



**ХРИСТОС БОЖЕПЕЧ!
CHRIST IS RISEN!**

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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

Vol. LXXVII

No.15

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2009

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Community activist Maria Zobniw killed in mass shooting in Binghamton

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Maria K. Zobniw, 60, a well-known and respected community activist, was among 13 people fatally shot on Friday morning, April 3, at the American Civic Association in Binghamton, N.Y. They were the victims of a lone gunman, 41-year-old Vietnamese immigrant Jiverly Wong, who also critically wounded four others at the immigration services center and then killed himself.

Mrs. Zobniw, known to family and friends as Mima, was a very active member of the Ukrainian American community and a dedicated civic activist. She was not even supposed to be at the American Civic Association, where she was a case-worker, that day.

As reported in The New York Times on April 5, Mrs. Zobniw had planned to spend the day baking for Easter. However, she got a call from the center seeking translation help and went to the center, where she had worked for five years, correcting homework for immigrants from Ukraine and translating birth certificates.

Irene Tkoryk, a friend, told The Times "She never said 'I can't.'"

Others killed in what was New York state's deadliest mass shooting were students who came from China, Haiti, Vietnam, Iraq, Brazil, Pakistan, the Philippines; the other two victims worked at the American Civic Association.

Syracuse.com reported that Friday, April 3, was a day off for Mrs. Zobniw. As she left home at 10 a.m. that day, her husband, Lubomyr, said that she promised to be back in 10 minutes.

As news broke about the shootings, which occurred at about 10:30 a.m., Mr. Zobniw got a call from their youngest daughter, Chrystia, who worried about whether Mrs. Zobniw was at the association. Members of the Ukrainian community also called to ask about Mima.

Mr. Zobniw called his three other children, Zoriana, Adrian and Oresta, who live out of state, before heading to the

civic association, where the police were not letting anyone into the building. The next few hours were agonizing, syracuse.com reported. Mr. Zobniw checked the hospitals, but his wife wasn't there. He was in the crowd at 5 p.m. when police read the names of survivors, but didn't call his wife's name.

"It wasn't supposed to be the way it turned out," Mr. Zobniw, 67, told reporter Maureen Sieh. "I always had the feeling that I would be the first to go. I would have gladly traded places because she had so much more to give than I feel I have."

"She was the face of the Ukrainian community of the Southern Tier," the Rev. Teodor Czabala Jr., pastor of Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church, told Ms. Sieh of Syracuse.com. "She was proud of her Ukrainian heritage, but she was very American, too."

Mrs. Zobniw was committed to preserving the Ukrainian culture that her parents instilled when they emigrated to the United States after World War II, her husband told the reporter. "She was the one who gave guidance to our children," he said. "She was a tremendous lady, and the whole community sensed it."

She spoke French, Spanish, Ukrainian and other Slavic languages, and she helped many families fill out paperwork to bring their children and other relatives to the United States, said Mr. Zobniw, a retired IBM engineer and a Vietnam war veteran. "I was extremely proud of her and the work she was doing," he added.

On April 7 Chrystia Zobniw wrote a column about her mother in the Binghamton Press & Bulletin. "My mother loved what she did. She loved helping people in need. Ironical that it is this desire to help which brought her to work on her day off and ended in this tragedy."

Born in Austria

Mrs. Zobniw, the daughter of Ostap and Malvina Koropec, was born on July

(Continued on page 8)

Yushchenko waffles on elections as the end of his term approaches



Official Website of Ukraine's President

President Viktor Yushchenko delivers his annual address to the Verkhovna Rada on March 31.

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Facing the end of his term in office, President Viktor Yushchenko has revealed a complete lack of election strategy in recent days, unable to make up his mind even about the date he prefers for the presidential election.

After Ukraine's Parliament voted overwhelmingly to hold the presidential election on October 25, President Yushchenko appeared to have agreed, stating on April 6, "it's not a matter of principle for me how many months earlier they will take place, whether in October or September."

He added his view that pre-term parliamentary elections must be held simultaneously.

Just two days later, however, the Presidential Secretariat submitted an appeal to the Constitutional Court, requesting that it

overrule the Verkhovna Rada's decision on the date.

"The Verkhovna Rada's decision has nothing in common with the law, and I have no doubt that such a decision will be overturned," President Yushchenko said on April 8.

Since January, the Presidential Secretariat has stated the presidential election would occur on January 17, 2010, and veteran observers said the Parliament's surprising April 1 decision to hold the vote in October shocked the president and revealed his team's utter lack of strategy approaching the election.

"He's lost, and he doesn't know what to do," said Oleh Soskin, director of the Kyiv-based Institute of Society Transformation, a Western-financed think-tank. "He has different groups around him, some saying January is a better time, with another group saying elections need to be held sooner. They don't have a definite scenario."

Adding to the confusion are the varying conditions for presidential elections set by two constitutions — the version that was in place when President Yushchenko was elected in 2004, and the amended version that took effect January 1, 2006.

When they voted to hold the election on October 25, national deputies explained that President Yushchenko was elected when the unrevised Ukrainian Constitution was in place, which stipulated that the presidential election occurs on the last Sunday in October.

The amended Constitution, on which the Presidential Secretariat based its January 17 election date, stipulates that the presidential election occurs on the last Sunday of the last month of the president's five-year term.

NATO at 60: Has expansion reached its end?

by Brian Whitmore

RFE/RL

The first time was easy. Ten years ago, former Soviet satellites Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic managed to join NATO with the Kremlin mustering little more than a token whimper of protest.

The second time around wasn't so tough either. To be sure, Moscow objected boisterously when the Western alliance expanded into the post-Soviet space in 2004, admitting Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, in addition to Bulgaria, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia. But in the end, it could do little to stop the

move.

But then the enlargement wave hit a brick wall. When NATO began moving to admit Georgia and Ukraine, a newly emboldened Russia effectively drew the line.

Flush with petrodollars and newfound influence, the Kremlin brought all of its political, economic and diplomatic strength to bear at the alliance's 2008 summit in Bucharest.

Tbilisi and Kyiv had come to the Romanian capital with hopes of taking a key step forward in their NATO bids. Instead, they left empty-handed, as Moscow appeared to have shut down the next wave

of expansion before it even got off the ground.

Today, prospects for Georgia and Ukraine seem even more dim despite U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's assurance on April 3 that the process is "moving on."

"I don't see any reason why Georgia and Ukraine cannot join NATO when the time is right — when they have good relations with their neighbors," Edgar Buckley, the former NATO assistant secretary-general for defense planning, said at a recent conference in Prague. "We don't want to take Georgia

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued on page 8)

ANALYSIS

Medvedev plays anti-Western card to promote Russia's military reform

by Roger N. McDermott
Eurasia Daily Monitor

On March 17 Russia's President Dmitry Medvedev addressed a session of the Ministry of Defense board in order to outline a large-scale rearmament program that will commence in 2011, designed to give the Russian armed forces a "new look."

Mr. Medvedev used the occasion to pointedly restate the military reform and modernization agenda first detailed by Defense Minister Anatoliy Serdyukov in October 2008. In substance, there was little new in this latest address, but the tone and rhetoric contained elements of justifying the radical reform plans in reference to the United States and NATO clearly cast as threats to Russia and its national interests.

Mr. Medvedev delineated several factors underlying the need to re-equip and modernize Russia's armed forces, including the continued efforts of NATO to expand towards Russia's borders with future membership for Georgia and Ukraine: "Any analysis of the military and political situation in the world shows that in a number of regions serious potential for conflict remains. There is always the risk of local crises and international terrorism. Attempts to expand the North Atlantic Treaty Organization on the borders of our country continue. All this requires a qualitative modernization of our armed forces to give them a new, forward-looking perspective. Despite the current financial difficulties, we can make all the necessary provisions" (www.kremlin.ru, March 17).

Russia's new National Security Strategy to 2020, which will be ratified shortly, will describe these threats to Russia's national interests more precisely, as well as give shape to the aims and scope of the military reform process now under way, before being further elaborated in its new military doctrine later this year.

The cumbersome task of explaining the U.S. and NATO linkage to this recalibration of the Russian military was delegated to Defense Minister Serdyukov, who was unequivocal in his attack on American foreign policy: "The military-political situation was conditioned by the U.S. administration's ambition to attain global leadership, by the expansion and build-up of the military presence of the United States and their NATO allies in regions neighboring on Russia. The U.S. side's aspirations were aimed at getting access to the natural, energy and other resources of CIS countries. Processes aimed to squeeze Russia out of the area of its traditional interests were given

active support" (www.mil.ru, March 17).

American aspirations for "global leadership," coupled with the presence of the U.S. military close to Russia in areas which the regime regards as zones of "special strategic influence," along with Washington's alleged efforts to compete with Moscow for access to strategic energy assets, were identified as critical factors underpinning the need to modernize Russia's military. Only after this, in terms of priority, did Mr. Serdyukov mention threats to the state emanating from international terrorism, religious extremism, or weapons proliferation.

Finally, he again linked the reform program to the failings exposed by the conflict in Georgia in August 2008: "Georgia's attack on South Ossetia became a direct threat to the Russian Federation's national interests and military security. That attempt to resolve a conflict through the use of force was aimed primarily to destabilize the situation in the Caucasus," Mr. Serdyukov asserted (Zvezda TV, March 17).

In both speeches, there was little to distinguish Mr. Medvedev's or Mr. Serdyukov's views of the reform process that was initiated following the Russia-Georgia war. The first priority is to modernize and maintain the strategic nuclear forces, and this remains vital.

In its conventional structures the military will transfer to permanent readiness, downsize from 1.3 million servicemen to 1 million, shed 200,000 officer posts to enhance command and control efficiency, move to a brigade-based structure capable of rapid deployment in a crisis, introduce new weapons and equipment throughout the forces (30 percent by 2015 and 70 percent by 2020), streamline the system of military education and enhance social conditions for personnel (Interfax, March 17).

Mr. Serdyukov explained that priority tasks have been set for 2009, ranging from transferring units and formations to permanent readiness to increasing the number of military exercises. Later this year joint exercises will be staged between Belarus and Russia. "Zapad 2009" may involve rehearsing repelling NATO intervention in Belarus, assuaging the Russian generals who cling desperately to old ideas of Western threats to Russia. In September 2009 Kazakhstan will host the first military exercise of the new CSTO rapid Reaction Forces, which Mr. Serdyukov said will be equipped with modern weaponry, equipment and specially designed uniforms (www.mil.ru, March, 17).

Despite recourse to anti-Western rhetoric, perhaps also timed to coincide with preparing the ground for President Medvedev's first meeting with President Barack Obama in London at the G-20 summit in April, the military transformation under way in Russia marks a genuine departure from any pretence that its conventional forces take seriously a "threat" from the West. Abolishing the mass mobilization concept, preferring instead to form permanent readiness units more suited to intervention in regional or local conflicts, and redistributing Russia's airborne forces traditionally based west of the Urals, basing future airborne brigades in each of the country's six military districts, contradicts the rhetoric.

Messrs. Medvedev and Serdyukov have adopted the language of decrying

(Continued on page 20)

NEWSBRIEFS

NATO reaffirms decision on Ukraine

KYIV – The 60th anniversary summit of NATO held in Strasbourg, France, and Kehl, Germany, on April 3-4 reiterated the decision of the alliance's Bucharest summit regarding Ukraine's and Georgia's Euro-Atlantic prospects. In the Declaration on Alliance Security adopted at the meeting, heads of state and government of the NATO members noted that the "open door" policy of the alliance had not changed. "Stability and successful political and economic reform in Ukraine and Georgia are important to Euro-Atlantic security. At Bucharest we agreed that Ukraine and Georgia will become members of NATO and we reaffirm all elements of that decision as well as the decisions taken by our ministers of foreign affairs last December. We are maximizing our advice, assistance and support for their reform efforts in the framework of the NATO-Ukraine Commission and NATO-Georgia Commission, which play a central role in supervising the process set in hand at the Bucharest Summit," the document reads. The heads of state and government welcomed the planned reinforcement of NATO's Information and Liaison Offices in Kyiv and Tbilisi. "Without prejudice to further decisions which must be taken about MAP, the development of Annual National Programs will help Georgia and Ukraine in advancing their reforms. The annual review of these programs will allow us to continue to closely monitor Georgia and Ukraine's progress on reforms related to their aspirations for NATO membership. We also welcome the valuable contributions made by both countries to NATO's operations," the declaration said. The alliance's leadership remains convinced that the mutually beneficial relationship between NATO and Ukraine, launched 12 years ago with the Distinctive Partnership, will continue to contribute to regional and Euro-Atlantic security. "In this context, we appreciate Ukraine's valuable contributions to our common security, including through participation in NATO-led operations. We encourage Ukraine's continued efforts to promote regional security and cooperation. We underscore the

importance of Ukraine's commitment to continue implementing needed political, economic, defense and security sector reforms, in order to achieve its Euro-Atlantic aspirations, and we will continue to provide assistance to this end. Political stability is of crucial importance to the successful implementation of these reforms," the declaration reads. (Ukrinform)

8,000 protest in Kyiv

KYIV – According to calculations by the militia, 8,000 persons participated in protest actions in Kyiv organized by the opposition Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU). The Internal Affairs Ministry noted that no violations of the law were observed. Earlier, the deputy head of the PRU faction in the Verkhovna Rada, Oleksander Yefremov, stated that in the meeting that took place on Independence Square in Kyiv was attended by over 50,000. Other sources cited a figure of 20,000. On March 27, following opposition meetings in Kyiv and in a number of regional centers, the PRU accused the militia of a deliberate "twofold reduction" of the number of participants in protest actions. The opposition called it a "political order" that testifies to "the authorities' fear of the people's anger." (Ukrinform)

PRU disrupts debate on IMF reform

KYIV – Ukraine's opposition on April 2 disrupted debate in Parliament on measures aimed at restoring credits from the International Monetary Fund, which has suspended further installments of its \$16.4 billion loan to Ukraine. PRU deputies stormed the rostrum as the Rada session opened; they unfurled banners reading, "Leaders resign, end the crisis."

Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said, "The blocking of Parliament today is halting legislative action against the crisis and is hurting every citizen of Ukraine." The PRU called for street protests on April 3 against government policy, but the rallies attracted smaller than anticipated crowds, even in its stronghold of eastern Ukraine. (Reuters)

(Continued on page 14)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.
Yearly subscription rate: \$55; for UNA members — \$45.

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

The Weekly: UNA:
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510 Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

Postmaster, send address changes to:

The Ukrainian Weekly
2200 Route 10
P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
Editors: Matthew Dubas
Zenon Zawada (Kyiv)

The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com; e-mail: staff@ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, April 12, 2009, No. 15, Vol. LXXVII
Copyright © 2009 The Ukrainian Weekly

ADMINISTRATION OF THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY AND SVOBODA

Walter Honcharyk, administrator

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3041

Maria Oscislowski, advertising manager

e-mail: ukradmin@att.net

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3040

Mariyka Pendzola, subscriptions

fax: (973) 644-9510

e-mail: adukr@optonline.net

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3042

e-mail: ukrsubscr@att.net

Errata

Several typographical errors went uncorrected in the March 29 issue of The Weekly. In the story "Ukrainian Catholic bishops of North America meet," the date of the meeting should have been given as March (not February) 10-11. In one photo caption to the story about the Carpathian Ski Club's races, Ambassador Yuriy Sergeyev was mistakenly identified as Ambassador Oleh Shamshur. In Askold Lozynskyj's commentary "Banderivtsi, Melnykivtsi and a murder," the spelling of the last name of the OUN-M leader should have been given as Olzhych.

INTERVIEW: Serhiy Kvit of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Soon after becoming president of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy (NUKMA) in September 2007, Serhiy Kvit fought against the Education Ministry's proposal to allow the national standardized admissions tests, introduced in April, to replace Kyiv Mohyla Academy's own standardized admissions testing.

Launched in 1992, the Kyiv Mohyla Academy admissions exam consisted of 170 questions in seven subjects, whereas the national standardized test requires completion only of the Ukrainian language and literature test.

Separate universities and departments can require other national standardized exams. NUKMA requires two more – one in the English language and the other in subject of the intended major.

"There are many threats, but the main one is that a young person can concentrate on only two subjects, ignoring the others, and this is a very serious tendency," Dr. Kvit said, stressing that the his university's test requires knowledge of mathematics, jurisprudence and the history of Ukraine.

The defiance of the NUKMA leadership, which required applicants to take both standardized exams last year, upset the Ministry of Education led by Ivan Vakarchuk, and the ministry forbid NUKMA from requiring both exams in this year's admissions.

In accordance with NUKMA's new proposal, Dr. Kvit said applicants will have the option of taking the university's traditional entrance exam, only the successful completion of which will give them access to the university's special perks, such as educational grants, career services and its newly launched Ph.D. programs.

In addition, while those taking the state standardized admissions test can earn a state diploma upon graduation, only those who pass the university's admissions testing can earn a genuine NUKMA diploma, he said.

Dr. Kvit's predecessor, Dr. Viacheslav Briukhovetskyi – who, following his historic 13-year tenure, remains active in the university's leadership as its honorary president – noted that the NUKMA admissions test is also being adapted this year to help applicants determine which career fields they show particular promise for and ought to pursue.

"It'll give us the chance to look and advise a young person [for example]: 'Finances and law are not yours,'" he said. "Every person is talented, but if a person is talented in literature and wants to go into finance, then that's a tragedy!"

The Weekly interviewed Dr. Kvit following a February press conference; Dr. Briukhovetskyi also joined the interview in its later stages. Following is an edited transcript of the conversation.

Thank you for this opportunity. What are the university's two largest achievements in the last year?

In the last year? The biggest achievement was the launch of Western-standard doctoral studies, which includes three different programs.

The first in Ukraine?

Yes, in Ukraine. These are the first Ph.D. programs in Ukraine – finance, mass communications and public health management. That's our biggest success.

An achievement that influences the situation in Ukraine as a whole is our policy in developing a system of national standardized testing. That's very important.

Independent, standardized testing was introduced, based on our 17-year experience, beginning in 1992. We have enormous success. We have no corruption in the uni-

versity. This is a very advanced, progressive system. And after our introduction of independent, external evaluation, we are developing the whole national system. That's very important.

What's your biggest challenge in the financial crisis?

As much as we are a state university, a national university, that is to say a government university, we have significant problems related to cuts in budget financing. The government finances us, and this financing is being significantly reduced. This is a big challenge.

The 2009 budget, for example?

We can't even say exactly. But it's constantly shrinking... with every quarter. For example, we know our situation for the first three months of this year.

But what's further, how the situation will be at the end of the year – we don't know. For example, we don't know if the government will pay our utility services at all. This includes payments for hot water, electricity and others. So financing is a big problem. ...

But can you say approximately what your budget was in 2008?

Oy, what was it ... well, it was approximately in the range of 50 million hrv.

How does that compare with the budget 10 years ago?

Well, our biggest problem was in 1994. That's when the government covered 12 percent of our needs – 12 percent in 1994. Last year the government covered 40 percent of our needs. So we've never received even half of what we need.

So where is the rest from?

The rest is fund-raising, as well as tuition income.

So what percent of the budget depends upon donations or foundations?

Well, I'm not ready to name a percentage at the moment. In the 1990s it was only the help of the Ukrainian diaspora that maintained the academy – only their help. If we didn't have the help of the Ukrainian diaspora, I'm afraid the situation would have been simply catastrophic.

But with time the diaspora's share declined because we are finding more support in Ukraine, and we need to do that. Along with that, the diaspora's help is very important because it makes our university



Zenon Zawada

Dr. Serhiy Kvit (left) became president of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy in September 2007, succeeding Dr. Viacheslav Briukhovetskyi (right), currently the honorary president.

more independent. It offers the opportunity to have financing which we can invest in developing programs, develop academics and help our professors who receive very small salaries, very small.

What are your biggest sources of funding beyond the government?

Well, we have the Renaissance of Kyiv Mohyla Academy International Charity Fund [in Ukraine]. And we have the Kyiv Mohyla Academy Foundation in the U.S., led by Marta Farion who lives in Chicago. And we have a fund-raising division in the university, which is also working.

And we are trying to raise funds not only in terms of money, but there are different ways. For example, we have Wi-Fi (wireless Internet) in the academy, which was provided by Ukrtelekom this year. Therefore, various resources.

I heard your concerns about using standardized testing in the admissions process. Do you believe that elite universities like Kyiv Mohyla should be allowed more flexibility in using these results?

I believe that the results of standardized testing shouldn't be the only criteria in evaluating knowledge for admission to a university.

Is that what other universities are doing?

No. At present, all universities use only the results of independent external evalua-

tion. Only. That's the law. That is to say it's not the law, but it's based on the ministerial resolutions. But the problem is Ukraine has 904 institutions of higher education. For Ukraine, it's absolutely unbelievable, incredible. It's absolutely impossible.

That is to say, Ukraine should have no more than 40 universities, but quality ones. We don't have quality universities, because quality universities never would allow corruption in admissions. They will never admit [students] for money or sell diplomas. Quality universities can use the results of standardized testing, but that's one of the mechanisms. In my view, in my conviction, they can set many more other requirements of their own. That's very important.

And to completely deny universities the option of setting their own requirements is wrong. That is temporary in Ukraine, and it can't go on.

So you want to have the right to your own criteria?

Of course. And we will definitely do this. We always rely on what we believe is necessary, because we are a quality university and we are experts. They are supposed to listen to us, and it's not we who are supposed to listen to someone in the current situation, because we have the positive experience of 17 years of admissions.

Did you expect the Ministry of Education would pass this regulation

(Continued on page 17)

NUKMA's young innovator of computer technology

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – While the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy (NUKMA) is known for producing Ukraine's future lawyers, editors and businessmen, freshman Mykola Kotiuk is helping to develop the school's new niche as an innovator of computer science technology.

The 17-year-old Kyiv native developed two Internet-based technologies that the university is already employing: the electronic diploma and the mobile testing trainer, or "mobi-tests."

"We're launching a project that exists nowhere else in the world," Dr. Viacheslav Briukhovetskyi, the university's honorary president, announced at a February 7 press conference. "Truly there is no analogy even at the most prominent universities."

Kyiv Mohyla Academy's electronic diploma enables the university's graduates to access and display their educational profile, which becomes particularly useful when applying for jobs.

Access to the electronic diploma, available through the university server, can be gained from the Internet using a password. The information includes courses, grades, training certificates, academic works and a printer-friendly version of the diploma.

The diploma consists of both open and closed sections, in which students can select what portions of their diploma they wish to display, and which not-so-flattering sections they wish to conceal.

The electronic diploma will be available to graduates from this year's incoming freshman class, and only those who opted to take Kyiv Mohyla's admissions test in addition to the national standardized admissions testing.

Ironically, Mr. Kotiuk won't be eligible for an electronic diploma from Kyiv Mohyla because it will be offered beginning with the freshman class of 2009-2010.

"If Mykola Kotiuk were to receive an electronic diploma, it would be indicated

(Continued on page 20)



Zenon Zawada

National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy freshman Mykola Kotiuk developed the electronic diploma for his university, which boasts that it's the only one of its kind in the world.

Retired physician gives \$1 M to Ukrainian Catholic University

Becomes university's biggest individual Canadian donor

by Petro Didula

LVIV – Dr. Maria Fischer-Slysh, a retired pediatrician now living in Toronto, has given \$1 million to the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation (UCEF) to be used for the development of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU), making her the university's largest individual donor from Canada.

Dr. Fischer-Slysh is already well-known in Ukraine and the diaspora for her charitable giving. As was her late husband, the late Dr. Rudolph Fischer, she is especially devoted to the development of Ukrainian educational institutions, particularly as they support the revival of Ukrainian culture and spirituality.

"Dr. Maria Fischer-Slysh is one of those people who 'live Ukraine,' who have totally dedicated themselves to all matters Ukrainian," said the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of UCU. His family has been close to the Fisher-Slyshes since he was a boy.

Their philanthropic activities have included: establishing a scholarship fund at the Foundation of the Ukrainian Free University; decade-long support for an annual contest to encourage the use of the Ukrainian language among the children of Crimea, called "We are your children, Ukraine"; donating \$100,000 toward the publication of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine, a project of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies; and \$5,000 to publish a book about the Holodomor, "Under a Black Brand" (Pid Chornym Tavrom).

Her gift to the Ukrainian Catholic University, however, has the distinction of making Dr. Fischer-Slysh the largest individual Canadian donor to the Lviv-based school.

Asked why she gave so generously to

Petro Didula is editor of Patriarchate and serves as press attaché at the Ukrainian Catholic University.

UCU, she replied, "From childhood my parents raised me in a very religious spirit. Dad and mom were very devout. Every day before work, dad went to Liturgy. So I thought it my duty to help the Ukrainian Catholic University. The task of this institution is to form good priests, conscious Ukrainian patriots, professionals who are honest, hard-working and dedicated to the church and the people. Without such dedication and an appropriate upbringing, Ukraine will not achieve anything. Thank God that in Ukraine, though they lived through Bolshevism, people are not as degraded as [people] here are by atheism and indifference. People there, particularly in Halychyna, are very religious."

Dr. Fischer-Slysh's personal friendship with the family of the Rev. Gudziak also played a role in her decision. "My husband and I knew the Gudziaks very well... from annual conventions of the Ukrainian Medical Association [of North America]. I often visited Ukraine, Lviv. During these visits I heard about UCU," recalled Dr. Fischer-Slysh.

"Being a Greek-Catholic, knowing the traditions of Metropolitan [Andrei] Sheptytsky and Patriarch Josyf [Slipyi], and being herself a highly qualified professional, she understands that the future of Ukraine is connected with quality education and ethical and moral upbringing," said the Rev. Gudziak from his office at UCU. "She is very disturbed by corruption in Ukrainian politics and economics. As an active participant in various civic organizations, in particular the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, she understands that initiatives like UCU, which Patriarch Josyf founded in Rome with the help of her generation, need substantial support. And the many years of her acquaintance with the idea of UCU, with those efforts of Patriarch Josyf which laid the foundation for the development of the university in the now independent Ukraine, were, in my opinion, the grounding of her understanding of this project."

"For those who recall the role of the Theological Academy in Lviv up to [World War II], who saw how Patriarch Josyf made every effort to develop UCU in Rome, regardless of the fact that, at



Ukrainian Catholic University and Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation officials with Canada's largest individual donor to UCU: (from left) John Kurey, UCEF president emeritus; Laura Dawson, UCEF-Canada development director; Olha Zarichynska of the UCU Development Office; benefactor Dr. Maria Fischer-Slysh; the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of UCU; and Daniel R. Szymanski Jr., UCEF executive director and acting president.

that time, only about 200 Ukrainians lived in the whole of Italy, [for them] it was natural to believe that, for the future of the Church, youth, and scholarship in Ukraine, the Ukrainian Catholic University is very important," he added.

Dr. Fischer-Slysh is a longtime member of the Board of Directors of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) in Chicago; head of the Friends of the Academic Gymnasium in the Diaspora; and a member of the board of the Canadian Society of Friends of Ukraine. She also holds memberships in the Shevchenko Scientific Society and the League of Ukrainian Philanthropists in Kyiv.

She was born in 1922 in Kolomyia, Ivano-Frankivsk region, to Dr. Adolph and Olha Slysh. Until World War II, she lived with her parents in Lviv, where she studied at the Academic Gymnasium. After the Bolsheviks invaded in 1939, her family ended up on the list of "enemies of the people" and left Lviv, travelling to Belz and then Kholm.

Later they made their way well beyond the Soviet orb and settled in Munich, where she graduated from the Medical Faculty of Ludwig Maximilian University. In 1950 she received an M.D. and emigrated with her family to the United States, where she was involved in a private practice treating children in Kankakee, Ill.

In 1959, she married Dr. Rudolph Fischer, a fellow immigrant. He was born in 1912 in Straubing, Bavaria, and finished his medical studies at Berlin's Humboldt University after serving as a doctor with the Wehrmacht on the western and eastern fronts. Dr. Fischer died in 1982.

Dr. Fischer-Slysh's gift to UCU will be used to endow two departments in the Faculty of Philosophy and Theology, help build a conference hall and offset UCU's general operating expenses.

Further information about UCU (in English and Ukrainian) is available on the university's website at www.ucu.edu.ua.

East Europe Foundation establishes senior center in Kremenchuk

Eurasia Foundation

WASHINGTON – According to the Ukrainian state statistics agency, 21 percent of the country's population is older than 60, and each year this vulnerable populace grows. With age come physical limitations and health problems, but many seniors note that the worst challenge they face is that of being alone.

With a grant from Kyiv-based East Europe Foundation (EEF) and funding from Norwegian telecommunications company Telenor, the Kremenchuk Community Development Foundation established a senior center in the Ukrainian city of Kremenchuk.

Part of EEF's Community Centers for People in Need program, the project took the existing state-supported Avtozavodsky District Office of Social Services and broadened its services to improve seniors' standard of living.

At the newly established center, seniors from the Avtozavodsk district have a host of vital resources available to them, ranging from physical rehabilitation to legal counsel. The center also

organizes various activities for its members based on their interests.

At age 75, Lyudmila Ignatova still has a zest for life that comes naturally to this dark-haired grandmother. After teaching school for 45 years, Ms. Ignatova retired to indulge in music. She plays the accordion and sings at her country home, in the yard with neighbors and during various festivities.

However, she still experienced loneliness after the death of her husband several years ago – until one of her friends persuaded her to attend the opening of the new senior center.

Now busy with various fun activities, her feelings of loneliness have subsided. Not even the cold winter months kept the seniors from their various activities, including skiing.

But the most impressive outcome of the project is that in February, the City Council decided to continue support for the newly established center with funds from the city budget and, in addition, support the establishment of another such center in the Kruikovskiy district of Kremenchuk.

OSCE calls for enhanced cooperation in battle against human trafficking

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

PRAGUE – Enhanced cooperation is urgently needed to strengthen national monitoring and reporting mechanisms on trafficking in human beings in Europe, said Special Representative Eva Biaudet of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

She spoke on March 30 at the conference "Joint Analysis, Joint Action: EU National Rapporteurs on Trafficking in Human Beings," which aims to increase efficient cooperation and information exchange among European Union countries and beyond for a comprehensive response to eradicate all forms of human trafficking.

"We lack an overall picture of the scope and trends of this issue, as well as an accurate assessment of the results of our actions. For this compelling reason the OSCE supports the establishment of an EU-wide network for exchanging information among rapporteurs, which will enable more effective policy-making based on concrete and comparable information," said Ms. Biaudet. As the OSCE's special representative and coordina-

tor for combating human trafficking, she has led efforts to support the creation of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms in the region.

Czech Deputy Interior Minister Lenka Patackova Melicharova said: "The fight against trafficking in human beings is of a multi-disciplinary character. It is a long and demanding process, and this Prague conference is an important successful stage in this long distance run."

The two-day EU conference in Prague brought together more than 80 government officials and other experts to discuss the role of national monitoring and reporting mechanisms. National rapporteurs or equivalent mechanisms should help to collect and analyze data to better identify the scale of human trafficking, as well as evaluate and monitor the implementation and impact of national efforts. In addition, they should publish annual reports and encourage research to better understand the problem.

Ms. Biaudet noted that, "In times of crisis, policy-making based on evidence can increase public confidence in the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of efforts undertaken by all stakeholders."

NATO at 60...

(Continued from page 1)

into NATO so that we can have a war with Russia. No thanks, is what I say to that.”

As NATO heads of state gather in France and Germany for their summit marking the trans-Atlantic alliance’s 60th anniversary, it was with a creeping sense that enlargement – particularly into the territory of the former Soviet Union – may have reached its limits.

A military alliance that has expanded from 16 to 28 members since the fall of the Berlin Wall, and once appeared poised to stretch from North America to the Caucasus, suddenly finds itself in an insular mood.

It’s not only Georgia and Ukraine whose bids are off the table for the time being. Macedonia’s long-standing application has also been put on hold, due to an ongoing dispute with NATO member Greece.

“Europe has effectively closed its doors to Georgia and Ukraine. This is not good,” said Bruce Jackson, a U.S. expert who heads the Washington-based Project on Transitional Democracies. “The defining purpose of NATO since the early 1990s has been the expansion of NATO. This has been arrested in the Balkans and has collapsed completely in the East.”

Divided allies

Russia’s resurgence, and its increased ability to sow discord among the allies, accounts for a great deal of NATO’s stalled enlargement – but not all of it. There are deep philosophical divisions within the alliance over expansion, with the United States, Britain and most new members supporting expansion, as Germany, France and Italy have become increasingly opposed.

Moreover, there is a growing sense that new aspirants like Georgia and Ukraine simply do not meet the political and military requirements for membership. Secretary Clinton acknowledged those concerns ahead of the NATO summit, saying those countries must meet the alliance’s standards in order to join.

“Within Europe there was a much more solid anti-expansion camp than we’ve seen before,” said Edward Lucas, a correspondent for the British weekly *The Economist* and author of the book “The New Cold War.”

“In the previous round of expansion [in 2004], Germany was quite reluctant. In the end, Germany went along with it because everybody else was going along. The pro-expansion people were able to build a very effective coalition within NATO. This time around, the anti-expansion camp was much stronger.”

Critics have alleged that Germany’s stance is unduly influenced by its extensive business ties with Moscow, particularly in the energy sector.

The anti-expansion mood has become so strong that French Defense Minister Herve Morin has even suggested that Russia must be consulted before NATO expands farther east – a position that is not likely to win converts in Warsaw, Tallinn or Vilnius.

Indeed, analysts say the divisions among the allies over expansion reflect sharp disagreements over the level of threat posed by Russia.

“We’re in a rather paradoxical situation. Russia is enough of a problem that NATO needs to do more. But Russia is not enough of a problem to concentrate NATO’s minds. So that’s why we get this rather inadequate response,” Mr. Lucas commented.

With the administration of U.S. President Barack Obama seeking a “reset” in relations with Moscow, it seems likely that the softer Franco-German position will be ascendant, at least in the short term. The alliance agreed last month to restore normal ties with Russia, which were suspended in the wake of the war with Georgia in August.

This lack of cohesion on Russia, analysts say, threatens to undermine NATO’s military effectiveness.

“We believed that NATO could function effectively without a consensus on Russia. But the divisions... that have been allowed to go unresolved... have been the single largest factor in the breakdown of organizational effectiveness,” Mr. Jackson noted. “Military organizations do not handle ambiguity well.”

Out of area

Despite the mood of retrenchment, NATO enlargement is not off the table entirely. Albania and Croatia received invitations to join the alliance in Bucharest and on April 1 became NATO’s 27th and 28th members. There is increasing talk of Sweden and Finland – both of whom were neutral in the Cold War – joining in the future.

But by all appearances, expansion into the ex-USSR is indefinitely on hold. Even so, Russia claims it is the aggrieved party in its dealings with NATO.

Moscow says, for example, that when East and West Germany reunited as a NATO country in 1990, the Kremlin received assurances from the United States that NATO would not expand farther East. U.S. officials, however, deny making such a pledge.

Moscow also pushed for – but did not receive – assurances from Washington when the Czechs, Poles and Hungarians joined in 1999 that no military bases would be installed in these countries.

As fanciful as it sounds today, in the heady days after the Soviet collapse, there was even high-level talk of considering a NATO bid by Russia itself. In late 1991 Russian President Boris Yeltsin stunned NATO officials by saying joining NATO was a “long-term political objective” for Moscow. The alliance, however, never took the proposal seriously.

Despite the expansion fatigue, observers note that with Albania’s and Croatia’s formal entry to NATO, 12 of the alliance’s 28 members – plus the former East Germany – will be former Communist countries.

Jamie Shea, director of policy planning in the NATO secretary-general’s office, told RFE/RL that, despite the current hand-wringing, this has led to a more stable Europe.

“The end of the Cold War brought about a situation where NATO discovered a new role for itself in terms of defense reform and security-sector reform, helping these former Communist countries to get back on their feet,” Mr. Shea said. “Enlarging NATO was not just to get bigger – because there is no point in enlarging just to get bigger – but more importantly, to expand the zone of peace and stability in Europe.”

Some are calling for NATO to forge closer relationships with democracies outside the traditional Euro-Atlantic area. Michael Zantovsky, the current Czech ambassador to Israel and key player in his country’s accession to NATO a decade ago, called for the alliance to broaden its horizons in a recent speech in Prague.

“Because of the dispersed nature of current security risks and threats, [NATO’s] response needs to be dispersed as well, and involve other countries as partners, allies, or would-be members,” Mr. Zantovsky said, adding that NATO needed to reach out not just to aspiring members like Georgia and Ukraine, but also “countries outside the Atlantic area, such as Japan, Australia, India, some Latin American countries, and, yes, Israel.”

RFE/RL correspondent Ron Synovitz contributed to this report.

Copyright 2008, RFE/RL Inc. Reprinted with the permission of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, 1201 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington DC 20036; www.rferl.org. (See http://www.rferl.org/content/Has_NATO_Expansion_Reached_Its_End/1565285.html)

Quotable notes

“...like parents with a sulky, wayward child who just won’t grow up, the world’s democracies are turning their back on Ukraine. U.S. President Barack Obama will clink glasses with Russian and European leaders in London, Strasbourg and Prague and drop in to say hello to Turkey. But Ukraine, Turkey’s Black Sea neighbor, is off his radar. Silvio Berlusconi openly supports Russia every time there is a dispute over gas. Angela Merkel used to visit Ukraine regularly and hold annual Berlin-Kiev [sic] summits, but now she ignores the country. Russia’s ambassador to NATO, the ultranationalist Dmitry Rogozin, boasted to France’s *Nouvel Observateur* that French President Nicolas Sarkozy ‘opposed America’s desire to see Ukraine join the Atlantic alliance,’ adding that the French president was Moscow’s ally in Europe. ...

“Yes, Ukraine faces many internal domestic problems that the EU and the United States are largely powerless to influence. ... Yet everyone in Kiev agrees that democracy has sunk deep roots. ... Kiev avoids provocation. It has abolished nuclear weapons. It has sent troops to all NATO missions. Ukrainians have remained calm about Russia’s Black Sea fleet, and they are fed up with being linked to Georgia as if they were a double act, when Ukraine has a stand-alone claim to be taken seriously as a European nation that wants to fit in with the Euro-Atlantic community. ...

“...with Russia breathing down its neck, the last thing Kiev needs is for Paris and Berlin and Washington to create a new axis of complacency that uses the incoherence of Ukrainian politics to justify accepting the Moscow world view that places Ukraine firmly in Russia’s sphere of influence. ...”

– Denis MacShane, a British Labor M.P. who was Britain’s minister for Europe, writing in the March 30 issue of *Newsweek* in an article headlined “How The West Turned From Kiev.”

UWC statement on the Summit Meeting of NATO Heads of State and Government

Following is the text of a statement issued by the Ukrainian World Congress on the eve of the NATO summit held April 3-4. The statement was received via e-mail on April 2.

On the eve of the Summit Meeting of NATO Heads of State and Government in Baden-Baden and Kehl, Germany, and in Strasbourg, France, on April 3 and 4, 2009, the world has been reminded once again that it is essential for global stability that Ukraine be granted NATO membership.

On March 17, 2009, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev announced a \$140 billion (U.S.) comprehensive military rearmament plan. According to the Russian president, this plan will seek to “increase the combat readiness of [Russia’s] forces, first of all our strategic nuclear forces.”

President Medvedev’s announcement was in stark contrast to the one made by Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov just 10 days earlier, on March 7, 2009, at the 65-nation U.N. Conference on Disarmament in Geneva that: “The right moment has come today, for the first time after the end of the Cold War, for making real progress in resuming the global disarmament process on a broad agenda.”

These mixed signals, coupled with Russia’s continuous rhetoric regarding such issues as the Black Sea Fleet and NATO expansion, its gas cutoffs and military aggression against Georgia present a threat to regional and global stability.

By contrast, only three years after gaining its independence, on January 14, 1994, Ukraine voluntarily relinquished the world’s third largest stockpile of nuclear weapons by signing the U.S.-Russia-Ukraine Trilateral Statement that provided for the transfer of all nuclear weapons on the territory of

Ukraine to Russia for dismantlement. Eleven months later, on December 5, 1994, Ukraine signed the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as a non-nuclear-weapon state. Ukraine has also participated in NATO peacekeeping operations.

On April 3, 2008, the heads of state and government participating in the Bucharest NATO Summit Meeting issued the Bucharest Summit Declaration stating:

“NATO welcomes Ukraine’s and Georgia’s Euro-Atlantic aspirations for membership in NATO. We agreed today that these countries will become members of NATO. Both nations have made valuable contributions to Alliance operations. We welcome the democratic reforms in Ukraine and Georgia and look forward to free and fair parliamentary elections in Georgia in May. MAP is the next step for Ukraine and Georgia on their direct way to membership. Today we make clear that we support these countries’ applications for MAP.”

Therefore, the Ukrainian World Congress calls upon the heads of state and government to unite and approve Ukraine’s application for a Membership Action Plan (MAP) at the upcoming April 2009 NATO summit meeting. This will send a clear signal to the world community that NATO rejects the misguided calls for Ukraine’s MAP application to be vetted by Russia, which would be tantamount to reverting to the era of the Soviet sphere of influence. The approval of Ukraine’s MAP application would also constitute unambiguous and concrete action toward peace and stability in the long term in this region.

Ukrainian World Congress

Eugene Czolij, President
Stefan Romaniw, Secretary General

Obama welcomes new NATO members

STRASBOURG, France – Speaking on April 4 here at the NATO summit U.S. President Barack Obama formally welcomed the alliance’s 27th and 28th member states, Croatia and Albania.

“The Atlantic alliance is 60 years old, and it’s a measure of our vitality that we are still welcoming new members,” Mr. Obama said. He also expressed hope they would soon be followed by Macedonia – whose bid has been blocked by Greece,

which objects to its name.

Against a backdrop of aspirations in Kyiv and Tbilisi for eventual membership of Ukraine and Georgia, Obama went on to suggest that NATO expansion need not end with Macedonia. “The door to membership will remain open for other countries that meet NATO’s standards and can make a meaningful contribution to allied security,” President Obama said. (RFE/RL)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Our timeless pysanka

At Eastertime the thoughts of all Ukrainians – and countless non-Ukrainians – turn to the pysanka, a centuries-old tradition that has been passed on from generation to generation. The pysanka – which predates Easter – has always been a symbol of rebirth. In pagan times, as our culture maven Orysia Paszczak Tracz explains, the pysanka symbolized the rebirth of the sun during the spring; with the adoption of Christianity, the pysanka came to symbolize man's rebirth with Christ's Resurrection.

Each symbol on a pysanka, and each color used, has a specific meaning. The symbolic designs determined whether a pysanka was suitable for a friend, a lover, a potential suitor, or a family member. Different pysanky were meant for different people, with darker colors appropriate for older folks and brighter colors for the young. The colors are symbolic: red represents joy, life and the sun; yellow – the moon and stars; blue – the sky and air; green – springtime and nature; brown – mother earth; combinations of colors also are significant.

The pysanka was also considered to be a talisman. It was believed to protect its bearer from illness and misfortune; it safeguarded the home; it promoted a woman's fertility; and it ensured a good harvest. It was placed in a grave to ensure the deceased's rebirth. Today it is placed on graves during "Provody" – a week after Easter – as we commune with our ancestors in keeping with Ukrainian tradition. And, today's pysanky are an important part of Easter rituals. Indeed, the pysanka has always had a unique and important role in our society. And perhaps that is why it has survived and thrived for so many centuries.

Perhaps the most beautiful pysanka book we've ever seen is "The Ukrainian Folk Pysanka" by Vira Manko (Lviv: Svichado Publishing, 2005 – available in Ukrainian- and English-language editions). We recently took another look at this wonderful work in preparation for our Easter celebrations. With approximately 1,500 original designs of pysanky from various regions of Ukraine reproduced in glorious color, the book is a feast for the eyes and an inspiration for all who create or would like to create pysanky.

But it is more than a picture book. The author explains in detail the folk customs associated with pysanky, she explains the symbolism of the pysanka and retells pysanka legends and stories. Finally, she provides a how-to guide to making (or more correctly "writing" – "pysaty" from which the word "pysanka" is derived) pysanky.

The book also addresses the fate of the pysanka-writing art. "During the era of Soviet occupation in Ukraine, this form of applied art was subject to total destruction, in that the pysanka was associated with religious rituals and the atheist authorities tried to entirely exclude it from national life," write Mrs. Manko and her collaborator on this chapter, Marusyna Chaika. Thankfully, the tradition was preserved in Ukraine by village women who continued to write pysanky, and pysanka-writing has been revived since the re-establishment of Ukraine's independence in 1991. In the meantime, the tradition was preserved also by Ukrainians abroad. "At the time when the tradition of writing pysanky was almost completely destroyed in Ukraine, Ukrainian immigrants in Canada and in the United States worked diligently to popularize this aspect of folk art," the book points out. It goes on to cite such examples of preservation as art books released by various individuals and organizations, stamps depicting pysanky published by Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization in 1958, and collections of pysanky in museums.

For Mrs. Manko, who calls the pysanka "a small miracle" created by hands, the book was quite obviously a labor of love intended to promote appreciation of this ancient art form – a Ukrainian cultural heirloom that we have shared with the world.

And so, as we Ukrainians celebrate Easter by the new and old calendars, we owe a huge debt of gratitude to all those pysanka-writers of the distant past though the present day thanks to whose undying devotion to this art form we can still revel in the beauty of our timeless pysanka.

April
12
1993

Turning the pages back...

Sixteen years ago, President Eduard Shevardnadze of Georgia met with President Leonid Kravchuk of Ukraine in Kyiv on April 12-13, 1993, for talks on forging a joint political front against Russia.

Nearly 20 documents were signed by the two leaders, including a treaty on friendship and cooperation, which President Shevardnadze said could extend to "mutual assistance."

The two leaders agreed to create a joint Ukrainian-Georgian commission to examine the construction of an oil line through Georgia to Ukraine, Georgia's participation in Black Sea Fleet talks, the training of Georgian soldiers in Ukraine, and cooperation between the two countries' military-industrial complexes.

Both leaders condemned the "nationalist-chauvinist" specter in Russia responsible for the presence of Russian troops in Georgia's war-torn region of Abkhazia, and Russia's destructive position on the Black Sea Fleet, nuclear arms stationed on Ukrainian territory and the status of Sevastopol and Crimea.

Prior to the meetings, Mr. Shevardnadze said on television programs in Ukraine and Georgia that both countries have a joint interest in acting as a counterweight to an unnamed "third force." "I believe Ukraine understands full well this third force is interested in destabilizing not only Georgia," he added.

Mr. Kravchuk's senior advisor, Mykola Mikhalchenko, told Reuters that the meeting between the two leaders could help combat undue outside influence on the internal affairs of both countries.

Ukraine's minister of defense, Gen. Konstantyn Morozov, insisted on the removal of Russia's Black Sea Fleet from Sevastopol. "It would be preferable to remove the fleet entirely than to allow the presence of a foreign military force on our territory," he said. "I cannot imagine any circumstances under which Sevastopol, or Kharkiv, or Sumy would be leased to another country."

Source: "Ukraine, Georgia forge alliance," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, April 25, 1993.

EASTER PASTORAL

May our ears be attuned to the voice of the Lord

The Pascha Epistle of the Permanent Conference of Ukrainian Orthodox Bishops Beyond the Borders of Ukraine.

To the Reverend Clergy, the Diaconate in Christ, the Venerable Monastics and Faithful Laity of our Church commissioned to our Arch-pastoral care:

Christ is Risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and to those in the tombs bestowing life.

Christ is Risen!

How much joy and hope we invest in these words! With what inspiration we continuously repeat them during the Paschal holy days! And what great meaning they have for each and every one of us! The essence of our faith and the meaning of our earthly life are concentrated in these words.

The most festive and joyous feast of all feasts of the ecclesiastical year is that of the glorious Resurrection of our Lord. As we sing in the ninth irmos of the Paschal Canon at Matins: "This chosen and holy day is the first of the Sabbaths, the queen and lady, the feast of feasts, and the festival of festivals."

St. Ambrose of Milan writes: "In Christ the world was resurrected along with mankind, in Him the Heavens were resurrected, in Him the earth was resurrected." And St. Gregory the Theologian writes: "Pascha is the greatest feast, the most solemn of solemnities!" Thus, in this special manner the holy fathers of Christ's Church underlined the meaning and the greatness of Christ's Resurrection.

Without Christ's glorious Resurrection there would be no Christianity, no eternity. Christ was crucified on the cross, He died as a man and rose from the dead as God triumphant and this means that He is, indeed, the Son of God, our Savior and Redeemer. We must have faith in Him, we must place our hope in Him and love Him with all our hearts. Through Christ's Resurrection, we are saved and by the Holy Spirit we have the opportunity to be cleansed from our sins, and to become similar to Him in His holiness and mercy. Through Him the gates to the heavenly kingdom are opened for us.

For this reason, on the bright and joyous Day of Christ's Resurrection our Holy Church calls heaven and earth to share in the sacred and divine Joy: "meet it is that the heavens should rejoice, that the earth should be glad and that the whole world, both visible and invisible, should keep the feast, for Christ our everlasting Joy, has arisen" (First Ode of the Paschal Canon).

If Christ is Risen then we have hope for eternal life! St. Paul says: "He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up through Jesus"...to eternal life (2 Cor.4:14). Mankind's belief in Christ's Resurrection was always tied to a belief in the immortality of the soul. This faith reminds us Christians about the triumph of goodness, of eternity, that Christ is alive and with us always. This faith was confirmed in Christ's Apostles following His Resurrection and was reinforced and strengthened by His appearance to them in Jerusalem, in Bethany, on the road to Emmaus and on the Mount of Olives.



W. Dobrolige

By His Resurrection, Christ strengthens our faith in our own future resurrection. In Christ our Savior there was Golgotha, but it was followed by the Resurrection. Every human being experiences his or her own Golgotha and a life's cross. As long as we live, however, in accordance with God's commandments and strive to be like Christ in bearing our afflictions, there will be a resurrection and eternal life in the realm of the heavenly kingdom.

In these holy Paschal days we heartily greet you, our Orthodox brothers and sisters in diaspora and scattered throughout the whole world. We wholeheartedly greet our beloved faithful who reside in Ukraine. May the Risen Lord unite us all in His love, fill our souls with spiritual joy, and infuse our hearts with peace and harmony.

Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!

+Constantine

Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and the Diaspora

+John

Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

+Antony

Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

+Ioan

Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the Diaspora

+Yurij

Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

+Jeremiah

Archbishop of the South American Eparchy of the UOC

+Ilarion

Bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

+Andriy

Bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

+Daniel

Bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In Memoriam: Mima Zobniw

Dear Editor:

A life of selfless giving and love has been cut short. Mima Zobniw was among the 13 fatally shot in Binghamton, N.Y. at the American Civic Association.

When Binghamton suffered this ignoble savage attack upon innocents, the spectrum of what makes America unique became apparent with the multi-ethnic composition of the victims. The 13 innocents were not representative of the Wall Street bastion of American capitalism located in the World Trade Center or the power of the Pentagon of 9/11. They were simply all representative of aspirations for the realization of the American dream and America's unparalleled commitment to helping its people through volunteerism and commitment to public service. The irrational symbolism of both attacks strikes at the heart of the pillars of America – the simple grass roots opportunity to tend to one's family and improve the future for one's children in the belief that unlimited opportunity can take you to the lofty heights of economic success.

We mourn the loss of all of these innocents.

Unfortunately, there will be no national commission to look into the Binghamton massacre. There should be. There will be no compensation in the millions from public funds appropriated by Congress. There should be. Each American life is equally precious. Each life is equally precious. In response to 9/11 we are expending billions in the name of securing our airports and ports. What will be expended in response to the Binghamton tragedy to secure us from the kind of insanity unleashed by a lone madman? We must all be concerned about this future. The lives of our loved ones are at stake. We must not let the lesson of Binghamton be wasted. The blood lost must not be forgotten.

One innocent victim of the Binghamton massacre was Maria (Mima) Zobniw. Everyone who knew her realized that Mima was truly unique. She was deeply religious, committed to her faith and her national/ethnic background, uncompromisingly patriotic and a humble giver of herself to family and community. She is irreplaceable. We will all miss her. She was at the center to help. She devoted all of her free time to helping others – not for compensation, but out of a fervent belief that it was necessary to do so. She made a difference in people's lives.

The Ukrainian American community will never forget her; her family and friends will always remember her unwavering ethic and sense of appropriate priority of what our lives should be about. To her husband, Lubko, children and family, our sincerest condolences. To Binghamton, we feel your loss.

Andriy W. Chornodolsky
Timonium, Md.

Re: Lozynskyj reaction to column

Dear Editor:

There are problems with Askold Lozynskyj's reaction (March 29) to my column (March 1). Mr. Lozynskyj writes that he was "surprised" that in my column of March 1, I accused "the Banderivtsi of killing a Melnykivets." I never wrote any such thing. I reviewed a book about Col. Roman Sushko written by Christine Owad, his granddaughter, in which she suggested that such was possible.

Was it possible? Of course. It is one of the sad sacred secrets of our history that there was much fratricidal bloodshed between the two major factions of the OUN.

Most people old enough to know the details have cautioned me to drop the subject. It all happened long ago and far away, so why bring it up seems to be the accepted posture. Those who actually participated are long dead I am told. My sources don't deny that murders occurred, only that the topic is somehow taboo.

It's one thing to avoid the subject, but to pretend it never happened, as Mr. Lozynskyj would have it, is unthinkable. Such an attitude only serves to dishonor the dead and to disenfranchise their sacrifice.

In impugning my motives for throwing cold water on the supposed "modus vivendi" he claims exists between Banderivtsi and Melnykivtsi in Ukraine, Mr. Lozynskyj writes: "Some things never change. The Cold War continues." Personally, I haven't heard Mr. Lozynskyj singing "Cum By Ya" with his OUN(M) compatriots recently. His letter is an example of his true position vis-à-vis the Melnykivtsi. And, as for the Cold War, there's a certain Vladimir Putin living in Russia...

Mr. Lozynskyj argues that I am guilty of "fraternal calumny." Wow. I have known Mr. Lozynskyj for over 40 years and for him, of all people, to make that claim is a bit much. I well remember how "fraternal" he was during his tenure as a UNA advisor when he was commandant of the so-called "OUN(B) Eleven." I also recall how "brotherly" he was during the 1980 UCCA convention when he was part of the OUN(B) contingent that rammed its singular slate of officers through, leaving other significant national organizations – the Ukrainian National Association, Ukrainian Fraternal Association, Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Plast – out in the cold. In the years that followed, Mr. Lozynskyj did little to heal the rift even though he served as UCCA president for many years. A major fissure still exists in our community which we're all reticent to address in a meaningful way.

My final problem with Mr. Lozynskyj's letter is his callous treatment of Ms. Owad. He writes: "I am sorry for Ms. Owad's loss. I am sorry more for her demons." Demons, Mr. Lozynskyj? Ms. Owad treasures the memory of her grandfather, a great Ukrainian patriot who, like Stepan Bandera, was gunned down in the prime of his life fighting for an independent Ukraine.

Are people like me, who also revere Col. Sushko's memory, possessed by demons as well? If that's so, then let's stop talking about Bandera, writing about him, erecting monuments to his heroism. Let's all do as Mr. Lozynskyj suggests in his conclusion. Let's just "move on." That, of course, would be unacceptable to all of us.

Myron B. Kuropas
DeKalb, Ill.

We welcome your opinion

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

Letters should be typed and signed (anonymous letters are not published). Letters are accepted also via e-mail at staff@ukrweekly.com. The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes. Please note that a daytime phone number is essential in order for editors to contact letter-writers regarding clarifications or questions.

Please note: THE LENGTH OF LETTERS CANNOT EXCEED 500 WORDS.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Stalin, FDR and Hollywood

Following the Bolshevik coup-d'état of 1917, four American presidents – Wilson, Harding, Coolidge, Hoover – refused to recognize the criminal seizure of power in Russia. That changed after the 1933 inauguration of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Prompted by The New York Times correspondent Walter Duranty and others, Roosevelt signed an agreement with Soviet Foreign Minister Maxim Litvinov, which, by any dispassionate reckoning, proved to be a disaster for the United States.

The Roosevelt-Litvinov agreement opened the door to the NKVD, which settled comfortably into Embassy billets, spreading its tentacles into every corner of America. The Communist Party of the United States, (CPUSA), which billed itself as "a working class political party carrying today the traditions of Jefferson, Paine, Jackson, and Lincoln..." – grew in popularity. The CPUSA marched lock-step behind Moscow's directives as the political winds from Russia dictated.

With the Depression growing (unemployment was still at 19 percent in 1938), and the Soviet Union growing in respectability, hundreds of American intellectuals, writers, denizens of Hollywood, academics and clergymen flocked to the USSR and returned singing Stalin's praises. Joseph E. Davies, America's ambassador in Moscow, was especially ebullient about Stalin's "democratic" proclivities. Upon his return to the United States he wrote "Mission to Moscow," which became a best-selling book.

Ukrainian Americans suffered during what Eugene Lyons has called "The Red Decade." Ukrainian nationalist organizations were accused of Nazi sympathies, investigated by the FBI, and slamed by a national best-selling book titled "Sabotage! The Secret War Against America," co-authored by Albert E. Kahn, exposed as a Soviet agent in the recently published, once-secret Venona Files.

The Venona Files also uncovered many Soviet agents and fellow travelers working in the Roosevelt administration. Among them were Harry Hopkins, who lived in the White House for a time – and was FDR's private conduit to Stalin and a major player at Yalta – and Alger Hiss, another member of the FDR team at Yalta who secretly transmitted FDR's thoughts to Stalin.

Harry Dexter White, assistant secretary of the treasury and his assistant Lauchlin Currie were also pro-Stalin. It is now believed that Hiss, White and Currie helped engineer war with Japan by convincing FDR not to meet with a Japanese peace delegation months prior to Pearl Harbor. They pushed for demands on the Japanese that they knew would be rejected. This was all done in the name of solidarity with China's Chiang Kai-Shek, of course, but it convinced the Japanese to go to war with the U.S. Pearl Harbor freed Stalin to send some 200,000 troops from the Manchurian border to the German front.

And now we turn to Los Angeles and Hollywood, a bastion of America's left-wing. Some local unions were under the control of the Communists, and Hollywood itself had many actors, directors and producers who were members of the CPUSA. When the Roosevelt administration demanded that Hollywood produce pro-Soviet films to improve Stalin's

image, the studios eagerly complied. Warner Bros. produced "Mission to Moscow" starring Walter Huston as Davies in 1943. That same year United Artists came out with "Three Russian Girls," Columbia Pictures produced "The Boy From Stalingrad," RKO put out "North Star," starring a bevy of Hollywood celebrities. Not to be outdone, MGM provided "Song of Russia" in 1944. None of the films portrayed Soviet life as it actually existed at the time. "North Star" was especially egregious, portraying life in Ukraine under Stalin as bucolic.

For Stalin, of course, the movies were a propaganda weapon. "The cinema," he once wrote, "is not only a vital agitprop device for education and political indoctrination of the workers, but also a fluent channel through which to reach the minds and shape the desires of people everywhere."

In 1947 and again in 1951, the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) investigated Communist infiltration of Hollywood. Interviews began with friendly witnesses such as Ronald Reagan (then president of the Screen Actors' Guild, or SAG), Adolph Menjou, Louis B. Mayer of MGM and others. Nineteen (later whittled down to 10) CPUSA members were eventually identified by actor Larry Parks, and film directors Elia Kazan and Edward Dmytryk, the latter, a Ukrainian. All pleaded the Fifth Amendment and were sentenced to prison for contempt of Congress. Mr. Dmytryk fled to England for three years, changed his mind about communism, returned to do prison time, and, like Kazan, testified against his former comrades. At the end of all the testimony, it appeared that some 300 Hollywood people, including African American singer Paul Robeson, were either CPUSA members or fellow travelers like film writer Lillian Hellman. Hollywood stars formed "Hollywood Fights Back," an organization defending the so-called "Hollywood Ten." Included were Groucho Marx, Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Danny Kaye and Henry Fonda.

The Hollywood Ten became heroes. Those who identified Communists were demonized. In 1999, Kazan who directed "On the Waterfront," "East of Eden" and "Gentlemen's Agreement," was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Over 100 artists, including Ed Asner, Theodore Bikel and Sean Penn (whose father has been identified as a CPUSA member), signed a full-page protest in the Daily Variety. Hellman was beatified in the movie "Julia," starring Jane Fonda. Dmytryk went on to direct "Crossfire" and "The Caine Mutiny," both nominated for Best Picture Oscars; he reviewed his experiences in a book ("Odd Man Out: A Memoir of the Hollywood Ten") in 1996. Robeson, a Stalinist until the day he died, was honored with a U.S. postage stamp in 2004.

Has anything really changed in Hollywood since the 1930s and 1940s? Not really. Given the current mind-set, will Hollywood ever produce a film about the Soviet invasion of Poland, the Hungarian Uprising of 1956, or the Katyn Massacre? How about the Holodomor? In our dreams!

Myron Kuropas's e-mail address is kuropas@comcast.net.

Judge stays Demjanjuk deportation, reverses himself three days later

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — The fate of John Demjanjuk remained unclear this week as a judge on Friday, April 3, ordered a stay of his deportation and then on Monday, April 6, reversed his own decision.

Immigration Judge Wayne Iskra revoked the stay of deportation, which could clear the way for Mr. Demjanjuk to be sent to Germany, where he faces charges of 29,000 counts of accessory to murder in his alleged role as a guard at the Nazi death camp in Sobibor, Poland.

The Associated Press reported that German prosecutors are making their case based largely on evidence used in the United States to strip Mr. Demjanjuk of his citizenship for the second time in 2002.

The Associated Press reported that Mr. Demjanjuk had been told to expect deportation on Sunday, April 5, but it was blocked by an immigration judge's stay. That stay expired on Wednesday, April 8.

Mr. Demjanjuk's attorney is appealing

for the case to be reopened to the Board of Immigration Appeals, which previously upheld his client's removal from the United States. On April 8 Demjanjuk family members said that they still hadn't heard from the Board of Immigration Appeals.

John Broadley, a lawyer for Mr. Demjanjuk, is seeking to stop the deportation due to Mr. Demjanjuk's poor health. His motion argues that forcing him to travel to Germany in his condition would be torture.

John Demjanjuk Jr. told Reuters that his father has a precancerous bone condition, describing it as a "major, life-threatening illness that perhaps gives him two to five years to live. In addition, he said his father suffers from chronic kidney disease, kidney stones and arthritis of the spine.

He added, "I think it's critical for Germany to have a medical trained expert, a doctor familiar with German standards, take a look at my father and see what kind of con-

dition he's in." He said that moving him violates international standards against torture.

A German lawyer, Guenther Maull, who was appointed as legal-aid defense to Mr. Demjanjuk, on April 3 called for a German court doctor to check up on an 89-year-old former autoworker at his home in Seven Hills, Ohio.

In the meantime, Mr. Demjanjuk has asked for asylum in the United States because, as he wrote in a three-page signed statement, deportation "will expose me to severe physical and mental pain that clearly amounts to torture under any reasonable definition of the term."

In the week's latest developments, Spiegel online reported on April 8 that Mr. Demjanjuk's German lawyer is making a last-ditch attempt to prevent his client from standing trial in Germany. In a letter sent to the German Justice Ministry, Ulrich Busch urged officials to drop plans to send his client from the United States

to Germany. "This needs to be stopped immediately. The American authorities will be informed to the effect there is no question of a transfer of my client to Germany," read the document seen by the German news magazine.

Spiegel also reported that Mr. Busch, who took on the defense of Mr. Demjanjuk earlier that week, argued that his client's basic human rights would be contravened by forcing him to Germany, where he would face a life of "permanent isolation." He also argued that Germany shouldn't accept deported individuals when it was clear they would immediately face trial. In such cases, the lawyer said, individuals should be officially extradited, a drawn-out process which could last for months — and would win vital time for his client.

Sources: Associated Press, Reuters DPA and Spiegel.

Community activist...

(Continued from page 1)

21, 1948, in Landeck, Austria, at a displaced persons camp. She was 4 years old when the Koropecy family started a new life in America.

In Binghamton's First Ward district, a strong Ukrainian community worked together to maintain the Ukrainian heritage and religious values while establishing themselves in their new country. Mima Koropecy grew up within the Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church community and its organizations. First she attended Ukrainian school directed by her mother; later she carried on that role for 30 years to ensure that her own children would be reared within the Ukrainian heritage.

She was a lifelong member of Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church and a member of the first graduating class at Seton Catholic Central High School in Binghamton. She also graduated from Harpur College (now Binghamton University).

Mrs. Zobniw was an integral member of church committees and worked on marketing for fund-raisers and activities. She was a member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and its Shostokryli sorority, and she was a scout camp counselor to many.

For decades Mrs. Zobniw was president of the Binghamton chapter of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America and secretary of the local branch

of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. In these roles she represented the Ukrainian culture and heritage through her and her husband's weekend radio programs, organized Ukrainian Independence Day concerts and news conferences, organized educational booths for the Ethnic Festival and a Ukrainian library, and gave presentations at area schools about Ukrainian Easter eggs, embroidery and arts.

She was also secretary of Ukrainian National Association Branch 271. UNA'ers recalled Mrs. Zobniw's energy, commitment and loyalty to the fraternal organization that has served the Ukrainian community since 1894.

Mrs. Zobniw is survived by her husband of 37 years, Lubomyr; children, Dr. Zoriana Zobniw Nehrebeckyj (with her husband, Yuri Nehrebeckyj), Dr. Adrian Zobniw, Oresta Zobniw Lisowsky (Dr. Taras Lisowsky), Chrystia Zobniw; brother, Orest Koropecy, and family; godmother and aunt, Olha Iwanejko; sisters-in-law, Roma Chabursky and Irene Chabursky (Myron Chabursky); nephews, Roman, Zenon, Oleh, Orest, Lubomyr, and their respective families; niece, Renata Romanchykevych, and family.

On the eve of funeral services, the Zobniw family issued the following request to mourners: "To honor Mima and her love of our Ukrainian culture and heritage, the family requests everyone to please wear embroidered shirts and blouses, as she loved their vibrant colors and beautiful designs."

Memorial services were held Tuesday, April 7, at the Laskowski Funeral Home in Binghamton. Funeral services were held the next day at Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church in Johnson City, N.Y.

Yushchenko waffles...

(Continued from page 1)

Observers had differing opinions on whether the earlier or the amended Constitution should determine the election date.

Mr. Soskin said the president must function within the legal framework in which he was elected, which would make election day October 25.

Yet, Kyiv lawyer Ivan Lozowy, a veteran political observer, said the constitutional text that is currently in force should be the guide. But even under the interpretation of the amended Constitution, he said the election still ought to be held on October 25 because that would allow the president to serve a five-year term.

Holding the election on January 17 could give President Yushchenko a longer period in office that would violate the Constitution's term limits.

"To reconcile with the requirement that a president serve a five-year term, the election date had to be pushed back," Mr. Lozowy said, reflecting a view widely held among Kyiv political players. "It's not five years and two months. If you hold it January 17, every new term will be pushed up by several months. The new text doesn't take this factor into account."

The Presidential Secretariat, as well as the Central Election Commission, had been announcing the January 17 election day without waiting for a decision by Parliament, which is mandated by the Constitution to approve the presidential election date.

Should the Constitutional Court overturn the October 25 election date, President Yushchenko would gain leverage in negotiating simultaneous pre-term parliamentary elections on the same day as the presidential

election, or another date earlier than January 17, observers said.

Among the reasons President Yushchenko is so interested in pre-term parliamentary elections is that he still is interested in dismissing Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, observers said.

If the presidential election is held without the parliamentary election, Ms. Tymoshenko could remain as prime minister beyond the expected conclusion of President Yushchenko's presidency.

A pre-term parliamentary election would also allow Mr. Yushchenko to lead a party or bloc and gain a seat in the Verkhovna Rada, which would keep him politically relevant and offer a deputy's immunity should his opponents seek revenge and try to prosecute him.

President Yushchenko has retained the prerogative to hold pre-term parliamentary elections ever since he issued a September 2008 presidential decree, which was ignored by Ms. Tymoshenko and the members of her parliamentary faction, who sabotaged any vote by storming the courts and intimidating judges.

Therefore it's unclear why President Yushchenko wants the Constitutional Court to overturn the October 25 election date if he can call the parliamentary elections, without his rivals' approval, and hold them simultaneously, as he said on April 6 that he wanted to do.

"The so-called Yushchenko team is wildly thrashing about and adrift," Mr. Lozowy said. "The fact that Yushchenko submitted this to the Constitutional Court, but said the date is fine, is bereft of logic, especially when the court is more likely to approve the October 25 date. It's hard to say where this is going."

SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY, USA (NTSh-A)
informs its members that



the triennial
**GENERAL MEETING OF NTSh-A
WITH REPORTS AND THE ELECTION
OF A NEW GOVERNING BOARD**

will take place

**on Saturday, May 16, 2009
at 1:00 P.M.**

**MORNING SESSIONS OF THE SCHOLARLY SECTIONS
11:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.**

At the NTSh-A Headquarters
63 Fourth Avenue
(between 9th and 10th Streets)
New York, NY 10003

DNIPRO CO.

**PACKAGES, CARS AND
CONTAINERS TO
UKRAINE AND EASTERN
EUROPE**

Travel service: Air tickets and visas to Ukraine and other countries.

Money transfer to Ukraine and other countries.

Ukrainian and European CDs for sale. Ukrainian souvenirs and kercheifs for sale. Telephone cards: 80 min. for \$5

ROSELLE, NJ
645 W. 1st Ave.
Tel.: (908) 241-2190
(888) 336-4776

CLIFTON, NJ
565 Clifton Ave
Tel.: (973) 916-1543

PHILADELPHIA, PA
1916 Welsh Rd., Unit 3
Tel.: (215) 969-4986
(215) 728-6040

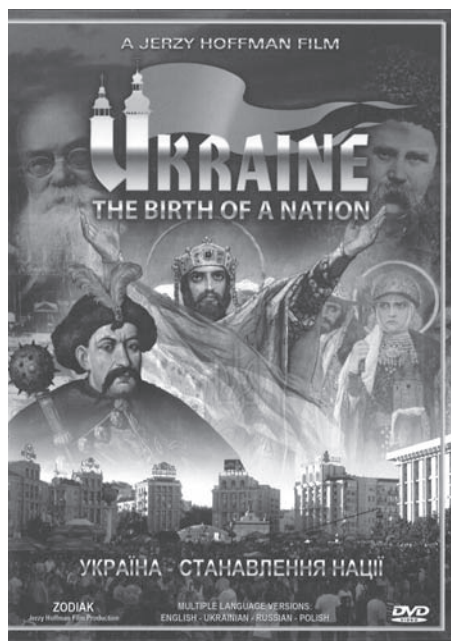
NEW RELEASE: "Ukraine: The Birth of a Nation" on DVD

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Esteemed Polish film director and producer Jerzy Hoffman has released what is perhaps the most ambitious video documentary of Ukraine to date. His four-part series, called "Ukraine: The Birth of a Nation," is a sweeping and stirring portrayal of Ukrainian history from the beginnings of Kyivan Rus' to the Orange Revolution.

The first part of the 200-minute series (each part is 50 minutes long) spans the period from Kyivan Rus' to the end of the Kozak era, tracing Ukraine's rise as a medieval principality, the Mongol invasion, the formation of the Zaporozhian Kozaks and their destruction by Catherine the Great.

The next chapter discusses Ukraine as a province of tsarist Russia, the struggle by Ukraine's intelligentsia to assert their rights and sow the seeds of national consciousness, and the brief moment of Ukrainian independence after the upheaval of World War I.

The third part covers the bloody repression of the first half of the 20th century as Ukraine fell under Polish and Soviet rule, and the death of millions during the Holodomor and World War II. The one bright spot in all this was the incorporation



of regions previously under foreign governments into one Soviet Ukrainian republic.

In the final chapter, Joseph Stalin's reign of terror comes to an end and is replaced by Nikita Khrushchev's thaw, Leonid Brezhnev and Volodymyr Scherbytsky respond with a crackdown

on dissidents and enact Russification, but Mikhail Gorbachev's glasnost and perestroika set the Soviet Union on a course for disintegration. Ukraine at last re-established independence in 1991, but economic and political reforms prove to be slow and arduous. Years of pent-up frustration reached a zenith in the 2004 Orange Revolution as people demanded the right to live in a free, democratic society. The series ends by asking the audience to watch if the post-Revolution gains will endure.

Among the consultants listed as advisers for this documentary series are Profs. Roman Szporluk, George Grabowicz and Serhii Plokhii of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute.

Born in Krakow in 1932 to a family of doctors, Mr. Hoffman was deported to Siberia in 1940 during the Soviet occupation, returning to his native country only after the second world war. In 1955 he completed the State Institute of Cinematography in Moscow, and began making short documentaries soon afterward.

After several years directing and producing acclaimed dramas such as "With Fire and Sword" (an adaptation of Henryk Sienkiewicz's historical novel of the

Polish-Ukrainian wars of the 17th century), which was hailed as one of Poland's most significant cinematographic triumphs, Mr. Hoffman returned to his love of documentaries.

According to the director, in the spring of 2004 he came across a book written by then President Leonid Kuchma titled "Ukraine Is Not Russia" that inspired him to look deeper into Ukrainian history. Mr. Hoffman wrote, "the title puzzled me in a way. We, Poles, are very well aware that Ukraine is Ukraine and Russia is Russia. However, reading the book excited a chain of reflections. I thought: what about investigating the history of the nation's formation? What about making a film?"

Mr. Hoffman went headfirst into his research was intrigued by what he saw: "It was a fascinating journey through centuries. Needless to say, every person brings back their own impressions from their travels. I am going to share mine."

The DVD has four language options: English, Ukrainian, Polish and Russian. It was released in 2008 by Zodiak, Jerzy Hoffman Film Production. "Ukraine: The Birth of a Nation" is available from the Yevshan Corp., www.yevshan.com. Price: \$32.95.

Monument to mark 65th anniversary of Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council

by Taissa Bushnell

LVIV – July 15 will mark the 65th anniversary of the establishment of the Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council (Ukrayinska Holovna Vyzvolna Rada, or UHVR), the underground parliament and government of wartime Ukraine.

The UHVR was formed with the aim of consolidating the efforts of all groups dedicated to the creation of an independent and sovereign Ukrainian state, so that the continued struggle could be directed by one organized political body.

It became the highest level of political leadership of the Ukrainian nation during the endeavor for independence during World War II.

Kyrylo Osmak was elected head of Parliament, or president of the UHVR; Roman Shukhevych was chosen to be the head of the government, the General Secretariat.

A 65th anniversary organizational committee consisting of representatives of the Lviv Oblast Administration, the Sambir Raion Council and Administration, the presidium of the UHVR organization, the All-Ukrainian OUN-UPA Brotherhood, and other civic organizations has been established to carry out commemorative activities, which include the construction of a monument in the village of Sprynia in the Sambir region, the site of the UHVR's first official assembly.

The monument is a vertical granite stele, topped by a military cross with a bronze trident (tryzub) – the symbol of Ukraine. The lower part of the stele features a sculptural representation in copper of five original UHVR members: Kyrylo Osmak, Roman Shukhevych, Rostyslav Voloshyn, the Rev. Ivan

Hryniokh and Daria Rebet. The entire composition rests on a granite foundation.

The monument's sculptor is Ivan Samotos; architect – Vasyl Kaminshchuk; builder – Renaissance-DR, a Ukrainian-American joint venture, Oleksandr Kryskiv, director.

Donations to help build the monument can be made out to the Relief Fund for Ukrainian Culture, which has been established by the UHVR organization, and mailed to: Mykola Haliv, 430 E. Sixth St., Apt. 9C, New York, NY 10009.



The proposed monument to the Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council that is to be erected in Sprynia, Sambir region of Ukraine.

Easter Blessings to June Muc

A wonderful mother and grandmother

TAPESTRY Vocal Ensemble

Saturday, April 25, 2009 at 8 pm
at the Ukrainian Institute of America

Program

"Faces of a Woman"

features works by and about women from medieval and contemporary repertory including traditional melodies and ballads, chants and selections from Rachmaninoff's Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Tickets: \$30; UIA members and senior citizens \$25; students \$20, including a wine and cheese reception afterwards.

For more information and tickets contact:
The Ukrainian Institute of America
2 East 79th Street, New York, NY 10075
212-288-8660

www.ukrainianinstitute.org

The Ukrainian Institute of America
Presents

Lecture and Discussion

"Disgruntled Voters, Squabbling Elite, Deepening Economic Crisis and Upcoming Elections in Ukraine"

Speaker : Dr. Taras Kuzio
Moderator: Adrian Karatnycky

Sunday, April 26, 2009 at 3 pm

Admission: \$15; UIA members and senior citizens \$10; students \$5, including a wine and cheese reception afterwards.

The Ukrainian Institute of America
2 East 79th Street, New York, NY 10075
212 288-8660
www.ukrainianinstitute.org

Ukrainian folk dancing grows in popularity in Kyiv

by Yuriy Borysov

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – After moving to Kyiv from the Poltava Oblast, Oleh Morokhovets, 25, and Anna Oleksiyenko, 22, plan an ethnic wedding and signed up for Ukrainian folk dancing.

“The elements’ simplicity is attractive,” Mr. Morokhovets said. “This is also about Ukrainianization. Russian-speaking people who come here feel Ukrainian by connecting with the native culture.”

Like all aspects of Ukrainian life, popular dance has been affected by globalization, spawning the trendiness of hip-hop, Latin American and even striptease lessons, which are advertised throughout the capital city.

In fact, an estimated 25 Latin American dance classes currently operate in Kyiv, as well as nearly 100 hip-hop classes, according to those who operate these schools.

Despite the explosive popularity of these trends emanating from the West, Ukrainian folk dancing still piques the interests of a solid number of Ukrainians seeking to revive their knowledge and involvement in Ukrainian culture.

A handful of folk ensembles are offering lessons at affordable prices, such as Bozhychi (www.bozhychi.com.ua), which offers free monthly lessons at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, as well as at the Honchar Museum, where weekly lessons are offered for the nominal fee of 10 hrv.

Meanwhile, the folk group Buttia (Being) offers private folk dancing lessons, particularly for those planning traditional wedding ceremonies, at which they also perform on violins, flutes, drums and the cello-like basolia (see www.buttia.kiev.ua).

“Traditional Ukrainians dances are becoming more popular,” said Asia But, 25,

a Buttia member. “This art is developing, and the biggest impetus for this has been ‘Krayina Mrii’ (Country of Dreams), the very popular ethnic festival.”

Without any advertising, the hall at the Honchar Museum is always full, averaging 45 students at each lesson who come from all social classes and geographic regions, from young couples to retired men. They practice in traditional embroidered shirts or simple T-shirts.

Vadym Lashkariov is a 29-year-old businessman who considers himself an ethnic Russian but heeded the call of his traces of Ukrainian blood.

Dance is an integral part of a nation’s culture, he commented. On a more pragmatic level, he said attending dance lessons has helped him forget about the current financial crisis.

Rather than hanging his head and complaining about life, Mr. Lashkariov said he’s fulfilled himself through folk dancing. Therefore, the government ought to do more to promote it. “It’s not so hard,” he said. “We don’t need much money. Just give us a larger space.”

Indeed Illia Fetisov, the lanky 31-year-old accordion player who leads Bozhychi, is reviving the art of Ukrainian folk dance on enthusiasm alone when leading the public dance classes.

To earn money, Bozhychi also performs at corporate parties and organizes traditional Ukrainian weddings, even participating in the nuptial celebration.

Bozhychi launched its classes in January 2005 after being inspired by Ukrainian music legend Oleh Skrypka’s annual “vechornytsi” folk parties in December 2003.

Bozhychi’s members collected and studied ancient, forgotten Ukrainian dances in the villages of the Chernihiv,



Bozhychi

Young couples practice Ukrainian folk dancing at weekly lessons offered by the Bozhychi ensemble at the Honchar Museum in Kyiv.

Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Poltava, Vinnytsia and Zhytomyr regions, Mr. Fetisov said.

“Few know Ukrainian dances nowadays,” he said. “Everyone names the Hopak, but truly Ukrainian dances are infinite.”

Bozhychi knows 50 dances, the result of painstaking ethnographic research, said Mr. Fetisov, who plays an Austrian accordion that he adoringly calls a “vienka” (based on Vienna). Ukrainians think it’s a Russian folk instrument, but that is not so, he said. Handicraft production of the instruments emerged in Kyiv and Kharkiv in the 19th century, he explained.

However Mr. Fetisov said he doesn’t expect Ukrainian folk dancing to become trendy. He remembers a “certain splash” in 2004 and 2005 related to the Krayina Mrii

festival, launched in Kyiv by Mr. Skrypka. “Are these dances popular at the moment?” he asked. “They are in the underground. Of course, they’re not the most popular.”

An engineer beginning his career, Mr. Morokhovets said he thinks folk dancing isn’t particularly popular because the mass media does little to make it fashionable, or even offer basic information for that matter. “In no way do these dances differ from others,” he said. “Most of the movements are similar.”

Yet, it appears folk dancing will remain a staple of Ukrainian life, particularly if it survived Soviet imperialism.

In fact, Ukrainian folk dancing was preserved in the Soviet Union and was even

(Continued on page 19)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have helped to make our yearly race as successful as it has been year after year.

First of all let me thank all the members for their support, understanding and patience in sometimes difficult situations.

Secondly I sincerely thank all our sponsors:

- Self Reliance (NJ) FCU - Clifton
- Self Reliance (NY) FCU – New York
- Ukrainian Self Reliance FCU (Philadelphia)
- Peter and Marianne Livsha
- Dr. and Marybeth Palydowycz
- Irene Steckiv
- Dr. Don Zaluzky

Particularly I thank Orest Fedash and Zenon Stakhiv, who for several years have sponsored the trophies for our youngsters.

The KLK executive committee would like to invite all members and friends of KLK to our 85 year black tie banquet on October 3, 2009. Place to be determined.

*Thank you again,
Erko, president KLK-USA and Canada*



Shevchenko monument unveiled in Prague



Official Website of Ukraine's President

PRAGUE – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko, while on a state visit on March 24-25 to the Czech Republic, took part in the unveiling of a monument to Ukraine’s national poet, Taras Shevchenko, the 195th anniversary of whose birth is being marked this year. In his address, Mr. Yushchenko expressed gratitude on behalf of the Ukrainian people to all those who were involved in erecting the Shevchenko monument in Prague. “This shows the world’s respect to Ukraine, which we accept with reciprocal respect and gratitude,” Mr. Yushchenko said. The president noted that it was in Prague that the first full and uncensored publication of Shevchenko’s “Kobzar” was released in 1876 after the Russian empire forbade the Ukrainian language and literature. Above, President Yushchenko and First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko unveil the monument.

GENERATION UKE

Edited and compiled by Matthew Dubas and Yarema Belej

Plast fraternities and sororities prepare younger members for leadership roles

by Yarema Belej

PARSIPPANY, NJ – During the month of March three separate adult groups (kureni) of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization held their spring gatherings (rady), which are central to organizing, recruiting and even enjoying their constant work within the Plast organization. These three groups are popular among younger members of the Plast ranks.

The newly revived Kniahyni (grand princesses) kurin held their rada in Hunter, N.Y., the Khmelnychenky (Khmeli for short, named after Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky) kurin spent their weekend at Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, N.Y., while the Chornomorts (sailors of the Black Sea) kurin gathered at the Ukrainian Homestead in Lehigh, Pa.

“Rady allow us to move forward on our most important projects much more efficiently than we can through e-mails and phone calls,” said Taisa Hewka, member of the Kniahyni. “We have members that live in various parts of North America, so communicating face to face is a more effective way to discuss ideas and share opinions.”

With eight full members and one candidate present at their first official rada, the Kniahyni made a lot of important decisions regarding their sorority’s neckerchief design, delegating new responsibilities and expanding membership. The kurin will be very visible this year as many members will be holding administrative positions at the “Pysanyi Kamin” campground in Middlefield, Ohio.

The Khmeli focused their energy on their upcoming roles during Ukrainian Week at Wildwood, N.J., and Sviato Yuriya, which takes place over Memorial Day weekend, at the “Novyi Sokil” campground near Buffalo, N.Y. Several new candidates were on hand to take in the weekend, as were many older members of the Khmeli.

More than 20 Chornomorts “formatted an ambitious blueprint that outlines future



Plast’s Khmelnychenky at their spring rada at Soyuzivka.

events and directions,” said Alex Oryshkevych. “We further discussed activities like Sviato Yuriya, various excursions for youth and our sailing and water sports camp that will take place in August at Richmond Pond in Pittsfield, Mass.”

These three groups are a sampling of a larger network of groups that comprise Plast members between the ages of 18 and 35 (some are one big group with their senior members) that join one of these groups for a litany of reasons. Taking very active roles in the last few years, these groups are helping to ensure the continuance of Plast for future generations.

“I joined the Kniahyni because I was interested in being among a group of active and hard-working young ladies that get along and work together,” said Lida Doll. “My friends and I decided that we had the opportunity, and most importantly the drive, to revive an old kurin that stands for sisterhood, learning about and teaching various aspects of Ukrainian folk art while continu-

ously working with Plast youth.”

The Kniahyni will be conducting folk art workshops this summer at most Plast camps throughout the U.S.A., Ms. Doll explained.

“The reasons I joined the Khmeli is in large part due to the long history of the kurin,” said John Nahnybida. “There have been many very important members past and present that have done a lot for Plast.” That history is central to the Khmeli, because “it provides us with opportunities to learn about what Plast used to be like through the older members of our kurin,” said Stefko Drabek.

“The Chornomorts offer a type of brotherhood that is truly unique in Plast,” said Pete Haftkowycz. “Only through a true dedication to the ties of the kurin can you really appreciate what it is all about. I am now a part of the history and tradition that this specific kurin has come to mean over several generations.”

The sororities and fraternities of these adult Plast member groups is a binding element that allows them to work in unison to help educate, shape and influence Plast youth. It is in their hands, in their opinion,

that the fate of Plast rests.

“The current role of the older Plast members is essential to the continuance of growth beyond the adolescent age,” said Alex Oryshkevych. These young adults do not shy away from such a responsibility, in fact they embrace it. “We run many camps and branches, thus, without us it would be very hard to sustain Plast,” said Mr. Drabek. “Young members need to see the involvement of older members in all aspects of Plast, because then they can follow in kind,” added Mr. Nahnybida.

“The majority of Plast consists of the senior members, and this should change,” said Ms. Doll. “More effort needs to be put into recruiting younger members, even down to the youngest ones. Essential to this is keeping older Plast members active, as it is their children that will one day be members of the Plast organization.”

Although these are but six separate members of three groups of the many adult Plast groups, the passion and dedication they show is characteristic of the active, open and hard-working members who will keep the fire burning for years to come.

SUSK holds 51st congress, elects new executive board

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Ukrainian Canadian Student’s Union held its 51st annual congress at the St. Vladimir Institute in Toronto on February 20-22. More than 65 delegates participated in the event – double the attendance from the previous year. (This was the second congress since the organization’s revival in Winnipeg in October 2007.)

Anna Shabotynsky discussed efforts to combat trafficking of humans, Myroslaw Iwanek presented information about Akcja Wisla, Anastasia Baczynsky brought to light issues of concern for third- and fourth-wave immigrants, and the League of Ukrainian Canadians (LUC) was presented by Volodymyr Paslavskyi, executive director of LUC, and the Ukrainica Research Institute was introduced by Taras Paslavskyi.

Student-led workshops during the congress allowed delegates to share their experiences of university life, the challenges they faced and how the students overcame these obstacles.

A dinner was held at the Golden Lion Restaurant that was attended by former SUSK presidents, government and community leaders, including Borys Wrzesnewskyj (Liberal MP for Etobicoke Center), Paul Grod, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Dr. Oleh Romanyshyn, president of LUC, Mykhailo Wawryshyn, president of

the Ukrainian Canadian Professionals and Businesspersons Foundation.

The evening continued with high-energy entertainment provided by DJ Paradise and the bands Kavalery and Mosaic.

The next day, George Wodoslawsky, vice-chair of the Ukrainian Credit Union, informed the students about how to apply for sponsorship from the credit union.

The congress concluded with the passing of resolutions and the election of a new executive. Marco Jacuta was elected president of the student organization. He stated that he intends to focus on solidifying SUSK’s long-term continuity, building on the past successes of the organization and developing new ideas for the coming year. Mr. Jacuta replaces outgoing President Tamara Mischna.

Other executive members include: Volodymyr Viguilouk, vice-president of finance; Roman Storoshchuk, vice-president of the western provinces; Andriy Wodoslawsky, vice-president of the Great Lakes region, Vivian Zabuga, vice-president of the St. Lawrence region; Christine Turenko, executive secretary; Danylo Korbabic, external relations director; Christina Andrusiv, internal relations director; Kolia Kalimin, media director; Motria Spolsky, alumni director; and Natalia Markewycz, executive assistant.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Commenting on Gucci’s fall 2009 designs, the fashion website trenddelacreme.com paired the new clothing designs side-by-side with pysanka designs by Soloveiko. The clothing designer’s patterns, motifs and choices of colors were very similar to the traditional Ukrainian Easter egg designs, the website claimed. The comparison was posted by Jill at Trend de la Crème on December 23, 2008 (<http://www.trenddelacreme.com/2008/12/pysanka-by-gucci.html>).

*Retire in comfort and style,
open an IRA account at
Self Reliance New York
and relax*

4.34% APY*

IRA accounts at NCUA insured credit unions are insured separately up to \$250,000.

**SELF RELIANCE NEW YORK
Federal Credit Union**

Confidentiality, professionalism, ultimate value and service.

Main Office: 108 Second Avenue New York, NY 10003
Tel: 212 473-7310 Fax: 212 473-3251

Conveniently located Branches:

Kerhonkson:

6325 Route 209 Kerhonkson, NY 12446
Tel: 845 626-2938 Fax: 845 626-8636

Uniondale:

226 Uniondale Ave. Uniondale, NY 11553
Tel: 516 565-2393 Fax: 516 565-2097

Astoria:

32-01 31st Avenue Astoria, NY 11106
Tel: 718 626-0506 Fax: 718 626-0458

Lindenhurst:

225 N. 4th Street Lindenhurst, NY 11757
Tel: 631 867-5990 Fax: 631 867-5989

Visit our website:

www.selfreliance.ny.org

E-mail:

info@selfreliance.ny.org

Outside NYC call toll free:

1-888-735-3735

*APY - Annual Percentage Yield based on a 4.25% rate, subject to change without prior notice.

Your savings federally insured to at least \$250,000 and backed by the full faith of the United States government

NCUA

National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency

'In Full Bloom': unique collection of pysanky at The Ukrainian Museum

Press Office of The Ukrainian Museum

NEW YORK – The Ukrainian Museum’s traditional springtime exhibition of Ukrainian Easter eggs – pysanky – this year features the exquisite creations of little-known folk artist Iryna Bilianska (1899-1960s). While much of Bilianska’s life remains a mystery, she is known for having created a unique style of pysanky in the late 1920s and 1930s.

The exhibition, “In Full Bloom,” opened April and will be on view through August 30. Admission is \$8 for adults; \$6 for seniors and students (with valid ID); free for children under 12 and museum members. Additional information can be found at www.ukrainianmuseum.org or by calling the museum at 212-228-0110.

Using as her prototype the traditional pysanky of her native Sokal region in western Ukraine, characterized by multi-colored floral motifs, Bilianska developed an original style that included elements of Sokal embroidery. Her pysanky have predominantly floral motifs that cover the entire surface of the egg, freestyle. In some cases, bands of geometric motifs are intertwined with the florals. She often included citations from Scripture about Easter and the Resurrection, and adds the Ukrainian national emblem – the trident, or “tryzub.”

According to Lubow Wolynetz, curator of The Ukrainian Museum’s folk art collection and organizer of the exhibition, the post-World War I years in Ukraine, when Bilianska was creating her “miniature gems,” were a time of intense patriotic fervor and national revival.

“Hopes of establishing an independent



Hanya Krill-Pyziur

Pysanky by Iryna Bilianska, donated by Andrij Hornjatkevych.

western Ukraine were dashed when this region (also known as eastern Galicia) was annexed to Poland,” Ms. Wolynetz explained. “Because manifestations of Ukrainian patriotism were suppressed by the Polish government, the Ukrainian people often used subtle methods of expressing their national feelings and identity.”

One such method was to include various national emblems in embroideries, ceramics and pysanky – the tryzub, the blue and yellow colors of the Ukrainian flag, patriotic slogans, excerpts from the

Ukrainian national anthem, passages from Scripture about the Resurrection (with its dual meaning, heralding both Easter and the return of Ukrainian nationhood) and the like.

Bilianska was discovered by Damian Horniatkewych (1892-1980) in the 1920s. Prof. Horniatkewych was a painter, art scholar, professor of art history, and collector of Ukrainian fine and folk art who met Bilianska during one of his many trips through the Sokal region. He went on to amass a sizeable collection of her pysanky before fleeing Ukraine during

World War II and eventually settling in Canada.

Prof. Horniatkewych’s son, Andrij Hornjatkevych, donated the pysanky, along with other items, to The Ukrainian Museum in May 2008.

“In Full Bloom” includes 82 of Bilianska’s pysanky, as well as five traditional Sokal embroidered shirts from the museum’s collection.

The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St., New York, NY 10003. Visiting hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Ukrainian Cultural treasures presented to the Library of Congress

by Jurij Dobczansky
Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON – On April 1 the collections of the Library of Congress were enriched by the donation of facsimile editions of the Gospel of Peresopnytsia, created between 1556 and 1561, and the Khrystynopil Apostol, a 12th century manuscript.

Both volumes were presented by the Rev. Dr. Cyril Hovorun, chair of the Department of External Church Relations, and Abbess Serafima (Shevchyk), chair of the Commission on Church and Culture of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate.

Dr. Deanna Marcum, Associate Librarian for Library Services, offered welcoming remarks and accepted the books on behalf of the Library of

Congress.

A program devoted to the “Gospel of Peresopnytsia and its Importance in Ukrainian Culture” included an outline of its history and the showing of an English-language film about its restoration and preservation. Dr. Viktor Nikitiuk, minister-counselor of the Embassy of Ukraine, extended greetings to the audience in the L. Quincy Mumford Room.

The event was co-sponsored by the Library’s European Division, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the Embassy of Ukraine.

The Rev. Dr. Hovorun emphasized the symbolic importance of the Peresopnytsia Gospel as an outstanding monument of the Ukrainian literary language and art, and as a symbol of Ukrainian identity and statehood.



Jurij Dobczansky

The Gospel of Peresopnytsia (facsimile edition).



Pages of the Gospel.

Hetman Mazepa, the 17th century head of state and cultural benefactor of Ukraine, donated funds to restore the ornate leather and silver binding of the Gospel and his name is inscribed on the manuscript.

Three Ukrainian presidents – Leonid Kravchuk in 1991, Leonid Kuchma in 1994 and Viktor Yushchenko in 2005 – have taken the oath of office on the genuine Gospel of Peresopnytsia, which is stored in the Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine.

The Gospel of Peresopnytsia is one of the most intricate surviving East Slavic manuscripts and is the first to include elements of modern Ukrainian in the Gospel text. Richly decorated, the manuscript shows the influence of the Italian Renaissance in combination with native

Ukrainian ornament.

The original manuscript was created at the Mother of God Monastery in the village of Peresopnytsia, Volyn region of Ukraine. Following its complete restoration, the facsimile edition was published in 2008 by ADEF-Ukraina Publishers. It complements the first complete scholarly edition published by the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in 2001 already in the collection of the Library of Congress.

Copies of the facsimile edition have already been presented to the Parliamentary Library of Canada and St. Paul University in Ottawa, Bodleian Library in Oxford and the Lambeth Palace of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

(Continued on page 19)

CLASSIFIEDS

TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL MARIA OSCISLAWSKI (973) 292-9800 x 3040
OR E-MAIL ADUKR@OPTONLINE.NET

SERVICES

Personal and Commercial Printing

TRIDENT Associates Printing
Українська Друкарня ТРИЗУБ

Calendars Books
Annual Reports Magazines
Brochures Newsletters
Posters Program books
Flyers Year Books
Folders Sales Literature

*We specialize in Unique Engraved,
Foil Stamped and Letterpress Printed
Invitations with Ukrainian Designs*

Please visit our web site:
www.trident-printing.com
call: 1-800-216-9136
or e-mail: tridentprinting@hotmail.com

FIRST QUALITY
UKRAINIAN TRADITIONAL-STYLE
MONUMENTS
SERVING NY/NJ/CT REGION CEMETERIES
OBLAST
MEMORIALS
P.O. BOX 746
Chester, NY 10918
845-469-4247
BILINGUAL HOME APPOINTMENTS

MERCHANDISE



Ukrainian Book Store

Largest selection of Ukrainian books, dance supplies, Easter egg supplies, music, icons, greeting cards, giftware and much more.

10215-97st

Edmonton, AB T5J 2N9

Toll free: 1-866-422-4255

www.ukrainianbookstore.com

PROFESSIONALS



ОКСАНА СТАНЬКО
Професійний продавець
забезпечення УНС
OXSANA STANKO
Licensed Agent
Ukrainian National
Assn., Inc.

2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280 Parsippany, NJ 07054
Tel.: (973) 292-9800 (Ext. 3039) • Fax: (973) 292-0900
e-mail: stanko@unamember.com

LAW OFFICES OF ZENON B. MASNYJ, ESQ.

In the East Village since 1983

Serious personal injury, real estate for personal and business use, representation of small and mid-size businesses, securities arbitration, divorce, wills and probate.

(By Appointment Only)

29 EAST 7th STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10003
(212) 477-3002

FOR SALE

After over 50 years of collecting Ukrainian memorabilia I have decided to sell my collection. There are old and valuable brochures, documents, prints and graphics, also maps of Hondius' and Boplan's from 1600-1841.
Please call 416-769-9990

OPEN HOUSE
Sat & Sun, April 25 & 26
10am-4pm
Ukrainian Village
66 Cedar Grove Lane
Somerset, NJ

FOR SALE
1&2 bedrm condos #'s 24&54
Located 1 mile from Ukrainian Cultural
Center & St. Andrew's Church &
Cemetery, South Bound Brook, NJ

Call owner for more details:
631-974-4941

Florida Home for Sale
Southwest coast in Punta Gorda, near
North Port and Port Charlotte. 2 bed-
room / 2 bath, great condition, partially
furnished. Adult 55+ neighborhood.
Must sell. \$34,900. 518-755-4289

FOR RENT

LvivRentals.com
from \$59 per night

"Retire in the country!"

House for rent, well kept 3 bedroom, 1 bath, enclosed porch. 1055sq.ft. Walking distance to Oselya CYM and close to Soyuzivka. \$850/mo+security+deposit. Call Andy Kebalo @ 1-860-883-1391

Run your advertisement here,
in The Ukrainian Weekly's
CLASSIFIEDS section.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Party of Regions halts protests

KYIV – The participants in the rally staged by the opposition Party of Regions of Ukraine on Kyiv's Independence Square on April 3 passed a resolution demanding the immediate resignation of the government led by Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and President Viktor Yushchenko. They also demanded simultaneous early presidential and parliamentary elections. Addressing the rally, PRU leader Viktor Yanukovich said the party would suspend its mass protests until April 14. He attributed this decision to the fact that the government, under the opposition's pressure, promised to present its anti-crisis program on April 14. Mr. Yanukovich said the opposition is giving the government a last chance. "There are a few days until the 14th. We will wait, and on the 14th I will again address you, all the people of Ukraine, with the call that everybody knows: "Down with the Authorities," Mr. Yanukovich stated. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko on new elections

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko, during his April 6 joint press conference with European Parliament President Hans-Gert Pottering, once again expressed his preparedness to pass a decision on early presidential elections in Ukraine. At the same time, the president confirmed the terms he earlier set forth, under which he would be ready to call early elections. "It is not a matter of principle to me how many months earlier they will take place, in October or in September," Mr. Yushchenko said, adding, "Now we are talking about the possi-

bility of settling the political situation only though parallel parliamentary snap elections." Early elections of the Verkhovna Rada, the president said, are needed "to solve the key problems causing the political crisis in Ukraine." He said a new parliamentary coalition is needed, with a real majority that would be able to pass laws and undertake responsibility for the economic and social policy in the country. Mr. Yushchenko once again pointed to the need for amending the presidential and parliamentary election laws first – in particular to introduce voting by open party tickets. The president's demand for abolition of parliamentary immunity remains unchanged. He also suggested that the Rada adopt laws on financing early parliamentary and presidential elections in order to avoid a situation like the one that occurred in 2007, when "the constitutional decision on early elections was blocked by a ruling force through the denial of financing for the polls." The president called his proposals "a healthy compromise for all branches of power," which will make it possible "to bring new political quality and stability to this country" via pre-term elections. (Ukrinform)

Yanukovich calls for elections

KYIV – Party of Regions of Ukraine leader Viktor Yanukovich said on April 6 that it is expedient to call snap parliamentary and presidential elections by October 25. Reacting to President Viktor Yushchenko's statement about his readiness to consider the simultaneous holding of these elections, he described the proposal as a "courageous move," adding,

(Continued on page 15)



Maria K. Zobniw

July 21, 1948 – April 3, 2009



The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regrets to announce to the members of the General Assembly, to members of Branch 271 and to the UNA membership at large that Maria K. Zobniw, secretary of Branch 271 since 2005 passed away on April 3, 2009, a victim of a senseless act of violence.

The Executive Committee and the entire UNA membership wish to express their deepest condolences to Maria's husband Lubomyr, children Dr. Zoriana Zobniw Nehrebeckyj (Yuri Nehrebeckyj), Dr. Adrian Zobniw, Oresta Zobniw Lisowsky (Dr. Taras Lisowsky), Chrystia Zobniw, brother Orest Koropey and their respective families. Mrs. Zobniw will be remembered for her boundless energy, commitment and loyalty to the UNA.

Vichna Yiyi Pamiat



Mary Pelechaty

November 2, 1914 – April 2, 2009



The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regret to announce to the members of the General Assembly, to members of Branch 165 and to the UNA membership at large that Mary Pelechaty, elected in 1935 as secretary of Branch 165 passed away on April 2, 2009.

The Executive Committee and the entire UNA membership wish to express their deepest sympathy to sons David and Michael and their families and sisters Natalie Kornowa and Anne Shindel. Funeral services were held at St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Rossford, Ohio and her final resting place is Calvary Cemetery. Mrs. Pelechaty devoted a lifetime of services to the UNA and her dedication and loyalty will not be forgotten.

Vichna Yiyi Pamiat

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

"We welcome this proposal. Consultations should be held and an election date should be chosen. It is necessary to do so. Simultaneous presidential and parliamentary elections will help save funds," he said. The PRU leader also said that his party is ready to support the president's amendments to the electoral law. (Ukrinform)

PM against simultaneous elections

KYIV – The idea of holding simultaneous pre-term presidential and parliamentary elections is erroneous, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko stated on April 6 on the "Shuster Live" program on TV. She said, "The only recipe today is political stability, consolidation that we can give... If everyone goes to the elections who will work?" Noting that the idea of simultaneous pre-term elections unites the opposition Party of Regions of Ukraine and the president's supporters, Ms. Tymoshenko called such elections during the crisis "a very difficult situation." She said that drastic changes to the Constitution are urgently necessary to bring order to the authorities in Ukraine. "Ukraine needs a new and radically reformed Constitution. But it should be the Constitution neither under Yushchenko nor Yanukovich nor Tymoshenko," she noted. According to the prime minister, amendments made to the Constitution in 2004 that transformed Ukraine into a parliamentary-presidential state have actually ruined the power structure in the country. At the same time, she said, draft amendments to the Constitution recently proposed by President Viktor Yushchenko actually make only one change – the introduction of a bicameral Parliament – and provide no answer to systemic questions. Ms. Tymoshenko said a new wording of the Constitution is possible only after support is achieved in the Parliament at the level of no less than the constitutional majority. At the same time, reform of the executive and judicial branches of power, and demonopolization of the Procurator General's Office should be taken into account. A clear answer should be given on whether the country has a parliamentary or a presidential system of government, Ms. Tymoshenko underscored. (Ukrinform)

Poll about system of government

KYIV – According to a public opinion poll conducted by the Ukrainian Democratic Circle service by order of the Politics Institute on March 27 through April 2, 42.8 percent of people in Ukraine would like political forces to reach a compromise without holding early elections. Meanwhile, 36.9 percent support simultaneous pre-term parliamentary and presidential elections. In addition, 43 percent of respondents said the current Constitution is imperfect, and 50.1 percent said it must be changed. As regards the system of government that Ukraine should have, 26.8 percent support a presidential-parliamentary, 21.4 percent a presidential, 19.8 percent a parliamentary-presidential, and 12.9 percent a parliamentary system. A total of 49.6 percent of the respondents spoke out against the idea of a two-chamber Parliament proposed by President Viktor Yushchenko. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko comments on NATO

KYIV – Ukraine considers NATO to be the only effective system that guarantees security in the trans-Atlantic space, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said on April 6 during his meeting with NATO Parliamentary Assembly President John Tanner. Ukraine backs NATO's enlargement, believing that the continued policy of open doors to the alliance is important, Mr. Yushchenko noted. He also

expressed confidence that the decisions of the Bucharest summit and the meeting of NATO foreign ministers on Ukraine's future membership must be put into practice. In this context, the president spoke of the efforts Ukraine is taking to draft and implement the first Annual National Program for cooperation with NATO, which, as he put it, "meets by its essence and form all the requirements of the Membership Action Plan, and reflects this country's preparedness to continue reforms required for achievement of membership criteria." He also underscored that, as NATO's reliable ally, Ukraine would continue contributing toward maintaining international security. The current visit of Mr. Tanner to Ukraine is his first official visit abroad after his election as president of NATO's Parliamentary Assembly in November 2008. (Ukrinform)

Rada appeals to U.S. Congress

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on April 6 backed a decision on an appeal to the U.S. Congress regarding logistical support for disposal of nuclear fuel. Presenting a draft resolution, Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc faction leader Ivan Kyrylenko noted that after gaining its independence Ukraine became the first and the only state in world history to have voluntarily relinquished nuclear weapons. After that, in 1993, Ukraine and the U.S. government signed an agreement in which the U.S. pledged to provide logistical support for the complete disposal of the solid rocket fuel of intercontinental ballistic missiles, which was planned by 2002. However, Mr. Kyrylenko noted, the process was not completed, and in 2003 the U.S. unilaterally suspended funding

for this program. Today, according to Mr. Kyrylenko, Ukraine has 5,000 tons of nuclear fuel that must be immediately disposed of. The heads of five parliamentary factions signed an appeal to the U.S. Congress with a proposal to restore cooperation in this area. (Ukrinform)

A first for women in naval forces

KYIV – For the first time in Ukraine, a woman has been appointed assistant commandant of the naval forces, the press service of the Ministry of Defense reported. Admiral Ihor Tenukh, commander of Ukraine's naval forces, introduced his new assistant, Cmdr. Maryna Kanaliuk, to the fleet command in Sevastopol on April 3. She will be responsible for issues involved in the functioning of the Russian Black Sea Fleet structures and its stay on the territory of Ukraine. Cmdr. Kanaliuk, 30, was born into the family of a military man in Vanino, in Russia's Khabarovsk area. In 2000 she graduated from Sevastopol's Nakhimov Navy Institute. From 2000 to 2005, she served in radio-electronic fight units of the Ukrainian naval forces. Afterwards she worked at the navy's scientific center and at the department of international military cooperation of the Naval Command Headquarters of Ukraine's Armed Forces. (Ukrinform)

Akhmetov acquires full stake in SCM

KYIV – Ukrainian businessman Rinat Akhmetov, who is also a national deputy, has acquired a full stake in CJSC System Capital Management based in Donetsk, the company said in a statement released on April 8. SCM owns and manages assets in the mining, steelmaking, energy, telecommunications, banking, insurance

and medical sectors, and in the field of retail and property. Mr. Akhmetov earlier owned a 90 percent stake in the company, and his wife controlled the remaining 10 percent. In 2008 SCM had an unconsolidated net profit (not including the financial performance of the SCM Group of companies) of around 184.5 million hrv (UAH 7.70 hrv = \$1 U.S.). (Ukrinform)

Ukraine is Europe's most religious country

KYIV – The level of spirituality of Ukrainian citizens is among the highest in Europe, says a survey conducted by the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology (KIIS) in cooperation with the Institute of Policy and the Social Indicators Center under the International Social Survey Program (ISSP). The study showed that 53 percent of respondents believe in God. However, another 21 percent of those who did not believe have now become believers. Thus, three-quarters of Ukrainians consider themselves believers. A total of 11 percent of respondents identified themselves as atheists. An absolute majority of the Ukrainian believers (91 percent) are Christians (Orthodox, Greek-Catholics, Catholics, Protestants). The rest are mainly Muslims and Jews. Some 39 percent of the believers belong to three main Orthodox confessions: the Ukrainian Orthodox Church - Moscow Patriarchate, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church - Kyiv Patriarchate and the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church. At the same time, 44 percent of respondents said they are the believers without belonging to a particular church and 8 percent are Greek-Catholics. A total of 75 percent say it is necessary to have respect for all religions, while 71 percent note that the Church should be separated from politics. (Ukrinform)

TWO YEAR MEMORIAL

Кобзар:

Помолившись, і я б заснув Так думи
прокляті Рвуться душу запалити,
Серце розірвати, Не рвіть, думи, не
паліте! Може, верну знову Мою
правду безталанну, Моє тихе слово,
Може, викую я з його До старого
плуга Новий леміш і чересло. І в
тяжкі упруги...



„НОЯГ І ДОМ ЙОГО“

В річницю відходу Покійного в Царство Небесне Алею Вічності
найдорожчого і незабутнього, нашого милого Батька, Брата, Дідуса, Товариша і Заступника Козацької Сім'ї.



ІВАНА АНДРІЙОВИЧА ВАЦЬ

Passed through Heaven's Gates on Friday Evening, April 6th, 2007 - Good Friday

Builder-Developer,

Doctor of Theosophy, 1972

42nd Ward Committeeman - Republican Executive Committee, Philadelphia, PA

Board of Directors - "Novi Dni"; Founding Member, President - ODUM Resort Center Kyiv, Inc. (PA & NJ)

МИ в своїх щирих молитвах молимо, щоб Бог обер сльозу з очей Козацької Сім'ї.

Господи, нехай заволодіє над усім світом любов Твого св. Духа, нехай поверне між народи мир у згоді і справедливості!

Сини - АНДРІЙ, ОЛЕКСАНДР і ГРИГОРІЙ з родинами

дочка - ОЛЯ з родиною,

брат - МИКОЛА з родиною,

РІДНІ і ПРИЯТЕЛІ

6 квітня 2007 р. Філадельфія, Па.

Andre Watts, P. O. Box 10481, Phoenix, AZ 85064

COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Ukrainians participate in North Port's 50th anniversary parade

NORTH PORT, Fla. – The city of North Port, Fla., is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year with many community events planned throughout the year. The first of these events was a grand parade along the city's main boulevard held on February 28.

The Ukrainian American community was one of 120 groups that participated in the parade, which included such popular groups as the Tampa Bay Rays and the Budweiser Clydesdales. Many trophies were awarded but, out of more than 75 floats, the Ukrainian American float won the trophy for "Best in Show."

The weather was perfect – sunny, dry and 72 degrees. The crowds, estimated at over 20,000, enjoyed the festivities and cheered the marchers along the two-mile parade route.

The Ukrainian American group was led by the color guard of Ukrainian American Veterans Post 40 under the command of Eugene Tomashosky.

Following the veterans was the beautiful Ukrainian-motif float, decorated with a banner that read "Ukrainian Americans celebrate North Port's 50th anniversary." The float was decorated with many Ukrainian symbols, such as a giant "tryzub," huge pysanky and many Ukrainian wreaths ("vinky").

The float was designed and built by members of the UAV Post 40 and the Ukrainian American Club of Southwest Florida. Funding for the float was provided by the Community Committee of North Port.

Approximately 75 members of the UAV, Ukrainian American Club and Branch 56 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America were dressed in their finest Ukrainian embroideries and marched behind the float singing "Happy Birthday" and many versions of "Mnohaya Lita, North Port."

Accompanying the singers was accordion player Vladymier Szpiczka who, together with children dressed in Ukrainian embroidered shirts and representatives of St. Mary's Ukrainian Church and St. Andrew's Religious and Cultural Center, entertained the crowds.

Several young-at-heart ladies who marched alongside the float tossed candy to eagerly waiting children along the route.

It was a very joyous and special occasion for the Ukrainian American community to be able to exhibit a sampling of the beautiful and colorful Ukrainian culture. Community members were proud to be awarded the "Best in Show" trophy from the City of North Port.



The Ukrainian float in North Port's 50th anniversary parade.

Ukrainians of Florida honor Shevchenko



NORTH PORT, Fla. – On March 8 the Ukrainian American community of Southwest Florida honored Ukraine's greatest poet, Taras Shevchenko, on the 195th anniversary of his birth. A special program featured Shevchenko's poetry and was presented by members of the various Ukrainian organizations. The featured speaker was Oksana Bashuk Hepburn of Canada. Seen above are: (first row, from left): Ariana and Mia Allen, (second row) Irena Zyznomyska, Marta Klosinska, Roma Long, Oksana Bashuk Hepburn and Vira Bodnaruk.

– Bohdan Bodnaruk



Members of the committee who designed and built the Ukrainian American community's float for the North Port parade: (back row, from left) Jerry Zynycz, Nancy Wosny, Halia Lisnyczyj, John Homick, Marian Bojsiuk, Daria Tomashosky, Cliff Heiser, Lieta Boyko, Daria Spiak and Klara Szpiczka, (front row) Paul Wosny, Gene Tomashosky, Vladymier Szpiczka and John Susla

Long Island branch of UCCA convenes annual meeting

NEW YORK – On Sunday, March 1, the Long Island branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America held its (UCCA) annual election meeting at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church's parish center.

Following a brunch for the members and general community, the UCCA branch held its annual election. The meeting was chaired by Andrij V.R. Szul, former president of the Long Island branch and longtime member of the UCCA's National Council. Reports were given by the outgoing board, including President Bohdan Kurczak, Treasurer Maria Kopastianska, Secretary Slava Kunitska, External Affairs Chair Mr. Szul, and "Ukrainian Night" concert MC Bob Petrowsky.

The UCCA Long Island Branch had a busy and successful 2008, with such events as the annual "Ukrainian Night" concert in the outdoor amphitheatre of

Eisenhower Park; visits to various Long Island municipalities in Nassau and Suffolk counties to raise the Ukrainian Flag on August 24th, marking Ukraine's 17th Independence Day celebration; a solemn ecumenical Panakhida marking the 75th anniversary of Ukraine's Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, as well as an essay contest on the Holodomor theme for children at the parish's Ukrainian Studies School.

The majority of funds for the branch are raised by a dedicated group of individuals who volunteer their time to make varenyky and then sell them to the local community, with proceeds going to the Long Island UCCA branch's various community and cultural projects, which include providing assistance to orphans and disabled children in Ukraine.

Following the reports by board members, newly elected UCCA President Tamara Gallo Olexy addressed the gath-



At the Long Island UCCA branch meeting (from left) are: Andrij V.R. Szul, Bohdan Kurczak, UCCA President Tamara Gallo Olexy, the Rev. Deacon Roman Badiak, the Rev. Vasyl Hrynkyv and Dmytro Trojanowsky.

ering in what was her first field visit to a UCCA branch. After highlighting UCCA's accomplishments in 2008, including various events that commemorated the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor and the

release of the UCCA's third feature film "Vladyka Andrey," and others, Ms. Olexy outlined her vision and challenges for the

(Continued on page 17)

Serhiy Kvit...

(Continued from page 3)
regarding admissions criteria?

Yes we expected it, but we believe that this new system of admissions is supposed to be coordinated with all the reforms in higher education, including reducing the number of universities and improving the quality of universities. A lot of reforms are needed. But here, they look at this admissions system as if it were a reform in higher education.

In it of itself, this admissions system doesn't work. It should be coordinated with various other reforms, with the Bologna Process in particular. And in particular with all our students and academics speaking English and being able to understand their Western colleagues. There are very many requirements for development.

Regarding the Bologna Process, which steps did the Kyiv Mohyla Academy take in the last year and which steps are planned in the next year?

Well, the fact of the matter is that the Bologna Process is the adaptation of Ukraine's higher education to European standards. But our university is the most involved, the most integrated in the Western system of education, which is why we don't have any changes. We have worked that way since 1992.

We had a credit system, we have a rating system. We had the English language, and that is our working language. We have the organization of work and education process as our Western colleagues. There is little for us to change.

The one principally new thing we did was create doctoral studies. We always offered the bachelor's degree, the master's degree and we now launched the doctoral system. This means that we have the Western three-tiered system of education – bachelor, master and doctor.

So have you completely disavowed the doctor of sciences and candidate of sciences degrees? (Editor's note – These are Soviet-era degrees still being awarded in Ukraine.)

No, we haven't disavowed them. We are giving our doctors the opportunity to gain a state diploma, that is to say they can gain our diploma, they can receive a state diploma after they defend their thesis, and they can receive a diploma from our university partners, namely the Universiteit Maastricht (in the Netherlands) and the Autonomous University of Barcelona.

Long Island...

(Continued from page 16)
near future of the organization.

The first priority for the newly elected UCCA National Board, elected in October of last year for a four-year term, will be the revitalization of the organization nationwide, Ms. Olexy said, noting that the Long Island branch could serve as an example, as it has a long and successful history.

The second task of the UCCA for 2009 is to continue to advocate issues important for Ukrainian Americans with the U.S. government. The UCCA and the Ukrainian community she said, should foster a stronger working relationship with the new presidential team and Congress. The UCCA will be addressing such issues as increased U.S. foreign assistance to Ukraine, energy security for Ukraine, NATO enlargement, continued advocacy of Ukraine's Famine-Genocide and the overall context of U.S.-Ukrainian relations.

In closing, Ms. Gallo called on everyone to join forces in every innovative way they can to improve the UCCA's service

At this point Dr. Briukhovetskyi joined the conversation.

What do you plan in the next year, or several years? More such doctoral programs?

Kvit: In the next year we plan to launch the next three doctoral programs. There will be a sociology program, there will certainly be a program in philology and philosophy, and thirdly ... well, we're still considering the third one. ... We hope these programs can set an example [for other universities], but unfortunately the Western doctoral degree is offered only at our university presently. It requires a lot of money.

Briukhovetskyi: I should say here that this is not the first case in which we are offering something that others don't have. We began to offer the first bachelor's degrees when there weren't any. I remember [Shevchenko University] Rector [Viktor] Skopenko told me at one conference, "What have you invented – bachelor's and master's? We have good education offering a specialist's degree (Editor's Note – Ukraine's five-year degree) that is better than any of your bachelor's degrees.

And we launched the bachelor's program, but the master's degree program was very difficult to launch because, formally, it was as if it were allowed, but it was allowed in the program as an exception, as an experiment. So the first master's program was like an experiment. Well, it wasn't one program. At the time we launched a whole magisterium. The magisterium itself was like an experiment, so that way we didn't get used to a single program.

Kvit: But I need to add here that for all these programs the government doesn't give anything. For example, the government gives money for the "aspirantura," for example (Editor's Note – three-year post-graduate studies that prepare students for the dissertation defense and candidate of science degree). It gives an average of 24,000 hrv to prepare for one candidate of sciences. But our doctoral expenses in our school are more than 100,000 hrv per person.

We have a complete Western standard, meaning we have two advisors – one from Ukraine and another from a Western partnering university, European or American. We have the complete teaching format, meaning students have seven courses the first year of studies and nine courses the second year, which they're supposed to pass.

It's a very strong education, involving work in international research groups. They publish in international academic journals.

to the community. "The UCCA is only as strong as its branches – and I thank you for the hard work you have done over the years. I look forward to working with everyone as an effective team, and to open new avenues of communication and cooperation. While the challenges sometimes may seem daunting, she said, we believe that our community has a bright future," she stated.

The UCCA Long Island branch elected a new board including: Mr. Kurczak, president; Petro Piddubny, Esq. and Taras Pyszczymuka, vice-presidents; Ms. Kunitska (Ukrainian language) and Valentyna Falkowska (English language) secretaries; Ms. Kopyscianska, treasurer; and, Mr. Szul, external affairs chair.

The meeting was opened and closed with special prayers composed by the Rev. Vasyl Hrynkiw, pastor of St. Vladimir's, and concluded with the singing of Ukraine's national anthem.

The UCCA was founded 69 years ago, and the Long Island Branch 15 years later. The Long Island Branch is the cultural and educational federation of organizations representing Ukrainian community associations in Nassau and Suffolk counties of New York State.



The main building of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy.

This is all very serious education, and we don't receive a cent from the government for all this.

Briukhovetskyi: I'll even add to what Serhiy said that Western universities have the same requirements in their Ph.D. programs that we have. They try to model after us!

Kvit: (Laughter) I was in Barcelona, where we signed an agreement according to which our doctoral candidates, when they defend their dissertations, can receive a diploma from [Autonomous] University of Barcelona, but our colleagues from Barcelona were interested whether their doctoral candidates, when they defend, can earn our diploma. It's a kind of an agreement aimed toward both ends. Their students can also earn our diploma, and they were very interested in that.

So that I clearly understand this – earlier you relied more on the diaspora's support, but you've reached that level that you have more diverse sources and more support from the government ...

Kvit: Well, we could have said this last year, before the crisis, that we found more sources of support in Ukraine, because business was growing here. We found more sources here. But firstly, there's a crisis now and we need very large support from the diaspora.

Secondly, the diaspora gives us more independence because we'll have more resources that we can use for those things that we want to use them for. What we have from the government, as a rule, is for specified expenses. If we receive funds from foundations and companies in Ukraine, let's

say, then they also say we want these funds to be spent on certain goals. Support from the diaspora offers us more independence.

Briukhovetskyi: We can't spend that money we receive from the government on other programs. Meaning the government forbids us. It regulates all these expenses. On top of that, there's not a university in the world that will say we don't need someone's support. Take Harvard, take Yale, take any of them and they will say, "Yes, we need support." You can't say, "We reached the point where ..." Even Harvard won't say, "You know, we don't need support." It's needed.

So what would you say is your biggest goal in 2009?

Kvit: In 2009, our main thing is retaining our best faculty. Our government financing has been very seriously reduced. In particular, we are reducing those expenses that go toward wages, and the main thing for us is to retain our best faculty. This struggle for our faculty is occurring.

Secondly, we want to constantly ride the wave of change, constantly offer new innovations and not reduce the pace of our development, to constantly produce some new innovations for education, for society.

And where can your faculty go?

Kvit: They can go anywhere.

Briukhovetskyi: They can even search for additional work for themselves, which we don't want. If their wages decline, they have to work somewhere. But we want them to work more for the academy rather than someplace else.

Kvit: Therefore supporting our faculty is an exceptionally top theme.

SCOPE TRAVEL INC.

2009 TOURS TO UKRAINE

MINI UKRAINE TOURS

May 13 – 22	Land only	\$2000 tw
July 15 – 24	Land only	\$2350 tw
Aug 19 – 28	Land only	\$2350 tw
Sep 15 – 24	Land only	\$2350 tw

10 Day All Inclusive Firstclass Tour **Guaranteed Departures!**
Kyiv, L'viv, Yaremche, Ternopil, L'viv **plus:** Iv. Frankivsk, Vorokhta, Kolomyja, Zarvanytsia and Olesko Castle.

Features: Superior Hotels, Basic city tours and entrance fees, 3 Day AC bus tour of W. Ukraine, Half Board. Escorted throughout itinerary.

NOTE: Due to fluctuation of airfares, we will apply the least expensive airfare on Lufthansa Airlines for immediate ticketing at time of booking.

=====

Call/e mail for brochure: 973 378 8998 Toll free: 877 357 0436
101 S. Centre St. S. Orange, NJ 07079 Office hrs: M/T/W 9AM/3PM
www.scopetravel.com scope@scopetravel.com



NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF KYIV MOHYLA ACADEMY KYIV MOHYLA FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

On behalf of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy we express our sincere appreciation to everyone who supported the many projects and academic programs which were accomplished in the last few years. We wish to share some of the major achievements of the last few years which could not have been completed or inaugurated without the generosity and support of donors.



HIGHLIGHTS OF PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SCHOLARSHIPS

KMFA established ongoing scholarship funds for students, grants for faculty endowments and sponsored academic exchanges. Kyiv Mohyla Foundation established ongoing scholarship funds for students at Kyiv Mohyla Academy, grants for faculty endowments and sponsored exchanges with Northwestern University, University of Chicago, University of Illinois, Ohio University, Columbia University, Stanford University.

LIBRARY

KMFA spearheaded a major capital campaign and raised over a million dollars toward the establishment of the new Kyiv Mohyla Library, equipped with state of the art electronic equipment and cataloging system. The new Omelan and Tatiana Antonovych Library were open and serve students, faculty and visitors.

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

KMFA contributed financial support and endowments for the establishment of the Kyiv Mohyla School of Public Health Management, the first such school in Ukraine. The Kyiv Mohyla School of Public Health Management was founded in partnership of the University of Illinois School of Public Health, University of Maastricht – Netherlands and the Kyiv Medical University.

BUSINESS PROGRAMS

KMFA enabled and continues support for the collaboration between Kyiv Mohyla School of Business, rated #1 in Ukraine, and Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management, rated #1 by *The Economist*, which resulted in ongoing collaboration with schools of management throughout the world, and included visits of close to 500 graduate MBA students from Ukraine to the US and other countries. The Foundation sponsored lectures by renown faculty, speakers and practitioners in business management to Ukraine.

URBAN PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

KMFA sponsored visits of Ukrainian university graduates and faculty and hosted numerous Ukrainian city officials to US municipal departments and companies which specialize in urban planning, water filtration, emergency management, green architecture and waste management.

JOURNALISM

KMFA hosted groups of journalists from the Kyiv Mohyla Graduate School of Journalism and arranged meetings at major media organizations and schools of journalism, such as Tribune Corporation, Newsweek, CNN, Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and The Journalism School at Columbia University. The KMSchool of Journalism established a state of the art media center with support of the Foundation for the Development of Ukraine. In 2009 the Kyiv Mohyla Academy signed an agreement to conduct a joint PhD in mass communication. This is the first such international accreditation of a Ukrainian doctoral degree.

LAW

KMFA contributed and continues its support toward the participation of the Kyiv Mohyla School of Law teams in the International Jessup Moot Court Competition, which takes place annually in Washington DC. The

NaUKMA Moot Court team was awarded first place in Ukraine and scored #9 among 98 competing teams from 70 countries. A Kyiv Mohyla student won second place for debating skills in English. In March 2009 the Kyiv Mohyla Law School team represented Ukraine again at the final rounds of the Competition in Washington D.C. Financial assistance for the team's transportation, fees and hotel was generously donated by various donors in Ukraine, the US-Ukraine Business Council and the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation.

ORIENTAL STUDIES

KMFA, as recipient of the Prof. Omelan Pritsak academic estate, arranged for the documentation and transportation to Ukraine of this largest privately held collection of oriental studies – the library, archives, and artifacts from the estate of the distinguished professor. This collection became the basis for the establishment of the Institute and Library of Oriental Studies at Kyiv Mohyla Academy, which initiated collaboration with various international oriental studies centers.

documentation. Materials from the James Mace archives were published with donations collected for Holodomor publications during 2008.

- Creation of the new Electronic Museum of Ukraine's History on the site of the recently renovated chapel originally built by Hetman Ivan Mazepa on the Kyiv Mohyla Academy campus. The multimedia exposition of documents, photo and illustration from Holodomor will be set in the Museum.

- Publication of four volumes of historical documentation on the Holodomor by the Kyiv Mohyla Academy Publishing House. The books received numerous awards and were presented in Moscow at the main Holodomor conference, which was organized by Kyiv Mohyla Academy and the Ukrainian Embassy in Russia.

THE FIRST PhD PROGRAM IN UKRAINE

Kyiv-Mohyla Academy officially opened Ukraine's first Doctoral School on October 8, 2008, offering the country's first western-style PhD programs. This initiative for

ELECTRONIC LIBRARY OF UKRAINE

KMFA was awarded a grant by USAID for the establishment of the Electronic Library of Ukraine project, which will provide access to digitized information to the universities of Ukraine.

This country-wide project was initiated by the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation together with the Kyiv Mohyla Academy. The project's first year includes three universities. The management and server will be located at Kyiv Mohyla Academy's O. and T. Antonovych Library. Kyiv Mohyla Academy, the National universities of Chernivtsi and Kharkiv inaugurated the project in January 2009. The project will expand over a period of three years to include Ukraine's principal universities from all regions of Ukraine.

The project has been registered with the government of Ukraine. KMFA is working toward expanding financial support from the Ukrainian government and from corporations and foundations for equipment, management, training centers and data bases necessary to guarantee sustainability.

LET'S BUILD A STRONG DEMOCRATIC UKRAINE THROUGH KNOWLEDGE!



Dr. Stepan Melnychuk President of Y. Fedkovych University of Chernivtsi, Dr. Vil' Bakirov President of V. Karazin University of Kharkiv, Maksym Strikha Deputy Minister of Education, Ambassador Borys Tarasyuk Co-Chairman of KMFA, Chairman of the Parliament Committee for European Integration, Dr. Serhij Kyiv President of NaUKMA, US Ambassador William Taylor, Ambassador William Green Miller Co-Chairman of KMFA, Marta Farion President of KMFA, Chairman of the Board of the ELibUkr® Project

KMFA provided underwriting for lectures at Kyiv Mohyla Academy by renown oriental studies scholar Dr. Norman Golb. The Second International Conference of Oriental Studies named in honor of Prof. Omelan Pritsak will take place in May 2009.

HOLODOMOR STUDIES

With community generosity, KMFA contributed to the following activities at Kyiv Mohyla Academy related to Holodomor.

- Systematic cataloging of the James Mace Library collection, which was left in trust in perpetuity to Kyiv Mohyla Academy for the use of future scholars and historical

Ukraine's higher education system, as it represents a radical departure from the legacy of the Soviet-era system of researcher preparation that still persists in Ukraine. KMFA funded the working visit of a Kyiv Mohyla Academy administrator to US universities to study PhD program curricula, management and administrative issues. Kyiv Mohyla School of Journalism and the University of Barcelona, Spain, signed an agreement to conduct a joint PhD in mass communication, with an exchange of students and faculty and recognizing each other's PhD. This is the first such international accreditation of a Ukrainian doctoral degree.

In spite of the current world economic crisis and the political and economic difficulties in Ukraine, we cannot overlook all the positive achievements which have been accomplished thanks to many dedicated individuals who gave of their work, inspired with their vision and shared their moral and financial support. Building and developing a civil society and a stable democratic nation depends on dedication of such individuals. The National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy and the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation are grateful to all those individuals, foundations, organizations and companies for their past and continued support.

Board of Directors

Ambassador William G. Miller
Ambassador Borys I. Tarasyuk
Co-Chairmen

Viacheslav S. Brinkhovetsky, Ph.D.

Daniel Hryhorczuk, M.D.
Marta Farion, President
Oksana Khanas, Treasurer

Anna Mostovych, Ph.D., Secretary

Michael Radnor, Ph.D.
Jaroslava Zelinsky-Johnson
Ihor I. Wyslotsky

Board of Advisors

William Gleason, Ph.D.
Yurij M. Shcherbak, M.D., Ph.D.
Ivan Fizer, PhD *

Regional Representatives

Jaroslav Rozumnyj, Ph.D., Canada
Marta T. Sterniuk, Argentina
Jaroslav Duzij *

* In memoriam

Kyiv Mohyla Foundation is registered as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your donation is fully tax deductible as permitted by law.
If you wish to make a donation, please send your check to: Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America P.O. Box 46009 Chicago, IL 60646-0009
Tel.: 773-685-1828, Fax: 773-794-1654, E-mail: mail@kmfoundation.com, www.kmfoundation.com

Kule Center sponsors pysanky workshop at U. of Alberta's International House

EDMONTON, Alberta – The Kule Center for Ukrainian and Canadian Folklore and International House at the University of Alberta sponsored their second workshop for students from around the world on Wednesday, March 18.

The workshop was arranged by Ukrainian Folklore Program graduate student and International House resident Huseyin Oylupinar. Students from China, Iran, Turkey, India, Poland, Ukraine, Brazil and other countries enjoyed soft drinks, fruit and cookies while they watched Slavko Novytsky's classic pysanka film.

After watching the film, Natalie Kononenko, Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography, talked about the tradition of pysanky and some of the technical aspects of pysanka-writing.

The students then began work on decorating their own eggs under the direction of Prof. Kononenko, Dr. Peter Holloway and a group of volunteer assistants, including Yanina Vihovska, Svitlana Kukhareenko, Genia Boivin and Greg Holloway. Beautiful pysanky and happy students were the result.

Most of the decorated eggs had traditional pysanka designs. Some students, however, chose innovative adaptations, adjusting their pysanky to incorporate designs and symbols from their home countries.



An international student at the University of Alberta with her pysanka.

MAY WE HELP YOU?

To reach
The Ukrainian Weekly
call (973) 292-9800,
and dial the
appropriate extension
(as listed below).

Editorial – 3049, 3088
Production – 3063, 3069
Administration – 3041
Advertising – 3040
Subscriptions – 3042

Ukrainian cultural...

(Continued from page 13)

The Khrystynopil Apostle is the oldest complete, sequential manuscript of the Epistles in the Church Slavonic literary tradition. It was created in the western part of Kyivan Rus' and has been kept at the Lviv Historical Museum since 1948.

It took nearly one year and over \$30,000 to restore this cultural monument. Costs of the restoration, the making of the facsimile and the production of an electronic version were underwritten by a grant from the Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation of the United States Embassy in Kyiv.

The fund is headed by Ambassador William Taylor, who said, "Our joint projects are not only helping to revive Ukrainian culture, but also enrich the American people."

Shortly after the presentation, the Rev. Dr. Hovorun was interviewed by Myroslava Gogadze of the Voice of America. The interview may be viewed at the link <http://www.voanews.com/ukrainian/2009-04-02-voa1.cfm>

Ukrainian folk dancing...

(Continued from page 10)


danced at Soviet weddings, and this tradition is currently experiencing a rebirth said Taisia, a pensioner from a Kyiv Oblast village.

Ukrainian folk dancing is appealing because it's relatively easy and full of positive energy, she said. The dancers talk and laugh.

"Modern dances are uncoordinated, and the people who dance them look like robots, dancing alone" added Taisia. "In traditional dances, everyone dances in pairs. There are many moments when people exchange pairs and nod. But most important is that these dances are developmental, so each time new movements are learned."




Insure and be sure.
Join the UNA!



Selfreliance
Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union

Happy Easter

from the Board of Directors
and employees of Selfreliance UAFCU
to our members and our cooperative family



Selfreliance.Com
Illinois - Indiana - New Jersey

Medvedev plays...

(Continued from page 2)

the West for mainly domestic reasons, to sell the reform to unconvinced generals who barely understand why and how these changes will be introduced.

Mr. Medvedev's appearance at the MoD resulted from several factors. He addressed generals and admirals concerned about the changing shape and structure of the armed forces, and planned drastic cuts in the size of the Russian officer corps. This was also intended to reassure internal critics of reform that, despite Russia's experience of the financial crisis, such an agenda can and will be implemented, even if it takes longer than first

intended.

Mr. Medvedev's appeal to his audience that such reforms are needed based on the threat of NATO expansion was calculated to increase support within the military for the controversial agenda.

Finally, by remodeling military modernization as a response to a "Western" threat, Mr. Medvedev was also appealing for greater public support for military reform. As the reforms proceed, the anti-Western rhetoric will fluctuate depending on how successfully these changes can be made.

The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, www.jamestown.org.

NUKMA's...

(Continued from page 3)

there that the idea belongs to him," Dr. Briukhovetskyi said. "The idea of mobile tests is also his. I think it would be interesting for employers to see this. Unfortunately, Mykola won't receive such a diploma. Therefore we'll write him out a certificate."

Mr. Kotiuk's other invention, the mobile testing trainer, also has no parallel in the academic world, said Yurii Zakhariichenko, the dean of students.

Using their mobile telephones, students can take practice exams for standardized admissions testing, he said. Eventually, practice tests for all university subjects will be developed.

"Every student has a mobile phone, so the idea came to us, 'Why not combine what is pleasant with what is beneficial,' so that a student can evaluate his knowledge in a mobile regime," Mr. Zakhariichenko said.

A pilot collection currently offers five practice tests in the Ukrainian language, three tests in physics and nine tests in

geography, he said, adding that mathematics exams are also available.

"The technology not only ensures mechanisms of control and training in test taking," Mr. Kotiuk said, "it offers the chance to gain new knowledge and train in preparation for further testing. After taking the test, [the student] can see his score, analyze his answers and view gaps in his knowledge and fill them, so to speak."

Furthermore, the technology makes test preparation available to the millions of young Ukrainians who either don't have Internet access or can't afford to buy test preparation textbooks.

"This idea can go far – to villages, village districts and small towns where there are fewer opportunities for preparation," Dr. Kvit said. "This is progress that we are trying to offer our society."

The technology, which is accessible to both mobile phones and desktop computers using the Java programming language, may be applied to students at the elementary school level, as well as implementing social projects, such as HIV/AIDS prevention and warnings about the dangers of unhealthy activities.

It is programmed to analyze test answers, give commands, offer analytical summaries and analyze the dynamics of success.

Mr. Kotiuk said he initially designed the program for desktop computers, but later transferred it to mobile phones – a technology far more accessible to the average Ukrainian student.

As many as 800 tests can also be downloaded onto mobile phones without involving the Internet, he said. "This is very important, taking into account the economic crisis and the Ukrainian reality in general that many people don't want to access the Internet," Mr. Kotiuk said.

The program's platform and algorithmic synthetic technology is based on an exclusively Ukrainian programming field called "mysha," developed in the 1980s at the Kyiv Institute of Cybernetics. These means of synthesis enable tests to adapt to telephone regimes from simple Microsoft Word files, Mr. Kotiuk said.

The computer science prodigy began developing such computer testing programs in the seventh grade, at the end of 2003, when his physics teacher suggested he develop a testing program for physics.

Without access to computer science books or experts, Mr. Kotiuk said he spent the next several years developing the testing program by trial and error within the mysha programming field. During this time he eventually found the means to adapt it to mobile phone use.

"To learn from courses, literature or at a university just isn't it," he said. "Then a person at a certain point loses interest in experimentation."

Interestingly enough, neither Kyiv Mohyla Academy nor Mr. Kotiuk obtained copyrights to the technologies being employed. Neither did anyone comment on who would own the property rights – the university or Mr. Kotiuk, a computer programming engineering major in the university's computer science department.

"Specifically this technology truly is in my ownership, we can put it this way, like the castles under a medieval lord," he said.

"The technology is in my computer, and nowhere else. Meaning the intellectual property rights are being ensured in quite a medieval way. With regard to others using this program and creating tests, the technology is only on a single computer and the technology itself isn't being distributed."

If there's any remaining doubt as to whether the 17-year-old is a leading authority on standardized admissions testing, just consider his performance last year: He was one of only two Kyiv students to achieve a perfect score of 600 on the national exam.



In an advertisement, the UNA misidentified Motria Milanytch as the district secretary of the NY District Committee. The NY district secretary for the year 2008 was Alexandra Juzeniw.

Take an Austrian vacation on your way to Ukraine.

Your Austrian vacation begins onboard with excellent food, wine, coffee and service. From our New York (JFK) and Washington D.C. (IAD) gateways, Austrian Airlines flies nonstop to our hub in Vienna, with excellent connections to Kiev, Lviv, Odessa, Dnepropetrovsk, Donetsk and Kharkov.

**For information or reservations call your travel agent,
Austrian Airlines at 800-843-0002 or visit www.austrian.com
Earn miles with Miles & More and Mileage Plus.**

Austrian
We fly for your smile.



OUT AND ABOUT

Through May 24 Chicago	Art exhibit, "From Lviv to Chicago: Borovyk, Mikhnovskyy, Skop," Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 773-227-5522	April 23 Washington	Concert, "Beloved Ukrainian Vocal Classics," Russian Chamber Art Society, Embassy of Ukraine, 703-354-7354 or www.rcas.org
April 14 Washington	Roundtable discussion, "Ukraine's Global and Regional Challenges," Embassy of Ukraine, www.acteva.com/go/wfls	April 23 Stanford, CA	Lecture by Alla Nedashivska, "The Interplay of Ukrainian and Russian in Contemporary Ukrainian Media," Stanford University, 650-723-3562
April 15-16 New York	Conference, "Chornobyl Update and Political Influence on Health and Environment Policies," Ukraine's Mission to the United Nations, United Nations Headquarters, 212-686-1996 or witconf@gmail.com	April 23 Ottawa	Kyiv Chamber Choir, Christ Church Cathedral, 877-266-2557 or www.ticketweb.ca
April 16 New York	Lecture by Tetiana Stepykina, "National Mapping of the World as a Problem of Modern Ukrainian Studies," Ukrainian Studies Program, Columbia University, 212-854-4697	April 23 Washington	Literary evening with poet Andriy Bondar, Ronald Reagan Building and International Center for Scholars, liz.malinkin@wilsoncenter.org or 202-691-4100
April 16 New York	Film screening and discussion, featuring director Lesya Kalynska, Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University, 212-854-4697 or sy2165@columbia.edu	April 24 Toronto	Kyiv Chamber Choir, Roy Thomson Hall, www.roytomson.com or 416-872-4255
April 18 Baltimore, MD	Ukrainian Art Show, Self Reliance of Baltimore, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 410-675-7557	April 24 New York	Literary Evening, "Poetry, Prose and Film in New York," The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110
April 19 Mississauga, Ontario	Concert by Levada Choir, "Hayivky," St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church hall, 905-277-0224	April 25 Silver Spring, MD	Dinner and dance, featuring music by Fata Morgana, Fantaziya Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 410-598-1425 or fantaziya.tickets@gmail.com
April 20 Cambridge, MA	Lecture by John LeDonne, "Should Cossacks Be Allowed to Sell Their Lands? A Contribution to Russo-Ukrainian Relations (1820s)," Harvard University, 617-495-4053	April 25 New York	Literary evening with Dzvinia Orlowsky, Angelo Verga, Askold Melnyczuk and Alexander Motyl, Cornelia Street Café, 212-989-9319 or www.corneliastreetcafe.com
April 21 New York	An evening with poet Andriy Bondar, "Jogging," Ukrainian Studies Program, Columbia University, 212-854-4697 or ukrainainstudies@columbia.edu	April 25 Jenkintown, PA	29th annual banquet, featuring Ukrainian American astronaut Capt. Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-663-1166
April 22 Montreal	Kyiv Chamber Choir, Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, 514-790-1245 or 877-266-2557	<i>Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.</i>	

UNA SENIORS' WEEK AT SOYUZIVKA
JUNE 14-19, 2009

Make your reservations for the UNA Seniors' Conference which will be held at Soyuzivka Heritage Center from Sunday, June 14, starting with wine and cheese in the evening, through Friday, June 19, including brunch.

All inclusive 5 nights, all meals beginning with breakfast Monday, banquet, taxes and gratuities included, entertainment and special speakers.

UNA members - single occupancy \$440 – double occupancy \$370 pp
Per night - Single \$110 – double \$87 pp

Non UNA members - single occupancy \$490 – double occupancy \$385 pp
Per night - Single \$115 – double \$95 pp

BANQUET & ENTERTAINMENT only \$35 pp

Call Soyuzivka, tel: 845-626-5641 and register early.
Space is limited - Organize a bus from your area, contact local senior clubs!
For information please call Oksana Trytjak, tel: 973-292-9800 ext. 3071



Senior Citizens' Week is FUN – AFFORDABLE – INTERESTING
WE WELCOME GUESTS! COME ONE, COME ALL!

Ukrainian Selfreliance FCU in Philadelphia
gives you control of your money!

Introducing our NEW
"MY CHOICE" 36-month CD

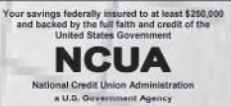
Are you interested in purchasing a
36-month CD @ 3.25% APY
but concerned that rates may go up
in the future?

With USFCU's new 36-month
"My Choice" CD
you can lock in today's attractive interest
rate, and if rates go up, you can increase
your rate one time to the higher existing rate
for the remaining term of the CD.

You decide when!

For details call or stop in today!

Minimum balance only \$500
Rate is subject to change without notice.



Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union
1729 Cottman Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111
215-725-4430 www.ukrfcu.com

UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Snow day: Sumivtsi host plastuny in Ellenville

by Ivanka Bihun
and Dianna Wasyluk

ELLENVILLE, N.Y. — On Sunday, February 22, our branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association in Goshen, N.Y., invited the local Plast group from Kerhonkson, N.Y., to join us at our “oselia” (grounds) in Ellenville, N.Y., for a fun day of sledding and watching movies.

We spent most of the day on great sledding. Kids of all ages (including some adults) went sliding down the

Ivanka Bihun, 14, of Pine Bush, N.Y., and Dianna Wasyluk, 14, of Cottekill, N.Y., are both members of the Ukrainian American Youth Association in Goshen, N.Y.

hill on everything from snow tubes to snow boards, even rolling down the hill in their snow suits. Mother Nature helped by providing a snow-storm during the day. We got about three to four inches of fresh snow as we were sledding.

After a long cold day of sledding, everyone gathered in the main building for food and movies. We snacked on yummy snacks and pizza, and had warm drinks while we watched American movies that were translated into Ukrainian. We also helped Julianna, one of the Plast members, celebrate her birthday. All the “sumivtsi” and “plastuny” had a great time and hope that we do more things together in the future.



Scenes of wintertime fun at the Ukrainian American Youth Association grounds in Ellenville, N.Y.

Plast kids enjoy family ski trip to Holiday Mountain

MONTICELLO, N.Y. — Sixty-eight parents and children arrived at Holiday Mountain in Monticello, N.Y., on Sunday, January 25, braving the cold to have a wonderful day of fun family skiing.

The senior Plast sorority of Spartanky, New York/New England chapter, organized this second annual event, giving the young children of Plast, “novatstvo,” an opportunity to obtain merit badges in skiing and ice skating.

Spartanky Lidia Prokop, Lesia Kozicky, Katia Kanarsky and Christina

Kotlar, opened the day with a Plast welcome and read the schedule for the day. The families had the morning to ski and/or skate. After lunch the children were tested on their skiing knowledge and abilities.

The day ended with a traditional Plast bonfire alongside a river with a Ukrainian children’s story, songs and roasted marshmallows. The children enjoyed getting together outdoors on a wintry day and were proud to earn yet another Plast merit badge.

— Lesia Kozicky



Plast kids, counselors and parents at the conclusion of their day on the ski slopes.

Pennsylvania senior reflects on trip to Obama’s inauguration

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. – George Woskob is a senior at State College Area High School in State College, Pa. He is the editor-in-chief of his school yearbook, co-concert master of both his school orchestra and The Center Pennsylvania Youth Orchestra. Last spring he was awarded “top soloist” in the Eastern Festival of Music held in Virginia Beach, Va.

George spent two years in the Student Senate as president of his class, during which time he was part of the school board’s Planning and Advisory Committee. He spent the two subsequent years in student government as the liaison between the school board and student body.

He is president of LION Life, a student organization that produces documentaries for the school to be aired on public television. He has received awards for his participation in the school’s Knowledge Masters team, which consistently wins national titles.

Last year George was accepted into both the Governor’s School for Business Entrepreneurship and the Governor’s School for the Arts for both music composition and violin performance. He is also a National Merit Finalist. This past fall he was awarded first place on the state level in the Music Teachers National Association’s Composition Competition. George is now conducting a composition seminar at his high school.

Throughout high school, he was captain of his Centre Soccer Travel Team and a member of Penn State’s Squash Club Team.

Below is an essay George wrote

after attending the inauguration of President Barack Obama.

I stood among the millions of people on Tuesday, January 20, and I saw the glorious moment during which Barack Obama became the 44th president of the United States of America. I was not shocked by what I witnessed there. The crowds were screaming his name, and everyone around me was in ecstasy with the idea of a daring, bold, new president.

I stood there not to witness President Obama’s speech – that could be better achieved through staying at home and watching the TV. I stood there to witness America, to look through the other end of the tunnel for once. I couldn’t help but feel the optimism of the crowd as they cheered the past tense version of President Obama’s catch slogan, “Yes we did!”

But I was also struck with a bit of anxiety. It worried me to hear the words “Yes we did!” being shouted, as if we had won some enormous war and life would suddenly become better with the coming of President Obama. The words “Yes we can!” are more applicable than ever as really, now that we have a new president in power, it is finally time to actually put to work our national pride and solve some of the nation’s problems. Having President Obama in the White House will not instantly solve all of our problems, rather, it will be our unity and sense of national responsibility that will make America a better place.

The yearning of Americans for something new is what I name as the

cause of the Obama-mania. Regardless, I hope that all citizens of America are aware that President Obama is just one man and, like you and me, he has the abilities only of a normal human being. Though I am not yet quite fully aware of what has caused this an Obama obsession, I am aware that Americans have placed a great deal of faith in the executive office and President Obama now has to prove that, given good relations with Congress and the



George Woskob in Washington.

support of the nation, his good intentions can now manifest problem-solving solutions to our national problems.

The glorious opportunity to witness what is possibly the most significant presidential inauguration in our country’s history was given to me by the

Presidential Youth Inaugural Conference. As a part of the program I was also given the honor of hearing speeches by some of the world’s most esteemed leaders, such as Gen. Colin Powell, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Vice-President Al Gore.

Sitch team plays in high school league



DENVILLE, N.J. – The boys’ volleyball team of the Chornomorska Sitch Ukrainian Athletic-Educational Association was one of 16 teams that competed in the High School Boys League at Powerzone in Denville, N.J., in January and February. Seen in the photo above are team members who played in the tournament, along with their coaches: (front row, from left) Coach Vlodko Temnycky, Toma Mandicz, Alexander Syzonenko, captain Paul Hadzewycz; (second row) Coach Mark Iwaskiw, Markian Martynetz, Adrian Iwaskiw, Daniel Maksymowycz, Nazar Gavyrysh and Coach Ollie Hladky. Also on the team were Alex Martynetz and Zhdan Korduba. Sitch took fourth place in the semi-finals.

Mishanyna

This month’s Mishanyna asks you to find the items you might have in your Ukrainian Easter basket. As usual, find the names of the items hidden in the Mishanyna grid. Happy hunting, and Happy Easter!

paska	horseradish	salt
butter	eggs	pussy willow
cheese	krashanky	periwinkle
kovbasa	pysanky	embroidered ritual cloth

S	P	A	M	B	A	L	A	G	A	N	L	V	R	E
P	E	A	R	S	U	S	A	L	A	U	A	A	I	M
A	S	I	D	O	A	T	L	E	E	T	T	R	T	B
G	T	O	N	B	O	O	T	R	A	S	S	E	U	R
H	O	T	V	A	R	E	N	E	K	Y	A	N	A	O
E	Y	O	A	K	N	I	W	I	R	E	P	Y	L	I
T	K	R	A	S	H	A	N	K	Y	O	S	K	C	D
T	N	U	O	G	A	R	L	I	C	A	L	Y	L	E
I	A	P	Y	K	O	H	Y	Y	L	A	D	A	O	R
S	S	O	S	I	D	A	L	T	A	C	O	S	T	E
O	Y	A	R	T	U	R	K	E	Y	O	K	T	H	D
U	P	U	S	S	Y	W	I	L	L	O	W	A	P	S
P	Y	R	O	G	P	E	R	I	W	I	N	K	L	E
S	T	R	A	G	N	A	E	S	E	E	H	C	R	E
H	O	R	S	E	R	A	D	I	S	H	S	I	D	N

UMANA 2009 BIENNIAL CONVENTION



Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA)
Українське Лікарське Товариство Північної Америки (УЛТПА)

XL Scientific Convention XXXIII Assembly of Delegates

July 1 – July 5, 2009

Marriott Vancouver Pinnacle Downtown
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

10 Hours Category I CME Credit
and
Biennial UMANA Business meeting

- The UMANA convention is typically attended by physicians, dentists, pharmacists and other healthcare professionals from the United States and Canada
- Vancouver is the jewel of the Pacific Northwest; well suited for a vacation/conference location
- Plenty of time for scientific lectures as well social activities

Early Registration Deadline: APRIL 30, 2009

For program and registration forms, see
www.umana.org

For further information, call (773) 278-6262

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Monday, April 20

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will host a lecture given by John LeDonne, associate of the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard University. His lecture, "Should Cossacks Be Allowed to Sell Their Lands? A Contribution to Russo-Ukrainian Relations (1820s)," will be held at 4 p.m. in Room S-050 (Concourse Level), CGIS Building South, 1730 Cambridge St., Cambridge, MA 02138. This event is free and open to the public. For more information call 617-495-4053 or e-mail huri@fas.harvard.edu.

Tuesday, April 21

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University invites you to "Jogging," an evening with writer Andriy Bondar. Mr. Bondar is a Kyiv-based poet, translator, literary critic and publicist. This English-language event is free and open to the public. It will take place at 7 p.m. in the Harriman Atrium, 12th Floor, International Affairs Building, 420 W. 118th St., Columbia University. The event is part of the Contemporary Ukrainian Literature Series co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Studies Program at the Harriman Institute and the Kennan Institute. For more information call 212-854-4697, or write to ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu.

Thursday, April 23

WASHINGTON: The Russian Chamber Art Society presents a concert of "Beloved Ukrainian Vocal Classics" at the Embassy of Ukraine, 3350 M St. NW, Washington D.C. 20007, at 7:30 p.m. The program will feature the American premiere of the "Ballad of Chernobyl" by composer Yuriy Oliynyk to pay homage to the memory of the victims of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster, as well as arias and duets by Hulak-Artemovsky, Dankevych, Lysenko, Sonevsky and Vasylenko. These favorite pieces of the folk and classical repertoire will be performed by two outstanding Ukrainian singers, mezzo-soprano Oksana Sitnitska and baritone Oleksandr Pushniak, accompanied by pianist Vera Danchenko-Stern. Tickets at \$40 (including reception to meet the artists) must be purchased in advance. To order online go to www.thercas.com. To order by mail (before April 20) send check payable to RCAS to P.O. Box 665, Annandale, VA 22003-0665. For information call 703-354-7354 or e-mail

info@thercas.com.

Saturday, April 25

NEW YORK: The Center for Traditional Music and Dance and Ukrainian Wave present a spring Vechornytsi (Village Dance Party), 7:30 to 11 p.m. at the Ukrainian East Village Restaurant, 140 Second Ave. (between Eighth and Ninth avenues). Enjoy Carpathian mountain music by acoustic folk band Cheres, led by Andriy Milavsky. Learn folk dances such as the Hutsulka, Dribka Polka, Arkan, Pleskan and more with dance master Tamara Chernyakhovska. Dance instruction, 7:30-8:15 p.m.; dance party, 8:30-11 p.m.; \$10 for adults, \$5 for children. All ages welcome. For further information call 212-571-1555 ext. 35.

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center cordially invites you to its 29th annual banquet, featuring keynote speaker and guest Capt. Heidemarie M. Stefanyshyn-Piper (U.S. Navy), NASA astronaut. Cocktails are at 5 p.m.; the banquet with a musical program featuring the Prometheus Ukrainian American Male Chorus begins at 7 p.m. Tickets: UECC members, \$100; non-members, \$125. The center is located at 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046. For additional information call 215-663-1166 or log on to www.ueccphila.org.

Sunday, April 26

ALEXANDRIA, Va.: The Russian Chamber Art Society presents a concert "Masterpieces of Russian and Ukrainian Vocal Music – Laughter and Tears" at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314, at 7:30 p.m. The program will feature the American premiere of "Ballad of Chernobyl" by composer Yuriy Oliynyk to commemorate victims of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster, as well as operatic arias and duets by Hulak-Artemovsky, Lysenko, Sonevsky, Cui, Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff. These favorite pieces of the folk and classical repertoire will be performed by two outstanding Ukrainian singers, mezzo-soprano Oksana Sitnitska and baritone Oleksandr Pushniak, accompanied by pianist Vera Danchenko-Stern. Tickets are \$35. To order online go to www.thercas.com. To order by mail send check payable to RCAS to P.O. Box 665 Annandale, VA 22003-0665. For information call 703-354-7354 or e-mail infor@thercas.com.

Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union

Come to us for all your financial needs.

Main Office
215 Second Ave,
New York, NY
(212) 533-2980

Branches
1678 E 17 Street,
Brooklyn, NY
(718) 376-5057
1-866-857-2464

35 Main Street
So. Bound Brook, NJ
(732) 469-9085

691 Roosevelt Ave
Carteret NJ
(732) 802-0480

WWW.UOFCU.ORG

- Money Market accounts
- Higher yielding CD's
- Checking accounts
- Residential and Commercial mortgages
- New and used vehicle loans
- Personal loans
- Traditional and Roth IRA's
- Western Union and Meest money transfers
- Safe deposit boxes



Call Toll Free
1-866-859-5848

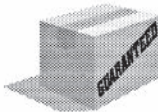
24 Hour Online
Account Access
Available

Serving the Ukrainian community for
over 40 years.



DNIPRO

26499 Ryan Rd.
Warren, MI 48091
(586)759-6563



АВІАКВИТКИ В УКРАЇНУ

Standard Food
Packages

Картки
Телефонічні
до України
\$10.⁰⁰
за 100 хвилин
безкоштовного
з'єднання

Перепишемо
відеокасети з
Європейської на
Американську
систему і навпаки

ПРОДУКТОВІ
ПАЧКИ

Пачки в країни
Балтії, Польщу,
Росію, Білорусь,
Молдову, Чехію
і Словачію

ВІЗИ І ЗАПРОШЕННЯ
до УКРАЇНИ

Ukrainian Gift Shop

11758 Mitchell
Hamtramck, MI 48212