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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukrainian authorities raid offices, seize transmitters of RFE/RL affiliate

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

PRAGUE – Ukrainian authorities on March 3 raided the offices of RFE/RL's affiliate partner in Kyiv, Radio Kontynent, confiscating the FM broadcaster's transmission equipment, sealing the office and detaining three people, including the station's chief engineer.

The seizure was carried out on the basis of an order issued to local law enforcement officials by the Ukrainian State Center of Radio Frequencies (in Ukrainian, "Ukrchastnotnaglyad"). The three detained individuals were later released.

RFE/RL President Thomas A. Dine condemned the attack on Radio Kontynent, saying: "We at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty are angry and outraged by this blatant act in suppressing factual news and information from a variety of high-quality journalists. Ukraine's name and its people are badly damaged; the first freedom – free expression – is harmed. In fact, after what happened today to Radio Kontynent, one can reasonably ask, 'Who's next?'"

Kontynent, which also broadcasts programs by Voice of America, BBC and

Deutsche Welle on 100.9 FM, added two hours of RFE/RL Ukrainian Service programming to its schedule on February 27. This latest act again eliminates RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service from the FM airwaves in the Ukrainian capital.

RFE/RL Ukrainian programs were abruptly taken off the air on February 17 in Kyiv and cities across Ukraine, as the Ukrainian FM Radio Dovira network carried out its threat to end its five-year affiliate relationship with RFE/RL. At the time, Mr. Dine called the Dovira move "a deeply disturbing political development and serious setback to freedom of expression in Ukraine."

In light of the events of March 3, senior officials at RFE/RL are expressing serious concerns about the evolving pattern of pressure applied by Ukrainian authorities on independent media and freedom of speech as such. Many RFE/RL affiliates have expressed concern that the penalty for carrying Ukrainian Service programs on their airwaves may be to share the fate of Radio Kontynent.

Mr. Dine also expressed remorse on learning of the death of Heorhii Chechyk,

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Cardinal Husar responds to discussions about Ukrainian Catholic Patriarchate

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC), on March 2 criticized a Moscow meeting between the Russian Orthodox Churches and the Vatican that discussed the legitimacy of granting patriarchal status to the Ukrainian Church and the stand the Russian Orthodox had taken.

"Many Greek-Catholics have been troubled and, to some extent, indignant at the fact that a matter of the internal development of our Church was discussed not in Kyiv, Lviv or Rome, but in Moscow, and, most importantly, without our participation," explained Cardinal Husar in a letter to UGCC faithful.

The statement came in response to a growing inter-confessional fray over an effort by the Russian Orthodox Church in Moscow in cooperation with the Ecumenical See in Constantinople headed by Patriarch Bartholomew to force Rome to halt the development of the UGCC in Ukraine.

The matter came to a head when Roman Catholic Cardinal Walter Kasper, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, traveled to Moscow and met with ROC leaders on February 19. His trip came after a letter-writing campaign initiated from Moscow and Constantinople resulted in 11 Orthodox Churches writing the Vatican to demand a halt to an effort to develop a Patriarchate for the UGCC.

In Moscow, the ROC representatives told Cardinal Kasper that the spread of

the Catholic Church into Ukraine, Kazakstan and Russia in general, and the move of the UGCC into "canonical territories" of the Orthodox Church in eastern Ukraine in particular, as well as the looming specter of a UGCC Patriarchate could end the Orthodox-Catholic ecumenical dialogue.

The BBC Monitoring Service noted that during Cardinal Kasper's meeting with ROC Patriarchate Aleksei II, the Vatican representative agreed that a UGCC Patriarchate would not be created.

UGCC Cardinal Husar noted in his statement that the meeting in Moscow in February was the culmination of a series of efforts by the ROC to get the Vatican to stop what had begun to look to it like the inevitability of a UGCC Patriarchate, after Cardinal Kasper first "presented the case" to the ROC in 2003.

"It was a delicate gesture on the part of the pope, as [Cardinal Kasper] mentioned the possible recognition of the Patriarchate of the UGCC in advance," explained the UGCC leader in his statement. Cardinal Husar charged that the reaction from Moscow and Constantinople since that meeting had been unacceptable.

"It is enough to mention the statement that the Roman Catholic Church should 'gradually reduce the presence' of our Church," stated the leader of 6 million UGCC faithful worldwide.

The UGCC has sought recognition as a Patriarchate at various moments in its history since it broke with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in 1596 and united

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National deputy releases documents on intelligence agency's spying abroad

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – National Deputy Mykola Tomenko made public on March 3 abridged versions of allegedly secret documents that ex-Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) Gen. Valerii Kravchenko claimed last month prove the Ukrainian intelligence agency illegally spied on opposition political leaders and high-ranking government officials. It included instructions to use the Ukrainian diaspora to get a feel for how certain events occurring in Ukraine are viewed abroad.

"Gen. Kravchenko and I think that these directives have the markings of criminal offenses, but [President Leonid] Kuchma and [Procurator General Hennadii] Vasyliiev do not. Let the people decide who has a point," Mr. Tomenko said in explaining why he was making the information public.

The day before, Mr. Vasyliiev said the contents of the documents – the originals of which Mr. Tomenko had turned over to his office – did not substantiate the charges made by General Kravchenko. Mr. Vasyliiev added, however, that the matter of the general's culpability in revealing the contents of secret state documents was still under investigation.

On February 18 General Kravchenko,

senior liaison officer between the Ukrainian and German intelligence services at the Ukrainian Embassy in Berlin, showed up unexpectedly at Deutsche Welle, German public radio, and announced in an interview that he had secret documents in his possession proving that officials in Kyiv had ordered SBU intelligence officers to track the movements and contacts of Ukrainian government and political leaders traveling abroad.

Procurator General Vasyliiev suggested that Gen. Kravchenko, who claims he broke no Ukrainian laws, return to Ukraine to defend himself against possible charges. Gen. Kravchenko is currently in hiding in Germany. He told Mr. Tomenko in Berlin that he would request political asylum in Germany if Ukrainian prosecutors decided not to investigate his allegation.

Mr. Vasyliiev warned National Deputy Tomenko that he, too, could face charges of revealing state secrets if he made the documents available to the press. But Mr. Tomenko told journalists that experts of the parliamentary Committee on Free Speech that he chairs had agreed that no state secrets were being revealed.

The Ukrainian lawmaker traveled to

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Statement by Synod of Bishops on Vatican envoy's visit to Moscow

Below is the full text of the address of the Synod of Bishops of the Kyiv-Halych Metropolitanate to the clergy, monks and faithful of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church concerning the visit of Cardinal Walter Kasper to Moscow. The statement is dated March 1 and was released in English translation on March 3.

Beloved in Christ!

The recent visit of Cardinal Walter Kasper to Moscow to consider, among other things, the affairs of our Church, especially the recognition of the Patriarchate of the UGCC, has become the subject of discussion not only in our country but also throughout the world. Many Greek-Catholics have been troubled and, to some extent,

indignant at the fact that a matter of the internal development of our Church was discussed not in Kyiv, Lviv or Rome, but in Moscow, and, most importantly, without our participation. We would like to say a few words in this regard, thereby answering numerous inquiries from our faithful.

Firstly, we would like to stress that we should keep our hearts and minds in prudent and wise disposition in any circumstances. Our conclusions should be based on thorough and unbiased analysis of the real facts. Our proposals to interested parties should contain not only fair criticism but also a positive vision of the ways out of the very com-

(Continued on page 8)

ANALYSIS

Rada approves 12 new members of Central Election Commission

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report

The Verkhovna Rada on February 17 and 19 approved 12 new members of the Central Election Commission (CEC), thus bringing it to its full strength of 15 people. The CEC reportedly comprises 11 members delegated by pro-government forces, two by the Communist Party, and one each by the Socialist Party and Our Ukraine.

"I'm very disturbed by the fact that we are now witnessing [an unabashed attempt] to fill the CEC with representatives of different political forces," political analyst Andriy Yermolayev told the Kandydat website (<http://www.kandydat.com.ua>). "By virtue of this, it is being involuntarily admitted that each member of the newly formed CEC has some extra task [in the commission], that is, he or she wants to advance the interests of his or her party [there]."

Anatolii Hrytsenko, head of the Kyiv-based Razumkov Center think-tank, said he sees another risk in such a composition of the CEC: "The presence of people [delegated by the Socialist Party and Our Ukraine] in the CEC may be seen as a small victory [of the opposition], but on the other hand, it is only a shield [for the authorities], since two persons will in no significant way influence the activities of the CEC. And, at the same time, the opposition now cannot appeal to certain international organizations with complaints that its opinion is not taken into account. Formally, it is. But the current authorities control a majority of votes in the CEC and the commission as a whole."

Jan Maksymiuk is the Belarus and Ukraine specialist at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

U.S. Trade and Development Agency awards \$300,000 grant to Yalta

KYIV – The U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) awarded a \$300,000 grant to the city of Yalta to fund a feasibility study on the development of a modern municipal solid waste management system for the city and surrounding area. The grant was to be conferred at a signing ceremony on March 4 at the Hotel Oreanda in Yalta.

The USTDA-funded study will investigate the best available options to replace the old dry-tomb landfill with an integrated waste management system that includes waste minimization, recycling and waste-to-energy conversion. The study will also explore the best available remediation method to reclaim the old waste disposal site. The study will be carried out on behalf of the Yalta City Council by EMCON/OWT Inc. of Mahwah, N.J., a subsidiary of the Shaw Group, Inc., in collaboration with T3MA Group Inc., of Warrenton, Va.

The U.S. Trade and Development Agency advances economic development and U.S. commercial interests in developing and middle-income countries. The agency funds various forms of technical assistance, feasibility studies, training, orientation visits and business workshops that support the development of a modern infrastructure and a fair and open trading environment.

On February 19, the 15 CEC members unanimously elected lawmaker Serhiy Kivalov as CEC chairman. According to some Ukrainian media, Mr. Kivalov, 49, is a very colorful person. Last week, Mr. Kivalov gave up his parliamentary mandate to be able to serve on the commission. However, before that he was a lawmaker and simultaneously chaired the High Council of Justice (a body distributing jobs among Ukrainian judges) and presided over the Odesa National Law Academy. He managed to persuade his colleagues in the Verkhovna Rada that he did not violate the law on the status of deputies by holding several positions because, he argued, he worked in the High Council of Justice and the Odesa National Law Academy on a non-salaried basis.

Mr. Kivalov first made his mark in the Verkhovna Rada in early 2003, when he proposed a bill on tax amnesty for the Ukrainian president. He proposed that the president of Ukraine be given "the right to tax amnesty that will result in freeing the taxpayer from financial, administrative and criminal responsibility for evading the payment of taxes and failing to declare incomes and hard-currency funds [as well as] movable and immovable property located both in Ukraine and outside its borders." The Ukrainian Parliament has declined to schedule this bill for a reading.

Mr. Kivalov was also behind the drafting of an expert opinion by the Odesa National Law Academy last year which claimed that President Kuchma is formally serving his first presidential term and may run for the presidency in 2004. One of Mr. Kivalov's scientific papers is devoted to President Kuchma's intellect and reportedly bears the title "The Thinking of Specialists in Public Law is Enriched by Contacts with Leonid Kuchma."

The USTDA's strategic use of foreign assistance funds to support sound investment policy and decision-making in host countries creates an enabling environment for trade, investment and sustainable economic development.

In carrying out its mission, the USTDA gives emphasis to economic sectors that may benefit from U.S. exports of goods and services. Since 1992, the USTDA has allocated nearly \$10 million to Ukraine, of which almost \$9 million were in grants for feasibility studies.

U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine John Herbst and Yalta City Mayor Serhiy Braiko were to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the U.S. and Ukrainian governments. Also scheduled to be present at the signing ceremony will be Crimean Prime Minister Serhiy Kunitsyn, Rada Speaker Borys Deich, Presidential Representative Oleksander Didenko, USTDA Regional Director Daniel Stein, the U.S. Department of Commerce Embassy Kyiv Office, and other officials from Ukrainian state and Crimean regional governments.

Before the signing ceremony, Ambassador Herbst was to call on Prime Minister Kunitsyn, Rada Speaker Deich, and Presidential Representative Didenko in Simferopol.

NEWSBRIEFS

Kravchenko's charges dismissed

KYIV – Procurator General Hennadii Vasyliiev told journalists in Kyiv on March 2 that his office will not open a criminal case in connection with documents recently submitted by a former intelligence officer posted at the Ukrainian Embassy in Berlin, Ukrainian news agencies reported. Gen. Valerii Kravchenko claimed last month that the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) has been illegally ordering its operatives abroad to spy on Ukrainian opposition lawmakers and Cabinet members. Our Ukraine lawmaker Mykola Tomenko met with Gen. Kravchenko in Berlin last week and subsequently passed to the Procurator General's Office the SBU instructions that purportedly corroborate Gen. Kravchenko's charges. Mr. Vasyliiev said there were no grounds to open a probe since the documents provide no evidence that the law was broken. At the same time, Mr. Vasyliiev warned Mr. Tomenko against making the content of Gen. Kravchenko's documents public, saying the lawmaker could thus face criminal responsibility for revealing state secrets. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tomenko publicizes "secret" documents

KYIV – National Deputy Mykola Tomenko did not heed Procurator General Hennadii Vasyliiev's warning on March 2 and made the content of Gen. Valerii Kravchenko's documents known to journalists on March 3, the Ukrainska Pravda website reported. Mr. Tomenko distributed among journalists the alleged texts of four confidential instructions in which the SBU headquarters in Kyiv orders Gen. Kravchenko to prevent potentially compromising material from being shown on a German television channel; spy on visiting Ukrainian officials in Germany; gather comprehensive information on a Kyiv conference that was being organized by the European Union and Ukrainian opposition; spy on all Ukrainian delegations visiting Germany; and gather "pre-emptive" information among the Ukrainian diaspora. "Restricted-access information may be disseminated without the authorization of its owner if it is publicly significant, if the right of the public to know this information surpasses the right of its owner to its protection," Mr. Tomenko said, citing Ukraine's law on information. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Radio Liberty broadcasts jammed

KYIV – Broadcasts of Radio Liberty were jammed in Kyiv on March 1 and 2, the private station sending the programs said. FM rebroadcasts of shortwave Radio Liberty had been canceled two weeks ago

by a private radio station after it demanded format changes, a move that led to claims of an official campaign to keep the Prague-based station off the air. Another private station, Radio Kontyent, began broadcasting Radio Liberty on February 28 on FM. The station called the action a "gross violation of citizens' constitutional rights to information." Serhii Sholokh, Kontyent's general director, claimed he had received death threats from political forces calling on the station not to transmit Radio Liberty programs. The head of information policy for the presidential administration, Serhii Vasyliiev, dismissed Kontyent's claims: "cheap PR ... What's being interrupted? The same information is available on other media." Alexander Narodetsky, director of Radio Liberty's Ukrainian Service said that authorities have threatened his affiliates over putting the station on the air. (Associated Press)

Kuchma vetoes bill of tax amendments

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on March 1 vetoed a bill of amendments to "nearly all tax laws," claiming that it is a "classical example of legal ignorance in tax legislation," Interfax reported. In particular, the bill, which was passed by the Verkhovna Rada on February 5, provided for levying value-added taxes (VAT) on the sale of medicines and medical equipment, periodicals and newspapers, books (except for those published in the Ukrainian language) and housing. "VAT is the only tax we have no progress on," Mr. Kuchma said at a government meeting during which he criticized the bill. "VAT has lost its budget-filling capacity." The bill was supported by the Cabinet of Ministers but opposed by the State Tax Administration. (RFE/RL Newsline)

OSCE to monitor presidential election

KYIV – Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Secretary-General Jan Kubis told journalists in Kyiv on March 2 that the OSCE will conduct long-term monitoring of the upcoming presidential election campaign in Ukraine, Interfax reported. Mr. Kubis's comments came after his meeting with Ukraine's Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Oleh Shamshur. Mr. Kubis added that OSCE observers will be in Ukraine "many months" prior to the election date. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma orders probe into alleged plot

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma told journalists on February 25 that an investigation has been launched after the detec-

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Ukraine's recently established Council of Christian Churches discusses its mission

Religious Information Service of Ukraine

KYIV – The recently formed Council of Representatives of Christian Churches of Ukraine (CRCCU) held a meeting in Kyiv on February 3, with delegates from Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant denominations taking part. Among other topics, the representatives discussed the social ministry of the Christian Churches of Ukraine.

The meeting of the council was attended by representatives of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, the Roman Catholic Church, the All-Ukraine Union of

Churches of the Evangelical Christian Faith – Pentecostals, the Ukrainian Christian Evangelical Church, and the Brotherhood of Independent Churches and Missions of Evangelical Christian Baptists.

The participants discussed a draft of the founding statutes of the council, the situation regarding legislative initiatives on religious and moral matters, and some aspects of the churches social ministry.

According to Father Oleksa Petriv, advisor for the UGCC on relations with administrative bodies and a participant at the meeting, such a council needed to be created so that the initiative for discussing various social problems would not only start with the government, but with the Churches.

Father Petriv explained that the council is not an alternative to the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations, which has a wider range of activity, inasmuch as it has members not only from Christian groups, but from all religions in Ukraine. The CRCCU, however, has representatives only of Christian churches.

Father Petriv noted that the council meets monthly, in accordance with its founding declaration, signed by the superiors of the Christian Churches of Ukraine on December 2, 2003. Each Church sends one delegate to the conference. The declaration provides for the participation of founding members of the council and other religious organizations.

“The main purpose of the council is consolidation of the efforts of Christians to solve burning issues of social life. The process of the final working out of the statutes of the council, which will be approved by the heads of the various Christian Churches, is currently under way,” said Father Petriv.

In Riga, McCain focuses comments on Belarus, Ukraine

WASHINGTON – Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), speaking at a conference on “The Future of Democracy Beyond the Baltics,” in Riga, Latvia, on February 6, focused his remarks on Belarus and made several references to Ukraine.

According to ARTUIS, the U.S. delegation – which included Sens. Jon Kyl (R-Ariz.), Bob Graham (D-Fla.), Kay Bailey Hutchinson (R-Tex.) and Chuck Hagel (R-Neb.) and Reps. Jim Kolbe (R-Ariz.) and Jane Harmon (D-Calif.) – met with two members of the Verkhovna Rada, Borys Tarasyuk of the Our Ukraine coalition and Oleg Bilarus of Batkivschyna, to obtain a first-hand account of the attempts at constitutional reform in Ukraine and preparations for the October presidential election.

Following are excerpts of Sen. McCain's speech at the conference, which was sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia.

“... I am honored to be in the company of heroes who serve and sacrifice under the most trying conditions for the cause of a free, democratic and sovereign Belarus. I am also pleased to be joined by leaders of the democratic opposition in Ukraine, who bravely struggle for your people's basic rights to freely choose their leaders, and for a country where rights are protected by law. ...

“I'd like to say to our Ukrainian friends that your people's freedom is as important to the West as that of your Belarusian neighbors. In Ukraine, the United States and Europe should work assertively for free and fair elections this fall. We should pledge at NATO's Istanbul summit that Ukraine will be welcomed into Euro-Atlantic institutions as soon as it meets basic standards of democracy.

“Ukraine may be one election away from a new democratic, pro-Western orientation that would be consequential for your people as it would be for the wider trans-Atlantic community.

“But neither the Ukrainian people nor its Atlantic allies can accept the manipulation of the Ukrainian constitution to extend one man's term in office, or to change the terms by which elections are held on the eve of the presidential campaign.

“As the Council of Europe has stated, such behavior is inconsistent with the democratic values of the West and will exclude Ukraine from the company of Western democracies. It is because we in

(Continued on page 22)

FOR THE RECORD: U.S. statement on Ukraine's removal from FATF list

The statement below was released in Kyiv by the Embassy of the United States on March 1.

The February 27 decision by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to remove Ukraine from its list of Non-Cooperative Territories and Countries (NCTC) is a tribute to the hard work of the staff of the State Financial Monitoring Department (FMD), the National Bank of Ukraine and all the other agencies that have helped to establish and implement anti-money laundering policy in Ukraine.

The United States Embassy will continue to support Ukraine's efforts to strengthen enforcement and investigation in this area. Since last June, when Ukraine's Anti-Money Laundering Law entered into force,

the U.S. Treasury Department has provided technical support to the FMD. We encourage the FMD to continue to build its capacity, and we look forward to continuing our cooperation.

We would also like to take this opportunity to stress that the FATF and Ukraine's partners will continue to monitor Ukraine's efforts against money laundering. Though we are always prepared to help, successful enforcement and prosecution will ultimately depend on decisions and policies adopted by Ukrainians. We strongly encourage all Ukrainian agencies involved in fighting money laundering to build on the accomplishments that FATF has cited. Most importantly, we would stress the importance of not taking actions that could reverse this very significant accomplishment.

Quotable notes

“We have to get ready for a real war, and that is what I always tell Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine and Oleksander Moroz's Socialist Party. We have to prepare an extraordinary strategy of victory in the presidential election without expecting that this [presidential] team, which controls practically all spheres of our life, will act in accordance with laws. This recent act against Radio Liberty [the halting of FM retransmission of RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service programming in Ukraine] has just signaled that they will fight to remain in power at any price.”

– Yulia Tymoshenko, leader of the eponymous opposition bloc, in an interview with RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service on February 13, as cited by RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report.

“The crisis caused by the killing of journalist Heorhii Gongadze and by the disclosure of Major [Mykola] Melnychenko's tapes that link [President Leonid] Kuchma to this case has demonstrated that the president plays a key role in the Ukrainian political system. His fate, his striving to guarantee personal security for himself have become the most important matters for the state, pushing aside social needs, economic development and the strengthening of Ukraine's international position. The entire state has de facto become a hostage to one person – Leonid Kuchma.”

– Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko in the article “Ukraine's Choice” published in the Polish newspaper *Gazeta Wyborcza* on February 11, as cited by RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report.

U.S. visa appointment system goes all electronic

Embassy of the United States

KYIV – An important change in scheduling interviews for U.S. non-immigrant visas begins next month. Starting March 15, the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy will accept requests for non-immigrant visa interviews only through the online appointment request system or e-mail. This means that written requests for appointments will no longer be accepted after March 15.

“The advantages of such a system for non-immigrant visa applicants are significant,” said Consul Gen. MaryKay Carlson. “Not only will applicants be able to schedule interviews sooner, but also the security and reliability of the e-mail systems guarantee timely notification of appointments.”

Over the past year, 70 percent of all requests received by the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, Ukraine, for non-immigrant visa interviews have been made through the online system or e-mail. “The use of electronic communication decreases the time it takes to respond to requests and improves the quality and efficiency of our services,” said Consul Gen. Carlson. “With the wide availability of e-mail and with so many people using it effectively, we need to update our systems and bring the advantages of the information age to all of our applicants.”

The new system will eliminate delays inherent in the postal system, allowing

applicants to schedule appointments at a date and time convenient for them. Currently, when using the postal system, consular staff must schedule appointments at least three weeks in advance. This time delay allows for the response letter to reach the applicants within enough time for them to plan a trip to the Consular Section for the interview. With the new system applicants will have greater flexibility in choosing an interview date among those available.

To request an interview for a non-immigrant visa, applicants or their representatives should complete the online appointment request form at http://usembassy.kiev.ua/visa_appointment_eng.html or send an e-mail message to appointkiv@state.gov. Applicants may choose to have a relative or friend submit an appointment request on their behalf who then can notify the applicant of the date and time of the interview.

The non-immigrant visa interview will be scheduled for the first available date or for any other available date the applicant requests that is available. Applicants can expect to be notified of their interview date and time within two business days. Due to the limited number of interview appointments available on any given day, the Consular Section may not be able to honor a specific request, particularly during peak seasons. In such cases, the Consular Section will be able to contact the applicant by e-mail to determine another

date that meets the needs of the applicant.

Access to the Internet is available at Internet cafés, libraries, post offices and many other places throughout Ukraine. The Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy has opened 71 Internet centers in public libraries throughout Ukraine as part of the Library Electronic Access Project (LEAP). These U.S.-government-funded centers offer free Internet access to the public. A list of the Centers' locations is available on the Embassy's website at http://usembassy.kiev.ua/irc_leap_eng.html.

The U.S. government-funded Internet Access and Training Program also maintains 25 free Internet access centers around Ukraine. Their locations can be found at <http://iatp.org.ua>.

The Consular Section is open via appointment for non-immigrant visa interviews Monday through Thursday from 8:15 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The Consular Section is closed on all Ukrainian and U.S. holidays, and the last working day of each month.

Please note that this appointment policy is only for non-immigrant visas. For appointments or information regarding immigrant visas for fiancées, spouses or other types of immigrant visas, interested persons should contact the Embassy's Immigrant Visa unit at ivki@state.gov. Applicants for immigrant visas should visit the U.S. Embassy website at <http://usembassy.kiev.ua> for further information.

UWC establishes task force to combat trafficking of Ukrainians

TORONTO – The executive board of the Ukrainian World Congress, at its meeting in Toronto on February 7, established a task force to combat the illegal trafficking of Ukrainians.

The task force will function under the auspices of the UWC Human and Civil Rights Commission and will be chaired by a representative from the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations (WFUWO), a member-organization of the UWC.

Other members of the task force include: Maria Szkambara, vice-chair, UWC Executive Board; Borys Potapenko, chair, UWC Commission on the United Nations; Iryna Kurowyckyj, WFUWO representative to the UWC; Jurij Darewych, chair, UWC Human and Civil Rights Commission; Olga Danylak, chair, UWC World Council for Social Services; and Jurij Klufas, chair, UWC Commission on Media Relations.

In April 2003 the UWC Commission on the United Nations initiated research on international activities in combating human trafficking, specifically as it pertains to Ukrainians.

Subsequently, several Ukrainian women's groups began to address the issue, and a number of publications, newspaper articles and books have been published – most prominent among them "The Natashas – The New Global Sex Trade" by the award-winning Ukrainian Canadian investigative journalist Victor Malarek.

The problem of human trafficking has become rampant and Ukrainians, female and male, adults and children, are acutely affected, the UWC noted. The aim of the task force is to coordinate Ukrainian diaspora activity in this regard and serve as a liaison with the government of Ukraine as well as with numerous international governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and groups dealing with this problem, including the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration.

CPJ receives OSCE prize for journalism and democracy

NEW YORK – At a ceremony held during its winter meeting in Vienna, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) on February 19 honored the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) with its 2004 OSCE Prize for Journalism and Democracy.

Since 1996, the prize has been awarded annually by the assembly to journalists who, through their work, have promoted OSCE principles on human rights, democracy and the free flow of information.

In presenting the award, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly President Bruce George called CPJ "one of the best-recognized media freedom watchdogs in the world." He said, "CPJ ensures that journalists who do face reprisals for their reporting are not forgotten and that their cases remain in the public eye."

Accepting the award, CPJ's Executive Director Ann Cooper said, "This year, by honoring the work of an international press freedom organization, this assembly has sent each of the journalists we defend a powerful message: that they are not alone in their dedication to a free press."

A \$20,000 prize accompanies the award, which is funded by European publishing companies. Ms. Cooper announced that CPJ would use half of the prize money for a special fund for direct awards to journalists in distress and will donate the remaining half to the outreach program of the International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX), a global organization dedicated to free expression.

The OSCE is the largest regional security organization in the world, with 55 participating states from Europe, Central Asia and North America. It is active in early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation. The assembly is the parliamentary dimension of the OSCE.

CPJ is a New York-based, independent, non-profit organization that works to safeguard press freedom worldwide. For more information about press conditions around the globe, readers may log on to www.cpj.org.

TWG announces 2004 program for summer internship at Embassy

WASHINGTON – The Washington Group, in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine, is seeking candidates for its annual summer internship program at the Embassy.

Conducted by the TWG Fellowship Fund, the project aims to provide the Embassy with an intern to serve as a research assistant. In turn, that individual would gain valuable insight into the day-to-day operations of a foreign embassy in Washington.

Applicants should have completed at least two years of undergraduate studies and be proficient in English and Ukrainian. They should possess excellent oral and written communication skills, along with computer and Internet expertise. The intern should expect to assist the Embassy with needs and issues as they arise, including general office work.

Candidates should submit the following information no later than April 2: a one-page essay explaining their interest in the internship, preferred starting date (late May or June), and how their background and experience meet the goals of the project; copies of academic transcripts; one letter of recommendation and two references.

Applications should be sent to: TWG Fellowship Fund, Ukrainian Embassy Internship, P.O. Box 7951, McLean, VA 22106.

For more information, readers may log on to <http://www.TheWashingtonGroup.org>, or contact TWG Fellowship Fund Chair Michael Drabyk at FellowshipFund@TheWashingtonGroup.org.

The individual selected as the 2004 TWG Ukrainian Embassy intern will need to make visa and travel arrangements in advance, and already be in the Washington area ready to start the internship in either late May or June. The TWG Fellowship Fund regrettably cannot extend visa invitations to applicants, nor can it assist with other related visa or travel arrangements. The TWG Fellowship Fund is also unable to offer financial assistance to the intern beyond a stipend of \$1,500.

Український Народний Союз / **Ukrainian National Association**

ГРАМОТА ЧЛЕНЬСКА / **Membership Certificate**

Highlights from the UNA's 110-year history

A special yearlong feature focusing on the history of the Ukrainian National Association, which this year marks its 110th anniversary.

By the time of the fourth convention of the UNA, then still known as the Rusyn National Association, the fraternal organization has grown in both assets and membership. There were now 1,019 members and \$2,944.93 in assets. At the convention, held on June 8, 1897, in Mayfield Pa., delegates decided that members would pay an additional 25 cents in due annually to cover the expenses of delegates who traveled to the

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THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

“Ukrainian-American Citadel”: from the pages of UNA history

Following is the second in a series of excerpts from “Ukrainian-American Citadel: The First 100 Years of the Ukrainian National Association: by Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, published in 1996 by East European Monographs of Boulder, Colo. The excerpts are reprinted with the permission of the author. (The book is available from the author for \$25, plus \$2.50 shipping, by writing to: Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, 107 Ileshamwood Drive, DeKalb, IL 60115.)

Chapter 2 Laying the Foundation

The Ukrainian National Association (UNA) was founded by immigrants from Ukraine seeking a better and more fulfilling life in the United States. Although America was not always kind to them, they loved this country and took advantage of the many opportunities life in a free society provided for those willing to

work. Long, tedious, dangerous and back-breaking hours in the anthracite coal mines of northeastern Pennsylvania helped the UNA's founders meet their basic needs. But, they wanted more. They yearned for cultural renewal and spiritual graces that could only be satisfied by communion with their own kind. They organized parishes, built churches, established co-ops, and gave birth to the Ukrainian National Association.

Early Rusyn Life in America

Early Rusyn life in the United States was difficult at best, an abomination at worst, especially in the anthracite coal mining regions of Pennsylvania. Having survived an arduous ocean crossing, the unsophisticated Rusyn was easy prey for various con men with promises of fantastic jobs and opportunities to be had for the proper price. If they headed for the coal mines, Rusyns risked being beaten up as strikebreakers. Once they got jobs in the mines, they usually started their career as miners' helpers at a fraction of the salary and longer hours than full-fledged miners. If they survived mine explosions, floods, and other daily dangers, they were still not immune to health hazards such as black lung disease. With no union organization to protect their interests, Rusyn miners were subject to exploitation through unexpected wage cuts and arbitrarily imposed work hours. When Rusyns finally did become active in the labor movement, they faced the problem of job loss, beatings by corporate goons and railroad police, and long weeks on strike with no income. Small wonder that so many Rusyn miners turned to alcohol to forget the dehumanizing conditions they had to endure. As in the old country, the ubiquitous tavern was a social institution that provided companionship and solace. “Saloonkeepers,” wrote Bachynskyj, were the “bosses” of the immigrant community and they never complained that “business is bad.”

But life was not all gloom and drudgery and Rusyns were not without internal resources. Community visionaries helped establish parishes that provided spiritual and temporal alternatives to the tavern. Priests offered religious renewal, and church societies organized recreational activities such as choirs, dance groups, picnics, dances, balls, reading rooms and a variety of family-oriented activities. ...

Rise of Fraternal Insurance

Having satisfied their spiritual needs with the establishment of local parishes, Rusyns turned their attention to other pressing matters. The most significant of these was the question of family security following the death of the primary breadwinner. The answer was the creation of fraternal insurance and benefit societies. Fraternal insurance societies in the United States have a long, honorable history, dating to the mid-18th century. It was not until the second half of the 19th century, however, that the fraternal insurance movement blossomed. The greatest growth period occurred between 1890 and 1900. The National Fraternal Congress, an umbrella organization that works on behalf of all fraternalists in America, was founded in 1886.

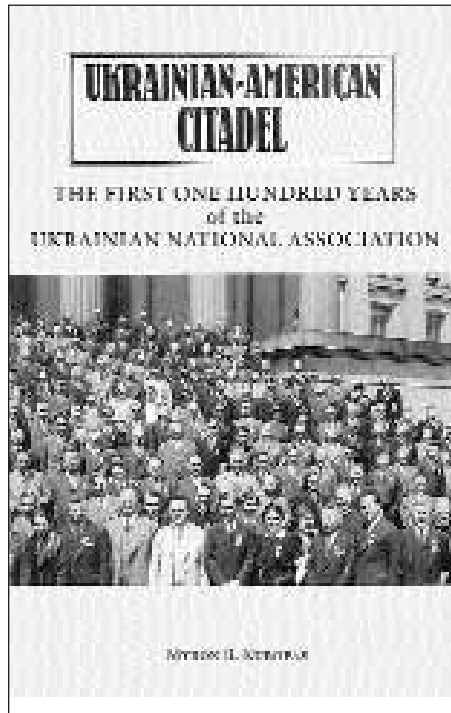
The fraternal benefit system in Pennsylvania grew out of a need to provide low-cost life insurance for workers either unable to obtain, or to afford coverage. Coal miners, whose risky occupation prohibited affordable insurance premiums, were especially vulnerable. Survivors, left with no source of income, suffered the most when miners were killed or disabled. Few families were left with much to live on after paying funeral expenses.

Beginning in the late 19th century, groups in Pennsylvania started organizing mutual assistance clubs, initially called “burial societies,” for the purpose of establishing survivor's benefits. The plan called for the creation of an insurance fund that a member's beneficiaries received on his death. As membership in the societies grew, they adopted rituals and ceremonies designed to dramatize the concepts of cooperative and exemplary living.

Birth of the Ruskyi Narodnyi Soyuz

Shamokin, birthplace of the Ukrainian National Association, soon replaced

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On our 110th anniversary

Spotlight on UNA branches

Beginning with this issue, the UNA will spotlight its branches across North America. The information in this section was submitted to the UNA Home Office at the time of the organization's centennial. It is published here under the coordination of Oksana Trytjak, UNA fraternal activities and special projects coordinator.

BRANCH 1, SHAMOKIN, PA. ST. ANDREW SOCIETY

Branch 1 of the Ukrainian National Association was the dream of the Ukrainian community.

As our Ukrainian people migrated from the Old World to the New World, many settled in the hard-coal region of Pennsylvania – Shamokin being one of the most popular places.

Not being well-educated, the majority went to work in the coal mines – a very dangerous occupation that left many immigrants dead or disabled. This affected both adults and children, who worked at the mines as coal breakers.

By the end of 1890 there were between 200,000 and 300,000 Ukrainians living in the United States. These arrived through the ports of New York (Ellis Island), Baltimore and Boston.

The majority of these immigrants settled in Shamokin, Mount Carmel, Shenandoah, Olyphant, Hazelton, Mayfare and Lansford, Pa.

These Ukrainian immigrants had many social, cultural and linguistic problems. They lacked leadership, except for the few priests that were available. Most of the people were of the Ruthenian (Ukrainian) Greek-Catholic rite and when adversity struck they banded together at their place of worship.

Their efforts to get a priest were realized in 1884 when the archbishop of Lviv sent the Rev. Ivan Voliansky, the first Ukrainian priest in the United States. However, he was sent to Shenandoah, Pa., approximately 20 miles from Shamokin.

By the fall of 1886 the first Ukrainian Catholic church was built in Shenandoah through the efforts of Father Voliansky and the Ukrainian community in Shenandoah. He organized the first choir, reading room and library in Shenandoah, as well as an evening school and fraternal societies.

The first Ukrainian immigrants settled in Shamokin around 1879. John Hasich, and Stephen and Phyllis Murdza were the first three to settle here. The ever-increasing number of Ukrainians settling in Shamokin asked Father Voliansky to celebrate the liturgy in their community; this came to pass in 1884.

In 1890 their longing for a church of their own was realized when a wooden structure at Pearl and Pine streets in Shamokin was dedicated. Before that services were offered in private homes and buildings large enough to accommodate the parishioners.

Three years later the Rev. Ivan Konstankevych became the first pastor of the Shamokin parish, and under his

leadership it became one of the largest and best organizations.

He organized laymen and taught them to teach the Ukrainian language. Their day school then became an evening school that taught religion, writing and language, because the children went to public school during the day. He organized the first Ruthenian (Ukrainian) band and the first choir, Boyan.

During this time the Ss. Cyril and Methodius Society was a principal fund-raiser. With more immigrants arriving in Shamokin, the need for a new church was evident. In 1907 the new church – a magnificent granite structure – was dedicated by Bishop Soter Ortynsky at the corner of Shamokin and Clay streets.

Next the Ukrainians wanted to establish their own Ukrainian Catholic church administration, which would control the priest and their activities, and bring order to their church. This move incurred the wrath of other Slavic and Latin rite church groups. The Ukrainians were considered radicals and were condemned by the Roman Catholic hierarchy. Ukrainians who supported such a change were barred from a decent burial in Catholic cemeteries.

Prejudice against Ukrainians existed not only in religious affairs, but in civic life as well. Ukrainians going to work were often beaten and their food was either taken away or was contaminated one way or another, so they went to work and had nothing to eat. With conditions like this and worse, the Ukrainian community began to understand that it had to band together for strength and security.

Brotherhoods were organized to look after the material needs of the community. These brotherhoods became the leading organizations in the town and helped in building churches. Dues paid by the members were eventually used to help convalescing workers and their families, and to help cover the cost of funerals.

The Ukrainian Brotherhood of Ss. Cyril and Methodius founded in 1887 in Shamokin was the most active. The Ukrainian Brotherhood of Taras Shevchenko was established in 1896. More brotherhoods were formed later.

The Union of the Greek-Catholic Russian Brotherhoods was founded in 1892 with Father Konstankevych elected to the Auditing Committee. Finding some excesses in the management of funds, Father Konstankevych and his supporters left the union in 1893 during its convention in Scranton, Pa. Immediately after that convention four Ukrainian priests, the Rev. Konstankevych, Theofan Obushkevych, Ambrose Poliansky and Hryhory Hrushka met in the latter's Jersey City, N.J., apartment and decided they needed a separate Ukrainian national organization, which they called the Rusyn National Association.

In November 1893 the Rev. Hrushka printed a full-page editorial in Svoboda

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Nyet to Patriarchate?

Last week we ourselves read the news in disbelief. Reportedly, the Vatican is unlikely to recognize a Patriarchate for the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) due to pressure from the Russian Orthodox Church and its supporters, most prominent among them the patriarch of Constantinople.

Was this betrayal by the Holy See? Was it a reaction to threats, virtual blackmail, made by the Russian Orthodox Church against Roman Catholics in Russia? Was there some behind-the-scenes deal between Rome on one side and Moscow and Constantinople on the other? Was it all of the above?

Could it be that a martyr Church that survived Soviet attempts to destroy it, all the while remaining true to Rome, is now subject to the whims of the Russian Orthodox Church – the very same Church that for decades was an instrument of Soviet policy directed against the UGCC and the Ukrainian nation as a whole? And how is it that Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople and leaders of other Orthodox Churches can feel that it is their right to offer advice on the status of a Church that is not affiliated with them?

Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, primate of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, commented to the Catholic News Service that he has “absolutely no doubt the holy father would like to establish the Patriarchate, but he also wants to keep the dialogue with the Orthodox open.”

At the same time, however, Cardinal Husar, pointed to the ROC’s demand that the Roman Catholic Church should “gradually reduce the presence” of the UGCC – a nice euphemism for bringing its existence to an end. Moscow’s politics, it is abundantly clear, basically have not changed. Not even the fact that Ukraine is an independent state, that the Ukrainian Catholic Church now has its own territorial base, is enough to stop Moscow’s meddling.

So are Ukrainian Catholics to be sacrificed for the sake of dialogue? What is to be done?

As Bishop Basil Losten of the Stamford Eparchy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church wrote in his letter to Patriarch Bartholomew, “The question of a Patriarchate for the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church is a matter between the Synod of Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Bishops and Pope John Paul II, and concerns no other Church.”

The Rev. Robert Taft of the Pontifical Oriental Institute, a veteran of East/West Church dialogue and a specialist in Eastern Churches, said of the Patriarchate issue: “The argument is that when an Eastern Church reaches a certain consistency, unity, size, consolidation and so forth, it’s a normal step. ... Frankly, my advice to the Ukrainians has always been to ... [j]ust declare the Patriarchate and get on with it. Do it, of course, only if you’ve got the bishops unanimously behind it.” In fact, it should be noted that the UGCC Synod of Bishops unequivocally declared its support for a Patriarchate in 2002.

Cardinal Husar sounded a hopeful note in a statement issued this week on behalf of the Kyiv-Halych Metropolitanate of the UGCC: “The talks in Moscow by no means negate the main line of development of the Patriarchate following from the decisions of the Synod of Bishops of our Church. We chose this path long ago and it reflects the clear will of the people of God of our Church.” Furthermore, he added, the new furor may actually lead to renewed study of the issue that may ultimately lead to the Patriarchate’s recognition: “The public attention attracted by the mentioned visit may give impetus to a more thorough study of the arguments of the UGCC.”

Thus, what we know at this point is the following: The Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church is sure of its identity and certain of its goal. The pontiff has not yet spoken on the issue of the Patriarchate since the Moscow meetings. And Moscow’s “nyet” is not the final determinant.

March
9
2003

Turning the pages back...

At about this time last year, Ukraine and the United States appeared to be turning the corner in their bilateral relationship, reported our Washington correspondent, Yaro Bihun. That relationship had been going through a difficult period,

according to Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, then ambassador of Ukraine to the United States.

“Recently, I believe, we have been concentrating more on the positive side of things to be done, and that should help us to get away from what was the main theme of problems of the last year and into the new year of open opportunities,” he told our Washington correspondent.

Ambassador Gryshchenko’s assessment, made in remarks in late February 2003 at a forum on U.S.-Ukraine relations sponsored by The Washington Group, an association of Ukrainian American professionals, came two weeks after a senior State Department official signaled that Washington was willing to put aside the biggest irritant in their relationship – the allegation that Ukraine sold the Kolchuha air defense system to Iraq.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Steven Pifer said then that the Bush administration decided to “basically disagree” with Kyiv on whether it sold the air defense system to Iraq and not allow the issue to push the relationship into what he called a “deep freeze.”

Ambassador Gryshchenko said that by concentrating on positive bilateral interaction, such as Ukraine’s decision to send a nuclear-biological-chemical (NBC) defense battalion to the Gulf region, adopt adequate measures against money-laundering, continue cooperating in the war against terrorism and in non-proliferation, the two coun-

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A new initiative: ‘Cities of Friendship’

by Ambassador Mykhailo Reznik

Twelve years ago, with the collapse of the Soviet Union, the United States and Ukraine knew little about each other but started searching for a means to fill this void. Many of us will never forget that exciting moment when the borders of Ukraine were opened and our two countries began to discover each other, when our citizens started to establish acquaintances, communications and friendships.

During the past 12 years these contacts have evolved. Thousands of Ukrainian students have studied in the United States. Thousands of Americans have had an opportunity to experience first hand the hospitality and warmth of Ukrainian families. Thousands of children affected by Chernobyl have benefited from the medical care they received in the United States. Hundreds of Peace Corps volunteers and others from non-governmental organizations have left a little part of themselves in Ukraine, and some have even decided to remain in Ukraine permanently.

These years have been filled with joys and disappointments on both sides. Nonetheless, during this time of transition it was grass-roots initiatives that contributed greatly to the strengthening of Ukrainian-American relations. In my

Mykhailo Reznik is Ukraine’s ambassador to the United States.

opinion, now the time has come to be receptive to new opportunities. That is why the Embassy of Ukraine has decided to launch a new initiative that we are calling “Cities of Friendship.”

We would be glad to hear from Americans who have hosted Ukrainian children and from universities that have enabled Ukrainian students to obtain scholarships. Ultimately, we are interested in establishing contact with all citizens of the United States who are interested in helping Ukraine.

Why? First of all, we wish to express our appreciation and gratitude. Secondly, the Embassy is hoping to expand relationships between partners on the level of cities and educational institutions of our two countries.

We dream of the day when every Ukrainian city and town will have an American sister city. We aspire to bring Ukrainian-American “people-to-people diplomacy” to a new higher level. We ask for your cooperation.

At this time, only a few Ukrainian cities have a partner in the United States. Some of these existing partners could serve as examples; others could benefit from an infusion of new ideas and new people who would be willing to contribute and strengthen the relationships that already exist. Still others could plant the seeds for the beginnings of friendships that will ultimately result in the

(Continued on page 20)

COMMENTARY

Closing our schools: Where is the vision?

by Rostyslaw Robak

When the pastor of St. John’s Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N.J., announced the closing of the elementary school on February 16 he proclaimed the metropolitan’s withdrawal of his blessing from the school as of this June. This move has struck at the heart of the Newark community’s spiritual life. It seems to have been done in spite of the strong commitment of the vast majority of the parents, teachers and children of the school.

Since the St. John’s School Advisory Board began functioning in September 2003, both the board and the teachers have worked steadily to improve the school. A large commitment of resources was made to upgrade the school’s technology. A new, state-of-the-art computer center with a network and Internet access was set up. New extracurricular programs were established. These have included a Ukrainian cooking club, a science club, and a school newspaper.

The board continued to raise funds. A Christmas concert series alone raised \$7,000. Other fund-raisers included the parish festival, a gala dinner, and several activities organized by the Mothers’ and Fathers’ clubs. Faithful parishioners kept up donations in Sunday collections dedicated to the school. The board provided detailed accounts of spending and income, including reports to the metropolitan.

When the pastor, trustees and Parish Council requested a plan for the future continuation of the school, the board presented a detailed plan of realistic action

Rostyslaw Robak is president of the School Advisory Board for St. John’s, Newark. He is a professor of psychology at Pace University.

at the January meeting of the council. That plan and all others were rejected.

At the February 16 meeting of the Parish Council, the pastor read an opening prepared statement announcing the school’s closing. The matter was not put to a vote; it was simply announced.

There were, and still are, many ways to save St. John’s School. The school is not ending its existence for lack of effort or vision by the community. They appear to be lacking on the part of the metropolitan, the pastor and the parish trustees.

Now that the school is to be closed, the questions before the Ukrainian community at large – and the pastor and the metropolitan in particular – are: Where is the vision? What will be done for the faithful, and what will be done for the children?

There is a very strong indication that no such vision exists beyond merely locking the doors and renting the buildings. That indication came at the February 16 meeting when the pastor was unable to adequately respond to questions about any plans for dealing with the schoolchildren’s needs during the transition to closing or afterward. Indeed, he appeared genuinely surprised by such a concern.

Where is the vision? The parishioners who built this school in the 1950s had a vision. They paid a self-imposed weekly building fund contribution of \$5. At that time, the typical hourly wage earned by those parishioners was 75 cents!

Succeeding generations of parents have kept that vision and kept the school going. But, it seems that vision is now lacking among this Church leadership. It is incumbent on any spiritual leaders to articulate a vision for their community. This leadership has demonstrated an apparent lack of vision.

NEWS AND VIEWS

All genocide victims must be hallowed

by Lubomyr Luciuk

The late, great Israel Asper knew nothing is free. Public funds have a price. So his proposal for a Canadian Museum of Human Rights in Winnipeg, underwritten with federal, provincial and municipal contributions, was inclusive. Promised exhibits will cover everything from the wartime internment of Japanese and Ukrainian Canadians to the Chinese Head Tax. Good.

But Mr. Asper's catholic vision appalled those who insisted the museum's focus must be on the Holocaust – "unique" not simply for being "one of a kind," which it was, but in the elevated meaning of being most important, perhaps even the only genocide befouling history.

Inherently discriminatory for casting out the memory of millions of non-Jews enslaved or murdered by the Nazis, such a bias renders the very concept nugatory. If only one person experienced "genocide" what cautionary value does enshrining their nightmare have? Or, put differently, if what Nazis did to Jews can't occur again, why should taxpayers finance another museum (dozens already exist across North America) about something that happened somewhere else, more than a half-century ago?

Barney Sneiderman's thoughtful reflection on these contentions was published not long ago ("Holocaust is unique in way," *Winnipeg Free Press*, December 13, 2003). While conceding the Holocaust was not a greater evil than other cases of systematic mass murder, the good professor insisted that because the Nazis intended to destroy all Jews, and brought an assembly line to the slaughter, we must accept the Holocaust as somehow "Other." Mr. Asper also believed so, segregating 20 percent of the museum for a Holocaust Gallery.

Indisputably, Hitler's minions killed Jews throughout Nazi-occupied Europe. If somehow they had conquered the world they may have tried to expunge all Jews. We shall never know for, thankfully, it was the Nazis who were erased. Millions died, but Jews survived. Out of revulsion over their massacre, Israel was secured, the ultimate refutation of Hitlerism.

Yet, as Europe was liberated by force of arms, Stalin and the architects of the genocidal Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Soviet Ukraine, the Holodomor, endured. Not only did Ukraine lose more people than any country in Nazi-occupied Europe but more Ukrainians perished in the Terror-Famine than all the Jews murdered in the six years of the second world war.

The Holodomor (literally, death torture by forced starvation), was as deliberate an act of a perverted state as the Holocaust. What is different, however, is that the latter stopped when the Nazis were defeated. The man-made Famine started and ended when Stalin said so.

Today who denies or does not know of the Holocaust? Nuts and know-nothings. Victims still recall it, as they should. In contrast, Holodomor survivors often won't speak. They are silent for good reason.

After the war millions of "Soviet Ukrainians," press-ganged into the Third Reich, found themselves in Western Europe. Finally free? No. The Yalta

Agreement decreed everyone who was a "Soviet citizen" on or before September 1, 1939, must return.

Thousands of refugees were handed over by British, American, French and, yes, even Canadian soldiers, often at bayonet point. Their forcible repatriation was, as Prof. Watson Kirkconnell, president of the Baptist Federation of Canada, wrote to Prime Minister Mackenzie King, a "war crime." Many a returnee was executed after delivery.

Avoiding repatriation meant lying about who one was. Righteous Western Ukrainians, technically Polish citizens not liable to refoulement, surreptitiously schooled Eastern or "Russian" Ukrainians about life in interwar Poland – coaching necessary to fool screening. How many "Soviet citizens" were rescued by deception? No one knows. But I have met many who were so saved, most recently in Winnipeg. Knowing that denaturalization and deportation are the penalty for obtaining Canadian citizenship falsely, they can't bear witness publicly. To do so would be to admit they were "Soviet citizens," liars when naturalized.

Until 1991, when the Soviet canker exfoliated, its barkers were all Famine deniers. A bevy brayed how those who had refused to come "home" were nothing but rogues, concoctors of preposterous "myths" about Famine-Genocide, diverting attention from their misdeeds as "Nazi collaborators." Some "useful idiots" still. To challenge their calumnies required admitting you were an illegal immigrant, risking the brand of right-wing émigré, or worse. Few dared.

Deep anxieties also persist over what might happen "back home" if one is too vocal about the Soviet past. Yesteryear's apparatchiks remain influential, undercutting sporadic calls for criminal prosecution of the perpetrators of Communist crimes against humanity.

While its victims are now officially remembered on the fourth Saturday every November, the Holodomor has not become a rallying point in Ukrainian national consciousness, akin to the Holocaust for Jews. Israel defends Jewish interests worldwide, Ukraine does not even pretend to. Israel can't forget the 6 million. Ukraine pretends the remains of many millions more do not saturate its rich black earth.

The Holodomor harvested Ukrainian society, left it, as British observers noted, "atomized," the only song in many a village the demented chortling of cannibals. Ukraine is a post-genocidal society, feculent for ignoring this past.

Whereas the Holocaust's engineers were punished, Ukraine's reapers haven't faced justice. Even history fails to condemn them, for critical archives remain hidden, in Russia. Keen to gorge on a disproportionate share of Soviet assets, Moscow palters over culpability for the Famine the Soviets wrought. The Russians even lobbied at the United Nations to ensure the Holodomor was not defined as genocide. Would German diplomats try to sidebar the Shoah? Inconceivable.

The Great Famine was the genocide few knew of. Many "powers and principalities" are trying to ensure we never learn more. That alone makes the Holodomor unique. For the Canadian Museum of Human Rights to become world class, one of a kind, the truth about the Holodomor and other genocides must be told there, all Holocaust victims hallowed together. I'm sure that's what Izzie would have wanted.

PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY

**My friend, George Kalbouss**

Dr. George Kalbouss had been teaching "Russian Culture" at the Ohio State University (OSU) for more than 25 years when word came in 1996 that the university would close the Slavic Studies Department. That's when George called me and introduced himself. I had been his daughter's boss in Rep. Mary Rose Oaker's office in the 1980s, he said. Christina suggested he call me. As director of the Ukrainian Museum-Archives, I was involved in Ukrainian scholarship and by extension, Slavic Studies. Maybe, with some of my political experience, I could help.

I proceeded to call my own political guru, Taras Szmagala Sr., who had been chief of staff to Ohio's Sen. Bob Taft. The three of us met at a café at Cleveland's West Side Market and George explained what was going on: OSU's president figured that after the demise of the Soviet Union, Slavic studies had become irrelevant; closing the department would save money.

For George, the issue wasn't money. His children were on their own, he had no major debts and was eligible for retirement. In fact, having served in the Army and Reserves for 31 years, he already had a military pension. Eliminating the department wouldn't hurt him personally. But dammit! Why was Slavic studies always first on the chopping block? He wasn't going to take it.

A lot of political efforts begin with a letter-writing campaign. So Mr. Szmagala and I sat down and drafted letters on Ukrainian Museum-Archives letterhead to state representatives and senators in Columbus with last names like Suhodołnik, Zaleski, Kucinich, Vukovich and Matelski, along with Irish, African American, Italian and other friends who represented places like Slavic Village in Cleveland and Poland, Ohio.

Why would OSU want to close down the Slavic studies department, we asked? Slavic immigration helped to build Ohio. Millions of our citizens trace their heritage to Central and Eastern Europe. Besides, based on enrollment, scholarship and community service, the department more than justified its existence.

Recognizing a hot issue when they saw it, the reps and senators got on the phone to OSU's president inquiring why, indeed, he wanted to close the Slavic studies department. The Lorain City Council even passed a resolution. To make a long story short, the university reconsidered, and today the department is still providing wonderful instruction and generating sound scholarship. Academics, artists and intellectuals from Central and Eastern Europe routinely visit Columbus, enriching Ohio and the nation.

So the story has a happy ending – only in this case it was just the beginning. As professor of OSU's "Russian Culture" course, George Kalbouss has an enormous following. Since 1973, when he first launched the course, he's taught 20,000 students from every corner of Ohio, all across America and countries around the world.

After our coffee, Messrs. Kalbouss, Szmagala and I visited the Ukrainian Museum nearby. There George saw literature, documents and artifacts that define a culture related to but totally separate from the one he'd been teaching for the past quarter century: his father's culture, as it turned out. Born in Poltava, George's

father fled the Communist catastrophe and settled in New York, where he met and married a schoolteacher who had fled her native Russia about the same time. Growing up on the East Side, their son, George, learned to love Russian culture – a love he continued to pursue at Columbia University and New York University, eventually earning a Ph.D. in Russian studies before settling in Columbus.

Confronted by the wealth of materials at the Ukrainian Museum in Cleveland at the same time that OSU's Slavic Studies program was on the brink, George had an epiphany, one that unfolded over time. The collapse of the Soviet Union did not make Slavic studies less relevant. Instead, the balance had shifted. Countries and cultures that had been stifled by the weight of Russian and later Soviet imperialism had emerged with sufficient strength to topple an empire.

And at the center of it all was Ukraine. There, vast historical tides swept the steppes long before the birth of Christ, continuing into the 20th century with Lenin's utopia and Hitler's Third Reich. And so the man who had started OSU's "Russian Culture" course, inaugurated Slavic 245 "Introduction to Ukrainian History and Culture" and asked me to co-teach. I accepted. We call it the "George & Andy Show."

Tapping into the enormous resources of Cleveland's Ukrainian Museum and using state-of-the-art audio-visual technology, we throw images of Scythian gold, Kyiv's architecture, the flag and trident, Shevchenko's drawings, etc. onto a screen to illustrate the ebbs and flows of Ukrainian history and how they fit into the destiny of surrounding empires that first rose, then fell. We use Slavko Nowytski's film about the Famine, music from the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, pysanky at Eastertime and postage stamps from the UMA collection. The class has been very successful: over the past five years, class size has ranged from 40 to 60 students.

George is now retired, but he's not resting. Not only is he head of the Midwest Slavic Association, but as professor emeritus at OSU, he's carrying a heavy teaching load, including a fascinating course on East European immigration and, of course, his beloved course in "Russian Culture."

George Kalbouss is a man of extraordinary wit, affability and knowledge. He's also resourceful and tough. Eliminate a department he's dedicated his life to? He'll find a way to save it. Start up a new program because it's time has come? He'll talk to the people who can make it happen.

Recently, commenting in *The Ukrainian Weekly* about the newly established Ukrainian program at his alma mater Columbia, George wondered why the Ukrainian community should have to raise a million dollars before such a richly endowed university would consent to teach their culture. The Russian community never had to meet a similar challenge. Having taught both Russian and Ukrainian culture, he argued that both subjects are justified on their merits. Humbly, he offered an alternative model. How about using university revenues, including student tuition, to support a course that students are willing to take anyway?

As for the "George & Andy Show," our course in "Ukrainian Culture" opens for the sixth season at OSU on March 30. George is a guy who not only gets it, he does something about it. I'm proud to call him my friend.

Andrew Fedynsky's e-mail address is: fedynsky@stratos.net.

Prof. Lubomyr Luciuk is author of "Searching For Place: Ukrainian Displaced Persons, Canada and the Migration of Memory" (University of Toronto Press, 2001) and director of research for the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association.

Cardinal Husar...

(Continued from page 1)

with the Vatican in the Union of Brest. The latest effort began during the Second Vatican Council when the leader of the UGCC at the time, Cardinal Josyf Slipyj, announced the desire of the Ukrainian Church to receive recognition as a Patriarchate. After an independent Ukrainian state became a reality in 1991 and the UGCC – long banned in the USSR – was re-established, the movement toward a Patriarchate took on steam, spurred along by statements made by Pope John Paul II throughout the last decade in support of such a development.

In 2002 the UGCC Synod of Bishops officially submitted to the Vatican its request for Patriarchal status, which included how it had fulfilled the requirements needed for recognition by the pope. The Vatican has yet to respond officially, although it is believed that Pope John Paul II is ready to approve such a request, if only the Orthodox Churches would show some acceptance for such a move.

In an interview with Ukrainian journalists in Lviv the day before the statement by Cardinal Husar was issued, the UGCC leader was diplomatic about the visit to Moscow by Cardinal Kasper and

his alleged comments that no Patriarchate for the UGCC would be recognized.

Cardinal Husar said that, not only did the UGCC fail to view the meeting “as if the world was ending,” but it believed it to be “an opportune moment, which would give us and those viewing from the sidelines a chance to better understand our situation.”

The Rev. Oleksa Petriv, press spokesman for the UGCC in Kyiv, told *The Weekly* on March 3 that the UGCC Synod of Bishops had decided on February 25 to develop its own letter-writing campaign in reply to the effort by the Orthodox Churches. The Rev. Petriv explained that the attempt by Moscow and Constantinople to derail the drive by the UGCC for recognition as a Patriarchate would have the opposite result.

“The newest developments will without a doubt intensify the move towards a Patriarchate,” Rev. Petriv said.

The UGCC spokesperson rejected any notion that the Church might designate itself a Patriarchate without awaiting canonical recognition from the Vatican. The Rev. Petriv underscored that, because a fully developed Church structure was now in place and the UGCC Synod of Bishops unanimously supported patriarchal status recognition by the pope, recognition of a Patriarchate is merely a matter of time.

Statement by Synod...

(Continued from page 1)

plicated knot of contradictions. The talks in Moscow by no means negate the main line of development of the Patriarchate following from the decisions of the Synod of Bishops of our Church. We chose this path long ago, and it reflects the clear will of the people of God of our Church. In addition, what happened may also have positive consequences. The public attention attracted by the mentioned visit may give impetus to a more thorough study of the arguments of the UGCC. And, taking into account that no one will represent our position better than ourselves, we should do it with a clear mind and with a heart not shadowed by anxiety.

We are firmly convinced of our own identity. A distinctive feature of our Church is that, though it received its ecclesiastical formation from Byzantium, it was and always sought to be in communion with the successor of St. Peter the Apostle, the bishop of Rome. Our ancestors stressed this as early as at the Union of Brest at the end of the 16th century. The Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church not only has a rich and long history going back to the time of Volodymyr's baptism, but also maintains and develops an old theological, legal and spiritual tradition and has a complete hierarchy. According to canon law, the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church is a particular Church and not a part of some other Church, and, therefore, it develops in accordance with its ecclesial nature.

There were many difficult periods in the history of our Church when attempts were made to send it out of its native land, when its right to existence was denied, when attempts were made to physically destroy it or restrict it by administrative measures to the extent that it would gradually vanish. We have survived despite all these cruel measures. It must have been God's arm that supported us in the worst moments of our history and that gives us opportunities to successfully develop today.

One of the expressions of this development, of this desire to be fully ourselves, to revive all necessary elements of Church life, is our wish to be recognized as a patriarchate. This is not a whim of the present day. The idea of the Patriarchate of the Kyivan Church can be traced back at least to the 16th and 17th centuries, when far-seeing Church figures sought to unify all Ukrainian Christians in one Church in the form of a patriarchate. This concept has an interesting history: in the course of time, it was as if it went into decline and then clearly manifested itself again. In the 1960s, at the Second Vatican Council, it was distinctly made public by Patriarch Josyf Slipyj of holy memory, and it has been continuously developing ever since. And today, we, the bishops of the Kyiv-Halych Metropolitanate of the UGCC, are deeply convinced that such an arrangement is necessary for strengthening the unity of our Church and people and the appropriate development thereof. This position was expressed by all the bishops of our Church at the Synod of 2002, and today we only await its recognition by the holy father.

His Holiness Pope John Paul II, from the beginning of his pontificate, stood up for our Church and proved thereby that it was dear to his heart. Even in Communist times, at an international forum representatives of the Roman Apostolic See at the pope's instruction defended our right to exist. Ten years before the celebration of the 1,000th anniversary of the Baptism of Kyivan Rus', our bishops informed the holy father about their wish to commemorate this event. He very gladly blessed that intention and, in answer to the protest of representatives of the Moscow

Patriarchate, confirmed our main right, the right to exist, in his letter of 1979. Later, in 1988, the pope personally participated in our celebration, which still had to be held on the territory of Rome. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, His Holiness Pope John Paul II greeted our bishops who had been active in the underground Church and urged them to develop it. And recently, in 2001, despite various protests, he visited Ukraine and gave his pastoral addresses to us on more than one occasion. It was on his instruction that Cardinal Walter Kasper, who is responsible for relations with non-Catholic Christian Churches, presented the case of our Church to the Moscow Patriarchate in 2003. It was a delicate gesture on the part of the pope, as he mentioned the possible recognition of the Patriarchate of the UGCC in advance.

Unfortunately, the responses from the Moscow Patriarchate and other Orthodox Churches often contained expressions which should be considered inappropriate for inter-Church dialogue. It is enough to mention the statement that the Roman Catholic Church should “gradually reduce the presence” of our Church. These warnings, like ultimatums and verging on blackmail, saying that any possible contacts between Catholics and Orthodox will be broken off for years if the pope recognizes the Patriarchate of the UGCC, sound like a personal insult to the holy father. Such a reaction is very distressing, as it indicates that the leaders of the Orthodox Churches are not prepared to resolve historic contradictions by considering the legitimate needs of all interested parties. We hope that in the future those Orthodox circles which are prepared for constructive cooperation and understanding will express their opinions as well.

Still, it is not enough today to maintain that the legitimate development of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church cannot be the subject of diplomatic sanctions. We have to calmly and confidently work on the development of our own particularity and deepen our understanding of the patriarchal structure without concentrating solely on its external aspects. We are convinced that the patriarchal system is good both for us and for other Orthodox and Eastern Catholic Churches. Only when we are ourselves, that is, when we act as a particular Church, will we be able to fulfill our ministry for the good of the Universal Church. Holding unbiased, equitable and multilateral talks on the normalization of inter-Church relations, especially with regard to the further development of the Eastern Catholic Churches, may give renewed impetus to an ecumenism of partners, which will be incompatible with discrimination and suppression. However, an ecumenism which is worthy of the name cannot be limited to endless and solely verbal relations, which are susceptible to the mood of the time. Ecumenism must be manifested in concrete and continuous works, which would indicate the partners' good will.

The patriarchal status of the Church is not just a decree of the Synod of Bishops confirmed by the holy father's recognition. This status is, above all, the transformed life of the people of God, who are aware of their new duties and responsibilities. From a certain point of view, the current discussions about the Patriarchate of the UGCC are a sign from the Holy Spirit that we should firmly confirm this Patriarchate in the life of the whole Church. At the same time, the life of the Church is the work of God. Therefore, notwithstanding all our speculations and efforts, we should rest our hope upon the Lord. We hereby sincerely ask you for your prayers and fasting for this intention.

May God's blessing be upon you!

In the name of the Synod of Bishops of the Kyiv-Halych Metropolitanate
+ Lubomyr

Polish government's decision on sale of steel mill angers Ukraine

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – A decision by the privatization arm of the Polish government to offer to sell a Polish steel mill to a British-Indian consortium threw Polish-Ukrainian economic relations into turmoil on February 28. The determination contradicted an earlier announcement in which the Polish government said it would favor the tender offer of a Donetsk-based Ukrainian firm.

The diplomatic turmoil that ensued after Ukraine's government questioned the transparency of the privatization process of the Huta Czestochowa steel mill forced Prime Minister Leszek Miller on March 1 to call for a government review of the matter. Mr. Miller acted after a telephone call from Ukraine's Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich in which the Ukrainian government leader said the manner in which the tender was awarded to the British-Indian concern, LNM Group, was “discriminatory” against the Ukrainian-owned corporation, Industrial Union of Donbas (IUD).

Mr. Yanukovich told reporters in Kyiv on February 28 after a meeting of his Cabinet of Ministers that economic matters between the two strategic partners must be decided on an equal and fair basis.

“If there was a mistake, it should be corrected,” explained Mr. Yanukovich.

The previous day, while on a trip to Zaporizhia, the Ukrainian prime minister had said that matter threatened the strategic partnership between Poland and Ukraine. “We will look into the matter and build our relations taking into account what has occurred,” said Mr. Yanukovich.

He went so far as to state that “if Poland discredits Ukraine,” Kyiv might look to Hungary to become its unofficial voice within the European Union, a responsibility Poland had earlier said it would retain.

The Ukrainian Embassy in Warsaw submitted a diplomatic note to the Polish government protesting the manner in which an unpublicized “second tender” allegedly accepted by the Polish government had allowed the LNM Group to up its bid after the IUD proposal had become public.

The Ukrainian embassy also accused

Warsaw of failing to stipulate in its tender offer that it had an agreement with the European Union to limit steel output until 2006 after it entered the economic commonwealth in May. IUD had stated in its bid that it would triple steel output at Huta Czestochowa.

IUD, a Donetsk-based manufacturing conglomerate with close ties to the Ukrainian prime minister, looked positioned to obtain the purchasing rights to Huta Czestochowa after it had submitted the most comprehensive and financially sound bid package. On February 12 a Polish government tender commission had announced that it had voted to support the IUD bid proposal. The package IUD had proposed included extensive investment to physically refurbish the plant and included wage guarantees.

However, a bit later on the same day Poland's Vice Minister of the Treasury Andrzej Szawranski issued a statement explaining that, before the decision was finalized, the prime minister and the president needed to review the matter.

When Minister of the Treasury Zbigniew Kaniewski announced on February 20 that the LNM Group bid had been accepted, IUD reacted by releasing a statement that it would protest the decision. It accused the LNM Group of repeatedly pressuring the Polish government in contravention of “the procedure of a European privatization tender.”

“The corporation believes LNM has repeatedly pressured the Polish government, creating the conditions for the insincere correction of its tender submission at the last minute for its own benefit,” IUD explained in a statement issued on February 23.

During a press conference on February 26, Oleksander Pylypenko, director of investment and corporate rights at IUD, said he believed LNM had made a post-deadline last ditch attempt to win the Huta Czestochowa tender because it was desperate to obtain ownership of the relatively small steel mill. He explained that LNM had not realized that the European Union had imposed steel production limits on

(Continued on page 15)



TENNIS CAMP kicks off the summer with 2 weeks of intensive tennis instruction for boys and girls ages 12-18. Room, Board, 24 Hour Supervision, expert lessons and a life time of memories are included!

June 20 - July 2, 2004
 \$540 UNA Members, \$590 Non UNA Members
 \$120 Instructors Fee/ Per Student

EXPLORATION DAY CAMP— supervised day fun for boys and girls ages 7-10, while younger siblings are at the PLAST organized Tabir Ptashat camps!

Week One: June 28- July 2, 2004
 Week Two: July 5- July 9, 2004
 \$100.00 Per Week/Per Child OR \$25.00 Per Day/Per Child

ADVENTURE CAMP is a brand new sleepover camp for 13-16 year olds and will focus on the outdoors. Like the kozaks of old, daily life will include outdoor, overnight campouts with cooking & fireside storytelling. Will include wilderness survival skills, a kayak river trip, hiking, rock climbing lessons and more!

Week One: July 17 - July 24, 2004

Week Two: July 24- July 31, 2004
 \$425 UNA Members, \$475 Non UNA Members

DISCOVERY CAMP a new sleepover program modeled after the Adventure Camp but geared for 8-12 year olds. This camp offers exposure to Ukrainian heritage & outdoor instruction. Daily life is filled with outdoor crafts, hiking, swimming, organized sports & games, bonfires, song and much more. Room, Board, 24 Hour Supervision, and a life time of memories are included!

Week One: July 10- July 17, 2004
 Week Two: July 17- July 24, 2004
 Week Three: July 24- July 31, 2004
 \$375- UNA Members, \$425- Non UNA Members

CHIMNEY YOUTH DAY CAMP a returning favorite for boys and girls ages 4-7. Kids will be exposed to Ukrainian heritage through daily activities such as dance, song, crafts and games. Price includes tee-shirt and daily lunch.

Week One: July 18 - July 23, 2004
 Week Two: July 25 - July 30, 2004
 \$135 Per Camper
 \$175 Per Camper If Not Overnight Guest

SCUBA DIVING COURSE— this one week course will complete your academic, confined water and open water requirements for PADI open water certification. For all ages 12 and older! Classes are given by George Hanushevsky, scuba diver instructor. Space is limited so sign up now!

August 1 - August 7, 2004
 \$400 for Course
 \$120 Deposit Required

DANCE CAMP— this sleepover camp has been a Soyuzivka favorite for over 25 years. Taught by Roma Pryma Bohachevsky, an internationally recognized dancer and choreographer, and offers instruction for beginning, intermediate and advanced students ages 8-16. Attendance is limited to 60 students. Room, board, 24-hour supervision, expert lessons and loads of fun are included.

August 8- August 21, 2004
 \$610- UNA Members, \$660- Non UNA Members
 \$250 Instructors Fee Per Student

*\$75 Deposit Required to Register Child into a Camp.
 For more information & for camp applications
 Call (845) 626-5641
 or check out our website at:
 www.Soyuzivka.com*

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 www.Soyuzivka.com, Email: Soyuzivka@aol.com





FOCUS ON PHILATELY

by Inger Kuzych

Pysanky on stamps – fragile gems

PART I

In addition to collecting miniature works of art known as stamps, I also very much enjoy collecting the unique three-dimensional works of art known as pysanky. Things really get to be fun when both interests are combined – collecting stamps showing pysanky!

Perhaps the most famous such example is a pane (sheet) of “stamps” created in 1959 by a small group of pysanka lovers in Toronto. In beauty and intricacy these “stamps” look like the real thing, but in actuality they are seals created for the youth scouting group Plast to raise funds and to spark an interest in the philatelic hobby (Figure 1).

The 45 Ukrainian Easter eggs depicted on the stamps were created by pysanka expert Yaroslav Elyjiw to represent 23 ethnographic regions in Ukraine. The designs were then incorporated into stamps by Toronto artist Myron Lev and printed by Lito-Druk Zenon Elyjiw in five colors: deep red, green, yellow, olive, and black. This extraordinarily attractive series of stamps has been very widely used in egg-decorating classes as a quick reference for many basic designs.

A great deal of information is conveyed on every “stamp” of the pane. In addition to the Plast symbol and the

“Plastova Poshta” heading, the left side of every “stamp” proclaims “Ukraini Pysanky” and the bottom inscription states “Ukrainian Easter Eggs.” All of these design elements appear in olive ink.

All of the egg designs are multicolored; a designation in black appears under every egg to identify the region that the egg design represents. On the right, in red, the stamps are numbered and the name of the main design element is given, e.g., stars, crosses, butterflies, oak leaves, rose, wolves’ teeth, ladders, sunflower, etc.

In the border selvage, a stylized, olive-colored deer – drawn in the Hutsul style – is repeated numerous times.

Over the years, the original \$2.25 value of this pane has appreciated tremendously. Today, it routinely sells for \$30-\$35 – when one can find it.

Since independence, Ukraine has depicted Easter eggs on stamps on only four occasions. The first occurred in 1993, not long after independence, and was Ukraine’s first Easter stamp (Figure 2). Shown on the 15-karbovanets stamp is an Easter table setting with a lighted candelabra, “babky” (glazed Easter breads), pussy willow branches and “krashanky” – Easter eggs that are sim-

(Continued on page 11)



FIGURE 3: This very colorful souvenir sheet from 2000 showed pysanky from six regions of Ukraine.

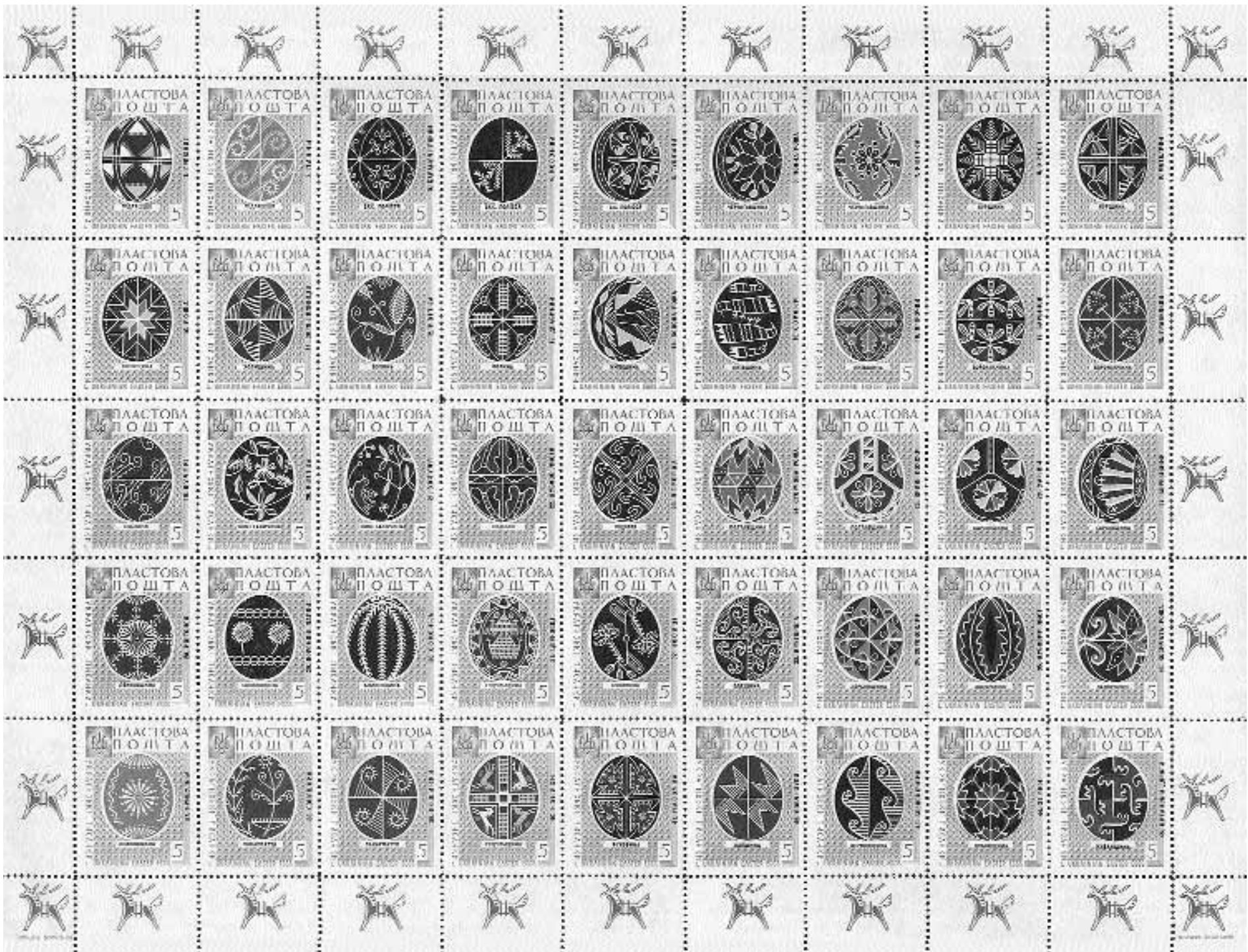


FIGURE 1: It has been 45 years since the original, and in some ways still the best, depiction of pysanky on “stamps” was created.

Pysanky on stamps...

(Continued from page 10)

ply decorated in a single solid color. Designed by V.I. Dvornyk, these stamps were printed in panes of 50 by the Austrian State Printing Office, because at the time Ukraine still did not have its own stamp production facilities. A total of 200,000 copies was produced.

The second Easter egg issue was a spectacular souvenir sheet showing six pysanky surrounded by some traditional folk motifs in red and gold (Figure 3). Designed by Kateryna Shtanko, the sheet depicts pysanky from various Ukrainian regions: Podillia (upper left, sun motif); Chernihiv (upper right, flower motif); Kyiv (left center, oak-leaf motif); Odesa (right center, sun pinwheel); Hutsul area (lower left, elk and spruce tree motif); and Volyn (lower right, geometric design). The first four stamps of the sheet were all valued at 30 kopyky and the last two at 70 kopyky. Only 50,000 souvenir sheets were printed and their value, too, has appreciated over time.

This pysanky souvenir sheet did very well in the Narbut Prize competition for the best philatelic design of 2000, finishing third in the balloting. It may be viewed in color online by going to the website of the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society (UPNS) at www.upns.org. Click on the Heorhiy Narbut Prize page and then on the 2001 prize winners.

The most recent Ukrainian stamp to prominently feature pysanky was one from the series of stamps commemorating "Regions and Administrative Centers of Ukraine." In 2002, the stamp honoring the Chernivtsi Oblast not only showed scenes of this area in southwestern Ukraine, but also prominently displayed three pysanky in the regional style (Figure 4). One million copies of this 40-kopyka stamp, designed by artist Oleksander Kalmykov, were produced.

Finally, there is one more stamp that needs to be mentioned in regard to pysanky. It is part of the last philatelic release of 2002 titled "Ukrainian Folk Costumes" (Figure 5). The stamp in the lower right of the souvenir sheet shows a group of villagers from the Ternopil region gathered for Easter. The little girl in the scene holds an egg and there are several shown in the basket at her feet. Whether these are true pysanky, or just



FIGURE 2: The first depiction of Easter eggs on a Ukrainian stamp (1993) showed "krashanky," as opposed to pysanky.

colored krashanky, is impossible to determine. The folk costume stamps, each valued at 45 kopyky, were printed in pairs of two on individual panes (300,000 each) or with all six scenes together on a souvenir sheet (50,000 copies). The stamps' designer was Mykola Kochubei.

Incidentally, the "Folk Costumes" stamps were the Narbut Prize winners as the finest philatelic issue for 2002. They, too, may be viewed on the UPNS website mentioned above.

A special offer

Both of the large items illustrated in this article – Figures 1 and 3 – are being offered to readers of The Ukrainian Weekly. I have donated a copy of each to the newspaper in a fund-raising effort. Suitable for framing and display, both the pane and the souvenir sheet will be available (together) for a minimum donation of \$50 to The Weekly's Press Fund. The first person to correctly identify the total number of animals depicted on both items will receive them after making an appropriate contribution. If no one identifies the correct number of animals, then the nearest count will be judged to be the winner. Mail your entries to: The Ukrainian Weekly Editor, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Deadline date is: March 29. The winner and the correct total will be announced in next month's "Focus on Philately," which will further report about pysanky on stamps.

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



FIGURE 4: This 2002 stamp depicted not only scenes from the Chernivtsi Oblast in western Ukraine, but three pysanky in the style of the region.



FIGURE 5: Although not easy to discern, Easter eggs of Ternopil are shown in the foreground basket and in the little girl's hand of this folk costumes stamp of 2002.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

tion of a plot to kill him during his stay in the German spa town Baden-Baden from December 26, 2003, to January 17, Interfax and RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported. Mr. Kuchma said the Ukrainian Embassy in Germany received a "quite well-founded" letter warning against the plot, with the names of plotters and the organization to which they belong. According to Mr. Kuchma, Gen. Valerii Kravchenko, who recently defected from the Security Service of Ukraine, was assigned a task in investigating the plot but refused to perform it. "He said that it was not his business," Mr. Kuchma said of Gen. Kravchenko. The president added that Gen. Kravchenko's recent revelations that the president ordered the SBU to spy on the opposition are a lie. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine gets off FATF blacklist

KYIV – The Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) has taken Ukraine off its blacklist of non-cooperating countries and territories, President Leonid Kuchma told journalists on

February 25, according to Interfax. "I've received a note that FATF members unanimously decided to remove Ukraine from the blacklist," Mr. Kuchma said. Ukraine was placed on FATF's blacklist in December 2002. At that time, the organization advised its members to check all financial transactions conducted with Ukrainian partners. In February 2003, FATF canceled these sanctions against Ukraine, but left the country on its blacklist. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma rejects idea of becoming PM

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma said on February 25 that he is not planning to accept a potential offer to head a Cabinet following the presidential election in 2004, Interfax reported. He said he is not interested in serving as a prime minister for a period of "one and a half years or even less," adding "I have practically organized a foundation of my own." He said "I will deal quietly with politics and I will say what I think about everybody." Mr. Kuchma had disclosed earlier this month that after leaving office he will set up a non-governmental research institute dealing with Ukraine's economic policy. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Vilnius, Kyiv sign travel agreement

VILNIUS – Lithuanian Foreign Minister Antanas Valionis and his Ukrainian counterpart, Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, signed a bilateral travel agreement on February 25 in Vilnius, ELTA and BNS reported. Under the agreement, Ukrainian citizens will be issued visas free of charge and without the previous requirement of an invitation. Lithuanians will be allowed to enter Ukraine without visas. At a press conference following the signing, Mr. Gryshchenko noted that similar agreements have been signed with Poland and Hungary and said that "Ukraine will not suffer any negative consequences from the European Union's enlargement." Mr. Valionis said they also discussed issues concerning greater Ukrainian integration with Europe. Mr. Gryshchenko schedule also included meetings with Parliament Chairman Arturas Paulauskas and President Rolandas Paksas as well as the presentation of a report at the Institute of International Relations and Political Science of Vilnius University. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kyiv asks Warsaw for clarification

WARSAW – The Ukrainian Embassy in Poland has requested that the Polish Foreign Ministry supply an official explanation of the results of a recent tender to privatize Poland's Huta Czestochowa steelworks, in which the Indian-Dutch-British holding LMN beat the Industrial Union of Donbas, Interfax reported on February 26. According to Polish Radio, the Ukrainian side believes that the Polish Treasury Minister's decision regarding the privatization of Huta Czestochowa was based on political rather than economic considerations. The Ukrainians are also reportedly offended by Deputy Treasury Minister Andrzej Szarawarski's reported remark that Poland wants to collaborate with upper-division players rather than accidental investors. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Moroz wants to save Silski Visti

KYIV – Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz has asked President Leonid Kuchma to prevent the liquidation of the opposition newspaper Silski Visti, which was found guilty in January

(Continued on page 18)

BOOK NOTES

Novel depicts modern-day odyssey of orphaned Ukrainian

"Crossing Years," by George O. Dzul. Published by Donald S. Ellis; distributed by Creative Arts Book Company, Berkeley, Calif., 2002. 146 pp. \$14.95 (paperback).

The novel "Crossing Years" by George O. Dzul has been described as a "meditation on identity and selfhood, loss and change, the real and the counterfeit."

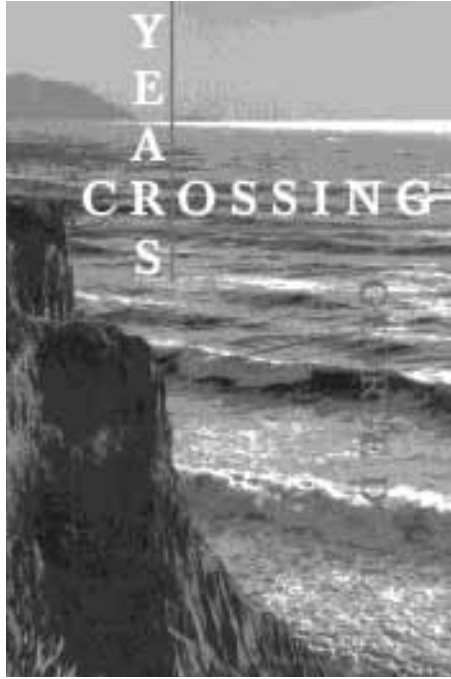
The author "tells the very real but often unbelievable story of a man's life, a life that begins in 1939 [in war-torn Europe] and is still very much in process in 1999."

An orphaned Ukrainian boy loses not only "his mother but his past and his heritage; he drifts from rescue to adoption to a wealthy family in Michigan – and from there to life as a playboy, a forger, a wanderer, and an owner of a company that cleanses what has been made unclean." His adventures, strongly marked by the element of the picaresque, bring to the fore the ability of the protagonist to reinvent himself.

The story, which spans 60 years, is narrated in four parts: "War Years, 1939-1953"; "Family Years, 1954-1979"; "Captive Years, 1980-1989"; and "New Borders Years, 1990-1999."

Ed Levitch, author of "From Beginning to Beginning" reviewed the book, noting Mr. Dzul's "masterful handling of rhythm and time" and the author's "capacity to narrate the passage of life through time with the graceful virtuosity of an orchestral composer."

"In a voice that is stylistically akin to the music of Philip Glass and Steve Reich, with its variations on patterns of repetition, George Dzul uses this device as a driving mechanism to establish transitions of chapters, of time, of place, of appearance. Even as it establishes its rhythmic pattern, nothing remains the same, except the will to survive," wrote Toni Werbell.



The absorbing and moving novel has been likened to "a modern Odyssey of its own kind" (Anna Muza, University of California, Berkeley) and "an interesting work both in terms of its narrative exposition and the history and personal lives that it represents" (Robert DeLossa, Harvard University).

George Dzul lives in northern California, where, in addition to his writing, he practices immigration law. Mr. Dzul's first novel, "Elusions," won the Hopwood Literary Award at the University of Michigan.

For information about purchasing the book contact Creative Arts Book company, 833 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94710 or call (800) 848-7789.

An American volunteer's chronicle of service in Ivano-Frankivsk

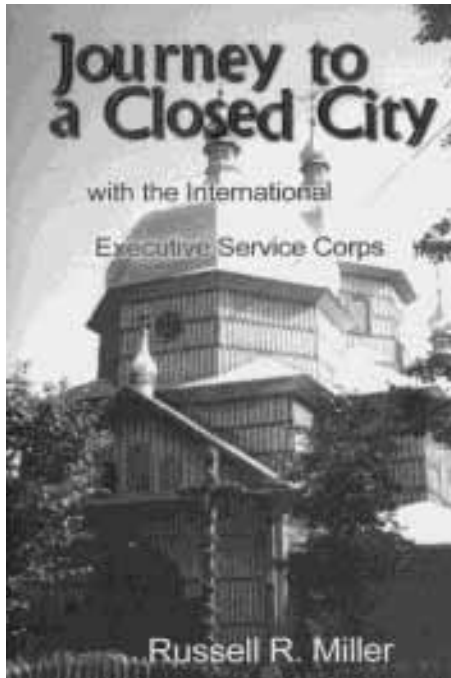
"Journey to a Closed City with the International Executive Service Corps" by Russel R. Miller. St. Louis, Mo.: Science & Humanities Press, 2004. 230 pp. \$16.95 (\$25.95 for large-print edition).

"Journey to a Closed City" is a travel narrative that chronicles the author's experiences on a defense conversion project with the International Executive Service Corps assigned to Karpaty Amalgamation in Ivano-Frankivsk – a former Soviet "closed city" in the aftermath of the cold war.

Ivano-Frankivsk was designated as a Soviet "closed city" in the aftermath of the cold war because of the Russian ICBM batteries that were stationed in the nearby Carpathian Mountains, and secret defense plants situated inside its regional boundaries.

The assignment provided Mr. Miller with the opportunity to meet, and live with, many of the workers and, as noted by the author, "compassionately describe the challenges with which they were confronted during a difficult transitional period."

While the book concentrates on Karpaty and the Ivano-Frankivsk area, it also describes the Carpathian town of Yaremche and the wartime activities of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), Kyiv and Babyn Yar, the lasting effects of Chernobyl, the suppression and resur-



gence of organized religion, and many other aspects of contemporary Ukrainian life viewed from the perspective of a retired American business executive.

(Continued on page 18)

Profiles of notable personages by former broadcast journalist

"Na Neokrayanim Kryli" (On Unclipped Wing) by Wolodymyr Bilajiw. Donetsk: Eastern Publishing House, 2003, published by the Ukrainian Center for Cultural Studies, Donetsk Branch of the Shevchenko Scientific Society. 347 pp.

Wolodymyr Bilajiw's latest book offers a selection of 14 essays on contemporary Ukrainian poets, writers and literary scholars (of several generations) living in the West whom the author, a journalist and poet in his own right, came to know personally during various stages of his life in West Germany, Australia and the United States.

Featured in the accounts are the following prominent figures who, having fled their homeland as post-war refugees, played an important role in the cultural life of Ukraine in the 1940s-1990s and whose works, previously proscribed under Soviet rule, are now being published in Ukraine:

- the writer and political leader Ivan Bahriany (born in 1907 in Kyiv; died in 1963 in St. Blasien, Germany), in an essay titled "Respubliky Trybun" (The Tribune of the Republic);

- broadcast journalist Mykola Francuzenko, former head of the Ukrainian section of Voice of America in Washington (1988-1990), in an essay titled "Virnyi Poklykanniu" (True to His Calling);

- the writer Vasyl Haidarivsky (pen name of V. Haivoronsky), member of the literary group Zaboï and the All-Ukrainian Association of Proletarian Writers (born in 1908, in Kostiantynivka, in the Donbas region; died in 1972, in Philadelphia), in the essay "Shukach Harnoho Svitu" (In Search of a Beautiful World);

- writer and editor Halyna Zhurba (pseudonym of Halina Dombrowska) (born in 1888 in Teplyk, Podilia gubernia; died in 1979 in Philadelphia), in an essay titled "Tvorchist u Pokhodi Zhyttia" (Creativity in the Course of Life);

- poet, translator and former Soviet dissident Sviatoslav Karavansky (born in 1920, in Odesa), in the essay "Palka I Pravdyva Mova" (A Passionate and True Language);

- poet and literary critic Abram Katsnelson (born in 1914 in Horodnia, Chernihiv gubernia; died in 2003 in Los Angeles) in the essay "I Tut v Amerytsi Zhyvu Ya Ukrainoyu" (And Here in America, Ukraine is My True Source of Inspiration);

- prominent literary scholar and publicist Hryhoriy Kostyuk (born in 1902 Boryshkivtsi, Podilia gubernia; died in 2002 in Silver Spring, Md.), in the essay "Na Storozhi Slova" (The Guardian of the Word);

- the poet Andriy Lehiti (pen name of Andriy Vorushylo) (born in 1916 in Kyiv region – present-day Cherkasy oblast), in the essay "Yak Tykhyi Lehiti Nam Daruye Virshi..." (How the Quiet Lehiti Makes Us a Gift of His Verse);

- poet and political activist Yevhen Malaniuk (born in 1897 in the Kherson region; died in 1968 in New York), in the essay "Poet Burklyvoyi Doby" (A Poet of a Turbulent Epoch);

- literary scholar, folklorist and VOA editor Petro Odarchenko (born in 1903, Rymarivka, Poltava gubernia), in the essay "Patriarkh Literaturoznavstva" (The Patriarch of Literary Scholarship);

- poet, translator and editor Vasyl Onufrienko (born in 1920 in the Poltava region died in 1992 in Australia), in the



essay "Spivets Zemli Nezabutnoyi" (Singer of Praises of An Unforgettable Land);

- poet, novelist and translator Teodosii Osmachka, member of the Aspys and Lanka literary organizations (born in 1895 in Kutsivka, Kyiv gubernia; died in 1962 on Long Island, New York), in the essay "Khay Sobi Vin Bude Henii" (Let Him Be A Genius);

- poet and literary scholar, and president of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in western Canada since 1976, Yar Slavutych (né Hryhoriy Zhuchenko) (born in 1918 in Blahodatne, Kherson gubernia), in the essay "Poet Syly" (A Poet of Strength); and

- the Rev. Mykola Stepanenko, educator, literary scholar and political activist (born in 1918 in Poltava; died in 1993 in San Jose, Calif.), "Polityk, Uchenyi, Sviashchenyk" (Politician, Scholar, Priest).

"Na Neokrayanim Kryli" contains entries by and about the author; a foreword by Vadym Olifirenko titled "U Poshukakh Vtrachenoyi Vitchyzny" (In Search of a Lost Homeland); a note from the publisher by V.S. Biletsky; as well as an annotated bibliography, footnotes, and a by-name index.

A broadcast journalist and editor, Mr. Bilajiw was affiliated with Voice of America (VOA) in Washington for 15 years until his retirement in 1999 and served as chief of the Ukrainian branch of VOA from 1992 to 1998.

He was born in 1925 in Mospyne, Donetsk region. In his youth, with the outbreak of war, he was taken as a forced laborer to Germany. As a post-war refugee, he was in a West German displaced persons camp and subsequently immigrated with his family initially to Australia and subsequently to the United States. Presently, he and his wife of 34 years, Dorothy M. Strom, live in North Palm Beach, Fla.

Mr. Bilajiw's poetry was first published in 1948 in the Literaturno Naukovyi Visnyk (The Literary-Scientific Herald), which came out in Munich, and his work as a journalist appeared in Ukrainski Visti (Ukrainian News), which was published in Neu Ulm, Germany.

(Continued on page 23)

Soyuzivka 2004 promises new activities for guests of all ages

by Andrew Nynka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Preparations for the summer camp season at the Ukrainian National Association's Soyuzivka resort are now well under way, and General Manager Nestor Paslawsky told The Ukrainian Weekly recently that guests to the resort this summer should expect to see a number of changes.

Among them, Mr. Paslawsky said, will be several new camps geared to children of various ages, and a resort focused more on providing guests with outdoor adventure activities that take advantage of the resort's location on the Shawangunk Ridge near the Catskill Mountains.

While Mr. Paslawsky said the resort will continue to offer the successful Chemney Youth Day Camp, Tennis Camp, Dance Camp and a scuba diving certification course, it will also provide some new summer camping opportunities for varied age groups, as well as a variety of outdoor activities for resort guests.

"With these new camps we are looking to take advantage of our wonderful location in the mountains," Mr. Paslawsky said. "We don't have the room or the resources, in terms of a large flat playing field, to provide a soccer field for our sports camp, but what we can do is pro-

vide a great place for guests to come and hike, climb, play outdoor paintball or learn to kayak."

With that in mind, the general manager said, the resort is inaugurating an Exploration Day Camp, Adventure Camp and Discovery Camp. The Adventure Camp will run as a sleepover camp geared for youths age 13-16 and will focus on outdoor activities. "Like the Kozaks of old, daily life will include outdoor, overnight campouts with cooking and fireside storytelling. ... wilderness survival skills, a kayak trip, hiking, rock climbing lessons and more," an advertisement for the camp reads. Adventure Camp is scheduled to run in one-week intervals from July 17 to 31.

According to Mr. Paslawsky, the Discovery Camp is a new sleepover program modeled after the Adventure Camp but geared for children age 8-12. The camp is meant to offer exposure to Ukrainian heritage and will also provide outdoor instruction similar to that offered in the Adventure Camp program, such as hiking, swimming, bonfires and organized sports and games. The Discovery Camp will run in one-week intervals from July 10 to 31.

Exploration Day Camp – organized for the older siblings of children taking part in the Plast Ukrainian Youth Scouting Organization's Tabir Ptashat camp – has



Soyuzivka staff, with family, recently examined the possibility of horseback riding at the resort. Seen above are (from left) General Manager Nestor Paslawsky, Petrusia Paslawsky, Walter Nalywayko, Danylo Paslawsky and Andriy Sonevtsky.

been planned as a supervised day camp for children age 7-10. The camp will run in one-week intervals from June 28 to July 9.

Overseeing Soyuzivka's camps, as well as a host of activities for the resort's guests, will be Walter Nalywayko, who began working with the resort as its activities director during Memorial Day weekend last year.

The goal of creating the new camps, Mr. Nalywayko told The Weekly on March 2, is "to add excitement and adventure" to those activities the resort

offers its young campers, and to "get kids outdoors to utilize the new trail system."

Those trails, which recently also went through some significant changes, have been cleared, marked and expanded to utilize more of the resort's physical area, Mr. Nalywayko said.

Two trails will still allow hikers to reach either a waterfall or cliff. However, a third trail links the waterfall and cliff and will allow hikers to travel between those two points without having to backtrack completely toward the Main House.

(Continued on page 22)



Katya Kapustenko (right) and Marko Cherkaz, both long-time Soyuzivka camp volunteers, hike at Stony Kill Falls, one of many attractions located just off Soyuzivka's property.



Soyuzivka's activities director, Walter Nalywayko, takes a break from horseback riding on the resort grounds.

Focus on Walter Nalywayko, resort's activities director

Walter Nalywayko, 33, joined the Soyuzivka staff during the Memorial Day weekend last year as the resort's activities director. According to the resort's general manager, Nestor Paslawsky, Mr. Nalywayko came highly recommended and has a long history with the resort.

Mr. Nalywayko, who proudly admits having walked nearly every inch of Soyuzivka's property, has been tasked with providing a variety of activities for guests staying at the resort.

In his role there, Mr. Nalywayko will oversee summer camps, a variety of sports activities and a host of outdoor activities, such as hiking, climbing and kayaking. But Mr. Nalywayko has also said he is open to any new ideas guests may have so that he can provide fresh and exciting activities for the resort's visitors.

He is actively working on Soyuzivka's new Nature Center, which is to be located by the Veselka gazebo, and told The Weekly about preliminary plans for horseback riding and wine and cheese hikes on the resort's property.

Prior to taking his current job at the UNA resort, Mr. Nalywayko worked as an equities trader for DS Partners on Wall Street in New York. He left that job shortly after 9/11 and said he moved to Montana in order to "heal my soul and perfect my mountainsmith techniques."

Born in Lancaster, Pa., he has been coming to the resort since he was a year old and has worked summers there from 1989 to 1991. Currently, Mr. Nalywayko is taking courses

toward his Emergency Management Technician certification and has attended a two-week survival school in Canada.

Mr. Nalywayko is a graduate of the State University of New York in New Paltz, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in early American and Soviet histories.

During his college years Mr. Nalywayko lived in Alaska, and after graduating in 1995 he moved to Breckenridge, Colo.

Mr. Nalywayko was contacted about working at the resort as its activities director after his cousin, Serhiy, turned down the job in order to work at the Culinary Institute of America.

Mr. Nalywayko notes that he is or has been: a carpenter, a woodcarver specializing in the Hutsul style, a snowboarder and a manager of a snowboarding shop, a wildlife and scenic photographer, a Jeep enthusiast, a survival and firearms expert, as well as a hunter, fisherman, political philosopher and historian.

He also told The Weekly that he is currently writing a history of Soyuzivka, a collection of stories and memoirs of his time at the resort and a fictional spy thriller.

"What I have now is the realization of my dream job. Here, I can be outside, bring others outdoors and share my experiences and knowledge with them. Also, I get to utilize my creative side, retelling local folklore, using my photos for ads, and building the new nature center and hockey rink," Mr. Nalywayko said.

— Andrew Nynka

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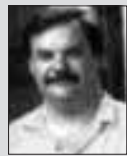
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Highlights from the UNA's 110-year history

(Continued from page 4)

UNA's conventions. It was also determined that for each 20 members, there would be one delegate to represent them. The convention re-elected Ivan Glova as president.

The organization's fifth convention took place in Shenandoah on June 7-8, 1898, with 24 delegates in attendance. There was good news on the membership front as 574 new members had joined the UNA and total membership now stood at 1,593. Assets also grew, amounting to \$5,688.57.

The convention voted to raise death benefits from \$500 to \$600. It was also determined that members who could not afford the monthly dues of 50 cents could pay in 25 cents and be entitled to a death benefit of \$300.

Other notable convention decisions: conventions would henceforth be held once every two years, while the Supreme Assembly would meet annually. Delegates elected a new supreme president, Yuriy Khyliak, who had held the post of UNA treasurer during the previous three terms.

Source: "Ukrainian National Association: Its Past and Present, (1894-1964)," by Anthony Dragan (translated from the original Ukrainian by Zenon Snylyk). Jersey City, N.J.: Svoboda Press, 1964.

"Ukrainian-American Citadel..."

(Continued from page 5)

Shenandoah as the center of Rusyn-Ukrainian life. Coal was first mined in Shamokin in the 1830s, and by the 1850s the town was well on its way to becoming a significant center of the U.S. coal industry. As such, it soon began to attract immigrants from East-Central Europe.

The first Rusyn-Ukrainian in the area was John Hassich. Church records show that there were 25 Rusyn-Ukrainian families in Shamokin and vicinity by 1880. Father Wolansky celebrated the first divine liturgy in December 1884, when the parish of The Transfiguration of Our Lord began. Father Wolansky celebrated divine liturgies in private homes prior to his return to Ukraine. On those Sundays when he was not in Shamokin, parish-

ioners either took the train or walked 22 miles to Shenandoah for religious services. A wooden church was built on Pine and Pearl Streets and dedicated in 1890.

The first full-time pastor was Father Ivan Konstankevych, who arrived in 1893. Under his leadership the Shamokin parish became one of the most dynamic in the country. Konstankevych established a school which offered courses in religion, the Rusyn-Ukrainian rite and language to children of immigrants. He also helped establish a parish choir, orchestra and band. As Shamokin's Rusyn population increased, a new church was constructed on the corner of Shamokin and Clay streets.

Shamokin became the birthplace of the Ruskyi Narodnyi Soyuz (RNS), a Rusyn fraternal insurance company that changed its name to the Ukrainian National Association 20 years later.

Spotlight...

(Continued from page 5)

titled "We Need a National Organization" stressing the urgency of a "soyuz." The Rev. Poliansky prepared the by-laws.

The assembly was called together in Shamokin's Columbus Hall, on Pearl and Vine streets, on George Washington's birthday, February 22, 1894. Svoboda reported the creation of the Ukrainian National Association (UNA) in its March 1, 1894, edition with a banner headline reading "It Has Come to Be."

In 1894 the Ukrainian National

Association was composed of 13 original brotherhoods starting with 492 members and \$605.60 in its treasury.

In the 1930s, the UNA founded a juvenile branch in Shamokin. New members organized a basketball team and the UNA paid for the equipment.

In more recent times, the branch's membership became scattered as industries in the region were closed down.

— compiled by George Pollyniak

Today the officers of Branch 1 are Joseph Klebon, president; George Pollyniak, secretary; and Marie Pollyniak, treasurer.

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Polish government's...

(Continued from page 8)

Poland until 2006, which would limit LNM's ability to develop the Polskie Huty Stali (PHS) steel mill it had bought earlier. He explained that by buying and then closing Huta Czestochowa, which is much smaller than PHS, LNM could add to the amount of steel it would be able to manufacture from the plant it already owned.

"In the heat of the fight for PHS as they worked to resolve the various problems associated with signing sales and purchase contracts, they (LNM) failed to study the issue carefully, that the EU considered PHS a company sustained by government budgets and thus the rule on production restrictions would apply," explained Mr. Pylypenko.

The IUD executive stated that his company's own interest in Huta Czestochowa was based on a desire to own a plant within the EU to overcome restrictions on the import of Ukrainian steel into the economic commonwealth. By buying Huta Czestochowa IUD would be able to ship unfinished, low-cost steel products it manufactured in Donetsk to Poland, where the manufacturing process for rolled steel and tubing would be completed, avoiding EU restrictions.

Matters became still murkier when Ukraine's Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Oleksander Chalii said in Brussels on February 24 that members of the European Commission with whom he had met had expressed surprise at the way the Polish government had explained the situation. Mr. Chalii said EC members had insisted that no limits had been placed on Polish steel or metallurgical output, reported Interfax-Ukraine. Mr. Chalii was in Brussels to discuss minimizing the negative affects for Ukraine of the EU's expansion eastward, including quotas on Ukrainian metallurgical output.

On March 2, during a Radio Liberty interview, Mr. Chalii added that after some investigation it had been agreed among EU, Polish and Ukrainian officials that Huta Czestochowa in particular was not bound by EU production limitations.

The controversy, which has received extensive coverage in the Polish press, widened still further after the country's leading newspaper, Gazeta Wyborcza, reported on March 1 that Polish Treasury Minister Kaniewski had explained that the reason the

LNM offer on Huta Czestochowa was reconsidered was "to avoid stiff competition between PHS and Huta Czestochowa," which divided ownership would have undoubtedly brought.

IUD responded by submitting an unsolicited bid for the PHS steel mill to the Polish prime minister in which it offered to raise investment in the mill by 10 percent over the LNM commitment.

"If the investor that was selected for PHS has not yet completed the transaction for fear of competition from Huta Czestochowa, IUD is prepared to take upon itself all the commitments of the original investor regarding PHS, including the price of the sale, the investment and social package, payment of outstanding debt and an increase in the statutory fund," read a letter from IUD Chairman Serhii Taruta to Prime Minister Miller, parts of which were published in Interfax-Ukraine.

On March 3 Gazeta Wyborcza reported that IUD had stated in its offer that it was prepared to pay the astronomical sum of nearly \$2 billion for both PHS and Huta Czestochowa steel mills.

The Polish government has promised that a review of the controversy surrounding the privatization of Huta Czestochowa would be completed by March 30. Ironically, Polish President Alexander Kwasniewski is scheduled to visit Kyiv that day to open the Year of Poland in Ukraine.

Ukrainian authorities...

(Continued from page 1)

general director of the Poltava Radio and Television Company UTA that owns FM broadcaster Radio Poltava Plus. Mr. Chechuk died in an automobile accident on March 3, while on his way to Kyiv for a meeting with RFE/RL officials to discuss affiliation opportunities.

RFE/RL is supervised by the Broadcasting Board of Governors, the federal agency that runs all U.S. international, non-military broadcasting, including the Voice of America.

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Art works by Zenon Holubec to be featured at Yonkers exhibit

by Olga Rudyk

YONKERS, N.Y. – With Easter approaching, Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 30, will once again hold a spring art exhibit.

On Sunday, March 14, starting at 9 a.m. and through 1 p.m., art enthusiasts are welcome to visit the hall of St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, located at 21 Shonnard Place, to view the artwork of Zenon Holubec of Glen Spey, N.Y., and of Yonkers native Nancy Zakortiria.

Featured will be the unique bas-relief sculptures in wood by Mr. Holubec, who, in his work, seeks inspiration from nature, often treats historical and literary themes, and perpetuates the art of the icon.

Also featured will be a wide array of Ukrainian-themed arts and crafts, including floral creations, as well as ceramics and jewelry by Ms. Zakortiria.

Both artists had been scheduled for the annual Christmas bazaar, which had to be cancelled due to inclement weather.

Two guest artists from New York City, sisters Romanka and Marianka Zajech, will also visit to display their newest gerdany (string-beaded Ukrainian necklaces).

The artwork on exhibit will also be available for purchase, offering an early shopping opportunity for the upcoming Easter season.

Also available for purchase in the church hall will be Easter greeting cards, materials for making Easter eggs, or pysanky, honey, and gift items for both adults and children.



"Tulips," bas relief, wood, by Zenon Holubec.

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Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus releases live recording from European tour

DETROIT – The all-male Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus announced the release of its 31st North American-produced album, "European Tour: Historic Lviv Recordings," coinciding with their 2004 Spring Concert Series in Syracuse, N.Y.; Hartford, Conn.; New York City; Clifton, N.J.; and Philadelphia. The CD presents an exciting program of select folk songs, and the exotic sounds of the bandura from the chorus's historic 2003 European concert tour. Select composers include: Brahms, Gounod, Hryhoriy Kytasty, Mykola Leontovych, Newton and Oleh Mahlay. The album is available on compact disc only.

This CD is unique in that it brings together a compilation of powerful performances captured at various concert halls over four countries. Emmy award-winning recording engineer Orest Sushko, who is also a member of the chorus, served as the mix engineer for this live project. Mr. Sushko received an Emmy award in 2001 for outstanding mixing on the TV mini-series "Nuremberg," starring Alec Baldwin.

Alex Kytasty, a Detroit-based freelance recording engineer handled the location recording. Design and layout are credited to Darius Polanski, and production is by Toronto-based RDR Music Group. Executive producer is Anatoli Murha.

Founded in 1918, the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus has a long and proud history of representing Ukrainian bandura and choral music on the international stage. It survived both Soviet and Nazi occupations, and since 1949 has enjoyed the freedom of artistic expression in the United States of America.

Today, the majority of chorus members

Anthracite Heritage Museum offers pysanka workshops

SCRANTON, Pa. – Two workshops on pysanky, the ancient Ukrainian art of egg decorating, are offered participants for age 12 and older on Saturday, March 20, at the Pennsylvania Anthracite Heritage Museum.

An introductory class at 10 a.m., will focus on basic method and simple design. At 2 p.m., Pat Lawless will guide participants through the traditional process at a more advanced level.

Both classes will complete an egg in class. Fee covers classroom instruction, materials and a take-home tool kit.

Fee per session: \$15; \$10 for members of the Anthracite Heritage Museum and Iron Furnaces Associates. Reservations are required by March 15.

The Pennsylvania Anthracite Heritage Museum is located in McDade Park, off Keyser Avenue, in Scranton (Exits 182 or 191-B off I-81, and Exit 122, Keyser Avenue, from I-476). The museum is open year-round Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

Admission is charged for the main exhibit, "Anthracite People: Immigration and Ethnicity in Pennsylvania's Hard Coal Region." Admission to a temporary exhibit, "The Great Anthracite Coal Strike of 1902," is included. For information call the museum educator, Ruth Cummings, (570) 963-4804, or see www.anthracitemuseum.org.

The Pennsylvania Anthracite Heritage Museum is one of 26 historic sites and museums on the Pennsylvania Trail of History, administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. For more information, or to request a free, 24-page visitor's guide, visit www.phmc.state.pa.us or call toll free 1-866-PATRAIL.



are second-and-third generation Americans and Canadians. Boasting a repertoire of more than 500 songs, this internationally celebrated ensemble has captivated audiences in major concert halls in the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia and Ukraine since immigrating to North America from Europe in 1949.

They have also performed for such noted personalities as former President Richard Nixon, former President Ronald Reagan, movie star Jack Palance and former President of Ukraine Leonid Kravchuk.

"European Tour: Historic Live Recordings" may be purchased at one of the chorus's concert venues this April or by visiting www.bandura.org.

The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, 2004 spring concert series includes the following venues:

- Syracuse; Friday, April 2, 7 p.m.; Fowler School Auditorium, 227 Magnolia St. Tickets: (315) 471-4074;
- Hartford, Conn.: Saturday, April 3, 7 p.m.; Theater of the Performing Arts, 359 Washington St.; tickets: (860) 757-6388;
- New York City: Sunday, April 4, 2 p.m.; The Great Hall At The Cooper Union, Third Avenue at Seventh Street, tickets: (917) 559-8629.
- Clifton: Saturday, April 24, 6:30 p.m.; W. Wilson Middle School, 1400 Van Houten Ave., tickets: (917) 559-8629; and
- Philadelphia: Sunday, April 25, 3 p.m.; Manor College, 700 Fox Chase Road, Jenkintown, Pa.; tickets: (215) 242-3689.

APPLICATION FOR IMMIGRATION TO CANADA

(PAGE 20)



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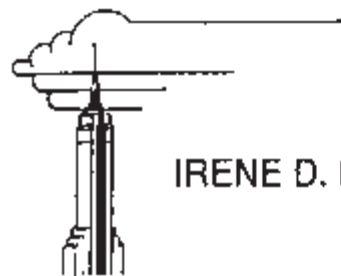
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53rd Annual Membership Meeting

Will take place on

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2004, AT 2:00 P.M.

In the St. George Academy Auditorium 215 East 6th Street, New York City

Proposed Agenda:

1. Opening remarks
2. Verification of minutes of the previous Annual Meeting
3. Reports: Management
Credit Committee
Supervisory Committee
4. Discussion and approval of reports
5. Election of three members to the Board of Directors
6. New Business
7. Adjournment

Board of Directors

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A nominating committee comprised of the following members has been appointed: Mr. Peter Shyska, Mrs. Natalia Duna and Mr. Mark Bach. Nominations for the positions on the Board can be forwarded to:

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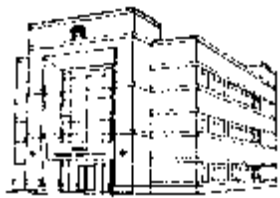
Attn: Nominating Committee

Members are required to bring their regular share passbooks.

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Board of Directors SUMA (Yonkers) Federal Credit Union

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 11)

of fomenting interethnic strife in an anti-Semitic publication, Interfax reported on February 26. Mr. Moroz said in an open letter to Mr. Kuchma that the court that ruled on the case made “a legally illiterate decision to close [the newspaper] under far-fetched accusations.” Mr. Moroz claimed that the court violated the law by using the Criminal Code in the case against Silski Visti, which he believes should have been considered a civil case. He warned that the closure of Silski Visti might lead to the fomenting of “anti-Semitism in day-to-day life” and create an “explosive situation.” Silski Visti, which primarily targets rural readers, has a circulation of more than 500,000. The newspaper is believed to be linked to the Socialist Party. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Growth of 9.3 percent reported in 2003

KYIV – First Vice Prime Minister Mykola Azarov said on February 28 that, according to the most recent calculations, Ukraine’s gross domestic product (GDP) grew by 9.3 percent year-on-year in 2003, which is Ukraine’s record high during its independence years, UNIAN reported. Earlier the State Statistics Committee had reported that GDP grew by 8.5 percent in 2003. (RFE/RL Newsline)

\$600 million of Eurobonds is issued

KYIV – The press service of First Vice Prime Minister Mykola Azarov said on February 27 that the government has successfully floated \$600 million worth of Eurobonds with a seven-year maturity period and 6.875 percent return, Interfax reported. “The government has placed the bonds among respectable investors enjoying the reputation of ‘financial engines’ on steady markets,” the press service added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Bulgarian, Ukrainian crew die at sea

PRAGUE – Seventeen Bulgarian and two Ukrainian sailors are believed to have been killed when the freighter Hera sank on February 13 during a snowstorm near Istanbul, mediapool.bg reported. Bad weather conditions hampered rescue operations, which continued on February 16 near the Bosphorus Strait, Agence France-Presse reported. None of the 19-member crew are believed to have survived.

Preliminary investigations have established that the company that hired the sailors in Varna was not legally registered, mediapool.bg reported. According to AFP, the Cambodian freighter was owned by a Bulgarian. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Oil transport may begin in April-May

KYIV – Ukrainian Fuel and Energy Minister Serhii Yermilov told Interfax Ukraine on February 25 that oil for the Odesa-Brody pipeline might begin entering the pipeline in April-May. Mr. Yermilov noted that Poland and Ukraine have reached an agreement about transporting oil by rail from the present end of the pipeline in Brody to Polish refineries. According to the minister, between 1 million and 5 million tons of oil would be transported to Poland by rail annually. Confirming Mr. Yermilov’s statement, Faouzi Bensarsa, a representative of the European Commission, confirmed that contracts exist for the purchase of Caspian oil by Ukraine, Interfax Ukraine reported on February 24. The agency also reported that ChevronTexaco is awaiting clarification from Ukraine concerning tariff rates to be charged for the Odesa-Brody pipeline. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Thieves steal bridge in Ukraine

SVALIAVA – Thieves in western Ukraine have dismantled and stolen an 11-meter steel bridge over the river Svaliavka. Police blame locals, saying it would have been impossible to take the bridge apart without a crane and a lorry, or to take it away unnoticed. Metal theft is a problem in Ukraine, where people steal statues, cables and other objects made of metal in order to sell it as scrap. Officials were checking all scrap metal yards in the region to find the remains of the one-ton bridge. (BBC)

Thieves steal historic train for scrap

DONETSK – Thieves stole what may be Ukraine’s oldest train for metal scrap after tricking guards at a museum in eastern Ukraine, local police said on March 1. A police spokesman in Donetsk said the thieves used forged documents to convince guards at the industry museum that the train, which dates back to 1924, had to be moved. They probably used a crane to move the locomotive and then cut it into pieces to sell it as scrap metal. “The metal was found in a scrap yard outside the city,” the spokesman said. (Reuters)

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An American volunteer's...

(Continued from page 12)

The book also offers a description of the International Executive Service Corps (IESC) – generally referred to as the senior citizen’s equivalent of the Peace Corps – providing the organization’s mission, recruitment requirements, methods of operation, as well as a roster of dedicated volunteers.

Mr. Miller, a resident of La Grange, Ill., spent 20 years traveling to over 100 countries as senior vice-president of industrial development. Since retiring, he has served as an advisor with the World Bank, the United Nations Development Program, and the Vienna-based United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in addition to the IESC.

He is the author of two books on transition economies: “Selling to Newly Emerging Markets” and “Doing Business in Newly Privatized Markets,” both published by the Greenwood Group.

Orders for “Journey to a Closed City” may be placed with Science & Humanities Press, P.O. Box 7151, Chesterfield, MO 63006-7151; by calling (636) 394-4950; or online at sciencehumanitiespress.com.

THE ARTS: Roman Klun busy with multiple music projects



Roman Klun

STONE CREEK, Ontario – Roman Eugene Klun, the award-winning record producer, music engineer and singer/songwriter, has been busy working on various projects, among them, another Grammy- and Juno-nominated record for the Nettwerk artist Sarah McLachlan titled “Afterglow,” as well as on the production of the new CD with the Canadian Bandurist Capella of Toronto, which is due to be out in March.

In New York he was recently engaged as the mixing engineer in work for the Celtic music group Ceili Rain, featuring Robert Halligan Jr., Pat Boone and two-time Grammy award winner country singer Kathy Mattea, as well as in work as the mix engineer on the ABC/CTV sitcom “I’m With Her.”

Mr. Klun has mixed the latest record for Stepan Pasicznyk, formally of The Ukrainians from England, and more recently, upon having returned from Portland, Oregon, he has completed the new hit single in stereo and mixed in 5.1 surround sound for multi-Platinum awarded singer/songwriter Gino Vannelli.

He is a TV/Film Genie award-winner for producing the theme song for the film “The Fishing Trip,” and has worked on Novologic’s new “Black Hawk Down” video game.

When asked what he does in his spare time, Mr. Klun responds that he’s studying international business management at a local college, (while maintaining a GPA of 4.0). He then laughed, and explained, “Yeah, but Tato (my father) was the one who carried Baba’s (my grandmother’s) sewing machine on his back to Toronto, all the way from Yezupil, which is just west of Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine.”

Mr. Klun has also been spending a substantial amount of time in New York City again, wondering if his knees will give him a few more seasons of dancing with choreographer Roma Pryma Bohachevsky at Verkhovyna or Soyuzivka. He recalled that he spent 10 years of his youth at the resorts as a dancer and instructor, along with his father Jaroslaw Roman Klun.

Asked what the future holds for him, Mr. Klun responded that, apart from writing additional music for film and television, he would love to return to Ukraine and write again. His last visit, which took him to Kyiv, Lviv, and Odesa in 2000 – with memorable stops in Kaniv, the burial place of poet Taras Shevchenko, the catacombs of the Pecherska Lavra, and the Black Sea, which served as sources of inspiration for his subsequent creative work. His song, “Stairs on the Hill,” was written drawing on all three elements of the visit.

Mr. Klun noted that his pursuits “are based on finding magic, i.e., a magical vocal performance, a magical moment in time born of a lyric or a melody, a picture, or simply a connection to something that one doesn’t feel, hear or see in everyday life.” Accordingly, “Passion of

the Angel,” the title of Mr. Klun’s most recent Ukrainian album, is offered as yet another variation on the theme of his passionate pursuits in life.

Currently, Mr. Klun’s focus is on producing and directing FestUkraine and the Miss FestUkraine Pageant, to be held at Paramount Canada’s Wonderland in Toronto on June 13. He said he looks forward to bringing the Ukrainian community, as well as friends of the Ukrainian community, a fun-filled and memorable day of entertainment.

Mr. Klun is recipient of the Genie Award, Canada’s most prestigious film/movie industry honor, presented in 1999 for his work as a producer, engineer and arranger. He was also awarded the Canadian Recording Industry Association’s 4X Platinum Award for engineering work on Sarah McLachlan’s hit single “Possession.”

The next issue of The Ukrainian Weekly’s

Wedding Announcements

will appear on March 21, 2004.

For an engagement, wedding or anniversary announcement to be included in that issue, all information must be received in our offices by March 12, 2004.

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

Rates for announcements and greetings:

One-column announcement: \$100

Two-column announcement: \$200

Greeting: \$75

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Visit www.ukrweekly.com to view a wedding announcement sample page.

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TICKETS: 315.471.4074

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APRIL 3, 2004
7:00PM

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359 Washington Street

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With deep sorrow we announce that on March 2, 2004, passed away our beloved wife, mother and grandmother

OLGA LITEPLO

Panakhida was held on March 5, 2004, at the Peter Jarema Funeral Home. The funeral mass was held on March 6, 2004, at the St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York City. The burial took place at the Holy Spirit Cemetery in Hamptonburg, New York.

In deep sorrow:

- husband – Sam Liteplo
- sons – Merrill Liteplo with his wife Maya
– Ronald Liteplo with his wife Nadia
– Paul Liteplo with his wife Emilia
- grandchildren – Mark with his wife Kristen,
Stephanie, Andrew William, Daniel,
Laryssa and Matthew

ETERNAL MEMORY

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National deputy...

(Continued from page 1)

Berlin on March 26 to retrieve the documents from Gen. Kravchenko after the intelligence services officer said he was ready to turn the information he had gathered over to Ukraine's Procurator General's Office for criminal investigation. Gen. Kravchenko had said in an interview on February 19 with the Ukrainian newspaper Dzerkalo Tyzhnia that he would trust the information with only three lawmakers in Ukraine's Parliament: Ihor Yukhnovsky of the Our Ukraine parliamentary faction, Borys Oliinyk of the Communist faction or Mr. Tomenko, another Our Ukraine member.

While reminding reporters that President Kuchma had said on February 24 that he gave permission for Gen. Kravchenko "to publish in the press all that he has in his possession" because "he has nothing," Mr. Tomenko distributed to reporters the texts of what he described as the key parts of four of eight documents that Gen. Kravchenko had turned over to him.

The four alleged government directives in the handouts gave explicit directions on information that should be gathered in conjunction with issues and events that could affect Ukraine's image abroad. The first directive requested information on a television program that would expose illegal trafficking in human organs in Ukraine. Data was requested on the possible contents of a German television program, "Mona Lisa," and the reporter and producer who put the news package on organ trafficking together. It also directed intelligence gathering "to determine what possibility existed that it would be shown on the television program 'Mona Lisa' and to use all means to stop its airing."

The second document related to trips by government officials who held positions of "minister and higher." It told intelligence officers to obtain information on who invited them, who paid for their stay, the nature and length of the visit, and with whom they met with outside the regular itinerary, "including with business circles."

The third directive ordered that intelligence officers obtain information about an international conference that Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko was organizing, supposedly planned for December 2003, which might have involved former U.S. President Bill Clinton and former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright and former U.S. National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski.

It called for intelligence on the time and place of the event, the participants, the results and further possible activities of the participants.

The fourth directive made public by National Deputy Tomenko called for permanent intelligence gathering on all Ukrainian delegations, government and otherwise, that travel abroad whose actions might "have a negative affect on the internal and foreign policy strategies of Ukraine."

It also called for "activating work within the Ukrainian diaspora with the aim of obtaining vital advance information" which was "needed to assure the security of our country within the context of the image of Ukraine as it is seen within that country with regards to preparations for [Ukrainian] political reform, presidential elections, etc."

Mr. Tomenko told The Weekly that, according to 1999 law, the SBU had no right to gather information on politicians taking part in foreign conferences or meeting with foreign politicians and businessmen.

"This behavior is absolutely illegal," Mr. Tomenko said.

The national deputy said he believed that Gen. Kravchenko was one of a growing number of senior intelligence officers who were dissatisfied with the way recently appointed SBU Chief Ihor Smeshko had redirected the agency's resources and submersed it into domestic politics as an information-gathering tool for state authorities.

"They believe that the authorities are forcing them to work in intelligence gathering not for the security of the state but for political purposes," explained Mr. Tomenko.

At the end of February, Former SBU chief Volodymyr Radchenko had offered an alternative motive for what triggered Gen. Kravchenko's announcement. He described the SBU general, whom he called a personal friend, as a colleague disenchanted over his inability to save a sufficient amount of money to renovate his apartment before his impending retirement.

Mr. Radchenko said that Gen. Kravchenko had asked for and received a second posting in a foreign embassy, rare for an intelligence agent but allowed on occasion to those close to retirement in order to take advantage of the better pay they received there. However, he had run into some problems with the presidential security detail when President Kuchma was staying in Baden-Baden last December while recuperating from surgery. He said the incident led to Gen. Kravchenko's move to Kyiv, which led him to act irrationally.

A new initiative...

(Continued from page 6)

development of new sister cities. At present such cities as Chernihiv, Lutsk, Dnipropetrovsk and Zhytomyr are without partners, but are eager to establish such relationships. We see in this a huge potential that has yet to be tapped. This potential is people who are willing to become involved. We, for our part, are standing by to aid you in this effort.

Our plan is rather simple.

Step 1: Let us know of your interest.

Step 2: We will provide you with a list of, and information about Ukrainian cities that have expressed interest in such contacts.

Step 3: In cooperation with you, we will jointly approach U.S.-based city administrations with our proposals and request.

Please feel free to contact our volunteer at the Embassy at cwsony@yahoo.com; or our embassy personnel, Oleksander Scherba at scherba@ukremb.com and Natalia Holub at holub@ukremb.com. Please enter "Cities of Friendship" in the subject line of your message.

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3. Place of birth

4. Current occupation

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE: Minneapolis proud of one of its new community members

by Dr. Michael J. Kozak

MINNEAPOLIS – Difficult living conditions in Ukraine have forced many young people to leave and look for a better life abroad. American, with its freedoms and opportunities, is most appealing. Upon arrival, many of these young Ukrainians join established Ukrainian communities and are striving to improve their talents. Among such individuals in Minnesota's Ukrainian community is Yuri Ivan.

Soon upon his arrival he actively became involved in the cultural activities of the Minneapolis community. He joined St. Constantine's Ukrainian Catholic Church. Being educated in the art of music, he soon became the choir conductor and a teacher in the Ukrainian School that meets on Saturdays.

Mr. Ivan is pursuing a doctor of musical arts degree in conducting at the University of Minnesota School of Music; he holds a teaching assistant position in orchestral conducting. He is also conductor of the Campus Orchestra and assistant conductor of the Symphony Orchestra.

According to information obtained from the university's School of Music, Mr. Ivan,

after graduating from the D. Zador State Musical College in Uzhorod, earned a master of music degree cum laude in choral and opera symphonic conducting at the Mykola Lysenko State Music Academy in Lviv.

Before coming to Minneapolis, Mr. Ivan served as a conductor of the State Theater of Opera and Ballet in Dnipropetrovsk and was artistic director of the State Philharmonic Society in Uzhorod. There he was featured in 30 symphonic and 200 opera and ballet performances. In 2001, he was awarded the George Sample conducting fellowship and now studies with internationally known conductor Akira Mori.

On February 21, Mr. Ivan achieved a great distinction in his career. At the Ted Mann Concert Hall at the University of Minnesota, with over 500 people in the audience, he conducted Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 in E Minor, Op. 64. Akira Mori conducted Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 2 in A major. Both received tremendous applause.

It appears that Mr. Ivan is on his way to the top in the field of music. The Ukrainian community of Minneapolis, of which he has become a member, is very proud of his accomplishment.



Yuri Ivan



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Buchach Buchach

We are looking in the USA and in Canada for past residents of Buchach, Ukraine, who are interested in organizing humanitarian aid to the Buchach area. We are aware that many of us provide major support to our relatives. Therefore, we can not count on large sums of money from any individuals. But together, as a community, we can certainly provide significant help by combining our resources.

In Buchach there are many establishments worthy of our attention. By helping them we help those villages whose children attend these institutions.

We will distribute further detailed information by mail. Those interested please contact the members of the organizing committee.

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Tel.: (978) 468-2737; e-mail: sach@att.net

or

Taras Shepelavy, 1360 Wemple Lane, Niskayuna, NY 12309
Tel.: (518) 393-5515; e-mail: jshepela@nycap.rr.com

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Turning the pages back...

(Continued from page 6)

tries can move away from concentrating on – though not completely ignoring – the negatives in the relationship.

The recent difficult period in U.S.-Ukraine relations was “a period of lost opportunities,” Ambassador Gryshchenko said. It was also a period of “very difficult bilateral debate, of very frank exchanges” that now should serve both countries well as they move forward on a positive agenda.

One of the lessons learned was that “we cannot hide from problems,” Ambassador Gryshchenko said. “If we do have a problem, we have to face it, and we have to be frank and open about it, because it will not fade away, and we cannot really run away from it.”

“If it is Kolchuha, then we need to get to the bottom of it,” he said. “And here we have tried our best, and we continue on this path. We know that there are no Kolchugas that Ukraine is responsible for in Iraq. We know that there are no contracts, that there are no deliveries, and we need to establish this as a fact.”

He stressed that the Kolchuha and other unresolved issues must not be

allowed to remain as a barrier to improving the bilateral relationship, which is important not only to the two countries but to the “dynamics of the political situation in Europe” as well. “We need to reestablish trust, to reestablish confidence,” he said. “It can only be done through practical steps – practical steps that we have demonstrated recently.”

Asked about the absence of bilateral contacts at the highest levels, Ambassador Gryshchenko said that Ukraine, of course, would like to see them return, but not just for the sake of such visits or contacts themselves. They are important in pushing through new initiatives and as signals about the state of relations, he explained.

Source: “Ukraine’s ambassador to U.S. sees new opening in bilateral relations,” by Yaro Bihun, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, March 9, 2003, Vol. LXXI, No. 10.

Soyuzivka 2004...

(Continued from page 13)

A fourth trail takes hikers directly to the resort’s green pool, where guests can swim in a natural pool formed in a rather deep basin in the river’s bed. Mr. Nalywayko said the fifth trail – which is not yet completed but begins near the resort’s Sitch building, across from a stream located there – will eventually take hikers along a different route to the waterfall but will end above the waterfall.

In his role as activities director, Mr. Nalywayko is also overseeing the resort’s recently established paintball contests, using an outdoor field located on the resort’s grounds. Mr. Nalywayko said the resort provides everything that guests need in order to play.

The resort’s activities director also said there is every intention of providing guests with an opportunity to go horseback riding on the resort grounds and said that a preliminary test recently – acclimatizing horses to the terrain – was successful.

Among other changes scheduled at the resort, General Manager Paslawsky said that all of the rooms will have air conditioning units installed by Memorial Day weekend and that the Tiki Bar – a new addition that turned out to be a big hit with guests this past summer – will be expanded to accommodate more patrons.

Specific dates, costs or applications for the summer camps at Soyuzivka may be found at the resort’s website, www.soyuzivka.com, or by calling (845) 626-5641.

In Riga, McCain...

(Continued from page 3)

the United States and Europe want Ukraine to succeed, and want to deepen our partnership, that we must be rigorous in demanding that free and fair elections are held this October, without judicial, constitutional or political manipulation, and that their results are honored. We look forward to welcoming a democratic Ukraine into the Euro-Atlantic community and to deepening our friendship with the people of your great nation.

“... The history of the consciousness of freedom should give all of us great hope for the coming democratic transformation of Belarus and Ukraine, and with it the hopes and dreams of millions of your citizens for a new day. It is coming, and we in the West will stand by you until it does.”

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48	303.36	68	552.96
49	313.92	69	567.36
50	324.48	70	581.76
51	335.04	71	597.12
52	346.56	72	611.52
53	358.08	73	625.92
54	369.60	74	640.32
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 24)

are themes woven together into a story that has not yet been told. The film is produced by the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center. It will be shown at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. (corner of Fifth Avenue), at 7 p.m. on both days. Tickets: \$10; limited seating. For more information call (212) 288-8660.

Friday, March 19

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Art and Literary Club, the New York Bandura Ensemble and Mayana Gallery present the fourth concert in the 2004 season of Bandura Downtown, titled "Judgment Day," featuring penitential songs from the kobzar tradition and "kanty" (chants) by Ukrainian baroque composers performed by Julian Kytasty (bandura) and Roman Turovsky (baroque lute). Donation: \$10; (includes reception with the artists). The concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave., fourth floor. The gallery presents the "Shrouds of Christ" exhibit. For more information, call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 995-2640, or e-mail: nybandura@aol.com. NYBE performances are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts.

Saturday, March 20

CHICAGO: The Chicago Business and Professional Group is sponsoring a presentation by Anne Applebaum titled "The Gulag: What We Know Now and Why It Matters." A columnist and member of the editorial board of The Washington Post, Ms. Applebaum is author of "Gulag: A History," considered the first up-to-date scholarly study of the central terror institution of the

Soviet regime. Ms. Applebaum will discuss the experience of individuals and national groups in the forced labor camps and examine the disturbing question of why the gulag has remained relatively obscure in the West. The presentation will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 2320 W. Chicago Ave., at 7 p.m. Books will be available for purchase at the event. Refreshments and socializing will follow the presentation. Admission: members, \$10; non-members and guests, \$15. For additional information call (847) 359-3676.

NEW BRITAIN, Conn.: The 10th annual Ukrainian Easter Festival will be held at St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church parish hall, 54 Winter St. (behind Newbrite Plaza) at 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Snow date: Saturday, March 27. Available for sale will be pasky, babky, nut and poppyseed rolls, as well as varenyky, borshch, and homemade cakes and desserts. Pysanky and egg-decorating supplies will also be sold. Lunch and take-out will be available. Admission and parking (behind the church) are free. For more information call the parish, (860) 229-3833.

Friday, March 26

EDMONTON: The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta is holding a lecture by Dr. Lisa Grekul, department of English, University of British Columbia, titled "Listening to All of Baba's Children: (Re)Discovering Ukrainian Canadian Literature." The lecture will be held in the Heritage Lounge, Athabasca Hall, at 7 p.m. For more information call (780) 492-2972, or e-mail cius@ualberta.ca.

Profiles of...

(Continued from page 12)

His poems, essays and articles have appeared in Ukrainian émigré periodicals in such journals as Suchasnist, Novi Dni, Moloda Ukraina, Avanhard, Kyiv, and the literary almanac Slovo.

With Ukraine's independence in 1991, his work was published in periodicals in Ukraine as well, among them Literaturna Ukraina, Berezil, Dzvin, Dyvoslovo, Donbas, Kurier Kryvbasa, Dnipro, and Slovyanske Viche.

To date, Mr. Bilajiw's collected works have been published in three volumes: "Harvest" (1970) and "Beyond

Happiness" (1979), which came out in the United States, and "Autumnal Renewal," which came out in his native Donetsk in 2001.

In 1980 Mr. Bilajiw was accorded the title of poet laureate of the Mohyla-Mazepa Academy of Sciences in Ukraine.

Mr. Bilajiw is a corresponding member of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts Sciences in New York and of the Writers' Union in Ukraine.

He has been active in Ukrainian émigré politics as chairman of the National Council of the State Center of the Ukrainian National Republic government-in-exile (1980-1984), among other positions.

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 156

Please be advised that Branch 156 has merged with Branch 173 as of March 1, 2004. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Mr. Peter Serba.

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38th Annual Membership Meeting of the Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union

Sunday, March 28, 2004
at 2:00 p.m.

(Registration begins at 1:00 p.m.)

Ukrainian National Home
142 Second Ave., New York, NY

PROPOSED AGENDA:

1. Call to order.
2. Verification of the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting.
3. Reports:
 - a. President's report
 - b. Treasurer's report
 - c. Manager's report
 - d. Loan Department's report
 - e. Supervisory Committee's report
4. Discussion.
5. Election of three members to the Board of Directors.
6. Desired suggestions for new business.
7. Adjournment.

Refreshments will be served

Soyuzivka's Datebook

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| March 6-7, 2004
Plast Kurin "Khmelnynchenky"
Annual Winter Rada | April 19-21, 2004
Spring Clergy Days |
| March 20, 2004
Grace Church Men's Retreat | April 21-23, 2004
SUNY New Paltz
– Migrant Special Education Program |
| March 27-28, 2004
"Cooking in the Ukrainian Tradition"
– sponsored by Kurin Spartanky.
Open to parents and children
15 and older. | May 7-9, 2004
2nd Annual
Cinco De Mayo Festivities |
| March 27-28, 2004
Brooklyn Ukrainian Group
– Spring Cleaning Volunteer
Weekend | May 14, 2004
Ellenville High School Junior Prom |
| April 10, 2004
Easter Celebration and Easter Brunch | May 15, 2004
Wedding – Stephan Kowalczuk
and Alex Raut |
| April 17, 2004
Wedding – Nancy Medwid
and Jonathan McFall | May 28-31, 2004
Memorial Day Weekend
BBQ & Dance |



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, March 12

CHICAGO: The group photography exhibition titled, "Don't Look Away," featuring the work of Joseph Sywenkyj, Aleksandr Glyadyelov and Adrienne Kovalsky, opens at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 2320 W. Chicago Ave. A reception with the artists will be held that day at 6-9 p.m. The exhibit documents social issues in Ukraine such as street children, adults with HIV and children affected by Chernobyl's nuclear radiation. The exhibit will be on view through May 2. Exhibit hours: Wednesday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m. For more information call the UIMA, (773) 227-5522, or visit uima-art.org.

Saturday, March 13

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA), New York Metro Chapter, in cooperation with the Self Reliance Association of American Ukrainians, New York City Branch, will hold another of its series of community-based medical lectures at 98 Second Ave. at 2 p.m. The featured physician, Dr. Eugene Holuka, will discuss "What Everyone Should Know About Diabetes." Admission is free and refreshments will be served. For further information contact Dr. Ihor Magun, (516) 766-5147.

Sunday, March 14

NEW YORK: Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, New York City Branch, invites the public to its annual "Novatska Kostiumivka" (children's masquerade), whose theme this year is "Kazka Charivnytsia" (The Enchanting Fairy Tale.) The children's costume play will begin at 2 p.m. in the auditorium of the Ukrainian National Home, 140 Second Ave. (between Eighth and Ninth streets). In addition to the play, there will be games, a lottery and a delicious buffet. Admission: adults, \$5; children, free. Everyone is sure to have a good time!

CHICAGO: Cellists Natalia Khoma and Suren Bagratuni and cellist and vocalist Marta Bagratuni join pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky at 2 p.m. in a performance of combinations of duets and solo works by Tchaikovsky (Pezzo Capriccioso), Chopin (Fantasy in F Minor), Beethoven (Sonata in A major) and other composers. The concert closes the 13th classical chamber series of the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 2325 W. Chicago Ave. Admission: \$15. For additional information call (773) 883-9737 or visit uima-art.org.

YONKERS, N.Y.: The Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Branch 30, is sponsoring an "Art Exhibit

and Easter Bazaar" at 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, 21 Shonnard Place. Featured will be bas-relief wood sculptures by Zenon Holubec of Glen Spey, N.Y., and crafts by Nancy Zakotiria of Yonkers. Both artists had been scheduled for the annual Christmas bazaar, which had to be cancelled due to inclement weather. There will also be other items available for purchase, such as traditional pysanky, gerdany (Ukrainian beaded necklaces), woodcuts, Easter egg-making kits, greeting cards, fresh honey and much more. Enjoy coffee, homemade pastries and canapes while browsing and enjoying the company of friends. For more information call (914) 762-6514.

Monday, March 15

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will host a lecture given by Juliette Cadiot, HURI research fellow, titled "Popular Resistance to the Imperial Russian Census of 1897: Uniates and Tatar Muslims in Confrontation with the Modern State." The lecture will be held in the HURI Seminar Room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m. For more information contact HURI, (617) 495-4053 or huri@fas.harvard.edu.

TORONTO: The Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Toronto presents the Wolodymyr George Danyliw Lecture, featuring Mykola Riabchuk, Kolasky Memorial Fellow, CIUS; Center for European Studies, National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy; and member of the editorial board of the Kyiv-based journal Krytyka. Dr. Riabchuk's lecture is titled "From Dysfunctional to Blackmail State: The Post-Soviet Transition in Ukraine." It will be held at the Vivian and David Campbell Conference Facility, Munk Center for International Studies, 1 Devonshire Place, at 6 p.m. For more information access <http://www.utoronto.ca/jacyk/> or call (416) 946-8113.

Thursday-Friday March 18-19

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute of America presents the New York premiere of the documentary film "Between Hitler and Stalin – Ukraine in WWII: The Untold Story." The film, directed by Slawko Nowytski and narrated by Oscar-winning actor Jack Palance, is a one-hour documentary portraying the titanic struggle that took place on the territory of Ukraine between Nazi Germany and Russia. The destructive scorched-earth policy of both totalitarian powers, the Ukrainian guerrilla armies, and the people fighting both the Nazi and Soviet armies for Ukrainian independence

(Continued on page 23)

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