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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Ukraine is once again represented on International Council of Women

by Maria Tomorug

NEW YORK – The International Council of Women (ICW) held its 29th General Assembly on July 2-8 in Helsinki. The president of ICW, Pnina Herzog, welcomed the 250 delegates representing 35 national councils of women from around the world.

For the first time since 1925, Ukraine's National Council of Women also attended the conference. The Ukrainian delegation consisted of 10 delegates and was headed by its president, Iryna Holubieva.

In 1928 during the ICW's General Assembly held in Washington, the Ukrainian delegation was not permitted to officially participate in the conference. In fact, it lost its membership in the ICW because at that time Ukraine was no longer an independent nation. The ICW's Charter states that only national councils of independent nations may be members of the ICW. Now that Ukraine is an independent nation, the National Council of Women of Ukraine, which was organized one year ago and comprises eight women's organizations, was able to apply to the ICW to renew its membership.

After the opening ceremonies, during greetings from other organizations, Oksana Sokolyk, president of the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations (WFUWO), was given the opportunity to welcome the National Council of Women of Ukraine and to thank the ICW and its president for reopening its door and its heart to sisters from Ukraine.

She welcomed the Ukrainian delegates both in English and Ukrainian saying: "The World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations is elated that, after an absence of 75 years, the National Council of Women of Ukraine is once again a member of the International Council of Women, and that it will once again work with all of us for a better world in this new millennium."

After the welcoming ceremonies of the newly affiliated national councils from Azerbaijan, Senegal, Congo, Brunei Das Salaam and Ukraine, the presidents of these councils were given an opportunity to speak for three to five minutes. Ms. Holubieva read her speech in English, thanking the ICW for returning the Ukrainian group to its historical place in the ICW and promising to work to address social issues and improve the status of women to achieve better access to health, sanitation, education, and income security for women, children and men.

During the plenary sessions the president, general secretary and the treasurer presented their reports for the

last three years. The national presidents, the coordinators and advisers of the standing committees also presented detailed reports on the implementation of plans through seminars, conferences and projects. ICW representatives to United Nations agencies gave detailed reports on women's issues on the international level and presented their next challenges and goals.

The ICW General Assembly also adopted major amendments to its Constitution, which had not been changed since the organization's inception 112 years ago. A number of new resolutions were adopted, including provisions on the protection of victims of rape in time of war; ensuring that women have retirement pensions adequate to meet their needs for food, shelter, health care and self-support; the environment; biotechnologies; and on the establishment of an international convention for humanitarian aid.

The General Assembly voted in a new board, with Ms. Herzog being re-elected for a second term.

There were various social events during the conference, including the opening ceremonies at the Great Hall of the University of Helsinki, with greetings from the president of Finland, Tarja Halonen, and a musical, dance and recital program. Also on the program were a reception by the minister of health and social services; a luncheon at the City Hall sponsored by the mayor of Helsinki (who, like Finland's president, is a woman); an embassy night, when all embassies entertained delegates from their countries; a gala banquet and a Finnish evening with a fashion show at a famous Finnish stores.

Attending as observers from the Ukrainian diaspora were Mrs. Sokolyk, WFUWO president; Volodymyra Luchkiv, WFUWO vice-president; and Maria Komarnycka, former president of the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada.

From the United States came Iryna Kurowyckyj, president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, who took part as the ICW's United Nations accredited representative in New York, and Maria Tomorug, UNWLA vice-president, who participated as a delegate from the National Council of Women of the United States.

The ICW General Assembly voted that the theme for the next three years is to be "Women and the Culture of Peace." The next General Assembly will be held in 2003 in Australia and will be hosted by the Australian National Council of Women.

## Kuchma enters the fray over minority language rights

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma stepped into an increasingly emotional debate between Kyiv and Moscow over Russian minority language rights in Ukraine – which recently has swirled to ever-higher echelons in both governments – when he criticized an absolute lack of Russian government support for the development of Ukrainian culture in Russia.

"Please, give me an example from Russia – where more than 10 million Ukrainians reside – of at least one school, one newspaper, one radio or TV program in the Ukrainian language," said Mr. Kuchma on July 27 in Symferopol, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

The president stirred a brewing controversy over recent Lviv regional and municipal decisions to limit the use of the Russian language in commercial transactions and advertising there, which have led to an uproar, first in the Russian-language mass media in both countries and then among Russian government officials.

President Kuchma emphasized that he did not believe that any language should "be higher" than another, although he expressed support for the Ukrainian language as the state language.

"On the other hand," said the president, "let's not forget that we are Ukrainians."

The president's remarks came a week after Russia's ambassador to Ukraine, Ivan Aboimov, rekindled an issue that had begun to die out when he declared at a press conference in Kyiv that Russia was disturbed by the Ukrainian government's ineffective response to the events that had occurred in Lviv; he said the Russian government reserved the right to take appropriate action.

A day later, the Russian State Duma passed a resolution calling on Russian President Vladimir Putin to order his Foreign Affairs Ministry to propose measures "in connection with Ukraine's failure to fulfill the terms of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership," which has come about as a result of Kyiv pursuing a "policy of discrimination against the Russian language."

The State Duma's action brought a series of rebuttals in Kyiv. First the Verkhovna Rada issued a statement on July 21 in which it called the Russian Parliament's action "a manifestation of interference in the domestic affairs of a sovereign state" and expressed surprise that the intention of Ukrainian authorities to "secure the inalienable and natural right of Ukrainian citizens to use their native tongue is interpreted by Russian parliamentary deputies as a recurrence of ethnic discrimination policies."

That was followed by a demand from representatives of the Ukrainian National Rukh Party, the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists and the Ukrainian National Conservative Party, as well as the Prosvita

organization, that Ambassador Aboimov be declared persona non grata in Ukraine.

On July 26 Yevhen Marchuk, secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council, went on the record, albeit in rather undiplomatic fashion, when he called the recent statements by Russian representatives on the language question "stupid and absurd."

He, as President Kuchma did a day later, attempted to turn the issue on its heels by questioning the level of Ukrainian minority rights in Russia.

"It will take the Russians at least 30 years to create for the Ukrainian residents in that country at least a hundredth part of what the Russian-speaking population has in Ukraine," said Mr. Marchuk.

(Continued on page 23)

## 19 credit unions send delegates to UNCUA meeting

by Roman Stelmach

PLYMOUTH MEETING, Pa. – The Ukrainian National Credit Union Association held its annual meeting and spring conference on June 29 through July 1 in the suburbs of Philadelphia, in the historic town of Plymouth Meeting.

The gathered delegates and guests numbered over 50, representing 19 Ukrainian American credit unions, guests from Ukraine and representatives of the Credit Union National Association's Mutual Group.

The UNCUA is an association of 23 Ukrainian American credit unions in the United States that together represent over \$1.3 billion in assets. The mission of the UNCUA is to promote interest and cooperation among credit unions in the United States whose membership is of Ukrainian background; to foster the formation of new credit unions; to further the development and progress of Ukrainian American credit unions, and to carry out all central business functions for and on behalf of its member-credit unions.

Hosting the conference and annual meeting was the Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union of Philadelphia. The conference delegates were welcomed on Thursday, June 28, to the Philadelphia area with traditional Ukrainian fare. As the delegates arrived from their respective cities, they were able to restore their energy by visiting the hospitality room where familiar holubtsi, varenyky, kovbasa, and authentic Ukrainian beer were available.

(Continued on page 3)

## INSIGHT INTO THE NEWS

BY DAVID MARPLES

### **Kyiv and the power struggle in Crimea**

by David R. Marples

On May 31, the Crimean Parliament backed down on a decision to dismiss the government of the autonomous republic, thereby ending for the moment a three-week political crisis. The decision followed meetings of President Leonid Kuchma with the Premier Serhii Kunitsyn and the chairman of the regional legislature, Leonid Hrach in both Crimea and Kyiv.

Mr. Kunitsyn's problems had begun with the arrest of two Cabinet ministers on May 10 for alleged abuses of their positions: Minister of Agriculture Mykola Orlovskiy and Minister of Finance Lyudmila Denisova. The latter maintained that her detention, which was very brief, was politically motivated (Krymskaya Pravda, May 16). According to Mr. Kunitsyn's account, the Crimean government had committed itself to a business deal worth 120 million hryv with an e-mail agreement. Ms. Denisova refused to be bound by this agreement, which included the Black Sea Ban of Reconstruction and the Slavyanskiy Bank and took place when Mikhaïl Vitkov was the minister of finance. As a result of the Ms. Denisova's refusal to be bound by an agreement of a previous government, she has received death threats (these are not uncommon in Crimea; in February 1998, Aleksandr Safontsev, the first deputy prime minister of the autonomous republic, was assassinated when a bomb exploded near his car) and her action alienated certain business circles in the region. Mr. Kunitsyn also refused to be bound by the financial deals made by his predecessors.

Clearly a sustained assault on the regional government was under way. On May 24, the Crimean Parliament, headed by the Communist Party leader Mr. Hrach since May 1998, voted to dismiss the Kunitsyn government by a vote of 68-20, thereby attaining more than the two-thirds majority required by the Constitution of Ukraine.

In the murky world of Crimean politics, it is not always easy to discern the motives behind events, but in this case a power struggle has clearly been under way for some time. Mr. Kunitsyn has been prime minister of the autonomous republic for just over two years. Formerly he was the mayor of Krasnoperekopsk and the leader of the National Democratic Party (NDP), which, after the Communist Party, was the largest political faction on the peninsula. The appointment of Mr. Kunitsyn was clearly a compromise: Mr. Hrach, a powerful figure in the Communist Party of Ukraine, agreed to the appointment in consultation with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma in order to ensure his own appointment as Parliament chairman. President Kuchma evidently was content to play off the two Crimean politicians rather than see a united front of the legislature and government that might be directed against Kyiv.

At that time, the summer of 1998, the economic situation in Crimea was catastrophic, with long backlogs for wage

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payments and a decline in living standards that considerably exceeded those in Ukraine as a whole. The decline in industrial output, for example, was 10 times worse than in Ukraine. Mr. Kunitsyn, while hardly a radical reformer, was at least well-disposed toward Kyiv and announced his intention to weed out corruption, which has plagued the economy of Crimea, where Russian business circles have long held extensive property and holdings, and which remains the prime vacation spot for the Russian business and political elite. In practice, however, the two sides have constantly fought for supremacy over the past two years and their actions mirror those of the early period of Crimean politics within post-independence Ukraine.

At stake ultimately is Crimea's position within Ukraine and the rights of the Ukrainian president. Neither the position of republican prime minister nor that of Parliament chairman has been stable over the past nine years. In January 1994, Yuri Meshkov, leader of the Russia Bloc, was elected the first president of Crimea and immediately declared his intent to hold a local referendum on independence and to transfer the peninsula to the Russian ruble zone. His party subsequently gained a majority in the Crimean Parliament, but the president's high-handedness soon led to a conflict with Parliament Chairman Sergei Tsekov.

In January 1995, with encouragement of some deputies in the Russian Duma, Crimea declared economic sovereignty, prompting the Kuchma government to take prompt action to restore the status quo. On March 17, 1995, Kyiv annulled the Constitution of Crimea and by the end of March Crimea was brought under the direct rule of the Ukrainian government, pending the adoption of a new Constitution acceptable to the political leadership in the Ukrainian capital. In June 1995 the troublesome Mr. Tsekov was replaced as parliamentary leader by a more conciliatory figure, Yevhen Supruniuk.

The 1994-1995 crisis was made more complex by the gradual return of the Crimean Tatars, whose descendants had been deported by the Stalin regime at the end of the World War II, but who now constitute more than 12 percent of the 2.2 million population of the peninsula. They tended to be more supportive of the Ukrainian government and opposed to Russian influence on the peninsula. The crisis was also made more complicated by the negotiations between Russia and Ukraine over the status of the port of Sevastopol and the future of the Black Sea fleet.

The signing of a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between Russia and Ukraine in 1997, by which Russia agreed to recognize the existing territorial boundaries of Ukraine, including the Crimean peninsula ceded to Ukraine in 1954, greatly eased the situation and provided Kyiv with more room for maneuvering. It did, however, leave behind a power vacuum and a complex sharing of responsibility between Parliament and the local government. Even prior to the Kunitsyn-Hrach conflict, there was open confrontation. Thus, in early 1997, the Parliament tried to remove the government from office, but President Kuchma

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### *Ukraine, Russia mark Navy Day*

SEVASTOPOL – The Russian and Ukrainian fleets on July 30 marked Navy Day in the Black Sea port of Sevastopol. The celebration was attended by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, former Russian Prime Ministers Yevgenii Primakov and Viktor Chernomyrdin, Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov, and Russian and Ukrainian admirals. Navy Day is celebrated on the last Sunday in July in Russia and on August 1 in Ukraine. President Kuchma said he participated in the celebration to “reaffirm Ukraine's course toward constructive, peaceful and friendly measures with regard to Russia,” the Associated Press reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### *Luzhkov signs agreements with Crimeans*

SEVASTOPOL – During his visit to Sevastopol, Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov signed a cooperation agreement with Crimean authorities that provides for expanding Russian tourism to Crimea and boosting cultural exchanges and various joint business projects. In a separate document, Mr. Luzhkov and Crimean authorities set up a company to build a railroad and automobile bridge over the Kerch Strait, which separates Crimea from Russia and is only some 6 kilometers wide at its narrowest point. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### *Memorial is unveiled in Katyn*

KATYN – Polish Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek and Russian Vice Prime Minister Viktor Khristenko on July 28 attended the opening of a memorial cemetery at Katyn, in Russia's Smolensk Oblast, where in 1940 the Soviet NKVD executed some 4,500 Polish officers taken prisoner the previous year. Mr. Buzek called for reconciliation between the two nations. He acknowledged that a whole generation of Poles regard Katyn as a symbol of genocide, but stressed that “today we have a great chance to create a common history without hate and lies,” the DPA news service reported. Mr. Khristenko noted that although tragedies divide nations, “they can also unite them.” The ceremony was attended by some 800 relatives of the slain officers. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### *Kuchma decrees Internet development*

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has signed a decree on the development of the Internet in Ukraine, Interfax reported on July 31. The order obliges the government to provide Internet connections for scientific organizations, educational and cultural institutions, and a wider segment of the population. The government is also to draft a bill on the protection of intellectual property and copyright on the web. The decree

stipulates that by the end of 2000 the government must create websites for all central and local executive power bodies, as well as for leading scientific and educational institutions in Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### *Ukrainian children to travel free by train*

KYIV – The State Department of Railroad Transportation has announced that all children under age 16 may travel by train free of charge beginning on August 1, Interfax reported. Under previous regulations, children under 10 had to pay only half fare, while all those over the age of 10 paid the full price. A department official told the agency that free train trips for children will be maintained until “parents are able to pay on their own” for them. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### *Kuchma displeased with energy policy*

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on July 27 criticized Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko's Cabinet for mismanaging the energy and fuel sector in Ukraine. “I am not happy with the government's performance, although this does not mean with the prime minister. But changes are necessary, and if Yushchenko does not understand this, it is his problem, not mine,” Interfax quoted Mr. Kuchma as saying. Earlier the same day, President Kuchma criticized Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who is in charge of the energy and fuel sector, for signing a deal on gas deliveries from Turkmenistan. Mr. Yushchenko explained that Ms. Tymoshenko only “initialed” a document on conditions of Turkmen gas supplies, adding that the document has not yet acquired legal force. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### *Tymoshenko says she will not resign*

KYIV – Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko told journalists that she “fully agrees” with President Leonid Kuchma's opinion that the price of Turkmen gas could be lower than that on which she agreed during her visit to Ashgabat, Interfax reported. She noted, however, that the gas transportation costs will not be as high as suggested by the president, adding that Ukrainian consumers will be able to buy 1,000 cubic meters of Turkmen gas for some \$50. Ms. Tymoshenko declined the suggestion that she would resign in connection with the president's criticism of the situation in the energy and fuel sector. “It is no wonder to me that there are a lot of circles dissatisfied with [my] curbs on the shadow economy in the energy sector. ... But as long as I am in my post, I will be introducing such a [high degree of] order that Ukraine will not be ashamed,” she said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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## Protesters attempt to obstruct pastoral visit by Patriarch Filaret

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Protesters from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarch (UOC-MP) attempted to obstruct the pastoral visit to Crimea on June 23-25 of the head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate (UOC-KP), Patriarch Filaret (Denysenko).

According to Keston News Service (KNS), the patriarch denies that the demonstrations disrupted his program and claims that he fulfilled everything he planned. The Crimean eparchy of the UOC-KP has several parishes but does not have a bishop and is under the direct supervision of Patriarch Filaret.

Officials of the Crimean eparchy of the rival UOC-MP have denied that they organized protests, describing them as spontaneous expressions of ordinary Church members' feelings. However, according to RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report, Archbishop Lazar of the UOC-MP eparchy in Crimea issued an appeal prior to Patriarch Filaret's visit that people protest his arrival at the airport in Symferopol. Before the patriarch's visit, posters were put up in the UOC-MP's churches in Symferopol and throughout Crimea declaring that Crimea was not a place for the "schismatic." [Patriarch Filaret once belonged to the Russian Orthodox Church and was a metropolitan of the UOC-MP, but was anathematised by the Russian Orthodox Church and labeled a "schismatic" after he was elected patriarch of the competing UOC-KP-ed.]

According to KNS, protests marked Patriarch Filaret's entire visit, with pickets gathered along his expected route. Many protesters held banners with slogans such as "Filaret – get out of Crimea" and

"Anathema to Denysenko."

Hundreds of protesters were out in force at his point of arrival, Symferopol airport, where the police had to move them further away to allow the normal work of the airport to proceed, according to KNS. Patriarch Filaret's vehicle had to leave the airport along a different road. And, according to UOC-MP sources quoted by Interfax, "Patriarch Filaret had to sneak into Sevastopol across fields."

In Sevastopol, where the patriarch had planned to visit Kherones (the site of Kyivan Rus' Grand Prince Volodymyr's baptism), meet the city authorities and bless the students of the Ukrainian Naval Institute, he visited only the Institute of Nuclear Physics.

The Rev. Paisi, secretary of the UOC-MP eparchy in Sevastopol, told KNS on July 14 in an interview in Kherones that he objected to a "pastoral visit" by the leader of a group that he said has "neither a single parish nor a parishioner" in Sevastopol. "As for Kherones," he continued, "it is not quite true that Filaret was not allowed there, or maybe quite untrue. There were simply believers who stood with banners expressing their opinion about Filaret. He probably did not want to see those people and called the director of the reserved zone [Kherones] to say that he was canceling his visit. It is a very conventional notion – 'was not allowed' – he himself did not want to come." Defending the demonstrators' actions, the Rev. Paisi added: "We also are entitled to express our feelings."

According to RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report, the press service of the UOC-KP denied that Patriarch Filaret's trip

(Continued on page 16)

## Ukraine proposes deal to settle its growing gas debt with Russia

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine has proposed to sell Russia a portion of its natural gas pipeline, as well as additional aircraft and cruise missiles, to help settle its more than \$1 billion debt for natural gas, announced Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko on August 1.

The prime minister underscored that the offer is a proposal being considered by a joint Ukrainian-Russian government committee and subject to change.

"This is one of the options being discussed," explained Mr. Yushchenko. "Of course, we welcome all discussions on this proposal, but it does not mean the issue has been settled."

A joint Ukrainian-Russian governmental committee charged by the prime ministers of both countries with resolving Kyiv's large natural gas debt to Moscow, met on August 1-2 in the Ukrainian capital with no agreement or evident progress on the Ukrainian proposal.

However, Russia has accepted Ukrainian bombers and missile carriers in the past, most recently in December of last year, when Ukraine transferred ownership of eight TU-160 missile carriers and three TU-95 MS long-range bombers, along with 600 X-22 cruise missiles in partial repayment of its ongoing debt to Russia, on which it is almost completely dependent for natural gas. That transaction was valued at \$285 million.

According to Interfax-Ukraine, Russian experts have said that the Ukrainian side is currently offering an additional three missile carriers and seven complete bombers along with four disassembled ones, as well as about 80 additional cruise missiles. The

cruise missiles are capable of carrying nuclear warheads.

Although there are few details on how the deal, if it is eventually agreed to, would affect Ukraine's natural gas pipeline, Yevhen Marchuk, secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council, indicated on July 26 that Ukraine is ready to surrender one-third of its gas artery, which supplies northern Europe with Russian natural gas. In 1999 Ukraine received some 30 billion cubic meters of natural gas from Russia as compensation for use of the Ukrainian pipeline.

Mr. Marchuk said he supports a proposal whereby Russian natural gas companies would be able to take part in privatization tenders for the pipeline. He suggested that another one-third of the pipeline would be tendered to European partners.

However, Prime Minister Yushchenko suggested that the pipeline would be handed over in a type of leasing operation with the physical pipeline remaining under Ukrainian management.

Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who is responsible for the gas and energy portfolio and who has been at loggerheads with Mr. Marchuk over her recent efforts to revamp the sector, came out firmly against the security council chief's proposal. She claimed that it is another short-term fix that does not resolve the problem of long-term Ukrainian indebtedness to Russia.

"I would not administer state property in this way," explained Ms. Tymoshenko. "And what shall we do when there is no more property? Then what shall we pay with?"

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## 19 credit unions...

(Continued from page 1)

The management staff of the Philadelphia credit union was congratulated on its fine choices of hotels and caterer.

The official opening of the annual meeting and conference occurred on Friday morning, at which time the hosting credit union's CEO and treasurer, Ihor Chyzowych, formally welcomed the delegates and guests to Philadelphia. Outgoing and re-elected UNCUA Chairperson Tamara Denysenko also greeted the delegates and President Dmytro Hryhorczuk initiated the conference by introducing the first speaker, James Byrnes.

Mr. Byrnes, of the Illinois Credit Union League Service Corporation, presented the process of instituting credit cards for smaller credit unions (\$10 million or less). This effort would require the financial support of the UNCUA with an initial investment of \$8,750.

The second speaker was Ihor Kozak, chairman of the association's Supervisory Committee, who presented the financial status of Ukrainian American credit unions for the year ended 1999.

Utilizing pie charts and a number of graphs, Mr. Kozak offered the delegates a comparative review of individual credit unions, their gross income, membership, capital, expenses and other financial data.

He underlined that Ukrainian American credit unions compare favorably with peer American credit unions. The analysis revealed that membership in Ukrainian American credit unions grew in 1999 by 18.9 percent (from 75,160 members to 79,345), while capital grew by a healthy 9.8 percent (from \$1,248,589,209 to \$1,370,024,169). Expenses in the form of community support were over \$1.7 million, well over the average annual amount of \$1 million. Thus, he noted, it appears that Ukrainian American credit unions remain as the basis for financial support to Ukrainian communities and their religious organizations.

As the delegates to the UNCUA conference are also members of the boards of their respective credit unions, the topic of board responsibilities and duties is an ongoing concern. Arthur Dinger, a compliance and information specialist from the Pennsylvania Credit Union League, presented and explained in detail the duties and responsibilities of a board member. It was noted, that although in

most instances it is an honor to be a board member, membership also attaches a great deal of liability for the operation of the credit union. Mr. Dinger provided many examples from his own experience, which elicited multiple questions and much conversation.

The day ended with a banquet and a cultural program featuring Philadelphia's Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Company. A surprise guest from Ukraine, Lida Bytchkova, provided several operatic renderings.

The banquet's keynote speaker, Dr. Mykola Zhulynskyi, vice prime minister for humanitarian affairs of Ukraine, greeted the conference on behalf of the President Leonid Kuchma and Prime Minister Viktor

Yushchenko. He noted that "... the time has arrived that the executive arm of the government has the support of the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) and that, therefore, now there is greater hope for the betterment of Ukraine's future."

Dr. Zhulynskyi ended his speech by presenting certificates of honor to Mr. Chyzowych, Mr. Hryhorczuk, Ms. Denysenko (CEO and general manager, Rochester [N.Y.] Ukrainian FCU), Dr. Bohdan Kekish (CEO, Selfreliance [N.Y.] FCU), Bohdan Watral (president and CEO, Selfreliance Ukrainian FCU, Chicago) and Vsevolod

(Continued on page 14)



Wearing sunglasses provided by the host credit union, UNCUA members indicate: "Our future is bright."

## UNA resort hosts Chemney Fun Center Camp for preschoolers



One of the joys of camp: enjoying roasted marshmallows with friends.



Campers enjoy a visit with a resident of Kelder's Farm.



Some of the medal winners at the 2000 Chemney Camp Olympics.



Ever wonder what happens after a day at camp? See above.

## Plast holds 23rd Tabir Ptashat at Soyuzivka



Roman Lewycky

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The second tour of the 2000 "Tabir Ptashat" was held here at Soyuzivka on July 2-9 with 53 preschoolers participating. The camp was directed by Tunia Bilyk-Shatynski and 22 counselors and volunteers. Dr. Chrystia Slywotzky was the camp physician, while Theresa Ben was the administrator. During the bonfire held as a finale to the week of activities, the children received camp certificates as well as gifts from the Ukrainian National Association, owner of the Soyuzivka resort. The gifts were presented by UNA National Secretary Martha Lysko, who greeted the campers and their parents, and introduced other members of the UNA General Assembly: First Vice-President Stefko Kuropas, Advisor Stephanie Hawryluk and Honorary Member Walter Sochan. The Plast camp for children age 4-6 is organized each year by the Pershi Stezhi Plast sorority by a committee that includes Neonila Sochan, Oksana Koropecykj and Mrs. Ben. The second tour of the 2000 camp was the 23rd Tabir Ptashat held at Soyuzivka.

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The week of July 9-15 at Soyuzivka was filled with the sounds of laughter of preschool children in search of the famous collie Chemney.

Chemney Fun Center Camp 2000 was in session with 31 children age 4-6 in attendance. Under the direction of Nadia Nalywayko Hrynowitz, Marianka Wasyluk and Tana Huertas, the children enjoyed a week filled with Ukrainian language, song, dance and culture.

Highlights of the camp included a pysanka demo by Cathy Bishuk, a field trip to Kelder's Farm, where children took a hay ride, fed farm animals and picked blueberries.

Campers took part in Chemney Clues (similar to the "Blues Clues" show on Nickelodeon TV). Each day three clues were presented to the children whose assignment was to guess what they would do that day. They became musicians, farmers, artists and cooks, to name a few personages. Campers also enjoyed Soyuzivka's theme nights, Hutsul and Odessa nights as well as an Olympics and a bonfire.

On a rainy Saturday, July 15, the camp was concluded with a short program of songs the children had learned during the week. Guest speakers in attendance at the program were UNA Vice-President Stefko Kuropas and UNA Advisor and Branch Secretary Stefania Hawryluk, who had gifts for all the campers from the UNA and Soyuzivka.

All the campers left with smiles on their faces and with the hope that they would return next year to once again see Chemney and the new friends they had made this year.

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For more information on this day camp for children, contact Soyuzivka, (914) 626-5641.

# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

- to promote the principles of fraternalism;
- to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and
- to provide quality financial services and products to its members.

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community.

## MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS FOR ALL DISTRICTS FROM JANUARY 1, 2000, TO JUNE 30, 2000

Number of districts	27
Number of branches	259
Enrolled new members	229
Total insurance	\$4,363,650.00
Average amount of insurance per person	\$19,055.24
Assigned quota	1250.00
Quota achieved	18.32%

UNA District	Quota 4.5%	New Members	Percentage of Quota Achieved	Total Insurance
1. Woonsocket	10	13	130.00%	\$393,000.00
2. Various	50	49	98.00%	\$954,000.00
3. Buffalo	40	18	45.00%	\$433,000.00
4. Shamokin	45	13	28.89%	\$155,000.00
5. Montreal	25	7	28.00%	\$35,000.00
6. Connecticut District	35	9	25.71%	\$213,000.00
7. Albany	40	10	25.00%	\$65,000.00
8. Wilkes Barre	20	4	20.00%	\$35,000.00
9. Central	10	2	20.00%	\$10,000.00
10. New York	95	17	17.89%	\$167,000.00
11. Northern New Jersey	165	29	17.58%	\$1,157,650.00
12. Baltimore	20	3	15.00%	\$10,000.00
13. Syracuse	35	5	14.29%	\$105,000.00
14. Central New Jersey	45	6	13.33%	\$103,000.00
15. Allentown	30	4	13.33%	\$80,000.00
16. Pittsburgh	70	8	11.43%	\$55,000.00
17. Chicago	95	9	9.47%	\$126,000.00
18. Cleveland	60	5	8.33%	\$21,000.00
19. Philadelphia	135	11	8.15%	\$203,000.00
20. Detroit	80	6	7.50%	\$38,000.00
21. Rochester	40	1	2.50%	\$5,000.00
22. Youngstown	10	0	0.00%	\$0.00
23. Winnipeg	10	0	0.00%	\$0.00
24. Toronto	50	0	0.00%	\$0.00
25. Niagara	15	0	0.00%	\$0.00
26. Minneapolis	10	0	0.00%	\$0.00
27. Boston	10	0	0.00%	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>18.32%</b>	<b>\$4,363,650.00</b>

## BEST ORGANIZERS BY MEMBERSHIP FROM JANUARY 1, 2000, TO JUNE 30, 2000

Organizer (Branch)	Members Organized	Amount of Insurance	Branch Number	District
1. Pylypiak, Myron (496)	25	\$189,000.00	496	Various
2. Hawryluk, Joseph (360)	18	\$433,000.00	360	Buffalo
3. Koczarski, Jacek (777)	15	\$325,000.00	777	Various
4. Hardink, Leon (206)	12	\$390,000.00	206	Woonsocket
5. Chabon, Joseph (242)	10	\$140,000.00	242	Shamokin
6. Oscislawski, Eugene (234)	9	\$256,000.00	234	Northern New Jersey
7. Staruch, Longin (371)	5	\$141,000.00	371	Northern New Jersey
8. Paschuk, Larisa R. (325)	6	\$60,000.00	325	New York
9. Worobec, Andre (168,076)	6	\$520,000.00	076	Northern New Jersey
10. Bachynsky, Barbara (184)	5	\$83,000.00	184	New York
11. Hawryluk, Stephanie (088)	5	\$25,000.00	088	Albany
12. Banit, Vira (473)	4	\$20,000.00	473	Montreal
13. Ukrainian National Association	4	\$90,000.00	777	Various
14. Diakiwsky, Nicholas (161)	3	\$25,000.00	161	Pittsburgh
15. Kapral, Mary (112)	3	\$11,000.00	112	Cleveland
16. Kotch, Joyce (039)	3	\$75,000.00	039	Syracuse
17. Kozak, Christine (777,155)	3	\$115,000.00	777	Various
18. Liteplo, Olga (361)	3	\$9,000.00	361	New York
19. Matiash, Eli (120)	3	\$15,000.00	120	Pittsburgh
20. Tatarsky, Helen (094)	3	\$25,000.00	094	Detroit

## ORGANIZING RESULTS BY MEMBERSHIP FROM JANUARY 1, 2000, TO JUNE 30, 2000

Organizer (Branch)	Members Organized	Amount of Insurance	Branch Number	District
1. Pylypiak, Myron (496)	25	\$189,000.00	496	Various
2. Hawryluk, Joseph (360)	18	\$433,000.00	360	Buffalo
3. Koczarski, Jacek (777)	15	\$325,000.00	777	Various
4. Hardink, Leon (206)	12	\$390,000.00	206	Woonsocket
5. Chabon, Joseph (242)	10	\$140,000.00	242	Shamokin
6. Oscislawski, Eugene (234)	9	\$256,650.00	234	Northern New Jersey
7. Staruch, Longin (371)	7	\$141,000.00	371	Northern New Jersey
8. Paschuk, Larisa R. (325)	6	\$60,000.00	325	New York
9. Worobec, Andre (168,076)	6	\$520,000.00	076	Northern New Jersey
10. Bachynsky, Barbara (184)	5	\$83,000.00	184	New York
11. Hawryluk, Stephanie (088)	5	\$25,000.00	088	Albany
12. Banit, Vira (473)	4	\$20,000.00	473	Montreal
13. Ukrainian National Association	4	\$90,000.00	777	Various
14. Diakiwsky, Nicholas (161)	3	\$25,000.00	161	Pittsburgh
15. Kapral, Mary (112)	3	\$11,000.00	112	Cleveland
16. Kotch, Joyce (039)	3	\$75,000.00	039	Syracuse
17. Kozak, Christine (777,155)	3	\$115,000.00	777	Various
18. Liteplo, Olga (361)	3	\$9,000.00	361	New York
19. Matiash, Eli (120)	3	\$15,000.00	120	Pittsburgh
20. Tatarsky, Helen (094)	3	\$25,000.00	094	Detroit
21. Bilyk, Michael (323)	2	\$10,000.00	323	Central
22. Boland, Genet (409)	2	\$25,000.00	409	Wilks Barre
23. Fenchak, Paul (320)	2	\$5,000.00	320	Baltimore
24. Haras, Anna (047)	2	\$20,000.00	047	Allentown
25. Hentosh, Marguerite (305)	2	\$10,000.00	305	Shamokin
26. Horbaty, Gloria (414)	2	\$50,000.00	414	Connecticut District
27. Karachewsky, Helen (221)	2	\$8,000.00	221	Chicago
28. Krywulych, Walter (266)	2	\$20,000.00	266	Albany
29. Kujdych, Ivan (331)	2	\$35,000.00	331	Philadelphia
30. Kuzio, Myron (277)	2	\$123,000.00	277	Connecticut District
31. Maruszczak, Olga (082)	2	\$10,000.00	082	Detroit
32. Miliinichik, Janice (147)	2	\$60,000.00	147	Allentown
33. Moroz, Tekla (465)	2	\$10,000.00	465	Montreal
34. Napora, Vera (291)	2	\$10,000.00	291	Cleveland
35. Nazarewycz, Irene (352)	2	\$8,000.00	352	Philadelphia
36. Shewchuk, Paul (013)	2	\$10,000.00	013	Albany
37. Skyba, Andrij (399)	2	\$50,000.00	399	Chicago
38. Stuban, Frank (067)	2	\$15,000.00	067	Connecticut District
39. Trytjak, Oksana (025)	2	\$10,000.00	025	Northern New Jersey
40. Vasylyk, Galina (399)	2	\$50,000.00	399	Chicago
41. Zaviysky, Yaroslav (155)	2	\$20,000.00	155	Central New Jersey
42. Banach, Joseph (171)	1	\$25,000.00	171	Northern New Jersey
43. Bardell, Janet (241)	1	\$3,000.00	241	Woonsocket
44. Bilchuk, Nina (777)	1	\$100,000.00	777	Various
45. Bilyk, Wolodymyr (170)	1	\$5,000.00	170	Northern New Jersey
46. Brodyn, Christine (027)	1	\$100,000.00	027	Northern New Jersey
47. Butrej, Tymko (164)	1	\$5,000.00	164	Wilkes Barre
48. Choma, Mychajlo (290)	1	\$5,000.00	290	Baltimore
49. Cybriwsky, Ilko (417)	1	\$10,000.00	417	Various
50. Doboszczak, Bohdan (059)	1	\$10,000.00	059	Connecticut District
51. Dolnycky, Alexandra (434)	1	\$5,000.00	434	Montreal
52. Duda, Teodor (163)	1	\$10,000.00	163	Philadelphia
53. Felenchak, Tracie M. (271)	1	\$25,000.00	271	Syracuse
54. Fil, Nicholas (013)	1	\$10,000.00	013	Albany
55. Fuga, Paul (269)	1	\$5,000.00	269	Central New Jersey
56. Hawrylcwi, Peter (253)	1	\$5,000.00	253	Connecticut District
57. Hawryshkiw, George (283)	1	\$5,000.00	283	Syracuse
58. Hawrysz, Stefan (083)	1	\$20,000.00	083	Philadelphia
59. Hentisz-Brechun, Olena (489)	1	\$5,000.00	489	New York
60. Jewtushenko, Wasyl (422)	1	\$100,000.00	422	Philadelphia
61. Kotlar, Julian (042)	1	\$5,000.00	042	Northern New Jersey
62. Kufra, Genevieve (171)	1	\$100,000.00	171	Northern New Jersey
63. Kulczycky, Maria (008)	1	\$5,000.00	008	New York
64. Kuropas, Stefko (176)	1	\$5,000.00	176	Chicago
65. Lawrin, Alexandra (175)	1	\$3,000.00	175	Detroit
66. Lazirko, Iouri (134)	1	\$20,000.00	134	Northern New Jersey
67. Martynenko, Mycajlo (245)	1	\$10,000.00	245	Philadelphia
68. Odezynskyj, Bohdan (216)	1	\$5,000.00	216	Philadelphia
69. Petrucio, Mary (078)	1	\$5,000.00	078	Shamokin
70. Petryk, Fedir (362)	1	\$10,000.00	362	Philadelphia
71. Pishko, Olga (338)	1	\$10,000.00	338	Pittsburgh
72. Pytel, Petro (139)	1	\$3,000.00	139	Chicago
73. Salabay, Nadia (155)	1	\$3,000.00	155	Northern New Jersey
74. Skibickyj, Alex (285)	1	\$5,000.00	285	Rochester
75. Stefuryyn, Gizelia (169)	1	\$5,000.00	169	Wilks Barre
76. Streletsky, Lubov (010)	1	\$5,000.00	010	Philadelphia
77. Trojan, Myroslaw (067)	1	\$10,000.00	067	Connecticut District
78. Turko, Michael (063)	1	\$5,000.00	063	Pittsburgh
79. Woch, Steven (777)	1	\$175,000.00	777	Various
80. Yurkiw, George (130)	1	\$5,000.00	130	New York
81. Zajac, Roman I. (472)	1	\$10,000.00	472	Chicago
<b>Total</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>\$4,363,650.00</b>		

## BEST ORGANIZERS BY PREMIUM AMOUNT FROM JANUARY 1, 2000, TO JUNE 30, 2000

Organizer (Branch)	Members Organized	Annual Premium	Amount of Insurance	Branch Number	District
1. Hawryluk, Joseph (360)	18	\$6,342.46	\$433,000.00	360	Buffalo
2. Pylypiak, Myron (496)	25	\$5,895.84	\$189,000.00	496	Various
3. Bachynsky, Barbara (184)	5	\$4,056.80	\$83,000.00	184	New York
4. Staruch, Longin (371)	7	\$2,401.33	\$141,000.00	371	Northern New Jersey
5. Fuga, Paul (269)	1	\$2,265.00	\$5,000.00	269	Central New Jersey
6. Karachewsky, Helen (221)	2	\$2,120.00	\$8,000.00	221	Chicago
7. Oscislawski, Eugene (234)	9	\$1,950.03	\$256,650.00	234	Northern New Jersey
8. Worobec, Andre (168,076)	6	\$1,683.70	\$520,000.00	076	Northern New Jersey
9. Ukrainian National Association	4	\$1,076.45	\$90,000.00	777	Various
10. Banit, Vira (473)	4	\$1,022.15	\$20,000.00	473	Montreal



Insure  
and be sure.  
**Join the UNA!**

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

# Save Verkhovyna

Just two weeks ago we published a vibrant centerfold featuring a photo report from the 25th Ukrainian Youth Festival at Verkhovyna, an event that has become a time-honored tradition – if not the centerpiece – of Ukrainian summertime events.

But the bad news is that many fear this year's festival may be the last at the 142-acre resort located in Glen Spey, N.Y., between the Pocono mountains of Pennsylvania and the Catskills of New York state near the Delaware River. The reason: Pennsylvania's insurance authorities have ordered the resort's owner, the Ukrainian Fraternal Association, to sell Verkhovyna. The UFA is a society much like the Ukrainian National Association (our publisher) that sells life insurance to its members, provides diverse fraternal benefits to those members, and supports myriad endeavors whose benefits accrue to the entire Ukrainian community.

The UFA's Supreme Assembly unanimously voted in June to sell the property for \$925,000 to the Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation. The UACF has pledged not only to save Verkhovyna – which is known for hosting Roma Pryma Bohachevsky's dance workshops and Sitch sports camps – but to develop the property further for the benefit of all Ukrainians. Among the options being discussed are seniors' housing, halls for seminars and conferences, and facilities for hunting, fishing and camping.

As of mid-July the UACF had raised \$541,000; during Verkhovyna's Youth Festival – within the span of two hours – another \$50,000 in donations and pledges was collected. Nearly \$350,000 remains to be raised. Time is of the essence, as the UACF expects to soon go into contract with the UFA, after which the closing will be scheduled. If the UACF does not succeed in raising the necessary funds, the UFA will have to sell Verkhovyna to the highest bidder – and reports indicate that several have already expressed interest in this picturesque site.

"What we're buying here is not so much the land, but the tradition – including 25 years of Verkhovyna Youth Festivals," UACF President Eugene Tataryn told *The Weekly*, noting that the effort to save Verkhovyna has attracted Ukrainians of all ages.

One of our readers, recent graduate and aspiring film-maker Damyán Kolodiy, 23, formerly of Maplewood, N.J., and currently of Boston, sent out a public appeal via the Internet. After laying out the facts about Verkhovyna's predicament, Mr. Kolodiy added: "It would be a shame to lose such a place ... it has two churches, the streets are Ukrainian-named, the whole place is like a little 'selo' [village]. ... There's just no way this stuff could ever be replicated once it's lost! I don't know if you've ever been up there, but the scenery is beautiful and it's very reminiscent of the Karpaty. ..."

Similar sentiments were voiced by singer Taras Petrynenko from Ukraine during his appearance at the Youth Festival. "Verkhovyna is a piece of Ukraine on the territory of the United States. If we lose Verkhovyna, we lose a part of Ukraine," he stated.

Indeed, Verkhovyna should be saved for the Ukrainian community. We urge our readers to lend a hand with financial and moral support for this project.

Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to: Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation, P.O. Box 418, Glen Spey, NY 12737. For information phone (914) 858-3805, or visit the website at <http://www.uacf.net>.

August  
11  
1985

## Turning the pages back...

Fifteen years ago, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, the Senate and House of Representatives both passed a resolution commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Helsinki Accords and reaffirming the human rights principles

and humanitarian provisions of the international agreement signed by 35 states, including the United States and the Soviet Union. The *Weekly* reported on August 11, 1985, that Senate Joint Resolution 180 was passed by the Senate on July 29 and by the House the next day. It was introduced in the Senate by Helsinki Commission Chairman Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.) and in the House by Helsinki Commission Co-Chairman Steny Hoyer (D-Md.).

The resolution noted that "the Helsinki process has evolved into an important tool of East-West human rights diplomacy and continues to serve as a beacon of hope to victims of oppression in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe."

It also said that "the Soviet Union displays contempt for basic civil and political rights, such as freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief, [and] confines in prisons, labor camps and psychiatric institutions or internally exiles hundreds of citizens who have sought to know and act upon their rights, among them 37 imprisoned members of Helsinki monitoring groups."

The joint resolution resolved the following:

- the Congress strongly reaffirms the human rights principles and humanitarian provisions of the Final Act and the Madrid Concluding Document;
- the Congress recognizes and condemns continued East Bloc violations of international obligations under the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, the Helsinki Final Act, the Madrid Concluding Document, and other relevant international instruments;
- the Congress requests that the president of the United States direct the U.S. Department of State to convey to the Soviet Union and its allies the United States' deep and abiding human rights concerns;
- the Congress urges the president to direct the U.S. Department of State to take full advantage of the opportunities provided by all upcoming meetings of Helsinki signatory states to call the Soviet Union and its allies to account for ongoing human rights violations and to work constructively with the governments of the other Western democracies to promote human rights progress in the Eastern signatory states; and
- the Congress calls upon the president to use every opportunity to stress the inherent link – explicitly stated in the Helsinki Final Act and the Madrid Concluding Document – between respect for human rights and the achievement of lasting peace.

Source: "Congress passes resolution affirming Helsinki Accords' continued value," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, August 11, 1985, Vol. LIII, No. 32.

## COMMENTARY

# Ukraine's history over the last quarter century is inextricably linked with the Helsinki Final Act

by Orest Deychakiwsky

This month marks the 25th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, which launched what has become known as the Helsinki or OSCE process, a critical vehicle for advancing human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Europe.

On August 1, 1975, 35 countries signed this milestone agreement consisting of three sections known as "baskets," containing a broad range of commitments designed to enhance security and cooperation in Europe, and including language on human rights.

History is filled with irony. At the time of its signing, the Helsinki Final Act was harshly criticized, perhaps with good reason, by some skeptics, including some Ukrainians in the diaspora, as endorsing the political status quo of Soviet control over half of Europe. Instead, the Helsinki Final Act, with its emphasis on human rights, and the process it engendered, turned out to be a key factor in the demise of the Soviet empire – a blessing in disguise.

Former President Gerald R. Ford, who signed the agreement for the United States, has stated that "the Helsinki Final Act was the final nail in the coffin of Marxism and communism in many, many countries, and helped to bring about the change to a more democratic political system and a change to a more market-oriented economic system."

Ukraine's recent history has been intertwined with the Helsinki process. There is a thread that links the signing of the Helsinki Final Act with Ukraine's independence. Ukrainians, who in the late 1970s and 1980s took the Helsinki Final Act seriously and formed the Ukrainian Helsinki Monitoring Group, used the accords' human rights standards to press the Soviet government to live up to its freely undertaken commitments under the Helsinki Final Act. Similar groups were formed in other Soviet republics and Warsaw Pact countries. For their efforts, members of these groups were repressed, imprisoned or exiled. The Ukrainian group – which stressed not only human rights but self-determination – not surprisingly came in for especially harsh treatment from Moscow. The members of the Ukrainian group suffered tremendously for their courage and commitment to the ideals of Helsinki, and some – notably Vasyl Stus, Oleksa

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(Continued on page 15)

Tykhyy, Yuriy Lytvyn and Valeriy Marchenko – sacrificed their lives, dying in Soviet prison camps in the mid-1980s.

Despite these harsh repressions, the members of the Ukrainian Public Group to Promote Implementation of the Helsinki Accords (the monitoring group's formal name) laid the groundwork for the events that were to follow which culminated in Ukraine's independence. With the dawn of Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika, veterans of the Helsinki movement such as Vyacheslav Chornovil, Lev Lukianenko and the Horyn brothers became the leading members first of the Ukrainian Helsinki Union, then of Rukh – and there can be no question that the major force in forging an independent Ukraine committed to democracy was Rukh.

There is a clear link between the Helsinki movement in Ukraine, with its emphasis on human rights, self-determination and democracy, and Ukraine's independence. The human rights ideals for which the Helsinki monitors – including the Ukrainian monitors – fought, and the persistent Western pressure on their behalf, became a springboard for the democracy and independence movements in the captive nations, including Ukraine.

An important aspect of the Helsinki process was Western – and especially American – support for Helsinki principles and willingness to raise substantial and pervasive violations of these principles by the Soviet Union and other recalcitrant signatory states. A vital role was played by the U.S. Helsinki Commission, a U.S. government agency composed mostly of members of Congress, working closely with East European ethnic, Soviet Jewry, and human and religious rights advocacy groups. Indeed, it was Congress and the Helsinki Commission, often citing the Helsinki Final Act and subsequent OSCE documents, that ensured Ukraine was not forgotten throughout the 1970s and 1980s.

There were numerous efforts in the U.S. Congress to call attention to the plight of Ukraine, including various hearings featuring Ukrainian dissidents such as Petro Grigorenko, Nadia Svitlychna, Nina Strokata and Danylo Shumuk, on topics such as human rights in Ukraine; numerous resolutions, statements and letters by congressmen on behalf of individual Ukrainian political prisoners, especially the Helsinki monitors concerning the plight of the banned Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Churches. Russification and the suppression of

## Moscow objects to OCSE's focus on democratization

RFE/RL Newslines

MOSCOW – In a statement released on the 25th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, Russia's Foreign Affairs Ministry said that "attempts to turn the OSCE [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe] exclusively into an instrument of democratization of individual states will only bring it to a stalemate,"

ITAR-TASS reported on August 1.

Such efforts, the ministry said, deflect from the Helsinki principles and "may eventually lead to the organization's degradation." Moscow, it continued, favors a balanced approach, one that will give "equal attention to all the changes and security aspects: military-political, economic and humanitarian."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Ukraine must be re-Ukrainianized

Dear Editor:

The Ukrainian Weekly editorial of July 2 stated: "That Ukrainian authorities in independent, democratically inclined Ukraine would issue any ban on the use of the Russian language is unconstitutional."

Before your editorials offer facile opinions as to the lack of constitutionality, or make statements that "language bans are inconceivable," the contemporary situation in Ukraine requires a more finely tuned appreciation of the legal and societal issues at stake. Therefore, it would benefit all those truly interested in this matter to probe more deeply as to why and where conflicts of linguistic rights might arise.

A difference of opinions as to language status would almost inevitably arise in a situation wherein the Constitution of Ukraine – although stating that the "official" language is Ukrainian – also guarantees the "free development" of the Russian languages. What does this mean? What happens when rights appear to be mutually exclusive? It is here that a constitutional court must meet the challenge of interpreting rights and placing them in a hierarchy, while seeking to maintain a societal equilibrium and social peace.

The phraseology of the Constitution of Ukraine was the outcome of exhausting and protracted nightlong political compromises just prior to June 28, 1996 – a date now celebrated as a national holiday in Ukraine. Yet, a day of legal reckoning had to come when competing linguistic categorizations would somehow have to be subordinated to the state's consciousness of its own nationhood. In that context a nation's language is primordial to its identity, and – failing an official duality – only one set, Ukrainian, can satisfy the historical aspirations of the Ukrainian state, no matter how liberal and accommodating may be the allowances for other tongues.

Somebody must firmly grasp the nettle and with recognized authority determine the parameters of language use in Ukraine. In this case it is the privilege and duty of Ukraine's Constitutional Court to clearly pronounce itself on linguistic restrictions and their legitimate scope. The said court had exercised such authority in the recent past as to the language of schooling in Ukraine.

Many nations and societies have managed to function with multilingual groupings, without losing their national identity or statehood. Belgium and Switzerland are two European examples. In North America two approaches have been taken: (1) the American generally English-only "melting pot," and (2) Canada's official federal duality of French and English.

However, even in Canada, the predominantly French-speaking Province of Quebec – for historical and "survivalist" reasons – has successfully "evened the playing field" via legal affirmative action. (For example, Quebec's Bill 101 required that exterior commercial signs be in French and at least twice the size of English ones; also, immigrants have to enroll their children in French schools, etc.) Thus, in Quebec a minority (official) language – French – has managed to bolster its status and ensure its continuity for a quarter century by resorting to what may at first appear to have been the drastic curtailments of the linguistic rights of others. However, by this gov-

ernmental action the "Francophonie" of Quebec has survived (unlike Louisiana) and even flourished, with general acceptance and respect from most English speaking co-citizens and other ethnic communities.

From a comparative point of view, there is good cause at this time to resort to similar affirmative action to protect, enhance and promote the Ukrainian language in Ukraine. This cannot be criticized as a misguided policy in the context of the flood of Russification in contemporary Ukraine, nor could it be reproached as being "unfair" to Russophones – especially given the disproportionate mass media market saturation by Ukraine's northern neighbor. There is ample evidence of the pervasive influence of Russian culture and of the inordinate dominance of that country's music and language in Ukraine today. To a Western traveler like myself this has been evident not just in the nation's capital, Kyiv (and eastern and southern oblasts), but even in the city of Lviv itself, considered to be the bastion of Ukrainian-speaking Halychyna.

Historically, Russia forcefully asserted its hegemony, chauvinism, tyranny, economic dominance and colonial exploitation over Ukraine. Is there cause now – in an independent Ukraine – to perpetuate such humiliations in the name of linguistic "free development?"

Surely there can and must be reasonable limitations upon the scope of the "free development" of Russian (and other) languages spoken by Ukraine's citizens. Also, non-Ukrainian languages cannot without challenge, or by indifference and inertia, take precedence in ambiguous situations – since to do so would then totally nullify or make an absurd parody of the "official" status Article 10 of Ukraine's Constitution accords to the Ukrainian language.

Having been in Ukraine six times since 1995, I personally have witnessed numerous incongruities where Russian usage overwhelms the Ukrainian identity. In 1999 no Ukrainian video cassettes were available in Lviv's main bookstores, whereas Russian videos proliferated, and this "scarcity" is inconsistent with the relatively ready availability of our videos here in North America. My "favorite" Russian-only technology experience was being told in Lviv last summer that Ukrainian computer CD-ROMS are "unavailable" – "and never will be."

It is high time, in the year 2000, to re-Ukrainianize Ukraine, and the recent initiatives taken to that effect in the Lviv city and oblast are neither retrograde nor chauvinistic, but consistent with other nations' standards, as well as a symbolic step in the right direction. To now question the "constitutionality" of such a step in contemporary Ukraine is to perpetuate the folly of yielding willingly to the massive Russian onslaught in the press, television, radio and tourist culture (e.g., "matrioshkas" at souvenir kiosks). Ukraine cannot today afford the luxury of such daily erosions of its own language and culture if it truly respects its unique history and values the self-esteem needed for its future as a nation.

Consistent with the above, in all fairness, let us ask how many monuments exist today in Moscow or Warsaw to honor Ukrainian literary icons (e.g., Shevchenko, Franko, Ukrainka), whereas a multitude of Pushkins and Mickewiczses undisturbedly grace the centers of Ukrainian towns – in addition to the numerous Lenins, even in Kyiv at

(Continued on page 15)

## Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



## A gripping tale of terror

Since I don't read Russian, my exposure to Soviet fiction has been limited to translations: "Doctor Zhivago" by Boris Pasternak, "Quiet Flows the Don" by Mikhail Sholokhov, "One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich" by Aleksander Solzhenitsyn, "How the Steel Was Tempered" by Nikolai Ostrovsky. If I recall, none of them devoted much ink to Ukraine's famine.

At the same time, I have read and heard numerous accounts of Stalin's forced famine in Ukraine, especially when I served as a public member of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine. These chronicles and narratives broadened my knowledge of the horrors visited on Ukraine by Stalin's great terror, but not my comprehension. How could people have been so incredibly cruel and heartless?

Then I read "Forever Flowing," a tale of Soviet life under Stalin, and I began to understand. Written by Vasily Grossman, the novel recounts the story of Ivan Grigoryevich, a man freed after 30 years in the gulag. It's a compelling narrative of human betrayal, torment and survival.

Soon after his release, Ivan visits his mindless bureaucrat of a cousin who had never denounced him but hadn't written to Ivan in the camps either. It was a cordial but tense meeting as the relative, who lived rather well by Soviet standards, attempted to acquit himself. He felt guilty and found it necessary "to rid himself of, to repress in himself, that ancient worm of the intellectual, his bad conscience, his sense of illegitimacy of the miraculous thing that had happened to him. He didn't want to confess and repent. He wanted to justify and brag." Put off, Ivan left his cousin as quickly as he could.

Later, in Leningrad, Ivan runs into Pinegin, a prosperous old friend, who, unbeknownst to Ivan, had actually denounced him. The meeting is brief and both go on their way, but Pinegin is later angry with himself. "He hadn't the slightest desire to think about that sinister sensation which had slumbered inside him for decades on end and had now suddenly awakened. For him the heart of the matter was not the evil deed, but the idiotic luck of meeting a human being he had ruined. Had they not run into each other, the feeling asleep inside him would never have awakened." It is not until Pinegin enters an exclusive Intourist restaurant where the waiters fawn over him and he is served sirloin that his uneasiness begins to fade.

Ivan eventually settles in a provincial town and moves in with Anna Sergeevna, a war widow who had once been chairman of a collective farm in Ukraine. It is through her eyes that he experiences the famine.

Anna explains the process. An inventory of all property was drawn up and families were informed that everything belonged to the state and they were merely put in charge of it for safekeeping. Based on their belongings, they were later identified as "kulaks." The provincial authorities determined how many "kulaks" were living in a district, and the districts then assigned proportionate shares of the total number to the individual village soviets (councils), and it was there that the lists of specific names were drawn up.

And who made up the lists? "A troika – three people," Anna declares. "Dim-witted, unenlightened people determined on their own who was to live and who was to die ... There were bribes. Accounts were settled

because of jealousy over some woman or because of ancient feuds and quarrels.

Much of the dirty work was later accomplished by local activists mobilized by the GPU. "They were all people who knew one another well and know their victims, but in carrying out this task they became dazed, stupefied." Anna continues: "they would threaten people with guns, as if they were under a spell, calling small children 'kulak bastards,' screaming 'Bloodsucker!' " And those 'bloodsuckers' were so terrified they had hardly any blood of their own left in their veins."

Ivan wonders: How was it possible for the party activists to become so brutal towards friends and acquaintances, people they had known for years? Anna explains: They convinced themselves that the so-called kulaks "were pariahs, untouchables, vermin ... cattle, swine, loathsome, repulsive; they had no souls; they stank; they all had venereal diseases; they were enemies of the people and exploited the labor of others ..." The activists "would have killed their own fathers and mothers simply in order to carry out instructions."

Once collectivization was in place, the confiscation of all grain and other foodstuffs, an integral part of Stalin's genocidal plan, began, led mostly by local derelicts, district party officials, the Komsomol and, of course, the militia, the NKVD and sundry army units.

Anna goes on: "Everyone was in terror. Mothers looked at their children and began to scream in fear. They screamed as if a snake had crept into their house. And this snake was famine, starvation, death. What was to be done? The peasants had one thing on their minds – something to eat. They would suck, move their jaws and the saliva would flow and they would keep swallowing it down, but it wasn't food ... The children would cry from morning on, asking for bread."

Gradually, the children, among the first to die, stopped crying. "That is exactly how the Nazis put the Jewish children into the Nazi gas chambers, Anna told Ivan. " 'You are not allowed to live, you are all Jews!' And it was impossible to understand, grasp, comprehend. For these children were Soviet children, and those who were putting them to death were Soviet people."

Unlike the gas chambers where death came painfully but quickly, starvation was a prolonged and excruciating process, according to Anna. "In the beginning, starvation drives a person out of this house. In its first stage, he is tormented and driven as though by fire torn both in the guts and in the soul. And so he tries to escape his home. People dig up worms, collect grass, and even make the effort to break through and get to the city. Away from home, away from home! And then a day comes when the starving person crawls back into his house. And the meaning of this is that famine, starvation has won."

In the end, there was nothing. The people had died. The village was dead. And now it was as if no one had ever lived there. "Can it really be that no one will ever answer for everything that happened?" asks Anna. "That it will all be forgotten without even any words to commemorate it?"

"Forever Flowing" is available in paperback for \$16.95 from Northwestern University Press, (847) 491-5313.

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## NEWS AND VIEWS

**A secret of the prairie: St. Vladimir's College in Manitoba**

by Steven Rudyk

ROBLIN, Manitoba – We had arrived the night before and various secrets were revealed to us very quickly. The first was, that here in western Manitoba, a concert scheduled for 8 p.m., begins at 8 p.m. Not 8:05 p.m. (when we arrived), but at the scheduled hour. For us New Yorkers, it was an embarrassing surprise that the audience was in place, the lights were dimmed, and the program began on time. We had already missed the choir's rendition of "O, Canada," and "Otche Nash" (Our Father).

We went to this concert expecting a good program. As the second secret, a very talented and well-trained young men's choir, was revealed to us, we looked around and shook our heads in disbelief. This exceptional three-voice choir, under the direction of Paul Bakan, was not a professional choir. These were high school boys. The opening of the concert consisted of Ukrainian religious hymns, followed later in the program by various Ukrainian folk songs.

Our joy and amazement continued when we later found out that these young men, all of Ukrainian descent, ranged from first through fifth generation, born in Canada. These were not your garden variety New York or Toronto area Ukrainian high schoolers weaned on a steady diet of Ukrainian school on Saturday, Plast or SUM summer camps, Ukrainian music and dance classes, and, of course, Soyuzivka.

Many of these young men had learned all their Ukrainian in this wonderful prairie secret – St. Vladimir's College in Roblin, Manitoba. The former Redemptorist Seminary is now a Ukrainian Catholic boarding school for boys in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12.

I believe we "discovered" it before the masses "back East" in the United States and Canada did. This school rivals many tony and pricey prep schools available for high schoolers throughout North America. And it's Ukrainian to boot!

Its geographic location, the physical plant, the experienced and dedicated faculty, the stunning student-to-faculty ratio and the rich curriculum provide the winning learning environment we wanted for our son. And that excludes the dizzying smorgasbord of extracurricular activities that includes basketball, volleyball, golf, hockey (this is Canada, after all), fishing (ice fishing included), tae-kwan do, computers, photography and juggling – to name just a few. (And speaking of juggling, the concert I wrote about featured another first for me: a "sharavary"-clad juggler.)

A student at St. Vladimir's wastes no time commuting.

The dormitories are "down the hall" from the classrooms, the labs, the library, the dining room, the gym, the weight room, the dark room, the TV room (yes, even that), the headmaster's office, the chapel, the laundry room, the music room, etc. The old axiom, "an idle mind is the devil's workshop," is strictly non-applicable at St. Vlad's. No idle minds here, as there is no idle time. A well-planned and balanced seven days per week program takes care of that.

And, as my anxious son found out, there is a reasonable amount of time set aside for the all important boob tube and boom box, a staple of today's high schoolers. That comes with several big ifs: If ... you've done all your assigned classroom work; If ... you've completed all your assigned housekeeping chores; and finally, if ... you actually want to do the couch potato "thing" with everything else going on around you.

Back to that concert we attended. This was the program the students put on in several cities throughout Canada. (The school has its own genuine Greyhound-type bus, emblazoned with the school name and logo on the side. It's a safe and convenient way to get around for long or short trips. Two licensed drivers are available on the staff.) Ukrainian folk dancing was intertwined throughout the program, and included the traditional "Pryvit," and ended with a fiery Hopak.

We especially enjoyed hearing Mr. Bakan sing "Vziav by ya Banduru," accompanied by a trio of student "bandurysty," plus a sopilka (flute) player. A breath-taking rendition! And when was the last time you heard tsymbaly at a Ukrainian concert ... played by high schoolers? And they were quite impressive on the trembita as well. We stood for the Ukrainian national anthem sadly aware that this fine evening of entertainment was over.

Later that evening we spoke with George Iwasechko, headmaster at St. Vlad's, and some of the parents of these fine students. They all beamed with pride and the satisfaction of a job well done – well done by the faculty and staff, well done by the students. This program, coupled with the following day's graduation and awards ceremonies, were the culmination of a productive year for all involved.

Sharing in the joy was the special guest of honor and the patron of St. Vladimir's College, Metropolitan Michael Bzdel of Winnipeg, archbishop of Ukrainian Catholics in Canada. We enjoyed an enthusiastic description of his days as a student at St. Vlad's, as well as his many years on the faculty and administration.

The metropolitan is committed to making this school a successful Ukrainian Catholic school for young men for

***The former Redemptorist Seminary in Roblin is now a Ukrainian Catholic boarding school for boys in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12.***

many years to come. Some of the members of the school's board of directors shared with us their ambitious plans for its continued growth and success into the future, while maintaining those characteristics that make this school so unique.

Graduation ceremonies began the next morning with a divine liturgy during which Metropolitan Bzdel was the main celebrant. The excellent choir we enjoyed the previous night sang the responses and contributed to the richness of the service. The liturgy concluded with the distribution of diplomas to the graduates.

A banquet immediately followed. After opening ceremonies and prayer, we enjoyed a great buffet luncheon prepared by the school's own staff. (These students certainly dine very well.) We listened and applauded an array of awards presented for excellence in various subjects and activities. Winners and parents shared these happy moments.

But the most memorable part of this banquet was the traditional speeches by top graduates on behalf of their class. All were well-written, and meaningful. I will always remember the moving speech by graduate Roman Hrycyna of Toronto. The speech was rich in emotion rarely seen or heard in such a young man. All present shared tears of joy.

With the conclusion of the banquet, the graduates were free to leave for home, yet, each one of them chose to spend one more final night at St. Vlad's with their friends for life.

I'm happy that we chose St. Vladimir's for my son. This school will give him that extra advantage so necessary to succeed in the 21st century. You may wish to consider this fine school for your son as well.

More information can be obtained at the school's website, <http://www.stvlads.net>, by phoning (204) 937-2173 or faxing (204) 937-8265. As they say in those late night infomercials, act quickly, as only a limited number of openings are still available for the 2000-2001 school year.

**Eparchial Conference looks toward the new millennium**

by Christine Hayda

CHICAGO – The year 2000 has been celebrated in many forms and fashions. From gala celebrations to grand balls, from solemn services to candlelight vigils, and from festivals to fireworks, the whole world spent many years preparing for the secular technological transformation of this century. Years were spent preparing computers and perfecting electrical systems so that the transition into the 21st century would be smooth and flawless.

The Church, specifically St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Chicago, is no exception. Beginning in the fall of 1995, under the spiritual direction and initiative of Bishop Michael Wiwchar CSsR, a committee was established to bring the parishes of the diocese into the 21st century using educational conferences as the primary tool. One of the goals of the conferences was to nurture the laity with the rich spiritual and liturgical traditions of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in order to revitalize its parishes.

In the first three years the conferences were held, participants from various parishes gathered in Chicago, Detroit and Minneapolis, respectively, discussing the topics "Who Are We?", "We are the Church" and "Where Are We Going?"

These three formative years gave participants the opportunity to identify themselves and their role within the Church. The

following two years participants began building the future and preparing for the new millennium.

The fourth annual Eparchial Conference, hosted by the parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Phoenix, Ariz., began the first of a four-year series led by Bishop Nicholas Samra, auxiliary bishop of the Melkite Church in America. Invited by Bishop Wiwchar to lead the leadership conferences, Bishop Samra has been credited with the rebirth and growth of the Melkite (Byzantine) Catholic Church in America.

Bishop Samra began the four-year series "Building Leadership" by discussing how members of parishes are "builders" of their own communities. Each individual within the parish has a "building" talent – he or she may be a planner, an assessor of future needs, or an architect. Bishop Samra also described the importance of builders who, through their physical labor within the parish, make the plans and designs become a reality.

The fifth Eparchial Conference was hosted by the Nativity of the Mother of God Parish in Los Angeles and drew nearly 200 participants from the Midwest and Western United States, as well as Canada. Two months away from the new millennium, the enthusiastic participants were eager to continue plans for the new century. Nearing the threshold into the year 2000, Bishop Samra continued providing the participants with the necessary tools for

"Building Church," "Building Parish" and "Building Community."

At the dawn of the 21st century it is only appropriate that the planners, architects and builders of the parishes and communities of the St. Nicholas Diocese gather in Chicago, the seat of our eparchy for the sixth annual conference. Having spent the previous five years collaborating with dedicated laity and clergy, the process continues. Bishops Wiwchar and Samra will lead the attendees into "Building Stewardship," that is, building a foundation for the giving of time, talent and treasure.

Being a good steward in the secular sense means that one is a good caretaker, giving of his or her time or talent in caring for someone or something that is important to them. Among the laity who work in the Church, being a good steward is no different. Stewardship in the Church means that one is the caretaker of God's creation here on earth, that is, taking good care of all the gifts God has entrusted to them. Good stewards care for what is theirs and give of their time in caring for others. They also share their talent in teaching or perhaps physically working in the parish. Other good stewards also share their treasure as a way of thanking God for all that He has provided them.

Bishop Wiwchar's goal for the conference is to educate the laity and clergy within the St. Nicholas Eparchy so that they may become better stewards. Through

these conferences Bishop Wiwchar envisions a stronger and healthier Church – the foundation on which future generations in North America will continue to build upon.

For many the millennium was celebrated not only in the year 2000 but also in the year 1988. From the conversion of St. Volodymyr to Christianity in 988 to the new millennium in 2000, the faithful have been adorned by the rich heritage and traditions of the Ukrainian (Kyivan) Church. What has kept this spirit alive for so many centuries has been the stewardship of countless dedicated, devoted and true believing Christians.

In order for the Ukrainian Catholic Church to continue to flourish and grow during the new millennium, Bishop Wiwchar and the clergy of the St. Nicholas Diocese invite all planners, architects and builders, not only of the St. Nicholas Eparchy, but from across North America to become participants of the sixth annual St. Nicholas Eparchial Conference – "Building Stewardship."

Those who wish to be participants in the St. Nicholas Eparchial Conference, to be held October 6-8 at the Chicago Marriott O'Hare, may contact: Motria Durbak, Gerda Bardygula or Christine Hayda at (773) 625-4833. Information may also be obtained by contacting the St. Nicholas Eparchial Office, (773) 276-5080, or by visiting the St. Nicholas Eparchial website at [www.stnicholaseparchy.org](http://www.stnicholaseparchy.org).

## United Ukrainian American Relief Committee reports on its humanitarian aid activity for 1999

PHILADELPHIA – The annual meeting of United Ukrainian American Relief Committee Inc., took place on May 13. The board of directors discussed the UUARC's activity for the past year, especially the aid given to Ukrainians in Ukraine, as the organization's motto of "Brother to Brother" continues to be its motivating factor and the organization's raison d'être.

Following is the annual report for 1999 delivered by UUARC President Larissa Kyj.

### Economic reforms

The economic crisis in Ukraine continues, as the transition from a planned to a market-driven economy encounters obstacles. The only economic reforms to date have been macroeconomic stabilization, at a huge cost – \$10 billion of foreign aid – as well as a great deal of human suffering.

The reforms now needed to improve the plight of the Ukrainian people are micro-economic. Unfortunately, most of the businesses continue to be government-run, unprofitable, managed by corrupt government officials who have a vested interest in maintaining the status quo. A great deal of the bureaucracy remains in the hands of the "nomenklatura," who interpret each new legislation to benefit themselves; and so the bureaucrats get richer and the general populace sinks deeper into poverty.

Historically, the formation of a country is a long and arduous task. After the American Civil War, it took two generations for the southern states to gain economic stability, and Ukraine has only been independent for 9 years. For this reason, most of the UUARC's efforts are, of necessity, directed to help the people of Ukraine survive the "growing pains" of a new nation.

### Flood relief

In November of 1998 one of the worst floods of the century devastated the Transcarpathian region of Ukraine and Romania. The UUARC, as a charitable organization, took upon itself the assignment of helping the affected families and individuals who lost everything in this natural disaster. The UUARC collected, through the generosity of the Ukrainian American community, over 300 parcels and \$70,000 in financial aid. The parcels were sent via container, \$20,000 was sent to the Ukrainian community in Romania, \$20,000 of the relief funding was transferred to Transcarpathia by the director of the UUARC's Lviv Office, Dr. Andriy Dyda, and the balance (\$30,000) was delivered to Uzhorod by the UUARC executive director, Stefan Hawrysz.

### Adopt-a-Grandparent program

In 1999 UUARC expanded a very important project, through which, for the past five years, elderly writers, families of dissidents, and other poverty-stricken senior citizens have received a monthly stipend to augment their meager, or nonexistent, government pensions. The project is now called "Adopt-a-Grandparent" and matches Ukrainian American sponsors with needy seniors in Ukraine.

For \$15 per month the monthly income of some of these people is more than doubled, allowing for home heating, medicine, and healthy food. The UUARC receives lists of elderly people who need assistance from churches, clinics and other social service organizations, their situations are confirmed by our directors in Ukraine, and then they are assigned a sponsor from the United States. Many people correspond with their "adopted grandparent" and enjoy the gratitude of people they are truly helping.

In this first year of the expanded project, the UUARC has had just over 100 people "adopted," and anticipates a continued interest in such a program. Sponsors can be individuals, families, companies, social groups, classrooms, and neighborhoods; payments can be made to the UUARC quarterly, semi-annually or annually.

### Soup kitchen, food parcels, shoes

In Lviv the UUARC also supports a "soup kitchen" lunch program five days a week for the elderly and for minor orphans living with grandparents. In addition, thanks to funding from Bohdan Kurylko of Switzerland, 30 boxes of food per month are sent to housebound senior citizens. Mr. Kurylko also helps administer a program whereby shoes are manufactured in a Lviv Technical School and then distributed to "internaty" (children's homes) throughout Ukraine. The UUARC donated more than 1,000 pairs of shoes in 1999.

### Aid committee

In the past year, the UUARC's Aid Committee has been flooded with requests for assistance from individuals in Ukraine. Letters come in almost daily, and the committee has been handling 15 to 20 legitimate requests per month – authorizing either parcel shipments or financial aid.

### St. Nicholas gifts

In 1999, the UUARC, with the cooperation of the Ukrainian Heritage School of Philadelphia, collected holiday gifts for orphans in Ukraine. Students eagerly brought in wrapped Christmas gifts for poor Ukrainian children who know so little about St. Nicholas, Christmas or the spirit of giving. The packages went via container and arrived just in time for the holidays.

The UUARC also allotted funding for additional country-wide holiday celebrations, sponsoring the appearance of St. Nicholas at various internaty and orphanages, as well as sending children from eastern Ukraine and Crimea to experience traditional holiday celebrations in western Ukraine. The UUARC also donated \$8,000 to send children to summer camps throughout Ukraine, and \$3,000 for Ukrainian summer camps in the United States.

### Estate of William Petrach

In the fall of 1999 the UUARC received a grant in the sum of \$207,000 from the estate of William Petrach, a healthy and generous Ukrainian American from the Washington area. The trustee of his estate, Virginia James, followed his wishes and endowed Ukrainian organizations with funding for many good projects to benefit Ukraine, especially his home town of Staryi Dobrotvir. The UUARC's proposal for the repair and renovation of 13 schools and orphanages in the Lviv Oblast was accepted by Mrs. James and is being administered by the director of UUARC's Lviv Office, Dr. Dyda.

### Containers and USAID

As has been the case for the last eight years, the UUARC is still sending containers with humanitarian aid to Ukraine and Kazakstan. With a generous grant from the USAID, which allotted the UUARC \$60,000 for reimbursement of freight charges for aid shipments, UUARC has rallied the Ukrainian American community to new heights of activity. Communities throughout the United States have responded with renewed energy and generosity to the call, and to date nine 40-foot containers have been shipped, eight to Ukraine and one to Kazakstan, containing clothing, per-

(Continued on page 18)

## A benefactor remembers his native village in Ukraine

PHILADELPHIA – The United Ukrainian American Relief Committee Inc. was recently given opportunity to administer a most generous gift from a Ukrainian American who lived in America over 50 years, yet never forgot his roots and always kept the troubles of his countrymen in mind – especially the fate of the village of his birth, Staryi Dobrotvir.

William (Vasyl) Petrach came from the small village of Staryi Dobrotvir in the Kamianka-Buzka raion of Lviv Oblast. Mr. Petrach left his home town and made his way to America, where, with his wife, he amassed a sizeable fortune. In the 1990s, after the death of his wife, Mr. Petrach made a pilgrimage to his ancestral home, visiting the town of Staryi Dobrotvir, as well as other villages in the area.

Upon his return Mr. Petrach made provisions in his will to leave approximately \$2 million for charitable work to be done in Ukraine and for the good of Ukrainian people, appointing a long-time family friend, Virginia James, as trustee of the estate. In 1998, in an unfortunate and tragic accident, Mr. Petrach lost his life, and Mrs. James began to interview benevolent and charitable organizations working towards the improvement of life in Ukraine in order to fulfill Mr. Petrach's last will and testament.

The UUARC Inc. was invited to submit a proposal, along with other Ukrainian organizations, among them the Ukrainian Catholic Church and the

U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, and Mrs. James divided the estate among these groups.

The UUARC's grant, compiled with the help of Andriy Dyda of the UUARC's Lviv office, covers extensive repairs, both structural and general, to one hospital and 11 schools/internaty for the handicapped and the orphaned. Repairs include roof replacements, heating system overhauls, installation of indoor plumbing updating of kitchens, renovation of buildings in disrepair, replacement of windows, etc. The schools will also be receiving new desks, computers, shower facilities and beds, as needed. The hospital has even received a new ambulance. The total budget for this project is \$20,700.

The work began in December 1999 and is supervised via frequent site visits by Mr. Dyda. As each project reaches completion, a plaque will be posted in grateful memory of Mr. Petrach.

Impressive though this bequest was, the UUARC receives pleading letters daily from teachers, administrators or visitors, regarding group schools throughout Ukraine that lack the most rudimentary necessities for life – much less for learning. The future of Ukraine is closely tied to the futures of these children who need to be helped.

We are often reminded that a will is a very important document, regardless of a person's age, since one never

(Continued on page 18)



Jubilee Committee of the Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Parish  
of Kerhonkson, New York

*invites all its past and present members,  
guests and their families who participated in our services,  
were married and/or baptized in our church, to be part of our*

**Celebration of the  
35th Anniversary of the Parish and  
25th Anniversary of its Church  
on the  
24th of September, 2000**

Ceremonies will begin at 10:00 a.m. with the Celebration of a High Mass followed by a Banquet at Soyuzivka, Ukrainian National Ass'n Estate

If you would like to attend our banquet, please respond by  
**August 30, 2000**

Holy Trinity UCC Jubilee Committee  
P.O. Box 712, Kerhonkson, NY 12446  
Tel.: (845) 626-2058 or Fax: (845) 626-5831  
E-mail: ivstaruch@aol.com



## FOCUS ON PHILATELY

by Inger Kuzych

### Painting up a storm: Ivan Aivazovsky

No other artist before him had managed to capture with such brilliance, accuracy and apparent ease the most difficult of subjects for a painter – the changing moods of the sea. Although Ivan Aivazovsky did occasionally dabble in the more traditional art forms of landscapes and portraiture, the bulk of his output was seascapes. He was a master at realistically depicting water and the sea in its many forms: calm, choppy, stormy, at night, as rain, as foam on waves, windblown, etc.

#### About the artist

Ivan Aivazovsky was born on July 29, 1817, in Teodosiia (present-day Feodosiia), a town on the southeast coast of the Crimean peninsula. He was the son of Konstantin Aivazovsky, a minor official of Armenian background who had come to Crimea from Austrian Galicia and settled there at the beginning of the 19th century. It was here that Ivan developed his lifelong fondness for the Black Sea.

A plague had swept through Teodosiia in 1812, wrecking the family business. When Ivan was born five years later, the family had fallen on hard times. The lad grew up waiting tables in a coffee house. With a good ear for music, he learned the violin and to play the folk tunes of many of the nationalities represented in the cosmopolitan port town. However, it was in drawing that the young Aivazovsky excelled. Lacking artist's materials, he drew with charcoal on the whitewashed walls of Teodosiia. Eventually these draw-

ings attracted the attention of the mayor, who helped the young man enter the Symferopol gymnasium and, in 1833, the St. Petersburg Academy of Arts.

Aivazovsky flourished at the academy and after four years received a gold medal, which gave him the privilege of prolonged study abroad at the expense of the academy. In view of Aivazovsky's considerable talent, the Academy Council made an unusual decision. He was to return to Crimea for two years of independent work sponsored by the academy. This would enable him to perfect his preferred genre of seascape painting before departing to foreign destinations.

The graduate threw himself into his new assignment with the capacity for work that was to be his hallmark throughout life. An entire succession of Crimean seascapes soon emerged.

While still at the academy, the impressionable student had been attracted by the romance and beauty of sailing ships and at the same time intrigued by what he learned of naval battles. In Crimea he took advantage of a number of opportunities, and in 1839 took part in Black Sea maneuvers on three different occasions.

In 1840 Aivazovsky at last set off on his scholarship journey. He went to Rome, where he worked industriously and exhibited regularly. He was soon gathering widespread acclaim. The St. Petersburg publication *The Art Gazette* published a lengthy article on his success in Italy. Following is an excerpt.



Figure 1



Figure 2

"Aivazovsky's pictures in Rome are judged the best in the exhibition. His 'Neopolitan Night,' 'The Storm' and 'Chaos' have caused such a sensation in this, the capital of fine arts, that the palaces of noblemen and society venues are all astir with talk of the landscape painter from southern Russia; the newspapers have sung his praises loudly and all agree that only Aivazovsky depicts light, air and water so truthfully and convincingly. Pope Gregory XVI has purchased his 'Chaos' and had it hung in the Vatican, where only the works of the world's greatest artists are considered worthy of a place. His 'Chaos' is generally held to be quite unlike anything seen before; it is said to be a miracle of artistry."

Leading artists did not fail to praise Aivazovsky, while others began to imitate his work. Marine painting had been virtually unknown in Italy, but soon seascapes became all the rage. In 1842 Aivazovsky exhibited some of his works in Paris and was awarded a gold medal by the Paris Academy. Triumph followed triumph as the young man continued to travel around western Europe: to Spain and Portugal, France, England, Holland, and Malta.

What brought about such extraordinary interest in his work by both seasoned connoisseurs and ordinary art-lovers alike? It was undoubtedly Aivazovsky's unusual fidelity to nature that entranced all who viewed his pictures. His ability to accurately convey the effect of water in motion or to portray watery reflections of sunlight or moonlight was unprecedented. Viewing some of his works you almost felt you would get your fingers wet if you touched the canvas.

Aivazovsky returned to the St. Petersburg Academy of Arts in 1844 and was honored with the title of academician. By decree of the tsar he was appointed to the Chief Naval Staff "with the title of painter to the Staff and with the right to wear the uniform of the naval ministry." His first commission was to paint various sites on the Baltic Coast, an assignment he completed by the end of winter.

In the spring of 1845 the artist set out on a voyage around the shores of Asia Minor and the Greek isles. Working diligently, he filled his sketchbooks with the new impressions he experienced. On his return he settled in his hometown of Teodosiia and set to work painting the coastal scenes and places he had visited. The pictures of this period, especially those of Constantinople and Odesa, are among his best.

Aivazovsky soon realized that he preferred to work in this provincial seaside town; the role of court painter did not especially appeal to him. Although he continued to occasionally travel, Teodosiia remained his real home and it is there he created his best canvases.

Over the next half century Aivazovsky's

indefatigable energy allowed him to produce the staggering total of about 6,000 paintings. He exhibited his works in Odesa, Kyiv, Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Sevastopol and Kherson, as well as in Moscow and St. Petersburg. In 1857, Aivazovsky repeated his Paris success: his exhibition was awarded the Legion of Honor. A prize only rarely conferred on foreigners (Figure 1).

Although, as mentioned earlier, most of Aivazovsky's works depict the Black Sea or seascapes, he did frequently travel through Ukraine proper and he did produce a number of Ukrainian landscapes. Among these are: "Chumak Caravan" (1855); "Reed Bank on the Dnipro Near the Town of Oleshnia" (1858); "Ukrainian Landscape" (1866); "Mill on a Riverbank, Ukraine" (1880) and "Wedding in Ukraine" (1891).

In 1868 Aivazovsky traveled in the Caucasus and the following year he took a trip to Egypt. Invited to the opening celebrations of the Suez Canal, he became the first artist to paint this engineering marvel and the epoch-making event.

A few years later, in 1871, Aivazovsky built a Historical and Archeological Museum in Teodosiia. He had long been interested in archeology, as was only natural with his affinity for maritime history. Many years earlier, in 1853, he had even taken part in archeological excavations near Teodosiia and discovered a number of valuable articles now housed in the Hermitage. Over the next several years he made a number of trips to Italy, visiting among other places Nice, Florence and Genoa.

In 1880 Aivazovsky established the Teodosiia Picture Gallery, which also served as his studio. Today it bears his name and houses 130 canvases and 270 of his sketches (along with paintings by other marine artists from Crimea). It is definitely worth a visit if you are ever in the area. In addition to the gallery and the earlier-mentioned Historical Museum, Aivazovsky contributed to his hometown in other ways. He donated the funds to build a water main for Teodosiia and opened an art school in the town. Needless to say, these civic actions earned him the admiration and love of the townspeople.

It was in 1892, at the age of 75, that Aivazovsky made his longest trip – to the United States. In the eastern United States he visited Washington and Niagara Falls, which he, of course, painted. In 1894 he joined the Society of South Russian Artists. Founded in Odesa in 1890, this was an association of artists who lived in southern Ukraine.

Aivazovsky passed away on May 5, 1900, in Teodosiia, leaving unfinished a painting, "The Explosion of a Ship," he had begun that very day. It still rests on its

(Continued on page 11)



Figure 3

## Painting up...

(Continued from page 10)

easel in the Teodosiia Picture Gallery. A monument of Aivazovsky was erected in 1930; it stands before that same gallery. Today, two of the principal sites of Teodosiia are Aivazovsky's tomb near an ancient Armenian church and his splendid Picture Gallery.

### Aivazovsky stamps

The Soviet Union produced the greatest number of postal issues honoring Ivan Aivazovsky: a total of 10 stamps and one souvenir sheet. The first commemoration was a three-stamp set issued in 1950, the 50th anniversary of the artist's death. The first two stamps of this set depict two of Aivazovsky's most famous paintings.

The 40-kopek value shows "The Black Sea" (1881), which very realistically portrays a storm brewing over the sea. The wind forms swells in the water, while on the horizon a speck of a ship attempts to outrace the dark, threatening clouds (Figure 2). This masterpiece presently hangs in the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow.

The other work, "The Ninth Wave" (1850), appears on the 50-kopek stamp (Figure 3). Now in the Russian Museum, St. Petersburg, this haunting depiction is of a maddened, stormy sea at sunrise. Along the bottom of the canvas, a half dozen shipwrecked survivors cling to some flotsam. The newly risen sun, piercing the watery chaos, raises their hopes, while a looming, enormous wave portends their possible doom. Unfortunately, Soviet printing technology of the time does not do justice to the grandeur of this painting. Not only is it hard to make out any details, but the colors are distorted. The third (1 rubel) stamp of the set shows the artist as a young man – titled "I. Aivazovsky Portrait" (1841), it was painted by the Russian artist Aleksei Tyranov and may be found in the Tretyakov Gallery.

A single stamp greeted the 150th anniversary of Aivazovsky's birth in 1967. This time an early painting from 1840 was reproduced. Titled "Seashore," this 4-



Figure 4

kopek value was part of a multi-stamp set displaying works from the Tretyakov Gallery (Figure 4).

In 1974 a decision was made to honor Aivazovsky with an entire stamp set of his own. Seven different values were included: six stamps, each featuring one of his greatest works, and a souvenir sheet depicting the artist. It turned out to be a lovely philatelic issue with fairly accurate and detailed reproductions of the paintings. The low-value, 2-kopek stamp presents a painting titled "View of Odesa by Moonlight" from 1846 (Figure 5). It currently hangs in the Russian Museum, St. Petersburg.

The 4-kopek stamp is the only one of this series in a vertical format; it depicts "The Battle of Chesme on 25-26 June 1770" (Figure 6). Dating from 1848, the scene shows a spectacular nighttime sea battle. The painting is housed in the Dzerzhinsky Higher Naval Engineering College of St. Petersburg. The rendering on the 6-kopek features yet another night scene (Figure 7); its title is "St. George's Monastery" (1846) and it may be found in the Teodosiia Picture Gallery.

The next three, higher-value issues all depict turbulent seascapes. The 10-kopek stamp (Figure 8) is simply called "Stormy Sea" (1868) and is displayed in the Tretyakov Gallery.

The subject matter of the 12-kopek value (Figure 9), titled "The Rainbow," is somewhat reminiscent of "The Ninth Wave." Once more tension and uncertainty are depicted around the survivors of a sea storm. The mother ship is foundering, but one lifeboat has been launched, another is loading. Although survival is still questionable, a rainbow and an ascending sea gull represent hope. This is one of Aivazovsky's "wetter" representations. The mist and rain almost look as if they are ready to drip off the canvas (Figure 10). Painted in 1873, it may be found in the Tretyakov Gallery.

The 16-kopek stamp unfolds another dramatic story (Figure 11). Titled "Shipwreck" (1876), it presents a lifeboat full of survivors caught in a tempestuous sea. The craft is being driven against huge boulders at the foot of a cliff. Above, sever-



Figure 5

al onlookers have spotted the boat, but they are powerless to help. This famous canvas hangs in the Teodosiia Picture Gallery.

Finally in this set, the high value 50-kopek souvenir sheet features "Portrait of I. Aivazovsky" (1881) by Ivan Kramskoi, from the Teodosiia Picture Gallery.

Additional stamps with Aivazovsky connections appear in the postal releases of five other countries. Armenia honored Aivazovsky in 1993 when it reproduced his painting "Noah's Descent from Mount Ararat" on a souvenir sheet. The artist was identified as Hovhannes (Armenian for Ivan) Aivazovsky.

In 1988 Madagascar included "The Black Sea Squadron at Teodosiia" (1890) on a stamp. The original resides in the Teodosiia Picture Gallery.

An 1845 work by Aivazovsky titled "Seascape," which hangs in the Art Museum of Romania in Bucharest, graced a 1971 stamp released by Romania.

A recent Russian 1.5-ruble stamp (from 1998) depicted "The Ninth Wave" (1850) previously described.

Finally, a Ukrainian 40-kopiivka stamp from 1999 (Figure 12), which commemorated the 200th anniversary of Alexander Pushkin's birth, indirectly also honored Aivazovsky. The scene is from one of his paintings, originally titled "Pushkin on the Shore of the Black Sea" (1897). The canvas was donated by the artist to the city of Odesa under a new name, "Pushkin in Odesa." The following year the rendering was hung in the Odesa Art Museum, where it may still be viewed.

### Reconsidering Aivazovsky's Heritage

Ivan Aivazovsky belongs to a group of personalities on postal issues who were born and worked in Ukraine, but who have not generally been identified as being Ukrainian. Some other such notables are: Iliia Repin and Arkhypy Kuindzhi, artists; Ihor Sikorsky, aviation engineer; and Iliia Mechnykov, Nobel Prize-winning microbiologist.

In Soviet times Aivazovsky was always represented as a Russian painter, but he more correctly falls within the cultural milieu of both Russia and Ukraine. While much of his training and exhibiting occurred in Russia, most of his artistic labors were undertaken in present-day Ukraine, on the Crimean peninsula. A large segment of his output focused on Ukraine, Crimea and the Black Sea.

In my opinion, then, the above-described Aivazovsky stamps deserve to be included in any good philatelic collection of Ukrainian topics. This year marks the centennial of Aivazovsky's death. Would it not be appropriate if Ukraine Post prepared some sort of Aivazovsky philatelic commemorative release, perhaps featuring a marine topic?

\*\*\*

Want to find out more about Ukrainian philately? Why not attend the UKRAIN-PEX 2000 convention-exhibit October 7-8 at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 26601 Ryan Road., Warren, MI. Hours: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; there is no entrance fee. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the hobby, purchase unique items and examine rare materials. The Ukrainian Weekly's Dr. Inger Kuzych will be in attendance.



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 9



Figure 11



Figure 12



Figure 10

Inger Kuzych may be contacted at P.O. Box 3, Springfield VA, 22150 or by e-mail at [ingertjk@gateway.net](mailto:ingertjk@gateway.net)

# Bachs are back: scholar details search for family's scores

by Gail Fineberg

WASHINGTON – A scholar's career-long search for Bach family music that disappeared from Berlin during World War II led to an archive in Kyiv and 5,170 items (about 1 million pages) of music, much of it never seen or performed, at least not for 300 to 400 years.

"This was a remarkable discovery in Kyiv," said Christoph Wolff, professor of music at Harvard University and dean of its Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, who told the story of his odyssey to a large lunchtime audience in the Coolidge Auditorium on June 22.

Assisting him with his quest was Patricia K. Grimsted, an associate of Harvard's Ukrainian Research Institute, a senior research fellow at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and U.S. project director of ArcheoBiblioBase, a Russian and Ukrainian archival directory database in Kyiv and Moscow. She told her part of the story.

Their Library of Congress visit was sponsored by the LCPA Ukrainian Language Table, the Music Division and The Washington Group Cultural Fund, whose mission is to foster and promote Ukrainian culture in the Washington metropolitan area.

Dr. Wolff was working on his doctoral dissertation in the mid-1970s, when his research into sources pertaining to Johann Sebastian Bach's large, musical family hit a dead end. From an 1832 inventory he knew there was a rich deposit of Bach family materials, dating from the 17th and 18th centuries, in the musical estate of Bach's second son, Carl Philipp Emanuel, which was housed in the archive of the Berlin Sing-Akademie. That archive disappeared at the end of World War II.

"Nobody knew its whereabouts," Dr. Wolff said. "I never really gave up on where the Sing-Akademie treasures were, although no one knew whether they had been destroyed or misplaced."

Tracing the history of the Sing-Akademie, which was founded in 1791, Dr. Wolff displayed images of the concert hall in which, in 1829, Felix Mendelssohn conducted the first performance since J.S. Bach's death in 1750 of the St. Matthew Passion (this concert is credited with renewing interest in J.S. Bach's music). Dr. Wolff also showed an image of the Sing-Akademie's chorus library, in which the "older stuff," no longer performed, was stashed on lower shelves. It was this "older stuff" that Dr. Wolff longed to see.

Sing-Akademie materials were last available for study in the 1930s. Dr. Wolff's research turned up a packing list that indicated the C.P.E. Bach materials were part of the Sing-Akademie inventory that the Germans had removed from Berlin in 1943 for safe-keeping in Silesia, a southeastern province of Germany that now is part of Poland. He tracked the materials as far as Ullersdorf Castle.

"That's all I could find out," Dr. Wolff said. After the Soviet invasion of eastern Germany in 1945, the Sing-Akademie archive disappeared. One theory held that the archive probably was in Moscow. But nobody knew for sure, or would say.

Then, in the early 1980s, a Russian copy of German baroque music appeared that caught Dr. Wolff's attention; there was only one original, and he knew it was in the Sing-Akademie archive. "I then heard a rumor the archive might be in Kyiv," Dr. Wolff said. He alerted his European network of colleagues and musician friends who traveled abroad, but no one could learn anything more. That is when he and Dr. Grimsted "stuck

our heads together."

Dr. Grimsted, who became known in the Soviet Union as the "archive spy" during the 1980s, was devoted to learning the fate of captured cultural treasures, "trophy" art, books and archives plundered from countries occupied by Germany and from Holocaust victims. Materials seized by Allied forces were returned, but goods gathered up by the Soviets disappeared and their whereabouts remained shrouded in secrecy. "The Soviet Union was more interested in reparations than restitutions," Dr. Grimsted said.

Searching Ukraine for lost cultural treasures in connection with her forthcoming book, "Trophies of War and Empire: The Archival Heritage of Ukraine, World War II, and the International Politics of Restitution," Dr. Grimsted stumbled on a captured Soviet document among French intelligence records indicating freight car loads of books and other treasures from eastern Germany (part of Poland after the war) had gone to Moscow and Kyiv. The official response from Kyiv was that the document Dr. Grimsted presented was "fabricated."

With the assistance of a colleague, Hennadii Boriak, deputy director of the Institute of Ukrainian Archeography and Source Studies, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Dr. Grimsted closed in on Kyiv. Dr. Boriak, on a chance meeting in April 1999 with an official of the Central State Archive-Museum of Literature and Art of Ukraine, noted a large collection of foreign music.

Learning that a cache of more than 5,000 manuscripts might "possibly" contain German music, "possibly" some Bach scores, Dr. Grimsted sent a note to Dr. Wolff, suggesting he might "possibly" want to pack his bags for a visit to Kyiv.

When Dr. Wolff, Harvard music cataloguer Barbara Wolff, and Dr. Grimsted arrived at the Central State Archive in Ukraine in late June 1999, they were told the archive "was under renovation." But they persevered and were admitted to a climate-controlled room to find boxes "in optimal storage," Dr. Grimsted recalled.

In the boxes they saw bound volumes of music, a sheet clearly labeled "Sing-Akademie zu Berlin," a letter from Goethe.

"What we saw confirmed the collection was intact in Kyiv," Dr. Grimsted said.

A spot check revealed manuscripts by Telemann, Beethoven's Op. 2 piano sonatas dedicated, in his hand, to Sing-Akademie founder Karl Friedrich Christian Fasch (1736-1800), Mendelssohn manuscripts, and the C.P.E. Bach archive, Dr. Wolff's grail. In October 1999 Dr. Wolff returned for a week of research.

Dr. Wolff said the collection contained 5,170 items of music, 85 percent of which was music manuscripts. The collection itself had never been properly catalogued and was guarded closely by academy directors, who allowed very few to see it, Dr. Wolff said.

The C.P.E. Bach archive included 550 manuscripts and printed scores, including the oldest known four-part score for chorus, 200 choral works of Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), including the B Minor Mass, 150 cantatas, including autographed scores, some clavier sonatas, and parts of Johann Sebastian's Wedding Cantata, written in his hand.

Even older was music by Bach family composers, such as the original score for a motet written by an older cousin, Johann Christoph Bach, and an eight-part motet composed for two choruses by Johann Christian Bach.

Dr. Wolff said he thinks that, in 1748,



After the lecture about Bach scores newly found in Ukraine are: (from left) Laryssa Chopivsky (TWG Cultural Fund), Ambassador William Green Miller, Larysa Kurylas (TWG Cultural Fund), Christoph Wolff (Harvard), Patricia K. Grimsted (Harvard), Jurij Dobczansky (LCPA Ukrainian Language Table coordinator) and Ruth Foss (Music Division).

J.S. Bach was arranging the Johann Christoph motet for performance at his own funeral; J.S. Bach died two years later. The BBC performed the work last month, which was the first time it had been heard since Bach's death in 1750. Dr. Wolff played a recording for the library audience.

Dr. Wolff said negotiations between Ukrainian authorities and Harvard representatives would establish a collaborative project by which Sing-Akademie materials will be catalogued properly and microfilmed, with the help of the Packard Humanities Institute. One copy of the film would remain with the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, one would go to the Sing-Akademie, one of Germany's

oldest continually performing organizations, and one would go to Harvard University.

Dr. Grimsted added that Ukrainian authorities now claim the German materials were never classified and never secret. "Or, they never knew about it," she said.

Ukraine leads other states of the former Soviet Union in the return of trophy cultural materials, for example, to Dresden and to private sources, Dr. Grimsted said.

[Editor's note: The Washington Group's Cultural Fund sponsored an archival recording of the lecture for the library's permanent collection.]

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## Ukrainian Brazilian artist participates in U.N. exhibit



"Agia Talassini" by Ukrainian Brazilian sculptor Oxana Narozniak.

UNITED NATIONS – Oxana Narozniak, a Ukrainian Brazilian artist participated in the international art exhibition "Progress of the World's Women," which opened to the public in the United Nations lobby on June 5 as part of the U.N. "Women 2000" conference. Ms. Narozniak entered her bronze sculpture "Agia Talassini" valued at \$12,000, and sold the piece.

Earlier in the year her sculpture was exhibited at Saks Fifth Avenue in Huntington, N.Y., under the direction of the Survivors Art Foundation and the Huntington Breast Cancer Coalition. The proceeds went to sup-

porting breast cancer research.

In addition to participating in various group exhibits, Ms. Narozniak has also had 10 solo exhibits. The venues include: Museu H. Stern, Rio de Janeiro; Museu de Arte de Sao Paulo; The Judge Gallery, Washington; and the Ukrainian Institute of America, New York.

Ms. Narozniak was born in Germany and has been living in Brazil for many years. She received a B.A. in 1972 from Wayne State University in Detroit, and studied at the University of Hawaii and at the Art Students' League of New York.

## TRAVELOGUE: Kharkiv home to historic Shevchenko Theater

by Virlana Tkacz and Irena Makaryk

KHARKIV – Few tourists and scholars visit Kharkiv, located at the eastern end of Ukraine. The city center combines sites of great historical interest, such as the 16th century Uspensky Monastery and the Collegium where Hryhorii Skovoroda lectured, with some of the earliest examples of Constructivist architecture, the Derzhprom complex, and more recent arrivals: fashionable outdoor cafes. But the heart of the city for a scholar and a lover of Ukrainian theater is the tiny museum in the Shevchenko Theater.

The museum houses an archival collection of original photos and documents from the history of this theater company, going back to its very beginnings. The theater was started in 1922 as the Berezil Artistic Association in Kyiv by the great Ukrainian director Les Kurbas. In 1926 the company moved to Kharkiv to its present location. Here Kurbas first staged the plays of Mykola Kulish and brought his best productions from Kyiv, including "Jimmie Higgins" and "Macbeth." When, in 1933, Kurbas was purged from his post as artistic director, the theater was renamed the Shevchenko Theater.

The museum is located in a corner of the second-floor lobby of this large theater complex. When you open the doors Les Kurbas, his actors Valentyna Chestiakova, Yosyp Hirniak, Olympia Dobrovolska and Oleksander Serdiuk look down at you from their large painted canvases. The two small rooms of the museum are crammed with files, photos, posters, busts, and various theatrical memorabilia. But even greater treasures are hidden in the cabinets. There were manuscripts of memoirs on the Berezil era, scripts and musical notes to the productions. There are books from Kurbas' personal library. We were particularly interested in the photos of such Kurbas productions as "Oedipus Rex," "Gas," "Jimmie Higgins," "Macbeth," "Myna Mazailo" and "Maklena Grasa." There are also many reminders of Stalin's purges, including stamps on much of the material with the ominous word "Provireno" (Verified.)

The custodian of the museum is Nina Medvedeva, who lovingly tends to the museum and its needs. An elderly woman, she befriended Yulia Fomina, the last living Berezil actor who was the director of the museum until her death several years ago. Mrs. Medvedeva told us that Ambrosi Buchma, one of the leading actors of Berezil, originally lived in the two rooms that house the museum, which were then also a gathering place for the company. Buchma often played chess here with his friends. To this day the museum attracts young actors who come here to be inspired by Kurbas and fed by Mrs. Medvedeva.

Two floors above the museum is a large room that houses an extensive library overseen by the resident dramaturg (literary advisor), Olena Sedunova. For its wide spectrum of books, from rare 19th century to current texts on costume, stage design, history, literature, theoretical studies and play texts, the library is visited by directors, actors, costumers and set designers.

Kurbas and his actors are still felt as a significant presence not only in the museum and library, but also in parts of the city. In particular, the enormous monument dedicated to Taras Shevchenko and representing aspects of his poetic creations is modeled on a number of actors in Kurbas' troupe. Anatolii Starodub led us to the Kharkiv, Museum of Literature, founded in the late 1980s, which also houses theatrical archives, including Kurbas' passport, letters of well-known literary personalities, particularly of the 1920s, and books and exhibits ranging from the 16th to the 20th centuries, and including colorful children's books.

The spirit of Kurbas reigns especially strong in Kharkiv's theaters. At the Shevchenko Theater, where the stage is unchanged since Kurbas' day, we were fortunate to see the preview of Karpenko-Karyi's 19th-century play "Who is Guilty?," which will officially premiere on October 1. Directed by Anatolii Lytko, designed by Tetiana Medvid, with music by Hennadia Frolova, lighting by Volodmyr Minakov, the lyrical production includes a large cast of young, energetic actors.

On the other side of town, in the elegant Building of the Architects, the Kharkiv Theater Laboratory presented an avant-garde production of Yves Jamiaque's "Monsieur Amilcar," or the "Person Who Pays," directed by Stepan Pasichnyk.

Throughout Kharkiv, Russian remains the language of choice, although Ukrainian still maintains a tenuous foothold, one, that is, surprisingly, enthusiastically supported by some of the Russian intelligentsia of the city, people like Sergey Gordeev (who heads the chair of directing at the Kharkiv State Academy of Culture) or Tatiana Kikteva (whose father worked with Kurbas), who are concerned not only by the decline of governmental support for Ukrainian culture, but also by the growing vulgarization of culture as a whole.

Some areas of life continue to encourage interesting literary links. While new hotels have sprung up in Kharkiv, we stayed at the historic building and headquarters of the Rukh Party, which shares space with the Institute of Far Eastern Studies, where Farsi and Sanskrit, among other languages, are taught. Kurbas would have approved.



The heart of Kharkiv: the Shevchenko Theater.



The headquarters of the Rukh Party, located in a historic building in Kharkiv.



Virlana Tkacz (left) and Irene Makaryk at the Shevchenko Theater's museum archives.

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At the UNCUA conference (from left) are Michael Kos, chairman of the board, Selfreliance Ukrainian FCU (Chicago); Dr. Mykola Zhulynskyi; Halyna Keller, operations manager, Ukrainian Selfreliance FCU (Philadelphia); Halyna Zhulynskyi; and Bohdan Watral, president and CEO, Selfreliance Ukrainian FCU (Chicago).

## 19 credit unions...

(Continued from page 3)

Salenko (president and CEO, Ukrainian Orthodox FCU, New York). The annual meeting of UNCUA was convened on Saturday. Chairperson Denysenko opened the meeting and, after a review of delegates' mandates, determined that 19 delegates were present. A nominating committee was then elected and an agenda accepted.

Ms. Denysenko presented her report on UNCUA activities for the previous year. President Hryhorczuk presented his report on the activities of the previous administration. According to him, 1999 was a successful year. Three conferences were held during 1999, spring and fall conferences and a special conference for small credit unions on the topic of credit cards.

Today, in order to be competitive with other financial institutions, he said, credit unions should offer "full services," such as credit cards, checking accounts, share certificates and more. The administration of the UNCUA also held many meetings with the community in Seattle, where the UNCUA is attempting to open a new credit union. Apparently, there are over 20,000 Ukrainian immigrants in the greater Seattle area.

Mr. Hryhorczuk also noted that the fourth International Ukrainian Credit Union Conference is planned for August in Kyiv and Poltava; 42 participants have already registered.

The last order of business was a change in the UNCUA by-laws. This was facilitated by Lubomyr Lypeckyj, president of the Ukrainian Selfreliance Michigan FCU.

The Supervisory Committee made a recommendation that the UNCUA Insurance Agency obtain a modern data processing system for its daily business needs.

Discussions at the annual meeting also touched upon the "free" insurance afforded members for share deposits and loans. It was decided to table this issue until the end of the year.

Accompanying Dr. Zhulynskyi to the UNCUA gathering was his wife, Halyna. Mrs. Zhulynskyi, the president of the Kyiv credit union "Turbota" and a representative of the Ukrainian National Association of Savings and Credit Unions in Ukraine, greeted the annual meeting. Afterwards she remained for a period of internship with Ukrainian American credit unions in New York and Chicago.

Following the annual meeting, the board of directors of the UNCUA – which comprises one representative from each credit union – met and elected the following executive committee: Ms. Denysenko, chairperson; Ihor Laszok, vice-chairperson; Mr. Watral, external affairs; Ihor Rudko, secretary; Bohdan Kekish, Lew Futala, Oksana Xenos, Jaroslaw Fedun and Nusia Woch-Kerda, members.

The board elected Mr. Hryhorczuk as president and re-elected the Supervisory Committee members: Mr. Kozak, chair; Ihor Makarenko and Nadia Hayduke, members. The Self Reliance (New York) FCU volunteered to host the 2001 spring annual meeting and conference. The exact date and location have yet to be determined.

After the annual meeting and conference ended, many of the delegates attended the banquet of the Ukrainian Diaspora Olympiad being held in the Philadelphia area on July 1-4.



Ihor Kozak, chairperson of the UNCUA Supervisory Committee, reports on the financial status of Ukrainian American credit unions.

## Ukraine's history...

(Continued from page 6)

Ukrainian culture, constraints on emigration and family visits, the jamming of radio broadcasts; Chernobyl and other issues were also often raised with Soviet officials.

Among various Congressional resolutions initiated by Helsinki Commissioners was a 1991 resolution that called upon the administration to recognize Ukraine's independence. This legislation passed Congress prior to the historic December 1991 Ukrainian independence referendum – despite the State Department's lack of enthusiasm for it. A vital role in ensuring that Ukrainian concerns were raised in Congress and at various conferences of the Helsinki/OSCE process was played by Ukrainian American community activists and organizations like Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine, the World Congress of Free Ukrainians Human Rights Commission, the Philadelphia Human Rights Committee, Smoloskyp and others.

Ukraine's entry into the CSCE/OSCE in January 1992, shortly after independence, paralleled the significant changes in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, or, as it has been known since January 1995, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). From 1975 to 1991, the CSCE/OSCE was less structured – basically, it was the 35 countries that had signed the Helsinki Final Act meeting periodically to discuss and debate various issues concerning security, human rights, economic cooperation. During those years, of course, Ukraine, as part of the Soviet Union had no formal role in this process, and the only time attention was paid to Ukraine was in the context of the United States, Canada, and, to a lesser extent, other Western countries raising human rights issues pertaining to Ukraine.

Following the dissolution of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, the number of OSCE member-states expanded to 55, and the OSCE has become more institutionalized, with the creation of various permanent structures that had not existed earlier. Ukraine has been an active member of the OSCE. The stated goals of the Ukrainian state – democracy, respect for human rights, protection of national minorities – go hand in hand with the principles of the Helsinki Final Act and subsequent OSCE agreements. Importantly, Ukraine has also used OSCE agreements – specifically, the Helsinki Final Act principles dealing with the inviolability of borders, territorial integrity and sovereign equality – to bolster its arguments to the world com-

munity and other OSCE states for the preservation of current borders and to reject foreign claims on its territory.

Since 1992 OSCE institutions have also become more involved with Ukraine, as they have with many OSCE countries. In 1994 an OSCE Mission to Ukraine was created that contributed to the stabilization and reduction of tensions in Crimea. The mission ended its work in May 1999 and became the first of 18 OSCE missions or field offices operating in various OSCE countries to close. OSCE Election Missions have observed and reported on presidential and parliamentary elections in Ukraine in 1994, 1998 and 1999. Earlier this year, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media wrote a report on the media situation in Ukraine, with recommendations on how media freedoms can be improved, given that the role of the free media as a check on the government has not yet been fully accepted.

Since June 1999 an office of the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine located in Kyiv has focused its efforts on projects "aimed at supporting Ukraine in the adaptation of legislation, institutions and processes to the necessities of a modern democracy based on the rule of law," according to a recent OSCE report. These include a review of Ukraine's human rights legislation, technical support for the Verkhovna Rada's Human Rights Ombudswoman, support for Ukraine's National Council against Trafficking in Human Beings, reforms in the field of military judiciary and law enforcement, and assistance to the Supreme Court and the Constitutional Court.

The OSCE, through its institutions and forums, also provides a framework for addressing issues and problems that affect Ukraine, such as market reforms, corruption and good governance, and trafficking of human beings. Furthermore, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, launched in 1992, provides opportunities for parliamentarians of the OSCE participating states to promote security and cooperation in Europe. One of its current vice-presidents is Ihor Ostash, chairman of the Verkhovna Rada's Foreign Relations Committee.

The signing of the Helsinki Final Act 25 years ago this month and launching of the Helsinki/OSCE process was a milestone in the history of Europe. And, while it may not yet be recognized as such just yet, it will come to be seen as a landmark event in the achievement of Ukraine's independence and its continuing development as a democratic state based on the rule of law and respect for the rights of all its citizens.

For more information about the OSCE, see The Helsinki Commission website at <http://www.house.gov/csce/>.

## Ukraine must be...

(Continued from page 7)

the foot of "Shevchenko's" Prospect in the year 2000. Has not the populace of Ukraine always been most accommodating of others – especially of close neighbors who at times coveted, conquered and by force "converted" the native population (when not genocidally starving, killing or exiling our forefathers, or issuing "ukases" to bury their language)? Is it not just that such past imperial attitudes, impositions and assimilative trends be reversed?

Where better to begin than with a strict "Ukrainian first" language policy, and by "taking a stand" as was done by Lviv's righteous Ukrainian language patriots in the year 2000? Someday their grandchildren will remember, thank, and honor their perspicacity in reviving the pride and dignity of their "batkivshchyna." Their actions were worthy of the

independent spirit of our Kozak ancestors, and should be recognized as such.

Perhaps we should challenge other Ukrainian oblasts and cities to follow Lviv's example in proposing similar linguistic resolutions.

Such directives would not imperil the "free development" of others, nor vaporize the rights of minorities, but – by prioritizing Ukrainian – would put forth a structured perspective for "the comprehensive development of and use of the Ukrainian language in all spheres of social life on the entire territory of Ukraine."

**Roman B. Karpishka**  
Lachine, Quebec

*The writer is a practicing attorney in Montreal. Mr. Karpishka has taught English as a second language in Ukraine, during four summers with the Ukrainian National Association - Prosvita program.*

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## Protesters attempt...

(Continued from page 3)

to Crimea had been ruined by the UOC-MP. The press service admitted that an attempt to prevent Patriarch Filaret from entering Crimea was made at Symferopol airport, but it said that "the authorities of the Republic of Crimea did everything possible to prevent any confrontation on religious grounds."

The press service listed a number of meetings and religious services held by Patriarch Filaret during his three-day stay in Crimea, underscoring that there were no "conflicts or clashes between believers."

In a telephone interview with KNS on July 4, Patriarch Filaret maintained that the whole program of the visit went well. "I visited Sofiyivka, a village not far from Symferopol, where I consecrated the cross at the location of the construction of a new church, then I had a meeting with the Crimean clergymen. I also visited Sevastopol Nuclear Naval Academy, where I was present at the graduation ceremony, and visited Bakhchesarai, where I had a meeting with Mustafa Jemilev, the chairman of the Crimean Tatar Mejlis, and Mufti of the Crimea Emir Ali Ablayev. On June 25 I served the liturgy in our Symferopol church. I was told that there were pickets in Symferopol airport, but I did not see them personally," he was quoted as saying.

Efforts by KNS to find out from the Metropolitan of the UOC-MP in Kyiv whether it was aware of the protests instigated by the Crimean eparchy and whether it had approved them failed. In the absence of Metropolitan Volodymyr [Slobodan], the senior hierarch of the UOC-MP, nobody would take the responsibility of commenting on the actions of the Crimean eparchy. The Crimean eparchy failed to respond to

KNS requests during the first two weeks of July for comments on the obstruction of Patriarch Filaret's visit.

Asked by KNS whether the eparchy had instigated the rally in Sevastopol, the Rev. Paisi declared: "No, people understand everything themselves." He claimed that Patriarch Filaret had not complained of any "aggressive actions" by believers.

According to KNS, during his meeting with Mr. Jemilev, Patriarch Filaret deplored the actions of the local Orthodox Church in Crimea, such as setting up crosses and religious placards that are found all over the peninsula, complaining that in a multi-confessional society such as Crimea, these types of actions create inter-confessional tension.

One of the issues also discussed during the meeting was the prospect of recognition of the UOC-KP by Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew.

## Ukraine proposes...

(Continued from page 3)

Recently Ms. Tymoshenko suggested that Ukrainian industrial consumers should prepare for a sharp rise in the price of natural gas. She based her comments on a belief that Russia is preparing to begin selling Ukraine the desperately needed energy source at European prices, which approach \$100 per 1,000 cubic meters.

The vice prime minister supports a deal she negotiated with Turkmenistan that would give Ukraine an alternative natural gas supplier at \$42 per 1,000 cubic meters. However, President Leonid Kuchma has criticized that deal because it does not take into account transit costs through the territories of Uzbekistan, Kazakstan and Russia, which would bring the total cost to nearly \$100 per 1,000 cubic meters. Ukraine currently pays Russia \$36 per 1,000 cubic meters of gas.

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## Kyiv and the power...

(Continued from page 2)

suspended the decision. However, both the Parliament Chairman Vasyl Kyselyov and his successor from February 1997, Anatoly Hrytsenko, were moderates who were well disposed toward Kyiv. The appointment of Mr. Hrach on May 14, 1998 altered the picture dramatically.

In mid-December 1999, Mr. Kunitsyn engineered a split within the Parliament, joining with deputies from the Zlakhoda and Respublika caucuses and backing a motion, which succeeded by a narrow majority, to dismiss the presidium led by Mr. Hrach. This conflict ended when the Ukrainian government dispatched mediators to Symferopol on December 17 but there have been several other occasions when the clash between Messrs. Kunitsyn and Hrach came to a head.

At issue, essentially, is the authority of Ukraine to deal with disputes in the autonomous republic. Several sources have pointed to the ambiguous nature of Article 136 of the Constitution of Ukraine, which stipulates that the Crimean parliament can appoint and dismiss the head of the local government with the "knowledge and consent" of the president of Ukraine. Yet, if more than two-thirds of parliamentary delegates vote for such a decision, then the president, in theory, is obliged to agree to the decision.

Thus, the Crimeans are taking advantage of a loophole in the Constitution that in effect allows them more authority than might appear on paper. Conversely, according to the head of the presidential administration, Volodymyr Lytvyn (Den' June 2), the Ukrainian president has the option of appealing to the Constitutional Court on the grounds that there were procedural violations during the parliamentary debate.

President Kuchma, however, chose the route of negotiation and appears to have deflated this stage of the long-standing dispute without bringing about a constitutional crisis. The issue is a serious one because an appeal to the Constitutional Court would have been tantamount to circumventing the Constitution. In turn, had the Crimeans objected to presidential intervention, it is difficult to see how Ukraine could have resolved the situation by democratic means. The Crimean predicament reflected in miniature President Kuchma's own problems with the Parliament in Kyiv during his first term in office. The president's authority over the Verkhovna Rada has been greatly enhanced by the spring 2000 referendum, whereas legally his authority over Crimea remains ambiguous.

Why was such a significant majority of deputies in favor of the removal of Mr. Kunitsyn? There appear to be several reasons. The Crimean government has begun an anti-corruption drive that has clearly caused some concern among business circles and property owners. It is also trying to distance itself from the business deals conducted by the previous government.

The political impasse can be simplified to the pro-Russia outlook of Mr. Hrach versus the pro-Ukraine leaning government of Mr. Kunitsyn (though he is certainly not anti-Russian). Mr. Hrach himself, according to some observers, is seeking to build his own power base in Crimea. And lastly the NDP appears to be declining as a political force, thereby weakening the authority of the Crimean prime minister. In turn, the Communists have been the most powerful faction in the Parliament since the last elections, but they failed to oust Mr. Kunitsyn, reportedly because of the strong moral support the prime minister received from the president and from the state procurator general of Ukraine, Mykhailo Potabenko.

The Autonomous Republic of Crimea remains the problem child of Ukraine, a perennially sensitive area that frequently threatens to become engulfed in conflict. President Kuchma's task is to ensure that his government has support from the local authorities and to avert an eventual takeover of power by the Communists under Mr. Hrach.

At present, the chances of a crisis that would seriously undermine the stability of Ukraine seem remote. The precedent of presidential rule in 1995 remains an unspoken alternative if an impasse should arise. Moreover, the economic picture has steadily improved under the Kunitsyn administration and the dissatisfaction of the Crimean Tatars with their social and economic standing seems to have subsided. What occurred in May of this year can be described as a "mini-crisis" that was resolved by the prompt actions of the Ukrainian president.

However, the withdrawal of the decision to remove the Crimean government signals the end only of this particular phase of the conflict. Mr. Kunitsyn's position has been badly weakened by such an overwhelming vote against his government, and President Kuchma must now decide whether to support his eventual replacement in Symferopol. In Crimean politics, life in office is short and prime ministers and Parliament chairmen have rarely served more than two years in office.

In addition, there have been frequent challenges to Ukrainian authority from the peninsula, which, like the recent problems, reflect some of the weaknesses of the Ukrainian Constitution. It will not always be possible for Ukraine to resolve these dilemmas through negotiations. In the long term, the peninsula will either be granted more autonomy or the Kyiv government will likely amend the Constitution to give itself more authority over a recalcitrant region, specifically, the president would then have the power to overrule decisions of the Crimean Parliament.

Other imponderables remain, such as the attitude of Russian President Vladimir Putin to the parliamentary leadership of Mr. Hrach and the current separation of the city of Sevastopol from the administration of Crimea. Thus far, however, the latest political storm on the peninsula appears to have blown over.



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Parents

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## United Ukrainian American...

(Continued from page 9)

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### Krasnodon mine accident

Unfortunately, accidents in the coal mines of eastern Ukraine are not a rare occurrence, but each incident is both a national and a personal tragedy, leaving behind devastated widows, bereft parents, and, most tragically, hundreds of orphaned children. The recent mine explosion in Krasnodon, near Luhansk, was one of the worst in mining history, with 80 dead and seven injured.

The UUARC responded immediately, by sending \$16,700 to be distributed (\$200 per family of the deceased, and \$100 per family of injured miners), before even appealing to the community for donations. The money – the first aid to be given to the families of the victims – was personally delivered by the director of the UUARC's Kyiv office, Vira Prynko. Not even the government of Ukraine, which promised aid to the families, had given them anything by the time Ms. Prynko visited them. Thanks from Krasnodon have been pouring in. Again, the Ukrainian American community has responded from the heart, and Ms. Prynko will soon be returning to Krasnodon to deliver additional donations.

### Publishing

Under the auspices of the UUARC, through the generosity of our benefactor, H. Malynowsky, and thanks to the creative energy of Prof. W. Bandera, two extremely informative books were published – "Liudyna-Anatomia" (Human Anatomy) and "Maty I Dytyna" (Mother and Child). These books are donated to schools, universities and libraries throughout Ukraine.

### Information bureau

The Information Bureau, administered by Metodij Boretsky at the UUARC's headquarters continues to assist newly arrived immigrants from Ukraine, through a biweekly open house, where information and advice is available, as well as through Citizenship Training Classes funded by a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through Lutheran Children and Family Services. The Citizenship Training course, consisting of six to eight two-hour classes, including visual and audio aids, and followed up with assignments and exams, were professionally taught by Mr. Boretsky.

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with the proceeds reverting to the fund. This fund is administered by a committee chaired by the Rev. Balthazar.

### Combined federal campaign

UUARC has successfully applied for inclusion in the Combined Federal Campaign, as well as State Employee Campaigns in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and California, so federal employees, and state employees in the mentioned states, can donate directly to the UUARC through their workplace. Private sector employees should write in UUARC in the United Way Campaign, which is "donor driven," meaning the impetus must come from the donors, and if enough donors write in "UUARC," we will be included in the subsequent booklets.

### Volunteers needed

The UUARC's work is rejuvenated, but what is required is not only financial support from the community, for which the executive committee is very grateful, but also volunteer support. Recently, President Bill Clinton called for more volunteerism in America, stressing the importance of volunteer work in improving life in the United States.

No less important is volunteerism in improving life for our unfortunate brothers and sisters in Ukraine. Volunteers can help collect new and used clothing, personal items and school supplies and ship them to us, or contact their local hospitals and pharmacies for donations of medical supplies and/or instruments.

The main office of the UUARC, located at 1206 Cottman Ave. in Philadelphia, PA 19111, is headed by UUARC Executive Director Hawrysz, with the help of Oksana Horajecyj and Lydia Melnyk. The UUARC's phone number is (215) 728-1630.

## A benefactor remembers...

(Continued from page 9)

knows what will be. This is particularly impressed upon us when we hear of someone who planned the future of his/her estate so well, and whose good works will be remembered by handicapped children and orphans who no longer have a leaky roof, or drafty windows, or can learn a skill on the computer.

The UUARC Inc. would like to help implement readers' final wishes, should they be inclined towards humanitarian aid for Ukrainians. We have experience in restricted donations, endowment funds and bequests, and can be trusted to fulfill both the legal and moral implications.

Please contact us at: United Ukrainian American Relief Committee Inc., 1206 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111; telephone, (215) 728-1630; fax (215) 718-1631; e-mail, uuarc@bellatlantic.net or our website, <http://www.uuarc.org/>.

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# SUM holds annual Zlet at Ellenville resort



A review of the SUM ranks during an assembly at Zlet.

by Orest Kozicky

ELLENVILLE, N.Y. – The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) sponsored its 41st annual "Zlet" on May 27-28 here at the SUM resort.

Zlet is the annual spring festival that gives youth the opportunity to engage in academic and athletic competitions and poetry recitations that demonstrate their knowledge about various aspects of Ukrainian history and cultural traditions and their use of the Ukrainian language. Youths also perform with their dance, bandura, choral and drama ensembles within a talent-contest-type forum.

The athletic competitions include individual and team sports competitions that include 40-, 60-, 100-, 440- and 880-yard sprints and mile runs, relay races, broad jump, shot put and obstacle course races, as well as a volleyball tournament.

A new point system drafted by Yuriy and Ihor Stecko of the New York branch was implemented this year, providing a corrective factor that allowed smaller branches to compete on an equal level.

Youths also had an opportunity to socialize at a barbecue and a dance on Saturday night.

On Sunday morning the participants attended liturgy celebrated by the Revs. Ihor Midzak (a SUM alumnus) and Bohdan Danylo. A formal review of the SUM ranks followed, as individual branches were scored based on adherence to the uniform dress code.

Although the Zlet held at the Ellenville resort usually involves only the 11 SUM branches along the Eastern Seaboard, this year a contingent of participants from Montreal also took part. Thus, 436 youths ranging in age from 4 through 17 participated. Also notable is the participation of a growing number of "sumeniata," children age 3-5.

The responsibility for coordinating and conducting the 2000 Zlet was undertaken by members of the SUM branch from Yonkers, N.Y., with Andriy Burchak serving as "komandant."

The Yonkers branch took first place in overall points (1,282) for the ninth consecutive year; Whippany, N.J., took second place (1,223), and Passaic, N.J. took third (1,182). Mark Kozicky from Yonkers and Maria Pavkovych of Passaic shared the winner's trophy for most points in the 13 to 17 age group. Jurij Symchyk of Irvington, N.J., won in the 6 to 12 age group.



Mark Kozicky (flag-bearer) leads the Yonkers SUM contingent.

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Trophies were awarded to winners of the volleyball tournament as follows: Boys' Division – first place, Binghamton; second place, Yonkers; third place, Hartford, Conn.; Girls' Division – first place, Philadelphia; second place, Yonkers; third place, New York.

SUM President Yuriy Nakonechny closed the awards ceremonies by expressing his gratitude to Andriy Burchak and his Yonkers colleagues as well as to all of the SUM members for their participation in the Zlet.

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 327**

As of August 1, 2000, the secretary's duties of Branch 327 were assumed by Mr. Bohdan Kurczak. We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance to the address listed below:

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## Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

### Turkmenistan to resume gas supplies

ASHGABAT, Turkmenistan – Turkmenistan's Vice Prime Minister Yolly Gurbanmuradov and his visiting Ukrainian counterpart, Yulia Tymoshenko signed a preliminary protocol on gas supplies for the period 2000-2010, Interfax reported. Kyiv will purchase 20 billion cubic meters of gas this year, and 50 billion cubic meters annually for a 10-year period thereafter, at a price of \$42 per thousand cubic meters. As under previous agreements, payment will be partly in cash and partly in goods and services. According to Nezavisimaya Gazeta of July 27, Ms. Tymoshenko did not try to bargain over the price Ashgabat asked. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kuchma criticizes gas agreement

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma cast doubt on the protocol signed by the vice prime ministers of Turkmenistan and Ukraine. Mr. Kuchma said in Symferopol on July 27 that he “has prohibited the signing of any documents” on Turkmen gas deliveries, adding that such “agreements on principle” should be signed only by the presidents of both countries. “This is nothing short of deception,” he said, noting that the final price of Turkmen gas, including its transportation costs to Ukraine, may amount to \$90-\$105 for 1,000 cubic meters. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### EBRD ponders \$200 million loan

KYIV – The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development is considering giving nearly \$200 million to Ukraine to finance the completion of two nuclear reactors at the Rivne and Khmelnytskyi nuclear power plants, Interfax reported on July 27. The EBRD statement issued after

the bank's July 26 talks with Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yuschenko said the credit is conditional on the closure of the Chernobyl plant and reform in Ukraine's energy sector, including the privatization of energy supplying companies. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Ukraine to deliver gas to Bulgaria

SOFIA, Bulgaria – Visiting Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yuschenko and his Bulgarian counterpart, Ivan Kostov, told journalists in Sofia on July 28 that Ukraine will deliver to Bulgaria 578 million cubic meters of natural gas in exchange for Bulgaria's part in laying pipelines in the 1970s, the Associated Press reported. Deliveries of natural gas started in 1998 but were interrupted earlier this year after Russia objected to Ukraine's re-exporting of those supplies. Reuters had earlier quoted Mr. Yuschenko as saying the differences with Moscow over the matter have been settled and the supplies will be resumed in August. Prime Minister Yuschenko also met President Petar Stoyanov, who told journalists that Ukraine and Bulgaria are “not competitors” but “partners” who “share the same Euro-Atlantic integration objectives.” (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Russia to be repaid with pipelines?

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yuschenko said on August 1 that Kyiv is considering repaying its gas debt to Moscow by putting part of Ukraine's gas pipeline network at Russia's disposal, Interfax reported. Mr. Yuschenko added that the property conceded to Russia in debt repayment would remain under Ukrainian ownership and “under Ukrainian management.” Mr. Yuschenko confirmed previous reports that Kyiv is also considering giving strategic bombers to Russia to help pay its gas debt. (RFE/RL Newsline)



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# NOTES ON PEOPLE

## Songwriter finds success in Nashville

by Peter Bandera

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The road for many songwriters inevitably leads to Nashville – “Music City, U.S.A.” And such is the story for Andy Bohatiuk, a songwriter now living there.

On May 1, 1998, Mr. Bohatiuk loaded a U-Haul truck with his car in tow and drove 800 miles from Delaware to find his future in the songwriting capital of the world. Within nine months he had his first song recorded by a major artist on a major record label. The song: “You Wanna What?” The artist: Alecia Elliott. The record company: MCA Nashville.

Mr. Bohatiuk co-wrote “You Wanna What?” with Ms. Elliott and Bill Terry, a songwriter from Mississippi. It appears on Ms. Elliott’s debut CD “I’m Diggin It,” which was released in January and has charted in the top 20 on the Billboard Country Album Charts.

The good news is that MCA Records has chosen the song to be the second single from the CD. The video debuted last month on CMT (Country Music Television) and on GAC (Great American Country). It was released to country radio stations across the United States on May 1.

Ms. Elliott recently performed “You Wanna What?” on the “Donny & Marie” show and on a TNN (The Nashville Network) special called “Class of 2000.” The song has also been chosen to appear in the pilot episode of a new NBC television show built around Ms. Elliott called “Alecia and the Belmont Girls.”

Ms. Elliott is 17 years old and had been praised by People magazine as “...the best teen country singer.” USA Today has written: “Of all the teenage singers

Nashville has signed in the past several years, Ms. Elliott might be the best pure talent.” She has already appeared on “The Tonight Show” with Jay Leno and as herself on the TV Show “Malibu, Calif.”

Mr. Bohatiuk has his own publishing company called Andy Bo Music and owns the publishing rights to “You Wanna What?” In a city where 50,000 new songs are written every year, it’s a true testament to faith, talent and perseverance to have a song recorded in Nashville and then be picked as a single.

Readers can log onto CMT’s website at [www.country.com](http://www.country.com), and scroll to CMT to search the playlist and find out exactly when the video will play. The same can be done for GAC at [www.countrystars.com](http://www.countrystars.com).

The future looks bright for this songwriter who is proving that the American dream is still alive and well.

Mr. Bohatiuk is a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 39.



**Songwriter Andy Bohatiuk with MCA recording artist Alecia Elliott. Their co-written song “You Wanna What?” was featured recently on the “Donny & Marie” show.**

## College names professor laureate

ALLENTOWN, Pa. – At the 152nd commencement of Muhlenberg College in May, President Arthur Taylor announced the selection of Dr. Albert Kipa, Saeger Professor of Comparative Literature and head of the department of languages, literatures and cultures, as the college’s first professor laureate.

Muhlenberg College’s board of trustees authorized the title last year, specifying that it be awarded to a professor at Muhlenberg College “for exceptional service, scholarship and teaching once every five years.”

The recipient of the distinction must have proven himself or herself to be an outstanding teacher and scholar who has made significant contributions to the college’s visibility through his or her work and who is recognized as an expert in his or her field by those outside the Muhlenberg College community.

Dr. Kipa was born in Kyiv, but grew

up in New York City. He earned degrees from the City College of the City University of New York and the University of Pennsylvania. He has taught at both institutions, as well as at the Albert-Ludwigs University in Freiburg in Breisgau, and the Ukrainian Free University in Munich, Germany.

He specializes in Germano-Slavic literary and cultural relations, is the author or editor of books and articles in his specialty, and has lectured at national and international conferences, as well as colleges and universities in the United States and abroad.

He is a vice-president of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S.A. and a fellow of the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of Ukraine. He also has been the recipient of Fulbright, NEH and IREX grants, as well as Goethe Institute, Lindback and Pennsylvania Department of Education awards.

Dr. Kipa joined the Muhlenberg College faculty as an instructor in 1966, was promoted to professor in 1979, and became department head in 1989. He is a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 450.

*Notes on People is a feature geared toward reporting on the achievements of members of the Ukrainian National Association. All submissions should be concise due to space limitations and must include the person’s UNA branch number. Items will be published as soon as possible after their receipt, when space permits.*



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**The Carpathian Ski Club of New York**  
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Qualifications: This competition is open to any player whose club is a member of USCAK. – Singles matches are scheduled in the following division: Men, Women, Women (35 and over), Junior Vets (35-44), Senior Men (45- 55), Junior (Boys and Girls). Juniors are persons aged 18 and under, while seniors are those over 45 years of age.

Registration for tennis matches, including name, age divisions and the fee of \$15.00 should be sent to:  
 Mr. George Sawchak  
 724 Forrest Ave., Rydal, PA 19046

Registration should be received no later than August 28, 2000. No additional applications will be accepted before the competitions, since the schedule of matches will be worked out ahead of time.

**TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE:**

G. Sawchak, R. Rakoczy, Sr., Z. Snylyk, G. Popel, G. Hrabec.

Schedule of matches:

Saturday, September 2, Soyuzivka, 8:30 a.m. All players must contact the Tournament Committee: They will be informed of the time and place of their first matches, as well as matches in subsequent rounds. In case of rain, all players meet in the Main House.

Because of limited time and the large number of entries, players can compete in one group only; they must indicate their choice on the registration blank.

Players who fail to report for a scheduled match on time will be defaulted.

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# Kuchma enters...

(Continued from page 1)

How the Russian language is treated in Ukraine has become an increasingly volatile issue since the death of Ukrainian pop composer Ihor Bilozir. Mr. Bilozir died after several weeks in a coma that resulted from a beating by two Russian-speaking youths after the composer refused their demands that he and his friends stop singing Ukrainian songs because the youths wanted to listen to Russian songs being broadcast over the radio in a café.

In the ensuing days, sporadic and isolated outbursts of violence were aimed at cafés and firms that do business in the Russian language, which led both the regional and local governments of Lviv to place limitations on the use of Russian. Russian government officials have said the local government buckled under pressure from local ultra-nationalist political parties.

While the upper echelons of the Ukrainian government have stepped in to neutralize political pressure being applied from Moscow and turn the debate towards Russia's treatment of its national minorities, perhaps the most convincing tale of the difference in the practical approaches utilized by Moscow and Kyiv in support of minority language rights was told by Vasyl Antoniv, the chairman of the Moscow-based Ukrainian Cultural Society Slavutych.

During a Kyiv press conference organized by Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Antoniv, who has resided in Moscow for 40 years, said that Ukraine must stop defending its record on supporting the language rights of minorities, especially Russian, because they are above reproach. Instead it must begin addressing Russia's failure to uphold promises it has made regarding Ukrainian minority rights in Russia.

"We are led to believe that in Lviv in particular life for Russian speakers is hard. That is difficult to believe," explained Mr. Antoniv. "[The Russian government] says there should be a balance between how Ukrainians are treated in Russia and how [Russians] are treated in Ukraine. And there truly should be, but in a very different way

than they represent. They say that Ukrainians in Russia now have cultural autonomy. We don't see that in any way."

Mr. Antoniv explained that, although Moscow recognizes Ukrainians as a separate ethnic group as it does many other nationalities in its cultural autonomy program, it has not found the financing for a single Ukrainian-language day school, library, theater ensemble or radio or television program. When Ukrainians tried to obtain funding to build a house of worship for faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kyiv Patriarchate, they were told that there are plenty of Russian Orthodox churches, said Mr. Antoniv.

While Russian government officials claim that Ukrainians have their own library in Moscow, Mr. Antoniv explained that it is merely one room of Ukrainian books in a Russian government library. He admitted that, indeed, Ukrainians in Moscow have a cultural center in the heart of the city, on the Arbat, but emphasized that it was built by private funds and pays the city \$50,000 a year in a 20-year land lease.

He also explained that any Ukrainian-language newspapers – and there are a few, especially in the heavily Ukrainian region of Tiumen – are privately financed and barely manage to survive.

According to Ukrainian government statistics presented by the State Committee on Information Policy, TV and Radio Broadcasting, the lot of Russian-language speakers in Ukraine is better.

Today Russian speakers in Ukraine have 2,400 schools and 17,700 preschools to which they can send their children. Some 35 percent of Ukrainian college students still attend college courses taught in Russian. There are 14 state-run Russian theaters in the country, as well as 1,200 Russian-language newspapers – which accounts for 49.7 percent of all periodicals.

"As a result of Moscow's centuries-old Russification policy, first by the tsarist regime and then by the leaders of Communist totalitarianism, the Russian language has taken a significant place in the cultural life of Ukraine," explained Ivan Drach, chairman of the State Committee on Information Policy.

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6	73	31	173	56	409	81	765
7	75	32	179	57	422	82	778
8	78	33	186	58	435	83	791
9	81	34	193	59	448	84	803
10	84	35	200	60	462	85	815
11	87	36	208	61	475	86	826
12	90	37	215	62	489	87	837
13	93	38	223	63	504	88	848
14	96	39	232	64	518	89	858
15	100	40	240	65	533	90	868
16	103	41	249	66	547		
17	107	42	258	67	562		
18	110	43	267	68	576		
19	114	44	276	69	591		
20	118	45	286	70	606		
21	122	46	296	71	622		
22	126	47	306	72	637		
23	130	48	316	73	652		
24	135	49	327	74	667		
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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

### Wednesday, August 9

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass.:** The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute will present a lecture by Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, ambassador of Ukraine to the United States. The lecture, titled "Ukraine and the United States," will be held in Emerson Hall, Room 108, Harvard University, at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact the institute, (617) 495-7833.

### Saturday, August 12

**HUNTER, N.Y.:** Duo-pianists Alexander Slobodyanik and Laryssa Krupa will appear in concert at the Grazhda in a program of works by Liszt, Brahms and Gershwin. The concert, part of the Greene County Center for Music and Art Summer Series, begins at 8 p.m. The Grazhda is located on Route 23 A (adjacent to St. John Ukrainian Catholic Church). Tickets: \$15; senior citizens, \$11; members, \$10.

### Saturday-Sunday, September 9-10

**CHICAGO:** The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Illinois Division,

is sponsoring "Ukrainian Fest 2000," a Ukrainian cultural festival. It will take place at the intersection of Grand and Rockwell avenues from noon to 9 p.m. on both days. The festival features cultural presentations, Ukrainian food, arts and crafts, and a raffle for a round-trip package for two, anywhere in the United States (courtesy of American Airlines). For further information, or to obtain an application to participate in the festival, contact Bohdan Bodnar, (630) 979-1185, or [bohdan.bodnar@worldnet.att.net](mailto:bohdan.bodnar@worldnet.att.net).

### ONGOING:

**CHICAGO:** The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art is displaying "Generations: A Documentary of Ukrainians in Chicago." This exhibition presents photo-portraits by Lialia Kuchma together with oral histories by Irene Antonovych. This collaborative project was previously on view at the Chicago Public Library, Harold Washington Center. For more information call the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, (773) 227-5522. The exhibit is on view through August 20.

## REMINDER REGARDING REQUIREMENTS:

There is a **\$10 charge per submission** for listings in Preview of Events. The listing plus payment must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. There is also the option of prepayment for a series of listings.

Listings of **no more than 100 words** (written in Preview format) plus payment should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Information sent by fax should include a copy of a check, in the amount of \$10 per listing, made out to The Ukrainian Weekly. The Weekly's fax number is (973) 644-9510.



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## SUMMER 2000

### Saturday, August 5

8:30 p.m. — concert — Lesia Hrabowa  
10 p.m. — dance — music by LUNA

### Sunday, August 6

UNWLA Day at Soyuzivka

### Saturday, August 12

8:30 p.m. — concert — Dumka choir, New York  
10 p.m. — dance — music by TEMPO  
11:45 p.m. — CROWNING OF MISS SOYUZIVKA 2001

### Saturday, August 19

8:30 p.m. — concert  
UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS  
"Soyuzivka's Ukrainian Dance Workshop"  
10 p.m. — dance — music by SVITANOK

### Sunday, August 20

2:30 p.m. — concert — composer Myroslaw Skoryk;  
Anna Kovalko, soprano, from Lviv, Ukraine

### Saturday, August 26

8:30 p.m. — concert — Solomiya Ivachiv, violin;  
Christina Anum-Dorhuso, piano  
10 p.m. — dance — music by VIDLUNNIA

### September 1-3

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

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