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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## New Jersey's Gov. McGreevey hosts 1,300 Ukrainians on Independence Day



Jen Caruso/N.J. Governor's Office

**New Jersey Gov. James E. McGreevey (right) prepares to raise the Ukrainian flag with (from left) Ukrainian diplomats Volodymyr Yatsenkivskij and Valeriy Kuchinsky, Archbishop Antony and Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka.**

by Andrew Nynka

PRINCETON, N.J. — In a turnout that some state officials called a surprise, Ukrainians came out in droves for a historic flag-raising ceremony at the New Jersey governor's mansion on August 24. The event marked the first time the flag of free Ukraine flew at the governor's Drumthwacket residence since the country gained its independence 11 years ago.

Officials at Gov. James E. McGreevey's office counted approximately 1,300 guests at the event and said the attendance made a significant impact on the governor's awareness of the Ukrainian community in New Jersey.

Guests, like Zenia Brozyna of Woodridge, N.J., said they came in support of Ukraine on its Independence Day. Mrs. Brozyna, a longtime resident of New Jersey, added that, "this was the first time I could celebrate this important date together with the governor of my state."

And, by the account of many guests, the governor showed himself to be well-informed and concerned about Ukraine. "It was obvious that he took the time to find out about Ukrainians and the problems Ukrainians have had. But he also seemed knowledgeable about the things Ukraine still needed to do. He seemed very personally involved and interested in Ukrainian issues," another of the guests, Katherine Steciuk, said.

Guests called Gov. McGreevey well-informed and a dynamic speaker who gave hours of his time for Ukrainians. Mrs. Brozyna said she was "very surprised by the depth of his knowledge of Ukraine."

One official at the governor's office commented on the large turnout. Toral

Patel, the governor's deputy director of ethnic and minority affairs, said it was the largest group Gov. McGreevey had hosted during his term and added that her office had not been aware of such a large Ukrainian community in New Jersey.

Nevertheless, some guests were disappointed with the turnout and said the majority of those present were older. Dr. Steciuk added that the turnout did not truly represent the Ukrainian community. "I would have liked to have seen more youth at the event," she said.

During the two-hour program the governor noted Ukraine's long struggle for freedom and self-determination, and commended its citizens and the diaspora for upholding that fight for so many years. "We must remember to support a free and independent Ukraine," the governor said. "The battle for Ukrainian independence will not end on this anniversary celebration or any future anniversary celebration. That battle will always be there."

The governor added that Ukrainians in New Jersey played a strong role in upholding a heritage and culture that dates back over a millennium and said his administration would continue to uphold that community. He said New Jersey's education curriculum would now offer students the ability to learn about the Ukraine Famine of 1932-1933 through his famine curriculum and added that the state ethnic committee would have a Ukrainian representative.

But the governor also focused on Ukraine's future. "Let us not be fooled," he said, "we need to understand what will secure a strong, independent Ukraine is

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## Kuchma surprises nation with talk of changing Ukraine's political system

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — President Leonid Kuchma made an unexpected appearance on television as the country celebrated Ukrainian Independence Day on August 24, to announce that he was calling for a change in the political system that would give the Parliament responsibility over the government.

However, several days of negative political feedback from key political players suggested that the issue was far from resolved.

Stating that it was time to move from a "presidential-parliamentary" system to a "parliamentary-presidential" system and allow lawmakers to form a majority that would run the government, Mr. Kuchma said the change was needed to stimulate and sustain economic and political change that would help Ukraine move smoothly towards European integration.

"I am convinced there is no need to build a uniquely Ukrainian bicycle," explained the Ukrainian president. "The mechanism has long existed. It consists of a coalition government that is based on a stable parliamentary majority. The

parliamentary majority forms the coalition and is responsible for it."

President Kuchma said the changes should take place in stages with the formation of a stable parliamentary majority coming first, which he would then authorize to form a government and appoint a prime minister. That having been done, the Verkhovna Rada would then make the needed constitutional changes to give it permanent authority over the government. The current Constitution of Ukraine reserves that power exclusively for the president.

Mr. Kuchma also said he was ready to support a new electoral law that would have Ukraine's lawmakers elected on a strictly proportional (by-party) basis. The president had vetoed similar bills approved by the Parliament in the year prior to the March elections on four separate occasions.

In a 15-minute speech that began with an emphasis on revitalizing the health and education sectors of Ukraine, initiate a war on poverty and start extensive pension reform, the president also indicated that it was time to give municipalities

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## Ukraine marks 11th anniversary of independence

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — While the size and excitement of the crowds on the Khreschatyk for this year's Independence Day Parade mirrored those of years past, it was a relatively subdued celebration that Kyivans viewed on August 24, even as marching bands added a new twist to the event.

In part, the toned-down atmosphere was in response to the several tragedies that the country had suffered in the last two months, including an air disaster and several coal mine explosions, which had resulted in hundreds of deaths. Also, organizers could not have hoped to exceed the hoopla of the 10th anniversary celebrations of the previous year and the awe at the site of military hardware.

Nonetheless, Ukraine in general spared nothing as it celebrated its 11th year of independence on August 24, with commemorations held across the country in major towns and cities.

Perhaps the most notable moment of this year's traditional Khreschatyk military parade came at the onset, when Minister of Defense Volodymyr Shkidchenko, a general of the army, during the annual address to the citizens, troops and state leaders gathered on Ukraine's most renowned thoroughfare, apologized for the Ukrainian military's involvement in several accidents over the course of the last years, notably the airshow disaster at the Sknyliv Aerodrome in Lviv

on July 27.

"We ask forgiveness for the several tragedies of the last years that the armed forces failed to prevent," said Gen. Shkidchenko, speaking from the main reviewing stand with President Leonid Kuchma standing at his side, and the 60-meter-high column of independence with lady liberty perched atop it looming in the background alongside a huge blue-and-yellow trident.

"All will be done in the next years to return the faith that had been accorded the armed forces of Ukraine and to quicken the pace of military reforms," added the head of Ukraine's military.

After his address, 3,500 soldiers, cadets and plebes from the country's military installations, academies and lyceums marched up the Khreschatyk and past Independence Square where a banner proclaimed the official slogan of this year's celebrations: "Ukraine Has Happened — Today and Forever."

As the high-stepping soldiers walked off down the street, marching bands filled the area before the main review stand — 29 in all, comprising more than 1,000 military musicians — and gave a 30-minute concert of classical and marching music, with President Kuchma, Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh and other state and government leaders appreciatively clapping.

Afterwards, the president presented

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## ANALYSIS

## Why Ukraine does not have a human rights movement?

by Taras Kuzio  
RFE/RL Newsline

Ukraine has a poor human rights record, which the attainment of sovereignty has not resolved. In fact, according to international organizations, Western NGOs and governments, democratization has regressed since the late 1990s in many different areas, such as the media, and oppositionists continue to die in suspicious car accidents. Why then is there no all-Ukrainian human rights movement to counter these abuses? Two factors seem to have influenced why post-Soviet Ukraine has been unable to create a unified and visible human rights movement.

First, in the Soviet era the human rights movement in Ukraine was always tied to the national question, as it was in other non-Russian republics, such as the three Baltic states and the Transcaucasus. The combination of national and democratic demands within one movement in non-Russian republics such as Ukraine made it very different from human rights groups in the Russian SFSR that campaigned solely for democratic rights.

In the late Soviet era, this combination of national and democratic demands into one movement led to the creation of the Ukrainian National Movement (Rukh) that gradually brought together four groups: former prisoners of conscience, the cultural intelligentsia, the democratic platform of the Communist Party of Ukraine (CPU) and by 1990-1991 "sovereign communists" such as ideological secretary Leonid Kravchuk.

Rukh's ideology rested on the belief that the pursuit of human rights and democratization was possible only after independent statehood was achieved, whereby the state would actively revive and promote Ukrainian language and culture to ensure majority status within Ukrainian society. Ukraine has been independent for over a decade and yet, in some important respects, human rights are worsening, not improving.

The continued linking of human and national rights in one movement is still evident a decade after the disintegration of the USSR. The Ukrainian Association of Political Prisoners and Repressed, headed by former prisoner of conscience Yevhen Proniuk, which publishes the journal *Zona* (The Zone), has always been allied with national democratic groups such as Rukh. The same is true of the Ukrainian Memorial organization that sprung up in the late Soviet era dedicated to exposing Stalinist crimes, which was always more active in western Ukraine even though most of the crimes it investigated were committed in eastern Ukraine. The Ukrainian Legal Foundation (ULF) was founded in 1992 and is headed by former Rukh activist Serhii Holovatyi who was elected to Parliament in the March elections within the radical anti-presidential (national democratic) Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc. The ULF publishes the annual yearbook "Human Rights in Ukraine."

Some NGOs are specifically targeted at single issues, such as elections (e.g., Equal Opportunities and the Voters'

Committee) or gender, rather than all human rights as such. They operate independently of each other because they prefer to obtain access to Western funds for their own NGOs rather than through an umbrella human rights organization. Other human rights groups do exist, but they are not homegrown and are merely domestic offshoots of international organizations, such as Ukrainian branches of Amnesty International and the International Society for Human Rights. Even here, Ukraine's Amnesty International is headed by former prisoner of conscience Myroslav Marynovych, vice-rector of the Lviv Theological Academy of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and director of its Institute of Religion and Society.

With the recognition of Ukraine's borders by Russia and the absence of any separatism since the mid-1990s, Ukrainian independent statehood as such is not in danger. Nevertheless, human rights activists see the country they propelled to independence as having been hijacked by sovereign-communists-turned-centrist-oligarchs who are supported and sustained by the executive branch of government. The executive and its allies, who abuse human rights and support a corporatist-authoritarian state, are also seen to neglect Ukrainian language and culture, and prefer Ukraine to remain within Russia's sphere of influence. In the eyes of this large body of disparate human rights NGOs and opposition parties, the state has been hijacked and Ukraine needs to complete the national and democratic revolution it began a decade ago.

Centrist parties espouse support for the rule of law, human rights and conforming to "European" standards, but reality shows this is only at the level of rhetoric, because of their control by oligarchic groups who prefer a corporatist-authoritarian state. Oligarchic parties have constantly, for example, blocked attempts by Parliament to investigate the large number of presidential wrongdoings found on the tapes illicitly made in President Leonid Kuchma's office. Oligarchic domination of the political center has meant that those interested in upholding human rights and opposing Ukraine's democratic decline have joined the anti-presidential national democrats or Oleksander Moroz's Socialists.

Second, there is no all-Ukrainian human rights movement because of low levels of national integration across Ukraine. This prevents the creation of sufficient levels of trust across different regions to allow for the creation of a pan-Ukrainian civil society. In the Soviet era, western and central Ukraine produced the majority of the republic's dissidents' and Rukh was based in these same two regions. Opposition activists and demonstrators were drawn from the same two regions during Ukraine's largest demonstrations in early 2001 during the height of the "Kuchmagate" scandal. This pattern was repeated in the March elections when these regions voted for the opposition socialists and national democrats.

On all three occasions, eastern and southern Ukraine has not become involved in civil disturbances or supported human rights movements. A far deeper Soviet legacy and ambivalent national identity has made these two regions more prone to manipulation into voting for the

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Kuchma calls for broad reforms...

KYIV – In a televised address to the nation to mark the 11th anniversary of Ukraine's independence on August 24, President Leonid Kuchma said the country needs to move to a different political system – a parliamentary-presidential republic and added that the country's shift to a parliamentary-presidential republic would require changes to election legislation. The president also noted that Ukraine urgently needs a reform of territorial administration. The president also said that as of now he will be "personally responsible" for tackling four major social problems in the country: combating poverty, making health care accessible for everyone, reforming the pension system and securing high-quality education for everybody irrespective of income, the UNIAN news service reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### ... as opposition reacts with distrust

KYIV – Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko told UNIAN that President Leonid Kuchma's announcement of political reform is a populist step intended to weaken the opposition's political demands ahead of protests planned for next month. Oleksander Turchynov of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc said Mr. Kuchma's reformist proposals are "insincere" and made "out of fear" of the upcoming opposition protests. Mr. Turchynov added that the president's address lacked the main message – an announcement of his resignation. Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko said Mr. Kuchma's proposal to form a coalition government coincides with Our Ukraine's postulates, but added that "we read the notion of coalition in a different way" than the president. "I think Ukraine does not need a government formed by political forces that will be artificially herded into a parliamentary coalition," Mr. Yushchenko added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Our Ukraine may join opposition

KYIV – Yurii Kostenko, the leader of the Ukrainian National Rukh and first vice-chairman of the Our Ukraine parliamentary caucus, has said Our Ukraine may join the opposition if it fails in its efforts to create a parliamentary majority and a coalition government, the UNIAN news agency reported on August 16. "This will mean that Our Ukraine, as an opposition force, will demand the dismissal of the current government and early presidential elections, and will call for citizens' support for protest actions

against the authorities," Mr. Kostenko added. "All efforts by Our Ukraine to secure economic growth until the presidential elections [in 2004] have run against the counteraction of oligarchic clans that influence the position of the head of state," Mr. Kostenko said, adding that these words primarily refer to activists of the Social Democratic Party (United) who, he stressed, "are trying to create a so-called 'majority' without Our Ukraine." (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Our Ukraine reportedly agrees to protests

KYIV – Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz, Yulia Tymoshenko, Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko and Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko met on August 23 to discuss details of the opposition protest actions planned for next month, the UNIAN news agency reported. Mr. Moroz told UNIAN that Mr. Yushchenko had agreed to take part in the upcoming protests in September. Meanwhile, Mr. Yushchenko's spokeswoman Iryna Herashchenko told journalists that Mr. Yushchenko submitted a draft political agreement to Mr. Moroz, Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Symonenko during the meeting. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### One-third say Ukraine really independent

KYIV – The Our Ukraine website cited a recent poll by the Razumkov Center for Economic and Political Studies, according to which only 32.4 percent of respondents consider Ukraine a "really independent country" 11 years after its declaration of independence, while 56.3 percent are of the opposite opinion. Asked if they would support Ukraine's independence in a referendum today, 48.8 percent of respondents said "yes" and 33.9 percent answered "no." (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Prosecutor seeks to lift Yulia's immunity

KYIV – Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun has addressed the Verkhovna Rada with a request to lift the parliamentary immunity of opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko in connection with a criminal investigation launched against her, UNIAN reported on August 21. Prosecutors have accused Ms. Tymoshenko of embezzling funds while she headed United Energy Systems of Ukraine in 1995-1997. Other charges include forgery and abuse of office. "It's a single criminal case that touches upon activities of former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko, Yulia

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## Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization holds its first worldwide jamboree in Ukraine

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Many of them spent the first week trudging through the rain-soaked Carpathian Mountains in mud-caked boots or canoeing between the broad banks of the snaking Dnister River. Several dozen got lost near the highest mountain peak in Ukraine. The oldest pitched tents, while the youngest were given comfortable apartments at the base camp.

After seven days, however, all the participants of Plast's International Jamboree – the first to be held in Ukraine – ended up at the main camp, located on the rolling foothills outside of Lviv near the ancient feudal castle of the town of Svirzh. There, the sun finally won out over the rain and gave the participants beautiful weather for their second week, during which they celebrated 90 years of Ukrainian scouting.

More than 1,500 Ukrainian scouts, or "plastuny," age 6 to 60 and even older, spent the better part of two weeks between August 11 and 24 participating in the worldwide quinquennial jubilee jamboree of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. It was the largest Plast gathering ever in Ukraine, which proceeded under the slogan "Discovering the Ukrainian Planet."

While camping under the stars (except for the youngest, the "novatstvo," who were given housing) and taking part in various activities and celebrations, the scouts rejuvenated old friendships and developed new acquaintances. For that, after all, was one of the essential reasons for making the trek to the mountains of western Ukraine.

"For me it is a chance to meet with my friends from around the world. I have come as a counselor for our "yunatstvo" (youths age 11-17) because I wanted to help them to experience this, too," explained Lesia Tkachenko, 23, of Munich, Germany, a member of the Buryverkhy sorority, as she stood outside her mountain tent before opening ceremonies

Andrii Harmatii, director of the Plast Executive in Ukraine, said that Plast jamborees occur once every five years on the anniversary of the establishment of the scouting organization, which took place in 1911-1912, when Oleksander Tysovsky a Lviv-based educator implemented the notions and strategies of Boy Scout founder Baden Powell, based on the principles of clean mind and clean body, and formed the first scouting group in Ukraine.

"Because this occurs only once in five years, 'yunaky' have only one real chance to attend, so it is a special occasion for them. That is one reason why the jamborees are significant events," explained Mr. Harmatii. "But also they are a chance for the entire family of Plast to get better acquainted."

The Plast members, known as "plastuny," who attended the jamboree came from 12 countries ranging widely across the globe, including Australia, Canada, the United States, Poland, Germany, Spain and Argentina. The word, "plastun" comes from the old Kozak word for, what else, a scout or reconnoiterer.

By the time the last busloads had arrived in Svirzh on



Members of the special camp devoted to military preparedness, "Zvytiaha."

Sunday, 1,515 plastuny had registered for the jamboree. Mr. Harmatii estimated that about 1,700 people, including 79 Ukrainian scouts not associated with Plast as well as other guests, were in attendance.

One guest – a member of neither Plast nor any other scouting organization – was a South African who temporarily resides in Ukraine. After watching the excitement of the hustle and bustle of the first day's activities, she stated that she would definitely have to get her kids involved in Ukrainian scouting during her stay in the country.

The 14-day jamboree was divided into two significant parts. During the first week the campers broke up into 22 camps of about 40 scouts each dedicated to various aspects of the scouting experience, plus a separate camp for the youngest, the novatstvo. Some took part in ecological projects, others rock-climbing activities. Some walked the mountains and made traditional folk crafts, while still others hang-glided and para-glided. One group took part in para-military "extreme camping."

George Kuzmowycz, a member of the Chornomortsi fraternity from New York, along with 36 teen and young adults and his fellow counselors and instructors spent the



Roman Woronowycz

"Novachky" from Ternopil follow the divine liturgy in their prayer books.

week canoeing the winding Dnister River that meanders through western Ukraine.

The New York "senior plastun" said that while the river was relatively peaceful, except for a few "skittles" here and there, he enjoyed the experience.

"Most interesting for me were the two nights we stayed at the place where the first "morski tabory" (maritime camps) of Plast were held in 1927 and 1928," explained Mr. Kuzmowycz. "And I enjoyed meeting with the various Chornomortsi from throughout Ukraine."

He said the weather posed a problem to some degree, with intermittent rainstorms throughout the week proving bothersome. "We never had enough sun to really dry out our stuff," explained Mr. Kuzmowycz.

The para-military camp, called "Zvytiaha" (Conquest) offered problems of a more extreme type, but the participants well knew what they were getting into. Yunaky spent the week deprived of a normal night's sleep, once finding shelter in a cave, another time hunkering down at the side of train tracks.

"There definitely was some stuff that was risky,"

(Continued on page 23)



Plast member Dr. Bohdan Hawrylyshyn (right) with honorary "plastun" National Deputy Ihor Yukhnovsky.



"Yunachky" and "yunaky" line up in preparation for the jamboree's opening ceremonies.

## UNA resort has a new Miss Soyuzivka, or two, for its 50th anniversary jubilee year

by Sonia Semanyshyn

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Over the weekend of August 9-11 a new Miss Soyuzivka was crowned during the Ukrainian National Association estate's 50th anniversary year.

For the first time since 1956, when Tamara Sahajdachna was chosen as the first Miss Soyuzivka, there was a tie for first place in the judges' voting. The winners were Lydia Rajsz, 21, of Edison, N.J., and Michelle Odomirok, 19, of Thiells, N.Y.

Ms. Rajsz is a junior majoring in biology and working toward teacher certification at Kean University. She is a member of the Syzokryli dance troupe directed by Roma Pryma Bohachevsky.

Ms. Odomirok, a student at St. Thomas Aquinas College, is active with the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), where she is a youth counselor, and the Yunist Ukrainian Dance Ensemble.

The first runner-up was 18-year-old Christina Rajsz (yes, she's Lydia's sister), who received a free week's stay at Soyuzivka, while the second-runner up slot produced yet another tie, with Acya Fedun and Olga Olach receiving a free weekend stay at the resort.

The younger Ms. Rajsz is a freshman at Seton Hall University. She is a member of the Syzokryli and has been a youth counselor at camps held at both the Soyuzivka and Verkhovyna resorts.

Ms. Fedun, 22, hails from Rumson, N.J., and is a member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. She is active in the Ukrainian Professionals and Businesspersons Association, attended the Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute, and lists Ukrainian dancing as a hobby. She holds a B.S. from New Mexico Tech.

Seventeen-year-old Ms. Olach is a native of Lviv, Ukraine, who now resides in Brooklyn, N.Y. She is active at The Ukrainian Museum in New York City and is a graduate of St. George Academy. Her hobbies include Ukrainian dancing.

The weekend's events began on Friday evening with music of a different sort in the Trembita Lounge. The Saints of Swing, a seven-piece band, featuring vocalist Rene Bailey, is an extraordinary collective of some of the area's finest musicians, specializing in swing, spicy New Orleans-style Dixieland, down-and-dirty blues and even foot-stomping Gospel. Their performance was a new

experience at Soyuzivka.

The next day was a beautiful Saturday, and guests enjoyed being outside, hiking, swimming or just lounging around on the Veselka Patio (luckily it was not one of those blisteringly hot and humid days the region had been exposed to earlier in the week). Everyone's spirits were high.

As the day progressed, contest coordinator Stephanie Hawryluk received applications from some beautiful young ladies. (There were a couple of gentlemen trying to sneak into the contest ...) By the start of the judging session there were seven Miss Soyuzivka hopefuls.

The judges had a difficult time reaching a verdict, as all the applicants were very highly qualified and lovely young ladies with Dean's List or National Honor Society credentials. The deliberations took well into the evening and not until 12:30 a.m. were the winners announced.

During the judges' deliberations the well-known and loved Tempo orchestra played for the guests' enjoyment, while the students and counselors from dance camp under the direction of Ms. Pryma-Bohachevsky entertained everyone with a rousing "Kolomyika."

The judges this year included a celebrity guest judge, Michelle Metrisko Rollins. As Miss U.S.A., she represented the United States in the Miss World contest in London in 1964. In 1965 she judged her first Miss Soyuzivka contest with Ukrainian American actors Jack Palance and Mike Mazurki.

Alex Chudolij, a former UNA adviser and district chairman for Rhode Island; Bohdanka Puzyk, children's activities director at Soyuzivka; and Marianka Wasylyk, Miss Soyuzivka 1993 and the emcee for the evening's program, rounded out the panel of judges.

Both young ladies chosen to share the crown of Miss Soyuzivka are the recipients of \$ 500 stipends (\$500 was provided by the UNA and a matching \$500 came from an anonymous donor) and a week's vacation at Soyuzivka.

The management and staff of Soyuzivka and the UNA thanked all the young ladies for their participation in the Miss Soyuzivka festivities, and the judges and Mrs. Hawryluk for their hard work and efforts that ensured the pageant's smooth functioning. A special thank you went to Mrs. Rollins and her family for honoring Soyuzivka with their presence.



Tanya Sigura

UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj in the traditional waltz with new Miss Soyuzivka Lydia Rajsz – one of the two young ladies selected for this honor this year.



The second Miss Soyuzivka, Michelle Odomirok, dances with the resort's manager, John A. Flis.



Three of the judges and the contest coordinator (from left): Michelle Metrisko Rollins, Alex Chudolij, Stephanie Hawryluk and Bohdanka Puzyk.



Runners-up for the Miss Soyuzivka title (from left): Christina Rajsz, Acya Fedun and Olga Olach.

# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## Anne Remick, former UNA advisor and Boston community activist, dies

BOSTON – On August 2, the Boston Ukrainian community lost one of its life-long activists. Anne Remick passed away suddenly and unexpectedly in her home at the age of 79.

She left her devoted son, Robert, his wife, Joyce, and her twin granddaughters, Tina and Lisa, along with many relatives and friends. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Mrs. Remick was elected to two terms as supreme adviser of the Ukrainian National Association. She also served as financial secretary-treasurer of UNA Branch 238 for over 30 years.

Mrs. Remick and her late husband, Michael, were very active in St. Andrew's Ukrainian Church and both were members of the church choir. They were married for 57 years and were a very devoted, loving couple. Sadly, a part of Mrs. Remick died when her husband passed away.

Father Andre Partykevich, pastor of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Boston, noted after the very moving funeral liturgy that now Anne will be with Michael for eternity, and is making a place for the rest of us who will follow and again be joined in the hereafter.

Mrs. Remick was laid to rest next to her husband in the Ukrainian Grove at Mount Hope Cemetery in Boston. Following the service at the cemetery, family and friends returned to the church hall for the traditional farewell luncheon.

Joseph Charyna, a longtime officer of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association, spoke of Mrs. Remick's fraternal accomplishments and mentioned that through

the years they were friendly competitors – the fact that they were officers in different fraternal organizations never interfered with their friendship.

At the closing of the luncheon, choir director Eugene Moroz and Mr. Charyna sang one of the Remicks' favorite songs, "Chuyesh Brate Mii" (The Cranes Depart).

Robert Remick thanked family and friends for attending the funeral. He said he was saddened and would greatly miss his Mom, but knew she was happy that she was once again with his Dad.



Anne Remick in a favorite photo.

## Stefania Fedyk, secretary of Branch 292, dies at 85

DETROIT – Stefania Fedyk, secretary of Ukrainian National Association Branch 292 for 14 years, died here on July 7 at the age of 85.

Mrs. Fedyk was born on August 26, 1916, in Toronto. She joined the UNA in 1940 and became secretary of Branch 292, St. John the Baptist Society, in 1978, serving in that post until 1992.

Surviving are her daughters, Joanne (Ivanna) Orlyk and Gloria (Slava) Siers; sons-in-law, John Orlyk and Paul Siers; grandchildren, Jane and Julianne Orlyk, and Gregory, Brian and Kari Siers; as well as two sisters, Katie Dittmar of Burlington, Ontario, and Anne Kowalsky of Montreal.

Family and friends of Mrs. Fedyk bid her a final farewell on July 10 during the funeral liturgy at St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church in Dearborn, Mich. Burial followed at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights.



Stefania Fedyk

## UNA donation provides financial support to Ukrainian American Youth Association



Roma Hadzewycz

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Ukrainian National Association President Stefan Kaczaraj (right) presents a UNA donation to Petro Kosciolk, general manager of the Ukrainian American Youth Association's resort (known as "SUM Oselia") in Ellenville, N.Y. The donation was toward the New Camp Mortgage Fund. The SUM Oselia annually hosts hundreds of youths at half a dozen camps geared for children age 3 to 17.



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### Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

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

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

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### A community on the move

Since 1980, when the U.S. Census first asked residents of the United States about their ancestry, as well as about the language spoken at home other than English, Ukrainian Americans have been able to get a glimpse of ethnic identification and assimilation processes, as well as immigration.

A stalwart contributor to The Ukrainian Weekly, demographer Oleh Wolowyna, who has been analyzing each successive census's results, explained to readers that the 1980 questionnaire asked respondents to identify with an ancestry no matter how many generations removed they were from that ancestry or their homeland. Furthermore, the 1980 Census recognized that there is a high degree of intermarriage in this country and, therefore, allowed respondents to list more than one ancestry. As a result, we learned that there are 730,056 persons who named Ukrainian as their ancestry – 52.2 percent of them declared Ukrainian as their single ancestry, while 47.8 percent listed Ukrainian in addition to another ancestry. Those results came closer to identifying the true number of Ukrainians in this country than did the 1970 Census, which allowed researchers to determine only that 250,000 respondents nationwide considered Ukrainian as their “mother tongue” (i.e., the language spoken at home).

Writing in 1983 about the results of the 1980 Census, Dr. Wolowyna was truly excited about the prospects that the availability of this data provided. Language retention, intermarriage, assimilation, ethnic identification and community cohesiveness, he explained, were just some of the topics that could be elucidated by researching census data. And these, he underscored, should be crucial for our community organizations and institutions as they plan ahead and determine how best to serve the Ukrainian American community. On the basis of the 1980 figures, Dr. Wolowyna could state, for example, that language retention among Ukrainians is quite low – only 17 percent for all those who consider themselves at least partly Ukrainian. However, considering the immigration history of Ukrainians, when compared with Eastern European groups with similar experiences, Ukrainians have the highest level of language retention, he observed.

The 1990 Census showed a 1.5 percent increase in the number of Ukrainians in the United States to a total of 740,803. Dr. Wolowyna accounted for the increase by citing some immigration of Ukrainians to this country and an increase in ethnic awareness due to transformations then occurring in the Soviet Union.

Ten years later, the 2000 U.S. Census – coming after the declaration of Ukraine's independence and the disintegration of the Soviet Union – has revealed an extraordinary growth in the number of Ukrainians. Today there are 893,055 of us in the United States – a growth of 20.6 percent. In terms of the number of people, there are 152,252 more Ukrainians here than there were a decade earlier. And, there is fascinating information about where these Ukrainians live. For example, three states, New York, California and Washington, saw increases in their population that amount to five digits – from over 19,000 to over 27,000. And there are other surprises, too.

Looking at the Census figures from 1970 through 2000, Dr. Wolowyna has noted a significant trend: some of the states with the largest concentrations of Ukrainians tended to lose Ukrainians, e.g., Pennsylvania, while many of the states with relatively large increases of Ukrainians between 1990 and 2000 are states that until recently had very few Ukrainians, indicating a continuing geographic dispersion of Ukrainians in the U.S. (We direct our readers' attention to Dr. Wolowyna's article on page 9 of this issue.) Next year, our expert notes, there will be even more detailed information available about who all these Ukrainians are, and the data can be analyzed on the country, state and local levels.

Indeed, we are a dynamic community and a community on the move. All of the data gathered by the U.S. Census could be quite useful for the future of the Ukrainian American community. It would behoove our community leaders, organizations and institutions to take note of where their members – and potential members – live today, and to adopt appropriate programs to establish and maintain contact with them. All of us could only benefit from such study, planning and foresight.

Sept.  
1  
1991

### Turning the pages back...

“The Ukrainian SSR no longer exists. Its legal government has abolished Soviet power, seized the property of the Communist Party and declared that now there is an independent Ukraine.”

These were the words written on September 1, 1991, by Dr. James E. Mace, a historian, former staff director of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine and expert on Soviet policy toward Ukraine in the 1920s and 1930s.

However, Dr. Mace cautioned 11 years ago, “this is only a beginning, and the storm clouds are already peeking over the horizon. Let us hope they will pass, but let us be prepared that they do not.”

Dr. Mace went on to comment:

“We must defend not only Ukraine's right to self-determination, which it has decided to exercise in the context of strict observance of the rights of all nations inhabiting its territory, but also its right to dispose of its resources, including foodstuffs, on the basis of its national interests and economic fairness. We must oppose all double standards, like those President [George] Bush seems to have in mind, calling for Ukraine to one-sidedly assume obligations to other republics without reciprocal guarantees. ...

“And most of all, we must do everything in our power to encourage the continued democratic evolution of Ukraine's politics, a process still only half-realized. When Ukraine declared its independence in its Fourth Universal on January 22, 1918, it did so as a democracy, committed to social justice and the strict protection of the rights of all its inhabitants, Ukrainians, Russians, Poles and Jews alike. Let us hope that the declaration of August 24, 1991, will lead to the fulfillment of the aspirations of the Fourth Universal.”

Source: “Ukraine in the news: Storm clouds on the horizon the demise of the Ukrainian SSR” by Dr. James E. Mace, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, September 1, 1991, Vol. LIX, No. 35.

## FOR THE RECORD

### President Leonid Kuchma's address to the people of Ukraine

*Following is the text of the televised address of President Leonid Kuchma to the people of Ukraine on August 24, on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of Ukraine's independence. The English-language translation was provided on August 26 by the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington.*

Fellow countrymen!

Today, which is the 11th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, I would like not only to greet you on the occasion of the holiday and assess the path we have come through, but also express my view on the need to embrace a new phase in the development of our statehood.

We are now into the second decade of Ukraine's independence. We face new tasks that require new solutions. In a few minutes I will dwell extensively on these tasks.

Today's holiday has been overshadowed by the tragic events of the last few months, namely the coal mining accidents and the air show tragedy in Lviv that took lives of many of our compatriots. We bow our heads in their memory and share the grief with their families and loved ones. We should do everything to avoid such tragedies from happening ever again in Ukraine.

Today I laid flowers at the monuments to St. Volodymyr the Great, Taras Shevchenko and Mykhailo Hrushevskiy. These are the people who personify the Ukrainian people's aspiration to statehood. Today we should also remember the personality who first announced and laid down the foundations for the slogan of state independence of our country, the important western Ukrainian humanist, Yulian Bachynskiy.

We also remember the painful lessons of Ukraine's history – the destructive impacts of the Ottoman period, the wave of revolution, and senseless uprisings and violence. There were three times when Ukraine fought for its independence. But the disagreements of politicians and their inability to work constructively twice cost us the loss of Ukraine's statehood. For the third time, at the end of the 20th century, Ukrainian politicians had enough wisdom not to repeat these mistakes.

For the last 11 years we have come through a long and difficult path. We survived a terrible economic crisis, destruction of the social infrastructure and the loss of our valuable guideposts.

At the same time, over this period we formed our statehood and institutions of power, and managed to restructure the economy. We also created our own monetary unit, our own army, as well as our law and order structures.

Today Ukraine's independence is not a subject for discussion. Our state has gained international authority and is actively integrating into European and Euro-Atlantic structures, while at the same time developing good relations with our neighbors, primarily Russia.

We can be proud of the fact that throughout these years Ukraine has remained a center of civil peace; it has avoided acute civil conflicts, tanks and barricades in the streets of the capital. Ukraine has already carried out a peaceful transition of power from one president to another; and I have no doubt that it will do so again at a time specified by the Constitution.

Today we can say with certainty that the

(Continued on page 20)

### Embassy's press release on the anniversary of Ukraine's independence proclamation

*The following press released was issued by the Embassy of Ukraine on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of the independence of Ukraine.*

Ukraine celebrates the 11th anniversary of its independence with positive achievements in domestic and foreign policy.

In the political sphere, there is the stable development of Ukraine according to the principles of further democratization of society. The victory of democratic forces in the elections to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine has served as a cogent argument in support of this statement.

In the economic sphere, there is the further growth of macroeconomic indices. In particular, in 2001 the GDP increase was 9 percent, being one of the highest among the countries of the region.

The foreign policy of Ukraine can be characterized by three main factors. They are: the policy directed toward European integration, commitment to becoming a member of NATO, and participation in combating international terrorism.

On June 18, Leonid Kuchma, the president of Ukraine, addressed the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine with the message “Conceptual Principles of the Strategy of Economic and Social Development of Ukraine for 2002-2011: European Choice.” In his message the president defined the national policy of Ukraine for the next decade on bringing relationships between Ukraine and the European Union to a new level.

Cooperation with the North Atlantic

Treaty Organization is very dynamic. The decision of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine concerning the intention to become a member of NATO has logically continued the path taken by our country for 10-year cooperation with NATO.

Ukraine actively participates in the global anti-terrorist coalition. The international community has highly appraised the steps taken by Ukraine in combating international terrorism.

One of the top priorities of the foreign policy of Ukraine is active participation in the activities of the United Nations and other international organizations that was recognized by Kofi Annan, the secretary general of the U.N., who admitted the significance of the contribution of Ukraine to the activity of the United Nations.

Cooperation on regional and sub-regional levels is an important direction of Ukraine's foreign policy strategy. The activity of GUUAM has been intensified. The recently signed agreement on a free trade zone has become the substantial economic foundation for cooperation within this organization. Ukraine has initiated the agreement on cooperation in the field of combating terrorism, organized crime and other violations.

Ukraine celebrates its 11th anniversary of independence with confidence in the correctness of its policy toward the development of a democratic state as an open and constructive partner in international cooperation.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Two artists key to Hunter church

Dear Editor:

Your otherwise excellent article citing the 40th anniversary commemoration of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Hunter, N.Y., (August 25) is flawed in one important respect. It fails to credit two of the principal contributors to this excellent achievement – an omission probably due to ignorance on the part of the new leadership at the parish. Be, that as it may, the noted Ukrainian sculptor Mychailo Cheresniowsky and the painter Petro Cholodnyj are not mentioned at all in the article.

Mr. Cheresniowsky built and carved the beautiful iconostasis, altar and candelabra hanging from the ceiling, as well as executed all other carving inside and outside the church. As Mr. Cheresniowsky was my teacher and friend, I was a witness to much of this effort which, by the way, was done at cost by the artist.

Mr. Cholodnyj, perhaps one of the greatest Ukrainian artists of recent times, painted the excellent and unique icons.

The interior of the church is the real gem of this structure – its soul, so to speak – and it has been praised by critics and the literally thousands of visitors who have visited the church and recorded their comments in the visitors' log book.

Mr. Cheresniowsky's carvings in particular, are the most superb examples

of this art form that I have ever seen – including those that have managed to survive in Ukraine. He was able to apply and merge the traditional motifs of regional Carpathian folk carving with his own unique vision of form and design, thus helping elevate this style to a new and higher level.

Both artists are no longer with us, and it would seem that they deserve at least an honorable mention.

**Orest Pokladok**  
Jersey City, N.J.

### Congratulations on Hunter article

Dear Editor:

Let me congratulate The Weekly on an excellent article about St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Hunter, N.Y. (August 25). I have travelled through Hunter many times, especially to and from the Hunter ski area. Regrettably, I could never find the church open nor, of course, attend a service there. Could you please publish an addendum and list the times when the church is open and at what time do they have the Sunday service?

**Dr. Ivan Pelech**  
Morris Plains, N.J.

*Editor's note: Sunday liturgy is celebrated at the church at 10 a.m.*

## OPEN LETTER

### Ukrainian students, Gongadze Foundation schedule "Requiem 2000: Face the Truth!"

*Below is the text of an open letter from "Requiem 2002: Face the Truth!" – an action to commemorate the journalists and political activists who have perished in Ukraine in the past 10 years.*

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Forum of Ukrainian Students in America and the Gongadze Foundation, we invite you to join a series of commemorative events "Requiem 2002: Face the Truth!" that will take place on September 15-16, in Washington, and other cities across the United States and Europe.

The events are organized on the date of the disappearance and murder of Ukrainian journalist Heorhii Gongadze as a tribute to the Ukrainian journalists and political activists who perished as a result of their professional activities over the last decade. The goal of the events is to draw public attention to the suppression of freedom and democracy in Ukraine, and to the reluctance of the Ukrainian authorities to investigate crimes against independent political activists.

The events will include memorial services in Ukrainian Orthodox, Russian Orthodox and Ukrainian Catholic churches across the United States on the morning of September 15, a meeting-

requiem and candlelight vigil at Taras Shevchenko park (22nd and P streets) in Washington on September 15 at 6-9 p.m., an open letter to the President of the United States George W. Bush, and student rallies in front of Ukrainian embassies and consulates in Washington, New York, Chicago, London, Paris, Berlin, and Prague on September 16.

The meeting-requiem and candlelight vigil are supported by Freedom House and the Committee to Protect Journalists. Among other participants of the meeting will be representatives of the U.S. Congress, international human rights organizations, and American and Ukrainian political and civic activists.

Detailed information about all events may be found on the official website of "Requiem 2002: Face the Truth!" located at [www.gongadze.org](http://www.gongadze.org).

Only together will we be able to protect democratic freedoms in Ukraine, and thus fulfill our debt to those who gave their lives trying to make Ukraine free.

On behalf of the organizing committee:

**Myroslava Gongadze**  
Gongadze Foundation  
([myroslava@gongadze.org](mailto:myroslava@gongadze.org))

**Serhiy Kudelia**  
Forum of Ukrainian Students in America  
([skudelia@sais-jhu.edu](mailto:skudelia@sais-jhu.edu))

## INDEPENDENCE DAY AT DRUMTHWACKET: A presentation of the brief history of Ukraine

*Following is the full text of the "Brief History of Ukraine" read to Gov. James McGreevey of New Jersey and those gathered at Drumthwacket, the governor's mansion, for the Ukrainian Independence Day celebrations on Saturday, August 24.*

by **Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky**

Upon regaining independence in 1991, Ukraine became one of Europe's largest countries with a population of 50 million and a territorial size exceeding that of Germany or France. Its neighbors include Poland to the west and Russia to the north and east. To the south is the Black Sea.

Ukraine traces its political ancestry to Kyivan Rus', which between the ninth and the 12th centuries consolidated the East Slavic tribes into one of the largest and most prosperous medieval states in Europe based in Ukraine's present capital, Kyiv. Under the leadership of Grand Prince Volodymyr the Great, Ukraine accepted Christianity from Byzantium in 988. Reflecting the zenith of the Kyivan state's power and influence, the daughters of its ruler Yaroslav the Wise (1036-1054) were married to the kings of France, Norway and Hungary. Because Ukraine had accepted Christianity from Byzantium, when the Christian world ruptured between Rome and Byzantium in the 11th century, Ukraine became Orthodox.

Kyivan Rus' was weakened by political infighting and then destroyed by the Mongol invasions of the 13th century. Beginning in the 15th century and continuing for centuries, Ukraine became subject to partial or total foreign rule, mainly by Poland and then Muscovy, the precursor of Russia.

Importantly, however, under Polish and Polish-Lithuanian rule, and in stark contrast to life in Muscovy-Russia, nobles in Ukraine, including ethnic Ukrainian nobles, enjoyed broad political freedoms, and it was possible in Ukraine to establish the first two institutions of higher learning in Europe anywhere east of Poland: namely, the Ostroh Academy (1578), where instruction was in Church Slavonic, Greek and Latin, and whose curriculum included theology, philosophy, medicine and the natural sciences; and the Mohyla Collegium in Kyiv (1632), where instruction was mainly in Latin, Church Slavonic and Polish, and which focused on the classics, philosophy and theology.

In the mid-16th century, serfdom – a form of slavery in which nobles became owners of large tracts of land of which the serfs were considered appendages – was imposed upon Ukraine. Some men tried to flee such bondage by running away to the wild southern regions of Ukraine, the steppes, that then were beyond any political governance and were subject to frequent Tatar raids, whose purpose was the capture of people for sale into slavery in Asia. These men established quasi-military colonies of freemen called Kozaks, who chose their leader by vote and whose main base of operations was an island in the Dnipro River named Zaporizhia. In the early 17th century, formations of these Kozaks sacked numerous Turkish fortresses on the Black Sea and beyond, including an audacious raid on Constantinople in

1615. The purpose of these raids was to free slaves and to obtain booty.

In 1648 the Kozaks' leader Bohdan Khmelnytsky led a successful but bloody revolution against Polish domination that came close to establishing a Ukrainian political state, but to gain an ally against Poland and the Turks, Khmelnytsky signed a treaty with Muscovy, which Muscovy then used as a pretext gradually to impose its dominion over central and eastern Ukraine. With the 18th century conquest of Poland by Germany, Austria and Russia, western Ukraine came to be ruled by the Austro-Hungarian empire in Vienna.

In 1596 at the Union of Brest, a segment of Ukrainian clergy and bishops recognized the pope's supremacy in return for their right to maintain all of their Eastern rituals and rites, thereby creating what later became the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The most important single figure in modern Ukrainian history is Taras Shevchenko (1814-1861), an orphaned serf whose freedom was purchased in adulthood and who in his eloquent and moving poetry railed against both Russian social and political oppression, as well as tried to mobilize his downtrodden countrymen into action. For his troubles, the tsar sent him into exile for 10 years and then forbade his return to Ukraine, but his words – exhorting Ukrainians to find their own George Washington and calling for liberation and enlightenment – have been a beacon to Ukrainians for over 150 years.

The formation of modern Ukraine owes much to the experience of western Ukrainians under Austrian rule between 1772 and 1918: serfdom was abolished in 1848; and Ukrainian peasants were able to participate in elections to local legislatures and to the Parliament in Vienna. Most importantly, they lived in a state that tried to observe the rule of law. Ukrainians were also able to form their own political parties, and social, cultural, religious and women's organizations with mass membership. In contrast, Ukrainians living under the Russian tsars enjoyed nothing of the kind. Even the teaching of Ukrainian in village schools was forbidden.

Amidst World War I and the resulting disintegration of the Russian and Austro-Hungarian empires, Ukraine declared independence in 1918, but had to fight on two separate fronts: Lenin's Red Army invaded from the north and forcibly incorporated the eastern three-quarters of Ukraine into the Soviet Union, and western Ukraine was occupied by Poland after a bloody Polish-Ukrainian war.

As part of a large-scale genocidal campaign against Ukraine, Stalin and his henchmen caused the "Holodomor," an artificially created terror-famine in 1932-1933 during which 4 million to 7 million Ukrainian farmers were killed. In addition, the Soviets destroyed both the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (1930) and later the Ukrainian Catholic Church (1946).

Ukraine was devastated during World War II; it lost an astonishing 8 million to 12 million people. The Nazis planned to use Ukraine for German colonization and embarked upon a policy of enslavement and mass murder. The UPA (Ukrainian Insurgent Army), a guerrilla army formed in the early 1940s, fought both the Germans and the Red Army. Other Ukrainians were drafted into the Red Army. With the Red Army's conquest of

*Bohdan Vitvitsky is a lawyer, writer and lecturer who holds a Ph.D. in philosophy and is a longtime contributor to The Ukrainian Weekly.*

(Continued on page 15)

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.

## Inaugural Youth Leadership Conference gives students an up-close view of Washington

by Andrew Nynka

WASHINGTON – Vadim Ostrovsky is young, 22, and curious. His classmates laugh and seem embarrassed when the time comes for them to ask questions but, giggling happily, they turn to Vadim – they say he always has questions to ask.

If an answer comes back unclear to Vadim he continues asking, undaunted and nearly relentless. His questions prod for more depth; they spring quickly with a sense of innocence and curiosity. Vadim, like his classmates, wants to learn more about life here in Washington.

Vadim's questions, direct and sharp, can be uncomfortably straightforward.

But organizers of the first annual Youth Leadership Conference that brought Vadim and 12 other students here to Washington say that's exactly the point. "It's here in D.C. that you could do something like this," said John Kun, vice-president of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation.

When Vadim recently questioned three Washington political aides on the need for congressional caucuses, he said, as he attempted to paraphrase their explanations: "So this group is like a hobby – I still don't understand completely what the caucus does." While the aides, looking at each other for support, maintained the need for a caucus, his classmates smiled uncomfortably during the interaction – Vadim seemed unsatisfied and unconvinced.

Later that day, Mr. Kun said "the point of the program was to give students an opportunity to interact with the Washington system, to experience the public policy process and to develop an understanding of how to take a more active role."

Staff at the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation – which developed and hosted the August 3-9 program – said the 13 students, some like Vadim and some more timid, did exactly that.

Their interactions included meetings with lobbyists, former ambassadors, congressmen and congressional staffers, NGOs, as well as Ukrainian priests and social organizations in Washington. They were given the opportunity to visit many of Washington's political establishments, such as the Kennan Institute and the Young Republican National Federation. They also attended a viewing of CNN's "Crossfire" TV program.

Many of the students, like Kristen King of Toledo, Ohio, called their experience unique and said they were pleased with the week's program. Ms. King, who is not Ukrainian, added that it was her interest in Ukraine that got her to apply for the leadership course.

Mr. Kun characterized the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's debut program, billed as the Youth Leadership Conference 2002, as a success. He also added a different perspective of the program's result, saying that it was just as important for all of the people with whom



Youth Leadership Conference participants with Ambassador Eric Edelman of the Office of the Vice-President of the United States, who spoke on international relations.



The students with Judge Bohdan Futey at the U.S. Court of Federal Claims.

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**Total: \$1,175.00**

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### WEEKLY PRESS FUND: A SPECIAL REPORT

Nestor and Ivanka Olesnycky Maplewood, N.J.

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This donation to The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund was received during the month of July along with payments for "The Ukrainian Weekly 2000," Volume II.



# Official statistics on the number of Ukrainians in the United States: 2000 Census results

by Oleh Wolowyna

Last year I presented estimates on the number of Ukrainians in the United States. These numbers were based on the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, and I cautioned readers that these were not yet the definite numbers.

Recently 2000 census data on ancestry became available, and there are some differences from the previous numbers. These data should be considered the official numbers and are likely to be the most accurate estimates available on the number of Ukrainians living in the U.S. in the year 2000. Here we present only totals by state.

More detailed data, by first or second ancestry, use of Ukrainian language in the home, as well as characteristics like age, sex, place of birth, etc., will become available next year.

It should be noted that these numbers are the result of the question "What is this person's ancestry?" One had the option of stating one or two ancestries (for persons with parents of different ancestries). This means that the meaning of "Ukrainians" is based on self-reporting; each person had complete freedom to decide on how to answer this question. Also this question was asked, on the average, in one of every six households; that is, the data is based on a sample of about 16.7 percent of the total population and has been adjusted to 100 percent.

The total number of Ukrainians in the United States in 2000 was estimated at 893,055 by the census, compared to the 862,416 estimated by the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey.

As the number of Ukrainians was 740,803 in 1990, there was an increase of 152,252 (or 20.6 percent) in the last decade. As the natural growth (number of births minus number of deaths) of Ukrainians in the United States is quite small, most of this growth was due to net migration (number of in- minus out-migrants). If we add the fact that there is a well-documented strong assimilation process, i.e., as time goes by more persons of Ukrainian ancestry decide not state "Ukrainian" as their ancestry, this growth is quite remarkable. On the other hand, it is quite likely that some persons who did not report "Ukrainian" as their ancestry in 1990 were influenced by the fact of Ukraine's independence and decided to declare themselves "Ukrainian" in the 2000 Census.

Table 1 presents the number of Ukrainians by state, and compares 2000 data with 1990 census figures. One interesting result is that New York, which occupied the second place in 1990, became the No. 1 state in 2000, with almost 150,000 Ukrainians, or 16.7 percent of all Ukrainians in the U.S., while Pennsylvania moved to second place. New York gained 27,500 persons between 1990 and 2000, while Pennsylvania lost about 7,500. Also, California and New Jersey switched ranks, with California moving from fourth to third place.

With a few minor changes in ranking, the eight states with the largest numbers of Ukrainians have remained the same: New York, Pennsylvania, California, New Jersey, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan and Florida. As shown in the last column of Table 1, the first five states host more than half of all Ukrainians in the United States. With the exception of Pennsylvania and New Jersey (which had practically no growth), the other six states experienced

(Continued on page 19)

*Oleh Wolowyna is president of Informed Decisions Inc. based in Chapel Hill, N.C. A demographer, he has written previously for The Ukrainian Weekly about the U.S. Census and Ukrainians in the United States.*

**Table 1.- Number of Persons of Ukrainian Ancestry, 2000 and 1990 Census Data (First 25 States)**

State	2000 Census		1990 Census		Change 1990-2000	Cumulative % for 2000
	Rank	Ukrainians	Rank	Ukrainians		
<b>United States</b>		<b>893,055</b>		<b>740,803</b>	<b>152,252</b>	
New York	1	148,700	2	121,113	27,587	16.7%
Pennsylvania	2	122,291	1	129,753	-7,462	30.3%
California	3	83,125	4	56,211	26,914	39.7%
New Jersey	4	73,809	3	73,935	-126	47.9%
Illinois	5	47,623	7	38,414	9,209	53.2%
Ohio	6	47,228	6	43,569	3,659	58.5%
Michigan	7	46,350	5	43,914	2,436	63.7%
Florida	8	42,754	8	33,792	8,962	68.5%
Washington	9	30,057	14	10,814	19,243	71.9%
Connecticut	10	23,457	9	23,711	-254	74.5%
Massachusetts	11	22,616	10	17,500	5,116	77.0%
Maryland	12	20,014	11	15,872	4,142	79.3%
Texas	13	15,574	12	13,094	2,480	81.0%
Virginia	14	15,056	13	12,321	2,735	82.7%
Oregon	15	14,711	20	6,220	8,491	84.4%
Minnesota	16	14,356	15	10,691	3,665	86.0%
Arizona	17	10,817	16	8,471	2,346	87.2%
Colorado	18	10,709	17	6,984	3,725	88.4%
North Carolina	19	9,607	23	4,897	4,710	89.5%
Georgia	20	9,197	21	4,967	4,230	90.5%
Indiana	21	8,118	19	6,379	1,739	91.4%
Wisconsin	22	8,032	18	6,783	1,249	92.3%
Missouri	23	6,228	24	4,766	1,462	93.0%
Delaware	24	5,097	22	4,950	147	93.6%
Nevada	25	3,982	27.5	2,434	1,548	94.0%

Source: 1990 and 2000 US Census

**Table 2.- Number of Persons of Ukrainian Ancestry, 2000 and 1990 Census Data (States ranked 26 and higher)**

State	2000 Census		1990 Census		Change 1990-2000
	Rank	Ukrainians	Rank	Ukrainians	
North Dakota	26	3,815	25	3,634	181
Tennessee	27	3,786	31	2,063	1,723
New Hampshire	28	3,457	27.5	2,434	1,023
Rhode Island	29	3,331	26	3,530	-199
South Carolina	30	3,207	29	2,266	941
Kansas	31	2,557	30	2,075	482
Kentucky	32	2,444	34	1,582	862
Utah	33	2,304	44	1,062	1,242
Oklahoma	34	2,178	32	1,969	209
Maine	35	2,059	40	1,328	731
Iowa	36	2,021	39	1,356	665
Nebraska	37	1,994	42	1,161	833
Montana	38	1,986	37	1,478	508
Idaho	39	1,957	47	906	1,051
New Mexico	40	1,821	36	1,512	309
West Virginia	41	1,806	35	1,514	292
Alabama	42	1,799	33	1,585	214
Louisiana	43	1,702	38	1,391	311
Vermont	44	1,656	45	978	678
Alaska	45	1,580	46	962	618
Arkansas	46	1,295	48	870	425
Hawaii	47	1,270	41	1,234	36
D. C.	48	1,247	43	1,082	165
South Dakota	49	875	51	391	484
Mississippi	50	723	49	480	243
Wyoming	51	572	50	405	167

\* The number of Ukrainians in Puerto Rico was 150 in 2000; no comparable 1990. data were available.

# Ukrainian Canadian leaders discuss redress issue with minister

TORONTO – Representatives of the Ukrainian Canadian community, Andrew Hladyshevsky, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko and chair of the Interment Committee of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress; Dr. Lubomyr Y. Luciuk, director of research, Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association; and Alexandra Chyczij, a member of the Justice Committee of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and a local constituent; met on August 23 with Member of Parliament Jean Augustine, secretary of state for multiculturalism, and three senior members of the departments of Canadian Heritage and Justice, to begin the process of resolving the community's call for the recognition of Canada's first national internment operations and their impact on Canadians of Ukrainian and

other East European origins. During an hourlong meeting, the minister indicated a willingness to move the issue forward within her own ministry, Canadian Heritage, and others, including Parks Canada, Veteran's Affairs, Justice and other affected government departments, and to do so in the near future. Although Minister Augustine did not specify a time line, she did pledge to meet with key ministers in September and to initiate consultations as soon as possible.

Further meetings with the Ukrainian Canadian community have been committed to and the minister reaffirmed, in principle, her support for elements of Bill C-331, the Ukrainian Canadian Restitution Act. She also indicated she would consult Inky Mark, MP for Dauphin-Swan River,

Manitoba, the author of the bill.

Following the meeting, Mr. Hladyshevsky, chair of the delegation, said: "We were encouraged by the minister's understanding of the issues and her commitment to consultation and negotiation with the Ukrainian Canadian community. We finally believe that this government will resolve our community's requests in a timely and honourable fashion."

Over the past several months, discussions between the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association have resulted in the development of a consensus as to the community's position on acknowledgement and redress. A final proposal from the Ukrainian Canadian community will be placed before Minister Augustine in October.

# Ceremonies to mark consecration anniversary of UOC-U.S.A. grounds

by Hieromonk Daniel

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J. – A celebration of the 50th anniversary of the consecration of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church's Metropolia Grounds will take place on Saturday, September 28. The day will begin at 9 a.m. with thanks to God for His many blessings upon the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. during a hierarchal divine liturgy.

Following divine liturgy there will be a moleben and at 11:30 a.m. the blessing of an apostolic prayer trail, which will wind its way through the property returning to a central Shrine of the Transfiguration on the green in front of St. Andrew Memorial Church. The theme of the prayer trail will be "personal transfiguration." It will consist of the central shrine and 14 cross/icon shrines, each of which will house an icon of the Apostles, including Ss. Volodymyr and Olha, who are considered equal to the apostles. By their example Ss. Volodymyr and Olha transfigured or transformed the Ukrainian nation into a Christ-loving people and Rus'-Ukraine into a renowned spiritual center of the Christian world after the state's baptism on the nation in 988.

The individual pilgrim will walk the path of this prayer trail, with a prayer book in hand, or by reading the prayers attached to the cross/shrines, beseeching the individual apostles to intercede for the pilgrim before God. The pilgrim will seek to be transfigured and infused with an apostolic zeal that will enable him or her to enlighten the world, as did the original apostles. The goal is to open the hearts and minds of the faithful so that the UOC-U.S.A. begins a new period of spiritual and physical growth.

The entire celebration on September 28 will focus on youths. They will come from parishes all around the nation and from all the waves of immigration to participate in prayer, then an agape feast at 1 p.m., followed by a concert and banquet.

Faithful from all UOC-U.S.A. parishes are urged to attend; the organization of buses is encouraged. Special arrangements have been made with local hotels for those who wish to stay overnight.

# Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union poised for rebirth

by Roman W. Zakaluzny

OTTAWA – In its 50th year, the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union is entering a rebuilding phase. After a productive but poorly attended national congress held in Ottawa in July, the union will be concentrating on re-establishing links with its members and narrowing down a focus.

"We're an umbrella body for Ukrainian student clubs across Canada," said the new vice-president (internal), Jenn Kehoe. "Some of these clubs are faring extremely well, while others are faltering. All we can do as their national representatives is help them out if they need it," she explained.

Windsor, Calgary and Ottawa universities were represented at the three-day

gathering, which is held annually. Lower-than-expected turnout was the result of a number of factors, explained outgoing President Pavlo Horbal.

"Since the congress this year was pushed to the summer instead of the usual February, many students couldn't get away because of summer job commitments," Mr. Horbal noted. "Being peak travel season, and understanding the rising costs of tuition here in Canada, we realized that many students probably couldn't afford to make the trip to Ottawa. We may have to look more towards fund-raising in the future."

It is expected that the SUSK conclave will return to February next year in Toronto, which is hosting the 50th anniversary congress.

On a brighter note, the union is doing

very well financially, said the incoming treasurer, Mykola Koshiw. "We will spend this year rebuilding our strength by raising the awareness of SUSK with new undergraduates, and polling them on what they think SUSK should strive to achieve," he said.

The SUSK executive includes: Mr. Kehoe, (Ottawa), executive vice-president, Internal; Mr. Koshiw (Toronto), treasurer; Michael Ilnycky (Winnipeg), director of external relations – Ukrainian organizations; Roman Zakaluzny (Ottawa), director of publications and communications; Daria Horbal (Windsor), secretary; Mr. Horbal (Calgary), past president

Some positions remain vacant and nominations are welcomed. For more information and for contact information log on to [www.susk.ca](http://www.susk.ca).

# 9/11 hero John Skala honored in Passaic

by Stefan Zurawsky

PASSAIC, N.J. – John Skala was killed on the most tragic day in American history: 9/11. This past June 30, a newly constructed EMS Building on Grove Street in Passaic, N.J., was dedicated to the memory of this hero, an active member of the Ukrainian American community. Present at the very moving dedication ceremony were the mayor and City Council members of Passaic, firefighters, police officers and EMT workers from all jurisdictions, Mr. Skala's family, friends and members of the Ukrainian community of the Clifton and Passaic areas, as well as his fellow members of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM).

Besides being an eight-year veteran of the Police Department of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Mr. Skala also worked after hours for the Passaic-Clifton EMS. June 30 would have been his 32nd birthday.

"We lost a true hero, who gave his own life while saving others' lives. John Skala could have easily fled, but felt it his obligation to save others," said Passaic Mayor Samuel Rivera.

On September 11 Mr. Skala was stationed at the Lincoln Tunnel. After the first plane crashed into the World Trade Center, he and others rushed to the site. Mr. Skala, a trained emergency medical

technician (EMT) decided to help others in trouble; then his life ended.

"John (Yash) Skala was a person, who devoted his life to others, a quality that separated him from others," said Capt. Len Mackesy of the Port Authority Police Department. For his fine work in the department Officer Skala was awarded two Meritorious Duty Medals.

Rep. Bill Pascrell emphasized the importance of the ceremony, noting that the newly dedicated building should be a constant reminder of all those who died on September 11. The congressman finished by saying: "I see the pain and sorrow of the Skala family and all families who lost loved ones in the terrorist acts, and now I understand how important their memory is, their memory that will be with us always."

The participants of the dedication ceremony, all still very emotional and teary-eyed, reminisced and talked about Mr. Skala's life at a reception hosted by local firefighters.

\*\*\*

Mr. Skala was a longtime member of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) in Passaic, and held several positions on its board. He was also an active member of the board of directors of the Ukrainian Center of Passaic.

The 16th world congress of the

Ukrainian Youth Association, which was held in November 2001 in Chicago, posthumously awarded the Iron Cross of Valor to Mr. Skala. This is the highest honor in SUM, and the first time ever it is being awarded. The cross will be presented to Mr. Skala's family at the annual Zdvih ceremonies on Sunday, September 1, at SUM's resort in Ellenville, N.Y.



John Skala

# Correction

The Ukrainian Museum apologizes for an omission in the article "The Ukrainian Museum's historic year is reviewed at annual meeting" (The Ukrainian Weekly, Sunday, August 18).

The sentences should read:

Mrs. Hnateyko said that the year 2001 and the current year also brought unprecedented, most generous support from the community, such as the \$500,000 donation from Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union. Many donations were encouraged by the \$2.5 million gift to the Building Fund from Eugene and Daymel Shklar and their \$1 million Challenge Grant.

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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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## Bohdan Stupka and Kyiv theater troupe bring "Tevye" to U.S.

by Helen Smindak

NEW YORK – Everyone has heard of Tevye, the Jewish dairyman from the fictional village of Anatevka in Ukraine. He is the main character in Sholom Aleichem's heart-wrenching saga of Jewish life in Ukraine in the early 20th century, when Ukraine was still under tsarist Russia's rule. He is the endearing principal character of the long-running Broadway musical "Fiddler on the Roof," based on Aleichem's play, that was made into a popular movie by Norman Jewison in 1971.

Tevye was brought to life again earlier this month in a two-city U.S. tour by the Ivan Franko National Academic Drama Theater of Kyiv, with award-winning Ukrainian actor and former Minister of Culture for Ukraine Bohdan Stupka in the title role.

"Tevye the Dairyman," which received top honors at drama festivals in Ukraine (Berezil '90, Berezil '93), Russia and Germany, was the choice of the Kyiv Theater and its sponsors when plans were drawn up for a touring vehicle that would promote Ukrainian culture before the American public.

In New York, the two-act play was staged on August 2 and 3 at Brooklyn's Millennium Theater in Brighton Beach, the home of this city's Russian/Jewish immigrant population that's popularly referred to as "Little Odessa." The U.S. tour, which closed in Chicago on August 4, included a program and reception at the Ukrainian Institute of America on August 1.

Technically a drama, the production – presented in Ukrainian – was enlivened by Jewish songs and dances, clarinet and violin solos, and recorded music. Subtle lighting effects were used to indicate scene changes and moods, further enhancing the presentation.

### A stunning performance

Portraying the hard-working, philosophical, good-humored Tevye, Mr. Stupka gave a stunning performance as he interpreted the joys and sorrows in the life of a Jewish dairyman who works long hours to provide a simple home for his family. A loving husband and father of five daughters, Tevye celebrates the Jewish Sabbath with age-old rituals, socializes with friends and neighbors, searches for appropriate suitors for his three eldest daughters (Tzeitel, Hodel and Chava), and stays within the rules of village administration.

In a break with tradition, Tevye's daughters refuse to accept the wishes of the matchmaker and their father, and insist on marrying the men they love. Meanwhile, Russians are instigating terrible pogroms against the Jewish people in Russia. In a poignant finale, the Jews of Anatevka are forced to leave their homes and Tevye is determined to start a better life in a new land.

The empathetic portrayals by Stupka and the company of distinguished artists, choristers and dancers brought smiles and tears by turns to the near-capacity audience at the Millennium, which seats 1,500. So spell-binding was the drama in its intensity of feeling that the audience was barely aware of huge thunderclaps that rumbled overhead, part of a fierce wind and rain storm that lashed the metropolitan New York area that evening.

Tevye's stubborn wife, Golde, was played by National Artist of Ukraine Natalia Lototska, while the part of Perchik, a student revolutionary who falls in love with daughter Hodel, was enacted by Stupka's son, Honored Artist of Ukraine Ostap Stupka. Other principal roles were portrayed by Elizaveta Slutska (Tzeitel), Vasyl Mazur (the butcher, Lazar Wolf, who wants to marry Tzeitel), Aleksander Shkrebtienco (Motel, the young tailor Tzeitel loves), Iryna Doroshenko (Chava), Oleksii Bohdanovych (Chava's Gentile suitor Fedir), and Oleh Shavarskyi (the village constable).

The cast also included Ludmila Smorodina, Yevhen Shakh, Volodymyr Abazopulo, Natalia Omelchuk, Volodymyr Koliada, Oleksii Pietukhov, Serhii Semenov and Natalia Perchevska, plus choristers and dancers. Two young girls from Kyiv who now live in Brighton Beach filled the roles of Tevye's youngest daughters, Shprintze and Bielke.

Officials of the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York – Serhiy Pohoreltzev accompanied by his wife, Svitlana, and Dr. Natalia Martynenko – and a sprinkling of Ukrainian Americans from other boroughs and from out of town were in the opening night audience, which appeared to be composed mainly of Brighton Beach residents.

Aleichem's elderly granddaughter, author Belle Kaufman, came on stage during the evening to receive a bouquet of flowers and tell the cheering crowd that her grandfather would have been delighted that so many



Aleksandr Burakovsky

Seen after the presentation of "Tevye" at the Millennium Theater in Brighton Beach, N.Y., (from left) are: Mykhailo Zakharevych, Belle Kaufman and Bohdan Stupka.

people came to see his play – "he would have been happy to stand here in my place, he loved you all."

Flowers were also presented to Mr. Stupka as the performers stepped forward at the play's end to take numerous bows and acknowledge bravos and wild applause.

Addressing the audience in Ukrainian before the start of the play, the director of the Ivan Franko National Academic Drama Theater director, Mykhailo Zakharevych welcomed the public and "our friends from the diaspora," and thanked the sponsors – Ukraine International Airlines and Western Union – for making the tour possible.

### An evening with Stupka

Proceedings at the Ukrainian Institute, opened by Dr. Martynenko, centered around Mr. Stupka as a leading actor and the artistic director of the Kyiv troupe. He introduced several colleagues who were present that evening, discussed the achievements of his year-and-a-half term as Ukraine's minister of culture and fielded questions from the audience.

Mr. Stupka and Mrs. Doroshenko performed an excerpt from Ivan Franko's play "Ukradene Schastia" (Stolen Fate), and Ms. Lototska, Ostap Stupka, Volodymyr Kudelia and Mr. Shakh offered sketches from plays by Stanislav Vitkevych and Ivan Karpenko-Kary. Poems of Taras Shevchenko, Franko and Pavlo Hlazonvi were presented in dramatic recitation by actor Oleksij Palamarenko.

Bohdan Stupka, born in Kulykiv, Lviv region, in 1941, studied at the drama studio of the Lviv Ukrainian Drama Theater and worked there as a leading actor until 1977, with a break from 1968 to 1973 for studies at the Kyiv Institute of Theater Arts. He joined the Ivan Franko National Academic Drama Theater in 1978. His stage repertoire includes farce, satirical comedy, contemporary plays and tragedy, including Shakespeare's "Richard III" and Edmund in "King Lear." Among his film credits are "A White Bird with a Black Mark" (1972), "The Pipers" (1980) and "The Red Bells" (1982).

More recently, he has become known for his brilliant performance as Tevye the Dairyman in the play which the Kyiv drama theater premiered in Kyiv in 1989, has performed almost 300 times and will present in September at a festival of Jewish culture in Moscow. Mr. Stupka stars in the title roles of two new Ukrainian films: the Dovzhenko Studio film "Genghis Khan" (January 2002) and "A Prayer for Hetman Mazepa," due to be released in the fall of this year.

Yiddish writer Sholom Aleichem, although generally referred to by the public and press as a Russian Jew, was born Sholom Rabinovich in the Ukrainian province

of Poltava, in Pereiaslav (now Pereiaslav-Khmelnitskyi). He was a rabbi in Lubni (1880-1883) before moving to Kyiv and then to Odessa, where he devoted his time to writing and publishing novels, stories and plays. Most of his work depicts shtetl (Jewish town or village) life in Ukraine and includes Ukrainian proverbs, folk songs and folklore, and Ukrainian characters (children, workers and revolutionaries). In 1905 he traveled to England, the United States, Switzerland, Germany and Italy, finally settling in New York City in 1914, where he died two years later.

Aleichem's plays have been staged in Ukraine by Ukrainian directors such as Les Kurbas, and Ukrainian films have been made based on his works. A memorial museum was founded in Pereiaslav-Khmelnitskyi in 1978 and a monument was erected there in his honor in 1984.



Bohdan Stupka as Tevye with Natalia Lototska as Golde.



## FOCUS ON PHILATELY

by Ingerit Kuzych

### Record vote taps "Korol Danylo" as No. 1



Figure 1. The winning design of 2001 showed Korol Danylo at the head of his troops. The medieval Lviv fortress is in the background.

A record number of voters took part in this year's Narbut Prize balloting that selected the Korol (King) Danylo souvenir sheet as the best-designed philatelic release of 2001 (see Figure 1). Amazingly, more than 80 percent of the hundreds of votes this year came from Ukraine, continuing a trend of heavy input from

abroad begun last year.

In 2001, for the first time, voters could select their preferences online from the popular Ukrainian Electronic Stamp Album of Bohdan Hrynyshyn in Edmonton. This new opportunity also contributed to the splendid participation rate. In all, the Korol Danylo souvenir sheet nabbed 17 percent of the votes, 3 percent over the runner-up, Ukrainian Folk Costumes Issue (Figure 2). The strong preference for these two issues was exhibited by voters in both Ukraine and the rest of the world. Although the choice was about evenly split among voters from Ukraine, participants from other countries pushed the Danylo sheet to the forefront.

Additional substantial votes went to the Hetmans of Ukraine stamps, 12 percent (Figure 3) and the 10th Anniversary of Independence souvenir sheet, 9 percent (Figure 4). The Dmytro Bortniansky stamp received 7 percent of the vote, while the Black Sea Fauna and Beekeeping souvenir sheet issues claimed 6 percent and 5 percent, respectively. Almost every stamp or souvenir sheet issue received some votes.

The Narbut Prize is now recognized as the premiere philatelic art award in Ukraine. All of the past winners of the prize were depicted in color on the cover of the March-April 2002 issue of *Filatelia Ukrainy*. This government-sponsored journal, published by Ukraine Post, is the leading philatelic periodical in Ukraine.

Souvenir sheets continue to be very popular philatelic items in Ukraine. This was the fifth year in a row that such a sheet finished first in the competition, and four of these five sheets have depicted historical themes.

Readers wishing to examine all of last year's stamps (or the issues from any year) in full color, may do so online at

the Ukrainian Electronic Stamp Album <http://www.compumart.ab.ca/vesna/menu.htm>, or <http://www.ukrainian-philately.info/>. Click on 2001 or on any other year's issues you may wish to check out.

#### The winning design

This year's winning design depicted the famous king of Halych (Galicia) and Volyn (ruled 1238-1264; King of Rus' from 1253) riding a white charger at the head of his troops. A golden lion on a blue banner unfurls behind him, while in the background are the wooden walls of the newly built city of Lviv, named for Danylo's son Lev and founded about 1256.

Danylo, one of medieval Ukraine's greatest rulers, was able to first unite the western Ukrainian lands (Halych and Volyn) and eventually to rule over all of Rus' from Kyiv. The pope himself sent him a crown recognizing him as king in 1253. It is this crown that is the most prominent and intriguing part of the souvenir sheet as it is

embossed in gold foil and immediately draws the viewer's eye.

The crown has drawn a bit of mild criticism from a few who state that no ruler would march off to battle wearing his royal regalia. While this is certainly true, the depiction does not have to be interpreted in a warlike vein. Danylo could just as easily be leading his troops in a parade, where wearing a crown would be quite appropriate. Besides, I'm certain the artist meant the portrait to be more of a symbolic rendering of this renowned ruler rather than an exact portrayal.

#### About the designer

The designer of the Danylo stamp is Oleksii Shtanko. His Yaroslav the Wise souvenir sheet won the Narbut Prize in 2000, while his St. Volodymyr sheet came in second last year. Mr. Shtanko was supposed to eventually complete an entire series on Ukrainian monarchs, but he died of cancer recently, leaving behind a wife and young

(Continued on page 21)



Figure 3. The two hetmans honored in 2001 were 17th century figures: Yuriy Khmelnytsky (1641-1685) and Mykhailo Khanenko (ca. 1620-1650).



Figure 4. The 10th Anniversary of Ukrainian Independence souvenir sheet showed the first carrying of the Ukrainian flag into the Parliament chamber (a photo by Efrem Lukatsky) and the first raising of the blue-and-yellow flag over the Verkhovna Rada building (August 24, 1991).



Figure 2. Second in the balloting was the Folk Costumes Issue. Prepared in both a souvenir sheet and stamp format, the designs depicted costumes from the Kyiv, Chernihiv and Poltava regions.



Figure 5. Korol Danylo had previously been depicted by Narbut Prize-winning artist Oleksii Shtanko on a 1999 envelope cachet commemorating the 800th anniversary of the Galician-Volynian State.

## Toronto climbers reach summit of Denali – and meet fellow Ukrainians

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – On June 16, 35-year-old teacher Danylo Darewych and 21-year-old University of Toronto engineering student Andriy Kolos reached North America's highest peak – Denali in Alaska. Denali is the Native American name for Mount McKinley, which, at 20,320 feet (6,194 meter) is North America's highest mountain. Although the name has been officially changed to Denali, McKinley is still used).

Messrs. Darewych and Kolos, both longtime members of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and youth counselors in Toronto, have been avid climbers for over five years. They have traveled all over the North American continent in search of climbing opportunities and, in 1996-1997 during his trip around the world, Mr. Kolos tested the rock climbing venues of western Ukraine, Italy, Thailand and Australia.

The climbing of Denali requires knowledge and experience of snow and ice conditions. With a tree line at 1,500 to 3,000 feet, glaciation is vast throughout the Alaska Range. The climbing season is short – May through July. Last year Denali attracted 1,301 climbers; 771 of them reached the summit. The average trip length was 17 days and the average age of a Denali climber was 36; women comprised 10 percent of the climbers.

Last year, climbers came from 39 countries – more than half from the United States (765 climbers), followed by the United Kingdom (65), Japan (48), Switzerland (45), Canada (44), Korea (40), France (37), Finland (34) and Germany (31).

Extensive networks of crevasses exist throughout the range. Crevasses are cracks in the glacier ice and are most dangerous when covered with snow, which either fills the hole or forms a bridge over the void. Some of the bridges are too weak to support a climber; others weaken as the snow melts or the crevasse widens. With year-round snowfall constantly hiding crevasses, they are often hard to detect.

Denali is characterized by precipitous and dramatic weather changes – temperatures may range from 90F (32C) to 50F (-40C). Barometric pressure is lower for a given altitude than on mountains closer to the equator, which means there is less oxygen in the air. Winds in excess of 100 mph (160 km/h) are possible, while winds of 50 to 80 mph are common and can last hours or days.

Acute Mountain Sickness is a constant danger and there is no way of predicting who will and who won't develop it. Therefore, acclimatization is necessary, particularly at about 14,000 feet. Advance planning has to be thorough and complete to avoid critical situations as it has been estimated that above 18,000 feet on Denali a person is reduced to roughly 50 percent of his/her mental capacity.

\*\*\*

Messrs. Darewych and Kolos set out from Toronto at the beginning of May and the first leg of their journey included the Columbia Icefield in the Rockies, where they perfected their crevasse rescue techniques – climbing in full gear, roped together, practicing pulling each other out of crevasses.

They arrived in Anchorage on May 22, and on May 31 flew by ski plane from Talkeetna to Kahiltna Glacier at 7,000 feet, the Base Camp for Denali, where they registered and weighed in. Their backpacks weighed 60 pounds and they had 75 pounds on their sleds; this

(Continued on page 18)



Danylo Darewych and Andriy Kolos on the summit of Denali with Ihor Sanjarevski and Mykhailo Badygin from Zaporizhia.



Climbing up Motorcycle Hill.



Andriy Kolos with eyes and nose protected from the sun.



Danylo Darewych pulling a sled laden with food and gear.

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## Youth Leadership...

(Continued from page 8)

the students interacted, as it was for the students themselves.

"It's important for U.S. leaders to see a group of 20-somethings who want to be in D.C. during the heat, in the summer. It opens their eyes to Ukraine," Mr. Kun said and added jokingly how appropriate it was that the humidity gave students a total Washington experience.

But officials at the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation also said the idea for the program developed because they saw a void. Namely, that Ukrainians are under-represented in Washington politics, as well as in leadership roles outside of diaspora organizations.

"The effort here," Mr. Kun said, "is to introduce these students to future possibilities - to what Ukrainians are doing in Washington and to leadership opportunities." The program was modeled on the template used by other successful ethnic organizations that bring their youth to the nation's capital. The hope, he added, is to see these students progress as leaders and advocates of Ukraine.

The program brought together a diverse group of college-age students from around the United States. Some, like Americans Markian Dobczansky of Maryland and Damian Zajac of New York are active in the Ukrainian diaspora community in the United States. While others, like Bohdan Pecheniak and Vadim, are originally from Ukraine but attend schools in the United States. Still others hailed from Michigan, Ohio, Virginia, Florida, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Vadim, organizers said, is part of a new generation of Ukrainians. More and more it seems the Ukrainian diaspora views them optimistically as Ukraine's future. Like Vadim, their curiosity is a signal of an eagerness to learn what for many years was kept from them. Officials at the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation said they recognize the importance of future leaders like Vadim and, Mr. Kun added, the fact that people like Vadim have questions and are asking them is important.

Interestingly enough, Vadim speaks only Russian and, though his English is still somewhat new to him, it is remarkably good. He often appears uncertain of whether he has phrased a question properly - which makes his seemingly fearless commitment to ask questions all the more impressive. Students and organizers in the program with Vadim seemed to agree and added that he, like the program, had been interesting.

Mr. Kun said the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation is already focused on running the program again next year with only minor changes required. He also stressed the need for such a program.

"There's a new interest in Ukraine," Mr. Kun said, referring to some Washington officials who see Ukraine transitioning Westward.

Organizers noted that because the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation covered most student expenses, conducting the program proved costly. Asked about the possibility of providing such a program in Ukraine Mr. Kun said doing so would require additional funding, however, the possibility to do so is not unthinkable.

In the meantime, Vadim and the 12 other students have moved on to their fall semesters at college. Some of the students said they intended to further explore their interest in Ukraine, while others said the program showed them what they did not want to pursue. However, many of the students seemed to agree that, although short, their time together in Washington proved rewarding and memorable.

## Kuchma surprises...

(Continued from page 1)

and lower-level administrative bodies self-rule and independent budgets.

On August 28, during a meeting with key lawmakers and government officials regarding his Independence Day pronouncement, Mr. Kuchma received assurance from Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh that he supports the presidential plan.

However, Viktor Yushchenko, the most popular politician in Ukraine whose political bloc, Our Ukraine, took nearly a third of the proportional vote in the country's mixed election system in the March 31 parliamentary elections, said in an initial response the day after the president's television appearance that the problem was not the type of system – because both were effective – but the type of politician.

Mr. Yushchenko was expressing continued disgruntlement and mistrust in Mr. Kuchma and his cronies after they denied Our Ukraine the relevant political power it should have wielded in the new Verkhovna Rada. In the parliamentary power play that followed the elections, the pro-presidential forces ended up obtaining a plurality by drawing independent lawmakers to their faction through deals, intimidation and blackmail, Mr. Yushchenko has suggested.

Mr. Kuchma has pursued the formation of a pro-presidential parliamentary majority with very limited success. His efforts were aimed at giving him sway over a legislative body that has had little success and much paralysis in effecting national reforms. In 2000, several months after overwhelming his Communist opponent in the presidential elections, Mr. Kuchma succeeded in stimulating the formation of a parliamentary majority that to some extent supported his policies. It held together until Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko was unceremoniously dumped in a parliamentary vote of no confidence in mid-2001 after President Kuchma failed to express support for him.

Now the president believes he has a chance for a second go at it. While pro-presidential political organizations gained only some 30 percent support in the March elections to Parliament, they gained a majority in the Verkhovna Rada after much presidential wheeling and dealing – and, in the opinion of some, such as Mr. Yushchenko and the members of the Our Ukraine faction, during which underhanded pressure was applied. The result was that many independent lawmakers joined the ranks that support Mr. Kuchma.

In the end, the president achieved a plurality of support in the Parliament, but fell short of his much-desired majority. Today the six parliamentary factions that once made up the For a United Ukraine electoral bloc plus the Social Democratic Party (United) faction remain loyal to Mr. Kuchma.

The president has said that to build a sustainable majority he needs the support of an ideologically cohesive political group, one that will not move in and out of the alliance as suits its political objectives. Such a view has put the focus on Mr. Yushchenko's faction as a potential partner to the other pro-presidential factions. Mr. Yushchenko had remained close to the president even after his ouster as head of government but lately has felt strong pressure from one side of his bloc to cut support for certain presidential policies and move into an opposition coalition.

Mr. Yushchenko has voiced severe displeasure with state authorities and condemned the political manipulations and tactics that set the stage for a temporary pro-presidential majority in Parliament that elected National Deputy Volodymyr Lytvyn, Mr. Kuchma's former chief of staff, to the Rada chairman's seat, even though Our Ukraine had taken a plurality of Parliament seats.

At a press conference called on August 29 in response to the president's television address, Mr. Yushchenko said that Our Ukraine would consider joining a parliamentary majority only under very specific conditions. He added that the danger exists that if its interests were not secured it could be co-opted and consumed by the other factions of a pro-presidential majority. He explained that, in his estimation, a true democratic majority could be formed within days, but that process could begin only if a specific accord was signed among the three branches of power.

"Democratic powers must do everything within their power to force negotiations, and the state authorities must take part in such talks," said Mr. Yushchenko, who was nearly 35 minutes late to the scheduled press conference because he was called to a meeting with President Kuchma to discuss an open letter to the president that the Our Ukraine faction had released the previous day.

A little later the former prime minister added, "If the authorities remain outside of a dialogue, then I will be there on [September] 16.

The September 16 date is important to many politicians because the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Communist Party and the Socialist Party have called for extensive, nationwide demonstrations against state authorities to commence in conjunction with the second anniversary of the disappearance of journalist Heorhii Gongadze. The Our Ukraine bloc has yet to fully commit to participation in the protests.

Mr. Gongadze was the editor of one of Ukraine's first Internet newspapers and a vocal opponent of President Kuchma. He disappeared on September 16 and his beheaded body was eventually found in a shallow grave outside Kyiv. Mr. Kuchma and the current Parliament chairman, Mr. Lytvyn, as well as a former internal affairs minister, have been suspected of complicity in the affair after digital

recordings of conversations between them regarding Mr. Gongadze became public several months later. The Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialists and the Communists have taken a political stance in opposition to the administration of President Kuchma and have called for his impeachment.

The open letter from Our Ukraine to the president underscores that state authorities carried out "a revision of the results of the [parliamentary] vote," by utilizing "pressure, blackmail, bribery and threats" against some national deputies, after Our Ukraine had garnered the most votes of any political organization in the March 31 elections. The letter declares that the actions of state authorities today are a threat to the national interests of Ukraine, its national security and independent status, and calls for a national forum for the unification of all democratic forces to guide the country

out of crisis.

Mr. Yushchenko also voiced concern about what he believes is the undue and possibly dangerous influence of the recently appointed presidential chief of staff, Viktor Medvedchuk, over President Kuchma. Mr. Medvedchuk, chairman of the Social Democratic Party (United) and perhaps the most powerful man in Ukraine besides the president, is considered an archopponent of Mr. Yushchenko and is thought to have been responsible for organizing his ouster from the prime ministerial chair in 2001. Mr. Medvedchuk was appointed to the post after Mr. Lytvyn was elected by lawmakers as chairman of the Parliament.

"The president's administrative head has already appointed the head of the Parliament. Now he is trying to appoint the government. Soon he will be appointing the president," Mr. Yushchenko commented.

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## A presentation...

(Continued from page 7)

all of Eastern Europe at the end of World War II, all of Ukraine was incorporated into the USSR. A tragic consequence of this was that Ukrainians then came to constitute the majority of the political prisoners in the Soviet gulag.

In the 1960s and '70s, an active national and human rights movement sprang up in Ukraine. Although it was crushed, some of its supporters in 1988 helped create Rukh, a patriotic pro-democracy movement that helped pave the way for Ukraine to declare independ-

ence when the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991. At about this same time, two Ukrainian Orthodox Churches came into being, and the Ukrainian Catholic Church was reborn after many years in the catacombs. All three Churches welcomed Pope John Paul's groundbreaking visit to Ukraine in 2001.

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Tymoshenko and other officials from Ukraine's United Energy Systems," Mr. Piskun told journalists about the Tymoshenko probe. He added that the charges against Ms. Tymoshenko could carry a prison term of 10 to 15 years. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Our Ukraine: no third term for Kuchma**

KYIV – Our Ukraine has prepared a petition requesting that the Constitutional Court rule on whether President Leonid Kuchma may seek a third presidential term in 2004, the UNIAN and Interfax news services reported on August 22, quoting the Our Ukraine press service. According to Our Ukraine, lawyers from the presidential administration are currently working on a "scenario" to enable Mr. Kuchma to participate in the 2004 presidential election. Under the Constitution of Ukraine, the same person may be the country's president only for two five-year terms. The current Constitution, however, took effect in 1996 when Mr. Kuchma was already the president. Our Ukraine fears that presidential lawyers may take advantage of this circumstance and argue that Mr. Kuchma is now serving his first term, which began in 1999. Our Ukraine thinks that Mr. Kuchma's second term ends in 2004 and that he cannot run for the post of president again. Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko commented on August 23 that Our Ukraine's petition is a "provocation," adding that it may provide the Constitutional Court with a good opportunity to rule in President Kuchma's favor and allow him to run in the 2004 ballot. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Russian parliamentary leader visits**

KYIV – Russian Federation Council Chairman Sergei Mironov met with President Leonid Kuchma and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn in Kyiv on August 23, UNIAN reported. Mr. Kuchma said he hopes his meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow earlier this month will contribute to ending the trade war between the two countries and increasing bilateral trade. Messrs. Mironov and Lytvyn signed a joint statement stressing the importance of cooperation between the Russian and Ukrainian parliaments. Mr. Mironov proposed holding a forum of representatives of Russian and Ukrainian borderland regions in Belgorod, Russia, this fall to establish closer regional eco-

nomic relations. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Airshow death toll reduced to 76**

LVIV – Officials from the Lviv Oblast Health Care Department said on August 19 that the number of confirmed deaths resulting from the July 27 jet crash at Lviv air show is 76, not the 83 as reported shortly after the tragedy, Ukrainian media reported. They cited confusion over unidentified body parts as a reason for the incorrect higher toll. Forty-five people injured in the crash are still hospitalized. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Ukraine, Romania discuss borders**

YALTA – Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko and his Romanian counterpart, Mircea Geoana, met in Yalta on August 15 to discuss the regulation of border problems between the two countries, Ukrainian media reported. The ministers reportedly have not reached any specific decisions. Asked whether a document regulating state borders will be signed during an expected meeting of the Ukrainian and Romanian presidents in September, Mr. Geoana said he does not deem it necessary for the presidents to discuss this issue at their meeting. Answering a question about how much time Romania has to solve the border issue considering its efforts to join NATO, Mr. Geoana said "Romania is not under any time pressure from the point of view of European and Euro-Atlantic integration." The two countries have long been at loggerheads over the delimitation of the border in the vicinity of Serpents Island in the Black Sea and the control over several islets in the Danube estuary. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Top prosecutors to probe kidnappings**

KYIV – The Procurator General's Office has taken over a criminal investigation launched by Kyiv City investigators against a criminal gang suspected of kidnapping people for ransom and murdering them, UNIAN reported on August 14. The investigation followed a report in the Kyiv-based Stolichnie Novosti on August 1 claiming that a gang led by three "senior police officers" committed a number of kidnappings for ransom in Kyiv and its environs in 1996-2000. The newspaper added that kidnapped persons were subsequently murdered by the gang, irrespective of whether their families paid the required money or not. Prosecutors suspect that the gang murdered at least 10 individuals; the bodies of seven of them have already been found. Police reportedly arrested the

entire gang. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Groups protest Pereiaslav observances**

KYIV – Right and center political parties and organizations in Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast have protested against President Leonid Kuchma's decree to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the Pereiaslav Treaty of January 8, 1654, the UNIAN news service reported on July 24. The decree, issued in March, provides for a wide range of commemorative activities. "World history does not know any nation that would like to glorify the beginning of its enslavement," the Ivano-Frankivsk organizations wrote in a letter to President Kuchma, Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh and Parliament Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Corruption in coal sector is targeted**

KYIV – The Procurator General's Office has begun an investigation into irregularities in the payment of wages to coal miners in the Luhansk Region, according to a July 17 report by Interfax Ukraine. Thus far the investigation has determined that officials of state holding companies and state-owned coal mines purchased cars and equipment for administrative staff using budget funds while salaries were owed to miners. A criminal case on the basis of the investigation is already in a Luhansk regional court. That case alleges misappropriation, especially large-scale property embezzlement, official document forgery and bribery by officials from the joint-stock company Donbas VIO and limited-liability companies Spetsstroj and Ukrvodstroj. These officials are accused of misappropriating over 1.6 million hrv (\$307,700). (RFE/RL Crime and Corruption Watch)

### **Russia: 'no thanks' to Peace Corps**

MOSCOW – Russian authorities intend to reduce the number of U.S. Peace Corps volunteers working in Russia, Kommersant-Daily and other Russian news agencies reported on August 13. According to Kommersant-Daily, 30 of 64 volunteers currently working in Russia have been refused visa extensions, in many cases because regional authorities complained about their lack of qualifications. According to The Moscow Times, the Peace Corps has responded by deciding not to send an additional group of volunteers that had been scheduled to arrive in Russia in September. According to lenta.ru, the administration of Nizhnii Novgorod Oblast sent a letter to the Education Ministry complaining that "volunteers do not know Russian and, in many cases, have little education." The site claimed that the Peace Corps acknowledges that about 90 percent of volunteers have no experience or certification for teaching, which is the main activity that the Peace Corps conducts in Russia. Ekho Moskvy reported that "waiters and truckers" were teaching business in Khabarovsk and one volunteer in Voronezh was "more interested in UFOs than working with his students." Kommersant-Daily reported that one volunteer was a former officer of the CIA and another was arrested in Khabarovsk for being "overly curious." (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Russian Catholicism's founder beatified**

ROME – Pope John Paul II beatified the founder of Russian Catholicism, Agence France-Presse reported on August 12, citing the Vatican's press service. Zygmunt Szczesny Felinski (1822-1895) served as an archbishop of Krakow for 16 months, after which he was exiled during the 1863 Polish uprising against the tsar. The agency suggested that the pope's move could further

strain relations between the Vatican and the Russian Orthodox Church, which has accused the former of proselytizing in traditionally Orthodox territories. Archbishop Felinski wrote a letter to Tsar Aleksandr II in March 1863 insisting on the rights of the Catholic Church and of Poles, for which he was exiled for 20 years, infonews.ru reported, citing the Catholic Information Service. After his release, Archbishop Felinski was banned from returning to the seat of his archdiocese and spent his remaining years in poverty in a village in the Galician region. Also beatified were the Rev. Jan Balicki (1869-1948), confessor and teacher of seminarians; Jesuit Jan Beyzym (1850-1912), "apostle of lepers" in Madagascar; and Sister Sancja Szymkowiak (1910-1942), known as "the angel of goodness" by English and French prisoners of the German army during World War II. (RFE/RL Newsline, www.ewtn.com)

### **Lukashenka slams Putin on integration**

MIENSK – During a meeting with Daghestani State Council Chairman Magomedali Magomedov in Minsk on August 21, Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka harshly criticized Russian President Vladimir Putin's recent proposal of "ultimate integration" between Russia and Belarus. "Today Russia's leadership deliberately puts forward absolutely unacceptable proposals of an insulting character to us. Even Lenin and Stalin did not go so far as to try to dissolve Belarus and make it a part of Russia or even of the Soviet Union," Belarusian television quoted Mr. Lukashenka as saying. The Belarusian leader was visibly disconcerted and apparently forgot that the Belarusian SSR was a part of the Soviet Union in 1922-1991. "Nobody will allow the republic [Belarus] to be cut into pieces and incorporated into some state, even if it is a brotherly state," President Lukashenka added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Lukashenka for union signed with Yeltsin**

MIENSK – Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka suggested that Russian President Vladimir Putin, by mentioning an integration variant "along the lines of the European Union," has actually proposed that Minsk nullify the union treaty Mr. Lukashenka signed with former Russian President Boris Yeltsin. "Russia proposes to follow the [integration] path of the European Union only after we break the union treaty currently in force," President Lukashenka said. "There is a proposal to weaken [this treaty]. It is unacceptable to us. I cannot break the treaty that has cost me a lot of blood and sweat, and not only me, but also Russia's former leadership." Mr. Lukashenka also explained why he wants to stick to the current treaty, saying: "We need to build an attractive union, in order to include former [Soviet] republics in it; for instance, Ukraine. But will Ukraine make even a single step toward the union built according to this ['ultimate unification'] model? Never in this life!" (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **3.5 % for Belarus' absorption by Russia**

MIENSK – Belarusian television cited a poll conducted by the Institute of Social and Political Research, which operates under the presidential administration. According to the poll, 35 percent of Belarusians support integration with Russia in the form of an "international union of independent states"; 25 percent are in favor of a "union of two states with limited independence"; 23 percent back a "single-state" integration model; and just 3.5 percent want Belarus to become part of the Russian Federation. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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## New Jerseyans send shipment of aid to hospital in Rudky

by Camilla Huk

MONTCLAIR, N.J. – It was hot and humid in New Jersey over the last few weeks. Now add to that no electricity and no running water, and you have the conditions under which Bohdan Hajduczok worked daily for the entire month of June, from 9 to 5, cleaning, painting and cataloguing the furnishings of an nursing home, all in preparation for a shipment to a hospital in Rudky, Ukraine.

It was thanks to Dr. Marko Olesnicky that the owner of a now-defunct nursing home in Montclair, N.J., offered to donate all the contents. Dr. Olesnicky, knowing that Mr. Hajduczok has already spent over 10 years on various projects relating to humanitarian aid to children, orphans and other needy residents of the town of Rudky and Sambir, turned to him to join him in making the most of the donation. Mr. Hajduczok agreed to lead the endeavor.

Mr. Hajduczok's and Dr. Olesnicky's appeal to the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee was realized by Lida Melnyk, and the plans for shipping all the contents from Montclair to a polyclinic in Rudky began.

In addition to the furnishings from the nursing home, over 75 bags and packages of clothing, shoes, linens and household items were also sorted and packed and labeled for the shipment.

Volunteers from Branch 18 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, led by Christina Debarry,

joined Dr. Mila Olesnicky in readying all the items for shipment. The volunteers included: Sonya Capar, Genya Cikalo, Ulana Kobzar, Lida Kramarchuk, Gloria Steckowich and Camilla Huk. Joining them and Mr. Hajduczok in this effort and later in the loading of the actual container was Roman Masier. Irena Wirszcuk, Oksana Bachynsky and Jurij Hayduchok also collected clothing donations.

Despite the challenges of the heat, the days spent in readying all the contents brought excellent results: the beds and railings sparkled, the wheelchairs looked almost new and every piece of the furnishings, toys and bicycles was brought to excellent functioning condition. In addition, there were books, two cartons of multi-colored markers and pens, stuffed animals, mechanical and electrical games and toys. It took two full days, June 29 and 30, during which the temperature reached 98 degrees and higher, for the container to be fully and tightly packed.

Led by Mr. Hajduczok and Dr. Olesnicky, the packers – Taras Olesnykyj, Lev Hajduczok, Wolodymyr Kulmatycky, Mr. Masier, Oleh Berediak and others – managed to completely fill the 40-foot container which departed on July 27 for Lviv, where it will serve the needs of Rudky's local hospital and other institutions. Svitlana Ferentz of the local branch of Soyuz Ukrainok and Dr. Oksana Hnyp, director of the polyclinic, will assist Mr. Hajduczok in making certain the aid shipment will reach its destination.



Volunteers (from left) Sonya Capar, Lida Kramarchuk, Christine Debarry and Ulana Kobzar clean up and prepare items for an aid shipment to Ukraine.



Bohdan and Lev Hajduczok load furniture destined for a hospital in Rudky.

## Ukrainian Technological Society presents annual scholarship awards



Recipients of Ukrainian Technological Society scholarships (from left) include: Andrew Haritan, Alexander Begey, Michael Kokus, Michael Polnyj, Susan Alstad, Rachel Losego, Lynne Szarnicki and Jeffrey Ronosky.

by Nicholas C. Kotow

PITTSBURGH – The Ukrainian Technological Society of Pittsburgh, celebrated the 30th anniversary of its Scholarship Program on Sunday, August 4, at its Scholarship Social in the auditorium of the Henry Clay Frick Fine Arts Building on the University of Pittsburgh campus in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh.

President Ihor Havryluk welcomed the 2002 scholarship awardees and their families, members and guests. He noted that the society was founded in 1970 and recognized Michael Korchynsky and S. Michael Tymiak, two of the original four founders, who were present in the audience.

The first program adopted by the society was the annual dinner and dance and presentation of the Ukrainian of the Year Award; the second program adopted was the presentation of scholarships to young college-bound Ukrainian students from Western Pennsylvania and bordering cities in Ohio and West Virginia. The UTS Scholarship Program began in 1972 with fund-raising, and the first four scholarships of \$250 each were awarded on May 27, 1973, at a scholarship concert featuring pianist Roman Rudnytsky.

President Havryluk thanked the Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania Ukrainian community for generously supporting the Scholarship Program for 30 years through their attendance at scholarship concerts and dinners, and with mail-in contributions, and asked for their continued financial support.

Nickolas C. Kotow, co-chair of the Scholarship Committee, next gave a brief history of the 30 years of the Scholarship Program. Scholarship awardees are selected mainly based upon their academic record with participation in Ukrainian and American activities also considered. He noted that during this time the society had made 283 awards totalling \$115,000 to some 208 different students.

He recognized Olga Manasterski, who with her husband, Chester, had developed the guidelines for the Scholarship Program, and who with her sons had established a scholarship in his name after Mr. Manasterski passed away in 1980. Also, in 1980, the Ukrainian Selfreliance of Western Pennsylvania Federal Credit Union established a

scholarship. Yaroslav Hodowanec, manager, was present to represent the credit union.

President Havryluk and Debra A. Walenchok, co-chair of the Scholarship Committee, presented the 2002 Scholarship Awards of \$500 each to the following: Susan K. Alstad received the Chester Manasterski Memorial Scholarship; Gretchen Anne Reinhart received the Ukrainian Selfreliance of Western Pennsylvania Federal Credit Union Scholarship; Alexandra L. Sawchuk received the Pavlo Havryluk Memorial Scholarship; Alexander Begey, Matthew P. Haritan, Michael Peter Kokus and Mark D. Losego received Akim and Tatiana Kutsenkow Memorial Scholarships sponsored by Dr. and Michael Kutsenkow of Carnegie, Pa.; and Andrew Haritan, Rachel Ann Losego, Michael Polnyj, Jeffrey Robert Ronosky and Lynne M. Szarnicki received Ukrainian Technological Society Scholarships.

In addition, a \$1,000 scholarship was awarded to Natalya Lytvynova, who was coming from Ukraine at the end of August to begin graduate studies at the Marywood School of Social Work in Scranton, Pa.

Following the presentation of the awards, Mrs. Walenchok thanked Kateryna Dowbenko of the department of Slavic languages and literatures at the University of Pittsburgh for her help in making arrangements for the Scholarship Social, and Michael Komichak, director of the "Ukrainian Radio Program," for his active radio support of all aspects of the Scholarship Program since its inception. She also thanked members Irene K. Grimm and Kristina K. Szmul for their help with this year's Scholarship Program.

Concluding the ceremonies, Mr. Kokus, who is attending the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., played a medley of Ukrainian songs, which he had arranged for the bassoon. He was accompanied on the keyboard by his brother, Nicholas. All were then invited to enjoy refreshments in the courtyard.

The Ukrainian Technological Society has IRC 501(c)(3) status, and contributions to the UTS Scholarship Fund are deductible from the federal income tax to the extent allowed by law. Contributions are welcomed throughout the year, and may be sent to: Ukrainian Technological Society, P.O. Box 4277, Pittsburgh, PA 15203.

# Toronto climbers...

(Continued from page 13)

weight did not include skis, shoes and everything they wore. They planned a climb of about 17 days but took food for 30 days; the extra was needed in case bad weather, winds, the cold or low clouds prolonged their time out. Andriy had pre-measured all their food into individual portions.

On June 1 they started out from Base Camp, getting up at 3 a.m. because, when the sun rises, it turns hot – the snow starts to melt and grows soft – and it becomes harder to move. They were roped together all the time, so that if one of them fell into a crevasse, the other could hold him back. “We had tested this kind of rescue on the Columbia Icefield with full backpacks but not with sleds. We were not certain if one of us could

hold on to the other laden with both a backpack and a fully packed sled. We were extremely careful and, fortunately, very lucky, and never had to find out,” Mr. Darewych said.

“There have been many cases of even very experienced climbers falling to their deaths,” he added. “A week after us, a man fell into a crevasse and perished. Although he was an experienced climber, he was going solo, which is extremely dangerous. When people are tied together, the rope must be taut. Three people perished on Denali once because, although they were roped together, there was too much slack between them and they were unable to stop their fall and slipped into the icy slot.”

Because indentations are formed in the snow covering a crevasse, the sled would sometimes get stuck and a lot of effort had to be applied to pull it across. Occasionally the crevasse below would



In Anchorage, after the climb (from left: Andriy Kolos, Anatoliy Blankovskiy, Ihor Sanjarevski, Mykhailo Badygin, Danylo Darewych.)

be visible – it could be crossed by skis but very carefully. Most parts of the trail were tapped down and marked by poles which are especially helpful during snowstorms when tracks can't be seen and climbers have to guide themselves from pole to pole.

Mr. Darewych explained how they moved up:

“We would set up our camp and then carry the gear and food some distance ahead, burying it in caches in the snow. Food and equipment has to be buried a minimum of three feet, to protect it from high winds and ravens. Caches are marked with poles four to six feet high, with some sort of identification tied to the top – ours were blue and yellow ribbons. Then we would return to the tent and sleep there. When tents are set up, they need to be surrounded by a snow wall as protection against the wind and snow squalls. The next day we would take the rest of the gear and food and either carry it to the previous cache or some distance further. Thus, we moved ahead slowly but steadily.

“The hardest climb was from 11,000 to 14,200 – it took us nine hours to climb the 3,200 feet rise. At 14,200 we set up our Advanced base camp and stayed there for four days to acclimatize.” Andriy suffered from intermittent headaches, Danylo had trouble eating his food.

Mr. Darewych continued: “When we set out for the 17,000 camp, bad weather was forecast. Some people had been there for several days; when they heard the forecast, they decided not to wait any longer. As we were going up, many people were coming down warning us about the bad weather. But when we reached 17,000 – the weather was fantastic! Our ascent was very slow – we were walking along a steep ridge, weaving between rocks, and had to hold on to ropes, which slows you down considerably. It was dangerous and hard.”

They rested at 17,000 and took a test climb to Denali Pass at 18,500, but returned to camp to sleep. On June 16, at 9 a.m. they started the final push to the summit.

Mr. Darewych related: “In front of us a man was walking up by himself. He saw that we were gaining on him and stepped aside to let us go by. Passing him I said, ‘Hello, nice day isn't it. I'm going up.’

“He looked at me, waved his hands about and said ‘No, no, Ukraina, Ukraina.’ Oh, Lord, I thought to myself, I don't believe this! I looked at him and replied, ‘ya takozh ukrainets, ukrainets z Kanady’ [I'm also a Ukrainian, a Ukrainian from Canada].

“He stared at me and uttered ‘Scho’? He introduced himself and said he was from Zaporizhia. I asked, ‘What are you doing here on Denali?’ I couldn't overcome my amazement that someone had

come all the way from Ukraine to Alaska (and could afford to do so). But he just looked back at me and replied, ‘Denali ... there is only one Denali!’ We arranged to meet later. He said that one of his colleagues was up front and another was following but would soon overtake us.”

Thus on June 16 at 3:05 p.m. (7:05 EST) Danylo and Andriy reached the summit of Denali. The view, said Danylo, was fantastic. Mountains of snow were visible in every direction. On the summit they met with the other two climbers from Ukraine and it turned out that the Ukrainians all belonged to the sporting club UNIT in Zaporizhzhia. The man they had met on their way up, who joined them later, was the leader of the group, Anatoliy Blankovskiy. He was 62 years old; the other two – Mykhailo Badygin and Ihor Sanjarevski – were younger. They wore blue and yellow neckerchiefs, one of which they hung and left on a pole at the summit. They agreed to meet again at the camp at 17,000.

“When we started to go down the sun was very hot, although some people were still going up, dropping their gear and some of their clothes on the way. It's not a good idea to go up too late as then you have to climb down at night and, although you can still see quite well, there can be a sudden change in the weather which is very dangerous,” Mr. Darewych explained.

He continued: “Andriy and I went down to our tent at 17,000, ate supper and then – knock, knock – Mr. Blankovskiy had come to invite us to a ‘hostyna.’ We grabbed two packages of cheese and went to their tent. They insisted that ‘we must celebrate the moment properly’ and pulled out a loaf of bread (what joy after weeks of gorp!) and then – salo! It turned out to be delicious. And then – a Pepsi bottle filled with a clear lightly colored liquid and three little red peppers swimming on the bottom. We had our celebration – Ukrainian-style!

“We learned that Mr. Blankovskiy was a very experienced climber and is considered one of the top climbers in the world (this was confirmed a few days later when we saw his name mentioned in Climbing Magazine as the first to climb one route of the most challenging peak in the Caucasus). We returned to Anchorage on June 19. There the five of us met once more and took a photo of us all together.”

When this writer met with Mr. Darewych in mid-July – Mr. Kolos was still on the road, driving the van back to Toronto – he was on his way to Ukraine, and planning to contact the climbers from Zaporizhzhia during his stay.

Perhaps next year you will read another story here: “Toronto climbers reach summit of Europe's highest peak – Mount Elbrus!”

(Other photos and more details of the climb can be seen on [www.kolos.ca](http://www.kolos.ca).)

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# Official statistics...

(Continued from page 9)

significant increases in their Ukrainian population in the last 10 years.

In spite of the heavy concentration of Ukrainians in these eight states, some of the states with relatively small numbers of Ukrainians in 1990 have made large gains in the last 10 years. For example, Washington state almost tripled its number of Ukrainians and moved from 14th to ninth place; Oregon more than doubled its Ukrainian population and moved from 20th to 15th place; North Carolina also more than doubled its Ukrainian population and moved from 23rd to 19th place.

As will be seen below, all the states with relatively large increases of Ukrainians between 1990 and 2000 are states that until recently had very few Ukrainians. This indicates a new migration trend among Ukrainians in the U.S., and probably settlements of new immigrants from Ukraine are a significant factor in this trend. (We will have to wait until next year for the more detailed census data, in order to be able to analyze this hypothesis).

For the sake of completeness, we present in Table 2 the number of Ukrainians in the other states. For the first 25 states, the number of Ukrainians varies between 148,700 in New York to 3,982 in Nevada. The states in Table 2 have Ukrainian populations that vary between 3,815 in North Dakota to 572 in Wyoming. On the average, these states have about 2,000 persons of Ukrainian ancestry.

Table 3 shows the relative increase (or decrease) of the 10 fastest and the 10 slowest growth states. Washington state experienced almost 180 percent growth in its Ukrainian population between 1990 and 2000, or about 18 percent per year. States like Oregon, South Dakota, Utah and Idaho had more than 100 percent growth. The other high-growth states were: North Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Nebraska and Vermont. All these are "non-traditional" states in terms of Ukrainian population, and illustrate the continuing geographical dispersion process of Ukrainians throughout the United States. The dispersion trend observed during 1980-1990 has splintered even more in the last decade, with Ukrainians moving to states with practically no Ukrainian population.

The state with the largest loss of Ukrainians between 1990 and 2002 was Pennsylvania, with -5.8 percent followed by Rhode Island with -5.6 percent. Connecticut lost about 1 percent, while New Jersey maintained its Ukrainian population practically stable. The other six states in Panel B of Table 3 all had positive growth, from a maximum of 10.6 percent for Oklahoma to a minimum of 2.9 percent for Hawaii. Thus, almost all states increased their Ukrainian population during the last decade, and some by a large margin.

The census is the only reliable source of data on Ukrainians for the whole country. Next year more detailed information will be available with variables like: first and second ancestry, age, sex, marital status, place of birth, year of immigration (for immigrants), citizenship status, education, school attendance and type of school, occupation, income of individuals and families, relationship to the head of the household, etc.

There is also detailed information about housing characteristics: rent/own status, numbers of rooms and bedrooms, year of the structure, mortgage payment, rent, value of the house, etc. This information can be analyzed at the country, state and city levels.

The Ukrainian community has made little use of this data for assessing the situation of Ukrainians in the United States, their strengths and weaknesses. Comparisons with 1990 and 1980 census data allow us to study processes like language assimilation, intermarriage, social mobility, migration, etc. A comparison of 1990 and 2000 data can also provide a good picture of the level, composition and settlement of recent migrants from Ukraine.

In this era of information and technology, organizations and social groups that do not take advantage of available information for their decision-making put themselves at a great disadvantage.

**Table 3.- 2000-1990 Census Data Comparisons for Persons of Ukrainian Origin: 10 States with the Highest Increase and 10 States with the Lowest Increase (Decrease)**

	1990 Census (a)	Increase (loss): 2000-1990 (b)	Relative % difference: 2000-1990 [(b)/(a)] x 100
<b>United States</b>	<b>740,803</b>	<b>152,252</b>	<b>20.6%</b>
<b>A.- Highest Increase</b>			
Washington	10,814	19,243	177.9%
Oregon	6,220	8,491	136.5%
South Dakota	391	484	123.8%
Utah	1,062	1,242	116.9%
Idaho	906	1,051	116.0%
North Carolina	4,897	4,710	96.2%
Georgia	4,967	4,230	85.2%
Tennessee	2,063	1,723	83.5%
Nebraska	1,161	833	71.7%
Vermont	978	678	69.3%
<b>B.- Lowest Increase (Loss)</b>			
Oklahoma	1,969	209	10.6%
Ohio	43,569	3,659	8.4%
Michigan	43,914	2,436	5.5%
North Dakota	3,634	181	5.0%
Delaware	4,950	147	3.0%
Hawaii	1,234	36	2.9%
New Jersey	73,935	-126	-0.2%
Connecticut	23,711	-254	-1.1%
Rhode Island	3,530	-199	-5.6%
Pennsylvania	129,753	-7,462	-5.8%

## Attention, Students!

Throughout the year Ukrainian student clubs plan and hold activities. The Ukrainian Weekly urges students to let us and the Ukrainian community know about upcoming events.

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### President Leonid Kuchma's...

(Continued from page 6)

years of economic recession are behind us. For the third year running, Ukraine has been demonstrating a high economic growth rate, which is one of the highest among CIS countries.

But the pace of resolving social problems that have a direct bearing on every citizen, unfortunately, is far too sluggish and far from satisfactory. Although we have recently managed to take certain steps in this area, we are still in great debt to our fellow countrymen. As the president, I personally do not decline all responsibility for this.

I am personally concerned with the following problems; first, eradication of poverty; second, affordable healthcare for everyone; third, pension reform; and fourth, quality education, irrespective of incomes. I will assume personal responsibility for all these areas, as a politician and a person.

Yes, we need pension reform, but this is a question that will be solved in at least five to seven years. Besides, it affects those who are still working, while the majority of today's retirees receive pensions that are lower than the living wage. This is completely unacceptable. In the nearest two years it is necessary to do everything possible to at least double the amount of the minimum pension level, which should depend on a person's length of service.

One of the most important concerns of our people, especially the elderly, is access to medicines, which the majority of people cannot afford due to high prices. But here in Ukraine we have real possibilities to start producing analogues of the most imported medicines. And in this way they will become affordable for our people. The fact that this was not done earlier can be explained merely by the inactivity of our officials. I will take this problem under my control.

The main resource for the development

of the country is its citizens. This is why education is a strategic task for us. Can we say that it has been tackled in the right manner?

No. The financial situation of teachers and lecturers at higher education institutes not only undermines the prestige of the profession, but also creates conditions for corruption, both in terms of admission to such institutes and passing the examinations.

Today a teacher's salary is one of the lowest in Ukraine. Certain steps to improve the situation have been taken – over the last two years teachers' wages have increased by more than 1.5 times. But that is not enough, and I consider it my personal duty to do all the best in order to at least double it.

The problems of small business need to be resolved as soon as possible. Appropriate conditions for its development still have not been created. To a considerable extent this situation is caused by the resistance of the bureaucratic apparatus, which is interested in having businessmen be dependent upon it.

In this confrontation between business and red tape, I side with businessmen. Among the tasks of the nearest future is adoption of the budget for the next year. I rely on the responsibility of political forces to resolve budget issues, and hope that these issues will be considered in a calm, business-like atmosphere, without unnecessary passions and excessive politicization.

I stress once again that all these and other issues can and should be resolved immediately away. But in order to ensure the sustainable and dynamic development of Ukraine, decisive changes are needed in its political system.

Ukraine happened to form as a presidential-parliamentary republic with all the advantages and disadvantages of such a system. Probably we did not have an alternative. Taking into account the weakness of political parties and the lack of democratic traditions, the president had no choice but to assume responsibility for making important

decisions, especially those dealing with the economy. Let us recall that a number of reformist initiatives, which later gained the support of society and Parliament, were introduced by presidential decrees.

However, I am convinced that further development of the country requires transition to a new political system – the parliamentary presidential republic.

By the end of the year 2000, real steps had been taken in this direction. It seemed then that the Verkhovna Rada would be able to form a parliamentary majority. Eleven factions and groups put forward a candidate for the post of prime minister, and I met them halfway.

Unfortunately, we failed to create a mechanism allowing the government and the parliamentary majority to work together. Hence, it needs to be said that the first results were encouraging.

I am convinced that we do not need to invent our own bicycle, a Ukrainian one. Such a mechanism has existed for a long time. It consists of a coalition government that depends on a stable parliamentary majority. The parliamentary majority forms a government and bears responsibility for its work. Let me remind you that this is in the spirit of the decisions reached in the nationwide referendum of 2000.

With such a division of powers, the branches of power would be interested in close cooperation, and their responsibility to the people would be enhanced. With the introduction of such a model, the role of parties and the structures of a civil society would be enhanced.

Moreover, the said reform should facilitate mutual understanding between the government and the constructive part of the opposition, which often calls for such a model.

Therefore, I call on the Verkhovna Rada to create a parliamentary majority. To my mind, such a majority should form a government shortly. Let this government, along with the majority, implement its economic

policy and be responsible to the people for its implementation. No doubt this model should be enshrined in the Constitution. We have to proceed to the elaboration of relevant changes to the Constitution without delay.

The reform of our electoral law, which should correspond to the requirements of the parliamentary-presidential system, has to be one of the steps towards political reform. In other words, we need a European-type electoral system based on proportional representation.

It is also high time for administrative and territorial reforms. The development of its concept and wide public discussion cannot be postponed any longer.

Transition to a parliamentary-presidential model and the strengthening of local self-government indicates our European choice. Precisely this type of political system demonstrates its effectiveness in most European countries.

I have already instructed that an ad hoc group be set up to deal with drafting political reform, and in this regard I call on all political forces, including those in the opposition, to take part in this process.

I would like to emphasize once again: political reform should be launched immediately.

In conclusion, I would like once again to call on those of you who are not indifferent to Ukraine's fate to support these initiatives both in the social and political spheres. We have only one Ukraine and that's why we should work in unison for Ukraine's sake.

We often forget how far we have traveled since we left behind the way of life of some 10 to 15 years ago. Maybe this is the reason we are, on the one hand, so impatient, and on the other, insufficiently decisive.

Frankly speaking, the latter concerns me more than the former. So, let us be more decisive in building our state and our lives.

Happy holiday, fellow countrymen. I wish you all happiness!



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Soldiers of the special forces march down the Khreschatyk in Kyiv.

## Ukraine marks...

(Continued from page 1)

national awards at his official residence, the Mariinskyi Palace, which was followed by the annual 10-kilometer run down the Khreschatyk. In the evening, crowds gathered once again in the city center to listen to Ukraine's most popular musical acts perform live on stages erected on European Square and Independence Square, before oohing an aahing at one of Kyiv's traditionally spectacular fireworks displays.

While Kyiv was the center of Ukrainian Independence Day celebrations, festivities took place all around the country.

In Lviv, scouts of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Association ended a two-week international jamboree in the hills outside of the city by re-burying the remains of their founder, Oleksander Tysovsky, at the city's historic Lychakiv Cemetery, where scores of Ukrainian heroes are interred. The late

founder of Plast originally had been laid to rest in Vienna, Austria.

In Sevastopol, the Ukrainian navy held a street parade and then a ceremony aboard its flagship, the Hetman Sahaidachny. Molebens were conducted in the city's churches in memory of its dead warriors.

Donetsk held its annual Troyanda Donetsk city festival, while Chernihiv marked the beginning of the Korovai 2002 Baking Festival.

In Odesa, the "City Of Monuments" as it likes to call itself, residents celebrated by unveiling another statue, this one a memorial bust to Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky, placed in a square at the top of a street also renamed in honor of the founder of the Kozak state.

Meanwhile, in the town of Dobrovelychivsk in the Kirovohrad Oblast, city fathers unveiled a memorial rock and officially designated the city the "geographic center of Ukraine," which earlier had been confirmed by a geological study.

## New Jersey's...

(Continued from page 1)

full integration into the NATO agreement." He urged people not to forget Ukraine and said, "God willing, for as long as this greatest of nations – the United States – is strong, there will always be a free and independent Ukraine."

Speaking on behalf of the governor's Ukrainian Independence Day Committee Theodore Romankow, whom Gov. McGreevey recently appointed to the position of Union County Prosecutor, thanked Gov. McGreevey for giving Ukrainians the opportunity to hold the flag-raising at the governor's residence. He noted the significance and meaning of the event for guests who personally struggled through oppressive regimes, war and famine.

Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Valeriy P. Kuchinsky

said the event also marked the realization of a long-held dream. "The things our predecessors dreamed about are coming true," he said. He focused his remarks on Ukraine's success in diplomatic and international arenas, saying it was important for people to remember that in its brief history the country had moved forward on democratic principles. He said that with the support of people like Gov. McGreevey, Ukraine would continue to do so.

Minister Counselor of the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington Volodymyr Yatsenkivskyi addressed the crowd as the day's keynote speaker. His comments centered on Ukraine's achievements since 1991. He said Ukraine, with the help of its allies, is making the reforms necessary to become a strategic part of a democratic world community.

The program included an invocation by Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and a closing benediction by Archbishop Antony of the Eastern Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., as well as a brief history of Ukraine by Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky, a statement by recently re-elected Clifton City Councilman Stefan Tatarenko, the "Pledge of Allegiance," the singing of "God Bless America," the introduction of the Ukrainian and American flags by the Ukrainian American Veterans and musical selections by a bandura trio from Clifton, N.J.

Groups and individuals, including the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America – Coordinating Council of New Jersey and the Ukrainian Flag-Raising Committee, bestowed kind words and gifts on Gov. McGreevey.

Following the benediction, Olga Bodnar Talyn sang "The Star Spangled Banner" and, as the Ukrainian flag was raised for the first time above the governor's mansion, led the gathering in singing the Ukrainian national anthem.

## Why is there...

(Continued from page 2)

"sovereign Communist" Leonid Kravchuk in December 1991, the "anti-nationalist" Mr. Kuchma in July 1994 and the pro-Kuchma For a United Ukraine election bloc or the Communists in March.

Thus, despite a poor record in human rights, Ukraine has not produced a mass human rights movement. The main political group that promotes democratic values and human rights is the national democrats and, therefore, democratization, national revival and "returning to Europe" continue to be intimately bound together. Eastern and southern Ukrainian-based centrist parties do not promote human rights because they are dominated by oligarchs and the executive, the very same body that infringes on human rights.

## Record vote...

(Continued from page 12)

son. It was Kateryna, his wife, who won last year's Narbut Prize for her charming and unusual souvenir sheet portrayal of Ukrainian wildflowers. The \$250 prize honorarium will be presented to her in lieu of her husband.

Mr. Shtanko had also been responsible for another very popular stamp series – that depicting Famous Ukrainian Women. In all he designed 30 stamps and souvenir sheets, most of which were portraits. His unique and attractive style will be sorely missed.

Apparently Mr. Shtanko was a strong admirer of Korol Danylo. He also designed the special cachets that appeared on some of his first day covers, and in 1999 he designed the stamp marking the 800th anniversary of the Galician-Volynian State. The cachet on this first day cover showed Danylo proudly giving his son Lev a ride on his shoulder before the ramparts of ancient Lviv (Figure 5). This colorful depiction proved to be very popular.

### A list of past winners

The Narbut Prize has been awarded annually since 1993 for the best-designed stamp of the previous year (Ukraine resumed stamp production only in 1992). Below are the winners of the Narbut Prize

since its inception:

- 1993A – Larysa Koren, 150th Anniversary of the Birth of Mykola Lysenko.
- 1993B – Oleh Snarsky, National Flag and Trident Emblem of Ukraine (note: there was a tie in voting in 1993).
- 1994 – Yurii Lohvyn, 75th Anniversary of Ukraine's First Postage Stamps.
- 1995 – Serhii Byelyayev, 160th Anniversary of Kyiv University.
- 1996 – Yurii Lohvyn, "Hetmans of Ukraine" series.
- 1997 – Serhii Byelyayev, 150th Anniversary of the Kyiv University Astronomical Observatory (stamp triptych).
- 1998 – V. Taran and O. Kharuk, "The Founding of Kyiv" (Europa souvenir sheet).
- 1999 – V. Taran, O. Kharuk, S. Kharuk and V. Kozachenko; 350th Anniversary of the Beginning of the Ukrainian Struggle for Freedom Under Bohdan Khmelnytsky (souvenir sheet).
- 2000 – Oleksii Shtanko, Yaroslav the Wise (souvenir sheet).
- 2001 – Kateryna Shtanko, Wildflowers of Ukraine (souvenir sheet).
- 2002 – Oleksii Shtanko, Korol Danylo (souvenir sheet).

*Inger Kuzych may be contacted at P.O. Box 3, Springfield, VA 22150 or at his e-mail address: ingert@starpower.net.*



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## D.C. conference to assess Ukraine's prospects for integration into Euro-Atlantic community

NEW YORK – A veritable “who’s who” of foreign policy leaders from the United States, Ukraine, the European Union and NATO will gather in Washington on October 8-9 to evaluate Ukraine’s prospects for eventual integration into the structures of the Euro-Atlantic community.

Over 70 government leaders, international foreign policy experts and prominent figures from research centers and academia are slated to participate at the third annual “Ukraine’s Quest for Mature Nation Statehood” roundtable series.

The subject of Ukraine’s Euro-Atlantic future has been broached on a theoretical level at the conference’s two predecessors: Roundtables I and II. Roundtable III on “Ukraine and the Euro-Atlantic Community” will take into account Ukraine’s efforts to move matters from theory to practice, as exemplified by its firm backing of the U.S.-led struggle

against global terrorism, its various probes to stimulate serious discussion concerning its entry into the European Union, and its formal request, announced on May 24, to be considered a candidate for NATO membership.

The two-day conference, which will be held at the JW Marriott on Pennsylvania Avenue in the heart of the nation’s capital, will feature 12 panels, held during the course of four regular sessions, two working luncheons and four special focus sessions.

Additionally, Roundtable III will play host to two evening receptions – including a celebration dedicated to marking a special event for the Ukrainian American community, the 25th anniversary of the Ukrainian National Information Service.

For attendance information, please contact the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America at (212) 228-6840.

## Plast Ukrainian...

(Continued from page 3)

explained Sviatoslav EfreMOV Kendall, 17, of New York, who did not elaborate.

For the most part, the participants of “Zvytiaha” did a lot of marching with 60 pounds of gear on their backs, said Mr. Kendall. He said that the most extreme activity he had heard about was of one plastun eating a live frog.

But perhaps most challenging became the climb by the Smotrych campers up Mount Hoverlia, Ukraine’s highest peak at nearly 7,000 feet. Although it wasn’t supposed to have been that way originally, the trek became an ordeal after the rain and the mud caused by thunderstorms made many of the trails impassable. The group decided to descend to the village of Luky, located at the foot of the mountain, but could not get across either the Chorna Tysa or the Bila Tysa rivers, both bloated by the rainfall.

Ruslana Wszesniewska, a Canadian who runs a children’s camp in the area, was contacted and attempted to rescue the hikers, explained Mr. Harmatii, after the plastuny had sent out a call for help via their radio, which an amateur short-wave radio operator picked up and relayed to the Plast headquarters in Lviv. Ms. Wszesniewska, however, could not locate the lost hikers, so Plast informed the Ministry of Emergency Situations, which sent a rescue team to begin a professional search.

The team discovered the group of about 40 plastuny on a mountain road in another area of the region, safe, sound and a bit surprised at the fuss that had surrounded their travails. They had been missing for less than 12 hours.

The various adventures having ended and the weather improving, the plastuny spent August 17 gathering at the official site of the jamboree and the place where they would celebrate 90 years since the inception of their organization. They arrived by cars and buses on the slopes of the lower Carpathians to the sounds of the Kozak drill team, Boyovyi Hopak, going through rehearsal and the sight of soldiers of Ukraine’s armed forces unloading gear and setting up field kitchens and shower stalls.

The next day, after a divine liturgy celebrated by Archbishop Mykhailo Bzdel of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, followed by a two-hour delay, the official opening ceremony finally took place. Flag-bearers hoisted the eight national flags of the countries represented by official Plast delegations as the young plastuny observed, the adventures of the last week,

undoubtedly, still on the minds of some.

Also watching were many distinguished guests, including Yurii Shukhevych, the former Ukrainian dissident whose father led the Ukrainian Insurgent Army during and after World War II; longtime Ukrainian National Deputy Ihor Yukhnovskiy, who is an honorary member of Plast; his newly elected colleague, National Deputy Ihor Hryniv, who was one of the people who re-established Plast in Ukraine in 1991; as well as Bohdan Hawrylyshyn of Switzerland, an economist, scholar and lifetime Plast member who has spent most of the last 11 years in Ukraine helping government and state officials at the highest levels make the transition to democracy and open markets.

Dr. Hawrylyshyn explained that what these plastuny had experienced and would continue to do so as scouts would help them develop the qualities that have guided him in his successes.

“Plast gave me self-discipline, self-motivation and helped develop leadership qualities,” explained Dr. Hawrylyshyn. “It also gave me confidence that if I needed to get something done I could, and if I needed to learn something I would.”



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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, September 7

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society is sponsoring a presentation by Dr. Hansjürgen Doss, member of the German Parliament who will speak about the current relations between Germany and Ukraine. The presentation will be held at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For information call (212) 254-5130.

**SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.:** St. Andrew's Ukrainian School will mark the beginning of the 2002-2003 academic year with a moleben at 10:30 a.m. in the chapel of St. Sophia Seminary, followed by refreshments. All returning and prospective students are invited to attend with their parents. For more information call Christine Syzonenko, (973) 895-4868, or Annette Lyszyk, at (908) 203-9728.

**SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.:** St. Andrew's Brotherhood will hold its annual pig roast picnic at St. Andrew's Orthodox Memorial Church Hall. All members of our extended Ukrainian family are invited to enjoy food and drink in the company of friends from 15 other local Ukrainian churches and parishes. For those watching their cholesterol intake, the picnic will have a variety of foods other than the pit-roasted pig, such as grilled chicken; hamburgers and hot dogs also will be available. Live entertainment will be provided by the Ukrainian orchestra Budmo. For more information call Ihor Sawon, (908) 231-7266.

Sunday, September 8

**LONG ISLAND CITY, N.Y.:** Holy Cross

Ukrainian Catholic Church of Astoria will hold its annual Ukrainian Heritage Day picnic on the grounds of Holy Cross Church, located at 31st Avenue and 30th Street, beginning at 1 p.m. Festivities include music, games, prizes and homemade Ukrainian food. A 3 p.m. concert will feature folk dancing, singing and instrumentals. Free admission; donations accepted. For information call (718) 932-4060.

Sunday, September 15

**CHICAGO:** Parishioners and friends are cordially invited to St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral for the annual picnic following the 10:30 a.m. liturgy. Festivities will be held at 2200 W. Rice St. (between Leavitt and Oakley) until 5 p.m. Entertainment will include Ukrainian and big band music provided by the 18-member Nova Khvyliya orchestra, as well as an early bird raffle drawing and games for children. Ukrainian foods and drinks will be served. For more information call Anna Prohny, (847) 718-1202.

Wednesday, September 25

**OTTAWA:** The Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa presents the fourth in its Ambassador's Lecture Series. Christian Pauls, ambassador of Germany to Canada, will speak on "Ukraine and European Integration." The public lecture will be held in the Senate Room (083) at Tabaret Hall, 111 Waller St., University of Ottawa campus, at 7:30 p.m. Free admission. For more information call the chair coordinator, Irena Bell, (613) 562-5800, ext. 3692; e-mail [ukrain@uottawa.ca](mailto:ukrain@uottawa.ca); or visit the website <http://www.grad.uottawa.ca/ukr>.

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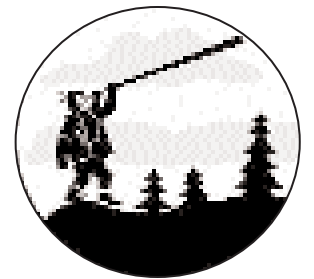
There is a **\$10 charge per submission** for listings in Preview of Events. The listing plus payment must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. There is also the option of prepayment for a series of listings.

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

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