military-technical and military-economic cooperation, including a NATO proposal on military reform in Ukraine that includes assistance in developing effective monitoring techniques for budgetary cash transactions.

# Ukrainian Bandurist...

(Continued from page 6)

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part of a group growing to uphold high artistic standards? Is it worth meeting and working with talented individuals from around the continent? If the answer is yes, you're ready.

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I look forward to meeting you and hearing your voice and/or bandura. (For more information on the UBC, visit its website at [www.bandura.org](http://www.bandura.org).)

# East European...

(Continued from page 2)

President Vladimir Putin and by the West's obvious desire to find a common language with the new Russian leader.

Some of them fear that, in the absence of NATO expansion anytime soon, they will fall into a dangerous gray area of insecurity where their politics will be about national survival rather than about domestic devel-

opment. And many are concerned that the inclusion of some, rather than all, will provoke Russia to put new pressure on those not taken in.

These fears are not new, but the call from Vilnius suggests they are growing. That may not prompt the alliance to move more quickly on some or all of the applicant states. But the introduction of the term "big bang" may have the effect of leading to a renewed discussion of just how open the door to NATO membership really is.

**THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY**

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# University of Edmonton to host conferences on Ukrainian topics

by Dr. Roman Yereniuk

WINNIPEG – The University of Alberta in Edmonton is proving to be a major North American center for Ukrainian specialists as it hosts a 10-day Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities being held May 23-June 1. Over 70 academic societies are holding their annual sessions and, among these, four will deal substantially with Ukrainian and Ukrainian Canadian topics.

These include the Canadian Association of Slavists (CAS), the Canadian Association for Eastern Christian Studies (CAECS), the Folklore Studies Association of Canada (FoSAC) and the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences of Canada (UVAN). Some 40 scholars will be giving research papers and participating in the discussions at the sessions, mostly from Canadian universities, but also from the United States, Australia and Ukraine.

Among the highlights are the following presentations:

- New Interpretive Paradigms of Olha Kobylianska (CAS, May 27) – Prof. Marko Pavlyshyn (Monash University, Australia), T. Hundorova (National Academy of Sciences, Kyiv) and Maxim Tarnawsky (CIUS Press);
- New Perspectives on Mykhailo Hrushevsky (CAS, May 28) – Profs. Zenon Kohut, Frank Sysyn and Serhiy Plokhyy (all from the University of Alberta);

- The Contemporary Situation in Ukraine (UVAN, May 28) – Profs. G. Chuchman (University of Manitoba), O. Hawaleshka (University of Manitoba) and P. Thomas (University of Victoria);
- Topics on the Major Ukrainian Churches in Canada (CAECS, May 25) – Prof. Plokhyy (University of Alberta), Roman Yereniuk (St. Andrew's College, University of Manitoba), David Motiuk (Holy Spirit, Ottawa) and graduate student Monica Hladuneych-Kuc (St. Paul University, Ottawa);

- Topics on Ukrainian Canadians (UVAN, May 28) – Prof. A. Pawlowsky (University of Manitoba) and researchers U. Amiot-Holowach (Calgary), R. Fodchuk (Cochrane, Alberta) and B. Bilash (Winnipeg);
- Language, Orthography and Translation (CAS, May 27) – Profs. A. Hornjatkevyc and V. Polkovsky (both from the University of Alberta);

- Conceptualizing Cultural History and Geography (CAS and FoSAC, May 27) – Profs. Andriy Nahachewsky, R. Shiyan and N. Shostak (all from the University of Alberta);
- Ukrainian Theological Issues (CAECS, May 26) – the Revs. Drs. Peter Galadza and Andriy Chirovsky (St. Paul

University of Ottawa);

- Teaching Languages and Cultures (CAS, May 28) – Prof. A. Nedashkivska (University of Alberta);
- Literature and Translation (CAS, May 28-29) – Profs. V. Balinska-Ourdeva and D. Antoniuk (both University of Alberta) on May 28 a paper by N. Boudreau (University of Chicago) on May 29;

- Aspects of Languages, Culture and Religion (CAS, May 28) – S. Kobets (University of Illinois) and P. Rolland (University of Alberta);
- What Comes after Communism? (CAS, May 29) – Prof. B. Harasymiw (University of Calgary) and Marta Dyczok (University of Western Ontario);
- On Identity and Exile (CAS, May 29) – Serhii Yekelchik (University of Alberta);

- Ukrainian Literature: In and Out of Bondage (CAS, May 28) – B. Nebesio (University of Alberta), I. Sywenky (University of Alberta) and M. Romanets (University of Calgary);
- Oral Folklore (FoSAC, May 27) – Prof. B. Medwidsky (University of Alberta);

- Ukrainian Music in Context (FoSAC, May 27) – Brian Cherewick, M. Jensen and M. Ostashevski (all from the University of Alberta);
- Identity Construction (FoSAC, May 28) – J. Golinowski (University of Alberta);

- Rites of Passage in Changing Contexts (FoSAC, May 28) – N. Foty.
- Documents of Ukrainian Culture (UVAN and FoSAC, May 29) – Prof. A. Hornjatkevyc (University of Alberta) and R. Fodchuk (University of Calgary).

Besides the papers, many of the above and other scholars will be chairing sessions, giving presentations as discussants and working from the organizational side of the conferences.

A special highlight of the conferences will be the annual banquet of the Canadian Association of Slavists on May 29, which will feature an address by Dr. David Marples, acting director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, who will speak on the topic "Toward Democracy or Oriental Despotism? Report Card on a Decade of Independence in the Former Soviet Republics."

For further information contact: UVAN – Dr. R. Yereniuk at yereniuk@cc.umanitoba.ca; FoSAC – Dr. Nahachewsky at andriy.nahachewsky@ualberta.ca; CAECS – the Dr. Rev. Chirovsky at achirovsky@ustpaul.uottawa.ca; or CAS – Dr. Natalia Pylypiuk at natalia.pylypiuk@ualberta.ca.

The public is invited to attend the conference sessions in order to give input to the scholarly community.

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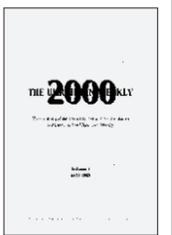
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## Immigration History Research Center to move into state-of-the-art facility

MINNEAPOLIS – The story of America's immigrant past, including much about Ukrainians and their descendants, can now be explored in a modern setting. With its recent move into a new state-of-the-art archives center, the Immigration History Research Center (IHRC), a unit of the University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts, is poised to provide expanded services to ethnic communities, researchers of immigration and ethnicity, and the general public concerned about immigration issues. The center invites anyone interested to use its collections of books, periodicals, manuscripts and audiovisual materials or attend any of its public programs, which include conferences, seminars and exhibits. Much more information about the IHRC's resources and services is available at its website, <http://www.umn.edu/ihr/>.

The IHRC has been relocated from its previous quarters in an off-campus warehouse to the Elmer L. Andersen Library in the heart of the university's Minneapolis campus on the west bank of the Mississippi River. Director and Professor of History Rudolph J. Vecoli has called the new building "the incredible, inconceivable, unbelievable realization of a long-held dream."

"A large number of our supporters contributed to this happy result," he noted, citing particularly the Friends of the IHRC who helped persuade state legislators and the governor to approve funding for the building.

The Elmer L. Andersen Library, new home to the IHRC and seven other university archives units, as well as the MINITEX Library Information Network, was funded by the state of Minnesota because of the building's statewide importance. In 1994 legislators approved a planning grant of \$2.7 million, which resulted in an innovative design combining two constant-temperature-and-humidity underground storage areas – each the size of two football fields – carved out of the sandstone riverbank; ground floor headquarters for the MINITEX book distribution center; and three floors with office suites, reading rooms and areas for preservation work, public exhibits, classes and conferences, all built around a central atrium. The building was financed through sale of \$38.5 million in bonds, approved by the legislature in 1996. Groundbreaking took place in May 1997. Completed in February 2000, the building is named for a former Minnesota governor, now 90 years old, who is also a businessman, rare book collector and university benefactor.

The public is invited to an IHRC open house at the Andersen Library to be held Sunday, June 4, at 1-5 p.m. The Friends of the IHRC will host a celebration of the move that includes tours of the IHRC office and storage caverns, entertainment by ethnic musicians and dancers, showing of a new video about the IHRC's work and a dessert buffet of ethnic pastries. A short pro-

gram will be presented at 3 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to wear ethnic costumes.

Now celebrating its 35th anniversary, the IHRC is one of this country's foremost resources on immigrant and ethnic history. While the holdings and programs are especially rich for immigrants from eastern, central and southern Europe and the Near East, materials and interpretation encompass every major theme of immigration and its consequences. The center's Ukrainian American Collection is not only one of its largest, but is considered to be the largest collection of materials on Ukrainian immigration in the United States, covering all aspects of immigrant and ethnic life. The resources are used by community organizations, family historians, artists and the news media, in addition to scholars – ranging from high school students working on History Day projects to professors doing comparative studies across ethnic groups.

Coincident with its move to new quarters, friends of the IHRC have other reasons to rejoice. In spring 1999 the White House Millennium Council and the National Trust for Historic Preservation honored the IHRC's "Documentation of the Immigrant Experience" as one of the initial 101 Official Projects of Save America's Treasures, a public/private partnership encouraging protection of threatened U.S. cultural treasures. Such recognition, providing additional publicity for the IHRC and promising access to corporate and foundation funders, comes as the center begins a major fund-raising campaign.

The IHRC has undertaken, as part of the university's capital campaign, to create a \$4 million endowment. The funds raised will enable it to provide ongoing support for community outreach and scholarly work on immigration and related subjects. Four areas have been targeted for the funds:

- an endowed professorship/directorship in American immigration history;
- staff to acquire, organize and preserve collections, including curatorial and graduate research assistant positions;
- research and scholarship support, such as grants-in-aid and summer fellowships; yearly publication of the IHRC's research journal *Spectrum*, and an annual symposium to assess research trends and chart new directions for immigration and ethnic history; and
- community outreach to promote heritage preservation by ethnic organizations and to provide information about immigration history to elementary and secondary school teachers and students.

For more information about the endowment campaign, the June 4 open house, or any of the IHRC's services, contact the center at 311 Andersen Library, 222-21st Avenue S, Minneapolis, MN 55455; telephone, (612) 625-4800; fax, (612) 626-0018; e-mail, [ihr@tc.umn.edu](mailto:ihr@tc.umn.edu).

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As of June 1, 2000, the secretary's duties of Branch 164 will be assumed by Mrs. Bonnie L. Scholtis.

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## UMANA holds scientific convention

by Dr. George Hrycelak

HUMACAO, Puerto Rico – The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) held its 50th anniversary Scientific Convention on March 25-April 1, in Humacao, Puerto Rico. The UMANA, organized in New York in 1950, regularly offers scientific conferences in a variety of locales, featuring presentations on topics of medical, dental and health-care interest by and for its members and guests.

The UMANA 2000 Conference was attended by 35 professionals along with their families, resulting in a congenial group of 78 registrants who enjoyed not only the tropical weather, but the technical lectures and discussions as well. The venue for this year's convention was the verdant Palmas Del Mar Resort on the southeastern Caribbean coast of Puerto Rico, near the town of Humacao.

The conference opened with a reception on Sunday, March 26, and formal lectures began on March 27. The majority of speakers were UMANA members, and a brisk question-and-answer session followed each presentation.

The following is a brief summary of the scientific program in order of presentation:

Sawczuk, I., "Current Concepts in Biomarker Technology for Bladder Cancer"; Iwanetz B.A., "Sentinel Lymph Nodes in Breast Cancer"; Szeremeta-Browar, T., "What You Need To Know About Ginkgo Biloba"; Hrycelak, M.R., "Vaccine Issues for 2000"; Medwidsky, W.,

*George Hrycelak, M.D., is a member of the board of directors of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America.*

"Skin Cancer Surveillance 2000"; Dykun, R., "Evolution of Otolaryngology Over the Last Century"; Polianska, M., "High Quality Ambulatory Anesthesia"; Voyevodka, I., "Alternatives to Hormone Replacement Therapy for Postmenopausal Women"; Dzioba, R., "Burst Fractures of Lumbar Lordotic Vertebrae"; Gudziak, M., "Geriatric Urinary Incontinence: Assessment and Treatment"; Dale, R.M., "Advances in Psychiatric Treatment of the Elderly."

The lectures were held daily through Friday, March 31, after which a farewell banquet, on the theme "UMANA in the New Millennium," was attended by all of the guests, speakers and participants. Dr. George Hrycelak summarized an oral and visual history of the first 50 years of the UMANA. Dr. Roman Goy, UMANA president, presented a rousing and upbeat assessment of the future of the medical association.

The attendees not only enjoyed professional presentations, but were able to explore the island of Puerto Rico on many side trips. Groups discovered the El Yunque National Rain Forest, the Rio Camuy caves, listened for ET at the largest radio-telescope on Earth at the Arecibo Observatory, and snorkeled among the beautiful coral reefs off the island of Vieques.

The conference concluded successfully on Saturday, April 1. Most participants felt twinges of regret at having to leave the warm Caribbean resort of Palmas Del Mar for more somber weather. The memories of interesting lectures, the camaraderie of new and old friends, and the anticipation of the coming convention fueled member's plans to attend the next conference.

## UFU confers honorary degrees

MUNICH – Following a practical conference on the future of Ukrainian Institutions in Western Europe which took place on March 29-31, the rector of the Ukrainian Free University in Munich, Dr. Leonid Rudnytsky, conferred honorary doctorates on Julian Kulas (Chicago), Volodymyr Rak (New York) and Vasyl Kuybida, Mayor of Lviv, Ukraine.

Over 120 people attended the ceremony, including representatives of the Ukrainian community of Munich, German academic and political dignitaries, as well as honored guests from Ukraine. Among the latter were Ukraine's Vice-Prime Minister Mykola Zhulynskyi; the president of the National University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Viatcheslav Brioukhovetsky, the president of the

Shevchenko Scientific Society in Ukraine, Oleh Romaniv; and Ukraine's consul general of Ukraine in Munich, Heorhii Kosykh.

Other notables present were Bishop Michael Hrynchyshyn, apostolic administrator for the Ukrainian Catholics in Germany and Scandinavia, Dr. Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian World Congress; Oleksa Bilaniuk, president of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in New York; Wolodymyr Stojko, vice-president of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the U.S.A.; and Yuriy Kurys, vice-president of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Canada, among others.

The ceremony was covered by German and Ukrainian news media.



Mayor Vasyl Kuybida of Lviv reads his acceptance speech, as UFU student Oksana Hnatiuk translates.



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## Northern N.J. District...

(Continued from page 5)

Advisor Walter Korchynsky. The treasurer's report was delivered by Mr. Worobec, who reported a balance of \$3,729.49, as compared with \$2,883.67 a year ago. Other officers delivered brief reports on their activity.

At this point the chairman of the annual meeting introduced the president of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Dr. Viatcheslav Brioukhovetsky, who very briefly noted the work of this prestigious educational institution in developing future leaders for Ukraine.

Meanwhile, the district's auditors examined the district's bookkeeping and returned with a recommendation to unconditionally accept all officers' reports. Their recommendation was unanimously approved.

The Nominations Committee, consisting of Lon Staruch, Julian Kotlar and Maria Oscislawski, recommended re-election of the entire slate of district officers from 1999, with only one change, proposing that

Stefan Kosonocky serve on the auditing committee in place of Gregory Klymenko.

As a result, the following were elected as officers of the Northern New Jersey District Committee: Mr. Oscislawski, chairman; Mr. Kotlar, first vice-chairman; Mr. Staruch, second vice-chairman; Mr. Worobec, treasurer; Mr. Datzkiwsky, secretary; Roma Hadzewycz, English-language press liaison; Sofia Derzko, Ukrainian-language press liaison; Maria Haluszczak, organizing director; Mrs. Oscislawski, events coordinator; Daria Semegen, member-at-large; Ivan Pelech (chairman), Stefan Welhasch and Mr. Kosonocky, auditing committee; Wolodymyr Bilyk and John Chomko, honorary district chairmen.

Mr. Oscislawski took the opportunity to discuss upcoming activities: a trip to Soyuzivka; a "yalynka" Christmas party for children; and fund-raising activities such as a garage sale. He announced that a meeting of the district board would be held to work out the details of a plan of activity for 2000-2001.

As the meeting was adjourned, members were invited to partake of refreshments.

## Woonsocket District...

(Continued from page 5)

84th birthday in a few weeks, can serve as an example to all organizers and secretaries.

Myron Pylypiak achieved the best individual organizing results. This is not the first time that he is the highest producer in the UNA organization. Mr. Pylypiak, secretary of Branch 496 in Seattle, organized 15 new members.

As already mentioned, Mr. Hardink organized 10 members, thus taking second place among individual organizers this quarter. In third place is Jacek Koczarski, UNA organizer, and Joseph Hawryluk, secretary of Branch 360 and Buffalo District chairman, each with seven new members.

Only 47 secretaries actively organized members this quarter, though the UNA has 259 branch secretaries. Where are the other 212?

The UNA has accepted 122 new members in the first quarter. We have a long way to go before we reach our organizing goal for the year. Everyone must work a lot harder. The UNA is awaiting your contribution toward the organizing effort.

Mr. Hawryluk sold the highest premium amount in this quarter. His annual sales by premium amount totaled \$3,406.90. In sec-

ond place by premium amount is Mr. Pylypiak, with annual premiums of \$3,296.64. In third place is UNA Advisor Barbara Bachynsky, the New York District chairperson and secretary of Branch 184, with annual premiums of \$2,622.70.

The amount of premium collected annually is a significant benchmark of how well the UNA is doing and what income it can expect during the year. Premiums are the main source of income for the UNA.

The three highest face amounts of insurance were sold by: UNA Advisor Andre Worobec, secretary of Branch 76, \$485,000; Mr. Hardink, secretary of Branch 206, \$285,000 and Mr. Koczarski, UNA organizer, \$155,000.

The UNA Woonsocket District reached and surpassed its organizing quota in the first quarter largely through the efforts of Mr. Hardink.

Branches not affiliated with any district - the category of branches called "Various" - met 48 percent of their quota by producing 24 new policies. Twenty percent of the annual organizing quota was achieved by the Central District.

Nineteen UNA districts contributed one or more members this first quarter of 2000. However, eight districts failed to give even one member.



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## Ukrainians shine...

(Continued from page 11)

director, the Rev. Drance, who has bi-ritual privileges in the Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Latin rite, is responsible for the touch of traditional Byzantine Slavonic art in the production.

The script was translated by the Rev. Drance and Alfredo Gavan, and the music was written by award-winning composer Elizabeth Swados.

The Jesuit priest, who holds a master's degree in acting from Columbia University, has a twofold interest in drama: he feels the skills and sensitivity required for acting make him a better priest, and being sensitive as a priest to people's spiritual needs makes him a better actor.

To prepare for a career as a teacher at a Jesuit university, the Rev. Drance was given three years to gain experience and contacts as a working professional. He has acted and directed in over 15 countries on five continents and has spent the past four summers touring in Europe and Asia with the La Mama Great Jones Repertory company of New York. His regional credits include Boston's American Repertory and New Repertory theaters, Improv Boston and the U.S. Improv Theatre League.

The Rev. Drance is the youngest of seven children of George W. Drance Sr., of Floral Park, N.Y., a registered representative with the Manhattan Planning Group, and the late Irene Stecko Drance. Mr. Drance Sr., a member of UNA Branch 327, is a former director of insurance sales for the Ukrainian National Association.

For tickets to performances, which begin at 7:30 p.m., call (212) 252-3307.

### A gastronomic tour

• The New York Times' Eating Out guide recently offered a sampling of Eastern European cooking – 12 restaurants which offer hearty food in hefty portions. Among these was Veselka, described as a "venerable Ukrainian café in the East Village," specializing in "all manner of stuffed things, from dumplings to blintzes."

The guide, a summary of reviews, columns and articles in The Times by William Grimes, Eric Asimov and others, averred that Veselka serves "a fabulous borscht" [which we spell "borsch"] and offers hearty buckwheat pancakes, thick potato pancakes or classic cheese-filled blintzes served with raspberry or blueberry sauce, including a nearly flat, triangular blintz that is "surprisingly delicate and soft." Located at 144 Second Ave. at Ninth Street, Veselka is open around the clock.

Among other Manhattan restaurants list-

ed in the guide were the Russian Tea Room, at 152 W. 57th St., which serves chicken Kiev and meaty, thick borsch with sour cream; Sammy's Roumanian, at 157 Chrystie Street, which exudes "a kitschy Borscht Belt party atmosphere" and specializes in fried kreplach and stuffed cabbage; the Firebird Cafe, 36 W. 46th St., whose menu features "wonderful Ukrainian borscht," and the Andruska restaurant, 1370 Lexington Ave. near 90th Street, which offers a cold borsch that is "sweet and perfectly refreshing served with cucumbers, hard-cooked egg and dill."

According to the guide, Brooklynites, especially those who live in Brighton Beach, find Eastern European fare at the Primorski restaurant, 292 Brighton Beach Ave., where chicken Kiev is on the menu.

• Writing in The New York Times about "Another East Village Tradition in Transition," Eric Asimov says that for decades Leshko's restaurant has held down a corner near Tompkins Square Park in what was once called the "Pirogi Belt," in deference to the neighborhood's Slavic population. Leshko's, at 111 Ave., A at Seventh Street, which served Ukrainian staples like cabbage soup, boiled beef and the occasional special of jellied pigs' feet, began to decline after the family sold the restaurant in the 1970s. Recently purchased by Robert Pontarelli and Stephen Heighton, the restaurant underwent a thorough renovation and now sports handsome hearthstone columns, a dark oak floor and Danish modern lamps, with beige-and-white Saarinen chairs offset by burgundy banquettes and a black Lucite bar. Though chef Bruce Barnes has reinvented the menu to favor New York-American tastes the original name and a few "East European touches like pirogi, red cabbage and spatze" have been retained (although the pirogi – varenyky to Ukrainians – are now stuffed only with mushrooms and leeks). The result, concludes Mr. Asimov, is an updated version of what Leshko's always was: a neighborhood restaurant aimed squarely at the neighborhood, which now consists of squatters and \$3,000-a-month renters, wearers of torn jeans, Prada suits and a lot of in between.

• The Blini Hut in the City Hall neighborhood, 132 Nassau St., corner of Beekman Street, distributes a romantically appetizing menu that offers "borscht inspired by the Ukrainians" as well as a vegetarian borsch, stuffed cabbage (listed as "golubtzi"), "varenniky" (this dish "originated in Ukraine"), and all kinds of blintzes and appetizers. A reader who recently sampled the menu describes the fare as "Russian fast food served on plastic trays" and cautions "if you don't have a sense of humor, don't go."



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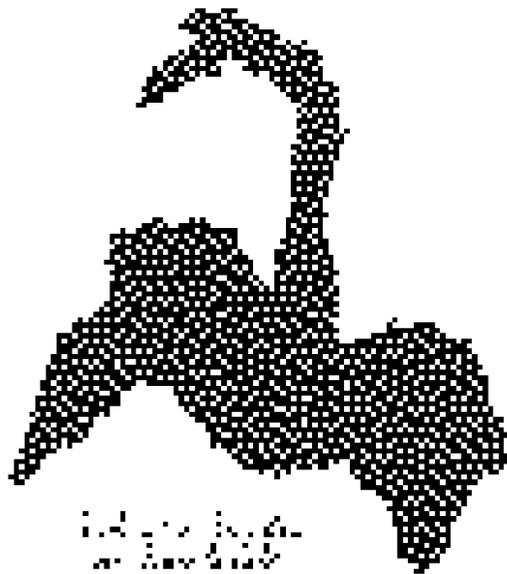
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# Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

"unconditional goal" of his Cabinet's program. He said his government has recently taken a number of steps to bring the country closer to the EU, including abolishing almost all tax breaks and "optimizing" economic activities within the country. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Socialists warn against totalitarianism

KYIV - A congress of the Socialist Party in Kyiv on May 20 warned that Ukraine's democracy and parliamentary system are in danger, Interfax reported. The Socialists appealed to the international community "to condemn totalitarianism in Ukraine" and protest the country's current economic course, which they believe is oriented toward pauperizing the Ukrainian people. The congress re-elected Oleksander Moroz as the party's chairman. Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko, in an address to the gathering, appealed to Ukrainian leftist forces to unite in order "to restore socialism" in the country. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Moldovan Parliament against treaty

KYIV - Lawmakers on May 19 refused to ratify the basic treaty with Ukraine and indefinitely suspended the debate on that accord, Romanian Radio reported. Moldova's legislators debated the treaty in closed session, but Romanian radio said the deputies objected to the provision on a swap of small pieces of territory. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Rada adopts three-year privatization plan

KYIV - The Verkhovna Rada on May 18 voted by 242-100 to adopt the government's privatization program for the next three years, Interfax reported. The program calls for privatizing some 600 large and strategic enterprises, resulting in revenues totaling \$1.5 billion in 2001 and \$1 billion in 2002. This year's privatization revenues were set earlier at \$500 million. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Chornobyl closure to be set this month

KYIV - President Leonid Kuchma on May 17 said the date for the closure of the Chornobyl nuclear power plant will be determined this month, Interfax reported. Mr. Kuchma recalled that he had created a commission under Prime Minister Viktor

Yuschenko to analyze various consequences of the Chornobyl closure and propose a closure date. Meanwhile, Reuters reported that wild fires in Ukraine had stirred up radioactive elements remaining in the environment from the 1986 Chornobyl nuclear disaster and raised radiation levels downwind in Belarus. The Chornobyl plant has reduced its power by 50 percent for repairs and maintenance. Reuters quoted plant and government officials as saying that Chornobyl is operating normally and there have been no incidents. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kuchma to amend Constitution?

KYIV - President Leonid Kuchma told journalists on May 17 that he will personally amend Ukraine's Constitution in line with the April 16 referendum if the Parliament fails to do so, Interfax reported. Mr. Kuchma added that he has "various mechanisms" for making such amendments, adding that they do not "overstep the framework of legislation." (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Austria backs Ukraine's orientation

KYIV - "We back the European orientation of Ukraine," Austrian President Thomas Klestil said in Kyiv on May 17 following talks with President Leonid Kuchma, the Associated Press reported. Mr. Klestil also pledged that an estimated 43,000 Ukrainians who worked as slave laborers for the Nazis in Austria during World War II will soon receive compensation payments, following "very positive" results of a conference on the issue held in Vienna this week. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Yuschenko vows to end barter

KYIV - Prime Minister Viktor Yuschenko said his government is determined to end barter deals that are hindering economic development. "Our position is tough and unshakable. We shall squash [those deals] alive," the Associated Press quoted him as saying. Mr. Yuschenko commented that the fight against barter is already yielding results, noting that the number of such deals has dropped from 43 percent of all payments at the start of 2000 to some 15 percent. Earlier this month, the government banned all barter payments in the energy sector. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

### Saturday, June 3

**BETHESDA, Md.:** The Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies in the Washington Metropolitan Area invites interested parents and children to attend an open house at the Westland Middle School located at 5511 Massachusetts Ave. Join us for coffee, visit classrooms, meet teachers and parents, pre-register for 2000-2001. The school meets Saturdays at 9 a.m.-1 p.m. during the school year. Classes are offered for kindergarten through Grade 11 ("matura") and for English-speaking students. Call Theodore Caryk, (301) 840-1713, or Halyna Breslawec, (301) 983-0152, with questions.

**GLEN ECHO, Md.:** The Slavic Male Chorus of Washington will perform a program of folk songs at the Folklore Society of Greater Washington's 23rd Annual Washington Folk Festival, Glen Echo Park, 7300 Macarthur Blvd., at 6:15-7 p.m. The concert will feature selections from Russian, Ukrainian, Slovak and Serbian folk traditions. The 25-member chorus, which has been singing together for more than 12 years, is under the direction of Gregory Oleynik.

### Sunday, June 4

**MINNEAPOLIS:** The public is invited to an Immigration History Research Center's open house at the Elmer L. Anderson Library, University of Minnesota, to be held at 1-5 p.m. The Friends of the IHRC will host a celebration of the center's move to new quarters; included will be tours of the IHRC office and storage caverns, entertainment by ethnic musicians and dancers, showing of a new video about the IHRC's work, and a dessert buffet of ethnic pastries. A short program will be presented at 3 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to wear ethnic costumes. For more information call (612) 625-4800, e-mail

ihrc@tc.umn.edu., or visit the website: <http://www.umn.edu/ihrc/>.

### Friday, June 9

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Institute of America invites the Ukrainian community to an exhibit of photographic essays by creative photographer and photojournalist Tanya D'Avignon. Featuring 150 pieces, the exhibit will offer an insight into contemporary life in Ukraine spanning a time period shortly before the collapse of the Soviet Union through transition to the present day, following the establishment of an independent Ukrainian state. The exhibit will be on display at the institute, 2 E. 79th St., through Sunday, June 18. An opening reception will be held on Friday, June 9, at 6-9 p.m.; gallery hours: noon-6 p.m. daily (closed on Monday). For further information call (212) 288-8660.

### ADVANCE NOTICE

### Wednesday, June 14

**EDMONTON, Alberta:** St. Vladimir's College, an accredited boarding high school of the Ukrainian Catholic Rite in Roblin, Manitoba, will appear, as part of its yearly concert tour, at St. Josephat's Cathedral Auditorium, 10825 97th St., at 8 p.m. The concert program will feature religious hymns, Ukrainian folk songs as well as Ukrainian folk dance. For additional information call the college, (204) 937-2173.

### Friday, June 16

**CALGARY, Alberta:** St. Vladimir's College, an accredited boarding high school of the Ukrainian Catholic Rite in Roblin, Manitoba, will appear, as part of its yearly concert tour, at the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Assumption, 611 Seventh Ave. NE, at 7:30 p.m. The concert program will feature religious hymns, Ukrainian folk songs as well as Ukrainian folk dance. For additional information call the college, (204) 937-2173.

*The Ukrainian Weekly introduces a new special section*

## Congratulations, Graduates!

Every year tens of thousands of students throughout North America receive undergraduate and graduate degrees at colleges and universities, cresting a pinnacle of personal achievement.

This year The Ukrainian Weekly introduces a new special section – Congratulations, Graduates! – where readers of The Ukrainian Weekly can place a note congratulating family members and dear friends on their recent achievements. This new, once-a-year, section will be published for the first time on July 2, 2000.

To place an ad congratulating a recent graduate, please send us the following by June 23:

- your note of congratulations, in Ukrainian or English, which should be no more than 50 words, including names;
- in English, the full name of the graduate, the degree completed and date received, list of awards and honors given the graduate, name and location of college or university;
- photo of the graduate (optional);
- payment for the ad;
- your daytime phone number.

The ad sizes for the greeting are a 1/8 page horizontal, for \$100, or a 1/4 page for \$180.

Please make checks payable to The Ukrainian Weekly and mail along with above information to:  
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