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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

GUAM countries sign historic charter

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The presidents of Ukraine and four other countries located in the southern space of the former Soviet Union officially signed a historic charter on June 7, creating the first international organization in that region in which Russia is not a member.

The five countries, Georgia, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Moldova and Ukraine have developed closer ties in the last four years through regular meetings and an annual summit of a group known under the acronym GUUAM. The charter, which they signed in Yalta on the

Crimean Peninsula during a two-day summit that began on June 6, formalized their relations and committed the new partners to closer economic and trade coordination, a prime purpose of the new organization.

The initial idea behind GUUAM, first pushed by President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine, was to redevelop the transportation corridor of the Great Silk Road, the legendary trading route by which goods flowed from Asia to Europe in past centuries. He said that the member-states by uniting would acquire certain advantages in the modern international economic order.

“These are states that realize the importance of mutual support, coordination of efforts in conditions set by this period of globalization,” stated Mr. Kuchma during his opening address to the summit, according to Interfax-Ukraine. The Ukrainian president explained that the five countries are united by common interests, steady economic ties, geographic proximity and a similarity of views.

The charter, signed in Yalta's Livadia Palace, where Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill agreed on the pact that divided post-World War II Europe in 1945, calls for cooperation and assistance among the countries in social and economic development, the strengthening and broadening of trade and economic relations, and development and effective use of transport and communications highways and related infrastructure passing through the territories of the member-states.

The new informal headquarters for GUUAM will be Yalta, and the first head of the organization in what will be a rotating chairmanship will be President Gaidar Aliyev of Azerbaijan.

While some members had expected the new economic partners to immediately create a free trade zone among their states, which was one of Mr. Kuchma's prime objectives in developing GUUAM, that did not happen. President Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan stressed at the concluding press conference that more work was needed to develop and coordinate the mechanisms for freeing trade in the region. He explained that two of the member-states, Georgia and Moldova, are members of the World Trade Organization and must coordinate entry into such an arrangement with the WTO. He said he expected the agreement would be signed at next year's summit.

To calm Moscow's possible nervousness over a new international political association on its southern flank, President Kuchma overtly discounted any possibility that GUUAM could become either an economic or political threat. He explained that the creation of prosperity in the area would benefit everybody, “espe-

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Two Rukhs pledge to cooperate for elections

Move seen as precursor to formal reunification

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's national democratic right was strengthened considerably on June 9, when the leaders of the two Rukhs, the National Rukh of Ukraine (NRU) and the Ukrainian National Rukh (UNR), signed a declaration expressing their intent to form a bloc for the upcoming parliamentary elections along with other rightist political forces, a move that they said will lead to formal reunification.

The two party chiefs, Hennadii Udovenko of NRU and Yurii Kostenko of UNR, made the announcement minutes before the beginning of a routine party congress of the UNR, where they agreed in principle to form an electoral bloc in preparation for the March 2002 elections. They indicated that the coalition would lead to a formal full-fledged merger to take place in the weeks immediately after the election.

“This is the first step towards the unification of our parties, the creation of a powerful national democratic party,” said Mr. Udovenko.

The signing took place in the presence of former Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko, whom the national democrats would like to see heading the electoral bloc, but who has stated that he would only lead a wide coalition of democratic forces and would avoid heading an opposition ticket. Also present were leaders of other rightist parties who will enter into a coalition for the next elections to the Verkhovna Rada.

Mr. Yushenko called the reunification pact “a beautiful, strong signal for consolidation of democratic forces” and the beginning of “a long and happy road.”

Speaking at a press conference on June 13, the two leaders said the actual reunification process would begin after March 2002 because laws and procedures surrounding the registration of a party are sufficiently complicated that the work could sidetrack the effort to move strongly together towards elections.

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Former UNA President John O. Flis dies

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – John O. Flis, former three-term president of the Ukrainian National Association and first president of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, died on June 8 at the age of 78.

Mr. Flis was born on September 1, 1922, in Pidsosny, Ukraine. He emigrated to the United States at the age of 12 after literally walking from Lviv to Poland.

Upon arrival in the United States he went on to become president of his graduating class at Junior High School No. 64 in New York City. He attended Stuyvesant High School, and at the age of approximately 18 he created and was the director and choreographer of the

(Continued on page 4)



John O. Flis in 1978, at the first meeting of the Ukrainian National Association's Supreme Assembly after he was elected UNA president.

Ukrainian foundation purchases Verkhovyna

by Oleh N. Dekajlo

MONTICELLO, N.Y. – The Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation on June 7 purchased and acquired the title to the Verkhovyna resort of Glen Spey, N.Y. The closing took place at the Garigliano Law Offices, which represented the mortgage lender, First National Bank of Jeffersonville, and the Sullivan County Industrial Development Agency.

The seller, the Ukrainian Fraternal Association, was represented by officers Ivan Oleksyn, Audrey Thomas and Christina Shablovsky, together with their attorney, Gerald Orseck.

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Ukrainian organizations' representatives meet in hopes of fostering new dialogue

by Andrew Nynka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – In an attempt to foster dialogue between Ukrainian American organizations that splintered on October 12, 1980, 31 representatives of various groups gathered on May 19 at the Ramada Hotel in East Hanover, N.J., to discuss the need for a single body capable of representing the Ukrainian American community with the issue of power amongst the groups still an important factor in achieving unification.

Originally established on May 24, 1940, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) was created as an umbrella organization for Ukrainian American diaspora organizations. When the UCCA convened in Philadelphia in October 1980, for its 13th Congress, over 20 organizations walked out of the conference hall in protest of what the opposition

termed “a one-party hegemony ruling UCCA.”

The 27 organizations that protested the by-laws violations and other irregularities of the 13th Congress later united to form the Committee for Law and Order in the UCCA, which on May 14, 1983, formed the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council (UACC). After the UACC's first congress unanimously approved its creation in Washington on October 1, 1983, the World Congress of Free Ukrainians (WCFU) granted the UACC membership and recognition as the second central representation of U.S. Ukrainians.

Since the UCCA split more than twenty years ago, repeated attempts at re-unification have failed due to ideological and political differences. Supporters argue that unification of Ukrainian American organi-

(Continued on page 21)

Legislators from pro-business factions introduce measure aimed at tax relief

by Yana Sedova

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – Lawmakers from two pro-business factions have introduced a bill that will give single-employee, small business owners a five-year tax exemption – the first such tax relief since serious tax reform efforts began two years ago.

With the long-awaited new tax code still not ready for the Verkhovna Rada's review and not expected to be passed this year, lawmakers are looking for other ways to relieve the large tax burden that Ukrainian businesses must bear.

Tax reform is one of the requirements the International Monetary Fund has placed on Ukraine before it will restart its credit program with the country.

The draft law submitted by the Regions of Ukraine faction, headed by the chairman of Ukraine's State Tax Administration, Mykola Azarov, and the Solidarity faction would give tax breaks to small businesses where the owner is also the only employee. It also reduces overall income taxes from 20 percent to 17 percent and reduces bothersome tax audits to once in three years. It would, however, leave taxes in place to supplement the state pension and state social security fund.

In return for these reduced tax rates, the bill envisages the withdrawal of tax-free status from certain companies and of free trade zones from certain areas of Ukraine.

"We must cancel privileges for joint ventures, which will increase the number of taxpayers and help budget receipts," explained Mr. Azarov.

He explained that the tax burden is slowly shifting in Ukraine from large enterprises to small and medium ones. Whereas in the mid-1990s large enterprises formed the foundation of Ukraine's tax structure, today receipts from small and medium-size businesses amount to 30 percent of all tax collections.

The two factions would also like to see the elimination of what are generally called "free economic zones," which have slowly expanded to the point that they currently involve 10 percent of Ukraine's total area.

The tax bill's initiators said they can no longer wait for across-the-board tax reform and the new tax code. And, while most reform-minded lawmakers are demanding that the 2002 budget be formulated on the basis of a new tax code, there is widespread pessimism that the new code will be passed in time.

"We must place the project for consideration by the lawmakers not later than six months before the new year begins, otherwise it will be difficult for the government to prepare the new budget," explained Petro Poroshenko, head of the Solidarnist faction. "We do not have a majority in the Verkhovna Rada necessary to obtain approval for the main parts of the tax code," he added.

Nonetheless, he and his partners are determined to find some tax relief for small businesses in the interim and believe that this bill provides the best temporary solution. According to government statistics, there are some 600,000 businesspersons who might be eligible for the tax exemption.

ANALYSIS

Half of Ukrainians see no opposition leader

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

A poll of 1,000 people in all regions of Ukraine conducted on April 25 through May 5 by the GfK-USM polling center found that 49 percent of respondents could not identify any opposition leader in Ukraine.

Interfax reported on May 21 that, of those polled, 15 percent said former Deputy Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko is such a leader, 12 percent pointed to Communist Party head Petro Symonenko, 11 percent to Socialist Party head Oleksander Moroz, and 5 percent to lawmaker Taras Chornovil.

"The population reacted appropriately to the situation within the National Salvation Forum. ... The fact that half of the forum opposes the idea of a nationwide referendum [seeking President Leonid Kuchma's ouster], while the Socialists and the Fatherland Party [of Ms. Tymoshenko] support it, confirms that relations within the opposition are complicated." This is the view of Mykola Tomenko, director of the Institute of Politics, which ordered the poll.

The same poll found that if presidential elections had been held at the time it was taken, caretaker Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko would have obtained 24 percent of the vote; Mr. Symonenko, 10 percent; Leonid Kuchma, 6 percent; and Progressive Socialist Party leader

Natalia Vitrenko, 5 percent. Other politicians would have gotten less than 5 percent of the vote; 10 percent of voters would have voted against all candidates, 19 percent were unable to decide on their preference, while 15 percent said they would not have taken part in the elections.

Meanwhile, Mr. Yushenko most recently puzzled Ukrainian commentators by meeting Verkhovna Rada Chairman Ivan Pliusch, with whom he discussed the creation of a "broad democratic coalition" in order to win next year's presidential elections. Mr. Yushenko earlier rejected suggestions that, following his ouster from the post of prime minister, he join and even head the anti-Kuchma opposition, which is represented mainly by the Forum for National Salvation.

Even more puzzling was President Kuchma's statement that he wants Mr. Yushenko "to stay in politics."

The Kyiv-based Zerkalo Nedeli speculated on May 26 that Mr. Yushenko could build his coalition in alliance with Mr. Pliusch and Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko, and obtain support from trade unions, youth organizations, and some parties that so far have not decided on their political alliances for next year's parliamentary elections.

Zerkalo suggested that Mr. Kuchma might be personally interested in the emergence of Mr. Yushenko's non-leftist bloc as a balance to the left wing and the so-called oligarchic parties, which now reportedly threaten the president's political position.

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

NEWSBRIEFS

Kyiv seeks to cooperate with IMF

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh said on June 12 that his government wants to resume cooperation with the International Monetary Fund, Interfax reported. Mr. Kinakh noted that his government views the resumption of cooperation as a move intended both to obtain access to the fund's loans and to send a positive signal for investors. The new prime minister made these statements during his meeting with Luca Barbone, the World Bank's director for Belarus and Ukraine. The previous day an IMF mission arrived in Kyiv "to update [the IMF's] view of the economic situation in Ukraine and make the acquaintance of the new government," according to an official statement. Meanwhile, Mr. Barbone said the World Bank would make a decision on its \$750 million loan in September if the government resolves problems in reforming the country's largest bank, Ukraina. The loan, if approved, would be dispersed in three \$250 million tranches. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma denies theft of Russian gas

BRATISLAVA – President Leonid Kuchma said in the capital of Slovakia on June 12 that his country has not stolen any Russian gas since Ukraine became independent in 1991, Interfax reported. Mr. Kuchma said allegations of illegal gas-siphoning are made to apply economic pressure on Ukraine. He noted that the problem of illegal gas-siphoning "is not on the agenda" of Ukrainian-Russian relations. Mr. Kuchma stressed that the two governments have signed all documents regulating gas issues between Ukraine and Russia. "If Russian President Vladimir Putin were here, he would say the same," President Kuchma added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Allegations of probe not confirmed

KYIV – Quoting an unidentified Ukrainian diplomat in Washington, Interfax reported on June 11 that U.S. authorities are not conducting any investigation involving President Leonid Kuchma. Last week National Deputy Hryhorii Omelchenko had alleged that Mr. Kuchma's former bodyguard Mykola Melnychenko has been given special witness status in the United States after he passed to the U.S. authorities audio recordings suggesting that no less than \$1 billion has been deposited into U.S. bank accounts that either belong to or are controlled by Mr. Kuchma. The Embassy of Ukraine in Washington inquired at the Office of the U.S. Secretary of State about the alleged probe and was told that no such investigation has been opened. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Referendum groups denied registration

KYIV – The Central Election Commission on June 11 denied registration to two groups of citizens from Poltava Oblast and Ternopil who were seeking a referendum on President Leonid Kuchma's ouster, Interfax reported. The commission said the groups committed procedural and formal violations while holding their founding meetings and preparing documents for registration. The commission also said the questions those groups wanted to put forth in a referendum cannot be proposed under Ukrainian legislation. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Aleksei again criticizes papal visit

MOSCOW – Speaking in Moscow on June 11, Russian Orthodox Patriarch Aleksei II said the visit of Pope John Paul II to Ukraine later this month "will cause a new confrontation between religious confessions there," ITAR-TASS reported. Aleksei said the pontiff aims to support "Greek-Catholics and members of the Uniate Church who destroyed three Orthodox eparchies in Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Ternopil at the end of the 1990s." Aleksei said that "etiquette requires an invitation from the Church to which the majority of citizens belong." In Ukraine, that is the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate, Aleksei noted. He said that Church has called the pope's visit "untimely" and said it should be postponed. (RFE/RL Newsline)

President names more Cabinet members

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has appointed Leonid Kozachenko as vice prime minister in charge of agricultural reform, Serhii Kurykin as ecology minister, and Valerii Pustovoitenko as transportation minister in Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh's Cabinet, Ukrainian media reported on June 10. Prior to his appointment Mr. Kozachenko headed the Ukrainian Agrarian Confederation and was also Mr. Kinakh's aide in the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs. Mr. Pustovoitenko, who heads the pro-presidential National Democratic Party, served as prime minister in 1997-1999 and was subsequently replaced by Viktor Yushenko. Mr. Kurykin is a lawmaker and an activist of the Green Party. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Central European presidents meet

KYIV – On June 8 in Verbania, Italy, President Leonid Kuchma attended a meeting of presidents from 13 Central European countries: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia,

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Verkhovna Rada passes yet another election bill

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's Parliament continued to push for a new parliamentary election law on June 7 when it approved yet another version of a bill that is similar to two already vetoed by President Leonid Kuchma.

By a vote of 289-14, lawmakers agreed on a bill that would give 75 percent of the seats to parties in the Verkhovna Rada based on the proportion of the general vote each receives. Almost immediately, however, Mr. Kuchma indicated that he would veto this bill also.

With 289 lawmakers supporting the bill, including members of the pro-presidential Social Democrats (United) faction, however, the prospects for overcoming the veto are strong. Lawmakers would need to find only 11 votes this time to override the president.

In the latest election reform plan – the third approved by the lawmakers in less than two months – 75 percent, or 335 of the parliamentary seats, would be won based on the proportion each party wins in the March 2002 popular vote, while 25 percent (115 seats) would be dedicated to a majoritarian system in which individual candidates would vie for seats in single-mandate electoral districts on a first-past-the-post basis.

President Kuchma has said that he would like to see either an election system with a 50/50 proportional and majoritarian mix,

which is provided under current law, or one that is exclusively majoritarian.

The Verkhovna Rada earlier had approved a strictly proportional system, which was vetoed by the president, and then had made a second attempt at a similar bill that the president vetoed as well.

President Kuchma was unequivocal in his criticism of the latest bill and of a proportional election system in general.

"At this stage of the development of society we cannot hold elections on a proportional basis," said Mr. Kuchma on June 11, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

He added that even today too many people do not know their representative in Parliament, and if a proportional system were enacted, electors would see their lawmakers even less. The president explained that a national deputy would become tied exclusively to the party that included him on its slate, which in turn would acquire a much broader influence over society.

"This bill is for them [the parties], rather than for the people," said Mr. Kuchma.

The latest election bill drew a wide range of support from various areas of the political spectrum of Ukraine, including the largest faction in the Verkhovna Rada, the Communists, who have 113 votes. However, there was resistance from the second strongest caucus, the pro-presidential Labor Ukraine, along with a good portion of the Democratic Union, another faction that supports President Kuchma.

The lawmakers supporting the 75/25

mixed system may have the votes this time to override the presidential veto. Oleksander Zinchenko, head of the Social Democrats (United) faction, said that he believes that the required two-thirds majority (300 votes) can be found, but that the national deputies must consider whether assigning 25 percent of the seats to cover all of Ukraine's territory would make each electoral district too large, which would make it difficult for unknown candidates to prevail.

Aside from the proportions, there is no dispute on the other details of the proposed law. Elections to the Verkhovna Rada would be held the last Sunday of March every fourth year. A special Verkhovna Rada election would have to be called within 60 days if the president dismisses the parliamentary body prematurely. Any party or political coalition could nominate candidates in the multi- or single-mandate constituencies, but no more than one in each of the single-mandate districts.

To qualify for the proportional electoral system, a party would need to collect at least 500,000 signatures with at least 17,000 each in two-thirds of the oblasts of Ukraine. To win party seats in the Verkhovna Rada, a party would need to receive at least 4 percent of the popular vote.

If the legislative and executive branches do not agree on a new election law before the beginning of the election season in mid-October, the parliamentary ballot will be held according to the old law, which envisages a 50/50 mixed electoral system.

Demjanjuk trial ends, judge expected to rule in several months

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – John Demjanjuk's latest trial came to a close in Cleveland on June 8. The Cleveland Plain Dealer reported that Judge Paul R. Matia of the Federal District Court, who heard the case without a jury, is expected to decide within the next few months whether Mr. Demjanjuk lied about his wartime activities.

The U.S. Justice Department had sought to prove that the former Cleveland autoworker, once thought to be "Ivan the Terrible" of the Treblinka death camp, was a guard at several other Nazi camps.

The Justice Department had filed suit on May 19, 1999, seeking to once again revoke Mr. Demjanjuk's U.S. citizenship on the grounds that he illegally gained entry into the United States and illegally gained U.S. citizenship because he had concealed his service as a camp guard. The trial got under way on May 29.

Federal prosecutors allege that Mr. Demjanjuk served as a guard at Sobibor, Majdanek and Flossenberg, and that he had been trained at the Trawniki camp.

Mr. Demjanjuk denies that he ever served the Nazis, but admits giving false statements when entering the United States in order to escape repatriation to the Soviet Union. Attorney Michael Tigar said his client is once again the victim of mistaken identity.

Mr. Demjanjuk, 81, did not take the stand to defend himself. Instead, the defense relied on his sworn testimony given a year ago when he was interviewed by U.S. attorneys, and called his son, John Jr., 35, to testify. Asked by Mr. Tigar, "Did your dad ever tell you that he helped the Nazis?" the younger Mr. Demjanjuk replied, "Never."

The Plain Dealer reported that Federal Prosecutor Jonathan Dimmer told Judge Matia the case against the elder Mr. Demjanjuk is solid as it is based on seven wartime documents that they say refer to Demjanjuk as they list his name, birthdate, place of birth, father's name and a scar on his back.

Those documents, according to the defense, fail to prove that the John Demjanjuk of Ohio is the person referred to in the documents. Mr. Tigar cited discrepancies in information about height and dental work, and the U.S. government's failure to match his client's signature to the one on an identification card purportedly issued by the Nazis.

The Demjanjuk case dates back to 1977, when the Ohio resident was first accused of being "Ivan the Terrible." A naturalized U.S. citizen, he lost that status in 1981, when a court stripped him of his citizenship. He was ordered deported and in 1986 was extradited to Israel, where a war crimes trial began a year later.

He was sentenced to death in 1988, but that conviction was overturned on appeal in 1993 by Israel's Supreme Court, and Mr. Demjanjuk returned home to Seven Hills, Ohio. His citizenship was restored in 1998. In that 1998 ruling Judge Matia cited fraud on the part of U.S. government prosecutors and wrote that attorneys of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) "acted with reckless disregard for their duty to the court and their discovery obligations" in failing to disclose potentially exculpatory evidence to the Demjanjuk defense.

Venture capital firm focuses on western Ukraine

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – It could be that the ever-keen eye of the Western investor finally may have focused on western Ukraine, economically the most underdeveloped region of this struggling but potentially prosperous country of 50 million. Western Ukraine is renowned for its staunch patriotism and rich cultural development, but thus far has been considered a commercial

investment backwater.

Western Ukrainian Venture Partners (WUVP), the privately owned management arm of an investment project initiated with funding from the Dutch government, has decided that the time is ripe for commercial investment in western Ukraine and has set up a fund to generate foreign investments for the region.

WUVP manages the Dnieper (Guernsey) PCC Ltd. (Dnieper Fund), a venture capital vehicle for agricultural and financial investments, which has identified the land west of the Dniro River as its area of opportunity.

The management firm, subject to Dutch financial regulations, is looking to lure institutional and private investors into a wide array of commercial investment projects being developed in Ukraine, ranging from commercial animal husbandry, crop development and food processing to publishing and financial services.

"There are medium and small companies on side streets and back roads all over this region with outstanding possibilities," said Peter DeVreede, manager of Western Ukrainian Venture Partners, who has eight years experience working in Ukraine and earlier was a country manager for the international consulting firm KPMG in Kyiv. "One needs to look for good management, for an entrepreneurial instinct, where the major shareholders are the managers," added the venture manager.

Mr. DeVreede offers his potential clients wholly private and transparent Ukrainian companies that have been rebuilt in a Western mode with Western business requirements and traditions. WUVP acts as the manager of the investments and has financial controllers working and living on site to oversee the investment.

The management firm, which constantly scrutinizes Ukrainian markets for new opportunities, also identifies promising projects, prepares required due diligence reports and makes final recommendations to the Dnieper Fund invest-

ment committee, which must approve all new investments.

WUVP then monitors the performance of portfolio companies and submits periodic reports on its status, manages the company's liquidity position and, finally, its exit strategy.

The key to what the Dnieper Fund offers its clientele is flexibility. Its investment portfolio accents protected cells, an investment mechanism that allows an investor to identify where he wants to place his money, and gives maximum flexibility for differing classes of investors.

"A cell structure allows for specific demands of the individual," said Mr. DeVreede.

He explained that in more traditional funds the investor surrenders his money, which then is invested for him by the fund in an area where it sees the best opportunity. In a cell structure, however, an investor can request that his money be placed in a specific cell, for example one that will invest in the development of a particular type of food processing plant. The money then joins other investments that have been earmarked for that particular cell. This type of cell structure also allows for the co-mingling of finances from multinational institutional investors, which the fund is hoping to attract, with smaller investors.

Mr. DeVreede explained that WUVP is better suited for the Ukrainian market than the large Western investment funds, which unload \$100 million to \$200 million at time on specific projects. The large financial institutions find it practically impossible to invest such large amounts of money in Ukraine's transitional market environment because of the lack of complete privatization and thorough transparency in projects that are of the size they require.

Mr. DeVreede said his company is specifically designed to handle the middle- and small-sized Western institutional investor as well as private investors. He underscored that the projects WUVP rec-

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Dobriansky tapped as Tibet coordinator

WASHINGTON – President George W. Bush has appointed Paula J. Dobriansky, who was recently named undersecretary of state for global affairs, as coordinator for Tibetan issues.

The position was created by Congress to promote dialogue between the Chinese government in Beijing and the Dalai Lama, the exiled Tibetan leader, and to protect Tibetan identity.

The New York Times noted on May 23 that this the highest level official appointed to deal with Tibet and that the step has annoyed Chinese leaders who already were angered by the reception given to the Dalai Lama in Washington, where he had what was described as a private meeting with President Bush. That meeting took place on May 23, the date the Chinese mark as the anniversary of the "liberation" of Tibet.

The Times quoted a Chinese government spokesman as telling U.S. leaders to "Stop interfering in China's internal affairs" by allowing official meetings with the Dalai Lama, and warning that such contacts would cause "harm to Chinese-American relations."

OBITUARIES

Msgr. Joseph Fedorek, pastor in Elizabeth for 36 years

ELIZABETH, N.J. – Msgr. Joseph John Fedorek, pastor of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church here and dean of New Jersey's Ukrainian Catholic parishes, died on May 26. He was 75.

Msgr. Fedorek was born in Bayonne, N.J., on April 12, 1926, the son of Wasyl and Ann (Lytwyn) Fedorek. He attended public schools in Bayonne and then graduated in 1945 from St. Basil Preparatory School and in 1949 from St. Basil College, both located in Stamford, Conn.

In 1947, while at college, the New York Giants B-Ball Division in Manchester, N.H., offered him a professional Minor League contract. Instead, he chose to complete his degree in Theological Studies at Catholic University, Washington, and was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Constantine Bohachevsky, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, on June 8, 1953.

Msgr. Fedorek served in seven parishes of the Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia. He served as assistant pastor at St. Nicholas Parish in Buffalo, N.Y.; and at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, Ansonia, Conn. His assignments as pastor included pastor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Philadelphia; Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, southwest Philadelphia; Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, Clifton Heights, Pa.; and St. Michael's Parish, Shenandoah, Pa., the oldest Ukrainian Catholic parish in North and South America.

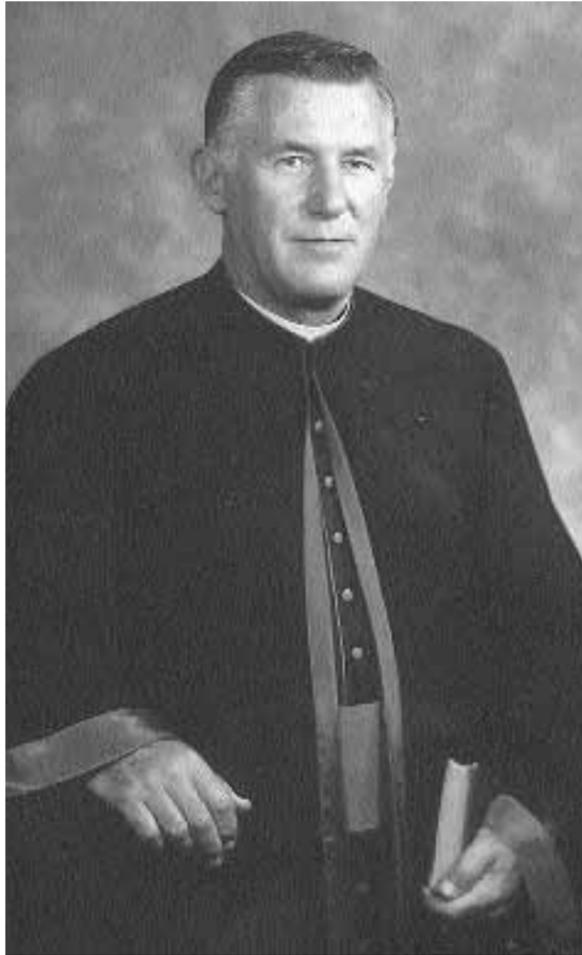
In October 1965 the Rev. Fedorek was appointed pastor of St. Vladimir Parish in Elizabeth, N.J.; at the time of his passing he was completing his 36th year there as pastor.

In addition to his duties at St. Vladimir's, Msgr. Fedorek held several other positions within the Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia: chairman of the advisory board of directors of Manor Junior College in Jenkintown, Pa., national spiritual director of the League of Ukrainian Catholics in America, archeparchial consultant, board member of St. Basil's College and St. Basil's Prep, member of the board of directors of Ascension Manor I and II, senior citizens' homes in Philadelphia, and member of the board of directors of the Providence Association, the only Ukrainian Catholic insurance fraternal society in the world.

In January 1961 Tracy Voorhees, President John F. Kennedy's special advisor on Cuba, invited the Rev. Fedorek to travel to Miami Beach to aid in the resettlement of a substantial number of Cuban refugees. In 1962 he was invited as a guest chaplain to offer the invocation at the opening session of the U.S. Congress. He offered this prayer in the same spot where President Kennedy had delivered his State of the Union address the day before.

In 1963 the Rev. Fedorek was again invited as a guest chaplain to offer an invocation, this time at the opening session of the U.S. Senate. In March 1963, Gov. William Scranton of Pennsylvania invited the Rev. Fedorek to Harrisburg, Pa., to be guest chaplain in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. He was also honorary chaplain to the Pennsylvania State Police.

For his achievements in St. Vladimir Parish and for his many responsibilities and duties in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, the Rev. Fedorek was bestowed the rank of monsignor in December 1976.



Msgr. Joseph Fedorek

In 1979, Msgr. Fedorek was invited to concelebrate the liturgy with Pope John Paul II in the Sistine Chapel for the consecration of Cardinal Myroslav Ivan Lubachivsky as archbishop for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States. Since 1980 he was the dean of Ukrainian Catholic parishes in the state of New Jersey.

In 1981 Pope John Paul II raised him to the rank of prelate of honor (the right reverend monsignor). Soon after, he received the title of archpriest from the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Msgr. Fedorek was a member of the Knights of Columbus for over 40 years and belonged to the Fourth Degree John Dawson Gilmary Shea Assembly. On May 13, 2000, Msgr. Fedorek was presented an honorary doctorate of law from St. Basil College in Stamford for his dedicated service to St. Basil Seminary and the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The monsignor's only brother was the late PFC John Fedorek, who was killed in action on January 2, 1944, at Anzio Beach, Italy, during World War II.

The funeral liturgy was offered on May 31 at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church and burial followed at Holy Cross Cemetery in North Arlington, N.J. Memorial donations may be made to St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Seminary Fund, c/o St. Vladimir Church, 309 Grier Ave., Elizabeth, NJ 07202.

Former UNA president...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukrainian Dancing Society of New York during the 1940s through the 1960s. Many a marriage resulted from membership in the dance club.

Mr. Flis was a tenor who sang in St. George's Church choir under the direction of Prof. Theodore Onufryk. Both the dance group and choir participated in many concerts throughout the Metropolitan New York area to wide acclaim.

Mr. Flis served in the United States Army in Europe during World War II and upon returning home in 1947 married his sweetheart and dance partner, Mary Tolopka. She had kept the dance group together while Mr. Flis was in the U.S. Army.

Mr. Flis returned to school and graduated cum laude from the New York School of Commerce, Accounting and Finance with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1948. He went on to New York University Law School and received his law degree in December 1953.

He had a thriving law and accounting practice on Second Avenue in New York City and served the community for over 25 years.

Mr. Flis worked diligently and devoted himself to the Ukrainian community. He was an officer and/or member of the board of directors of Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union from the early 1950s until his retirement in 1995, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Village View Housing on the Lower East Side of New York City, and the Holy Spirit Cemetery Corp.

In addition he was legal advisor of the Ukrainian Studies Fund and a member of the Visiting Committee of the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University, as well as a member of the board of directors of the Ukrainian Institute of America.

Mr. Flis was elected vice-president of the Ukrainian National Association and served in that post in 1974-1978. In 1978 he was elected president of the Ukrainian National Association and served three terms until 1990. In recognition of his years of service to the UNA he was named an honorary member of the UNA General Assembly.

He was the first president of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, one of the two Ukrainian umbrella organizations in the United States.

Mr. Flis and Wasyl Weresh in 1976 organized and staged the first Ukrainian street festival ("yarmarok") with St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church on East Seventh Street in New York City. The festival has been held annually with great success for the past 25 years. He was also an active member of the Ukrainian Catholic Veterans Post of St. George in New York City.

Dr. Flis was a devoted family man who enjoyed his family and home on Long Island; to relax he became an avid gardener. In recent years he resided in Vermont with his daughter and her husband.

He was married to his beloved Mary until her death in 1991. Surviving are his daughter, Felicia Flis Woolsey; son, John Andrew; and two granddaughters, Tatiana and Ariana. Also surviving are his sister Tessie Kology and brother Mike Baran.

The funeral liturgy was offered on Wednesday, June 13, at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kerhonkson, N.Y. Interment was at Holy Spirit Cemetery in Hamptonburgh, N.Y. In accordance with the family's wishes, memorial donations may be sent to: Orleans Essex VNA and Hospice, North Country Hospital, Prouty Drive, Newport, VT 05855.

Sister Mary Carmela, OSBM, teacher and administrator

FOX CHASE MANOR, Pa. – Sister Mary Carmela Pazdrey died at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great on Friday, April 27. She was still active in her ministry at the Basilead Library at Manor College.

Sister Carmela, a native of Pennsylvania and daughter of the late Rev. Michael Pazdrey and the late Mary Agatha Ivanush, entered the Basilian Order on December 8, 1942, and was invested with the religious habit by her father on May 27, 1943. Her final profession took place on August 26, 1951, in the presence of her brother, the Rev. George Pazdrey. In addition to her parents, Sister Carmela is preceded in death by her brother George and her sisters Helen and Vera. She is survived by two sisters, Olga and Olympia, and her brother Michael.

During her years in the Basilian community Sister Carmela taught in the parish schools of St. Vladimir's, Arnold, Pa.; St. Nicholas, Watervliet, N.Y.; St. George, New York City; St. Michael, Yonkers, N.Y.; Ss. Peter and Paul, Auburn, N.Y.; St. John the Baptist, Newark, N.J.; Ss. Peter and Paul, Jersey City, N.J.; Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Olyphant, Pa.; and at St. Basil Academy, Fox Chase, Pa.

Sister Carmela held key positions in the community, serving as provincial secretary and superior of the Fox Chase community. In 1960 Sister Carmela was elected vice provincial of the Basilian Philadelphia Province and from 1965-1970 served as the provincial superior. As provincial superior, she was instrumental in initiating the construction of the new St. Basil Academy Building and the Basilead Library at Manor College. It was also through Sister Carmela's influence that laypersons were accepted onto Manor's board of trustees.

Parastas services were held in the Sisters' Chapel at the Basilian Motherhouse on April 30 with the sisters' chaplain, the Rev. Michael Rozmarynowycz, as the celebrant. The sisters sang the responses. On Tuesday, May 1, a funeral divine liturgy was sung in the Holy Trinity Chapel of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great. The Most Rev. Walter Paska officiated along with the Revs. Rozmarynowycz, Orest Mykhaylyuk and Philip Sandrick.

Sister Mary Cecilia Jurasinski OSBM, provincial councilor and president of Manor College, delivered the eulogy. Interment followed in the Basilian Sisters' cemetery.

Parks Canada and UCCLA to honor internees

KINGSTON, Ontario – Parks Canada and the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA) will unveil four interpretive panels at the Natural Bridge Area, Field, British Columbia, on Saturday, June 23, at 1 p.m.

These four panels explain the history of Camp Otter, one of 24 internment camps in which thousands of Ukrainian and European Canadians were unjustly imprisoned as "enemy aliens" during World War I.

Camp Otter is of special significance because it was named after Maj. Gen. William D. Otter, the administrator of internment operations in Canada during the first world war.

Since 1994 the UCCLA has placed 15 commemorative plaques and two statues at internment sites across the country.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

To all members of the Ukrainian National Association

An insurance company can declare and pay dividends only if its business generates a surplus of funds, which then can be divided among all certificate holders. The Ukrainian National Association Inc., in filing its financial statement for the year 2000 has shown the smallest deficit in over 10 years. This small decrease in our surplus is primarily due to sound financial management and cost-cutting measures implemented in the last three years.

The annual comparative report shows that the UNA holds \$111.84 of assets for each \$100 of liabilities compared to \$105.02 held by the average 25 of the largest life insurance companies. However our actuary is still not permitting us to pay dividends for the year 2000. The Executive Committee of UNA has not declared a dividend to the membership for the year 2000.

As a life insurance company we are profitable, but as a fraternal society we have some very expensive benefits that our members enjoy and have enjoyed for many years. Once again we would like to inform the membership where the UNA as a fraternal society spends its money.

1. UNA supports two weekly newspapers, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly. In the year 2000 the UNA paid \$175,000 to support the papers.

2. Our resort, Soyuzivka, received \$579,000 from the UNA during the past year.

3. Members age 79 and older received a fraternal benefit of \$170,000 to pay their premiums.

4. Chronically ill members received a total of \$3,300.

5. Scholarship recipients received \$23,000 in scholarship for the academic year.

6. Each graduate of Ukrainian Saturday schools received a \$50 gift from UNA.

Many more thousands of members throughout the years enjoyed discounts at our resort, Soyuzivka, and on subscriptions to our publications. Unfortunately, these generous benefits are not covered by our fraternal dues of \$3 per adult member annually. We as a society must realize that we must either reduce these benefits, raise the fraternal dues or increase our insurance sales to afford these benefits.

Your membership in the UNA is a valuable asset to you not only as insurance on your life but for the many benefits it provides. Your membership not only provides you with benefits, but at the same time supports the entire Ukrainian American community. We highly value your membership in our association and hope to serve you and your children for another 107 years.

Your voice is important to our organization. Please participate in the election of delegates to the UNA Convention in 2002 that will express your views, new ideas and desires about the future of UNA and its membership.

– The Executive Committee

UNA honors member-graduates of Immaculate Conception High School



WARREN, Mich. – Twenty-one students graduated from Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic High School on Sunday, June 3. Among them were two UNA members, who received financial aid from the Ukrainian National Association. The two recipients, Stephanie Hreha (second from left) and Natalie Tobianski (second from right), are seen above during the graduation rehearsal with Principal Michaeline Weigle and UNA Auditor Dr. Alexander J. Serafyn.

Young UNA'ers



Anna Elizabeth Miller, daughter of Patricia Vera and Ronald Miller, is a new member of UNA Branch 147 in Allentown, Pa. She was enrolled by her parents.



Maya Stawnychy, 9, of Kinnelon, N.J., is a new member of UNA Branch 325 in Brooklyn, N.Y. She was enrolled by her parents, Zoriana and Yuri Stawnychy.

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.

RECORDING DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT – APRIL 2001

Martha Lysko, National Secretary

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Total Active Members – 3/2001	6,936	14,559	3,367	24,862
Total Inactive Members – 3/2001	7,330	17,619	0	24,949
Total Members – 3/2001	14,266	32,178	3,367	49,811

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 4/2001

New members	21	25	0	46
New members UL	0	1	0	1
Reinstated	7	15	2	24
Total Gains:	28	41	2	71

Losses in 4/2001

Died	2	27	0	29
Cash surrender	12	38	0	50
Endowment matured	9	14	0	23
Fully paid-up	13	16	0	29
Reduced paid-up	0	0	0	0
Extended Insurance	35	65	0	100
Certificates lapsed (active)	14	10	56	80
Certificate terminated	4	1	6	11
Total Losses	89	171	62	322

Total Active Members – 4/2001	6,875	14,429	3,307	24,611
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INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 4/2001

Paid-up	13	16	0	29
Reduced paid up	0	0	0	0
Extended insurance	35	65	0	100
Total Gains	48	81	0	129

Losses in 4/2001

* Died	0	43	0	43
* Cash surrender	7	22	0	29
Pure endowment matured	0	1	0	1
Reinstated to active	7	17	0	24
Certificates lapsed (inactive)	2	4	0	6
Total Losses	16	87	0	103

Total Inactive Members – 4/2001	7,362	17,613	0	24,975
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 4/2001	14,237	32,042	3,307	49,586

(* Paid up and reduced paid up policies)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Our fathers

"One father is more than a hundred schoolmasters."

– 17th century English proverb.

Today is Father's Day, a day that has been celebrated in the United States since 1910, when it was first observed in Spokane, Wash. It was the brainchild of a daughter, Sonora Smart Dodd, who a year earlier had proposed the idea of a special day to honor fathers and their special gifts. Mrs. Dodd had in mind her father, William Smart, a Civil War veteran who was widowed when his wife died in childbirth with their sixth child and was left to raise the children by himself in a rural area in the state of Washington.

In 1924, 15 years after Mrs. Dodd first came up with the idea, President Calvin Coolidge supported the idea of a national Father's Day, but it wasn't until 1966 that President Lyndon B. Johnson issued a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father's Day.

It is notable that Mrs. Dodd was already an adult when she realized the exceptional qualities – she cited strength and selflessness – that her father had displayed in raising his six children as a single parent. Is that surprising? Perhaps not, as many of us, we're sure, don't take the time in our busy day-to-day routines to think about all our fathers have done, what roles they play in our lives, and what we would do without them ...

Protector and breadwinner, advisor and guide, supporter and cheerleader, nurturer and educator, and yes, even disciplinarian and one who lays down the law – all these describe a father. Who else would have taught you to ice skate or ride a bike? Who else would have taken all those photos of you growing up? Who else would have convinced you that the great big dog around the corner is just a big puppy? Who else would have voiced disagreement, gently, by saying: "Do you really think it's so?" And then admonished you, loudly, when you really deserved it?

Our fathers, and our grandfathers, also are repositories of rich family history, the keepers of precious memories. They are the ones to whom we turn to explain so much in our lives, the ones who can illuminate the most unfathomable events.

And there is so much more. Indeed, fathers are so much more than their sons and daughters can ever know.

Small wonder then that children oftentimes learn salient and fascinating facts about their fathers when they least expect it, from unlikely sources at out-of-the-ordinary venues. In each of our lives, there's bound to be at least one moment of enlightenment, a recollection that crystallizes an experience: so that's why I am the way I am, so that's why I did this – I truly am my father's offspring! And what joy to realize such a connection to a grandfather!

Thus, as we celebrate this special day, we say: forget about shopping for yet another tie! (Does Dad really need, or want, another one?) Let's give all our fathers the precious gift of time – our time spent with them. Why not make some time to learn about our fathers and grandfathers, to share their past – their experiences, their emotions, their dreams? (You may be surprised, and you're sure to gain most valuable insight.)

But, most of all, let us remember to express our love to our fathers, to cherish them, to enjoy them. And to remember them – wherever they may be – on Father's Day and always.

"It doesn't matter who my father was; it matters who I remember he was."

– Anne Sexton

June
21
1948

Turning the pages back...

This week in 1948, the House Committee on Un-American Activities released a report titled, "100 Things You Should Know About Communism in U.S.A." The report, which the Committee unanimously approved, constituted a string of

questions and answers about communism.

For the preface, the committee selected a quote from William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist Party: "When a Communist heads the government of the United States – and that day will come as surely as the sun rises – the government will not be a capitalist but a Soviet government, and behind this government will stand the Red Army to enforce the dictatorship of the proletariat."

The following are excerpts from the House of Representatives committee report.

* * *

Q: How many Communists are there in the United States?

A: There are approximately 100,000 out of a population of 145,340,000 people. J. Edgar Hoover has testified that "in 1917 when the Communists overthrew the Russian government, there was one Communist for every 2,277 persons in Russia. In the United States today there is one Communist for every 1,814 persons in the country."

Q: What would happen to my insurance?

A: It would go to the Communists.

Q: Would communism give me something better than I have now?

A: Not unless you are in a penitentiary serving a life sentence at hard labor.

The committee report was supposed to be the first in a series of releases on "Reds," as Communists were often called, in the areas of religion, education, labor and government. Another planned report was to be called "One Hundred Things You Should Know About Communism in Religion."

Source: "How to Identify a Communist?" *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 21, 1948.

FOR FATHER'S DAY

Blood and flowers

by Andrey Sahajdakowski

Fresh flowers stand inches away from the dried blood that remains on the spot where only days earlier your broken and battered body found its final resting place.

How I pray for rain.

Rain to wash away the blood and let it soak into the ground.

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

I knew you were gone the night I looked upon your swollen, discolored, barely recognizable face.

I knew you were long gone before I leaned over and kissed your blood-stained cheek and said good-bye.

I knew the angels came for you in that instant before the car came into contact with your fragile body.

The body was yours, but you were gone.

And I know you didn't suffer –

I'm sure the angels saw to that.

You're home now and at peace.

Your everyday toils and sufferings are no more,

And I rest in the knowledge that you are happy about that.

You lived a long life that ended so suddenly,

And we both know that this is how it was supposed to be.

The Symphony that is life always comes to an end.

No one escapes it.

No one.

Life for us goes on as it must

But the pain of this heartache is great.

Time will do its best to heal the wounds

But the emptiness will probably never go away.

You told me that a time like this was sure to come

And that when it did I shouldn't cry or grieve

Because this is the way of all life.

And as much as I thought I had myself braced,

The fall was hard.

Very hard.

The tears.

The agonizing tears came.

I couldn't hold them off,

There was no point in even trying.

They won't bring you back,

That much even I know.

But your love and your memory can never be taken away from me.

They are all mine.

Mine for ever and ever.

You were my father,

This is true.

But you were so much more.

You were my friend –

Always there for me.

You were my co-worker –

What a time we had.

You were my travel companion –

Adventures I'll never forget.

You were my walking buddy –

A twosome we laughingly knew as "the old man and the freak."

You were my cheering section –

Always urging me on in ways to better myself.

You were my teacher –

One who taught me many things,

The greatest of which was love.

But most of all

You were my hero.

I had often said that if I could be half the mechinst that you were,

I'd be happy.

But now I say:

If I could only attain one small iota of the man

you were, I don't think that I could possibly ask for more.

You're gone but in many ways you can never leave.

The flowers have all dried up and the rain that I had so prayed for has finally come and washed the blood away.

Life goes on as life must go on.

My love to you eternally, my dear father.

My love to you eternally.

In memory of Igor Sahajdakowski Sr., July 29, 1922 – February 17, 2001.

This poem was written by his son Andrey and submitted for publication by Olha Oseredczuk, secretary of Ukrainian National Association Branch 37, of which the Sahajdakowskis are members. She explained in her letter that the elder Mr. Sahajdakowski had died earlier this year as a result of a tragic accident in which he was hit by a car as he was crossing the street in Cranford, N.J. This poem, she noted, would be a fitting Father's Day tribute.

ANALYSIS: The Ukrainian Churches and their expectations for the visit of Pope John Paul II

by the Rev. Andriy Chirovsky, S.Th.D

It is important to note that the voyage of Pope John Paul II (June 23-27) will not be the first papal visit to Ukraine. Pope Clement (c. 100 AD) died a martyr's death in Crimea. Pope Martin (mid-seventh century) was martyred in Kherson. So, what we're really hoping for is that this will be the first pope to visit Ukraine on a round-trip ticket. Since systematic treatment of Ukrainian Church history in all its complexity is made impossible by constraints of time and space, I shall simply choose a few illustrative moments and enlightening themes that will help to set up some context.

The interplay of union and freedom

When people – persons, nations, Churches – unite, if the union is free, it brings positive fruits.

Let us remember that freedom is an interior disposition, so that even forcible acts can be transformed into free decision – as, for example, in the passion and crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ. That is simply an aside to keep in mind, so as to avoid crushing pessimism in our brief flight through Ukrainian history.

The hierarchy of the Metropolia of Kyiv freely chose, in Orthodox synodal fashion, to pursue union with Rome in 1596. They surprised the Polish king, the papal nuncio, the Jesuits and even the pope himself. Let us remember that the

with Rome – to the Moscow Patriarchate in 1686. The fruits are painful to this day, as both the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and the two autocephalously minded Orthodox Churches of Ukraine can explain much better than I. The fruits of the expansion of tsarist hegemony which was accompanied by liquidation of the union in all newly acquired regions were also manifestly evil.

When St. Volodymyr chose Christianity – but in its Eastern, Constantinopolitan form – as the official religion of Rus' in 988, this free association with Byzantine Christianity and what Sir Dimitry Obolensky likes to call the "Byzantine Commonwealth" brought great religious and cultural – civilizational – fruits. When his sons Borys and Hlib chose to freely accept death rather than raise up arms against their brother Sviatopolk in self-defense, the Church of Kyiv received its first saints and a new category of sainthood had to be elaborated especially for them – certainly a fruit of the Holy Spirit and of free choice. When their other brother, Yaroslav the Wise, freely established ties with the various kingdoms of Latin Christianity (installing his daughter Anna as the only liberate member of the royal house of France and laying the groundwork for the reception of the defeated King Harold of England to take refuge in Kyiv with his family and retinue) these freely chosen acts of communion with a Latin Christian West and all the exchanges

cally as a Church that is Orthodox but in communion with Rome and as a Church that is Catholic but fundamentally Eastern.

The both/and of the great antinomies, the great paradoxes of the Christian faith, as expressed in the Three who are One, the Divine Savior who is perfectly human, the complete union with God of the believer who nevertheless retains his or her personhood, this antinomy of union without confusion is lived out daily by the "Kyivan Church of the Catholic Communion." This name, I believe, is the most proper name we can ascribe to what has been called the Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church (or even more improperly, the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church).¹

The Autocephalous Orthodox of the Church of Kyiv also live an antinomic existence of a sort. Their cry for freedom in the 1920s, their second rebirth during World War II, and their third rising up in the 1990s was phrased in terms not of the "both/and," but rather of the "neither/nor": "Neither Rome nor Moscow!" they cried. Although a completely understandable vision of their own identity, this, unfortunately, has left them isolated on the stage of world Orthodoxy, and they are desperately seeking the approval of Constantinople (or of anyone in the worldwide Orthodox mainstream) for their autocephaly. What will happen in this extremely complicated case remains to be seen.

The Kyivan Church of the Catholic Communion – or at least influential groups within it – seek an antinomic response to the ecumenical question. Refusing to choose, as this refusal has been lived out in various ways throughout the centuries, between the Orthodox and Catholic communions, the Kyivan universalists desire the antinomic holy grail of double communion. "Why must we choose in your either/or world? We want full and visible communion with both Rome and Constantinople."

Yes, it is impossible (at least right now). Yes, it is complicated. Yes, it seeks a local solution to a universal problem. But it is still a goal worth pursuing. For, you see, the Kyivan Church has the simultaneous luxury and curse of never having lived through the fullness of the Enlightenment – that beautifully horrid time when the Cartesian reincarnation of the Aristotelian principle of non-contradiction took root and undergirded a system for modernity, with its take-it-or-leave-it certainties in religion, politics and nearly all areas of human thought.

What an ironic fate – to have missed the wonders of the Enlightenment but to have suffered its worst consequences, Marxism and its evil twin consumerism, the nihilist offspring of the Enlightenment, which together brought forth today's culture of death! To have to face these bitter fruits of the Enlightenment unequipped with the Enlightenment's good fruit of critical thought – which allows one to see what's what and to look at oneself with painful objectivity – is a cruel fate, because then the inevitable result is that without real critical thought one is so easily reduced to superstition. As G. K. Cheserton put it, when one abandons the truth, the problem is not that one will believe nothing, but rather that one will believe anything. But, true to their antinomic heritage at the ambiguous frontiers of Europe, many Ukrainians today simultaneously believe both nothing and anything.

That is the situation into which Pope John Paul II will step on June 23, as, God willing, he kisses the soil of Ukraine in Kyiv. His visit is plagued by land mines at every turn.

The Moscow Patriarchate has been planting them systematically with Himmleresque efficiency, utilizing well the KGB training they received (and may perhaps continue to receive) under the leadership of "Agent Drozdov" otherwise known as Patriarch Aleksei II,² a close ally of another erstwhile KGB agent by the name of President Vladimir Putin.

The autocephalous-minded Orthodox will no doubt look for photo opportunities to boost their legitimacy in the world. It is a pity no one will listen to their rather obvious reasoning because they have been so carefully branded as uncanonical outlaws by the Moscow Patriarchate, the last institution of the Russian empire.

The Greco-Catholics and the Roman Catholics will waste altogether too much time trying to show the holy father who loves him more and which is the better Catholic Church in Ukraine – a foolish game in a world of sound bites and 15-second news coverage, when solidarity and not petty competitiveness is so critically needed.³

There will be those who think the pope is acting too Polish, simply by being himself and by speaking Polish on occasion. There will be others who still dream of Right-Bank Ukraine (from the Polish border to the Dnipro river and Kyiv itself) as a reconstituted "greater

(Continued on page 8)

[The faithful and hierarchy] want recognition of at least all of modern-day Ukraine as the "ancestral territory" of the Church of Kyiv, ... real inclusion in Orthodox-Catholic ecumenical processes; ... and a guarantee – once and for all – that there will be no discussing of the future of this Church without the presence of this Church at the negotiating table.

Polish Jesuits had something very different in mind. They wanted the Ruthenian (Ukrainian and Belarusian) Orthodox to accept wholesale Polonization and absorption into the Roman rite. That is not what they got, and they were therefore quite surprised by the ecclesiological turnaround proposed by the Metropolia of Kyiv. Not all the fruits (because we live in a fallen state) but many of the fruits of this union would be good, including the free choice of many to accept martyrdom for the sake of this union (a case of tyranny being transformed into freedom).

Conversely, when union is not free or is not transformed into freedom, the fruits will be unhealthy. And so it was with the subordination of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – that part of the Kyivan Church that did not desire union

that accompanied them brought good fruits, even though the ecclesiastical situation between Rome and Constantinople was tense, to say the least.

This freedom to choose is something that lies at the heart of the Ukrainian Christian experience throughout the ages. It is a universal human need that is accentuated in the case of the Ukrainian people by their geopolitical location, on the fringes of European civilization. The very name Україна (Ukraine) is a nickname for the ancient heartland of Kyivan Rus'. Україна – Ukraine – means the land of the edge, the borderland, the fringe (not in the sense that many Russian historiographers would like it to be used, implying that the center of Rus' was far to the north and these southwestern lands were the outposts of Rus', but rather in the sense of the last country before the chaos of the nomad-controlled steppes to the East).

To live on the edge can be exciting, but the ambiguity of the situation can be simultaneously liberating and exhausting. When you are on the fringe, are you just inside Europe, or just outside it, or does the fault-line between civilizations run right through your heart?

When you live on the edge you cannot trust others so easily to make decisions for you (as helpful as they may want to be). And so, what we know today as the Greco-Catholic Church of Kyiv (or in an ethnic and therefore ecclesiological unhealthy nomenclature – the Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church) has decided to keep its options open by living antinomi-

Father Andriy Chirovsky, S.Th.D. is the founder and current director of the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies, Faculty of Theology, St. Paul University, in Ottawa, where he holds the Peter and Doris Kule Chair of Eastern Christian Theology and Spirituality.

This paper was delivered at a joint international conference in Rome, sponsored by the Pontifical Oriental Institute, the Lviv Theological Academy and the Ottawa-based Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute, at the Pontifical Gregorian University on May 25 and at the Pontifical Oriental Institute on May 26.

1. It is important to note that the Holy Synod of Bishops of this Church has begun experimenting with this name, using it occasionally and slowly exposing the membership to such nomenclature. Its first sustained public use would probably be linked with the ecumenical forum called "The Kyivan Church Study Group," which began operating in the early 1990s.

2. The highly respected Keston News Service publicized the facts of Patriarch Aleksei's involvement in the Estonian KGB from February 1958 on, in an article by Felix Corley, "KNS Russia: The Patriarch and the KGB," Thursday, September 21, 2000. The Keston Institute at Oxford was kind enough to furnish me with a photocopy of the extract from the "Report on agent/operational work of the Fourth Department of the KGB attached to the Council of Ministers of the Estonian SSR for 1958, signed by Chairman of the Estonian KGB [Col. I.P.] Karpov and Head of the Fourth Department, Belyayev, as found in the Estonian State Archive, record group 131, file 393, pp. 125-126. These Estonian records may well have been moved since to FSB Archives in Russia. The final entry on agent Drozdov is from February 1988: "An order of the USSR KGB chairman was prepared to award to Agent 'Drozdov' the Certificate of Honor." FSB Central Archive, f.6, op.11, por. No. 148, d.Ch-175.t.1.p.209. Thus, Patriarch Aleksei II was not only an agent of the KGB, he was singled out to receive honors for thirty years of outstanding service.

3. Roman Catholics will probably want to gloat over the fact that the pope will celebrate the Roman liturgy first on his arrival in Kyiv, and some Greco-Catholics will see it as a great insult. All involved should remember that the pope is not only the "Ecumenical Hierarch," i.e., the head of the worldwide Catholic communion, he is also the Patriarch of the West. That is why, in the territory which he is visiting, in which the Orthodox and the majority of the Catholics follow the Byzantine tradition, it is better for the patriarch of the West to stick to his own Latin rite and to let the Byzantine hierarchs celebrate the Byzantine liturgy, in which he will respectfully participate on two occasions. In Rome, in his own St. Peter's Basilica, Pope John Paul II did act on several occasions as main celebrant of the Byzantine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, at the invitation and with the concelebration of the Ukrainian Catholic hierarchy and other Byzantine Catholic hierarchs.

The Ukrainian Churches...

(Continued from page 7)

Poland." They will think he is not Polish enough! There will be those Catholics – both Eastern and Western – who will be offended that the holy father will not spit upon the Moscow Patriarchate no matter how it conspired with the Bolsheviks against the Catholics and no matter how bold and how bald are its lies about Roman and Eastern Catholics proselytizing and imaginary ongoing violence against the Orthodox.⁴

And yet, the people wait. Not all – some of the newly rich have not set their Rolaxes to ring out a chime of welcome to this man of little commercial interest. Others have never seriously considered the reality of Jesus and could hardly be expected to be interested in his earthly representative. Half of Ukrainians are unbaptized! That fact alone should make the leaders of all the Churches in Ukraine take stock of their awesome responsibilities and stop fighting each other, to stand united for Christ.

But there are those who wait. They waited for someone to stand up for them when the human race forgot for decades the world's largest banned religious body – the Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church. Perhaps a few of them know that it was Pope John Paul II who demanded that the Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church be decriminalized before he would allow Mikhail Gorbachev to enter Vatican City and have his futile opportunity on December 1, 1989, to try to prove to the world that they should trust this "kinder, gentler bolshevik." Yes, that was the very day on which the radios proclaimed the unbelievable news: that from that day forward Ukrainian Greco-Catholics would be allowed to register their parishes like the Russian Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches. Most people have never noticed the obvious coincidence of dates and how it points to this pope's clear solicitude for his faithful of the Church of the Catacombs.

What do these people want?

The Kyivan Church of the Catholic Communion desperately wants the recognition of its patriarchal structure, because that alone will safeguard it from being swallowed up by a voracious Moscow Patriarchate in some future circumstance when the Cathedra Petri is not occupied by a savvy Slav and some shady deal may be brokered, as it apparently had been during the pontificate of Pope Paul VI.⁵ A major archbishopric can be swallowed up by a Patriarchate. A

Patriarchate cannot be swallowed up. It's as simple as that.

A future union of the Orthodox and Catholic Patriarchates of Kyiv is what is hoped for. Any absorption into the still colonially minded Moscow Patriarchate is abhorred. Besides, for the largest of the Eastern Catholic Churches, and the one which most clearly chose freely (even with 33 conditions⁶) to unite with Rome, to hold patriarchal status is simply a normal sign of this Church's maturity.

This Church wants a recognition of its saints. Since re-establishment of full and visible communion with Rome in 1596, only one member of this Church has been glorified as a saint by Rome.⁷ The 20-some beatifications will go some of the distance to remedy the obvious gap, but will there be a pope to take the final step someday to canonize them? Beatification, according to Roman rules, is not yet recognition of sainthood. It is an important step along the way, but not the final one.⁸

"And why," most Ukrainian Catholic faithful will ask with deep pain, "why is the holiest man they know, Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, not on the current list of those to be beatified? So many of his spiritual children are. His case has been drawn out so long. The pope specifically chose, by personal request, to stay in the house in which Andrey Sheptytsky lived, but cannot beatify him. What is it that we do not know?" Is it not time for the Synod of Bishops of this Church to return to the ancient practice of glorifying its own saints by Synodal action, not waiting for the Counter-Reformation processes which the juridically minded Roman Church instituted to recognize the saints of this Kyivan Church, or perhaps allowing both processes to go on independently of one another?

The faithful and hierarchy of this Church want an effective "ius speciale ad tempus,"¹⁰ promised by this pope to tie the three metropolias and numerous eparchies and exarchates of the dispersion to the Mother Church. This has been a painful waiting game throughout the 1990s.

They want recognition of at least all of modern-day Ukraine as the "ancestral territory" of the Church of Kyiv and the very recognition that they are the Church of Kyiv – that part of it which re-bound itself to Rome in 1596 – and not a provincial phenomenon limited to three or four oblasts in westernmost Ukraine.¹¹ They want real inclusion in Orthodox-Catholic ecumenical processes, with ecumenists elected by the Synod of Bishops and not just Roman curial appointees representing their Church. And they desire a guarantee – once and for all – that there will be no

discussing of the future of this Church without the presence of this Church at the negotiating table.¹²

They want the holy father to pressure the Ukrainian government to bring true freedom, real reforms to a land that possesses only external independence, but where the people still are not free. They want to see pressure put on the government to join most civilized countries by finally accrediting programs of theological education. They want a fully recognized Ukrainian Catholic University, with not only pontifical, but also civil accreditation, in order to work at the rebuilding of Ukrainian culture and society.

We need to remember that Ukrainian

as Father Robert Taft, SJ, shows clearly in his paper today.¹³

And last, but not least, the Kyivan Church of the Catholic Communion needs to maintain its antinomic ecclesiology, offering a gentle "yes, but" to Rome from an Eastern perspective, and a gentle "yes, but" to the Orthodox from a Catholic perspective.

What do the Orthodox want?

The two autocephalist Orthodox Churches crave recognition. Moscow does its best to have the world ignore these Churches as reckless and not serious. We can expect their representatives to stand (understandably) as close as

"And why," most Ukrainian Catholic faithful will ask with deep pain, "why is the holiest man they know, Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, not on the current list of those to be beatified?"

Catholics, unlike their Orthodox brothers and sisters, believe passionately in the blessedness of the fact that the pope is the citizen of no country but his own Vatican City State, and therefore the subject of no earthly power. He can criticize and cajole when necessary, and walk away free. It is this freedom of the ultimate earthly leadership of the Church that Ukrainian Catholics were willing to suffer and die for throughout the centuries.

That is why they will expect the pope to speak to political leaders frankly about the disappointing record of the first 10 years of Ukrainian independence. The image of Pope John Paul II in Cuba, simultaneously taking on both Havana and Washington is a powerful one, which gives people hope that at least this frail man will stand up to the oligarchs and the fractious parliamentarians who stand as obstacles to real reform and real freedom for the people.

The Kyivan Church of the Catholic Communion wants to assume its natural place of leadership among the Eastern Catholic Churches, not only because it is by far the largest, but also because its union with Rome was a free act of the Synod of Orthodox Bishops of the Kyivan Metropolia and carries no taint of proselytizing efforts by Rome. Let us remember here that it was the Byzantine emperors after the Council of Chalcedon who invented uniatism through the creation of parallel hierarchies in Alexandria and Antioch. Rome and its special-strike forces (especially the Jesuits) were only partially successful at imitating this tactic

possible to the holy father when photographers are around (and Patriarch Filaret will make sure photographers are around). Although they have no special meeting scheduled with the pope, they can be expected to use the holy father's meeting with the Council of Religions as a surrogate, carefully framing their photographs and phrasing their interpretations of every papal move.

If things do not go his way, Patriarch Filaret, until now welcoming to the pope, could turn unfriendly. I doubt it, however. He is clever enough to claim the moral high ground, having accurately read the world's shock at the way the holy father was received by the Greek Orthodox establishment. Patriarch Filaret will want to show how open-minded and ecumenical his Church is, compared with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate.

The Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church has no one as clever as Patriarch Filaret to maneuver through the brief availabilities of public meetings. But they can be expected to be welcoming to the pope. They will be hurt if the pope heeds the threats of Moscow and Moscow's Church in Ukraine, ignoring or shunning the autocephalists.

It will take the Wisdom of the Holy Spirit to guide Pope John Paul II through this quandary. I cannot see how he can emerge unscathed. In a sense, he cannot win. Whatever he does will be vilified by one Orthodox Church or another.

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4. Patriarch Aleksei and Metropolitan Volodymyr of the Moscow Patriarchate can complain about the painful "destruction" (implosion would be the more accurate word) of their dioceses in western Ukraine and ascribe this to the activity of Ukrainian Catholics reclaiming their own churches (alas, the latter item being a detail they somehow never have time to include in their vitriolic press releases), but the fact is their main problem is with the other two Orthodox Churches in Ukraine. There is a rather significant freely chosen Orthodox presence in predominantly Catholic Western Ukraine (more than there has been in 300 years). The problem is that these significant numbers of Orthodox simply do not want to belong to the Moscow Patriarchate. In an attempt to divert attention from this fact, the Moscow Patriarchate has time and again claimed that there is violence being perpetrated by Ukrainian Greco-Catholics against the Orthodox. But official joint commissions to deal with such cases have had nothing to report or study for years.

5. Such an arrangement is mentioned in the Spiritual Testament of Patriarch and Cardinal Josyf Slipyj. It is also the most obvious reason why in 1977 he ordained Fathers Lubomyr Husar (today Patriarch and

Cardinal), Ivan Choma and Stepan Chmil to the episcopate without the permission or knowledge of Pope Paul VI. He wanted these three bishops to safeguard the continuity of the apostolic succession of the Kyivan Church of the Catholic Communion. Having been an eyewitness to the heinous behavior of the so-called "Quadripartite Commission" in 1990, I saw first-hand the results of such agreements. The representatives of the Vatican, although themselves ethnic Ukrainians, did not abide by rules agreed upon with Patriarch and Cardinal Myroslav Ivan Lubachivsky, nor did they use the term "Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church" in deliberations with the Moscow Patriarchate. Instead, they spoke of "Communities of Catholics of the Byzantine Rite." It takes no great leap of logic to conclude that there was to be no Church as such, simply "communities," presumably under the jurisdiction of the Roman Catholic bishops. This was the death knell for the Greco-Catholic Church precisely as Church. That is why Archbishop Volodymyr Sterniuk broke up the deliberations and declared them null and void, something that, as he told me, was "the hardest thing I ever had to do in my whole life – seemingly to disobey the Vatican." He and the rest of the underground bishops were vindi-

cated in June, 1990, when Pope John Paul II called them all to Rome to signal his total support for them and to give them full recognition as bishops of a living Church.

6. It is a pity how few Ukrainian Greco-Catholics know about the rather savvy demands the bishops of the Kyivan Metropolia placed before Rome and the Polish-Lithuanian government in 1596. The latest English translation can be found in Borys Gudziak, "Crisis and Reform: The Kyivan Metropolia, the Patriarchate of Constantinople and the Union of Brest" (Cambridge: Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, 1996).

7. St. Josaphat Kuntsevich (1580?-1623)

8. St. Josaphat was beatified in 1643, but canonized (recognized fully as a saint and, as the Orthodox terminology would put it, "glorified") only in 1867.

9. One very reliable source publicly explained that the late Cardinal Wyszyński of Poland twice personally blocked the process of Metropolitan Andrey, whom he saw as a Ukrainian nationalist, and whom, ironically, Ukrainian nationalists often saw as too soft on the Poles.

10. Eastern Catholic Church Law is divided into General Law, which applies to all Eastern Catholic Churches, and Particular

Law, which belongs to each Eastern Catholic Church individually. When the heads of all of the Eastern Catholic Churches protested that the new law, promulgated in 1991, did not have sufficient provisions tying the diaspora Churches to their Mother Churches, Pope John Paul II personally promised to consider a "special law for the time being" which would regulate such relations. Little progress has been made in this regard.

11. See: "Study Paper: The Territory of the Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church," Logos: A Journal of Eastern Christian Studies 35 (1994) pp. 313-385.

12. In July 1995, in the name of the Kyivan Church Study Group, then meeting officially with Cardinal Edward Idris Cassidy, president of the Pontifical Council of Christian Unity, at the council's offices in Rome, this was made absolutely clear by myself and others. It has been restated by Ukrainian Greco-Catholic bishops individually and together, on several occasions.

13. "The Problem of Uniatism and the Healing of Memories: Anamnesis not Amnesia." Father Taft's paper was delivered in Rome in Italian. A similar paper, in English, was delivered at the University of St. Michael's College (Toronto) Kelly Lecture in December 1, 2000.

Ukraine's regional scouting groups meet in Dnipropetrovsk

by Oksana Zakydalsky

DNIPROPETROVSK – The Association of Dnipro Scouts, on May 18-20 organized a conference of regional and local scouting groups in Dnipropetrovsk. Participants included representatives from Kerch in Crimea, the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, and the cities of Dnipropetrovsk and Poltava – all organizations registered at the regional level. Other groups from Kharkiv and Odesa, as well as Hungarian scouts from Zakarpattia and Russian scouts from Sevastopol, expressed support for the initiative but could not attend. Representatives from two nationally registered scouting organizations, Plast and Sich, also took part in the conference.

There are three nationally registered scouting organizations in Ukraine today: Plast, Sich and the Association of Scouts of Ukraine (whose membership is made up of regional scouting groups). There are also numerous (no one has made an official count) scouting organizations registered at the oblast or city levels.

There is yet another scouting organization, "Scouts of Ukraine," which has been promoted by the World Scout Bureau as the candidate for membership in World Organization of Scouting Movement (WOSM). However, it has not been registered as a national organization and has no legal status. Adding to this complexity, Plast and Sich, at the end of April registered a national scouting federation under the name "Scouts of Ukraine."

Because attempts to establish a unitarian scouting organization in Ukraine have been unsuccessful, Plast is trying to consolidate the scouting movement around the new federation. A proposal to set up a Coordinating Council made up of regional organizations allied with the federation was the main point of discussion at the Dnipropetrovsk conference. All of the organizations present supported the idea.

An agreement to be signed by each regional organization which agrees to join the Coordinating Council was drawn up and is now being circulated. Nadia Melnychuk, president of Skif, agreed to be the coordinator of this initiative.

The general attitude of the participants at the conference toward the work of the World Scout Bureau in Ukraine was very critical; there was a general feeling of "we won't be pushed around any more."

Informal discussions yielded disturbing information such as the fact that the World Scout Bureau had been making monetary payments to those it wished to influence. For example, two years ago the then president of the organization favored by the bureau received a sum of \$15,000 to purchase premises for a Scout Information Center whose purpose was loosely described as "to aid the Ukrainian Scout Movement." So far, the Information Center has produced no information, and owner-



Representatives of regional scouting groups meet in Dnipropetrovsk.

ship of the premises still remains under the former president's name. The second president was paid a generous honorarium to co-author and edit a Scouting Dictionary (in Russian).

The conference was informed about the First Eurasia Regional Scout Conference which took place in Minsk on May 9-11. The Eurasia Region covers the 12 CIS countries – six of which are already WOSM members: Moldova, Armenia, Tajikistan, Belarus, Georgia and, since October of last year, Russia. Four persons from Ukraine – Oleksander Kuzmenko, Oleksander Vovk, Serhii Kapustin and Svitlana Malukh – were present in Minsk and were introduced as representatives of the scouting movement in Ukraine. (For an explanation of who these people are, see this writer's article in The Ukrainian Weekly, May 20.)

This prompted a question from Sergey Sirotkin of the All-Russia National Scout Organization about whom in Ukraine the guests were representing; his question remained unanswered, however. The uncertainty about the so-called Ukrainian delegation and the situation in Ukraine prompted an announcement by Secretary General Jacques Moreillon, present at the conference, that he would visit Ukraine on June 6-8 and personally size up the situation.

Although the news of the secretary general's visit was welcomed by all the repre-

sentatives at the Dnipropetrovsk conference, taking into account that Mr. Kuzmenko heads the government-funded Kyiv Youth Social Services and has wide-ranging contacts within the government apparatus, there was some fear that Mr. Moreillon would be shown "Potemkin villages" of scout groups, resources and supporters.

In its May 24 issue, the Kyiv paper Ukraina Moloda published an article about the financing of youth organizations which notes that government funds budgeted for such organizations are under the control of

their heads, who divide the money among themselves according to their own agendas and not according to the quality of the programs offered. As a result, the article states, there are organizations composed of "dead souls" – ones which are active only on paper or others which are not even legally registered with the Ministry of Justice. It is not clear to what extent the World Scout Bureau understands how, in Ukraine, supposedly volunteer-based organizations can be manipulated by government structures and, at the same time, government funds redirected to fulfill personal agendas.

The Ukrainian Weekly announces a special section

Congratulations, Graduates!

Every year tens of thousands of students throughout North America receive undergraduate and graduate degrees at colleges and universities, cresting a pinnacle of personal achievement. And then there are those who graduate high school or complete the "matura" in our schools of Ukrainian studies.

In The Ukrainian Weekly's special section – Congratulations, Graduates! – readers of The Ukrainian Weekly can place a note congratulating family members and dear friends on their recent achievements. This annual section will be published on July 1, 2001.

To place an ad congratulating a recent graduate, please send us the following by June 25:

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

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

Please make checks payable to The Ukrainian Weekly and mail along with above information to:
The Ukrainian Weekly – Congratulations Graduates!
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054

For further information, please call
(973) 292-9800 ext. 3040 (Maria)



Nadia Melnychuk, president of Skif, and Andriy Harmatiy, head of the Plast national executive in Ukraine.

Connecticut town bids farewell to Ukrainian schooner

by Irene Oleksiak

NORWICH, Conn. – A large delegation of city officials, sailing enthusiasts and well-wishers bid farewell to the Ukrainian schooner *Batkivschyna* at a special ceremony hosted by the Town of Norwich on Saturday, May 26. The bon voyage reception at the American Wharf on the picturesque Thames River marked the first stage of the Ukrainian ship's departure for the Great Lakes Region where it will take part in the "Great Lakes Challenge" tall ships festival sponsored by the American Sail Training Association (ASTA).

This summer, *Batkivschyna* will take part in a series of public events including the Cleveland Harborfest, the Buffalo "Friendship Festival" and the celebration of the "Detroit 300" Tricentennial.

As part of its educational mission the ship will serve as a goodwill ambassador for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund (CCRF), helping to raise awareness about the continuing aftermath of the nuclear disaster and raising funds for children's health programs in Ukraine. The summer expedition will culminate in Chicago during the celebration of the 10th anniversary of Ukrainian independence on August 24-26.

The *Batkivschyna* became a cause celebre and one of the star attractions during last year's OPSAIL 2000 festival in New London. The 90-foot schooner was one of the smallest vessels to take part in the four-day festival. But it captured the hearts and the imagination of thousands of tourists from across the United States who visited New London and millions more who read about its harrowing journey in a front-page story in *The New York Times*.

Smaller than the *Mayflower* that brought the pilgrims to Plymouth Rock, the *Batkivschyna* sailed from Kyiv down

the Dnipro River in the spring of 2000. It crossed the Black Sea, the Mediterranean and the Atlantic Ocean, surviving several major storms that blew it off course and nearly forced it to miss the OpSail celebration.

The Ukrainian ship spent the winter in Norwich under the patronage of prominent local businessman Ron Aliano, the president of the American Group, a local ambulance company, and the owner of the marina at American Wharf. With the help of a local support group led by Connecticut volunteers Michael Lamperelli, John Nesklada, Nicholas Gudz and John Perry, the ship underwent major repairs and received many donations of new equipment and free services.

During the May 26 ceremony Captain Dmitrii Birioukovitch thanked the many local businesses and individuals who came to his assistance. He especially thanked Long Island Sound ferry operator John Wronowski who provided over \$20,000 worth of dry-docking services. He also thanked Nicholas Gudz of Ledyard and Steve Femiak of Niantic for providing free lodging for members of the crew.

Speaking on behalf of the Town of Norwich, City Council President Richard Abele thanked Capt. Birioukovitch and his crew for their goodwill mission and for all the favorable publicity they had attracted to the city. "Your stay in Norwich was one of the best things to happen to this city in many, many years," said Mr. Abele as he praised the *Batkivschyna* for embodying the finest aspects of citizen diplomacy. "This ship has become a symbol of the revitalization of our city's waterfront," he added.

Mr. Abele recalled the arrival of the ship in Norwich last October when it was welcomed by an enthusiastic throng of local politicians, citizens and business leaders at a colorful outdoor ceremony



City Manager Bill Thalmann presents Capt. Dmitrii Birioukovitch with the Norwich city flag.

featuring the Coast Guard Band and representatives of the Ukrainian community. The ceremony received extensive coverage in *The New York Times* ("A Tall Piece of Ukraine Docks in Norwich" – October 14, 2000), and in the months that followed, many Connecticut publications including the *New London Day*, the *Hartford Courant* and the *Norwich Bulletin* ran a large number of front-page stories and photographs tracking the ship's progress in preparation for this summer's expedition.

City Manager Bill Thalmann presented Capt. Birioukovitch with the city flag, and the skipper promised to fly it from the mast throughout its Great Lakes tour.

"We will never forget the hospitality of the people of Connecticut, and especially the people of Norwich," said Capt.

Birioukovitch. "We must continue our mission to inform the world about our homeland, Ukraine, but you will always remain in our hearts." The captain then invited Mr. Aliano to sign the ship's logbook in the opening entry for the summer expedition.

Alexander Kuzma, executive director of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, thanked the captain for his extraordinary commitment to the future of Ukraine, and for his commitment to support the CCRF mission. Mr. Kuzma called the captain "one of Ukraine's most effective, if unofficial, ambassadors-at-large."

An especially moving and emotional address was delivered by volunteer coordinator Mr. Lamperelli, who spoke of the bond that the *Batkivschyna* had forged

(Continued on page 17)

Sea Launch Co. hosts Ukraine's ambassador to United States

by Bohdan Malaniak

LONG BEACH, Calif. – The Sea Launch Co. of Long Beach, under the leadership of Bohdan (Bo) Bejmuk, vice-president of business development and strategic planning, held a dinner reception for Ambassador Kostyantyn Gryshchenko and his wife, Nataliya.

The dinner took place on April 5, in the Sir Winston Churchill Restaurant on the *Queen Mary*, in Long Beach. It is noteworthy that this was the ambassador's second encounter with the majestic ship – the first was when he was a

small boy traveling with his father as a passenger, and now he was sitting in a banquet room of the now permanently docked *Queen Mary*.

The purpose of the ambassador's trip was to visit the Sea Launch facilities and personnel, many of whom are from Ukraine. Sea Launch is an international company of American, Norwegian, Russian and Ukrainian partners that provides an innovative, cost-effective, heavy lift launch service for commercial satellite customers.

The Ukrainian partner provides the

first two stages of Zenit-3SL rockets, launch vehicle integration support and mission operations.

Some 25 people were in attendance at the dinner, many from the Greater Los Angeles Area representing various Ukrainian American organizations, and such celebrities as Jack Palance, Academy Award-winning actor. Dr. Ihor Hunko, representing the Ukrainian Culture Center of Los Angeles, presented Mrs. Gryshchenko with a lovely bouquet of blue and yellow flowers.

In his brief remarks the ambassador

said that Ukraine, for the first time, had shown improvement in its economy, and, with continuing hard work and sacrifice, it will become a self-sufficient country. He also expressed his gratitude to the Ukrainian diaspora – in particular, to those residing in the United States and Canada. He urged everyone to always remember the Famine-Genocide of 1933 and the more recent Chernobyl nuclear disaster of 1986.

After the dinner, those in attendance had an opportunity to mingle and visit with the ambassador and his wife.



Seen at a reception in Long Beach, Calif., are: (seated from left) Nataliya Gryshchenko, Ambassador Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, Bohdan Bejmuk of Sea Launch, (standing) Bohdan Mykytyn, Luba Keske, John Palance, Walter Kashtaniuk, Bernard Vecerek, Nusia Mykytyn, Luba Slobodian, Jack Palance, Leonid Gribachev, Charmian Borisow, Peter Borisow, Dr. Ihor Hunko, Mary Bejmuk, Jim Murphy and Taras Kozbur.

Denver commemorates Chernobyl anniversary with two days of events

by Tatianna Gajecy-Wynar

DENVER – When nuclear disaster struck Chernobyl, Ukraine, on April 26, 1986, a group of women from the Ukrainian National Women's League of America in Denver, led by Daria Yaworiwsky, then president of Branch 38, resolved to memorialize this tragic event by planting an ash tree and dedicating a special commemorative bench in Denver's Cheesman Park. Local Ukrainians have since assembled there on numerous occasions, including 10 years later.

It seemed only appropriate to meet there again on the 15th anniversary of this tragedy.

Thus, on Saturday, April 28, at 4 p.m., on a beautiful Colorado day, the local community gathered once more in Cheesman Park to pray for the dead and remember the many Ukrainians still suffering from the aftereffects of the nuclear disaster. Unfortunately, the tree was no longer there, but the beautiful red-granite bench still stands. A babka and pysanky on an embroidered ritual cloth, courtesy of Olena Morozewych, were placed beneath it.

The ceremony was opened in English by the recently elected president of the local UNWLA, Lida Bihun, who welcomed those present and asked for a moment of silence for the dead, as the participants held lit candles. She then handed the program over to Tatianna Gajecy-Wynar, events chairman and coordinator of the Chernobyl commemorations.

The first event of the day was a memorial service (panakhyda) for the victims of Chernobyl, celebrated by the Rev. Petro Bohdanowycz, pastor of Transfiguration Ukrainian Catholic Church in Denver. (This had been planned as a joint effort with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, but their pastor left unexpectedly for Ukraine two days earlier.) Responses were sung by members of the Transfiguration Parish, led by Deacon Michael Bozio.

Next, Ms. Gajecy, one of the few remaining members of the Chernobyl Committee of 1986, reminisced, both in English and Ukrainian, about those terrible days 15 years ago when the world stood helplessly by as the terrible events unfolded, and recounted all the hard work done by Denver's UNWLA members to publicize and memorialize that tragedy.

Thousands of fliers had been distributed, a special button designed, the press and media had been alerted (and they showed up in full force) and government and local dignitaries were invited to the park, where a tree was planted and blessed. A special bench was designed and donated to the city of Denver, with then Mayor Federico Pena uncovering the bench and individuals such as U.S. Rep. Pat Schroeder and State Sen. Dennis Gallagher speaking publicly of their concern and outrage at the Soviet government.

Ms. Gajecy then introduced the guest speaker, Irene Zabytko, award-winning author of the first novel about Chernobyl, "The Sky Unwashed," who had specially flown in from Florida to be in Denver for the commemorative events. After a brief overview of her work, Ms. Zabytko proceeded to read several moving excerpts from her book.

The next two speakers were Dr. Jack and Carol Reeves, founders and directors of the Nadiya (Hope) Project, who spoke consecutively about their work in helping Ukraine in the past 10 years with medical aid and trained personnel, and recounted their impressions upon visiting the forbidden zone of Chernobyl.

Last to speak was 15-year-old Roxolana Wynar, a sophomore at St. Mary's Academy in Littleton, who has been a spokesperson for Ukraine, and particularly Chernobyl, countless times at her school and elsewhere. She spoke of the lack of adequate medical treatment in Ukraine and about the terrible impact that Chernobyl has had on her personally, claiming her 17-year-old cousin, Solomiya, who died of cancer of the intestines.

The ceremony ended with the release of 15 blue-and-yellow balloons, tied with black ribbons, to the music of Taras Petrynenko's "Hospody pomylui nas." The participants were reluctant to go home; many lingered to meet with Ms. Zabytko, buy her book, and have her sign it. A copy was presented by the UNWLA to Dr. and Mrs. Reeves in recognition of their work for Ukraine.

That evening, a clip of the memorial service in the park was aired on Fox 31 News.

Earlier in the day, Ms. Gajecy had taken Ms. Zabytko to a Barnes and Noble bookstore in Denver West, where the author met with staff members and did signings of her book. In the previous year, Ms. Zabytko had been chosen as a recipient of Barnes and Noble's Discover New Authors award.

On Sunday, April 29, the Chernobyl commemoration continued in the church hall of Transfiguration Ukrainian Catholic Church. The literary luncheon, planned by the UNWLA happily coincided with the parish's traditional Easter breakfast (Sviachene) prepared by the parish ladies headed by Vera Watowich, and the hall was filled to overflowing.

Ms. Gajecy's "Chernobyl Madonna" – an acrylic on wood painted in 1996, on the 10th anniversary of the calamity – decorated the stage. Once again, UNWLA president Bihun greeted those present, thanked the participants of Saturday's program, and asked Events Chairman Gajecy to introduce the guest author.

Ms. Gajecy introduced Ms. Zabytko in both Ukrainian and English, mentioning that they had both attended St. Nicholas grade school in the Ukrainian "ghetto" of Chicago, where Ms. Zabytko was born. She pointed out some interesting facts in the author's background, such as that her father, Ostap, though born in the United States, had gone to Ukraine as a child, finished school there, and came back to this country with his bride, Maria, in the 1930s – not your typical story of displaced persons.

After finishing high school, Ms. Zabytko went to Vermont, where she received both her B.A. and M.A. degrees. She has traveled to Ukraine several times to teach English and to research her book. Although she started writing poetry at age 9, and has since written numerous articles and reviews, "The Sky Unwashed" is her first published book. It has received high praise and very favorable reviews both in the American and Ukrainian press, and in such reputable publications as Library Journal and Booklist.

Ms. Zabytko is currently working on her next book, "Displaced Persons" – a collection of short stories about the neighborhood where she grew up.

Ms. Zabytko thanked Ms. Gajecy for the "wonderful" introduction, which, she quipped, was "longer than her book," and then proceeded to give a brief synopsis of her story about Marusia Petrenko and other characters in the fictional village of Starylis, whose lives were forever changed by the explosion of the nuclear reactor at Chonobyl on April 26, 1986.

Since Ms. Zabytko always starts her book readings with Taras Shevchenko's poem "Nevmyte nebo" (Unwashed sky), for which the book is named, she asked Ms. Gajecy to read it in the original Ukrainian, and then she read it in her English translation.

Next, Ms. Gajecy and Ms. Zabytko both read the Prologue to "The Sky Unwashed," alternating from Ukrainian to English. Ms. Gajecy read her own translation in Ukrainian, and Ms. Zabytko read her original English. After that, the author chose various touching excerpts from her book and read them in English. The audience seemed bewitched by the readings, and many a tear was shed.

A lively discussion followed the readings, and then the author signed more books. Denver City Councilman Dennis Gallagher, a longtime friend of the Ukrainian community, attended this session and was rewarded with an autographed copy of the book.



Irene Zabytko reads from her book during a ceremony in Cheesman Park.



Tatianna Gajecy-Wynar and her daughter, Roxolana, near the UNWLA's commemorative bench in Cheesman Park.



The Rev. Petro Bohdanowycz leads the faithful in a memorial service for the victims of Chernobyl.

Shevchenko Scientific Society conference focuses on Ukraine's statehood

by Dr. Orest Popovych

NEW YORK – In conjunction with the upcoming 10th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, the Shevchenko Scientific Society convened a scholarly conference designed to examine what role social sciences and humanities could play in the reinforcement of Ukrainian statehood.

The conference, which was open to the public, took place on May 19 at the society's home in New York City. It was organized by Prof. Wsevolod Isajiw, a vice-chairman of the Social Sciences Section of the Society, in close collaboration with the section's chair, Prof. Marta B. Trofimenko. The scheduled speakers were Profs. Isajiw (University of Toronto), Yaroslav Bilinsky (University of Delaware) and Nadia Kokhan (Kyiv State University), as well as Elehia Natalia Skoczylas, a sociologist, political consultant and pollster with worldwide experience.

The program was opened by Dr. Larissa Zaleska Onyshkevych, president of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in America, who commented on the timeliness of the conference's topic and then passed the chair to Prof. Trofimenko, who took over as master of ceremonies and moderator.

First to speak was Prof. Isajiw, a sociologist, who stressed the fact that in a free country, professing freedom of speech, there must also be freedom of scholarly pursuit governed by facts, logic and proper methodology. It is the freedom of speech that should define the life of a civil society and determine its relationship with the government according to democratic principles. Promulgation of scholarly findings is beneficial to a society not only due to their direct application, but also indirectly, as a way of informing and educating the public.

An educated public, with confidence in itself and in its government, would tend to develop an extensive professional or middle class, thus promoting the establishment of a civil society, he stated. This would serve as an effective counterforce to the oligarchy now dominant in Ukraine. Unfortunately, Ukraine's government has been reluctant to apply scholarly advice towards the solution of social problems. In contrast, in the United States there is no social policy that is not based on scholarly research.

Prof. Bilinsky, a political scientist, opined that for the time being the Ukrainian political elite must seek accommodation with some of the oligarchs. For the government of Ukraine it is imperative to rehabilitate the physical as well as moral and cultural substance of the Ukrainian people.

In Prof. Bilinsky's estimation, the man-made Famine and the mass executions in the 1930s in Ukraine cost 10

million lives and should be classified as a genocide against the Ukrainian people. World scholars in this field, however, still refuse to classify the Ukrainian Famine as a genocide, and therefore it is the duty of Ukrainian scholars and Ukraine's government to work to reverse this stance.

Ukraine's government should also confront the legacy of the Famine in order to fill the blank spots in the Ukrainian psyche and to re-evaluate the role of those who participated in the genocide. Dr. Bilinsky warned against what he feels has been excessive polling in independent Ukraine, lest it lead to a kaleidoscopic view of the country, detrimental to the integrity of Ukraine.

Using color slides and lots of statistics, Ms. Skoczylas presented the findings of her many polls conducted in Ukraine in recent years. The polling took place in conjunction with elections or sought opinions on important political issues. The results, analyzed according to region, ethnicity, gender and age of the respondents, turned out to reflect accurately the voting preferences of Ukraine's population, both in the vote for independence in August of 1991 and in the 1999 presidential election.

The majority of those polled seem to be anti-Communist and (to a lesser extent) pro-Western, with people under 30 tending to be right-of-center politically by a ratio of 2:1. Unfortunately, this age group also has a low voter turnout. Ms. Skoczylas considers her polling experience as evidence that a deep democratic transformation has taken root in Ukraine.

The last speaker, Prof. Kokhan, shared with the audience the challenges faced by a philosophy teacher at the Kyiv State University, particularly one who insists on using Ukrainian as the language of instruction. Prof. Kokhan said she feels that a spiritual rebirth of Ukraine must be preceded by a rebirth of Ukrainian philosophy in the context of world philosophy, in particular of the Ukrainian philosophy of culture and nation-building. This process may be slow, but it is not hopeless, as evidenced by the recent openings of the departments of the Ukrainian philosophy of culture at Kyiv and Odesa Universities.

The conference was preceded by a meeting of the governing board of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, followed by an annual informational meeting of the society for all members. In the latter, members of the executive board and chairpeople of the various sections and commissions reported on their activities for the past year.

Certificates were presented to three people for their lifelong outstanding service to the society. Thus honored were Drs. Ivan Sierant and Myroslav Prokop, as well as Olha Kuzmowycz, the society's recording secretary and an editor of Svoboda.

George Grabowicz delivers D.H. Struk Memorial Lecture

by N. Spolsky Tomcio

TORONTO – The Danylo H. Struk Memorial Lecture, the second in this series of annual lectures, was delivered by George Grabowicz, the Dmytro Cyzevskyi Professor of Ukrainian Literature at Harvard University, at the University of Toronto on May 11. His theme was "Taras Shevchenko as a National Poet. A Comparison with Pushkin and Mickiewicz."

In a well-structured presentation Prof. Grabowicz expounded a theory that national poets are made, not born; they are made by themselves with the help of the national ethos, history and their social environment. The paths were similar for Ukraine's Shevchenko, Aleksandr Pushkin of Russia and Adam Mickiewicz of Poland, although history and social circumstances were different for each of these poets.

Initially, the poet identified himself with a national cause, became its bard in a Byronian romantic style, and then became its martyr and a national prophet. Ethos seemed to play a crucial role in the development of a national poet. In Russia, Poland and Ukraine the national ethos was always focused on freedom from oppression – freedom from autocracy in Russia and freedom from occupation in both Poland and Ukraine.

In France, on the other hand, there is no unique national poet despite that country's vibrant literary and poetic tradition. The French national ethos was captured by Napoleon, who for two centuries caught and held the imagination of the nation, Prof. Grabowicz noted.

Another dynamic country without a well-defined national bard or prophet is the United States. In this case, Prof. Grabowicz argued that national imagination was ignited and flamed by a visionary statesman by the name of Abraham Lincoln.

In England William Shakespeare triumphed on the tide of exhilarating change and discovery of the Elizabethan era and has been identified with that period.

Prof. Grabowicz maintained that Shevchenko, Pushkin and Mickiewicz painted themselves into national icons by the sheer force of their eloquence, commanding the reader to identify them with the national cause. The causes were similar for all three poets. Pushkin had criticized the tightening grip of Russian autocracy upon society and its ruthless territorial expansion. Mickiewicz bemoaned the foreign occupation that befell Poland as the Third Partition of Poland was decreed by the Congress of Vienna in 1815. Shevchenko, in the true spirit of a freedom fighter, called for open rebellion against the political and social oppression by Russia in Ukraine.

However, Prof. Grabowicz said he perceives either lip-service or duality of purpose in each of these poets. Pushkin's dissident views of the Russian bureaucracy did not propel him to join the Decembrist movement whose members were eventually publicly executed in 1825. Neither was Mickiewicz among the freedom fighters in Poland during the Russian occupation. Instead, he chose to remain in exile in Russia, where he nostalgically extolled Polish valor of times past.

In Shevchenko's case, Prof. Grabowicz finds a duality of roles assumed by the poet: the role of a prophet of the oppressed on one hand, and the role of a participant-member of the oppressor's society on the other.

UFU's new partners include two institutions in Ukraine

MUNICH – During the last decade the Ukrainian Free University in Munich developed various cooperative programs with a number of universities located in Western Ukraine, particularly in Lviv and Ivano-Frankivsk.

The university now has several new partners in Central and Eastern Ukraine. During the last semester the UFU concluded a number of agreements with various institutions of higher learning in Central and Eastern Ukraine.

Among the latter, two figure rather prominently. The Ukrainian American Liberal Arts Institute Wisconsin International University (USA) Ukraine, headed by its rector, Oleksander Romanowsky, who together with the rector, Dr. Olena Nadtochij, and 30 students attended a two-week special program in marketing and economics at the UFU at the beginning of the winter semester of 2000-2001. The other institution is the International Personnel Academy in Kyiv.

Both institutions will cooperate with the UFU in developing student exchanges, organizing conferences and working on joint publishing ventures.

Two ambassadors among attendees at Khymych exhibit



WASHINGTON – Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, William Green Miller and Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Kostyantyn Gryshchenko converse at the opening on May 18 of the exhibit of works by Yuri Khymych at the Alla Rogers Gallery in Washington. The exhibit, titled "Color and Light," which also includes icons by the artist's son, Mykhailo Khymych, was on view at the gallery through June 13.

BOOK REVIEW

Ambassador of a generation: Melnyczuk's new novel of the Ukrainian American experience

"Ambassador of the Dead" by Askold Melnyczuk. Washington: Counterpoint, 2001, \$25 U.S./\$39.95 Canadian ISBN 1-58243-132-9.

by Robert De Lossa

Askold Melnyczuk's second novel, "Ambassador of the Dead," is a finely written, ambitious tour de force. With its publication, American literature has a definitive expression of the post-war Ukrainian emigration in the United States. The children of that emigration, who are creatively pushing the boundaries of what it means to be both American and Ukrainian, now have an emblem to push onto friends who "just don't get it."

But to pigeonhole "Ambassador of the Dead" as a Ukrainian American novel is to do it an injustice. It is a fine novel all around: well-framed, carefully styled, informed and knowing, but puckish, too. It has both historical sweep and personal enlightenment. The story has sex, politics, and mystery. "Ambassador of the Dead" is a book that will move well from the beach – a must read for the summer and just right for languid vacation days or after-work relaxation – to the classroom, where one sees it being taught with equal profit for its insight into the Ukrainian American experience and for its writing style.

(Mr. Melnyczuk himself has edited Agni Magazine for 18 years, teaches creative writing at Boston University, and has taught in the prestigious Bennington Graduate Writing Seminars for many years. His first novel, "What Is Told," was a New York Times Notable Book. Mr. Melnyczuk also is a recipient of the prestigious Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Award and, most recently, the 2001 PEN/Nora Magid Award for Magazine Editing. He is a writers' writer.)

"Ambassador of the Dead" opens with a phone call. Nick Blud, a Boston physician, is telephoned from the past. Literally. It is a call that he cannot resist – from the mother of his close childhood friend, the voluptuous, mysterious Ada Kruk. It is clear that something is wrong, and his quick decision to return to the world of his childhood begins a long reminiscence of what has made him a man and what has gone into him as a human being. At the center of this are the Kruks and the sights and sounds of northern New Jersey.

New Jersey and the city of Roosevelt (read: Elizabeth) loom large as an immigrant heartland. This is where Nick's parents came after fleeing their war-torn home and passing through displaced persons camps after the war. As he travels in space south to Roosevelt, he travels back in time to his boyhood summers at a Ukrainian summer vacation camp in the Catskills, where the reader gets a first glimpse of the unusual Kruks: Lev, the fiery revolutionary; Ada, the great beauty of their community who hides a dark secret; Viktor (the "Spinner"), her brother, half-crazy and hiding even darker secrets; Ada and Lev's sons, Paul and Alex, different as night and day, but united by the storms of their family's passions.

Nick and Alex become friends, largely through Nick's attraction to Alex's immense intellectual and physical energy. Alex has triumphed great obstacles simply to exist (as a baby he had "the disappearing sickness," which a doctor says is "as common as dust in the old country" and seems to temper baby Alex with unusual maturity and drive as he overcomes it). Alex embodies, recklessly, all of the contradictions from which Nick is cushioned by gentle and accommodating parents: the contradiction of understanding keenly what makes Americans American, but still being a stranger to America; the need to grow into something that will somehow justify the Old World and the new, though it is not at all clear what that means; the weight of ghosts born of countless unspeakable tragedies. The Kruks cannot but help stand out and clash with the world around them. The Bluds manage to press forward, shoulders to the plow, and quietly meld into their new world and prosper.

Robert De Lossa is director of publications at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, president of the American Association for Ukrainian Studies and co-editor (with Dominique Arel, its founder) of the online information digest "The Ukraine List."

As the story progresses, Ada becomes a divorcée and struggles to keep her family afloat and to keep passion, no matter how tawdry, in her life. A man who might once have been the great love of her life returns to it. Anton, the poet, has chosen Britain over America and has assimilated mightily, not so much into British society as into the Western life of the mind. Ada must make difficult choices.

We learn the semi-fictional (or is it?) account of Ada's life through a story that Anton has written. This story-within-a-story changes pace from the rest of the narrative, adds gossamer to the tapestry already woven (with magical evocations of summers on the beach in Crimea), presents the brutality that Ukrainians faced during the second world war, and reveals Ada's dark secrets, secrets that surround her with ghosts who pull her away from the physical world.

From here we see Alex's chaotic development, Ada's increasing inability to reconcile the demands of Old World spectres with New World bewilderments. In a scene that could not be any truer we witness the secret true nature of Nick and Ada's relationship. And we hurtle onward through revelations about Viktor's past, Paul's fate (bound in equal measures by his Old World inheritance from Lev and Ada, and the New World inheritance of Vietnam), and Alex's wayward journey to a conclusion that is shocking, but, somehow, seems inevitable.

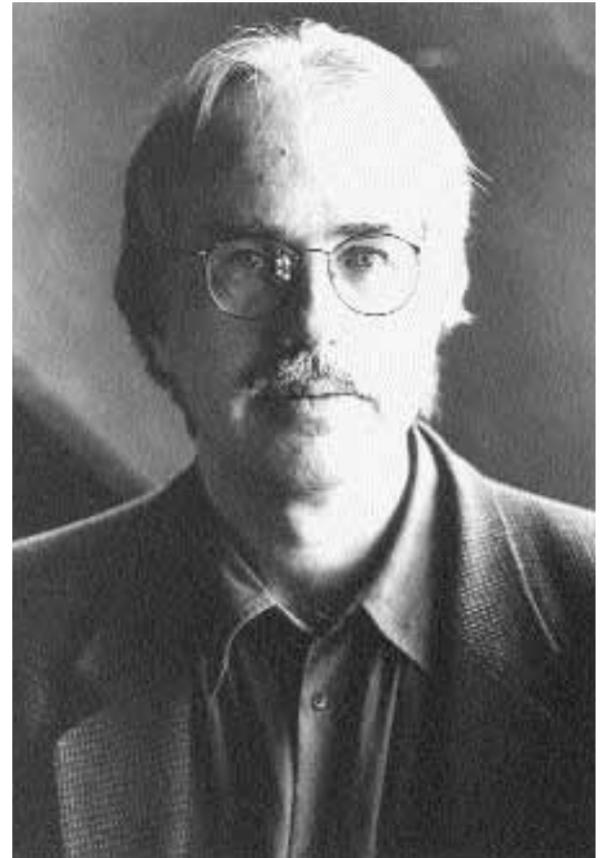
For those familiar with the subject matter that Mr. Melnyczuk plumbs, much will be familiar, but perhaps sharper and more understandable for his brilliant writing. The only thing that does not ring true historically is Crimea. When I first read the galleys several months ago that segment left me scratching my head. It didn't fit the historical narrative. But, months later, the Crimean interlude is among the scenes that have left the most evocative, magical impressions.

This fact points up the manifold strengths of "Ambassador of the Dead." It is a first-class observation of the American condition through the prism of the modern Ukrainian emigration. (Other ethnicities also inhabit these pages. Look for the five boroughs of New York.) As well, like Updike, Melnyczuk has a sure grasp of the inner core of the American male. His Nick, grappling with issues of community, religion, intellectuality and sex, pulls at us every bit as much as Rabbit does at the anxieties and aspirations of youth and middle age. (Mr. Melnyczuk writes sex with more mature kindness, I think.)

At the same time, "Ambassador of the Dead" is a roadmap to a mentality that is not American. It is no coincidence that his guide here is Ada – Adriana – who becomes Nick's Ariadne, inadvertently leaving behind a thread by which Nick himself tries to distinguish which parts of his own path are Ukrainian and which are American. The expression of "Ukrainian" clashing with "American" is schematically laid out in a clash between Nick and his wife. By and large, it is a collision that cannot be explained, but only lived through. The Bluds do it well, and in the end the older generation is gone, having sacrificed and made way for the younger. The Kruks do not. And the older generation lives bitterly on, while the younger has been destroyed.

Despite this, Mr. Melnyczuk presents a proud manifesto of who "we" are, when that "we" is somehow hyphenated. He refuses to allow the individuals in his book to become caricatures and gracefully lays out Ukrainian history in a way that humanizes it in the face of an American culture that sometimes still stigmatizes and stereotypes it.

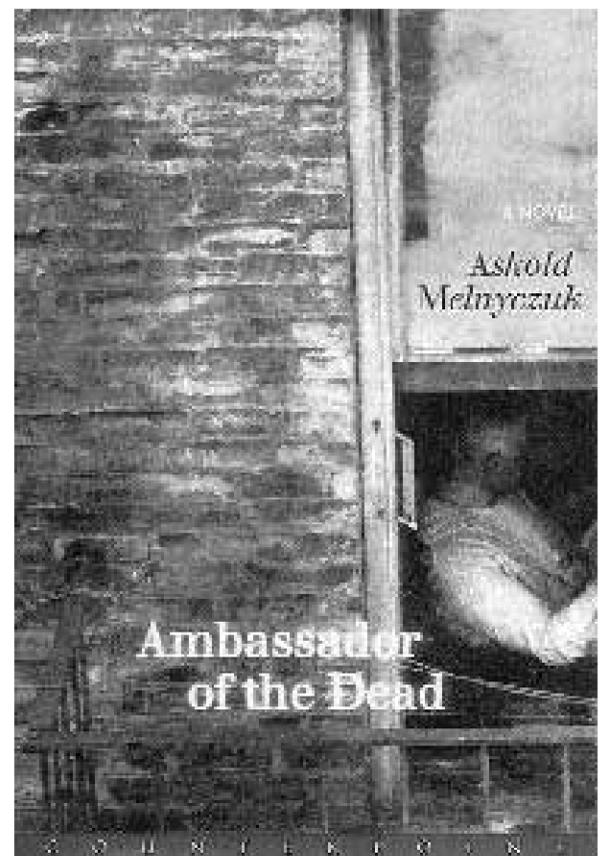
Most importantly, "Ambassador of the Dead" is an important artistic expression. Mr. Melnyczuk has not limited himself to a historical straitjacket, and where he wiggles out of it, he ultimately wins. This is especially the case with the Crimean interlude. But in those places where he squarely has placed his story within the history that we know, he has done it with great expressiveness and knowing. He has an ability to portray pain and violence without losing sight of the will to live. His story knows that people themselves sometimes step out of reality in order to save themselves. In this sense his magical realism is not really of the same type as Garcia Marquez (with whom he has been compared). In the latter, it is a device that impels history first and comes from within people second. Mr. Melnyczuk has it the other way around, which, I think, is the right way.



Askold Melnyczuk

The language is dead on, whether you have a Ukrainian background or not. Mr. Melnyczuk is a master of the ironic aside, the gentle reminder, the bon mot. His prose is both poetic and efficient. And meaningful. Those who have command of both Ukrainian and English will have great fun with the names. "Blud" says both blood and sin. "Kruk" hits many places: crux, crutch, crock, crook, krok, kruh, kruk (step, circle, raven). When Alex Italianizes his last name (utilizing American stereotypes of Italian names), the complexity and ridiculousness of the hyphenated life is fully exposed. Ada, I've touched on. Nick is the omnipresent Sviaty Mykola, Ada's intercessor saint, but also reminds us of "The Great Gatsby's" Nick, chronicler of (and participant in) other great passions and collisions. None of this is heavy-handed, but all of it clearly was carefully shaped on the potter's wheel.

In sum, "Ambassador of the Dead" works on many levels. There will be some readers who may recognize themselves in it. Other readers will come to a deeper understanding of an important community in our country. Still others will appreciate a damned good read.



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The Ukrainian Churches...

(Continued from page 8)

The Moscow Patriarchate can be expected to search for any mistake, any miscue - no matter how minor - in order to expose what they portray as the perfidy of the pope. The lies of recent months, the claims of secret papal plans of spiritual invasion, and the comparison of the holy father's visit with the invasion of Nazis 60 years earlier will continue. Any papal utterances of repentance and any request for mutual forgiveness will be met lukewarmly, just as Patriarch and Cardinal Myroslav Ivan Lubachivsky's request for mutual forgiveness at the celebration of the Millennium of the Baptism of Kyivan Rus' in 1988 was coldly and completely ignored by the Moscow Patriarchate.¹⁴

Here we can expect the Moscow Patriarchate to say: "Words. These are only beautiful words, but where is the proof in action?" Any action plan to serve the pastoral needs of the Catholics of Ukraine will continue to be labeled proselytism. Any papal support of the right of Ukrainian Catholics to simply exist will be presented by the Moscow Patriarchate as blatant expansionism and invasion of Orthodox territory. The rantings have become tiresome, even to the world press,¹⁵ which initially thought there might be some substance to the accusations. And any contact whatsoever with the autocephalist Orthodox will be described by Moscow as threatening the end of all future ecumenical relations.¹⁶ It is pitiful how the evil one blinds us human beings, so that we do not see our sin and make fools of ourselves even more. Is it any wonder that more than half of Ukrainians are still unbaptized?

Of course, both Greco-Catholics and Roman Catholics will lose their cool at times, either lashing out in anger at Moscow's propaganda or mocking the folly of it all. This, too, will be a triumph for the evil one. Triumphalism of the Church leads only to the triumph of the devil for a while. There will be those among the Catholics who will refuse to recognize the suffering of the Orthodox (the Moscow Patriarchate included) under the Soviet regime. By doing so, and by identifying all Orthodox as collaborators with the Bolshevik regime, these Catholic zealots will sin grievously, excusing themselves with the childish "They did it first." Truly, human folly will undo much of the possible good fruits of the papal visit.

The government, like so many before it, will try to use the presence of the holy father to bolster its very tarnished image. He will speak the truth to the rulers of the land. But will they have ears to hear?

The people will hear and the people will judge for themselves. It is a pity they did not know the skiing, mountain-climbing pope of not so long ago, to see what a sacrifice he is making in coming to visit now in his present sickly state. Too bad that they will not see how he has poured himself out "for the life of the world" these 20-some years to arrive at his present frailty.

It's too bad that once the celebrations are over, the Roman understanding of the concept of Church territory will continue to be dominant, with Eastern Catholics locked onto reservations, like the aboriginals of North America, while the Latin Church apparently enjoys the whole cosmos as its territory.

Some conclusions

It's too bad it will all pass so quickly. If the recognition of the Patriarchate of the Kyivan Church of the Catholic Communion does not come at this time, then, I fear, the holy father will have left (unintentionally perhaps) an open wound on the Body of Christ. I can only take solace in the fact that I will never be pope. Such awesome responsibilities will

never be mine. Here and there I will offer an opinion of little consequence with little or no personal authority with which to give it legitimacy.

I hope that Patriarch and Cardinal Lubomyr Husar's recent emphasis at the May Consistory of Cardinals on sanctity - real sanctity, the kind that places demands, the kind that hurts - will carry the day¹⁷ in the visit to Ukraine of the beloved man we Catholics call holy father, and in all ecumenical dealings to come. The people of Ukraine will see him, and they will hear his voice. His voice will be heard in the Ukrainian language, among others. This in itself will restore a great measure of dignity to a downtrodden people who were told by their neighbors - both Russians and Poles - that the Ukrainian language is fit for communication with livestock at best. The pope will prove them right, in an ironic sense. The Good Shepherd will speak in Ukrainian to his Ukrainian lambs.

Those words will be recorded, and studied, and interpreted, and lived by for centuries to come. I hope with all my might that the holy father will grace us with an apostolic letter on his return to Rome, where he can add the necessary things for which there was not enough time during the visit, or for which he needed to wait until he experienced Ukraine personally. Such a letter of reflection after the fact will be of great importance.

What a time in which to live! What a grace it is to be able to discuss the long-awaited visit of the pope to the Church of Kyiv - not as a dream, but as a scheduled reality. What a blessing it will be to welcome Pope John Paul II to Ukraine on a round trip ticket!

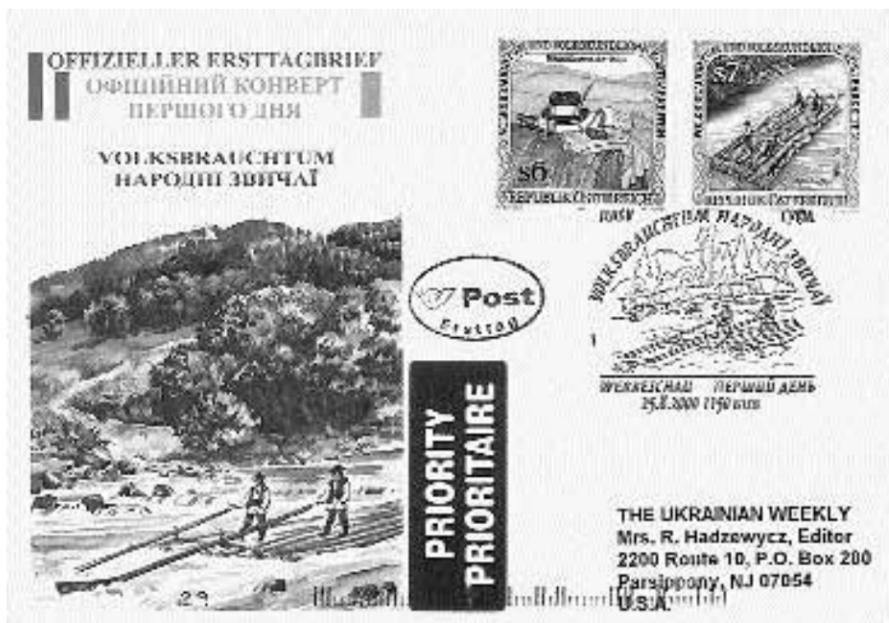
14. At the time, Patriarch Myroslav was sharply criticized by Ukrainian nationalists who claimed that Ukrainian Catholics have nothing for which to ask forgiveness from Moscow. He calmly replied, "for the anger in our hearts, at the very least."

15. See Frank Brown, "Official Denies Church to be Razed for Papal Visit" CNS May 8, 2001, where we read: "Nella Chukivska, a Russian Orthodox parishioner at the Church of St. Vladimir who took part in the May 3 protest, contradicted her church headquarters' statement regarding the demonstration which she said drew about 45 people. 'We have no problem with the Catholics,' Chukivska said in an interview from the Lviv office of her bishop, Ukrainian Orthodox Archbishop Augustyn. 'This is between our canonical Orthodox church and the schismatics.'" See also "most Ukrainians Favor Papal Visit, Survey Says" Zenit.org, Kyiv, May 21, 2001. For a surprising assessment of recent anti-papal harangues see the article by Rod Dreher, columnist for the New York Post, "When will the Orthodox Learn to Love the Pope?" in The Wall Street Journal, May 8, 2001. Patrick Cockburn's "Russian Orthodox Church Vents Its Fury at John Paul's Visit to Western Ukraine" The Independent, June 8, 2001, includes this telling analysis: "The rhetoric coming from the Russian Orthodox hierarchy has all the venom of one of Ian Paisley's diatribes against the papacy." It seems that the volume of that rhetoric is finally turning against Moscow as journalists begin to relegate it to the category of venting and diatribes.

16. Sadly, the world press continues to repeat the dubious contention that the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate is Ukraine's largest. It certainly has the most parishes. But survey after survey shows that most Orthodox believers in Ukraine identify themselves with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kyivan Patriarchate. It is not difficult to believe that, given the choice, many people who have only the possibility of attending a Moscow-affiliated parish would gladly join one of the Kyivan Patriarchate. It is surprising that more serious studies of this demographic discrepancy have not been carried out.

17. Cindy Wooden, "Ukraine Cardinal says 'radical holiness key to Christian unity,'" CNS May 22, 2001.

Philatelic release recalls timber transport



On the occasion of the first day of issue of the third stamp in the 10th set of the Austrian stamp series "National Customs and Folkloristic Treasures," which was initiated in 1991, the Ukrainian Stamp Collectors Club of Austria presented an official first day cover and a special postmark dated August 25, 2000, of the Austrian Post. The information on the cover notes that until the end of the 19th century it was customary to raft timber on rivers. This happened also on the numerous rivers in the former Austrian Crownland of Bukovyna, especially on the Cheremosh River. Artist Ivan Turetskyi of Lviv depicts this method of timber transport on a river in the Carpathian Mountains; the two men wear Hutsul costumes. Layout is by Erhard Steinhagen of Vienna.

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

Slovenia, Ukraine and Yugoslavia. Interfax reported that Mr. Kuchma called on the other heads of state to take into account "the specificity of domestic situations" in newly independent states before they choose to criticize the rate of economic and democratic transformations in those states. (RFE/RL Newswire)

New ministry to look toward Europe

KYIV – The Ukrainian government said on June 8 it planned to set up a new ministry dedicated to promoting Ukraine's integration with Europe. Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh told reporters that work had already begun on deciding a structure for the new ministry, but no decisions had been made on who would head the department. "(The person) will be a professional who is known in the international political and economic arena and who knows how to work under the conditions of a demanding free market economy," Mr. Kinakh said. (Reuters)

UOC-MP believers protest pope's visit

KYIV – Some 3,000 people, including several hundred priests and nuns of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate, staged a march in Kyiv on June 7 to protest Pope John Paul II's trip to Ukraine scheduled for June 23-27, Interfax and Reuters reported. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Rada demands sacking of TV chief

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada passed a resolution on June 7 urging President Leonid Kuchma to dismiss Vadym Dolhanov, chief of the National Television Company. The resolution states that Mr. Dolhanov's performance is

unsatisfactory, adding that he is responsible for failing to provide objective and adequate reporting on the activities of the Parliament and local legislative bodies. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Bush congratulates Kinakh

KYIV – Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh on June 5 met with U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual, who passed along a congratulatory letter from President George W. Bush pledging to support Ukraine's market reform efforts, the Associated Press reported. Mr. Pascual said President Bush voiced hope in this letter that reforms will turn Ukraine into a flourishing country. Prime Minister Kinakh, in turn, assured Ambassador Pascual that his government "has no doubts about the necessity to deepen market and democratic reforms." At the first meeting of his Cabinet, Mr. Kinakh said cooperation with the Verkhovna Rada, structural changes in the economy, creating an attractive investment climate and proper legal environment, and freedom of speech will be among the new government's priorities, Interfax reported. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Opposition ready to talk with authorities

KYIV – The Ukraine Without Kuchma civic committee believes it is "possible and expedient" to hold an "open public dialogue" between the opposition and the authorities, Interfax reported on June 6. The statement was made by Volodymyr Chemerys, a leader of the committee, during his meeting that day with Viktor Musiaka, director of the parliamentary Institute of Legislation. Mr. Musiaka, who was authorized by the president to seek contacts with the opposition, said he also wants to meet with two other opposition groups, the For the Truth movement and the Forum for National Salvation. (RFE/RL Newswire)

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

to be published in The Ukrainian Weekly – in the Ukrainian or English language – are accepted by mail, courier, fax, phone or e-mail.

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John O. Flis

September 1, 1922 – June 8, 2001

The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regrets to announce to the members of the General Assembly and to the UNA membership at large that John O. Flis, who served as UNA Supreme President for three terms and later as honorary member of the UNA General Assembly, died on Friday, June 8, 2001, at the age of 78, after a brief illness.

The Executive Committee and the entire UNA membership wish to express their sincerest sympathy to his daughter, Felicia Woolsey, and her husband; to his son, John A. Flis; and to his granddaughters, Tatiana and Ariana; as well as to the brother and sister of the deceased. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, June 13, 2001, at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kerhonkson, NY, with interment at Holy Ghost Cemetery in Hamptonburgh, NY.

The entire UNA family sends condolences to the bereaved family and wishes John O. Flis eternal peace in the Lord.

Вічная Пам'ять!



ПРЕЗИДІЯ УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ АМЕРИКАНСЬКОЇ КООРДИНАЦІЙНОЇ РАДИ

в глибокій жалобі ділиться сумною вісткою з членами і прихильниками УАКРади та ширшим громадянством, що у п'ятницю, 8 червня 2001 р., після короткої недуги, проживши 78 років, відійшов у вічність колишній предсідник і почесний член Українського Народного Союзу, колишній президент і почесний голова Президії Української Американської Координаційної Ради, активний і заслужений суспільно-громадський діяч

бл. п.

д-р ІВАН О. ФЛИС

ПАНАХИДИ – у вівторок, 12 червня в похоронному заведенні Г. В. Гумістон в Кергонксоні, Н.Й., від год. 2-ої до 4-ої і вечором від год. 7-ої до 9-ої.
ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ – у середу, 13 червня о год. 10-ій ранку в церкві св. Трійці в Кергонксоні, а відтак на цвинтарі св. Духа в Гемптонбурзі, Н.Й.

У глибокому смутку залишеній Родині найщиріші співчуття і вислови глибокого жалю складає

ПРЕЗИДІЯ

Української Американської Координаційної Ради



Ділимося сумною вісткою з родиною та приятелями, що в понеділок, 28 травня 2001 р. в Клівленді, Огайо відійшла у вічність на 89-му році життя наша найдорожча ДРУЖИНА, МАМА, БАБЦЯ І ПРАБАБЦЯ

бл. п.

МИРОСЛАВА (МИРА) (СЛАВЦЯ) ГРАБЕЦЬ

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися в четвер, 31 травня 2001 р. в українській католицькій катедрі св. Йосафата в Пармі, Огайо.

Залишилися в глибокому смутку:

чоловік – РОМАН
донька – ВІРА МОЛЛС з чоловіком ФРЕНКОМ
син – ЮРІЙ з дружиною ВІРОЮ
сестрінок – ОЛЕГ БОГУШ з дружиною БЕРНІС
внуки – ТОМИК, ХРИСТИК, ТАРАС, ЛЯРИССА, КАТРУСЯ, ТЕРЕСА і МАРІЯ
правнуки – РОМЧИК, БЕРНАРД, ПЕТРУСЬ
родини – ГОШУЛЯКІВ, БАРАНОВСЬКИХ, ШКІЛЬНИКІВ, ЛЕЩИШИНІВ, ГАЛУГІВ
та ближча і дальша родина в Америці, Канаді, Україні і Польщі.

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE**Pittsburgh UNWLA to mark jubilee**

PITTSBURGH – Members of the Pittsburgh Branch of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, attired in traditional costumes from various regions of Ukraine (from left): Jaroslawa Komichak (Hutsul region of the Carpathian Mountains), Tatiana Rad (Zakarpattia region), Halya Polatajko (Bukovyna) and Lubomyra Yoldas (Borschiv) are seen above in a photo taken on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of its founding, with celebrations planned to take place on July 29. After its founding in 1919 in Ukraine during a brief period of the country's independence, the UNWLA was banned and its members persecuted during the Soviet occupation of Ukraine. With the immigration of the first wave of Ukrainians to the coal-mining and steel-making regions of the United States at the turn of the century, the UNWLA was reborn on the American continent as a result of the fusion of a number of American Ukrainian women's organizations. The UNWLA is a member of the National Council of Women U.S.A. and the International Council of Women. Dedicated to serving others, it also promotes and cultivates the Ukrainian cultural heritage and traditions.

Connecticut town...

(Continued from page 10)

between the people of Ukraine and the United States: "Tall ships have historically brought us inspiration and culture. In 1776 merchant ships brought stories of the start of the American Revolution, and a Connecticut schoolteacher named Nathan Hale was inspired to join the fight for American independence. However, 8000 miles away, in 1775, the last vestiges of an independent Ukraine were destroyed by Russia's Empress Catherine."

Mr. Lamperelli traced Ukraine's struggle for freedom over the next two centuries. "The dark days of communism are not forgotten, and many problems still exist in Ukraine, but the stories of the tall ship *Batkivschyna* and her patriot Captain Birioukovitch have been an inspiration to the people during this 10th year of their independence. *Batkivschyna* is now starting a new Ukrainian tradition of freedom, democracy and peace. May God continue to hold her in the palm of His hand."

At the conclusion of the program, the Hartford-based Yevshan Ukrainian Vocal Ensemble sang the traditional prayer "Sotvory Hospody" ("God grant them

many years"), champagne was poured for many guests and city officials in attendance and the audience raised a toast in honor of the captain and crew.

The farewell reception received extensive coverage in the Norwich Bulletin, the New London Day and on the evening news broadcast on New Haven-based ABC affiliate WTNH-Channel 8.

Before leaving Connecticut, the *Batkivschyna* was invited to New London to anchor in the Thames River at the starting line of the Yale-Harvard Regatta, America's oldest annual sporting event. The extended farewell ceremonies in Connecticut included an appearance at the Taste of Hartford Festival and a June 5 press conference in Hartford hosted by radio talk show host Ray Dunaway with presentations by Mayor Mike Peters, Lt. Gov. Jodi Rell, and Capt. Birioukovitch.

For further information on the *Batkivschyna* and its Great Lakes Expedition, readers are urged to contact the ship's website at www.batkivshchyna.org, or to e-mail Ukrainetallship@webtv.net. Information may be obtained by telephone from the Connecticut office of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund at (203) 387-0507.



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SUMMER PROGRAM 2001**Friday, June 29**

10 p.m. – Midnight Bigus at Trembita Lounge

Saturday, June 30

9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. – Zabava – music by MONTAGE

Friday, July 6

10 p.m. – Midnight Bigus at Trembita Lounge

Saturday, July 7

9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. – Zabava – music by FATA MORGANA

Saturday, July 14

1 p.m. - 5 p.m. – Family Day, Chemny's Birthday

9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. – Zabava – music by LUNA

Saturday, July 21

8:30 p.m. – First Place Winners, Makovytska Struna (Eastern Slovakia)

10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. – Zabava – music by VIDLUNNIA

Friday, July 27

10 p.m. – Midnight Bigus at Trembita Lounge

Saturday, July 28

8:30 p.m. – DUMKA

10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. – Zabava – music by MONTAGE

Saturday, August 4

8:30 p.m. – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Recital

10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. – Zabava – music by SWITANOK

Sunday, August 5

UNWLA Day

Saturday, August 11

MISS SOYUZIVKA CONTEST

10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. – Zabava – music by TEMPO

Saturday, August 18

8:30 p.m. – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Recital

10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. – Zabava – music by FATA MORGANA

Saturday, August 25

9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. – Zabava – music by THE LEGEND

Friday, August 31

9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. – Zabava – music by VECHIRKA

Saturday, September 1

8:30 p.m. – Yunist Dance Ensemble, Yonkers

10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. – Zabava – music by TEMPO, VECHIRKA

Sunday, September 2

9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. – Zabava – music by ZOLOTA BULAVA

VIDLUNNIA will play for you every Friday evening from July 13 to August 24 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

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УКРАЇНСЬКО-АМЕРИКАНСЬКА КУЛЬТУРНА ФУНДАЦІЯзакупила **ВЕРХОВИНУ****7 червня 2001 р. відбулося остаточне правне оформлення купівлі.***Щиро дякуємо всім жертводавцям і просимо дальшої підтримки!*

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Ukrainian foundation...

(Continued from page 1)

Appearing on behalf of the purchaser, the Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation, were various members of its board of directors, officers, and mortgage loan guarantors, including Mr. and Mrs. Stephan Kapczak, Dr. Stephan Woroch, Mr. and Mrs. Jurij Blanarovich, Oleh G. Kolodiy and Anton Filimonchuk, together with their attorney, (this writer) Oleh N. Dekajlo of the Dekajlo Law Firm.

Of extreme value and importance in the mortgage loan and acquisition process, and deserving of acknowledgment were: Ray Walter, president of the First National Bank of Jeffersonville, which provided the necessary financing to conclude the acquisition, together with Alan Scott of the Sullivan County Industrial Development Agency, which is providing special tax relief; their attorneys Walter F. Garigliano, Barbara A. Garigliano and Susan Conklin; Orest T. Dekajlo and Margaret Linjus of the Dekajlo Law Firm; Sheila Perrino, president of Madison Avenue Abstracts, underwritten by the Chicago Title Insurance Co.; Bisland Insurance Agency of Glen Spey, N.Y.; Raymond J. Close, professional land surveyor; and Thomas Clark, title closer.

Pursuant to the March 12 court order of Justice Burton Ledina of the Sullivan County Supreme Court, the contract of sale for the Verkhovyna Ukrainian resort to David Willner was terminated and voided, and the Ukrainian Fraternal Association and its president, Mr. Oleksyn, were directed and ordered to refund the contract deposit received from Mr. Willner. Thereafter, pursuant to this court order, the UFA was directed to enter into a sales contract with the Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation and to deliver a warranty deed with marketable title no later than June 11.

In accordance with the agreement, the resort has been leased by the UFA to Mr. Willner for his operation of a summer camp, and he must surrender the property to the UACF no later than August 25. As a condition of his leasehold, Mr. Willner has deposited a substantial lease security, has personally guaranteed the tenant's obligations under the lease, and must bring the resort into full compliance with all municipal building and health department rules, regulations and codes.

After overcoming seemingly endless obstacles and difficulties, and with great success due to the generosity and support of the Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian

community and civic organizations, the closing took place a few days earlier than anticipated, on June 7. The entire board and directors of the Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation worked diligently and tirelessly in their fundraising efforts, obtaining institutional IDA mortgage financing and loan guarantees in order to prevent the resort from being sold by the UFA to non-Ukrainian entities.

Even at the 11th hour, during the closing, the UFA attorney threatened to walk away from the closing unless his demands were met. It was learned that the UFA and its attorneys had already scheduled a closing to sell the resort to Mr. Willner on June 15 in the event the closing with the UACF did not occur.

The UACF, a not-for-profit corporation, will now work on preparing plans for the expansion of resort facilities and functions as it continues its fund-raising efforts to satisfy loan obligations and maintenance expenses.

The UACF purchased Verkhovyna for approximately \$1.1 million, with a mortgage for \$750,000 provided by the First National Bank of Jeffersonville.

Local banker comes to the rescue

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – With the Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation (UACF) struggling to raise the funds necessary to buy Verkhovyna, Ray Walter, the president of the First National Bank of Jeffersonville, came to the rescue with some much-needed financial assistance after learning of the UACF's situation.

Mr. Walter arranged a \$750,000 mortgage for the UACF and, according to Middletown's Times Herald-Record, commented, "It just seemed like a very positive thing to do for the area, to try to keep it with the group."

Summer festivals and cultural events regularly draw large crowds, which, in turn, have the effect of bolstering the local economy, the Times Herald-Record noted. As a result of the expected gains for the community, the UACF will also receive a tax break from the Industrial Development Agency.

Said Steve Kapczak, of the UACF, "This resort will be open to everybody and the county will benefit off this."

GUAM countries...

(Continued from page 1)

cially our close neighbors." He also said that GUUAM's perspectives would remain strictly economic.

"We do not set as a goal the creation of any military or political entities, even in the long term," said Mr. Kuchma.

Meanwhile Moldovan President Vladimir Voronin, a Communist who has expressed interest in becoming part of the Belarus-Russia union, expressed his opinion that Moscow should receive observer status in GUUAM.

Informal discussions during the Yalta summit involved the possible expansion of the new economic association and a change in its name, both of which are inevitable, according to Mr. Kuchma, given the international interest in it.

Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze noted that he would support the entry of Bulgaria and Romania, both of which have expressed keen interest in membership. President Kuchma

said he had received overtures from China and Pakistan. He explained that the two countries have legitimate rights to inclusion because the Great Silk Road passed within their boundaries also.

The United States responded positively to formalizing the organization to develop the interests of the member-states even before the summit. Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage, in an interview on the U.S. Embassy Television Network on June 4, said the organization would help members develop their common interests.

"I find that these nations working together can raise the level of their voice, make sure that they're not overlooked. And I think that they can look forward to a very positive cooperation with the United States," said Mr. Armitage.

The U.S. deputy secretary of state also maintained that he does not think the newly chartered association would cause problems for Moscow or that it is "anti-Russian." On the contrary, he said it would stimulate foreign trade in the area.

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Aug. 20 - Sept. 4

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\$2850 double
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GROUP A

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 LVIV (2)
 Lv. Frankivskyi/Stranets (1)
 KHAR'KIV/Khar'kovets/Podilsky (1)
 ODESA (1)
 KHERSON (1)
 SYMEONOPOL/Bakhchisaray (1)
 YALTA (2)
 KYIV (4)

GROUP B

KYIV/ZANIV (4)
 POLTAVA (2)
 CHERKASY/Chystyn (2)
 ZHMERIN (1)
 ODESA (1)
 KHERSON (1)
 SYMEONOPOL/Bakhchisaray (1)
 YALTA (2)

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Ukrainian Association of Washington presents debutantes

by **Chrystia Shashkewych-Oryshkevych**

WASHINGTON – On the date of the traditional Malanka – New Year's Eve, January 13 – four young ladies were presented to the community before an audience of about 300 guests in the Grand Ballroom of the West End Washington Marriott in the nation's capital. The presentation was hosted by the Ukrainian Association of Washington, which succeeded in reviving the formal black-tie event with the presentation of debutantes.

Sophia Nakonechny-Smith, the new co-president of the association, greeted everyone, including notable guests Arlene Crane, representing her husband, Rep. Philip Crane from the state of Illinois; and Chief Consul Dr. Valery and Marianna Hrebenuk from the Embassy of Ukraine.

Halyna Breslawec (her co-president) delivered opening remarks. She noted that the association is the oldest Ukrainian organization in Washington, and that this year commemorates its 50th anniversary. The goal of the association is to continue to unite Ukrainians in Maryland, Virginia and Washington, and to rekindle interest in Ukrainian traditions such as Malanka.

The presentation of debutantes with their escorts and parents was choreographed and conducted by Chrystia Shashkewych-Oryshkevych and Yaromyr Oryshkevych. A very special moment for the debutantes and their mothers was the exchange of flowers, hugs and kisses. This was a touching public expression of love and thanks to a mother during her daughter's presentation to society.

Afterwards, Ms. Shashkewych-Oryshkevych also expressed congratulations to the young ladies and wished them continued success. "The youth," she said, "are our pride, joy and hope for the future."

The invocation was presented by the Rev. Taras Lonchyna, pastor of Holy Trinity Particular Ukrainian Catholic Church in Silver Spring, Md. A savory dinner was enjoyed, and memorable music was provided by



Natalie Sluzar

The debutantes and escorts, with organizers of the event: (seated, from left) Maya Woloshyn, Inia Yevich, Marta Sira, Adriana Richardson, (standing) Yaromyr Oryshkevych, Chrystia Shashkewych-Oryshkevych, Stephan Yevich, Andrij Garber, Michael Rapawy, Markian Dobczansky, Sophia Nakonechny-Smith and Halyna Breslawec.

Veseli Chasy of Chicago.

The gala was a night to remember for all the guests who had arrived from near and far. A special thank you was extended to Veseli Chasy who provided entertainment for the entire evening and kept the dance floor

packed with non-stop hit melodies.

For further information about the Malanka in Washington or for information about debuting at the Malanka call Sophia Nakonechny-Smith at (301) 946-6588.



BOOK SALE

Feminists Despite Themselves:

Women in Ukrainian Community Life, 1884-1939

by Marta Bohachevsky-Chomiak
Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press,
University of Alberta, Edmonton, 1988, 460 pp., \$20

The Hidden Nations:

The People Challenge the Soviet Union – From Lithuania to Armenia, the Ukraine to Central Asia

by Nadia Diuk and Adrian Karatnycky
William Morrow and Company, Inc., New York, 1990,
284 pp., \$22.95

Ukrainian-American Citadel:

The First One Hundred Years of the Ukrainian National Association

by Myron B. Kuropas
East European Monographs, Boulder, Colorado, 1996,
658 pp., \$20

The USSR:

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COLUMBUS – As Ohio celebrates two centuries of history, a central point of the bicentennial observance will be the accomplishments of Ohio's multicultural and ethnic communities.

One of the special projects is the designation and placement of 25 historical markers reflecting Ohio's substantial diversity and many cultures.

"By putting up these historical markers, we are identifying the important role these groups played in making Ohio what it is today," said Steve George, executive director of the Ohio Bicentennial Commission. "It is important to document these contributions for future generations."

The markers, to be selected by the

Ohio Bicentennial Commission's Multicultural and Ethnic Communities Advisory Council, can highlight significant people (who must be deceased), places or events from Ohio's first 200 years.

Nominations are being sought from the public, historical and fraternal organizations, and libraries from around the state. Nomination forms will appear in the state's multicultural and ethnic media outlets; they may also be downloaded from the Ohio Bicentennial Commission website at www.ohio2000.com.

Nominations must be postmarked no later than September 1, 2001. Ohio's Bicentennial will be an eight-month celebration beginning on March 1, 2003.

Ukrainian organizations' ...

(Continued from page 1)

zations would enable Ukrainians to speak as one voice in "addressing a Washington presence, in looking after and addressing defamation issues, and caring for the needs of Ukrainians both in the American diaspora and in Ukraine."

Over the last two decades smaller organizations that left the UCCA have found their own voice and now fear that buying into a large umbrella organization would water down their effectiveness. Julian Kulas, of the UCCA, stated that "the smaller organizations are concerned that they may lose some of their autonomy."

Dr. Taras Hunczak of the UCCA asked: "How relevant is their local activity to the needs of the entire Ukrainian community—of one organization in one locale to the needs of all the Ukrainian community?"

"This needs to be the central question. We must answer this," emphasized Dr. Hunczak.

Many of these organizations have stated that in times of crisis, or in addressing defamation of America's nearly three-quarters of a million Ukrainian Americans, there needs to be strong cooperation among organizations.

Mr. Kulas was careful to note that "many of the smaller organizations believe that we are effective, when we currently are not. We need a larger representative body capable of correcting informational faults."

The UCCA's Committee on Unification, composed of Evhen Ivashkiv, Bohdan Mychajliw, Julian Kulas, Jaroslaw Fedun and Taras Hunczak, called the May 19 meeting in order to discuss the need for unification of the Ukrainian American community with the possibility of new by-laws adapted to the needs of the twenty-first century.

Attending the May 19 meeting were representatives from the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, The Washington Group, Ukrainian National Association, Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons Association of New York and New Jersey, UACC, UCCA, Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine and others.

When asked what makes this attempt at unification any different from past attempts, Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky of the New York/New Jersey professionals and businesspersons said: "Circumstances have changed; people have realized that the ideological splits are now irrelevant."

He elaborated: "Everybody wants a generally democratic Ukraine with a free market economy and freedom of the press. We are no longer worried about abstract issues. It's much more real and concrete. We're much more on the same side."

Dr. Vitvitsky added: "If we can develop trust in each other, perhaps we can come under one umbrella."

"The need for an umbrella organization

is strong, but it comes with a tremendous amount of power. We must ensure that this power is used in a democratic fashion," explained Ihor Kotlarchuk, president of The Washington Group.

The representatives present at the May 19 meeting formed an Organizational Committee composed of representatives of various organizations. Among them were Julian Kulas, chairman, along with Dmytro Hryhorczuk, Dr. Vitvitsky, Irene Kurowyckyj, Ulana Diachuk, Wolodymyr Wolowodiuk, Mr. Kotlarchuk and Vasyl Sosiak with a firm date for a future meeting still undecided.

Mr. Kotlarchuk explained that this is simply an interim step. "This committee is set up to iron out a few issues and to be used as a stepping-stone," he said. "This council would meet and get to know each other. It would explore possibilities of working together with the hope of reaching a consensus, to continue to explore possibilities to act in some sort of unified way."

Ulana Diachuk, president of the Ukrainian National Association, noted that "this is done for the younger generation who will hopefully want this system. They will have an organization to be a force for the diaspora. But we need to get the younger generation involved. This must be something they want to pursue."

In terms of the future for the Ukrainian diaspora, Mr. Kulas seemed to agree with Ms. Diachuk, saying: "I am a big proponent of younger participation. The doors are open; now it's your turn to take over the leadership."

When asked about the next step, Mr. Kulas explained that "if unification worked, we would need to agree on how to revise the by-laws to ensure a fair representation."

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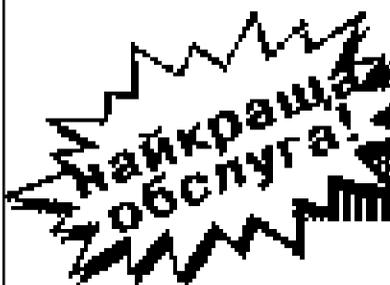


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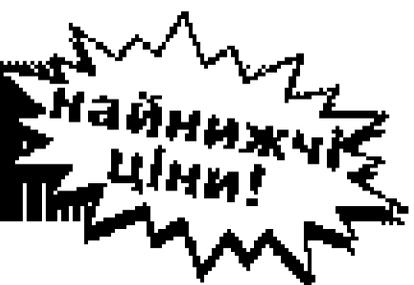
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Two Rukhs pledge...

(Continued from page 1)

Both Mr. Udovenko and Mr. Kostenko indicated that they had instructed their organizations at the grassroots level to begin to coalesce immediately and to develop single slates for local elections.

The declaration signed by the leaders of the two Rukhs paves the way for the development of the most united national democratic bloc since before independence.

Viktor Pynzenyk's Reforms and Order Party and the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists led by Slava Stetsko already have stated that they will join the coalition, and bloc leaders said they expect other right-leaning political parties to come on board. Mr. Pynzenyk added that the electoral bloc will have a joint organization

and a single slate ready for the beginning of the election season in mid-October.

While Mr. Yuschenko was full of praise and hope for the perspectives of the newly united right, he did not consent to lead the coalition, which actively has been pushing him to do so. Mr. Pynzenyk said he was non-plussed by Mr. Yuschenko's failure to board the bandwagon and said it was merely a matter of time.

"I am fully confident that Mr. Yuschenko will lead the bloc," said Mr. Pynzenyk, who also said he believes the bloc will win enough seats to form the largest faction in the next Verkhovna Rada.

Most political analysts believe the bloc would take about 15 percent of the vote in the next elections, which could make it a force second only to the Communists, who are again expected to receive 20 percent of the vote.

President Leonid Kuchma, however, expressed doubt that the new rightist coalition would be effective and would receive public support. On his way from Milan and the summit of Eastern and Central European leaders on June 9 the Ukrainian president called the reunification a "farce," according to Interfax-Ukraine.

"They call it a history-making event after they broke the party up with their own undertakings," said Mr. Kuchma. "This is all sheer folly, a farce masked with loud slogans."

During a press conference on June 10, Mr. Udovenko said he was surprised by Mr. Kuchma's statement, while Mr. Pynzenyk said the president's words were evidence that the centrist forces and the oligarchs fear the new bloc.

The schism within Rukh, which took place in March 1999, was the culmination

of a growing disagreement over the direction the national democratic force should take and the methods of its longtime leader, Vyacheslav Chornovil, whom a growing number of party leaders had accused of being unacceptably strong-handed. The political party splintered after a congress was hastily called by the leaders of its Secretariat, following the removal of Mr. Chornovil as head of the parliamentary faction. The original Rukh Party countered by calling a second congress in which it reasserted Mr. Chornovil as its chairman.

Mr. Chornovil died in a tragic and somewhat mysterious car accident about a month after the split took place. Mr. Chornovil's Rukh elected Mr. Udovenko as its new chairman, while the splinter political party had voted Mr. Kostenko as its chairman.

Venture capital firm...

(Continued from page 3)

ommends to the Dnieper Fund investment committee are wholly privatized and totally transparent. He added that in many cases the WUVP, in conjunction with local managers, develops projects from scratch.

This is especially true in the agricultural sphere, where old collective farms lie underutilized or simply crumbling and can be had dirt-cheap. By properly investing in modern equipment, the farms can be resurrected as modern agricultural companies at relatively small cost.

As an example, Mr. DeVreede offered several projects in the Rohatyn area of the Lviv Oblast, which has become its de facto base of operations.

"This is a region with high unemployment and a nearly collapsed agriculture system," said Mr. DeVreede. "They are happy to sell, but you need a local partner to make it work."

The Dnieper Fund has decided to dedicate approximately 30 percent of its portfolio into agricultural production and food processing. It has taken a stake in Rosan Capital, a local western Ukrainian firm, which has a major Canadian co-investor. One of its subsidiaries, Rosan Agriculture, has developed a project that the WUVP helps manage and which it sees as a core of its own investment strategy.

In 1999 Rosan Agriculture purchased a former collective farm in the Rohatyn area and invested in modern technologies to develop a state-of-the-art pig farm, with computerized feeding and computer chips in every pig that monitor its nutritional needs and development. Currently Rosan owns 6,000 heads, pigs that are sold to market, but is working to expand to 10,000, after which it will begin its own meat processing.

WUVP was so taken by Rosan Agriculture's success that in May 2000 its Dnieper Fund became a strategic investor in the firm.

WUVP also hopes that investors will be interested in projects to develop food processing plants as well as seed farms. In preparation for its food processing operations it has developed the rights to 3,500 hectares of land in western Ukraine.

However, Mr. DeVreede said the potential of the seed farms particularly excited him for two reasons. First, new seed strains are particularly needed in Ukraine because its own agricultural strains are poor. Second, European seed companies often have been unwilling to sell to Ukraine because the country has a history of reneging on property rights payments.

In another project, WUVP is looking for investors who would support an

investment cell to develop dairy farming ventures and eventually a milk and cheese plant.

"Do you know why Ukraine produces so much dark chocolate and so little milk chocolate?" queried Mr. DeVreede. "Because it has a shortage of milk."

He said that WUVP hopes to make all the Dnieper Fund's agricultural projects organically based so as to maintain access to Western Europe's increasingly finicky market.

In order to achieve a diversified portfolio, WUVP would like to take its Dnieper Fund into the financial services field as well. Currently it has several projects in mind, the closest to fruition being the purchase of one of the top three performing insurance companies in Ukraine.

Mr. DeVreede would not name the company, but offered that it was a stable firm that needed investment for further growth. While not interesting to Western insurance companies who tend to look for large size, it was a nice fit for the Dnieper Fund's accent on small and medium investments.

There are also plans eventually to develop a publishing firm in western Ukraine and further down the road a bit, to invest in environment-friendly industries such as wooden toy production, which the venture fund manager acknowledged would be a niche market investment.

The idea for a venture capital fund for western Ukraine came from the Dutch government after a visit to the western oblasts of Ukraine by the Dutch prime minister in 1996. Government officials in discussions with western oblast leaders agreed to support the development of an investment fund. Unlike other Western funds such as the Western NIS Fund, which was fully capitalized by the U.S. government, WUVP received only start-up funding and organizational support from the Dutch government to develop the Dnieper Fund.

Because Ukraine still is perceived as a dangerous place to invest one's money, Mr. DeVreede explained that a goal of WUVP is to reduce the risks involved. He said part of the strength of the Dnieper Fund is the WUVP management team, whose members are from Western Europe but have extensive experience on the ground in Ukraine's business world and utilize strictly Western concepts and practices. The venture management team's priorities remain the maintenance of high levels of due diligence and oversight and the development of conditions to reduce the perceived risk in its investment projects, said Mr. DeVreede.

"I can't guarantee the weather, and I can't guarantee a 60 percent return, but the labor costs are low and the land costs are low," he explained. "We are getting it down to a normal economic risk."



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, June 23

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society is sponsoring a presentation by Oleksiy Haran, Director of the Center for National Security Studies at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, on the topic "Can the Communists and Socialists Come to Power in Ukraine?" Mr. Haran is currently based in Washington as a Kennan Institute Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. The presentation will be held at the Shevchenko Scientific Society building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For further information call (212) 254-5130.

Friday, June 15 - Sunday, July 8

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Art and Literary Club and Mayana Gallery invite the public to "Rusalia: Fertility Rites of Spring," an exhibit of photo reproductions featuring the ancient ritual celebrations as depicted on Ukrainian bracelet jewelry from the Kyivan-Rus' period (12th-13th centuries). Opening is at 7 p.m.; exhibit tour and explanations by Slava Gerulak. Donation: \$7. Gallery hours: Friday, 6-8 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The Mayana Gallery is located at 136 Second Ave., fourth floor. For more information call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144; visit the website <http://www.brama.com/mayana>; or e-mail ukrartlitclub@aol.com.

Saturday, June 23

NEW YORK: Yara Arts Group presents "New Traditions for Midsummer Night," an indoor concert celebrating Kupalo, with Mariana Sadovska and Yara artists, the Experimental Bandura Trio, the Budmo Musical Group and Eugene Hutz's Gogol Bordello at 8 p.m. at La MaMa, 74 E. Fourth St. Tickets: \$5. For information call (212) 475-7710. Or visit <http://www.brama.com/yara/>

Sunday, June 24

ENCINITAS, Calif.: The Lake San Marcos Chamber Music Society presents distinguished Ukrainian pianist Mykola Suk in a solo recital. The program will start at 2:30 p.m. and will include the Mozart Sonata in C major, K330, Mozart Sonata in A minor, K310, and the Twenty-Four Preludes by Chopin. The concert will take place at the San Diego United Methodist Church, 170 Calle Magdalena (one block east of I-5 and one block south of Encinitas Boulevard). Tickets: \$20, general admission; \$10, students. For further information call (760) 744-7516.

CHICAGO: The Foundation for the Advancement of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Illinois invites everyone to a banquet to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the "Annual Conference on Ukrainian Subjects" at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave. The 20th conference, titled "Ten Years of Independence of Ukraine," will be held June 18-23 at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. The cost of the banquet on June 24 is \$50 per person. For information about the conference call Prof. Dmytro Shtohryn, (217) 356-9195. For informa-

tion about the banquet call Raisa Bratkov, (847) 991-3136.

Thursday, June 28 - Tuesday, July 2

TORONTO: Ukrainian schooner Batkivschyna and the Discover Ukraine project will participate in Toronto Harbor's "Parade of Lights." Visitors will have the opportunity to meet the captain and crew of the Batkivschyna, which will be docked behind the Harbour Castle Hilton by the Island Ferry docks. "Parade of Lights" is a boating festival in which each boat is decorated with Christmas lights. Visitors are encouraged to donate strings of decorative (Christmas) lights for the ship's participation in the event. Any winnings will be donated to charity. For more information the captain and crew can be reached via e-mail at Discoverukraine@hotmail.com.

Tuesday-Wednesday, July 3-4

BUFFALO, N.Y.: The Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund (Buffalo Chapter) will host the Ukrainian gaff schooner Batkivschyna at the Canada-U.S. Friendship Festival at the Erie Basin Marina. There will be a ceremony to greet the crew on Tuesday, July 3, at 7 p.m. at the marina. The community will welcome the crew at 9 p.m. at the Ukrainian Home Dnipro, 562 Genesee St. (\$5 admission). On July 4 from noon to 10 p.m. there will be a series of performances including the Chaika Dance Ensemble from Hamilton, Ontario, and the Zoloti Struny Bandura Group from Rochester, N.Y. For more information call Olenka Bodnarskyj-Gunn, (716) 886-5881.

Friday, July 6

NEW YORK: Yara Arts Group presents "Kupalo Freakout— Midsummer Night Rituals, Songs and Anarchy." Featured artists include Mariana Sadovska, Yara artists, the Experimental Bandura Trio, the Budmo Musical Group and Eugene Hutz's Gogol Bordello, who will be joined by singer Alexis Kochan from Winnipeg, singer Alla Kutsevych, food artist Olesia Lew, Yara's Jina Oh and many others. The events take place at 8:30 p.m. in the Community Garden at East Sixth Street and Avenue B; admission is free. For updates see <http://www.brama.com/yara/>.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Sunday, July 29

PITTSBURGH: A dinner-dance, "Vyshyvani Vechornytsi," commemorating the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the Pittsburgh branch of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA), will be held at the Holiday Inn in Greentree. The social hour will begin at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m., followed by dancing to the orchestra Lvivany. We encourage everyone to wear his or her embroidered ethnic costume during this evening. After dinner, branch members will have delicious multi-layered tortes for sale. For more information or to obtain tickets, call Branch President Anne Z. Konecky, (412) 343-0309; fax (412) 207-7899 or e-mail unwlabranch27@hotmail.com.

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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