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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukraine plays key role in supporting Georgia

by Danylo Peleschuk

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine has emerged as one of Georgia’s biggest backers in its ongoing crisis over South Ossetia, providing staunch political support, and even having threatening on August 10 to prevent Russian warships that moved to blockade Georgia’s Black Sea coastline from returning to their Crimean base in Ukraine.

Russia’s Black Sea Fleet, stationed in Sevastopol and long a thorn in the side of Ukraine in its relations with Russia, deployed its vessels on August 9 toward Georgia’s coast. The Ukrainian government warned the fleet to refrain from any involvement in the Georgian conflict, and stated that it has the legal right to prevent it from returning to its base, which Ukraine agreed to lease to Russia until 2017.

“[Ukraine] has the right, in accordance with international law and the law of Ukraine, to forbid ships and vessels that may take part in a conflict to return to the territory of Ukraine until the conflict is resolved,” read a statement released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko signed a decree on August 13 mandating that all Russian ships deployed from Sevastopol gain special permission to return to their base, according to the president’s website. Additionally, the fleet must submit to the Ukrainian government a letter of intent 10 working days before its planned return.

Ukraine is backing Georgia morally and politically in its struggle with Russian forces, which escalated over into a full-blown war between the two sides before a preliminary ceasefire was agreed to on August 13. Ukraine’s Foreign Affairs Ministry, along with the United States and most of



Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili speaks in Tbilisi. Seen in the background, among others, is Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko, who traveled to Georgia with Polish, Estonian, Lithuanian and Latvian leaders to express solidarity with the people of Georgia.

the European Union, condemned Russia’s invasion of Georgian territory, but was not ready to support the country militarily, Deputy Foreign Minister Kostyantyn Yeliseyev told the UNIAN news service.

But Russian officials claimed that Ukraine was guilty by association, noting that an S-200 surface-to-air missile (SAM) that downed a Russian Tu-22 bomber was supplied to the Georgian military by Ukraine.

“The state of Ukraine, which has been supplying weaponry to Georgia so that it became armed to the teeth and

directly encouraging the Georgian authorities to start the intervention and ethnic cleansing in South Ossetia, has no moral right to tutor others and participate in the matter,” read a statement from Russia’s Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Additionally, South Ossetian President Eduard Kokoity accused Ukraine on August 6 – the day before the conflict began – of selling various other armaments to Georgia, including T-72 tanks, armored personnel carriers, Mi-8 helicopters and various missile systems.

Ukrainian Defense Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov responded promptly, understanding that all arms sales to Georgia were in compliance with international laws and standards.

President Yushchenko, along with the Polish, Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian heads of state, traveled to Tbilisi on August 13 in an effort to expedite the peace process

and establish a sense of solidarity between the newly democratic, post-Soviet states, who have struggled with Russian bullying in recent years. In Tbilisi’s central square, Mr. Yushchenko reassured Georgian protesters that Ukraine stands with Georgia in the face of Russian aggression.

“Here, today, in the hardest times for Georgia, we proclaim that Georgia has the right to freedom, the right to independence,” he said. “We traveled thousands of kilome-

(Continued on page 5)

Ukraine at Olympics: Ukrainian Americans support Georgia, condemn Russian aggression

four bronze medals and a team gold

by Tamara Olexy

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

NEW YORK – Ukrainian Americans on Saturday evening, August 9, joined members of the Georgian community in the United States in demonstrations near the United Nations and in Washington to protest the Russian invasion of Georgia.

In response to Russia’s escalating violence, the Georgian community has been holding daily demonstrations. Representatives of the New York Branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and other community members joined the August 9 demonstration in front of the United Nations, where over 500 Georgians had gathered.

The following day, a protest rally was held in Washington, where approximately 100 participants, including several Ukrainians from the area, gathered at the Georgian Embassy to march toward the Russian Embassy.

UCCA President Michael Sawkiw Jr. participated in the demonstration and march. He commented: “We are united with our Georgian colleagues against this brutal military invasion of the sovereign nation of Georgia. This is a clear violation of international norms and must be condemned. Russia’s aggression and intrusion in foreign, independent countries must cease immediately.”

On Monday, August 11, undeterred by



Supporters of Georgia demonstrate in New York.

the rain, over 500 Georgians again gathered before the United Nations to protest Russian aggression and show their support for their fellow Georgians, who are experiencing untold devastation and loss of life in this conflict. During the rally participants waved the Georgian national flag and held banners that read “U.N. Stop Russian Aggression,” “Russia Stop Bombing in Georgia” and “Stop Russian Terror.”

In a show of support for their Georgian neighbors, members of the Ukrainian com-

munity joined the rally and chanted alongside the Georgians “Russia Out of Georgia,” “Peace in Georgia” and “Sakartvelo” (the name for Georgia in the Georgian language). The Ukrainian American community joined to show solidarity, while understanding that if international community is silent in response to Russia’s current moves, Ukraine, specifically Crimea, could be the next target.

The Georgian community has pledged to

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ANALYSIS

The goals behind Moscow's proxy offensive in South Ossetia

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor
August 8

As anticipated (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, July 11, August 4) Moscow has initiated an offensive military operation by proxy against Georgia in South Ossetia. Although the blow had been expected in upper Abkhazia and may yet materialize there, Russia shifted the direction of attack to the South Ossetian front.

The brazen attacks during the night of August 7 to 8 in South Ossetia left Tbilisi with no choice but to respond. Continuing Georgian restraint would have resulted in irreparable human, territorial and political losses.

Moscow's military and propaganda operation bears the hallmarks of its blitzkriegs in Transdnistria in 1992 and Abkhazia in 1993. Georgia's defensive response in South Ossetia since August 8 is legally within the country's rights under international law and militarily commensurate with the attacks.

Russia usually stages military incidents in Georgia in August, while European officials take their vacations. This year, however, the operations are systematic, lengthier and considerably higher on the ladder of escalation than in previous years. After concentrating supplementary forces in Abkhazia during the spring and expanding its military infrastructure there in early summer, Moscow switched on the

escalation process in South Ossetia.

On July 3 an assassination attempt targeted Dmitry Sanakoyev, head of the Tbilisi-backed interim administration of South Ossetia, which controls at least one-third of the region's territory. The blast injured Mr. Sanakoyev's bodyguards.

On July 9 Moscow demonstratively acknowledged that four Russian Air Force planes had flown a mission over South Ossetia. That action sought to deter Georgia from flying unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), thus blinding Tbilisi to Russian and proxy military movements in the area. A series of roadside bomb blasts targeted Georgian police patrols.

During the second half of July and the first days of August, Russian-commanded Ossetian troops under the authority of Russian-led South Ossetian authorities fired repeatedly at Georgian-controlled villages, forcing Georgian police to fire back defensively.

Meanwhile, Russia's state-controlled media orchestrated a war scare, accusing Georgia of intentions to attack. In the North Caucasus and Russia proper, Cossack chieftains on government payroll threatened to send "volunteers" to fight against Georgia. The North Ossetian authorities, apparently aware of Moscow's plans, showed nervousness at the prospect of becoming embroiled in a major military operation by proxy to their south.

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Prime minister dominates Russia's economic, foreign and security policy

by Jonas Bernstein
Eurasia Daily Monitor
August 6

The recent controversy surrounding the coal and steel producer Mechel has sparked speculation about a rift between President Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin.

In a meeting with metals tycoons in Nizhny Novgorod on July 24, Mr. Putin accused Mechel of selling coking coal, one of the materials used in steelmaking, to domestic customers at double the price it was selling it for abroad and said that the Federal Anti-Monopoly Service and perhaps even the Investigative Committee at the Prosecutor General's Office should look into Mechel's pricing policies. He also threatened to "send a doctor" to the company's owner, Igor Zyuzin, who failed to

attend the meeting because he had been hospitalized the previous day.

The comments sent Russia's stock markets, and particularly Mechel share prices, plunging (see Eurasia Daily Monitor July 29).

On July 28 President Medvedev's aide Arkady Dvorkovich, apparently seeking to calm the markets, held a press conference at which he praised Mechel for cooperating with the Federal Anti-Monopoly Service and said that he hoped "these events" would be "a lesson for everybody, not just for Mechel, but for every company; and we will all act in a civilized way."

Yet within hours, Prime Minister Putin struck again, declaring that Mechel had evaded taxes by selling its products to offshore companies it controlled in Switzerland. Later that day, the Investigative Committee at the Prosecutor General's Office said that it was considering bringing criminal charges against the company, in addition to the charges of price-fixing being investigated by the Federal Anti-Monopoly Service (Moscow Times, July 29).

On July 31 Mr. Medvedev made comments widely interpreted as a response to Mr. Putin, telling a conference for small and mid-sized businesses in the Smolensk Oblast city of Gagarin that "law enforcement agencies and government authorities need to stop causing nightmares for business."

"We need to create a normal investment climate in our country," Mr. Medvedev said, adding, apparently to emphasize his call to stop pressuring business, "You can consider that the signal has been given" (Financial Times, Agence France-Presse,

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NEWSBRIEFS

Kostenko sees warning to Ukraine

KYIV – The leader of the Ukrainian People's Party, National Deputy Yurii Kostenko said on August 11 that he is convinced that Russia, having started military actions in Georgia, aims to prevent the country from joining NATO and the European Union. In a commentary released by his party's press service, Mr. Kostenko asserted that "the matter concerns not so much a danger for Russia in case Georgia becomes a NATO member, as a distribution of spheres of influence, whereby which Moscow insists that all post-Soviet countries, except for the Baltic countries, should be within the sphere of Russia's geopolitical, military and economic influence." That is why Russia so actively expresses its support for separatists in Abkhazia and South Ossetia and resorts to direct military actions, he added. The activity of Russian politicians in Ukraine can be explained in the same way – they "are not tired of making provocations on the theme of Sevastopol's status and state that the Russian Black Sea Fleet will never leave Crimea." Mr. Kostenko also maintained that "by military actions against Georgia, Russia warns Ukraine with regard to our Eurointegration plans." He added that events in Georgia should also serve as "the last warning to Ukrainian high-ranking politicians that they should not ingratiate themselves with the Kremlin, hoping to receive mythical political support during the elections, presidential or parliamentary, but to defend the national interests of Ukraine." (Ukrinform)

Ukraine wants regulations on BSF

KYIV – Ukraine is calling for an agreement with Russia regulating the participation of Russian Black Sea Fleet ships in military conflicts, President Viktor Yushchenko's special representative and Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Kostiantyn Yeliseyev said at a briefing on August 11. He said it is unacceptable for Ukraine that the ships of the Black Sea Fleet (BSF), which is temporarily based in Ukraine, are being used for armed confrontation. Mr. Yeliseyev also commented

on whether Ukraine would allow the fleet's ships that have headed to the Abkhazian coast to return to Sevastopol. "We will hold a dialogue with the Russian side," he said, adding that the countries will decide how this will be held. Mr. Yeliseyev also said that Ukraine would resolve this question "without emotions and hysteria, but in a normal and civilized way." He explained, "Our goal is not to provoke confrontation with the Russian side. Our goal is to hold a normal, constructive and productive dialogue that should take into account Ukrainian interests." The Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry, in its statement on August 10, warned Russia about the participation of Russian Black Sea Fleet vessels in the South Ossetian conflict. "With the goal of preventing circumstances under which Ukraine could become involved in the armed conflict and military actions, given the participation in them of military formations of the Black Sea Fleet, which is temporarily based in Ukraine, the Ukrainian side reserves the right, according to the norms of international law and Ukrainian law, to ban the return to Ukraine of the ships and vessels that might participate in the aforesaid military actions," the statement noted. (Ukrinform)

Yatsenyuk sees global security threat

KYIV – The situation in South Ossetia is far from being a local bilateral military conflict; first and foremost it is another serious threat to global security, Verkhovna Rada chairman Arseniy Yatsenyuk said during a phone conversation with Georgian Parliament Speaker David Bakradze, Chairman of the Federation Council of the Russian Federal Assembly Sergey Mironov and Russian State Duma Speaker Boris Gryzlov. Mr. Yatsenyuk's press secretary told UKRINFORM of the conversation on August 11. Mr. Yatsenyuk called on his interlocutors to do everything possible so that hostilities are immediately stopped and negotiations start on the peaceful settlement of the conflict.

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Correction

Regarding "Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople makes historic visit to Ukraine" (August 3), although Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew's visit to Kyiv on July 25-27 was his first to the Ukrainian capital, in fact he has visited Ukraine before. In 1997 he visited Odesa during a conference at which he met with the patriarch of Moscow. Furthermore, his predecessor, Patriarch Dimitrios visited Lviv in 1987. Thus, Patriarch Bartholomew's recent visit was not, as the story reported, the first visit to Ukraine of the patriarch of Constantinople since the time of Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky.

CRISIS IN GEORGIA

NEWS ANALYSIS: Ukraine expresses strong support for Georgia

by **Taras Kuzio**

Eurasia Daily Monitor
August 12

Ukraine's president and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which comes under his jurisdiction, have reacted sharply to the Georgian-Russian conflict. President Viktor Yushchenko has close personal relations with President Mikheil Saakashvili with whom he is in direct contact on a daily basis (www.president.gov.ua, August 9).

The Yushchenko-Saakashvili relationship is a political alliance based on the shared aims of the 2003 Rose and 2004 Orange revolutions, a common desire to join NATO and support for an alternative to Russia energy sources through the GUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova) regional group.

Ukraine and Georgia have also supported pro-U.S. positions in the United Nations on Belarus's human rights record and in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) through the Community of Democratic Choice created in 2005. Ukraine and Georgia contributed the third largest military forces to the U.S.-led intervention in Iraq (Ukraine until 2005 and Georgia since 2006).

Ukraine's Parliament, which is in summer recess, is a different matter. The two Orange forces – the Yulia Tymoshenko bloc and Our Ukraine – Peoples Self-Defense (OU-PSD) follow the president's line in support of Georgia's position. Meanwhile, the Party of the Regions (PRU) and the Communist Party (CPU) hold positions that are not sympathetic to Georgia, at times pro-Russian and at other times contradictory and duplicitous.

The PRU and CPU have both demanded an investigation into Ukrainian supplies of arms to Georgia. The CPU has accused the Ukrainian authorities of having armed the Saakashvili regime and has described Mr. Saakashvili as an "international criminal."

Such accusations and inflammatory rhetoric echo those emanating from Moscow and the South Ossetian and Abkhaz separatists. Russian and separatist leaders have accused Ukraine of assisting alleged Georgian "ethnic cleansing" of South Ossetia and of "arming the Georgian army to the teeth."

The Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs defended Ukraine by accusing Russia of having armed the separatists (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, August 9-10).

These accusations ignore the fact that "military-technical cooperation between Ukraine and Georgia, which has taken place over the last 15 years, has been within the parameters of international law" (*Zerkalo Nedeli*, August 9). Ukrainian supplies of military equipment to Georgia began during Leonid Kuchma's presidency, and continued under the government of PRU leader Viktor Yanukovich from 2002 to 2004.

Ukrainian troops were sent to Iraq by the same Yanukovich government.

The Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry's demand that Russia withdraw its troops and respect Georgia's territorial integrity is an established position articulated under President Kuchma. Ukraine's offer of acting as a mediator is again a long-standing proposal that was rejected by Russia under Mr. Kuchma and again now (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, August 8-9).

Former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke's comment that Russia's next objective would be Ukraine is a fear long held in Kyiv. The initial impetus for creating the GUAM group in 1998 was Russian-backed separatism on the territory of three of its members (Moldova, Georgia, Azerbaijan) and a threat to the Crimea. The Russian Parliament continually laid claim to the Crimea and Sevastopol in the 1990s, the island of Tuzla in 2003 and to Sevastopol as recently as May 1.

Ukraine's unease at Russia's continued territorial demands led to a presidential decree ordering the government to prepare legislation and conduct negotiations with Russia on a full withdrawal of Black Sea Fleet (BSF) personnel by 2017. BSF personnel, who are Russian citizens, have illegally participated in anti-NATO and pro-separatist rallies.

Russian nationalist, Communist and pro-regime politicians are unanimous in using the Crimea and Sevastopol as a potential bargaining chip to halt Ukraine's NATO membership. This reflects long-standing Russian views as expressed by President Vladimir Putin at the NATO-Russia Council meeting in April that the alleged "fragility" of Ukraine would cause it to disintegrate if it joined NATO (*Zerkalo Nedeli*, April 19).

Crimean CPU leader Leonid Grach threatened to support the peninsula's secession from Ukraine if it joined NATO. The view was criticized by the head of the Verkhovna Rada's Committee on European Integration and deputy leader of the OU-PSD faction, Borys Tarasyuk (www.nuns.com.ua, August 8). Crimea's Communists, which are a regional branch of the CPU, played a positive role in the 1990s in supporting Ukraine's territorial integrity and adopting the 1998 pro-autonomy constitution.

The Symferopol City Council voted on July 24 to declare itself a "territory free from NATO." The vote was supported by the For Yanukovich faction and the national Bolshevik-oriented Natalia Vitrenko bloc. The PRU would lose votes in eastern Ukraine if it began to play, like the CPU and the Vitrenko Bloc, with separatism.

Russian Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov arrived in the Crimea during the Ossetian crisis to hold negotiations with Crimean Communists on a "joint anti-NATO struggle." Mr. Zyuganov said the Saakashvili regime was undertaking

"state terrorism" with the support of the United States and NATO (*UNIAN*, August 9). Mr. Zyuganov supported the independence of South Ossetia and Abkhazia and has long supported Sevastopol's transfer to Russia.

The stakes are high for President Yushchenko and Ukraine in the Ossetian crisis. The removal or weakening of the Saakashvili administration would undermine the Ukrainian-Georgian partnership, destroy the GUAM group (which already has a passive Moldova) and thereby neutralize the pro-Western wing of the CIS. Ultimately, the most important impact of the crisis will be on the December meeting of NATO foreign ministers set to review Ukraine and Georgia's "progress,"

which will be held at a time of changing administrations in the United States.

The two arguments against admitting Ukraine and Georgia to NATO – political instability in Ukraine and Georgia's military conflict with Russia – have become stronger since they were raised by Germany and France at the April NATO summit in Bucharest. It is, therefore, unlikely that the review meeting will send a positive signal to Ukraine and Georgia about being granted NATO Membership Action Plans.

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Helsinki Commission co-chairmen condemn Russian assault on Georgia

WASHINGTON – Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Fla.) and Sen. Benjamin L. Cardin (D-Md.), co-chairmen of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (U.S. Helsinki Commission), on August 11 reacted to Russia's assault on the Republic of Georgia.

"Russia's intervention into Georgia is a clear violation of Georgia's territorial integrity and Principle 4 of the Helsinki Final Act," said Co-Chairmen Hastings and Cardin. "We urge Moscow to cease its military operations immediately."

Chairman Hastings noted, "The Russian Federation has departed from its commitment to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) guiding principles of refraining from the threat of or use of force in the settlement of disputes; respect for the inviolability of borders and the territorial integrity of states; and the peaceful settlement of disputes."

Co-Chairman Cardin commented, "Georgia and Russia have accused each other of responsibility for this military confrontation. But Moscow's rejection of

arbitration by the international community clearly demonstrates its indifference to cooperation and ending the hostilities, which have been building."

The Helsinki Commission leaders' statement noted: "We are very troubled by media reports of Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov's statement to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice that President Mikheil Saakashvili 'must go.' Only the voters of Georgia can make that decision. Removing a democratically elected president through military action is unacceptable to the United States and the broader international community."

Chairman Hastings concluded, "Last month, during the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly meeting in Astana, I introduced a resolution expressing concern of many participating states about the alarming sequence of events that have long escalated tensions in the Abkhazia and South Ossetia regions of Georgia, and raised the prospect of armed conflict in the area. I deeply regret that my apprehensions have now come to fruition."

UCCA reacts to Russia's aggression against Georgia

Below is the text of a statement by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America issued on August 8.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), the largest representative organization of the Ukrainian American community, condemns the recent infringement of Georgia's territorial integrity and sovereignty by armed Russian troops in the South Ossetia region of Georgia. This assault across the internationally recognized Georgian border is a clear violation of worldwide norms and an affront to the peaceful Georgian nation. Past tensions between the two sides, which until recently have been handled in a diplomatic manner, have now risen to a Russian-imposed armed military conflict with untold devastation and loss of Georgian lives.

As the Russian troop movement across the Georgian border escalates, the UCCA calls upon the world community to condemn the violence and encourages both sides to return to the negotiating table. Unfortunately, such recent acts of Russian aggression have been paramount to increased tensions not just in South Ossetia,

but also within Ukraine – in Crimea and specifically the port city of Sevastopol – where Russian claims to Ukrainian territory are also of vital concern. Since the latest NATO summit in Bucharest in April 2008, where Ukraine and Georgia received a positive endorsement for future NATO membership, Russian acts of aggression – whether economic, political or militaristic – have increasingly grown against the two aspirant NATO countries.

The Russian government must heed internationally recognized borders and preclude its aggressive actions against its neighboring countries. A democratic Russia that respects the territorial integrity of its neighbors, as well as domestically upholds the principles of equal human rights and freedoms of press and conscience for its citizens, will contribute to peace, stability and security in the world. The world must condemn the recent attacks against Georgia and prevent such hostility in the future.

On behalf of the UCCA Executive Board:
Michael Sawkiw Jr., president
Orest Baranyk, chairman, external affairs

Quotable notes

"This war shows that Ukraine, like no one else, needs protection from [Russian] threats. Since maintaining territorial integrity is the main goal of NATO, it's clear that Ukraine needs to be a part of this organization. Assistance from the European Union isn't enough to decide on problems on this scale. If we want to defend democracy, safety and peace in Ukraine, we need to do everything we can to join NATO now. I think it's pretty clear not only in Ukraine, but throughout all of Europe."

– *Hryhorii Perepelytsia, director of the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Kyiv, in an August 13 interview with Danylo Peleschuk of The Ukrainian Weekly's Kyiv Press Bureau.*

CRISIS IN GEORGIA

Russia's war on Georgia is aimed against the West

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor
August 13

For the fifth day running, Russian forces are pursuing their onslaught against Georgia. Russian troops have brutally advanced far beyond the so-called conflict zones, deep inside the country, occupying towns and villages and destroying Georgia's infrastructure through aerial bombardments.

In addition, the Russian navy has begun an economic blockade of Georgia. The Kremlin already imposed overland and air transport blockades between Georgia and Russia two years ago. Now, Russia has begun a maritime blockade as well.

This war is not simply about Georgia; it is far more than a Russia-Georgia conflict. This conflict is about the creation of a "Unbrave New World," parallel and alternative to the Western world. It would be a domain policed by KGB alumni, regulated by Russian state energy monopolies and expanded by military force through the incorporation of non-Russian territories. If allowed to expand as it now does in Georgia, this domain will soon become the power base for a direct Russian challenge to Western values and interests.

Georgia is now the foremost target of the Kremlin's re-expansion project. Unless this project is resisted here, Georgia will become the birthplace of the Kremlin-controlled "Unbrave New World." In that case, Georgia will also become the unmarked grave of major strategic initiatives that the United States,

NATO and the European Union have undertaken in the past decade: The Caspian energy transit to Europe, the strategic corridor from NATO Europe to Central Asia and Afghanistan, NATO enlargement, EU policies in Europe's East, Silk Road projects and democratic institution-building in the Black Sea region.

All these aspirations and visions will be irretrievably lost if Georgia is allowed to fall. Georgia's fall under Russia's continuous blows would signify a historic rollback of the West from Europe's East.

Hoping to stop the bloodshed, Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili announced a unilateral ceasefire at 9 p.m. on August 7 (Georgian Public Broadcaster, August 7). Despite this, Russian-armed, Russian-commanded South Ossetian forces continued firing at and shelling Georgian villages and police, as well as the Georgian peacekeeping contingent.

At least 50 lives – civilian, police and peacekeepers – were lost during two hours under this ceasefire. After 11 p.m. that evening Saakashvili ordered an end to the unilateral ceasefire because Russian troops in massive numbers, with tank columns and artillery, started streaming through the Roki tunnel from Russian territory into Georgia, across the internationally recognized border.

The Georgian leadership faced two options: First, hold the unilateral ceasefire and allow the Russian-led Ossetian forces to overrun or destroy Georgian-controlled villages in South Ossetia, and do nothing until Russian troops came

down from the Roki tunnel to join the carnage in a matter of hours; or, second, start fighting back and push the potential frontline as far north as possible.

The Georgian leadership chose the second option as the lesser of two bad options. On August 8 and 9 Russian forces overran South Ossetia, amid credible reports of round-ups of local Georgians, while North Caucasus and South Ossetian paramilitaries committed acts of violence against unarmed civilians in the villages. From August 9 onward, Russian ground forces and aviation carried out operations deep inside Georgia, targeting both military and civilian sites.

In Abkhazia massive Russian forces were deployed from Russia's interior by air as well as landing on ships of Russia's Black Sea Fleet, which is based on Ukrainian territory. This move constitutes an overt breach of the Ukrainian-Russian treaties regarding the stationing of the Russian fleet, as well as a violation of Ukraine's non-bloc status, which Russia otherwise claims to support.

All these moves are destroying any basis for the rule of international law in large parts of Europe's East and Black Sea region. Those in the West who pinned hopes on President Dmitry Medvedev to respect the rule of law, internally and internationally, will have to admit the failure of such hopes.

Russia has already added substantial portions of Georgian territory to the portions it already controlled. With or without active offensive operations in coming days, Russia is poised to issue ultimatums that Georgia as a sovereign country

would be unable to accept. Through such an ultimatum, Russian troops seized the Georgian town of Zugdidi and have indicated that they would continue military pressure until Georgia signs a cease-fire agreement on Russian terms.

Within the cease-fire agreement, Moscow will almost certainly demand provisions to control political decision-making by the Georgian government on national security issues. Mediators from the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) must shield Georgia from any Russian-imposed cease-fire agreement that could be turned into a Russian mechanism of influencing Georgia's sovereign decision-making prerogatives.

The Russians have already issued an ultimatum that Georgian forces should put down their weapons and pull out from the western Georgian city of Zugdidi. As this report is filed Russian forces are standing ready near Gori and behind the Enguri River in Abkhazia ready to launch an all-out ground forces assault of Zugdidi in case Georgia does not fulfill this ultimatum. In order to prevent a massive onslaught of innocent civilian lives I am ready to fulfill this ultimatum and allow the Russian Federation to slice another piece off my country. But what next? Gori? Kazbegi? Tbilisi? Some other Georgian town? Or the head of the president of a sovereign country?

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Ukrainians see danger to their country's own sovereignty

by Danylo Peleschuk
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The Georgian crisis revolving around the separatist territories of South Ossetia and Abkhazia have exposed serious concerns about Ukraine's relations with Russia, as well as its own internal concerns about pro-Russian Crimea.

Via its largest military maneuver onto foreign soil since the fall of the Soviet Union, Russia proved that it still holds significant sway over post-Soviet states and that it will not hesitate to act when it considers its interests to be threatened.

In the wake of the Russian invasion of Georgia, Ukraine's media and political observers have pondered the possibility that the conflict in Russia's "near abroad" could reach Ukrainian territory – most notably its autonomous republic of Crimea, a hotbed of pro-Russian sentiment.

The dangerous truth is that the rumor isn't far from reality, according to Hryhorii Perepelytsia, director of the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Kyiv.

"This war showed Ukraine the very real dangers against its national sovereignty," he told The Weekly on August 13. "In Crimea, where you won't find a single Ukrainian-

language book or newspaper and where ethnic Ukrainians are a minority, there are all the requirements needed to scheme a very similar conflict. The pro-Russian sentiment is simply impossible to defeat."

Another major problem, Mr. Perepelytsia added, is the Russian claim over what it considers as its "citizens." Since more than 50 percent of Crimea's population considers itself ethnic Russian – many of whom are Russian passport holders – Russia could easily be moved to protect the interests of what it believes to be rightful citizens. Russian officials used that very argument when "defending" South Ossetia, where it had issued Russian passports to most Ossetians before the conflict broke out.

"Russia can very easily provoke a similar situation in Crimea, or even in eastern Ukraine, where many people want very much to be Russian citizens," Mr. Perepelytsia said. "It's very easy for Russia to issue passports and, in effect, claim those territories as their own."

Russia's Black Sea Fleet, stationed in the Crimean port city of Sevastopol, proved, now more than ever, to be a major obstacle in Ukraine's ongoing tussle with Russian influence. The fleet deployed on August 9 to participate in a blockade of Georgia's Black Sea coastline, thereby, according to Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko, effectively implicating Ukraine in the conflict.

"I'm very concerned about the use of the Black Sea Fleet in military operations or in the blocking of the Black Sea [coast]," he told reporters in Symferopol before leaving for Georgia on August 12. "It's a dangerous precedent," Mr. Yushchenko said, adding that in such situations, Ukraine is "drawn into conflicts against its will."

On the ground here in Kyiv, reactions to

the Georgian crisis were as polarized as the notoriously chaotic political landscape. On Independence Square – often used by picketers and activists as a debating ground for topical issues – a group of pensioners huddled around a stand set up by the Civil Committee for the Caucasus Without War, and heatedly argued with one another about the crisis in volatile verbal fisticuffs.

Flailing arms, pointing fingers and ridiculing one another over their comments, the men seemed to embody Ukraine's divided opinions on the conflict in the Caucasus. Some argued for Georgia's territorial integrity, while others defended Russia's militaristic response.

The men agreed to be quoted by The Weekly on the condition of anonymity, possibly over fear of their political persuasions being published.

"They're just like us," one man said about the Georgians caught in the crossfire. "Moscow is simply trying to exert its influence beyond its own borders over people whom it thinks belong to it, just like it's doing in Ukraine. But they're all Georgians, just as we're all Ukrainians. Like us, they all belong to one nation."

The man's opponent – burly, red-faced and bellowing in Russian with his deep voice – shouted back that Russia had every right to send in its troops to the areas where they were "welcome."

"If the Ossetians want to be Russians, let them be Russians," he said. "How are they Georgians if they want nothing to do with Georgia? Saakashvili is so concerned about looking good for the West that he doesn't realize that those people will never want to be a part of his country. As long as he fights to keep them, Russia will be involved, protecting people who want protection from Russia."

Quotable notes

"...Soviet imperialism was a continuation, not an antecedent, of Russian nationalism. Vladimir Putin and his stooge, President Dmitry Medvedev, have revived a tradition of Russian expansionism that dates back to Ivan the Terrible. The invasion of Georgia echoes Russia's annexation of that country in 1801 and again in 1921, when the Soviets crushed a short-lived Georgian independence.

"This has little to do with protecting South Ossetians, who a few years ago were vying for independence from both Georgia and Russia. And it has little to do with Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili's obvious miscalculation in responding to South Ossetia's latest provocation by trying to assert military control of that region. Russia had been planning this for some time, as demonstrated by the awesome efficacy of the assault, targeting areas well beyond South Ossetia and Abkhazia, another rebellious region, and mobilizing its Black Sea fleet.

"It would also be a gross mistake to think that the casus belli can be traced to Western actions such as the recognition of Kosovo's independence to the detriment of Russia's Serbian allies or NATO's push for an anti-missile system in Central Europe. Those moves, however imprudent given the psychology of Moscow's leaders, did not precede the emergence of post-Soviet nationalism in Russia. Quite the opposite: Moscow's foreign expansion is the logical continuation of authoritarian rule at home, which Putin has been consolidating for some time with the help of abundant oil and natural gas money. ..."

– Alvaro Vargas Llosa, director of the Center on Global Prosperity at the Independent Institute, writing in *The New Republic*, August 13.

CRISIS IN GEORGIA

Sarkozy's armistice plan favors Russia, undercuts Georgia

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor
August 13

On August 12 in Moscow, following Georgia's unilateral ceasefire, French President Nicolas Sarkozy agreed with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on the conditions for Russia to cease hostilities against Georgia.

That evening, Mr. Medvedev announced that Russia was temporarily ceasing hostilities against Georgia. That same evening Mr. Sarkozy flew from Moscow to Tbilisi and presented the Franco-Russian document to Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili for hurried consideration and quick acceptance.

Messrs. Saakashvili and Sarkozy did some editing, during which Mr. Sarkozy telephoned Mr. Medvedev twice from the Georgian presidential headquarters. The French and Georgian presidents made an outline of the document public with a few comments at a joint press conference in Tbilisi early on August 13 (Georgia Public Broadcaster August 13).

The six-point document sets the conditions for a Russian cessation of hostilities. It is meant to open the way for subsequent negotiations toward a political settlement on South Ossetia, where Russia initiated this war against Georgia in early August (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, August 8). In essence, Mr. Sarkozy's plan attempts to buy Russian military restraint at the cost of long-term concessions deeply damaging to Georgia.

The plan's original text is in French, as are the editorial amendments introduced during Mr. Sarkozy's Tbilisi visit. The not-so-hidden traps, in the form of permanent concessions to Russia, are contained in Points 5 and 6. The six points are:

- 1) "No resort to force."
- 2) "Permanent cessation of hostilities."

These two points however, have already been breached by Russian actions. Mr. Sarkozy knew that this could turn out to be the case. At the joint news conference, Mr.

Medvedev had said that Russia's ceasefire was "temporary, until a full solution of the problem can be achieved," and Mr. Sarkozy, for his part, added in the joint press conference, "This ceasefire could become permanent if [French Minister of Foreign Affairs] Bernard Kouchner and I convince Georgia to sign this document today." Translation: Russia can continue the military operations until Georgia accepts the permanent concessions to Russia that the document envisages.

3) "Free access for humanitarian assistance and permission for refugees to return."

During editing in Tbilisi, the Georgians wanted "ensuring the return of refugees," a wording that would have obligated Moscow. The French-imposed wording, however, leaves the matter up to Russia's "permission."

The French interpret this point as applying to South Ossetia only, where the number of refugees is relatively small. The Georgians, however, interpret this point as applying also to Abkhazia, where mass-scale ethnic cleansing was perpetrated and where Russian forces captured Upper Kodori on August 11.

4) "Georgian forces are to return to the places of their regular deployment."

French drafters seem oblivious, however, to the destruction of many of those sites deep inside Georgia by the Russian military in recent days.

5) "Russian forces shall withdraw to the positions [they had held] prior to the start of hostilities. Awaiting an international mechanism, Russian peacekeepers shall implement additional security measures." Presidents Sarkozy and Medvedev agreed on this formulation in Moscow.

Stunned, Georgians asked for a time limit to be set on Russia's "peacekeeping" operation. Mr. Sarkozy responded by inserting in the text: "for six months, renewable." Georgian consent is not mentioned. Thus, the Russian "peacekeeping" can continue for an unlimited time. Russian "peacekeeping" in Abkhazia was also imposed for a

six-month term in 1994, renewable at six-month intervals. It has continued ever since, not least because Western countries, including France, pressured Georgia during the years to accept the continuation of Russian "peacekeeping" there (although, again in fairness to France, it was the U.S. State Department that called the tune in persuading Georgia to yield).

Thus last-minute French insertion of "six months, renewable" can be seen as a stab in Georgia's back, unless it originates in poor knowledge of the situation, which is also a disconcerting possibility.

Considering the history of "peacekeeping" in South Ossetia and Abkhazia (since 1992 and 1994, respectively), "awaiting an international mechanism" is tantamount to waiting for Godot. There is nothing in Mr. Sarkozy's plan to suggest that things may turn out differently in this case.

Authorizing Russia to implement "additional security measures" is another trap. Moscow can interpret such authorization almost at will in terms of military activities. It can also use this stipulation to justify an increase in the number of Russian troops and armaments in South Ossetia or even beyond it inside Georgia. The Kremlin in recent days systematically characterized all the forces it sent into Georgia – tens of thousands of troops – as "additional peacekeeping forces."

Using this logic, Russia can deploy thousands of additional troops for an indefinite term, under the guise of "implementing additional security measures." Granting Russia such undefined, sweeping authorization must rank as an astonishing slip of professionalism on the part of Mr. Sarkozy and his entourage.

6) "Opening international discussions on the modalities of sustainable security in Abkhazia and South Ossetia, based on decisions by the United Nations and the OSCE."

The sub-clause referring to the U.N. and OSCE was added by Mr. Sarkozy in Tbilisi, in lieu of a reference to Georgia's territorial

integrity, which the Georgians demanded unsuccessfully. Mr. Sarkozy had apparently included a reference to Georgia's territorial integrity in his proposal to Mr. Medvedev in Moscow, but the Russian side threw it out, and Mr. Sarkozy conceded the point.

During his joint press conference with Mr. Saakashvili in Tbilisi, Mr. Sarkozy agreed orally that the right of return of refugees to their homes in Abkhazia should be mentioned in his plan. In those oral remarks the French president also called for the signing of non-use of force agreements by the Georgian government with South Ossetia's and Abkhazia's authorities and with Russia. The first two parts in this proposal are in line with Moscow's position; the third part is a novel one.

For its part, Georgia would sign non-use-of-force agreements with the Abkhaz and South Ossetian authorities in conjunction with agreements on a time-table for the safe return of refugees to their homes; and provided that the non-use-of-force agreements are guaranteed by international peacekeeping observation missions, not by Russian "peacekeeping" troops.

In that press conference in Tbilisi – following hours of private discussions with Saakashvili and other Georgian officials – Mr. Sarkozy conceded that his plan necessitated additional work. Mr. Sarkozy emphasized that it was merely a "framework document," one of "general principles," mutually agreed upon but not signed by any party and necessitating elaborate subsequent negotiations. The end result of that process should be a legally binding settlement of the South Ossetia conflict with U.N. Security Council approval.

The French proposal in its present form is a flawed start that could compromise the subsequent process and the ultimate political settlement, its declared noble goal.

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Ukraine plays...

(Continued from page 1)

ters to show to the determined Georgian nation the most sacred feeling: the feeling of solidarity. We have come to reaffirm your sovereignty, your independence, your territorial integrity."

Mr. Yushchenko also expressed his belief that Georgia and Russia would soon reach a comprehensive and effective ceasefire.

"Without a doubt we will reach conflict settlement format and direct the sides of conflict towards it. I have no doubt that the mission will be a success," Mr. Yushchenko told reporters on the Azerbaijan-Georgia border.

The Ukrainian government agreed to send about \$6 million in humanitarian aid to both Georgian and South Ossetian territory, supplying food, water and other basic necessities to war-torn areas.

In parliamentary circles, the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense bloc stood behind with the president, supporting Georgia's stance in the conflict and immediately denouncing Russian militarization. The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc remained uncharacteristically tight-lipped about the crisis, but sent Deputy Prime Minister Hryhorii Nemyria to Tbilisi to meet with his European counterparts. The opposition Party of the Regions, PRU spokesman Nina Karpachova blamed both sides for the escalation in the conflict. And called for an immediate mediation of the violence, stating that it was "the rudest violation of the basic regulations of international law."

Protesters from both sides of the spectrum gathered in Kyiv to voice their concerns over the conflict, some pro-Russia, others in favor of Georgia. Members of Ukraine's Georgian diaspora gathered outside the Russian Consulate, waving Georgian flags and waving placards, some reading "Occupiers, out of Georgia," while others denounced Russian imperialism. Meanwhile, members of the Socialist Party of Ukraine stood outside the Foreign Affairs Ministry in downtown Kyiv, decrying Georgia and Ukraine's role in the conflict.

In the wake of the crisis – which seemed to be a wake-up call for Ukraine and its own strained relationship with Moscow – the chairman of the Verkhovna Rada National Defense and Security Committee, Anatolii Hrytsenko, stressed the need to strengthen Ukraine's armed forces, UNIAN reported.

In particular, Mr. Hrytsenko said, the country's Special Forces require the most significant boost. "This component of our army has the biggest fighting capacity and is able to fulfill very responsible tasks, from blocking entrance to ports and attacks from the land, air or sea," he said. "We must develop forces that are capable of guaranteeing the security of our state."

In the thick of the fighting in Georgia Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry advised all Ukrainian citizens in Georgia to return to Ukraine and organized chartered flights to bring them home. As of August 13, more than 400 Ukrainians were transported safely back to their native soil, according to a statement released by the ministry.

Ukrainian Americans...

(Continued from page 1)

continue demonstrating in Washington, and New York City until Russia halts its military operations and withdraws its troops from Georgia.

As a member of the Central and East European Coalition, the UCCA has been working closely with the Georgian Association in the United States.

Moreover, during the past few months the UCCA's New York Branch has been fostering closer ties with the

Georgian community in New York City. The Georgians have shown their support for Ukrainians by attending numerous Ukrainian events, including the Walk Against Genocide on May 17 in New York City, which was held in connection with the International Torch Relay to bring global awareness about Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-1933.

On August 8 the UCCA released a statement condemning Russian military aggression in the South Ossetia region of Georgia and urging the world community to intervene on behalf of the Georgians. (The UCCA statement appears on page 3.)



"Ukrainians condemn Russian aggression" is among the messages on protesters' banners.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

We are all Georgians

"Russia's invasion of Georgia strikes at the heart of Western values and our 21st century system of security. If the international community allows Russia to crush our democratic, independent state, it will be giving carte blanche to authoritarian governments everywhere. Russia intends to destroy not just a country but an idea." These are the opening words of an op-ed piece by Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili, published in the August 14 issue of *The Washington Post*.

Under the pretext of protecting Russian citizens in South Ossetia, Russia, a "peacekeeper" in the region, on August 8 invaded the sovereign state of Georgia. As we write these words on August 14, the ceasefire brokered by French President Nicolas Sarkozy has proven to be meaningless – Russia continues its attack, effectively splitting Georgia in two as its troops move on Gori, only 40 miles from the capital, Tbilisi. All the evidence shows that Russia had planned its move well in advance, that it was simply waiting for a pretext to launch its attack on a Westward-leaning, pro-democratic neighbor.

Russia's incursion into Georgia was clearly meant as a shot across the bow – a warning to others, primarily Ukraine – that it will not tolerate NATO expansion into its "near abroad." But this is now about more than a sphere of influence. It is also about occupying the territory of a neighbor, deposing the democratically elected president of a sovereign state, and, oh yes, there is the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan gas pipeline.

For Ukraine, the invasion of Georgia recalls the words of the President Vladimir Putin – who famously called the dissolution of the USSR "the greatest catastrophe of the 20th century" – that NATO membership may lead to Ukraine's dismemberment. It is also a reminder that Russia can continue to stir up separatist sentiment in Crimea and similarly act to "protect" its citizens on the territory of Ukraine.

And yet, Ukraine has taken the gutsiest stand in reaction to the crisis in Georgia. President Viktor Yushchenko has imposed restrictions on the return to Ukrainian territory of ships of the Russian Black Sea Fleet that were deployed to Georgia's coast. Also, he and the presidents of Poland and the Baltic states traveled to Tbilisi to express their solidarity with the people of Georgia.

Sadly, the West's response has been slow off the mark, inadequate and purblind.

After several days of waffling and, shall we say, less than forceful words, President George W. Bush finally stated: "Russia's ongoing actions raise serious questions about its intentions in Georgia and the region." "We expect Russia to meet its commitment to cease all military activities in Georgia, and we expect all Russian forces that entered Georgia in recent days to withdraw from that country."

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said, "This is not 1968 and the invasion of Czechoslovakia, where Russia can threaten a neighbor, occupy a capital, overthrow a government and get away with it."

What can the West do? Remove Russia from the Group of Eight, suspend the NATO-Russia Council, stop Russia's entry into World Trade Organization and not allow Russia to host the 2014 Winter Olympics. If Russia wants to be a major player in international organizations, it must abide by their rules. Also, the West must insist on real peacekeepers – an international force, not Russia's military – in the region. Plus, NATO should extend Membership Action Plans to Georgia and Ukraine post-haste.

Equally important: the West must stop pretending Russia is an evolving democracy and see Prime Minister Putin – apparently the puppet master to President Dmitry Medvedev – for what he is (once KGB, always KGB).

President Saakashvili underscored in *The Washington Post*: "As Georgians come under attack, we must ask: If the West is not with us, who is it with? If the line is not drawn now, when will it be drawn? We cannot allow Georgia to become the first victim of a new world order as imagined by Moscow."

Russia has a well-orchestrated plan: it wants to restore its empire and reassert its great power. The West, quite obviously, does not. In formulating their plan, however, Western leaders would do well to remember a phrase uttered by Sen. John McCain: "We are all Georgians."

August
21
1998

Turning the pages back...

Ten years ago, on August 21, 1998, Canada's newly appointed ambassador to Ukraine, Derek Fraser, announced a shift in Ottawa's foreign relations strategy with Ukraine, from a political to an economic focus.

During a luncheon hosted by the Canada-Ukraine Business Initiative and the Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce, Mr.

Fraser's predecessor, Christopher Westdal, spoke about Ukraine's potential as a lynchpin in a realigned European order, particularly with regard to cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and other international bodies.

Mr. Fraser, who previously served as envoy to Hungary, recalled that during his tenure Canada became "Hungary's sixth largest trading partner, on par with Britain and the Netherlands and ahead of Japan." He added, "Let's see what we can do in Ukraine."

After the luncheon Mr. Fraser was asked whether Ukraine had achieved a stable presence on the geopolitical map and was entering a new phase of international relations that would enable it to concentrate on trade, Mr. Fraser said he wasn't ready to comment, but said "barriers are down, and trade should grow naturally."

The veteran diplomat added, "It's wrong to simply announce that 'barriers are down' and sit back and watch things happen. We hope to facilitate the process."

During celebrations for the seventh anniversary of Ukraine's independence sponsored by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Toronto Branch, Mr. Fraser recalled his work with the UCC as past director of the Soviet relations division. In addition, he highlighted his past consultations on efforts to secure the release of Ukrainian dissident Valentyn Moroz and the Vienna review meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and said he looked forward to further cooperation.

Source: "Canada's new envoy to Ukraine signals shift in strategy," by Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, August 30, 1998.

Notes from the homeland

by Danylo Peleschuk

Part I: Welcome to Ukraine

We stepped off the airplane and into the pick-up area at Boryspil International Airport in Kyiv, tired, but wide-eyed and ready.

I whispered from the side of my mouth to my close friend, traveling buddy and partner-in-crime, Maxim Artymyshyn, not to heed to the throngs of taxi drivers immediately soliciting seemingly naïve newcomers like us for vastly over-priced rides into the city. Even if we were American tourists – for the most part, at least – we were going to play hardball and attempt to dodge the stereotype as much as possible. This wasn't my first trip to Ukraine, so I figured I already knew a thing or two about haggling.

Danylo Peleschuk is The Ukrainian Weekly's summer editorial intern at the Kyiv Press Bureau. He previously interned at The Weekly's editorial offices in Parsippany, N.J., during the summer of 2005. Mr. Peleschuk, who hails from Stamford, Conn., is majoring in journalism at Northeastern University in Boston. This week, Mr. Peleschuk begins a log of his experiences in Ukraine.

That plan quickly failed, however, as we weren't able to negotiate a ride – in scrappy Russian, no less – for under \$30, up to \$8 more than it should have really cost, as we later found out. Strike one.

One of the first things I noticed about cab drivers in this country is that each one seems to have some sort of sizeable scar, whether on his face, neck, hands or head. Ours had one that reached from his upper cheekbone down to his lower lip, complete with a matching prison tattoo on his hand, which I assumed marked the year of his birth. This guy looked not a day older than 30, so if 1979 was in fact the date of his incarceration, then we could've been sure of two things: Ukrainian cab drivers were severely misbehaved children, and Ukrainian men were blessed physically with really great genes.

As our battle-scarred driver weaved dangerously at about 80 miles per hour between lanes and cars, even using what we Americans would consider the "shoulder" of the road as a piece of highway,

(Continued on page 20)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Time to boycott Aeroflot Airlines

Dear Editor:

Anyone who has been following the news lately knows that a war has broken out between Russia and Georgia. Russian troops have invaded Georgia, and Russian tanks are on Georgian highways.

I believe this incident is similar to Hitler's invasion of Poland prior to the outbreak of World War II. There is no reason for Russia, a major military power, to have troops invading Georgia other than a brazen attempt to regain political control over that country and re-establish Russian hegemony over it.

I encourage all those who share a concern for peace and who respect human rights and the rule of law in international affairs to join me in promoting a boycott of Aeroflot airlines until this aggression has been brought to an end. I encourage readers to urge their friends to join in this campaign.

Andy Semotiuk
Los Angeles

We welcome your opinion

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

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

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

It's our duty as Ukrainians

Dear Editor:

When I first saw your article of December 23, 2007, on the new *Holodomor* movie, I was elated. Finally our story of this horrific tragedy will be told. It's not just that the story will be told, but the professional manner in which this film is being made. How often have we seen documentaries and movies about the Holocaust, only to wish that we Ukrainians had something to offer of that same professional caliber?

Well the time has come and as Maya Lew, associate producer of the film, notes: "the desire is greater than ever for this film to compete with other high-level documentary features on the world stage." This movie will do more to educate the English-speaking public than anything that has ever been produced to date about our Ukrainian Famine.

I was also happy to see the second article of August 3 in *The Weekly* about the movie and pictures of the team since not all had seen the original story.

I feel that it is our duty as Ukrainians to make this film a success. The way to do that is by financially supporting the film. Every Ukrainian should make a contribution, no matter how small. The crew still needs to raise an additional \$50,000 this summer.

The way to do this is to send your check to: *Holodomor the Movie LLC*, 8306 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 947, Beverly Hills, CA 90211. The check should be made out to the "Filmmakers Alliance" with "Holodomor the Movie LLC" on the memo line. You can also pay with any major credit card through the website www.HolodomorTheMovie.com.

Let's not miss out on the opportunity to make this great film happen. "V yednosti syl!"

Marusia Kvit-Flynn
Strongsville, Ohio

NEWS AND VIEWS

The ABCs of Holodomor Denial

by Peter Borisow

By 2003 the movement for Holodomor recognition had gathered enough steam to draw serious attention from non-Ukrainian quarters. Walter Duranty's Pulitzer was a major issue. Important exhibits and major conferences were held from Columbia to UCLA. Ukrainians were beginning to gain momentum and ambitious plans were laid for 2008, the Holodomor's 75th anniversary. With few exceptions, the big bang everyone expected for 2008 has turned out to be a whimper. The torch came and went without notice; the conferences have been at significantly lesser venues; there is no memorial in Kyiv or anywhere else. What happened?

I submit that this year's failure to meet many Ukrainians' expectations and promises is neither the result of Ukrainian incompetence nor the result of the world's general lack of interest. I submit it is the result of a campaign by those behind the Holodomor in the first place to dull, divert, diminish and extinguish Ukrainian efforts. I suggest the anti-Holodomor efforts may have been hatched in discussions such as an exchange of fictional letters along the following lines. And, of course, as they say, any resemblance to any person living or dead is purely coincidental. However, if the shoe fits...

December 2004

My Dear Dr. Spinmeister:

Last year we had a close call with this Holodomor business. These pesky Ukrainians have started to get some serious attention and almost got our beloved Duranty's Pulitzer Prize revoked. We must make sure this momentum does not bring serious consequences in 2008 when they will try to push even harder on their 75th "anniversary."

Can you imagine what would happen if these Ukrainians actually managed to convince the world the Holodomor was genocide? Even if it is all blamed on the USSR and the party, we are still the successor state. When the USSR fell apart, we took all the assets. Someone is bound to say we should take the liabilities as well. And, look at me – I'm KGB, successor to the NKVD that did the dirty work! Can you imagine Nuremberg trials for senior party members?

We could even be held accountable in some crazy civilian court in the U.S.A. or Europe! I'll be damned if I'm going to send my petrodollars to some Ukrainian Victims and Survivors' Fund. We need to bring Ukraine back into the Russian Empire, not finance its independence. Without Ukraine there is no empire anyway. What can we do to make sure this Holodomor stuff doesn't mess up all our futures?

Yours faithfully,
Vladimir Volodymirovich
Moscow

January 2005

My Dear Vladimir Volodymirovich:

We need not fret too much. This is a rather straightforward matter which we can

Peter Borisow is president of the Hollywood Trident Foundation. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Center for U.S. Ukrainian Relations. Borisow's business is film finance risk management. He travels frequently to Ukraine to advise the film sector as well as to support Ukrainian identity and independence. His interest in Holodomor came from his parents, both of whom were Holodomor survivors. He says his mantra is straightforward: "Holodomor – Genocide – 10 million killed."

handle with existing resources. After all – history is written by the victors – and we, or I should say, our dear Comrade Stalin, did win the Great War. If Hitler had won the war, who would have ever heard of the Holocaust? The advantage is ours. Here's what we need to do.

A frontal assault denying the genocide will not work. It may, in fact, backfire as the core sentimentality of the public will always lead it to relate to the image of starving babies. Rather than challenge that sentimentality, we must redirect it – away from Ukrainians. This is best done by first diluting the issues with small steps – like water constantly dripping on a rock; it will eventually wear a hole in the rock and allow us to crack it. It will be death to the Holodomor by a thousand little cuts.

Holodomor dilution is prerequisite to Holodomor Denial. It starts with questioning the basic facts. When enough doubts are raised about the details, we can put it all to rest.

1) Challenge the numbers. Let them count the skulls. It's a fool's errand as the numbers cannot be proven mathematically for any genocide. The nature of the beast is such that it destroys its own evidence. We all know we killed at least 10 million Ukrainians. But, we've had 75 years to "correct" the records. We can debate any number. Whatever the number, we will water it down. The more times we water it down, the less credibility they will have. For us, this is a perfect debate.

2) Challenge the victims. We must claim this was at a time of great social upheaval. We were making history's greatest omelet. Of course, we broke eggs. And, we suffered as much as these Ukrainians did, maybe more. Talk about Kuban – Lots of victims there and it's in Russia. Who will know they were almost all Ukrainians? And, if the Ukrainians say that, deny, deny, deny. Insist this was Russia and they were Russians. Remember – After we killed off the Ukrainians, we repopulated entire regions of eastern and central Ukraine with our own loyal Russians. Point to the children of these Russian brothers still living in Ukraine. Proclaim loudly they are the real Ukrainians. Complain how they suffer to this day under Ukrainian rule.

3) Challenge the "genocide." Demand they prove it technically beyond a shadow of a doubt. Debate the details of that U.N. definition. The more we debate the details, the more we can wrap them up in their own underwear. Keep talking about collectivization. Keep talking about tragic errors by bureaucrats, incompetent administrators, bad commissars – anything but the "G" word.

4) Always talk about the "Famine" – even better, the "Great Famine." Keep talking about Russian and Soviet victims of a whole series of "famines." Talk about "famine" in Kazakhstan. (Who will care it was a year later and five thousand of miles away?) Surround Holodomor with other "famines," other "human tragedies." When people hear the word "famine," they think of drought and locust, not genocide. They think Ethiopia, not Auschwitz. For us, "artificial famine" and "famine genocide" are wonderfully confusing terms. Leave it to the Ukrainians to give us some of our best weapons against them.

5) Join in, co-sponsor, co-opt resolutions at the United Nations and other international bodies, civic organizations, etc., to remember the events in Ukraine as a "tragedy," always insisting on watering down with other nationalities. Always make sure the "G" word is never used. We all know once a mealy-mouthed resolution is passed, it is

(Continued on page 21)

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



1968: annus horribilis

Ukrainian Americans who lived through 1968 will never forget it.

The Vietnam War was raging. The North Vietnamese and Viet Cong promised to honor the Tet holiday with a cease-fire but instead invaded South Vietnam. The attack was a military disaster for the Communists. Some 50,000 were killed and only one South Vietnamese city was captured. It didn't matter. Television commentators, primarily Frank McGee, Peter Arnett and especially Walter Cronkite, were suggesting Tet was a brilliant victory for the enemy. Result? Polls showed Americans losing faith in ultimate victory.

According to AEI resident scholar Stephen F. Hayward, "The Tet offensive proved to be the turning point of the war delivering a fatal blow to political support... Even though Tet was a disappointing defeat for North Vietnam in strictly military terms, it exposed the bankruptcy of U.S. war policy and aims in Vietnam and prepared the way for America's eventual humiliation."

Student protests escalated. Between January and June, some 39,000 students were involved in 221 major anti-war demonstrations on 101 college campuses. Many college professors joined in. This was especially hard on the Johnson administration and those who believed victory was possible. Surprise by the unexpected showing of peace candidate Sen. Eugene McCarthy in the New Hampshire primary (he won 41.4 percent of the vote), President Johnson refused to run for re-election. He "was the first American president to be toppled by a mob, wrote Prof. Patrick Moynihan of Harvard. "No matter it was a mob of college professors, millionaires, flower children and Radcliffe girls"

Today, most objective historians agree that the Vietnam War began as a noble cause but was totally mismanaged. Many Ukrainian Americans served in Vietnam. Tragically, some returned in body bags.

It was not a good year for Democrats. They held a raucous convention in Chicago during which the New Left forces of the Yippies (Youth International Party led by Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin), MOBE (National Mobilization to End the War in Vietnam led by Tom Hayden and Rennie Davis) and SDS (Students for a Democratic Society led by Bernadine Dohrn and Bill Ayers) came together to precipitate a brutal clash with police in Chicago's Grant Park. Sen. Hubert Humphrey won the Democrat nomination for president. He lost to Richard Nixon in November.

The editor of Svoboda sent my father, then the Chicago correspondent for the daily newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association to cover the Democratic convention. He witnessed the Grant Park riots during which privileged students threw feces at the police. Tato came home in shock.

Mr. Ayers and Ms. Dohrn later helped establish the Weathermen, an underground terrorist organization that declared war on America and was involved in the bombing of the U.S. Capitol, the Pentagon, the U.S. State Department and other government buildings during the 1970s.

The year's nadir, however, proved to be the assassinations of Martin Luther King on April 4 and Robert Kennedy on

June 5.

At the time I was the assistant principal of the Marshall Upper Grade Center, an inner-city middle school at Monroe and Kedzie in the East Garfield park area of Chicago. I recall looking out the window of the second floor of the school on the day following the King assassination. Black students from Crane High School had marched to join black students at Marshall High School (next door to the middle school), and were milling about down below. There were hundreds of very angry blacks. Concerned for our safety, the principal asked black faculty members to drive the white faculty members home. I left my car in the parking lot and happily rode home with one of the black teachers, a former state policeman. That night the neighborhood exploded. Some four to five blocks of the business district of Madison Avenue, one block over from Marshall, went up in flames. Police clashes, looting and sniping followed. We were out for three days while the Illinois National Guard calmed things down.

When I returned to school, my car was still there, unharmed. There was a military tank parked in front of the school and Illinois guardsmen were patrolling the streets. None of us knew what to expect as the students filed back in. One of the more enterprising students came marching into school, looked at me and laughingly asked "Hey Kuropas, what size shoe you wear? I've got boxes of 'em."

Race riots in the United States continued through the summer, marking the end of President Johnson's Great Society. The president had the best of intentions, but the anti-poverty program was also botched. As it turned out, there were more people on the welfare rolls at the end of the war on poverty than before the war began. Who won the war on poverty? Poverty won.

The trauma of 1968 can be found in many books, especially in Jules Witcover's 1997 treatise "1968: The Year That Hope Died" and "1968: The Year That Rocked the World" by Mark Kurlansky (2005).

Forty years later, When I look back on 1968 I still remember the dubiety of that awful year. As American casualties continued to mount in Vietnam, as American cities were erupting in race riots and looting, and as the Weathermen continued to bomb, it was difficult to be sanguine about the future.

Fortunately, America survived 1968. Poverty remains a problem but welfare rolls are down. Race riots are no longer a perennial summer event. The Weatherman got older (not smarter, just older) and today we have an African American who may be our next president. Hope lives.

Yes, gasoline prices are obscene, unemployment rolls are rising, and the economy is dipping; but having lived through 1968, I remain optimistic about the future. Despite what our misanthropic, academic nihilists are proclaiming, America remains a great country – not perfect, but better than most. If that makes me a flag-waving American patriot, so be it. I make no apologies.

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

Master pianist Alexander Slobodyanik dies at age 66

MORRISTOWN, N.J. – The world has lost an eminent master pianist, Alexander Slobodyanik, who died on August 10 at the age of 66. He was a protégé of Sviatoslav Richter, a student of Profs. Henrich Neuhaus and Vera Gornostayeva, and a discovery of the great impresario Sol Hurok.

Mr. Slobodyanik's career spanned five decades and brought him unparalleled accolades in the world of classical music.

The pianist fell ill last Thursday, August 7, with meningitis and was pronounced dead on Sunday, August 10.

He is survived by his wife, Laryssa Krupa, his son, Alex (from a previous marriage), his students, and all those whose lives he touched with the sublimity of his talent and the sincerity of his heart.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, August 14, at St. John the

Baptist Ukrainian Church in Newark, N.J. For more information and a tribute, readers may log on to www.slobodyanik.com.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be given toward establishing the Alexander Slobodyanik Young Artist Scholarship Fund, which will eventually seek to provide financial support to emerging artists. Checks may be made payable to Nova Artists Inc., and mailed to 138 W. Hanover Ave., Morristown, NJ 07960. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Mr. Slobodyanik was born in Kyiv on September 5, 1941. He began piano studies with Lidia Golembo in Lviv. At age 15 he was selected to join the studio of legendary Prof. Henrich Neuhaus at the Moscow Central Special Music School. He completed his master's and doctoral degrees at the Moscow Conservatory under Vera Gornostayeva.

During that time, he became a laureate of major international competitions, such as the Chopin Competition in Warsaw and the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow. By the age of 18, Mr. Slobodyanik had toured extensively throughout the Soviet Union and Europe. On the recommendation of Sviatoslav Richter, Mr. Slobodyanik was discovered by impresario Sol Hurok, and so began his conquest of the West.

Mr. Slobodyanik burst onto the American scene in 1968, with a Carnegie Hall debut recital that left the critics hailing him as "a leader of his generation." He was recognized by premier artists and legends such as Arthur Rubinstein, Vladimir Horowitz and Rosina Lhevinne as "the new star."

Mr. Slobodyanik then toured extensively throughout Europe, North and South America, South Africa, Australia and the Far East. He graced the stages of Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, the Kennedy Center, the Barbican in London, La Scala in Milan, Theatre de Champs Elysees in Paris and the Hollywood Bowl.

He appeared as a soloist with the Chicago, London, Pittsburgh, National, Montreal and San Francisco symphonies; with the New York, Los Angeles, Royal and St. Petersburg philharmonics; the Philadelphia, Cleveland and Kirov orchestras; the Moscow Soloists; Orchestre National de France; and the Gewandhaus Orchestra of Leipzig.

He under the batons of Leonard Bernstein, Kurt Masur, John Barbirolli, Christoph von Dohnanyi, Valery Gergiev, Mariss Jansons, Neeme Jarvi, Dmitri Kitaenko, Kiril Kondrashin, Mstislav Rostropovich, Genady Rozhdestvensky, Thomas Sanderling, Maxim Shostakovich, Yuri Temirkanov and Yuri Bashmet.

Mr. Slobodyanik recorded for the Angel, Melodiya, Eurodisc and MCA labels. His discography includes a legendary LIVE-concert recording of all 24 Études by Chopin.

As founder & artistic director of the Morris International Festival of the Arts, to which the re-opening of Morristown's Community Theater may be attributed, Mr. Slobodyanik performed at its highly-publicized Gala Opening Concert in September 1994 as soloist with St.



Alexander Slobodyanik

Petersburg's Kirov Orchestra, led by Valery Gergiev.

Mr. Slobodyanik later engaged the world's top artists to participate in the festival's unique and innovative programs. Among them were: Maxim Vengerov, Peter Serkin, Gidon Kremer, Yuri Bashmet, Viktor Tretyakov, Joseph Kalichstein, Luba Kazarnovskaya and Vladimir Feltsman, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, the Moscow Soloists, the U.S. Military Academy Concert Band and the St. Petersburg Ice Ballet. Special guests included Nobel Prize laureate poet Joseph Brodsky and Evgeni Yevtushenko. Art exhibitions were also made available for viewing for the Morristown community, showcasing groundbreaking original works by Ernst Neizvestny and Mikhail Chemiakin.

During Carnegie Hall's Centennial Celebration in 1991, Mr. Slobodyanik and violinist Gidon Kremer gave the world premiere of Alfred Schnittke's Concerto Grosso No. 5 with the Cleveland Orchestra.

More recently, other world premieres have included Schnittke's "Aphorisms," also at Carnegie Hall, and Alexander Tchaikovsky's Two-Piano Concerto with pianist Yefim Bronfman and the Pittsburgh Symphony (2003). Both works were dedicated to Mr. Slobodyanik.

Source: www.slobodyanik.com

U.S. provides aid to victims of flooding in western Ukraine

U.S. Embassy

KYIV – Heavy rains and storms on July 26-27, caused massive flooding in western Ukraine and left 36 people dead, dozens missing, and more than 40,000 homes damaged or destroyed. In response to this crisis, the U.S. government has offered humanitarian assistance to the people of Ukraine from several sources.

The United States government has authorized an initial disbursement of \$50,000 of disaster relief funding, to be disbursed through International Relief and Development (IRD), a U.S. non-governmental organization in Ukraine. IRD is providing immediate assistance to approximately 800 households of Vizhnits'kiy and Putils'kiy rayons, Chernivets'ka oblast, including bedding and drinking water kits. IRD representatives visited the flooded regions of western Ukraine to view the situation first hand and to conduct a needs assessment.

The Embassy's Charge D'Affairs, James D. Pettit, and other U.S. officials traveled to the region August 6-8 to meet with local government representatives and to survey damage. The American Chamber of Commerce is organizing donations from U.S. companies in Ukraine and will distribute assistance in consultation with the U.S. Embassy.

The Embassy is also working with private organizations in their relief efforts including the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council, U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, the Ukrainian Federation of America, and the Ukrainian-American Coordinating Council which are requesting donations for relief efforts. Ambassador of the United States to Ukraine William Taylor met with members of the Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund in Washington, August 7 to brief them on relief efforts.

UPS, 3M, Boeing, Cargill, Coca-Cola, AES, MaxWell, SASI, Winner Automotive Group, First International Resources, and the Asters law firm, all members of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council (USUBC), have made substantial commitments to provide funds and in-kind contributions to assist in the flood disaster assistance program in Western Ukraine.

The Embassy has been in touch with the Red Cross' Kyiv office and has offered advice to the American Chamber of Commerce as to how to most effectively direct its private donations.

The U.S. State Department is coordinating the delivery of six containers of disaster-relief materials. The shipment includes materials such as tents, bedding, clothing,

boots, and medical supplies. The estimated value of the contents of the six containers is \$1 million. These containers are expected to be shipped by August 11.

The Defense Department has sent representatives from the U.S. European Command to coordinate possible additional humanitarian aid and disaster relief in the form of logistics support and construction projects. The intent will be to help Ukrainian authorities reduce long term suffering and expedite the region's return to normalcy.

For those wishing to offer assistance or obtain more information, below is a list of relevant contact information:

U.S. Embassy Kyiv Christian Yarnell, Economic Section telephone 38-044-490-4276, e-mail: yarnellC@state.gov

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Joe Lowry, Federation Representative for Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova; Phone: +380 674431657, email: joe.lowry@ifrc.org <http://www.ifrc.org/>

Ukrainian Red Cross Society National Committee 30, Pushkinska St., Kyiv, 01004, Ukraine Phone: +38-044-235-01-57, fax: +38-044-288-16-58, email: international@redcross.org.ua <http://www.redcross.org.ua>

The American Chamber of Commerce 42/44 Shovkovychna Vul., LL1 Floor Kyiv, 01601, Ukraine http://www.chamber.ua/disaster_relief/70 Phone: +380-44-490-5800, fax: +380-44-490-5801, e-mail: chamber@chamber.ua. The American Chamber of Commerce is organizing a donor drive from among its members.

U.S.-Ukraine Business Council 1701 K Street, NW - Suite 903 Washington, DC 20006 Phone: +1-202-437-4707, fax: +1-202-223-1224 The U.S.-Ukraine Business Council is organizing a donor drive from among its members. Please see the announcement available at: http://www.usubc.org/news/ukraine_disaster_assistance.php

Government of Ukraine The Ministry of Emergencies (<http://www.mns.gov.ua/>) and the Ministry of Health (<http://www.moz.gov.ua>) are the primary agencies tasked to provide assistance to flood victims.

The government has said that charitable donations and grants-in-aid may be transferred to account number 37117125000023. The recipient is the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy of Ukraine. EGRPOU 00013669. The bank is the State Treasury of Ukraine, Kyiv. MFO 820172.

International businesses support Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund

WASHINGTON – UPS, 3M, Boeing, Cargill, Coca-Cola, AES, MaxWell, SASI, Winner Automotive Group, First International Resources, and the Asters law firm – all members of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council – have made substantial commitments to provide funds and in-kind contributions to assist in the flood disaster assistance program for western Ukraine.

Additional commitments from the international business community are expected very soon, according to Morgan Williams of SigmaBleyzer, who is president of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council (USUBC).

About 60,000 flood victims in Ukraine and Moldova urgently need food and clean water, the international Red Cross said on August 6. Heavy rains and floods two weeks ago left more than 30 people dead, dozens missing and forced 30,000 to flee their homes in the two eastern European countries, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies said.

"These are the worst floods in two

centuries," said Joe Lowry, the agency's representative for the region.

In western Ukraine, some 40,000 houses were flooded, and more than 30,000 hectares (74,000 acres) of croplands and nearly 700 kilometers of roads were severely damaged, the federation said.

The Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund has been created by the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council Ukrainian Federation of America, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council and U.S.-Ukraine to raise money and in-kind support from individuals, institutions, organizations and businesses for the people, homes and villages in flood-stricken western Ukraine.

The "Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund" is now accepting donations.

To make a donation, readers may log on to www.usukraine.org/donate.shtml. Checks can be made out to the "Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund/USUF" and mailed to the Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund, c/o U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 1701 K. St. NW, Suite 903, Washington, D.C. 20006.

International program celebrates Chicago's candidacy for Olympic host city

by Vera Eliashevsky

CHICAGO – The Chicago Sister Cities International Program (CSCIP) transformed Daley Plaza into an international village with the third annual Chicago Sister Cities International Festival on Daley Plaza, June 2-6. This year's festival highlighted Chicago's 27 sister cities through exciting lunchtime performances, food and merchandise.

The Hromovytsia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble representing Ukraine was one of the featured performers at this year's closing ceremony on June 6.

The festival coincided with a celebration of Chicago being named a candidate city by the International Olympic Committee. On June 4 in Athens, the IOC named Chicago as one of four candidate cities still in the running to host the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The others are Madrid, Tokyo and Rio de Janeiro.

The celebration was kicked off by a parade of flags from Chicago's 27 sister cities, including Kyiv. Ukraine's flag was carried by Greg Karawan.

Mayor Richard M. Daley and Sen. Barack Obama joined Olympians, Paralympians, Olympic hopefuls, representatives of Chicago's sister cities, members of Chicago 2016 and other elected officials, to thank Chicagoans for their strong support for the city's Olympic bid and to ask for the help of all residents of the United States in building excitement for bringing the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games to Chicago.

"We couldn't have come this far without the strong support of the residents of Chicago, and with their continued help we will keep working hard to bring the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games to the United States," Mr. Daley said at a celebration held on Daley Plaza.

"We are so proud, and undoubtedly thrilled, that the International Olympic Committee sees what we have known for some time now – that Chicago is the kind of town that is truly excited and ready for the opportunity to host the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games," said Patrick G. Ryan, chairman and CEO of Chicago 2016. "I am proud to know that so many people are standing behind this great city of Chicago."

The Mayor said that although the city and its bid move ahead with confidence, there is much work to do between now and October 2009, when the IOC makes its final decision on the host city.

"We know a big part of our job now is to engage people from all over the country in this effort so they can carry the message of an Olympic Games in the United States with honest enthusiasm. So today, I'm asking you – and all Americans – to help us," Mayor Daley said. "Reach out to your friends, to business leaders and civic groups to build excitement and potential participation in the bid. Talk up our region to people who visit Chicago from around the world."

Olympic gold medalist Jackie Joyner Kersee said, "This stage of the bid is extremely exciting for anyone who has a passion for the Olympic Games. I am one of

Vera Eliashevsky is chair of the Chicago Kyiv Sister Cities Committee.



The Hromovytsia Dancers with Chicago Mayor Richard Daley (first row, from left): Katya Sidelnik, Adriana Striltschuk, Mayor Daley, Danusia Pylpaczak, Tania Kuropas with daughter Katya, (back row) Greg Karawan, Mark Miskewitch, Danylo Melnyk and Adrian Hulyk.

the millions of people in support of Chicago's bid, and I know that having the Games in Chicago would be a great gift for both the city and the Olympic Games."

Mayor Daley said the Olympic Games presents the metropolitan area, the Midwest region and the entire country with a unique opportunity not only to attract hundreds of thousands of visitors, but also to place ourselves – through the media – in the homes of millions of people all around the world.

It's a chance for the United States – through the vehicle of the Olympic and Paralympic Games and the Olympic Movement – to portray itself as it truly is: a place where people from different backgrounds and ethnicities can come together to pursue their dreams, he noted.

"In Chicago, we live that ideal every day. We welcome immigrants from other lands, as we have for generations. Out of our diversity comes our city's great strength. Remember, this is not just Chicago's bid. It's not just our region's bid. It's our nation's opportunity to reach out to the world," said the mayor.

Mr. Daley unveiled an updated emblem that represents Chicago's status as a candidate city in its efforts to bring the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games here. The mayor said that as the city looks forward to the next 15 months leading up to the final decision of the

International Olympic Committee, the sister cities program and events such as the festival will play an important role in showcasing Chicago's diversity to the world.

"Today as much as ever, Chicago is a city of immigrants. You would be hard-pressed to find any nationality not represented here. And festivals such as this one give us an opportunity to think about and appreciate the differences among nations and cultures. "That is what Chicago's Sister Cities program is all about – embracing cultural diversity," he said.

Chicago maintains 27 international sister city agreements and a very successful Sister Schools Abroad program that involves more than 50 Chicago schools and 15,000 students here and overseas.

"I am very proud of this program and its impact on school children. It represents our commitment to international education to ensure that the young people we are preparing to be the leaders of the tomorrow have an appreciation for foreign lands and cultures," said Mayor Daley.

The event was also attended by Chicago's leading political and business leaders, including Consul General Vasyl Korzachenko and Pavlo Bandriwsky, president of the UCCA – Illinois Branch. Chicago and Kyiv have been sister cities since Ukraine's independence in 1991.

Ukraine at Olympics...

(Continued from page 1)

the 29th summer Olympic Games by flag bearer and four-time Olympic gold medalist swimmer Yana Klochkova.

On August 11 approximately 300 guests, including representatives of the Beijing Olympic Games Organizing Committee, members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), chairmen of international Olympic federations and heads of Olympic delegations from various countries attended the opening of the Ukrainian Olympic House in Beijing.

The Ukrainian Olympic House was built to provide the Ukrainian athletes and their guests with a comfortable atmosphere, Ukrainian cuisine and a venue to hold press conferences with members of the Ukrainian Olympic Team.

President Viktor Yushchenko congratulated the medal winners in a telegram that read, "You have shown an Olympic strength of mind and achieved brilliant results." Mr. Yushchenko commended the athletes on their high level of skills, their endurance and aspiration to victory, and wished them good health, personal happiness, new achievements and victories.

Ukraine is expected to bring home at least 15 medals this year. Other medal contenders include the tennis doubles team of sisters Olena and Kateryna Bondarenko, who face Italians Flavia Pennetta and Francesca Schiavone in the women's quarterfinals.



Ukraine's women's saber fencing team (from left): Olha Zhovnir, Olha Kharlan, Halyna Pundyk and Olena Khomrova.

Sister Bernarda continues her mission to help Ukraine's orphans

by Christine Bilynsky Smith

NEW YORK – After miraculously surviving a near-fatal automobile accident some years ago, Sister Mary Bernarda Arkatin, OSBM, has made it her mission, with her God-given “borrowed time” to bring as much joy and comfort as she can to the orphaned and crippled children of Ukraine. Every summer for the past 15 years she has traveled throughout Ukraine bringing much needed food, clothing and medical supplies to those in need.

I had the privilege of accompanying Sister Mary Bernarda last summer during her annual pilgrimage to Ukraine and saw first hand how she made miracles happen. Clothes replaced the rags the children were wearing, simple toys and games were given to children who had none before, fresh fruit and cookies, seen so seldom if

at all, brought joy to the children's faces.

Sister Mary Bernarda's dedication to the children of Ukraine has made her a legend among the orphans and they anxiously await her arrival every summer. She is often referred to as the “summer St. Nicholas” and our very own “Mother Teresa.” Indeed the petite form, kindly eyes, sincere smile and white habit of this 80-plus year-old Basilian Sister lend her a very warm and caring aura not unlike that of Mother Teresa. Visiting the forgotten, abandoned children, the poorest of the poor, she has a kind word and gentle touch for each and every one.

Her mission has taken her far and wide, from an AIDS orphanage in Donetsk to facilities in the Odessa, Zaporizhia, Dnipropetrovsk, Chornobyl, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Uzhhorod regions. Her mis-



Christine Bilynsky Smith

Sister Bernarda distributes toys to orphans at the children's home Dyvo Svit in Mukachiv, Zakarpattia Oblast.



Sister Bernarda feeds a banana to an invalid child at the children's home in Zaluchia, Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast.

sion serves not only orphanages, but hospitals, rehabilitation centers, tuberculosis clinics, psychiatric hospitals, homeless shelters and private homes with invalid children.

Her impact on those she touches cannot be measured.

Children who have never seen bananas before are taught to peel a banana. She helps establish connections between doctors in the U.S. and doctors in Ukraine so that they can work together to treat the children. A child is able to hear his mother's voice for the first time after having been provided the gift of a hearing aid. A young armless man is able to lead a productive life by producing graphics on a computer using his toes because of the generous donation of a computer. A child is given the gift of sight after being put in touch with the right doctor.

Sister Mary Bernarda's ministry does not end with physical aid, but encompass-

es the spiritual realm as well. She joyfully teaches religion classes throughout her travels. Many of the orphans, especially in the eastern regions of Ukraine, have never received religious training and do not have any basics in the faith.

A major reason for this is the scarcity in Ukraine of religious training materials for children, especially Bibles. Sister Mary Bernarda has the dream of obtaining “Bible Histories” for the hundreds of orphans she serves each year. However, printing such Bibles is costly. But Sister Mary Bernarda has faith that her “dream” will be realized through the generosity of the people of God, through the generosity of sympathetic people who hear of her crusade.

Anyone interested in supporting Sister's Orphan Mission may write to: 30 E. Seventh Street, New York, NY 10003.

Nearly 200 future catechists, Christian ethics teachers train in Lviv

by Matthew Matuszak

LVIV – The Catechetical-Pedagogical Institute (CPI) of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv held its summer session from June 30 to July 26 as part of the training of 191 catechists and Christian ethics teachers. The students, lay men and women and nuns, came from throughout Ukraine, and even three from Russia, and included Catholics as well as Orthodox.

The Orthodox learned to teach the subject of Christian ethics in public schools. The Catholics learned to teach catechism in Ukrainian Catholic parishes and also Christian ethics in schools.

Thanks to the ongoing work of the institute, and similar institutions in other cities of Ukraine, the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine now has 1,420 catechists teaching approximately 20,000 children in 450 Sunday schools and other catechetical schools. This is not counting the Bible study groups and other adult education initiatives that they conduct.

Most of the Ukrainian Catholic parishes in central and eastern Ukraine, not to mention in the western part of the country, now have a catechist, according to Sister Luiza Ciupa, SSMI, director of the CPI.

The subject of Christian ethics has been taught in the public schools of Halychyna for a number of years and “is now also in eastern Ukraine,” according to Sister Luiza. But the situation is inconsistent with this subject. Though thou-

sands of students study Christian ethics in public schools of the Lviv region, for example, no subject with a spiritual or moral orientation is taught in the Luhansk region.

The students of the CPI, some of whom are already catechists or Christian ethics teachers, devote a large part of their summer to increasing their knowledge of their subject. Students come to the extension program from Lviv and the neighboring Ivano-Frankivsk, and Ternopil regions, and also various parts of central and eastern Ukraine. As part of the four-year program, which has summer and winter sessions, the students study subjects like biblical theology, liturgy, dogmatic theology and pedagogy. In addition to the extension program, the CPI also has 76 students in its evening theology school, held during the regular academic year.

“It's difficult to rescue sinners if there are many things that you yourself don't know about the faith,” explained Alvin Ilchenko, an extension student from Kyiv.

“You receive a lot here spiritually and have something to share,” said Vitalii Martynchuk, a student from the Donetsk region. He teaches catechism to youth offenders in a local penitentiary institution.

Sister Yosafata, from the Lviv region, spent three years in Zaporizhia, where she taught catechism to children. “I felt that people there were at a low spiritual level,” she said. “So I came here [to the



Nuns and lay men and women from all over Ukraine, Catholic and Orthodox, came to Lviv to study to become catechists in parishes and teachers of Christian ethics in public schools.

CPI] to study more, to offer myself for this ministry.”

The institute also organizes sessions in Kyiv and Donetsk for students from central and eastern Ukraine, with plans to expand eastward to catechize Ukrainian immigrants in Russia, and westward for Ukrainian immigrants in Spain and Portugal.

“Our mission is to reach all of Ukraine,” explained Sister Luiza. “In particular, the mission field in central and

eastern Ukraine is great. Millions of people there have not heard the ‘Good News’ and are so hungry for it, after years of atheist indoctrination during the long decades of persecution of the Church under the rule of the Soviet Union.”

Western Ukraine, explains Sister Luiza, has a “richer religious culture, less damaged by atheism, than the center and the east, so the students learn much from

(Continued on page 22)

INTERVIEW: Poet Dzvinia Orlowsky on writing, audiences and success

Pushcart Prize recipient Dzvinia Orlowsky is the author of four poetry collections including her most recent, "Convertible Night, Flurry of Stones." Her first collection, "A Handful of Bees," was recently reprinted as a Carnegie Mellon Classic Contemporary. Her poetry and translations have appeared in numerous anthologies, including "A Map of Hope: An International Literary Anthology," "From Three Worlds: New Writing from Ukraine" and "A Hundred Years of Youth: A Bilingual Anthology of 20th Century Ukrainian Poetry." Her translation of the Ukrainian of Alexander Dovzhenko's novella, "The Enchanted Desna," was published by House between Water Press in 2006. A founding editor of Four Way Books, she currently teaches poetry at the Solstice Low-Residency MFA Program in Creative Writing of Pine Manor College. Ms. Orlowsky may be contacted at dzvinia.orklowsky@verizon.net.

Alexander J. Motyl is a writer, painter and professor of political science, conducted the following interview with Ms. Orlowsky.

Your poetry was recently selected for the Carnegie Mellon Classic Contemporary Series, which reissues "significant out-of-print books by important American poets." So tell me, how does it feel to be a classic?

Mark Twain once defined a classic as a book everyone feels they should read but nobody really wants to. The funny thing is that no one feels obligated to read "A Handful of Bees," but somehow over the years a fair number of people have. Best of all, its readers seem to be enjoying the book enough to keep recommending it to others.

As I understand it, Carnegie Mellon University Press Director Gerald Costanzo established the series and selects the titles. The first reprint, in 1989, was Thomas Lux's "Sunday," originally published with Houghton Mifflin in 1979. Over 100 titles have followed, including books by Richard Hugo, Larry Levis, James Tate, and Deborah Digges. That's pretty impressive company.

And I feel honored to be in it.

But does anyone really read poetry today, especially in America?

A lot of people read poetry, not as much as fiction, of course, but it has its face in America – at public readings, in magazines (both hard copy and online), libraries, on PBS. There are numerous awards, such as the Pulitzer and we have our poet laureates (on city, state and national levels). April is "National Poetry Month." Low residency MFA programs, of which poetry is a huge component, continue to pop up in large numbers all over America. The list goes on.

It just hasn't been commercially tapped because it's still seen as less accessible than prose. But I can't fault you for asking. There are days when I can't help but wonder if more people are writing poetry than are actually reading it, carefully, and/or buying books.

So what's the problem?

Poets are notorious for being less commercially marketable, possibly because poetry has long-since been regarded as too private and inaccessible, and they have a hard time sensing the scale of their audience. Consumers have become so accustomed to dialing in for their next idol that anything short of a "mega-audience" suggests failure. Few poets achieve this kind of commercial success during their lifetime (Billy Collins being one more well-

known example).

Unless you're in a position to cross-country tour on your own dime, your books, as poet Catherine Sasanov once observed, get distributed like "boats out to sea with the author's hope that no one sinks them along the way."

And yet, somehow an audience does get found.

Right, and then it builds up throughout one's career. It's a particularly wonderful feeling to receive a hand-written letter from a reader who lives in Wisconsin or Pennsylvania and who takes the time to tell you that your words have helped him or her in some way or that you've touched on a subject that significantly parallels something in his or her life.

For me, this kind of otherwise nonexistent personal contact is more important than sales figures. Great venues for readings are also worth their weight in gold. Like the Cornelia Street Café's Ukrainian Literary Evening. I consider its writers and audience my literary family.

How did "A Handful of Bees" get from your desk to the press?

It's common today for many presses to commit to publishing only an author's first book and for poets to hop from press to press in search of more lucrative contracts. One of my greatest joys has been developing a now 14-year relationship with poet, editor and CMU Director Gerald Costanzo, and Associate Director Cynthia Lamb.

Jerry took a chance on publishing my manuscript of short, image-driven, lyric poems at a time when longer narrative poems were in vogue. It was selected from among approximately 800 other manuscripts that were mailed in during their open reading month. He and Cynthia continue to be my greatest supporters—

Hey, so am I!

Thanks, Alex. That means a lot.

So where did "Bees" come from?

"Bees" was originally published in 1994 and was my MFA graduating creative thesis. The original manuscript, unlike the published version, exceeded over 84 pages. By the time I was a graduate student, I felt confident that I could write a decent poem, but I had anxieties about obsessively writing about one or two subjects. I also felt my subjects weren't world-worthy – "important" enough. But the late great Stanley Kunitz once told Marie Howe (whom I overheard telling this story at a Cambridge literary party) that you can't be a writer without your obsessions. Poet Heather McHugh, with whom I had the good fortune to work in graduate school, nurtured my love of details and imagery. She always emphasized that from the keenly observed details of one's life loom the larger, universal subjects.

Both editions of "Bees" have photographs of a child on the cover. That's you on the first edition, isn't it?

The first edition has a copy of a Polaroid photograph of me that my father took when I was about 10 years old. I remember my father calling me outside and directing me to stand in front of a tree from which hung a hammock made out of rope and wooden boards stripped from a barrel. It was a very "Midwestern/immigrant" kind of portrait. I remember staring into the camera lens, feeling a gentle breeze across my face, and wondering what moved him that particular afternoon to take the shot.

Many, many years later, I thought about that moment in which my father took the cover shot for a book he always believed



Poet Dzvinia Orlowsky (second from left) at the Cornelia Street Café in New York with (from left) Askold Melnyczuk, Myrna Kostash, Alexander Motyl and Vasyly Makhno.

in, but would never live to see – a moment in which the future curled back, like a wave, onto the present. Since the book is heavily autobiographical and contains a fairly large amount of childhood poems, the photograph was well-appropriated.

CMU redesigned the second edition to give it a new look. The reprint's cover now has an image of another child – this time of a young girl (vibrant pink shirt with a jet-black spray of hair) running barefoot on a beach, either toward or from something, I can't tell.

But I've learned that she's the daughter of the Swedish photographer Jean Schweitzer, who took the shot.

OK, let's go back into the past. When did you start writing poetry? Was there some particular turning point or bolt out of the blue?

I started writing poetry as a child. I recall, yes, bolting out of bed one night, running to my desk, and writing everything down that came to my head. Folders and folders filled with fragments of poems. Mostly rhyming iambics of various lengths. Things like "Of all the places I did roam/the place that's best is always home."

Maybe the pleasure, at a young age, was in establishing an external order from my earliest experiences with what felt like internal chaos. It was an almost desperate need to move, metaphorically speaking, the heartbeat away from the body and onto the page. Hearing my own heartbeat as a child was very frightening. It still is, by the way.

I also recall hearing a dusty, cranky voice recording of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven" and taking all those wonderful, almost palpable alliterations to bed with me, memorizing as many lines as I could. Poe was my first intense experience with sound links – the ability for sound to shape a poem, give it texture, independent of content (in other words more than just onomatopoeia, which is pounded into our heads early on). I knew I wanted this kind of physical sensation, this kind of pleasure, throughout my life.

There were other, isolated occurrences to which I attribute my earliest fascination with language and poetic possibilities. One, in particular, sticks out. A friend of my late mother's once wrote in a postcard that he, at the time of writing the card, was listening to a minuet played on his transistor radio. I thought about this image for years – the beauty of something so delicate transmitting through air in something so bare-bones designed. It was my first brush with Surrealism: the musical intelligence of a minuet encased in a cheap transistor radio. I still try to imagine that min-

uet and its minuscule musicians – strings buzzing like a fly caught under a glass jar.

When did you feel that this was something you could do well, and successfully?

Numerous unrelated events jump to mind.

When I was a college student, my father handed me my first manual typewriter for Christmas. He kissed it before handing it to me. I guess you could say I'm both sentimental and superstitious.

Then there was poet Stuart Friebert, who wrote a letter of recommendation for me to take with me "wherever," in which he stated that he was certain that one day I would "make it" as a poet. I still have that letter. I couldn't bear to part with it.

Many years later, feeling like my life was going down the drain and having just received a note from an editor who said the best thing I could do with my poems was "lose them," I rushed out of the house, down the street to Mission Hill Church (I was living on Mission Hill in Boston at the time) and prayed, clutching my thin manuscript of poems. It turned out to be the church's 100th-year anniversary day of miracles. I wasn't going to argue.

I started giving public readings –

You're exceptionally good at those, you know.

– and really enjoyed it.

The founding editor of AGNI magazine, Askold Melnyczuk, in a now-ancient order-form/brochure for the journal once listed me in the category of "People No One Else Suspects Yet."

Certainly having poems placed in reputable magazines and doing well in prestigious awards competitions helped boost my confidence. But I think I remember those less and think about the other above-mentioned events much more.

Your poetry is intensely personal. Are you trying to give readers a look into your heart and soul, or are you using your own experience to illuminate certain universals? Or both?

Robert Frost once said, "No surprise to the writer, no surprise to the reader." By this he meant that the best poem ultimately reveals, in addition to the reader, something about the poet to the poet. I never know where a poem is going to go once I begin it. For me, often, it's a single image that creates the need to write the poem, to explore why that image has gotten under my skin and won't let go. Ultimately, it exposes something about the heart and, I hope, soul. But I never know my subject up front.

(Continued on page 22)

Adoptive Parents Weekend held at Soyuzivka Heritage Center

by Bohdana Puzyk

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Ukraine's Embassy in Washington and the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York, with the collaboration of the Ukrainian National Association and Soyuzivka Management once again sponsored the Adoptive Parents Weekend.

This three-day event, now in its fifth year, was full of fun, adventure and information for the participating families.

The event, held on July 27-30, opened with a wine and cheese "meet and greet" followed by a concert in the Main House lobby after dinner. The participating families were able to meet and speak with Olena Brezhnieva from the Ukrainian Embassy and Bohdan Movchan of the Consulate.

The rest of their days were spent hiking up to the waterfalls and cliffs led by our own Soyuzivka "Ranger" Lesyk Myskiw, heritage sessions led by Olena Brezhnieva

and Bohdana Puzyk and plenty of family fun time.

Chef Andrij Sonevsky conducted a varenyky-making session with the families and shared some of his secrets.

The participating families had a wonderful time learning about the customs in the various oblasts where their children were born and discussing their individual adventures while traveling in Ukraine. They were also able to discuss the current situation of adoptions in Ukraine, sharing very important advice and gaining information.

One of the many highlights of the event was a display of Ukrainian dance costumes from different regions of the country. This was made possible by Anya Bohachevsky-Lonkevych, who displayed the costumes from the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Camp for the families.

The Adoptive Parents event concluded at Soyuzivka's traditional Hutsul night dinner.



Olena Brezhnieva of the Embassy of Ukraine with children during the Adoptive Parents Weekend at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center.



Participants create their own event T-shirts during the Adoptive Parents Weekend.



Some of the children with entertainers during Hutsul Night.

ADU holds summer technology seminar in Kovel

ALBANY, N.Y. – Americans for Democracy in Ukraine (ADU), a not-for-profit organization based in Albany, N.Y., in cooperation with Siena College of Loudonville, N.Y., has recently completed its 12th annual summer seminar in Ukraine.

The seminar this year was held at the Kovel Resource Center Nadia. The theme of the seminar was the use of technology and the Internet in English language instruction in the Ukrainian classroom.

In previous years, ADU has sponsored seminars in Buchach, Chernihiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Kirovohrad, Kovel, Myrhorod, Odesa, Okhtyrka and Uzhhorod for English language teachers, conducted by Prof. Lydia Tarnavsky of Siena College and a team of American pedagogues.

At the seminars, the local teachers were instructed in the latest Western methodology. The participants then instructed other teachers and organized themselves into professional associations. After completion of the paperwork required by the Ukrainian government, centers were set up.

At that point ADU funded the furnishing of the centers with books, video and audio tapes, CDs and the appropriate equipment to use the teaching aids. The centers were also equipped with a photocopier and computer.

Many of the ADU teacher-participants have been recognized as outstanding teachers by the local and national Ukrainian government. Others won



Dr. Lydia Tarnavsky (holding the ceremonial bread) and the seminar participants standing in front of the Nadia center in Kovel, Ukraine.

excellence-in-teaching awards in national contests sponsored by the U.S. Ministry of Education and American Council for Collaboration in Education and Language Study (ACCELS).

Some won the Partner in Education Program (PIE) award funded by the U.S. Freedom Support Act. These winners participated in programs in the United States sponsored by the U.S. government. Their students have also won various awards in Ukraine for their English language expertise.

Since the early days of ADU's involve-

ment with teacher training in Ukraine, great strides have been made in improving the methodology of teaching. It was evident that what is needed now is the opening up of the classroom to the resources available on the Internet.

A representative from each of the centers was sent to Kovel for the weeklong session on computer use, from PowerPoint presentations to design of web pages. For most participants the seminar was the first contact they had with the possibilities for classroom instruction available worldwide through

the Internet.

Adam Kaiser, a Peace Corps volunteer who attended part of the seminar, commented, "The amount of information these teachers received and understood in six days was impressive, and what is even more impressive is their ability to network now. One of the biggest problems I have encountered in my work here is the lack of communication among organizations. Now that these centers know how to share information and documents through e-mail and websites, I think they will start to realize what an incredible tool that will be towards working together."

Further plans include expansion of the websites designed by the participants, an exchange of lesson plans among the teachers and the development of student/teacher virtual classroom exchanges among the various regions of Ukraine.

ADU-sponsored centers have been designated as points of interest by the Kyiv Peace Corps office. Peace Corps volunteers in oblasts where ADU centers are located are encouraged to get involved with the work of the centers and association teachers.

Information on each center and the ADU/Siena program is available at <http://englishteachertrainingprogramukraine.blogspot.com>.

For further information readers may contact ADU at P.O. Box 3874, Albany, NY 12203-0874 or ADU@nycap.rr.com. All contributions to ADU are tax-deductible, and all administrative work is done by volunteers.

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2007, SOYUZIVKA
KERHONKSON, NEW YORK**

Friday, September 14, 2007

The Ukrainian National Association General Assembly Meeting began with Stefan Kaczaraj UNA president, welcoming the General Assembly members to the meeting. Everyone present sang the American, Canadian and Ukrainian national anthems. Zenon Holubec, UNA auditor, began the meeting with a prayer. A moment of silence was observed for those members of the UNA that passed away in the last year: Andrew Keybida, UNA General Assembly advisor and Olha Berejan secretary of Branch 144.

The following General Assembly members were present at the meeting:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Stefan Kaczaraj – president
Zenon Holubec – first vice-president
Michael Koziupa – second vice-president
Myron Groch – director for canada
Christine E. Kozak – national secretary
Roma Lisovich – treasurer

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Gerald Tysiak, Wasyl Szeremeta, Vasyl Luchkiw

ADVISORS

Maya Lew, Gloria Horbaty, Nicholas Fil, Eugene Oscislowski, Olya Czerkas, Eugene Serba

The following members were not present:

Advisors: Myron Pylypiak, Al Kachkowski, Paul Prinko, Bohdan Kukuza, Serguei Djoula

1. OPENING

Stefan Kaczaraj, UNA president, called the meeting to order, welcomed all the General Assembly members to the meeting and presented the Agenda.

1. Opening
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Acceptance of minutes of prior Special Meeting, at Soyuzivka, September 16-17, 2006
4. Calling of the following Committees: Financial, Organizing, Soyuzivka, Fraternal, Canadian and Publications
5. Reports of the General Assembly Members July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007
6. Report of Editor-in-Chief of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly
7. Report of General Manager of Soyuzivka
8. Discussion of the reports of the General Assembly Members
9. Report of the Auditing Committee
10. Committee Recommendations and Resolutions
11. Recommendation to accept reports as presented
12. Report of Conflict of Interest Review
13. Proposal and Acceptance of Budget for 2008
14. Miscellaneous
15. Adjournment

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**MOTION:**

Zenon Holubec, seconded by Gloria Horbaty
Accept Agenda as presented.
No discussion
Motion passed unanimously.

3. ACCEPT MINUTES OF PRIOR SPECIAL MEETING**MOTION:**

Christine E. Kozak, seconded by Eugene Serba
Accept minutes from the last meeting as presented.
No discussion
Motion passed unanimously.

4. CALLING OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

Financial, Organizing, Fraternal, Canadian, Soyuzivka, Press

FINANCIAL: Eugene Serba, Roma Lisovich, Vasyl Luchkiw, Myron Groch, Michael Koziupa

**ПРОТОКОЛ РІЧНОГО ЗАСІДАННЯ
ЧЛЕНІВ ГОЛОВНОГО УРЯДУ
УКРАЇНСЬКОГО НАРОДНОГО СОЮЗУ
ЩО ВІДБУВСЯ
НА СОЮЗІВЦІ В ДНЯХ 14-16 ВЕРЕСНЯ 2007 р.**

ORGANIZING: Christine E. Kozak, Gloria Horbaty, Maya Lew, Michael Koziupa, Nicholas Fil, Roma Lisovich, Wasyl Szeremeta

FRATERNAL: Olya Czerkas, Christine E. Kozak, Gloria Horbaty, Eugene Oscislowski

CANADIAN: Myron Groch, Gerald Tysiak, Eugene Serba, Maya Lew, Stefan Kaczaraj

SOYUZIVKA: Maya Lew, Olya Czerkas, Nicholas Fil, Roma Lisovich, Gloria Horbaty

PRESS: Vasyl Luchkiw, Eugene Serba, Michael Koziupa, Olya Czerkas, Zenon Holubec including standing committee members, Taras Szmaga Sr., and Myron Kuropas. (the last two members were not present at the meeting)

5. Reports of General Assembly Members

5. Report of UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj

The Mission Statement states that Ukrainian National Association exists:

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

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community. This has been our mission since 1894. The past leaders of the UNA experienced many difficult times. Today is no different. We face economic swings, competitive pressures, changes in the marketplace, changes in demographics, shifts in technology, assimilation and regulatory requirements.

It should be noted that the sale of insurance policies and yield on investments provide the UNA with the funds necessary to sustain the publications Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly operation of our beloved Soyuzivka as well as other cultural and social activities.

During the year ended December 31, 2006, and six months ended June 30, 2007, the Executive Committee focused on meeting those challenges by making changes to move our organization forward, continuing the tradition of securing our members' financial and fraternal tomorrows. Our members, who place their trust in us, should expect no less.

I would like to highlight some of the most noteworthy accomplishments achieved in the period beginning January 1, 2006, to June 30, 2007:

- Increasing our surplus by \$4,500,000 due to the sale of our headquarters building;
- Restructuring our publications;
- Hiring an investment adviser;
- Hiring professional sale agents;
- Restructuring the workforce in the insurance department;
- Improving the UNA and Svoboda websites;
- Locating a buyer for the purchase of 250 acres of surplus land at Soyuzivka;
- Locating a buyer who is interested in buying 1.5 acres of land owned by a foundation in which the UNA has a 60% interest;
- Organizing a Ukrainian Cultural Festival at Soyuzivka;
- Organizing a cruise for the benefit of Soyuzivka and our two newspapers;
- Representing the UNA at various functions;
- Compliance with regulatory obligations;
- Sponsoring events – 4th wave target market.

We the officers, whether past or present, and members of this organization need to stand together as one and realize that in order to grow and prosper we must change, and that change isn't always a popular idea. We must learn to try and bring people together.

We must unify. When we stand together, whatever political persuasion, whatever immigration wave, whatever age, we become stronger and more powerful. Our Ukrainian heritage is a rich and valuable asset. It is one we must try to preserve.

We have survived because we have changed and adapted. We should always look to the future for new ideas and concepts but with a keen eye locked onto the past so as not to forget whence we have come.

It is imperative that all members of the General Assembly employees of the UNA and all branch secretaries promote the UNA and our products. We have to reverse the trend of declining membership if we want to grow, prosper and continue to fulfill our mission.



Stefan Kaczaraj

Meeting held by the Executive Committee

For the reporting period beginning July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007, the Executive Committee had meetings on the following dates: September 15, 2006, March 23, 2007, July 6, 2007, September 14, 2007.

Overview of the Financial Results For The Year Ended December 31, 2006

The 2006 statutory financial statement showed a net decrease in surplus of \$1,412,000. The net loss from operations before net realized capital gains (losses) of \$918,000, subsidies to Soyuzivka in the amount of \$635,000, and subsidies to Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly in the amount of \$353,000 decreased surplus by \$1,906,000. The decrease in surplus of \$1,906,000 was offset by net realized and unrealized gains from investments and other adjustments in the amount of \$494,000. See **Exhibit A** for detailed analysis of financial statements.

Overview of the Financial Results For The Six Months Ended June 30, 2007

During this reporting period our surplus increased by \$4,506,000. Subsidies to Soyuzivka in the amount of \$336,000, subsidies to Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly in the amount of \$50,000, net loss from insurance operations in the amount of \$145,000. The decrease in surplus of \$531,000 was offset by net realized and unrealized gains from investments and other adjustments in the amount of \$576,000 and net income from operations and sale of home office building in the amount of \$4,461,000. See **Exhibit A** for detailed analysis of financial statements.

Overview of the Organizing Department For The Year Ended December 31, 2006

The organizing results for 2006 showed modest improvement in number of policies sold when compared to 2005. Forty percent of the yearly-organizing quota of 834 new members was attained. Total insurance amount sold was \$3,474,000. In 2005, 36% of the yearly-organizing quota of 854 new members was attained. Total insurance amount sold was \$7,046,000.

Overview of the Organizing Department For The Six Months Ended June 30, 2007

The organizing result for the period ended June 30, 2007 showed a decrease since 38 less policies were sold than in same period in prior year. Eighteen percent of the yearly-organizing quota of 834 new members was attained. The insurance amount for the 153 new member applications sold was \$3,747,141. Our best three organizers for the six months ended June 30, 2007 were Lubov Streletsky, John Holowatyj, and Eugene Oscislawski. Twenty-eight annuities were sold in the six months ended June 30, 2007 with \$778,817 in premium with application.

Membership Statistics

For the year ended December 31, 2006, the UNA had 39,449 certificate holders with life and ADD policies combined. Only 44% or 17,491 were still active policies; another 21,958 were inactive or paid-up policies. As of the end of June 30, 2007 total membership dropped to 38,676, showing a loss of 773 or 1.96%. The drop is due mostly to death claims.

Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly Subscribers

As of December 31, 2006 Svoboda had

5,582, showing a loss of 296 subscribers for the year. The Ukrainian Weekly had 5862 subscribers and also lost 201 subscribers. As of June 30, 2007 Svoboda had 5,408 subscribers, showing a loss of 169 subscribers for the six-month period. The Ukrainian Weekly had 5,796 and showing a loss of 66 subscribers. Both papers have been marketed at various festivals and conferences.

Overview of the Financial Results For The Year Ended December 31, 2006

Total income for year ended December 31, 2006 decreased by \$10,000 and total expenses increased by \$28,000 when compared to the year ended December 31, 2005. The subsidy for the year ended December 31, 2006 was \$353,000 (\$192,000 for Svoboda and \$161,000 for The Ukrainian Weekly), \$38,000 more than for the year ended December 31, 2005 that was \$314,000 (\$158,000 for Svoboda and \$156,000 for The Ukrainian Weekly). See **Exhibit C** for detailed income and expense statements.

Overview of the Financial Results For The Six Months Ended June 30, 2007

Total income for the six months ended June 30, 2007 when compared to the same period in 2006 had an increase in income of \$6,000 and a decrease in expenses of \$133,000. The net loss for the six months

ended June 30, 2007 was lower by \$138,000 when compared to the same period in 2006. UNA subsidized both papers in the amount of \$189,000 (\$14,000 for Svoboda and \$36,000 for The Ukrainian Weekly) in 2007 and \$188,000 (\$99,000 for Svoboda and \$89,000 for The Ukrainian Weekly) in 2006 during the six-month periods. See **Exhibit C** for a detailed income and expense statements for the six months ended June 30, 2007 and the year ended December 31, 2006.

SOYUZIVKA

Overview of the Financial Results For The Year Ended December 31, 2006

Total net loss for year ended December 31, 2006 increased by \$28,000 from \$607,000 for the year ended December 31, 2005 to \$635,000 for the year ended December 31, 2006.

Overview of the Financial Results For The Six Months Ended June 30, 2007

Total net loss for six months ended June 30, 2006 decreased by \$188,000 from \$434,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2006 to \$336,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2007. See **Exhibit B** for a detailed income and expense statements for the six months ended June 30, 2007 and the year ended December 31, 2006.

Ukrainian National Urban Renewal Corporation

See **Exhibit D** for a complete income statement for the six months ended June 30, 2007 and year ended December 31, 2006 and **Exhibit D-1** for a balance sheet as of June 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006. The net income for the six months ended June 30, 2007 is \$4,461,000 and for the year ended December 31, 2006 is \$292,000. As of June 4, 2007, the Home Office Building was sold for \$11,000,000 at a net profit of \$4,627,000.

Closing

In closing, I would like to thank each of my fellow colleagues on the Executive Committee, especially my in-house colleagues Christine Kozak and Roma Lisovich for their dedication, commitment and teamwork. I would also like to thank Editor-in-Chief Roma Hadzewycz for her perseverance and commitment to UNA Publications. I would be remiss in not thanking all the numerous people who volunteered their time and expertise to help the UNA continue its various fraternal activities and to improve the facilities at Soyuzivka. Many thanks to the General Assembly Members who actively promoted the UNA in their respective areas and to all employees who work with dedication for the benefit of the UNA.

| EXHIBIT A | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Ukrainian National Association, Inc. Statement of Operations | | | |
| For Six Months Ended June 30, 2007 and 2006 and for Year Ended December 31, 2006 | | | |
| | US & Can. | US & Can. | US & Can. |
| | 6/30/07 | 6/30/06 | 12/31/06 |
| INCOME | | | |
| Dues from members | \$701,898 | 707,210 | \$1,384,599 |
| Annuity premiums from members | 1,041,225 | 630,117 | 911,967 |
| Dues-Universal Life | 56,456 | 63,557 | 113,856 |
| Reinsurance premium paid | -21,396 | -29,467 | -28,097 |
| Net premium income | \$1,778,183 | \$1,371,417 | \$2,382,325 |
| Investment income(excluding Soyuzivka): | | | |
| Banks | \$1,686 | 1,379 | \$3,069 |
| Bonds | 1,391,256 | 1,214,600 | 2,453,544 |
| Certificate loans | 8,399 | 7,577 | 15,791 |
| Mortgage loans | 104,633 | 129,915 | 236,959 |
| Short term investments | 25,765 | 68,576 | 92,293 |
| Stocks | 63,332 | 72,144 | 216,419 |
| Urban Renewal Corporation-Mortgage | 70,415 | 84,498 | 168,996 |
| Total interest and dividend income | \$1,665,487 | \$1,578,689 | \$3,187,072 |
| Amortization of interest maintenance reserve | \$9,778 | \$10,597 | \$19,555 |
| Other Income: | | | |
| Donation to Fraternal Fund | \$8,185 | 1,063 | \$2,160 |
| Misc. | 0 | -26 | -26 |
| Due To The Ukrainian National Foundation | -393 | -194 | -641 |
| Total other income | \$7,793 | \$7,793 | \$1,493 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$3,461,240 | \$2,961,545 | \$5,590,445 |
| Deductions for the benefit of members: | | | |
| Annuity surrender, partial withdrawal, and death benefits | \$1,030,084 | 756,456 | \$2,067,184 |
| Cash surrender | 281,088 | 151,159 | 1,184,900 |
| Death benefits | 596,704 | 583,126 | 702,344 |
| Endowment matured | 229,309 | 374,827 | 49,352 |
| Interest and adj on cert. Or deposit-type contract funds | 19,238 | 12,904 | -16,618 |
| Payment on supplementary contracts with life contingencies | 12,715 | 11,448 | 24,676 |
| Scholarships | -150 | 725 | 20,100 |
| | \$2,168,988 | \$1,890,645 | \$4,358,466 |
| Increase (decrease) in reserve for life and accident and health certificates | \$213,527 | \$339,846 | -\$249,641 |
| Deducting for organizing: | | | |
| Advertising | \$35,083 | 29,967 | \$50,426 |
| Field conferences | 3,116 | 3,079 | 8,085 |
| Medical inspections & Medical Examiner's fee | 5,905 | 4,958 | 10,393 |
| Refund of branch secretaries expenses | 99,324 | 85,341 | 128,805 |
| | \$143,428 | \$123,345 | \$197,709 |

EXHIBIT A**Ukrainian National Association, Inc. Statement of Operations For Six Months Ended June 30, 2007 and 2006 and for Year Ended December 31, 2006**

| | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Deductions: payroll, insurance and taxes: | | | |
| Canadian corporation taxes and premium taxes | \$1,889 | 1,439 | \$1,463 |
| Employee benefit plan | 76,426 | 144,861 | 210,422 |
| Insurance-general | 9,118 | 29,947 | 46,153 |
| Insurance-workmen's compensation | 1,321 | 1,432 | 1,900 |
| Salaries of Executive officers | 128,750 | 128,750 | 257,500 |
| Salaries of office employees | 228,295 | 257,134 | 513,926 |
| Taxes-Federal, state and city on employee wages | 41,843 | 38,218 | 64,507 |
| Total | \$487,642 | \$601,782 | \$1,095,871 |
| Deductions: General Expenses | | | |
| Actuarial and statistical expenses | \$116,979 | 83,148 | \$176,837 |
| Annual session expenses | 362 | 2,595 | 9,370 |
| Auditing committee expenses | 1,714 | 0 | 0 |
| Bank charges | 251 | 1,068 | 1,960 |
| Bank charges for custodian account | 4,133 | 2,849 | 5,903 |
| Books and periodicals | 5,397 | 7,032 | 9,390 |
| Certificate loans adjustments | -2,281 | -80 | 30 |
| Depreciation of EDP equipment | 858 | 858 | 3,289 |
| Donations | 7,200 | 9,100 | 12,100 |
| Dues to fraternal congress | 2,860 | 3,120 | 3,675 |
| Fraternal activities | 2,756 | 2,012 | 3,519 |
| General office maintenance | 8,883 | 6,657 | 14,120 |
| Increase in reserve for convention expenses | 15,000 | 32,320 | 45,091 |
| Increase in reserve for orphan's fund | 265 | 343 | 590 |
| Increase(decrease) in loading | 403 | 126 | 403 |
| Insurance department fees | 35,770 | 27,346 | 99,857 |
| Investment expenses | -475 | 30 | 300 |
| Legal expenses general | 73,601 | 46,175 | 126,155 |
| Operating expenses of Canadian office | 1,590 | 0 | 1,272 |
| Postage | 24,159 | 20,681 | 35,275 |
| Printing and stationery | 13,926 | 8,162 | 27,102 |
| Professional fees | 45,793 | 22,976 | 47,142 |
| Rent | 127,266 | 125,691 | 251,283 |
| Rental of equipment and services | 34,639 | 48,717 | 83,602 |
| Telephone and telegraph | 6,949 | 8,159 | 13,812 |
| Transfer account | 6,957 | 1,060 | 2,828 |
| Traveling expenses-general | 1,456 | 3,617 | 10,755 |
| Youth sports activities | 0 | 0 | 1,514 |
| | \$536,411 | \$463,761 | \$987,172 |
| Total deductions | \$3,549,996 | \$3,419,379 | \$6,389,578 |
| (Net loss) before surplus refunds to members | -\$88,756 | -\$457,834 | -\$799,132 |
| Fraternal benefits | 55,882 | 59,693 | 119,218 |
| Net(Loss) from operations before net realized capital gains (losses) | -\$144,638 | -\$517,526 | -\$918,350 |
| Net realized capital gains(losses) | | | |
| Gain(Loss) on bonds and stocks | 39,966 | 17,540 | 25,776 |
| Loss on foreign exchange(transfer funds from Canada to US) | 0 | -31,225 | -22,134 |
| Total capital gain(losses) | 39,966 | -13,685 | 3,642 |
| (Net loss) from operations | -\$104,672 | -\$531,211 | -\$914,708 |
| Soyuzivka: | | | |
| Income | \$392,925 | 500,211 | \$1,699,919 |
| Expenses (excluding depreciation) | 680,816 | 886,314 | 2,238,512 |
| Depreciation | 48,405 | 47,449 | 96,810 |
| Total expenses | 729,221 | 933,762 | 2,335,323 |
| (Net loss) from Soyuzivka operations | -\$336,296 | -\$433,551 | -\$635,404 |
| Svoboda and Ukrainian Weekly | | | |
| Income | \$504,129 | 525,556 | 1,004,765 |
| Expenses excluding depreciation | 562,364 | 695,021 | 1,339,836 |
| Depreciation-printing plant | 4,951 | 4,951 | 9,903 |
| Increase in reserve for unexpired subscriptions | -12,768 | 14,401 | 7,633 |
| Total expenses | \$554,547 | 714,373 | 1,357,372 |
| (Net loss from Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly operations) | -\$50,418 | -188,817 | -352,607 |
| (Net loss) from operations including Soyuzivka & Publications | -\$491,386 | -\$1,153,580 | -\$1,902,719 |
| Change in net unrealized capital gains(losses): | | | |
| Common stock | \$62,548 | 94,725 | \$197,102 |
| Foreign exchange | 316,041 | 154,668 | -11,567 |
| Certificate loans | -152 | -121 | -35 |
| Real estate-Soyuzivka | 42,021 | 11,007 | 42,718 |
| Net gain(loss) | \$420,458 | \$260,279 | \$228,218 |
| Change in nonadmitted assets: | | | |
| Printing plant-USA | \$4,951 | 4,951 | \$8,722 |
| Change in asset valuation reserve | 110,992 | -8,052 | -37,597 |
| Net Income-Building-UNURC | 4,460,546 | 80,858 | 291,688 |
| Net change in surplus for the year ended December 31 | \$4,505,562 | -\$815,543 | -\$1,411,689 |
| Unassigned surplus, beginning of year | 2,851,636 | 4,263,324 | 4,263,324 |
| Unassigned surplus, end of period | \$7,357,198 | \$3,447,781 | \$2,851,636 |

| EXHIBIT A-1 | | | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC. | | | | |
| ASSETS | Assets | Assets | Net Admitted | Net Admitted |
| | 6/30/07 | Not Admitted | Assets | Assets |
| | | 6/30/07 | 6/30/07 | 12/31/06 |
| Bonds | \$53,565,056 | | \$0 | \$53,565,056 |
| Stocks: | | | | |
| Preferred stocks | 649,999 | | | 649,999 |
| Common stocks | 1,166,009 | | | 1,166,009 |
| Mortgage loans or First liens | 3,708,221 | 104,551 | | 3,603,669 |
| Certificate loans and liens | 299,317 | 191 | | 299,126 |
| Cash and short-term investments | 2,282,497 | | | 2,282,497 |
| Other invested assets | 2,683,453 | 2,683,453 | | 0 |
| Subtotal, cash and invested assets | \$64,354,553 | \$2,788,195 | | \$61,566,358 |
| Electronic data processing equipment | \$16,240 | | | \$16,240 |
| Life insurance premiums and annuity considerations deferred and uncollected on in force business | 61,186 | 1,674 | | 59,513 |
| Accident and health premiums due and unpaid | 1,452 | 0 | | 1,452 |
| Investment income due and accrued | 777,016 | 0 | | 777,016 |
| Amounts receivable from subsidiaries and affiliates | | | | 0 |
| Printing plant | 31,157 | 31,157 | | 0 |
| Totals | \$65,241,604 | \$2,821,026 | | \$62,420,578 |
| UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC. LIABILITIES, SPECIAL RESERVES AND UNASSIGNED FUNDS | | | | |
| | | | 6/30/07 | 12/31/06 |
| Aggregate reserve for life certificates and contracts | | | \$57,267,587 | \$57,054,915 |
| Aggregate reserve for accident and health certificates | | | 18,408 | 17,554 |
| Supplementary contracts without life contingencies | | | 373,431 | 376,764 |
| Certificate and contract claimsLife | | | 466,350 | 600,860 |
| Premiums and annuity considerations received in advance | | | 536,968 | 506,267 |
| Interest maintenance reserve | | | 3,419 | 13,197 |
| Commissions to fieldworkers due or accrued - life and annuity | | | 23,694 | 9,191 |
| General expenses due or accrued | | | 83,431 | 6,665 |
| Taxes, licenses and fees due or accrued | | | 75,946 | 51,056 |
| Unearned investment income | | | 678 | 800 |
| Amounts withheld or retained by Society as agent or trustee | | | 5,578 | 7,386 |
| Net adjustment ir stments in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates | | | 259,295 | 575,335 |
| Asset valuation reserve | | | 452,498 | 563,490 |
| Payable securities | | | 501,708 | 0 |
| Payable to subsidiaries and affiliates | | | 38,847 | 0 |
| Drafts outstanding | | | 20,195 | 52,532 |
| Aggregate write-ins for liabilities | | | -5,064,650 | -568,961 |
| Total liabilities | | | \$55,063,383 | \$59,267,051 |
| Unassigned funds | | | 7,357,195 | 2,851,633 |
| TOTALS | | | \$62,420,578 | \$62,118,684 |

| EXHIBIT B | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Soyuzivka Income and Expense Summary For Six Months Ended June 30, 2007 and 2006 and for Year End December 31, 2006 | | | | | | | |
| | Six Months | Six Months | Year | | Six Months | Six Months | Year |
| | Ended | Ended | Ended | | Ended | Ended | Ended |
| | June 30, 2007 | June 30, 2006 | Dec. 31, 2006 | | June 30, 2007 | June 30, 2006 | Dec. 31, 2006 |
| INCOME | | | | INCOME | | | |
| Room | \$111,807 | \$118,763 | \$467,112 | Camps | 8,265 | 6,487 | 79,277 |
| Room Non - Tax | 8,955 | 33,027 | 42,076 | Occupancy tax | 2,271 | 2,093 | 9,069 |
| Deposits | 38,240 | 50,605 | 7,770 | Gratuities | 39,031 | 57,434 | 166,095 |
| Total | \$159,002 | \$202,396 | \$516,958 | NY State Sales Tax | 19,462 | 21,240 | 84,360 |
| Restaurant Food | 80,889 | 51,879 | 205,936 | Miscellaneous donation | 3,532 | 258 | 22,485 |
| Banquet Food | 11,595 | 54,409 | 134,112 | Redeposited bad checks | 375 | 377 | 19,554 |
| Food Non - Tax | 17,499 | 59,575 | 135,785 | Amex Charges | | -2,365 | -22,312 |
| Total | \$109,983 | \$165,864 | \$475,832 | Donations received by UNA | -2,825 | 0 | 88,000 |
| Snack Bar | \$4,363 | 1,849 | \$1,849 | TOTAL INCOME | \$392,925 | \$500,211 | \$1,699,919 |
| Gate | 2,380 | 407 | 407 | DISBURSEMENTS | | | |
| Taxable Misc. | 27 | 1,522 | 1,522 | Food | \$85,063 | \$96,489 | \$285,962 |
| Banquet Bar | 4,334 | 15,753 | 40,755 | Snack Bar Food | \$3,144 | 4,398 | \$20,666 |
| Main Bar 1 | 4,431 | 2,150 | 33,430 | Snack bar Misc. | 437 | 1,015 | 5,517 |
| Dining Room Bar | 6,006 | 7,247 | 19,421 | | \$3,581 | 5,413 | \$26,182 |
| Outdoor Service Bar | 8,915 | 3,688 | 66,356 | Bar Liquor | \$18,527 | \$31,031 | \$63,129 |
| Total | \$23,686 | \$28,838 | \$159,961 | Bar Misc. | 4,475 | 7,590 | 16,310 |
| Gift Shop | \$8,518 | \$7,829 | \$42,613 | | \$23,002 | 38,622 | \$79,439 |
| Pepsi | 6 | 3 | 3 | Gift Shop | \$7,261 | \$11,837 | \$30,826 |
| Non - Tax Misc. | 9,734 | 3,430 | 5,556 | Gift shop paid by UNA | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rents | 5,100 | 2,550 | 7,650 | | \$7,261 | \$11,837 | \$30,826 |
| Postage | 9 | 0 | 82 | | | | |
| Phone / Fax | 6 | 0 | 5 | | | | |

| EXHIBIT B | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Soyuzivka Income and Expense Summary For Six Months Ended June 30, 2007 and 2006 and for Year End December 31, 2006 | | | | | | | |
| | Six Months Ended June 30, 2007 | Six Months Ended June 30, 2006 | Year Ended Dec. 31, 2006 | | Six Months Ended June 30, 2007 | Six Months Ended June 30, 2006 | Year Ended Dec. 31, 2006 |
| DISBURSEMENTS | | | | | | | |
| Kitchen Misc. | \$3,817 | \$5,111 | \$11,318 | NY State Sales Tax | 12,379 | 8,797 | 89,306 |
| Dining Room | 8,680 | 14,061 | 36,962 | Payroll & payroll taxes | 187,747 | 209,902 | 592,288 |
| Housekeeping | 11,678 | 16,997 | 51,663 | Employee benefits | 35,543 | 67,037 | 113,892 |
| Electric, Gas, Oil | 89,246 | 103,487 | 195,949 | Occupancy tax | 516 | | 10,544 |
| Camps | 0 | 832 | 24,524 | Micro Retail System | | 0 | 1,374 |
| Sundries | 12,753 | 18,315 | 40,048 | Tips | 15,200 | 20,385 | 0 |
| Maintenance / Repairs | 38,263 | 55,562 | 103,367 | Liquor licenses expenses | 0 | 100 | 100 |
| Sanitation | 4,464 | 118 | 13,770 | Workmen's compensation | 427 | 764 | 8,711 |
| Real Estate Tax | 25,202 | 24,769 | 59,283 | Furniture & Fixtures | 0 | 1,249 | 1,249 |
| Insurance paid by UNA | 54,874 | 96,173 | 178,171 | Miscellaneous | 300 | 290 | 600 |
| Transportation | 1,425 | 3,636 | 7,810 | TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS | \$663,779 | \$872,766 | \$2,240,551 |
| Telephone | 7,654 | \$7,821 | 17,845 | Net loss before | | | |
| Office Expenses | 4,192 | 5,020 | 10,046 | Depreciation accrued expenses | -\$270,854 | -\$372,555 | -\$540,633 |
| Professional Fees | 428 | \$440 | 1,326 | DEPRECIATION | \$48,405 | \$47,449 | \$96,810 |
| Refunds | 1,767 | 342 | 2,292 | ACCRUAL OF EXPENSES- | | | |
| Entertainment | 4,500 | 7,822 | 43,590 | REVERSAL | -8,751 | -10,790 | -10,790 |
| Advertising | 905 | 1,709 | 3,004 | ACCRUAL OF EXPENSES | 25,788 | 24,138 | 8,751 |
| Bank charges / Bad checks | 4,667 | 5,817 | 49,171 | | | | |
| Furniture / Equipment | 4,519 | 22,773 | 38,521 | | | | |
| Gratuities | 13,725 | 21,075 | 111,420 | (NET LOSS) | -\$336,296 | -\$433,351 | -\$635,404 |

| EXHIBIT C | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly Publications Revenue and Expenses For Six Months Ended June 30, 2007 and 2006 and for Year Ended December 31, 2006 | | | | | | |
| | SIX MONTHS ENDED June 30, 2007 | | | SIX MONTHS ENDED June 30, 2006 | | |
| | SVOBODA | UKRAINIAN WEEKLY | TOTAL | SVOBODA | UKRAINIAN WEEKLY | TOTAL |
| INCOME: | | | | | | |
| Advertising revenue | \$115,187 | \$77,477 | \$192,663 | \$114,766 | \$71,541 | \$186,308 |
| Subscriber-members | 67,449 | 61,458 | 128,907 | 76,692 | 67,551 | 144,243 |
| Subscriber-nonmembers | 53,451 | 56,699 | 110,151 | 63,200 | 60,219 | 123,419 |
| Press fund | 9,480 | 13,034 | 22,514 | 9,645 | 11,132 | 20,777 |
| Back-issues | 104 | 87 | 190 | 53 | 109 | 162 |
| Address change | 20 | 7 | 27 | 33 | 9 | 42 |
| Misc. income | 1,312 | 1,341 | 2,653 | 810 | 1,463 | 2,273 |
| Preview of events | | 3,627 | 3,627 | | 1,716 | 1,716 |
| Income-Almanac | 29,932 | | 29,932 | 31,399 | | 31,399 |
| Advertising revenue-Almanac(Svoboda), UW 2000 | 1,770 | 0 | 1,770 | 1,656 | 0 | 1,656 |
| Books | 532 | | 532 | 810 | | 810 |
| Misc. | 792 | | 792 | 25 | | 25 |
| Almanac-PF | 10,370 | | 10,370 | 10,684 | | 10,684 |
| UW 2000 | | 0 | 0 | | 44 | 44 |
| UW 2000 P/F | | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Total cash income received directly by publications | \$290,399 | \$213,730 | \$504,129 | \$309,772 | \$213,784 | \$523,556 |
| Increase(decrease) in income due to amortization of deferred subscription income | 7,592 | 5,177 | 12,769 | -8,581 | -5,820 | -14,401 |
| Income received directly by UNA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 2,000 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$297,991 | \$218,907 | \$516,897 | \$302,190 | \$208,964 | \$511,154 |
| EXPENSES PAID BY PUBLICATION: | | | | | | |
| Postage | \$51,000 | \$51,000 | \$102,000 | 61,000 | 59,000 | 120,000 |
| Printing | 38,351 | 32,252 | 70,603 | 38,178 | 31,275 | 69,454 |
| Correspondents | -20 | 2,325 | 2,305 | 2,435 | 2,425 | 4,860 |
| Contract | 21,540 | 7,567 | 29,107 | 9,412 | 28,554 | 37,966 |
| Commission | 9,163 | 6,161 | 15,324 | 9,009 | 6,535 | 15,543 |
| Expenses | 1,777 | 1,127 | 2,904 | 5,194 | 3,087 | 8,282 |
| Misc. | 4,470 | 3,184 | 7,654 | 4,832 | 1,229 | 6,061 |
| Office supplies-60% | 2,466 | 2,553 | 5,019 | 5,763 | 3,103 | 8,867 |
| Material-60% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 975 | 650 | 1,624 |
| Repairs-60% | 1,507 | 1,004 | 2,511 | 2,031 | 1,354 | 3,385 |
| Office expense-60% | 1,141 | 805 | 1,946 | 1,197 | 798 | 1,995 |
| Correspondent-Almanac | 4,675 | | 4,675 | 5,668 | | 5,668 |
| Commission-Almanac | 877 | | 877 | 474 | | 474 |
| Printing-Misc | 10,953 | | 10,953 | 14,526 | | 14,526 |
| Postage-Misc | 4,620 | | 4,620 | 5,788 | | 5,788 |
| Books | -15 | | -15 | 0 | | 0 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES PAID BY PUBLICATION | \$152,504 | \$107,978 | \$260,483 | \$166,482 | \$138,011 | \$304,493 |

EXHIBIT C**Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly Publications Revenue and Expenses For Six Months Ended June 30, 2007 and 2006 and for Year Ended December 31, 2006**

| | SIX MONTHS ENDED June 30, 2007 | | | SIX MONTHS ENDED June 30, 2006 | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | SVOBODA | UKRAINIAN WEEKLY | TOTAL | SVOBODA | UKRAINIAN WEEKLY | TOTAL |
| EXPENSES PAID BY UNA: | | | | | | |
| Salaries and Payroll Taxes | \$114,597 | \$112,635 | \$227,232 | \$151,428 | \$111,414 | \$262,842 |
| Workmens compensation(allocated) | 395 | 459 | 854 | 428 | 498 | 926 |
| Employee benefits allocated from UNA | 32,489 | 26,996 | 59,485 | 71,658 | 41,176 | 112,835 |
| Miscellaneous Svoboda expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 105 | 105 | 210 |
| Telephone-allocated-65% & 35% | 1,950 | 1,050 | 3,000 | 1,950 | 1,050 | 3,000 |
| Postage-paid by UNA | 8,280 | 4,618 | 12,898 | 7,624 | 5,034 | 12,658 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES PAID BY UNA | \$157,711 | \$145,757 | \$303,468 | \$233,193 | \$159,277 | \$392,469 |
| Depreciation-60% & 40% | \$2,971 | \$1,982 | \$4,952 | 2,971 | 1,982 | 4,952 |
| Accruals-Net | -794 | -794 | -1,587 | -971 | -971 | -1,941 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$312,393 | \$254,923 | \$567,316 | \$401,675 | \$298,298 | \$699,973 |
| NET INCOME (LOSS) | -\$14,402 | -\$36,016 | -\$50,418 | -\$99,485 | -\$89,334 | -\$188,819 |

| | Year Ended December 31, 2006 | | |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | SVOBODA | UKRAINIAN WEEKLY | TOTAL |
| INCOME: | | | |
| Advertising revenue | \$204,380 | \$129,198 | \$333,578 |
| Subscriber-members | 150,098 | 132,013 | 282,111 |
| Subscriber-nonmembers | 122,942 | 124,146 | 247,088 |
| Press fund | 20,448 | 25,601 | 46,049 |
| Back-issues | 114 | 154 | 268 |
| Address change | 58 | 15 | 73 |
| Misc. income | 18,629 | 19,644 | 38,274 |
| Preveiw of events | | 5,138 | 5,138 |
| Income-Almanac | 32,959 | | 32,959 |
| Advertising revenue-Almanac(Svoboda), UW 2000 | 4,832 | 0 | 4,832 |
| Books | 1,135 | | 1,135 |
| Misc. | 121 | | 121 |
| Almanac-PF | 11,000 | | 11,000 |
| UW 2000 | | 132 | 132 |
| UW 2000 P/F | | 10 | 10 |
| Total cash income received directly by publications | \$566,714 | \$436,051 | \$1,002,765 |
| Increase(decrease) in income due to amortization of deferred subscription income | -2,439 | -5,194 | -7,634 |
| Income received directly by UNA | 1,000 | 1,000 | 2,000 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$565,275 | \$431,857 | \$997,131 |
| EXPENSES PAID BY PUBLICATION: | | | |
| Postage | \$118,004 | \$114,000 | \$232,004 |
| Printing | 90,525 | 73,809 | 164,334 |
| Correspondents | 6,750 | 6,410 | 13,160 |
| Contract | 35,106 | 59,281 | 94,387 |
| Commission | 18,343 | 13,339 | 31,683 |
| Expenses | 9,503 | 3,901 | 13,404 |
| Misc. | 6,406 | 3,580 | 9,986 |
| Office supplies-60% | 8,940 | 4,801 | 13,741 |
| Material-60% | 2,924 | 1,949 | 4,873 |
| Repairs-60% | 5,081 | 3,449 | 8,530 |
| Office expense-60% | 6,856 | 4,477 | 11,333 |
| Correspondent-Almanac | 5,668 | | 5,668 |
| Commission-Almanac | 936 | | 936 |
| Printing-Misc | 14,526 | | 14,526 |
| Postage-Misc | 5,788 | | 5,788 |
| Books | 130 | | 130 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES PAID BY PUBLICATION | \$335,484 | \$288,997 | \$624,481 |
| EXPENSES PAID BY UNA: | | | |
| Salaries and Payroll Taxes | \$276,150 | \$219,041 | \$495,190 |
| Workmens compensation(allocated) | 428 | 498 | 926 |
| Employee benefits allocated from UNA | 71,658 | 41,176 | 112,835 |
| Miscellaneous Svoboda expenses | 105 | 105 | 210 |
| Telephone-allocated-65% & 35% | 3,900 | 2,100 | 6,000 |
| Postage-paid by UNA | 15,547 | 9,993 | 25,540 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES PAID BY UNA | \$419,772 | \$304,308 | \$724,079 |
| Depreciation-60% & 40% | \$5,942 | \$3,962 | \$9,904 |
| Accruals-Net | -4,363 | -4,363 | -8,725 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$756,835 | \$592,904 | \$1,349,739 |
| NET INCOME (LOSS) | -\$191,560 | -\$161,048 | -\$352,607 |

| EXHIBIT D | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| UNURC Income Statement For Six Months Ended June 30, 2007 and 2006 and for Year Ended December 31, 2006 | | | |
| | Six Months Ended June 30, 2007 | Six Months Ended June 30, 2006 | Year Ended December 31, 2006 |
| INCOME | | | |
| Rental Income | \$574,298 | 627,777 | \$1,377,522 |
| Electric reimbursements | 39,777 | 46,189 | 93,264 |
| Interest Income | 36,364 | 9,462 | 19,794 |
| Net profit from sale of Building | 4,626,558 | 0 | 0 |
| | \$5,276,996 | \$683,428 | \$1,490,580 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | | | |
| Accounting | \$8,010 | \$7,864 | \$7,864 |
| Bank Service Charge | 240 | 265 | 405 |
| Commissions | 293,369 | 0 | 41,010 |
| Depreciation Expense-Building | 58,425 | 70,368 | 140,050 |
| Donations | 100 | -428 | 325 |
| Employee Benefits | 3,525 | 50 | 10,061 |
| Elevator Maintenance | 2,658 | 6,331 | 5,753 |
| Heat & A/C Maintenance | 22,528 | 3,542 | 49,104 |
| Insurance | 32,014 | 36,414 | 61,148 |
| Interest expenses-UNA Mort | 70,415 | 84,498 | 168,996 |
| Interest expenses-UNA Memb | 72,209 | 75,985 | 154,738 |
| Janitorial Services | 21,664 | 22,514 | 44,078 |
| Legal fees | 0 | 0 | -6,500 |
| Management Fee | 23,711 | 23,323 | 49,104 |
| Maintenance & Supplies | 25,060 | 19,188 | 44,320 |
| Permits & Fees | 380 | 405 | 995 |
| Postage & Travel | 712 | 146 | 223 |
| Professional Fees | 1,750 | 0 | 0 |
| Rubbish Removal | 3,169 | 4,072 | 7,783 |
| Salaries | 10,807 | 9,033 | 16,182 |
| Security Guard Services | 2,081 | 5,135 | 10,176 |
| Taxes-Payroll | 965 | 819 | 1,417 |
| Taxes-Real Estate | 68,238 | 74,544 | 158,436 |
| Utilities | 80,375 | 95,332 | 193,734 |
| Water & Sewer | 14,045 | 12,258 | 39,491 |
| | \$816,450 | \$603,078 | \$1,198,891 |
| NET INCOME | \$4,460,546 | \$80,350 | \$291,688 |

| EXHIBIT D-1 | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| UNURC Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006 | | |
| Assets | 6/30/07 | 12/31/06 |
| Current Assets | | |
| Cash in Bank-Summit-Checking | \$53,023 | \$73,956 |
| Cash in Bank-Self Reliance UA FCU-Checking | 340,667 | 130,205 |
| Cash in Bank-Self Reliance UA FCU-Savings | 35,922 | 30,385 |
| Cash in Bank-Paine Webber | 7,727,857 | 406,990 |
| Rents receivable and Prepaid Expenses | 47,794 | 91,798 |
| Due from UNA | 38,847 | -1,623 |
| Sundry Receivable | 75,000 | |
| | \$8,319,111 | \$731,712 |
| Fixed Assets | | |
| Land | \$0 | \$1,520,782 |
| Building and Improvements | 0 | 5,469,720 |
| Furniture and Fixtures | 0 | 23,951 |
| Accumulated Depreciation-Building and Improvements | 0 | -1,230,256 |
| Accumulated Depreciation-Furniture & Fixtures | 0 | -23,951 |
| | \$0 | \$5,760,246 |
| Other Assets | | |
| Cash in Bank-Self Reliance UA FCU Savings-Security Deposit | \$51,377 | \$40,577 |
| Build-Out Receivable | 0 | 1,738 |
| Deferred Commission Charges | 0 | 293,369 |
| Escrow Deposit | 18,000 | 15,000 |
| | \$69,377 | \$350,684 |
| Total Assets | \$8,388,488 | \$6,842,642 |
| Liabilities and Deficiency in Net Assets | | |
| Current Liabilities | | |
| Accrued expenses | \$2,150 | \$47,106 |
| Due to HRA | -14,323 | -11,957 |
| | -\$12,173 | \$35,149 |
| Long Term Liabilities | | |
| Mortgage Note Payable to UNA | \$0 | \$2,600,000 |
| Notes Payable to Memebers of UNA | 2,734,151 | 2,927,703 |
| Tenants' security Deposits Payable | 0 | 73,826 |
| | \$2,734,151 | \$5,601,529 |
| Net Assets | | |
| Balance at Beginning of Year | 1,205,964 | 914,276 |
| Net profit | 4,460,546 | 291,688 |
| Net deficiency in Assets at End of Period | \$5,666,510 | \$1,205,964 |
| Total Liabilities and Net deficiencym in Net Assets | \$8,388,488 | \$6,842,642 |

Звіт першого заступника Предсідника УНСоюзу Зенона Голубця

Під час 36-ої Конвенції Українського Народного Союзу, що відбувся у травні минулого року на Союзівці, мене обрано на позицію першого заступника предсідника й рівночасно членом Екзекутиви нашої організації.

Як член Екзекутиви я брав участь у засіданні цього діла 15 вересня 2006 року у Головному бюрі у Парсипані, а відтак у пленумі Головного уряду 16-го й 17-го вересня на Союзівці. Я також брав участь у засіданнях Екзекутиви 23 березня і 6-го липня 2007 року у Головному бюрі в Парсипані. На усіх засіданнях я брав активну участь у дискусіях і рішеннях, ділившись своїми думками й порадами на добро Українського Народного Союзу. У березні цього року взяв участь як представник Екзекутиви у Річних загальних зборах Клівлендської округи, де я поінформував присутніх секретарів відділів про діяльність Екзекутиви, як і про поточні справи, що торкають проектів, над якими Екзекутива працює.

Я займаю позицію секретаря 358-го Відділу УНС в Клівленді. За звітний час я придбав двох нових членів.

Зенон Голубець, 1-ий заступник Предсідника, придбав 1-го члена за цей звітний час.



Зенон Голубець

Report of UNA Second Vice-President Michael Koziupa

This has been a very interesting year. The UNA is in a major transition period.

I have attended all the Executive Board meetings. Working in the same building as the main office of UNA, I have also had numerous opportunities to speak to the President, Treasurer and National Secretary at various times between Board meetings. These three Executive members are paid to do the everyday work of the corporation. In my capacity, I have the opportunity to advise and to input ideas; to be a new set of eyes; to help approach situations from a different perspective. I have tried to bring this new perspective based on my over 30 years of being involved in a number of



Michael Koziupa

Ukrainian-American community organizations and institutions, as well as my educational business background, and my varied practical experience in the business world.

The over 100 year history of the UNA is a long and proud one. From the early days of helping the coal miners with life insurance to protect their families, to helping Ukrainian immigrants recognize what it meant to be Ukrainian, the UNA as played a vital role in the everyday life of Ukrainians in America.

But with time there come changes. Conditions in the 21st century are dramatically different from even 25 years ago. The heart of the UNA is the selling of insurance and annuities. When you have a strong heart, you can work on having a strong body. The Executive has been looking at how to strengthen the core business. This calls for some new, but important changes, new approaches in the selling of insurance. With this new income being generated by the insurance and annuity products, the fraternal benefits can be fully supported.

'Svoboda' and 'The Ukrainian Weekly' are cultural jewels created by the UNA. The other fraternal benefit is our beloved "Soyuzivka". But to put out a newspaper or run a heritage center, you need to have money. We have seen net losses of over half-a-million dollars every year from these fraternal benefits. Historically money to cover these losses has come from the profits from selling insurance. It is obvious, if the money runs short, the fraternal benefits will sooner or later have to suffer. We must remember that the insurance policies and annuities must take precedence, as these are under the direct audit of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance, and these policies help protect Ukrainian families.

The Executive board has been struggling with finding solutions to this situation. One of the ways that we as members of the Executive Board, as well as the members of the General Assembly, as well as our general membership, can help is by being the UNA's salespeople.

I have taken every opportunity, at whatever function that I attend, to promote the interests of the UNA and its members. I have met with the Consul from Ukraine Mr. Mykola Kyrychenko, when attending functions at the Consulate of Ukraine in New York City. I have met with the new Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations, Mr. Yuriy A. Sergeev. I have been appointed by the Governor to be a member of the New Jersey Ethnic Advisory Council, and I attend their meetings and represent Ukrainian-Americans in New Jersey on the Council. I also had the opportunity to travel to Phoenix, Arizona, where I met with the Ukrainian community and was able to give some historical background on the UNA, and explained the benefits for the individual members and the Ukrainian-American community as a whole.

My belief is that the UNA (as well as almost all the Ukrainian-American organiza-

tions today) is in the process of finding its unique place in the Ukrainian-American community in the 21st century.

From the business side, the UNA is a fraternal insurance company. This is the side that supplies the money. This side must be strengthened. The Executive Board is encouraging the day-to-day executives to put their major focus on this problem first and foremost.

From the fraternal side, the UNA offers benefits to their membership. The most outward benefits everyone knows are the newspapers and the Soyuzivka Resort. Depending on the community, area of the country, or what country, that the UNA branch is located in, there are other ways that the UNA can help its members – by sponsoring sports teams, or choirs, or different types of clubs; in particular, helping the branch members be in touch with the Ukrainian language, traditions and culture. The UNA should help organize those members that do not have the opportunity of other specific Ukrainian American community organizations to help them be and feel Ukrainian. There are many areas of the country that do not have a Plast, or a SUM or other local Ukrainian-American organizations. Special emphasis should be on the 3rd and 4th generation of Ukrainian-Americans, those that tend to say “my grandfather was Ukrainian.” So are they! We should also help the new immigrants from Ukraine settle into the American ways, which is the continuation of the original work of the UNA over one hundred years ago.

The past convention reaffirmed their want to see the present fraternal benefits continue. From the emotional side, we all want this. But from the practical and legal side, we must look to center our efforts on the core of our corporation – insurance and annuities. As we find solutions to this problem, we will naturally help to continue and expand on the fraternal benefits to our members and the Ukrainian-American community as a whole.

Michael Koziupa, Second Vice-President did not sign up any members in this reporting period.

Звіт Директора для Канади Мирона Гроха

Мій перший звіт як директора на Канаду охоплює час від червня 2006 року по кінець серпня 2007 року.

За цей час я брав участь в нарадах Екзекутивного Комітету Українського Народного Союзу два рази і один раз через телефон.

Також мав нагоду репрезентувати УНСоюз на концерті з забавою в честь Івасюка, де ми були одні з спонзорів цього вечора. Під час вечора я був представлений як директор на Канаду і мав нагоду представити УНСоюз для четвертої хвилі емігрантів в Торонто.



Мирон Грох

Рівнож мав переговори з секретарями Торонта що до зорганізованя Округи, яка на жаль не існує, бо нема кому очолити. Поки що мені цього не вдалось, але маю надію, що це мені вдасться. Проблема є що секретарі є незадоволені з рішення, що як секретар не дістане трьох членів на рік, він не дістає винагороди.

Цю справу нам на Екзекутивному засіданні треба порушити і подивитись, чи ми з цього скористали, чи втратили.

Як секретар відділу стараюсь по змозі приєднувати нових членів і притримуватись квоти.

Щодо Канади на загал, то нема нічого кращого, як і в Америці. Надалі є потрібні організатори, щоб могли помагати секретарям в приєднанні нових членів. Було б бажаним, щоб хтось з Головного Уряду, або організатор навідувались до Округ і до Відділів бодай раз до року, щоб пожавити працю у Відділах.

На закінчення мого звіту я складаю щирю подяку членам Головної Екзекутиви, зокрема складаю щирю подяку для Головної Секретарки, Організаторки, Округним комітетам Канади і Америки, як рівнож усім працюючим секретарям, що причинились до придбання членів для розбудови нашого Батька Союзу.

Мирон Грох, Директор на Канаду, придбав 1-го члена за цей звітний час.

Report of UNA National Secretary Christine E. Kozak

Redesigning the UNA for the 21st Century

The UNA was founded to promote the principals of fraternalism, to help others, to preserve the Ukrainian heritage and culture but most importantly to provide financial products and benefits to its members. This is what a fraternal benefit society is all about. For 113 years, the UNA has been serving its members with stable, solid, straightforward, affordable insurance and annuity products. The principals of fraternalism, the affordability of and the need for insurance products are as valid today as they were in 1894. UNA's life insurance products are designed to help families have the financial support needed to carry on and give them the ability to live life without having to sacrifice more than they have already lost.

In today's world, many individuals are financially astute or rather believe they are. Not everyone is market savvy. Many can withstand the volatility and uncertainty of the market; yet there are those that neither want to participate, cannot afford to invest in the market nor do they wish to have their nerves shattered on an almost daily basis due to market fluctuations. These are the people to whom UNA must market. The husband, the wife, the mother or father who wish to protect their family, the individuals who would like to purchase the \$50,000 or the \$100,000 life insurance policy. These are potential UNA members, people who have been abandoned by the large



Christine E. Kozak

insurance companies who are no longer interested in catering to the small policy holder. These are all potential members for UNA.

As a non-profit fraternal benefit society, the UNA provides security to members through affordable insurance and annuity products, no-cost and low cost fraternal benefits, and branch affiliation which allow members to help each other and their communities in time of need. By owning a UNA life insurance policy, our members and their families are protected for all the seasons of their lives. With UNA life insurance products and annuities UNA members can achieve that elusive “Peace of Mind” we all seem to be searching for.

For the purposes of continuity in this report, the last six months of 2006 will be addressed, following by the first 6 months of 2007.

One of the first post convention responsibilities was the mailing of notification to all UNA members advising of an increase in UNA membership dues from \$3.00 annually to \$5.00 annually as approved by the 36th UNA Quadrennial Convention at Soyuzivka, May 2006. And as mandated by the Federal Government, Privacy Notices were mailed to all UNA members, active, paid-up and on extended term.

Production and organizing

Production for the last half of 2006 was a little more tentative than the 1st half of 2006. In preparation for the UNA Convention, UNA secretaries gave it their all in the Pre-Convention Sales Blitz, however, most branch secretaries continued their drive right into summer of 2006, traditionally a much slower time of year. During the last quarter of 2006 UNA held its 3rd Annual Life Insurance Awareness Drive. The three branch secretaries which took top honors are:

1st Place: Lubov Streletsky, secretary, Branch 10, Philadelphia, Pa.

2nd Place: Stephanie Hawryluk, secretary, Branch 88, Kerhonkson, N.Y.

3rd Place: Maya Lew, member of the UNA General Assembly, secretary Branch 5, New York, N.Y.

Congratulations ladies on a job well done!

One of the most important streams of revenue is the premium that is collected with the life insurance or annuity application. For the last six months of 2006, UNA would like to congratulate the following individuals for collecting the most premium with application:

Christine Brodyn, secretary, Branch 27, Springfield, N.J.

Myron Pylypiak, member of the UNA General Assembly, secretary, Branch 496, Seattle, Wash.

Maya Lew, member of the UNA General Assembly, secretary, Branch 5, New York, N.Y.

In total, for the last six months of 2006, UNA sold 142 policies with an annual premium of \$60,337 for a face amount of \$1,612,000 and 8 annuities which totaled \$206,851.

During the last 6 months of 2006, the UNA struggled to keep their annuity rates marketable. Unfortunately, due to the higher interest offered on CD's in banks and other financial institutions, the UNA was unable to finish the year with a strong annuity showing. However, the UNA did begin to increase its annuity interest rates toward the latter part of the year with much more positive results coming in 2007.

The following sold the most in annuity premiums in the last six months of 2006:

Steve Woch, licensed agent, UNA employee

Eugene Serba, member of the UNA General Assembly, Mt. Laurel, N.J.

The top three states to produce the most New Business for the July 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006 were:

| | <u>Life Premium</u> | <u>Annuity Premium</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| New Jersey | 15,512.20 | \$106,153.90 | \$121,666.10 |
| Pennsylvania | 7,016.71 | 98,421.57 | 105,438.28 |
| New York | 17,225.65 | 1,278.56 | 18,504.21 |

Currently, the UNA Districts have a self-prescribed quota of the number of policies sold by each district. In keeping with that tradition the following are the top three districts as pertaining to their quota of Life Insurance only during *January 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006:

| <u>District</u> | <u>Policy Count</u> | <u>Face Amount</u> | <u>Quota Achieved</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| North NJ | 42 | 615,000 | 42% |
| Philadelphia | 39 | 553,000 | 27% |
| New York | 37 | 436,000 | 38% |

*The last six months of June-December 2006 are not available for district breakdown

During the last quarter of 2006, the UNA experienced cut backs and changes as tasks and various duties were redistributed, redirected and reorganized all a product of UNA's “Restructuring for the 21st Century.” I especially would like to thank the staff of UNA for doing a wonderful job; Year-end is an exceptionally stressful time at the UNA and to experience cut-backs and re-shifting of responsibilities and doing such a great job with the Annual Statement is a testament to the loyalty, perseverance and dedication of UNA's staff. Thank you to all! I would also like to thank Oksana Trytjak for her team work, for volunteering to take upon herself additional responsibilities, keeping the work flow moving, without interruptions, as we searched and trained a new hire to fill a position left vacant. All UNA employees went the extra mile; their efforts were very much appreciated and have not gone unseen.

Secretarial courses were held at Soyuzivka in October 2006. Most participants were new branch secretaries and new members of the General Assembly who received an intensive three day course on UNA products and the rate book in the form of a power point presentation.

The power point presentation titled “UNA RATE BOOK AND TUTORIAL” is a concise informational presentation, giving an understanding of how to use the UNA rate book, how to calculate premiums, underwriting, etc and is now available on CD for presentation and also available for viewing on www.ukrainiannationalassociation.org, sub-menu Branch Secretaries and Field Agents Resource Center. Guest speaker Lida Prokop, with over 20 years of experience in the financial industry, spoke about the importance of life insurance and how to help your members achieve that “Peace of Mind”.

A Secretarial Refresher Course was held in Hartford, Ct. an intense one-day presentation of the Rate Book and UNA products. Participants of both courses felt it was time well spent gleaned valuable information to share with their members and prospective members.

The New York district organized an informational event for UNA to showcase its achievements, both fraternal and financial along with UNA's product line available to all in a presentation titled “UNA and the Community; Partners for Life”.

For a third year, UNA mailed out Gift Packages to Ukrainian/American service personnel stationed overseas during the Christmas Season. The UNA encourages all members to forward the addresses of service personnel they know that are stationed

overseas and we will happily mail them a Gift Package from the UNA. This is but a small show of support for the men and women that are putting their lives on the line to protect our everyday freedom's which we at times take for granted.

As stated previously, the first six months of 2006 were quite active as the "Pre-Convention Sales Blitz" was under way. During the first two quarters in 2006 UNA branch secretaries sold 179 life insurance policies totaling \$1,702,000 in face amount with \$61,547 collected premium with application; this in combination with the field agents who sold 12 policies 160,000 in face amount for a \$2,944 in premium with applications gave a six month total of 191 life insurance policies with \$1,862,000 in face amount with a total of \$64,491 premium with application. Annuities premium came in at \$294,276 from field agents and \$84,092 in annuity premium for UNA branch secretaries for a total of \$378,368 for the first six months of 2006.

In comparison, for the first six of 2007, UNA sold 150 life insurance policies with a face amount of \$3,687,141; field agents sold 3 policies for \$60,000 face amount and a premium of \$442. In total for the first six months of 2007, UNA sold 153, a face amount of \$3,747,141 and a premium of \$111,985. Annuities for 2007 brought in by UNA branch secretaries accounted for 17 annuities with a premium of \$265,298, together with UNA field agents who sold 11 annuities with \$513,519 in premium totaling 28 annuities for \$778,817 for the first six months 2007.

The top three states to produce most new business for January 1, 2007 – June 30, 2007 are:

| | <u>Life Premium</u> | <u>Annuity Premium</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Pennsylvania | \$18,211.54 | \$456,988.63 | \$475,200.17 |
| New Jersey | 25,085.30 | 237,727.50 | 262,812.82 |
| Illinois | 1,260.10 | 48,000.00 | 49,260.10 |

In keeping with tradition, the following UNA Districts sold the most life insurance policies for reporting period January 1, 2007 – June 30, 2007:

| <u>District</u> | <u>Policy Count</u> | <u>Face Amount</u> | <u>Quota Achieved</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| North NJ | 25 | \$ 474,000 | 25% |
| Cleveland | 20 | 147,000 | 80% |
| New York | 16 | 1,396,000 | 16% |
| Philadelphia | 16 | 856,000 | 11% |

Please note the quota is a self imposed quota prescribed by each individual district.

For the first six months of 2007 the following branch secretaries have brought in the most life insurance premium:

Oksana Trytjak, secretary, Branch 25, N.J. National Organizer

Lubov Streletsky, secretary, Branch 10, Philadelphia, Pa.

John Holowatyj, secretary, Branch 53, Philadelphia, Pa.

Eugene Oscislowski, member of the UNA General Assembly, secretary, Branch 234, Flemington, N.J.

The top individuals who have brought in the *most annuity premiums* during the first six months of 2007 are:

Steve Woch, professional sales, Home Office employee, Parsippany, N.Y.

Gloria Paschen, secretary, Branch 125, Inverness, Ill.

Judith Hawryluk, secretary, Branch 360, Buffalo, N.Y.

The overall top individuals, combining life insurance premiums AND annuity premiums are:

Steve Woch, professional sales, Home Office employee, Parsippany, N.J.

Gloria Paschen, secretary, Branch 125, Inverness, Ill.

Oksana Trytjak, secretary, Branch 25, N.J. National Organizer, N.J.

With the beginning of each New Year, UNA continues its tradition of having a sales contest. 2007 was no exception as we kicked it off with "UNA's 113th Birthday Sales Blitz," beginning February 1 through June 30, 2007. The winner's of this year's Birthday Contest are:

1st Place – Eugene Oscislowski, member of the UNA General Assembly, secretary, Branch 234, Flemington, N.J.

2nd Place – Alice Olenchuk, secretary Branch 112, Parma, Ohio

3rd Place – Lubov Streletsky, secretary Branch 10, Philadelphia, Pa.

Congratulations to all on a productive first half of 2007 and wishing you the best for UNA's "Fourth Annual Life Insurance Awareness Drive" beginning September 1, 2007 through December 20, 2007.

New Medical Examiner

Effective March 2007, UNA's long time Medical Examiner, Dr. Bohdan Shebunchak retired. UNA's Medical Examiner is responsible to examine, approve or decline for medical reasons, each and every life insurance application issued by the UNA. The UNA welcomed Dr. Bohdar Woroch, member of UNA Branch 25, as he assumed all responsibilities of the position of UNA Medical Examiner. The UNA would like to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Woroch in his new position and wish him many years of success in working with the UNA for the good of its membership and the greater Ukrainian community.

And at the same time, UNA would like to extend our most sincere gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Bohdan Shebunchak, a member of Branch 25, a convention delegate, who spent 25 years as UNA's Medical Examiner. Dr. Shebunchak's years of dedicated service to the UNA have warranted many well wishes and all the best for a much deserved retirement. The Ukrainian Community and UNA paid their respects to the following:

Andrew Keybida, Secretary Branch 322 and UNA Supreme Advisor, passed on July 5, 2006

Olga Berejan, Secretary Branch 144, passed on May 3, 2007

Vichna Yim Pamiat

Agency Building

The UNA continues to build on its foundation with a multi-pronged effort in the most vital area of all-sales. It is the sale of UNA Life Insurance and Annuities that financially supports Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation and both UNA publications. It is through the sale of UNA Life Insurance and Annuities that makes it possible for your young children to attend summer camps at Soyuzivka, to attend dance camps at Soyuzivka, to attend sports camps at Soyuzivka, and your young adults to dance the night away at the zabavy at Soyuzivka. However, the UNA can no longer depend on just the UNA branch secretary to sell life insurance and annuities. The UNA branch secretary is no longer capable of carrying the responsibility entirely on their shoulders,

and must be complimented by other revenue generators in the form of professional sales people. The UNA has been actively recruiting in professional sales journals to contract with licensed independent professionals in 5 different states; Pennsylvania, Illinois, Florida, Michigan, Ohio.

The recruitment of agents will always be ongoing, since agents come on board and agents leave. It is a constant revolving door; but with persistence, solid products, a licensed professional office staff and good customer service, UNA can build a core of loyal professional agents to sell the products. UNA hired an employee who is responsible in assisting the professional agents and keeping in contact with the agents. The more attention the UNA dedicates to servicing these professionals, keeping the UNA in the forefront, the more successful UNA will become in growing that loyal core of professionals. With an employee specifically dedicated to this task, the UNA is cultivating and building a relationship, an environment of trust and loyalty that can translate into more meaningful and better business on the books. This is a long process, but a necessary step for the future of the UNA.

Regulations

The UNA, as a fraternal benefit society is regulated not only by the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance, but also by each and every state and Canadian province where we are licensed to sell life insurance and annuities. This means that UNA must comply with each states' regulations as to the procedures, issuance, wording of contract to name a few, in 14 states in the U.S. and 7 Canadian provinces where UNA sells its products. In 2007, the UNA began issuing the CIP form (Customer Identification Program) a federally mandated requirement which is part of the USA Patriot Act. The CIP accompanies each and every life insurance and annuity application.

For consumer protection, the NAIC (National Association of Insurance Commissioners) revised its Senior Protection in Annuity Transactions Model making it applicable to all consumers; thus UNA must include the "Acknowledgement of Suitability in an Annuity Purchase" and "Suitability of Annuity Purchase" form with each annuity application. These forms become a part of UNA's permanent record of transaction between the agent and the member and are a source of protection for the consumer. There are some states which require forms to be filled out for replacement of life insurance and/or annuities, while other states require customers or members to have 20 – 45 days Right to Cancel a policy or annuity if they so desire.

Due to the change in the minimum standard valuation laws, the UNA's 5 year annuity minimum rate, which is the guaranteed minimum rate used to calculate the reserve basis for annuities was lowered to 3%. The currently paid interest rates on UNA annuities continue to be excellent rates paying 5.35% on the Multi Year and 5.85% on the Bonus Annuity.

UNA's web-site

The UNA's web-site, www.ukrainiannationalassociation.org is a work in progress. Visitors to the web-site are able to e-mail questions, concerns, issues directly to the UNA Home Office. The UNA receives inquiries from the web-site on a daily basis.

The most comprehensive addition to the web-site is the "UNA Resource Center for Branch Secretaries and Field Agents." The purpose of this password protected site is to act as the resource center and sales toolkit for any organizer, branch secretary or field agent of the UNA – providing any materials necessary for the success of the UNA's sales force.

This Resource Center gives access to the UNA branch secretaries and field agents to download UNA brochures, flyers, utilize the UNA Rate Book Tutorial, gather information on UNA products. It also allows for accessing compliance information that may pertain to the individual states where UNA products are being sold and UNA company policy procedures such as the UNA Conversation Policy or UNA Advertising Procedures.

I would like to thank Maya Lew, member of the UNA General Assembly, secretary of Branch 5 for her dedication to UNA, for being instrumental in the creation of the UNA Resource Center, for being the administrator of the Resource Center and for volunteering so much time and effort in the process of "Redesigning the UNA for the 21st Century."

UNA products

The UNA has begun the long process of converting our product line to the 2001 Mortality Table which goes to age 121. The current mortality table being used goes to age 100. The mandatory change over will proceed on a plan by plan basis. With the adoption of the new mortality table, reserves will be lower thereby allowing for lower premium rates, especially at the older ages.

The UNA is adding 2 new products to the product portfolio; 20 year term life insurance policy with an optional refund of premium rider immediate annuity.

The 20 year term life insurance plan premiums are level and payable for 20 years. This plan can be converted to any permanent plan for the same or lesser amount of insurance, without evidence of insurability before the end of 20 years. At the end of 20 years, the policy expires without value.

With the optional refund of premium rider, at the end of the 20 years the return of premium benefit returns the premiums actually paid to the insured.

An immediate annuity will allow one to convert a lump sum of money into an immediate stream of income. Payments generally start about one month after the annuity is purchased and provide supplemental income which you cannot outlive. Fixed immediate annuity income payments are calculated by the amount contributed, age of the individual and the interest rate at the time of purchase. The payments to the individual will not increase nor will they decrease, but will remain the same during the lifetime of the individual.

The addition of both products will further expand UNA's product portfolio giving the organizer/branch secretary or licensed producer the opportunity to present a larger variety of term products and annuities and the potential member will have the opportunity to choose from a wider variety of products.

As we move forward it is exciting to see the positive changes that are taking place and to be part of the process of "Reorganizing for the 21st Century." It does however take a concerted effort between the branch secretaries, the districts, the members of the General Assembly working together with the Executive Committee in accomplishing and bringing to fruition the many great plans and proposals being presented. I firmly believe that together we can continue to foster the fraternal and the Ukrainian spirit of community. Together we can give the UNA members the helping hand extended by our forefathers to continue to build and thrive for only together can the UNA and the Community be Partners for Life.

| UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC. 2006 UNA Agent Recap Report – New Business – CWA Collected Only – July 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006 | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Named | Life | Face amount | Ann. prem. | Sgl. Prem | Total Life Prem. |
| Woch, Steve | 2 | 20,000 | 468.00 | 310.00 | 778.00 |
| Brodyn, Christine | 8 | 80,000 | 1,174.95 | 8,467.00 | 9,641.95 |
| ***** Pylypiak, Myron | 4 | 34,000 | 974.80 | 8,393.00 | 9,367.80 |
| ***** Lew, Maya | 4 | 75,000 | 7,905.40 | | 7,905.40 |
| Banach, Joseph | 3 | 15,000 | 2,665.80 | | 2,665.80 |
| Streletsky, Lubov | 8 | 80,000 | 3,400.55 | | 3,400.55 |
| Hawryluk, Stephanie | 16 | 80,000 | 501.15 | 2,010.00 | 2,511.15 |
| Lischak, Maria | 4 | 35,000 | 2,078.75 | | 2,078.75 |
| Matiash, Eli | 8 | 40,000 | 2,041.85 | | 2,041.85 |
| Welhasch, Stephan | 4 | 180,000 | 1,467.45 | | 1,467.45 |
| Milanytch, Motria | 3 | 30,000 | 1,434.60 | | 1,434.60 |
| Kaploun, Valentina | 5 | 25,000 | 274.00 | 1,035.00 | 1,309.00 |
| Paschen, Gloria | 1 | 5,000 | | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| Trytjak, Oksana | 1 | 20,000 | 1,200.00 | | 1,200.00 |
| Salabay, Nadia | 2 | 10,000 | 1,100.20 | | 1,100.20 |
| ***** Horbaty, Gloria | 3 | 20,000 | 897.65 | | 897.65 |
| Romanyshyn, Basil | 2 | 15,000 | 819.80 | | 819.80 |
| ***** Oscislawski, Eugene | 2 | 20,000 | 744.20 | | 744.20 |
| Platosz, Adam | 2 | 15,000 | 349.60 | 300.00 | 649.60 |
| Bilchuk, Nina | 1 | 3,000 | 567.00 | | 567.00 |
| Maryniuk, Andrew | 2 | 15,000 | 557.05 | | 557.05 |
| Kuzio, Myron | 2 | 20,000 | 550.50 | | 550.50 |
| Kotlar, Julian | 3 | 15,000 | 524.40 | | 524.40 |
| Hawryluk, Judy | 1 | 10,000 | 258.20 | | 258.20 |
| Boland, Genet | 6 | 55,000 | 379.70 | | 379.70 |
| Kaploun, Valia | 1 | 100,000 | 373.00 | | 373.00 |
| Prociuk, Ulana | 4 | 33,000 | 37.50 | 327.00 | 364.50 |
| Diakiwsky, Nicholas | 3 | 25,000 | 363.45 | | 363.45 |
| Lysiak, Stefan | 1 | 5,000 | | 330.00 | 330.00 |
| Markus, Oksana | 1 | 5,000 | 310.00 | | 310.00 |
| Miskiv, Tatiana | 2 | 20,000 | 287.40 | | 287.40 |
| ***** Serba, Eugene | 2 | 10,000 | 278.25 | | 278.25 |
| Jacewicz, Ann Marie | 1 | 5,000 | 260.30 | | 260.30 |
| Maruszczak, Olga | 2 | 15,000 | 253.85 | | 253.85 |
| Kotch, Joyce | 2 | 30,000 | 246.40 | | 246.40 |
| Hawryluk, Joseph | 1 | 25,000 | 218.00 | | 218.00 |
| Olenchuk, Alice | 1 | 5,000 | 217.00 | | 217.00 |
| Redko, Alex | 2 | 40,000 | 202.60 | | 202.60 |
| Twardowsky, Omelan | 1 | 5,000 | 177.05 | | 177.05 |
| Krywyj, Vira | 2 | 50,000 | 175.50 | | 175.50 |
| Hawrylcw, Peter | 1 | 5,000 | 174.80 | | 174.80 |
| Shean, Michael | 1 | 5,000 | 157.75 | | 157.75 |
| Semeniak, Walter | 1 | 45,000 | 110.95 | | 110.95 |
| ***** Hawrysz, Stefan | 3 | 30,000 | 37.50 | | 37.50 |
| Total | 129 | 1,375,000 | 36,216.90 | 21,472.00 | 57,688.90 |
| Field Agents | | | | | |
| Dochinez, Peter | 9 | 135,000 | 763.25 | | 763.25 |
| Reeves, Gary | 3 | 55,000 | 1,690.30 | | 1,690.30 |
| Grant, Joseph | 1 | 47,000 | 195.61 | | 195.61 |
| Devito, Dominic | | | | | |
| Hordubay, Sr. Edward | | | | | |
| Zapach, Joseph | | | | | |
| Total | 13 | 237,000 | 2,649.16 | | 2,649.16 |
| Grand Total | 142 | 1,612,000 | 38,866.06 | 21,372 | 60,338.06 |
| Named | Annuity | Premium | Total Life & Ann. | Total Prem Collected | |
| Woch, Steve | 1 | 106,153.90 | 3 | 106,931.90 | |
| Brodyn, Christine | | | 8 | 9,641.95 | |
| ***** Pylypiak, Myron | | | 4 | 9,367.80 | |
| ***** Lew, Maya | | | 4 | 7,905.40 | |
| Banach, Joseph | 1 | 1,078.56 | 4 | 3,744.36 | |
| Streletsky, Lubov | | | 8 | 3,400.55 | |
| Hawryluk, Stephanie | | | 16 | 2,511.15 | |
| Lischak, Maria | | | 4 | 2,078.75 | |
| Matiash, Eli | | | 8 | 2,041.85 | |
| Welhasch, Stephan | | | 4 | 1,467.45 | |
| Milanytch, Motria | | | 3 | 1,434.60 | |
| Kaploun, Valentina | | | 5 | 1,309.00 | |
| Paschen, Gloria | 1 | 1,000.00 | 2 | 1,300.00 | |
| Trytjak, Oksana | | | 1 | 1,200.00 | |
| Salabay, Nadia | | | 2 | 1,100.20 | |
| ***** Horbaty, Gloria | | | 3 | 897.65 | |
| Romanyshyn, Basil | | | 2 | 819.80 | |
| ***** Oscislawski, Eugene | | | 2 | 744.20 | |
| Platosz, Adam | | | 2 | 649.60 | |
| Bilchuk, Nina | | | 1 | 567.00 | |
| Maryniuk, Andrew | | | 2 | 557.05 | |
| Kuzio, Myron | | | 2 | 550.50 | |
| Kotlar, Julian | | | 3 | 524.40 | |
| Hawryluk, Judy | 2 | 200.00 | 3 | 458.20 | |
| Boland, Genet | | | 6 | 379.70 | |
| Kaploun, Valia | | | 1 | 373.00 | |
| Prociuk, Ulana | | | 4 | 364.50 | |

| Named | Annuity | Premium | Total Life & Ann. | Total Prem Collected |
|-----------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Diakiwsky, Nicholas | | | 3 | 363.45 |
| Lysiak, Stefan | | | 1 | 330.00 |
| Markus, Oksana | | | 1 | 310.00 |
| Miskiv, Tatiana | | | 2 | 287.40 |
| ***** Serba, Eugene | | | 2 | 278.25 |
| Jacewicz, Ann Marie | | | 1 | 260.30 |
| Maruszczak, Olga | | | 2 | 253.85 |
| Kotch, Joyce | | | 2 | 246.40 |
| Hawryluk, Joseph | | | 1 | 218.00 |
| Olenchuk, Alice | | | 1 | 217.00 |
| Redko, Alex | | | 2 | 202.60 |
| Twardowsky, Omelan | | | 1 | 177.05 |
| Krywyj, Vira | | | 2 | 175.50 |
| Hawrylcw, Peter | | | 1 | 174.80 |
| Shean, Michael | | | 1 | 157.75 |
| Semeniak, Walter | | | 1 | 110.95 |
| ***** Hawrysz, Stefan | | | 3 | 37.50 |
| Total | 5 | 108,432.46 | 134 | 166,121.36 |
| Dochinez, Peter | 1 | 24,215.67 | 1 | 24,215.67 |
| Reeves, Gary | | | 9 | 763.25 |
| Grant, Joseph | | | 3 | 1,690.30 |
| Devito, Dominic | | | 1 | 195.61 |
| Hordubay, Sr. Edward | 1 | 29,205.90 | 1 | 29,205.90 |
| Zapach, Joseph | 1 | 45,000.00 | 1 | 45,000.00 |
| Total | 3 | 98,421.57 | 16 | 101,070.73 |
| Grand Total | 8 | 206,854.03 | 150 | 267,192.09 |

Agent Recap 7-12/06 *****General Assembly Members

| 2006 UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC. New policies & annuities issued from 07/01/2006 to 12/31/2006 | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| UNA + AGENTS | | | UNA | | | |
| Number | Face amount | Ann. prem. | Number | Face amount | Ann. prem. | |
| WSP | 33 | 242,000.00 | 35,227.00 | 33 | 242,000.00 | 35,227.00 |
| WL | 10 | 105,000.00 | 3,817.00 | 10 | 105,000.00 | 3,817.00 |
| P-20 | 47 | 505,000.00 | 6,257.00 | 41 | 445,000.00 | 5,590.00 |
| P-65 | 4 | 50,000.00 | 1,684.00 | 4 | 50,000.00 | 1,684.00 |
| T-5 | | | | | | |
| T-10 | 9 | 342,000.00 | 1,285.00 | 4 | 175,000.00 | 882.00 |
| T-23 | 8 | 80,000.00 | 100.00 | 8 | 80,000.00 | 100.00 |
| E-20 | 15 | 150,000.00 | 5,522.00 | 15 | 150,000.00 | 5,222.00 |
| E-18 | 12 | 80,000.00 | 4,188.00 | 12 | 80,000.00 | 4,188.00 |
| Prem. Life | 3 | 55,000.00 | 1,690.00 | | | |
| UL | | | | | | |
| GTD Issue | 1 | 3,000.00 | 567.00 | 1 | 3,000.00 | 567.00 |
| Total Life | 142 | 1,612,000.00 | 60,337.00 | 128 | 1,330,000.0 | 57,577.00 |
| Annuitants | #pol. | Face amount | #pol. | Face amount | | |
| 10-yr | 3 | 108,231 | 3 | 108,231.00 | | |
| 5-yr | 2 | 74,205.00 | | | | |
| 3-yr | 1 | 24,215.00 | | | | |
| 2-yr | | | | | | |
| 1-yr | | | | 200.00 | | |
| Coverdell | 2 | 200.00 | 2 | | | |
| Total Ann. | 8 | 206,851.00 | 5 | 108,431.00 | | |

| INDEPENDENT AGENTS | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Number | Face amount | Ann. prem. | |
| WSP | 6 | 60,000.00 | 667.00 |
| WL | | | |
| P-20 | | | |
| P-65 | | | |
| T-5 | | | |
| T-10 | 5 | 167,000.00 | 403.00 |
| T-23 | | | |
| E-20 | | | 65.00 |
| E-18 | | | |
| Prem. Life | 3 | 55,000.00 | 1,690.00 |
| UL | | | |
| GTD Issue | | | |
| Total Life | 14 | 282,000.00 | 2,760.00 |
| Annuitants | #pol. | Face amount | |
| 10-yr | 2 | 74,205.00 | |
| 5-yr | 1 | 24,215.00 | |
| 3-yr | | | |
| 2-yr | | | |
| 1-yr | | | |
| Coverdell | | | |
| Total Ann. | 3 | 98,420.00 | |

| UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC. | | | |
|--|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| State Recap Report New Business CWA Life and Annuity Business July 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006 | | | |
| State | Life Premium | Annuities | Total |
| U.S. | | | |
| California | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Connecticut | 3,094.55 | | 3,094.55 |
| Delaware | 278.25 | | 278.25 |
| Dist of Columbia | 2,078.75 | | 2,078.75 |
| Florida | 557.05 | | 557.05 |
| Illinois | 1,300.00 | | 1,300.00 |
| Indiana | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Maryland | 310.00 | | 310.00 |
| Massachusetts | 174.80 | | 174.80 |
| Michigan | 429.35 | | 429.35 |
| New Jersey | 15,512.20 | 106,153.90 | 121,666.10 |
| New York | 17,225.65 | 1,278.56 | 18,504.21 |
| Ohio | 3,705.55 | | 3,705.55 |
| Pennsylvania | 7,016.71 | 98,421.57 | 105,438.28 |
| Rhode Island | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Washington | 9,367.80 | | 9,367.80 |
| Total | 61,050.66 | 205,854.03 | 266,904.69 |
| Canada | | | |
| Ontario | 287.40 | | 287.40 |
| Quebec | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Total | 287.40 | | 287.40 |
| U.S. & Canada | 61,338.06 | | 267,192.09 |

| RECORDING DEPARTMENT | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| MEMBERSHIP REPORT from July to December 2006 | | | | |
| | Juvenile | Adult | ADD | Total |
| Total Active Members 06-2006 | 5,270 | 10,477 | 2,252 | 17,999 |
| Total Inactive Members 06-2006 | 7,593 | 14,706 | 0 | 22,299 |
| Total Members 06-2006 | 12,863 | 25,183 | 2,252 | 40,298 |
| Active Membership | | | | |
| Gains from July to December 2006 | | | | |
| New members | 71 | 79 | 0 | 150 |
| New members UL | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Reinstated | 20 | 31 | 16 | 67 |
| TOTAL GAINS | 91 | 110 | 16 | 217 |
| Losses from July to December 2006 | | | | |
| Died | 1 | 140 | 0 | 141 |
| Cash surrender | 16 | 72 | 0 | 88 |
| Endowment matured | 54 | 99 | 0 | 153 |
| Fully Paid-up | 32 | 47 | 0 | 79 |
| Reduced Paid-up | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Extended insurance | 37 | 47 | 0 | 84 |
| Certificates lapsed | 48 | 32 | 51 | 131 |
| Certificates terminated | 7 | 20 | 22 | 49 |
| TOTAL LOSSES | 195 | 457 | 73 | 725 |
| Total Active Members in 12/2006 | 5,166 | 10,130 | 2,195 | 17,491 |
| INACTIVE Membership | | | | |
| Gains from 01-2006 to 06-2006 | | | | |
| Paid-up | 32 | 47 | 0 | 79 |
| Reduced paid up | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Extended insurance term exp. | 4 | 38 | 0 | 42 |
| TOTAL GAINS | 36 | 85 | 0 | 121 |
| Losses from July to December 2006 | | | | |
| *Died | 15 | 219 | 0 | 234 |
| *Cash surrender | 57 | 94 | 0 | 151 |
| Pure endowment matured | 9 | 17 | 0 | 26 |
| Reinstated to active | 20 | 31 | 0 | 51 |
| TOTAL LOSSES | 101 | 361 | 0 | 462 |
| Total Inactive Members in 12/2006 | 7,528 | 14,430 | 0 | 21,958 |
| TOTAL MEMBERSHIP | 12,694 | 24,560 | 2,195 | 39,449 |

| Ukrainian National Association, Inc. 2006 District Recap Report – January 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006 | | | | | |
|--|--------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| District | Policy Count | Face Amount | District imposed quota | # of Br. in District | Percentage Quota Achieved |
| Albany | 19 | 100,000 | 32 | 5 | |
| Allentown | 1 | 5,000 | 30 | 3 | 59.38 |
| Baltimore | 10 | 65,000 | 20 | 3 | 3.33 |
| Boston | 3 | 30,000 | 10 | 5 | 50.00 |
| Buffalo | 4 | 70,000 | 17 | 3 | 30.00 |
| Central New Jersey | 13 | 70,000 | 30 | 5 | 23.53 |
| Chicago | 33 | 402,000 | 25 | 9 | 66.67 |
| Cleveland | 17 | 200,000 | 40 | 8 | 132.00 |
| Connecticut | 14 | 145,000 | 30 | 8 | 42.50 |
| Detroit | 1 | 10,000 | 10 | 3 | 46.67 |
| Minneapolis | 1 | 5,000 | 15 | 3 | 10.00 |
| Montreal | 37 | 436,000 | 95 | 12 | 6.67 |
| New York | 6 | 35,000 | 7 | 2 | 38.95 |
| Niagara | 42 | 615,000 | 100 | 15 | 85.71 |
| Northern NJ | 39 | 335,000 | 140 | 16 | 42.00 |
| Philadelphia | 32 | 247,000 | 32 | 9 | 27.86 |
| Pittsburgh | 1 | 5,000 | 18 | 5 | 100.00 |
| Rochester | 22 | 243,000 | 45 | 10 | 5.56 |
| Shamokin | 12 | 120,000 | 35 | 5 | 48.89 |
| Syracuse | 3 | 45,000 | 23 | 8 | 34.29 |
| Toronto | 13 | 196,000 | 60 | 13 | 13.04 |
| Various | | | 5 | 4 | 21.67 |
| Winnipeg | | | | | 0.00 |
| Total | 333 | 3,474,000 | 834 | 168 | 39.93 |

| Ukrainian National Association, Inc. 2006 UNA Agent Recap Report – New Business – CWA Collected Only – January 1, 2007 – June 30, 2007 | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Name | Life | Face amount | Ann. prem. | Sgl. Prem | Total Life Prem. |
| Woch, Steve | 1 | 5,000 | 174.80 | | 174.80 |
| Paschen, Gloria | 3 | 30,000 | 369.60 | | 369.60 |
| Streletsky, Lubov | 14 | 336,000 | 11,351.08 | | 11,351.08 |
| Hawryluk, Judith | 1 | 10,000 | | 600.00 | 600.00 |
| Holowatyj, John | 6 | 45,000 | | 9,548.46 | 9,548.46 |
| ***** Oscislawski, Eugene | 14 | 219,000 | 8,019.86 | | 8,019.86 |
| Trytjak, Oksana | 6 | 155,000 | 3,265.05 | 38,551.60 | 41,816.65 |
| Salabay, Nadia | 5 | 132,142 | 4,146.62 | 620.00 | 4,146.62 |
| Welhasch, Stefan | 4 | 560,000 | 780.00 | | 1,400.00 |
| Kaploun, Valentina | 10 | 152,999 | 5,434.63 | | 5,434.63 |
| Kaczaraj, Swiat | 2 | 10,000 | 5,124.26 | 1,120.00 | 5,124.26 |
| ***** Pylypiak, Myron | 7 | 65,000 | 3,415.75 | | 4,535.75 |
| Brodyn, Christine | | | | | 0.00 |
| Matiash, Eli | 4 | 20,000 | 2,908.46 | | 2,908.46 |
| ***** Lew, Maya | 8 | 730,000 | 2,395.40 | 1,500.00 | 2,395.40 |
| Gulycz, Eugene | 4 | 60,000 | 429.84 | | 1,929.84 |
| ***** Serba, Eugene | | | | 540.00 | 0.00 |
| Banach, Joe | 5 | 35,000 | 931.90 | | 1,471.90 |
| Szeremeta, Lubomira | 1 | 20,000 | 1,247.86 | | 1,247.86 |
| Hawryluk, Joe | | | | | 0.00 |
| Luszczak, Myron | 4 | 70,000 | 890.50 | | 890.50 |
| Kuzio, Myron | 3 | 25,000 | 873.80 | | 873.80 |
| Kotch, Joyce | 2 | 10,000 | 689.90 | | 689.90 |
| Maruszczak, Olga | 3 | 25,000 | 662.15 | | 662.15 |
| ***** Prinko, Paulo | 1 | 500,000 | 650.00 | | 650.00 |
| Smal, Emilia | 1 | 5,000 | 605.80 | | 605.80 |
| Olenchuk, Alice | 13 | 67,000 | 564.70 | | 564.70 |
| Turko, Michael | 4 | 20,000 | 522.80 | | 522.80 |
| Bilchuk, Nina | 2 | 30,000 | 444.40 | | 444.40 |
| Lonyszyn, Sophie | 1 | 10,000 | 408.30 | | 408.30 |
| ***** Fil, Nick | 2 | 20,000 | 399.30 | 330.00 | 399.30 |
| Lysiak, Stefan | 2 | 10,000 | 39.75 | | 369.75 |
| Maryniuk, Andrew | 1 | 10,000 | 354.30 | | 354.30 |
| ***** Horbaty, Gloria | 2 | 10,000 | 352.05 | | 352.05 |
| ***** Holubec, Zenon | 1 | 5,000 | 310.00 | | 310.00 |
| Boland, Genet | 1 | 10,000 | 228.60 | | 228.60 |
| Podoliuk, Bohdan | 1 | 100,000 | 181.00 | | 181.00 |
| Krywyj, Vira | 2 | 50,000 | 106.00 | | 106.00 |
| Dolnycky, Alexandra | 1 | 10,000 | 84.60 | | 84.60 |
| Diakowsky, Nick | 1 | 5,000 | 83.55 | | 83.55 |
| Borovitcky, Annabelle | 3 | 15,000 | 82.20 | | 82.20 |
| Burij, Anna | 1 | 49,000 | 73.51 | | 73.51 |
| ***** Groch, Myron | 1 | 25,000 | 54.00 | | 54.00 |
| Kuropas, Roman | 1 | 10,000 | 49.70 | | 49.70 |
| Hawryluk, Stephanie | 1 | 5,000 | 26.45 | | 26.45 |
| Total | 150 | 3,681,141 | 58,732.47 | 52,810.06 | 111,542.53 |
| Weston, Kirk | 3 | 60,000 | 442.15 | | 442.15 |
| Reeves, Gary | | | | | |
| Grant, Joseph | | | | | |
| Hordubay, Sr. Ed | | | | | |
| Zapach, Joseph | | | | | |
| Kroll, Gail | | | | | |
| Conroy, Michael | | | | | |
| Total | 3 | 60,000 | 442.15 | | 442.15 |
| Grand Total | 153 | 3,741,141 | 59,175 | | 111,985 |
| Agent Recap 1-6/07 | | | | | |
| ***** General Assembly Member | | | | | |

| Ukrainian National Association, Inc. 2006 UNA Agent Recap Report – New Business – CWA Collected Only – January 1, 2007 – June 30, 2007 | | | |
|---|-----------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Name | Annuity | Prem | Total Life & Ann. |
| Woch, Steve | 4 | 226,227.52 | 226,402.32 |
| Paschen, Gloria | 3 | 15,000.00 | 15,369.60 |
| Streletsky, Lubov | | | 11,351.08 |
| Hawryluk, Judith | 3 | 9,333.00 | 9,933.00 |
| Holowatyj, John | | | 9,548.46 |
| ***** Oscislowski, Eugene | | | 8,019.86 |
| Trytjak, Oksana | 1 | 1,000.00 | 42,816.65 |
| Salabay, Nadia | 1 | 3,000.00 | 7,146.62 |
| Welhasch, Stefan | 1 | 5,000.00 | 6,400.00 |
| Kaploun, Valentina | | | 5,434.63 |
| Kaczaraj, Swiat | | | 5,124.26 |
| ***** Pylypiak, Myron | | | 4,535.75 |
| Brodyn, Christine | 2 | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 |
| Matiash, Eli | | | 2,908.46 |
| ***** Lew, Maya | | | 2,395.40 |
| Gulycz, Eugene | | | 1,929.84 |
| ***** Serba, Eugene | 1 | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Banach, Joe | | | 1,471.90 |
| Szeremeta, Lubomira | | | 1,247.86 |
| Hawryluk, Joe | 1 | 1,245.00 | 1,245.00 |
| Luszczak, Myron | | | 890.50 |
| Kuzio, Myron | | | 873.80 |
| Kotch, Joyce | | | 689.90 |
| Maruszczak, Olga | | | 662.15 |
| ***** Prinko, Paulo | | | 650.00 |
| Smal, Emilia | | | 605.80 |
| Olenchuk, Alice | | | 564.70 |
| Turko, Michael | | | 522.80 |
| Bilchuk, Nina | | | 444.40 |
| Lonyszyn, Sophie | | | 408.30 |
| ***** Fil, Nick | | | 399.30 |
| Lysiak, Stefan | | | 369.75 |
| Maryniuk, Andrew | | | 354.30 |
| ***** Horbaty, Gloria | | | 352.05 |
| ***** Holubec, Zenon | | | 310.00 |
| Boland, Genet | | | 228.60 |
| Podoliuk, Bohdan | | | 181.00 |
| Krywyj, Vira | | | 106.00 |
| Dolnycky, Alexandra | | | 84.60 |
| Diakiwsky, Nick | | | 83.55 |
| Borovitcky, Annabelle | | | 82.20 |
| Burij, Anna | | | 73.51 |
| ***** Groch, Myron | | | 54.00 |
| Kuropas, Roman | | | 49.70 |
| Hawryluk, Stephanie | | | 26.45 |
| Total | 17 | 265,305.52 | 376,848.05 |
| Weston, Kirk | 2 | 46,086.72 | 46,086.72 |
| Reeves, Gary | | | 442.15 |
| Grant, Joseph | 1 | 20,591.86 | 20,591.86 |
| Hordubay, Sr. Ed | 3 | 182,864.04 | 182,864.04 |
| Zapach, Joseph | 3 | 228,037.87 | 228,037.87 |
| Kroll, Gail | 1 | 2,937.76 | 2,937.76 |
| Conroy, Michael | 1 | 33,000.00 | 33,000.00 |
| Total | 11 | 513,518.25 | 513,960.40 |
| Grand Total | 28 | 778,824 | 890,808.45 |
| Agent Recap 1-6/07 | | | |
| ***** General Assembly Member | | | |

| Ukrainian National Association, Inc. State Recap Report New Business CWA Life and Annuity Business – January 1, 2007 - June 30, 2007 | | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| State | Life Premium | Annuities | Total |
| U.S. | | | |
| California | 174.80 | | 174.80 |
| Connecticut | 3,155.69 | | 3,155.69 |
| Delaware | 1,247.86 | | 1,247.86 |
| Dist of Columbia | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Florida | 354.30 | | 354.30 |
| Kansas | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Illinois | 1,260.10 | | 49,260.10 |
| Indiana | 817.85 | 48,000.00 | 3,755.61 |
| Maryland | 0.00 | 2,937.76 | 0.00 |
| Massachusetts | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Michigan | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Minnesota | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| New Jersey | 25,085.30 | | 262,812.82 |
| New York | 12,402.52 | 237,727.52 | 24,980.52 |
| Ohio | 1,399.05 | 12,578.00 | 21,990.91 |
| Pennsylvania | 18,211.54 | 20,591.86 | 475,200.17 |
| Rhode Island | 489.00 | 456,988.63 | 489.00 |
| Washington | 4,535.75 | | 4,535.75 |
| Total | 69,133.76 | 778,823.77 | 847,957.53 |
| Canada | | | |
| Ontario | 733.31 | | 733.31 |
| Quebec | 84.60 | | 84.60 |
| Total | 817.91 | | 817.91 |
| U.S. & Canada | 69,951.67 | | 848,775.44 |

| UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC. 2006 District Recap Report – January 1, 2007 - June 30, 2007 | | | | | |
|--|--------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| District | Policy Count | Face Amount | District imposed quota | # of Br. in District | Percentage Quota Achieved |
| Albany | 5 | 35,000 | 32 | 5 | 15.63 |
| Allentown | 0 | 0 | 30 | 3 | 0.00 |
| Baltimore | 0 | 0 | 20 | 3 | 0.00 |
| Boston | 1 | 25,000 | 10 | 5 | 10.00 |
| Buffalo | 2 | 47,142 | 17 | 3 | 11.76 |
| Central New Jersey | 10 | 157,999 | 30 | 5 | 33.33 |
| Chicago | 7 | 100,000 | 15 | 14 | 46.67 |
| Cleveland | 20 | 147,000 | 25 | 9 | 80.00 |
| Connecticut | 9 | 95,000 | 40 | 8 | 22.50 |
| Detroit | 6 | 85,000 | 30 | 8 | 20.00 |
| Minneapolis | 0 | 0 | 10 | 3 | 0.00 |
| Montreal | 1 | 10,000 | 15 | 3 | 6.67 |
| New York | 16 | 1,396,000 | 95 | 12 | 16.84 |
| Niagara | 2 | 30,000 | 7 | 2 | 28.57 |
| Northern NJ | 25 | 474,000 | 100 | 15 | 25.00 |
| Philadelphia | 16 | 856,000 | 140 | 16 | 11.43 |
| Pittsburgh | 15 | 90,000 | 32 | 9 | 46.88 |
| Rochester | 1 | 10,000 | 18 | 5 | 5.56 |
| Shamokin | 1 | 10,000 | 45 | 10 | 2.22 |
| Syracuse | 4 | 20,000 | 35 | 5 | 11.43 |
| Toronto | 1 | 49,000 | 23 | 8 | 4.35 |
| Various | 11 | 110,000 | 60 | 13 | 18.33 |
| Winnipeg | 0 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 0.00 |
| Total | 153 | 3,747,141 | 834 | 168 | 18.35 |

| 2007 UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC. New policies & annuities issued from 06/30/2006 to 01/01/2007 | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|
| UNA + AGENTS | | | | UNA | | |
| | Number | Face amount | Ann. prem. | Number | Face amount | Ann. prem. |
| WSP | 22 | 195,000.00 | 24,466.00 | 22 | 195,000.00 | 24,466.00 |
| WL | 11 | 119,000.00 | 6,911.00 | 11 | 119,000.00 | 6,911.00 |
| P-20 | 46 | 332,000.00 | 5,261.00 | 45 | 322,000.00 | 5,165.10 |
| P-65 | 8 | 87,000.00 | 4,073.00 | 8 | 87,000.00 | 4,073.00 |
| T-5 | 6 | 650,000.00 | 2,462.00 | 6 | 650,000.00 | 2,462.00 |
| T-10 | 26 | 2,074,141.00 | 5,864.00 | 24 | 2,024,141.0 | 5,517.75 |
| T-23 | 1 | 10,000.00 | 195.00 | 1 | 10,000.00 | 195.00 |
| E-20 | 21 | 195,000.00 | 11,120.00 | 21 | 195,000.00 | 11,120.00 |
| E-18 | 11 | 65,000.00 | 15,439.00 | 11 | 65,000.00 | 15,439.00 |
| Prem. Life | 1 | 20,000.00 | 1,248.00 | 1 | 20,000.00 | 1,248.00 |
| UL | | | | | | |
| GTD Issue | | | | | | |
| Total Life | 153 | 3,747,141.00 | 77,039.00 | 150 | 3,687,141.0 | 76,596.85 |
| Annuities | #pol. | Face amount | | #pol. | Face amount | |
| 10-yr | 14 | 593,139.00 | | 10 | 252,554.00 | |
| 5-yr | 2 | 2,745.00 | | 2 | 2,745.00 | |
| 3-yr | 10 | 179,933.00 | | 3 | 6,999.00 | |
| 2-yr | | | | | | |
| 1-yr | 2 | 3,000 | | | | |
| Coverdell | | | | 2 | 3,000.00 | |
| Total Ann. | 28 | 778,817.00 | 778,817.0 | 17 | 265,298.00 | |

| INDEPENDENT AGENTS | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------|
| | Number | Face amount | Ann. prem. |
| WSP | | | |
| WL | | | |
| P-20 | 1 | 10,000.00 | 95.90 |
| P-65 | | | |
| T-5 | | | |
| T-10 | 2 | 50,000.00 | 346.25 |
| T-23 | | | |
| E-20 | | | |
| E-18 | | | |
| Prem. Life | | | |
| UL | | | |
| GTD Issue | | | |
| Total Life | 3 | 60,000.00 | 442.15 |
| Annuities | #pol. | Face amount | |
| 10-yr | 4 | 340,585.00 | |
| 5-yr | | | |
| 3-yr | 7 | 172,934.00 | |
| 2-yr | | | |
| 1-yr | | | |
| Coverdell | | | |
| Total Annuity. | 11 | 513,519 | |

| RECORDING DEPARTMENT | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| MEMBERSHIP REPORT from January to June 2007 | | | | |
| | Juvenile | Adult | ADD | Total |
| Total Active Members 12-2006 | 5,166 | 10,130 | 2,195 | 17,491 |
| Total Inactive Members 12-2006 | 7,528 | 14,430 | 0 | 21,958 |
| Total Members 12-2006 | 12,694 | 24,560 | 2,195 | 39,449 |
| Active Membership | | | | |
| Gains from January to June 2007 | | | | |
| New members | 55 | 126 | 0 | 181 |
| New members UL | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Reinstated | 18 | 22 | 9 | 49 |
| TOTAL GAINS | 73 | 148 | 9 | 230 |
| Losses from January to June 2007 | | | | |
| Died | 2 | 167 | 0 | 169 |
| Cash surrender | 17 | 73 | 0 | 90 |
| Endowment matured | 48 | 39 | 0 | 87 |
| Fully Paid-up | 15 | 32 | 0 | 47 |
| Reduced Paid-up | 1 | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| Extended insurance | 31 | 54 | 0 | 85 |
| Certificates lapsed | 56 | 18 | 46 | 120 |
| Certificates terminated | 5 | 16 | 21 | 42 |
| TOTAL LOSSES for 6 m. 2007 | 175 | 402 | 67 | 644 |
| Total Active Members in 06/2006 | 5,064 | 9,876 | 2,137 | 17,077 |
| INACTIVE Membership | | | | |
| Gains from January to June 2007 | | | | |
| Paid-up | 15 | 32 | 0 | 47 |
| Reduced paid up | 1 | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| Extended insurance term exp. | 6 | 37 | 0 | 43 |
| TOTAL GAINS | 22 | 72 | 0 | 94 |
| Losses from January to June 2007 | | | | |
| *Died | 18 | 273 | 0 | 291 |
| *Cash surrender | 46 | 59 | 0 | 105 |
| Pure endowment matured | 4 | 13 | 0 | 17 |
| Reinstated to active | 18 | 22 | 0 | 40 |
| TOTAL LOSSES | 86 | 367 | 0 | 453 |
| Total Inactive Members in 6/28/2007 | 7,464 | 14,135 | 0 | 21,599 |
| TOTAL MEMBERSHIP | 12,528 | 24,011 | 2,137 | 38,676 |

| Ukrainian National Association, Inc Canada – 2007 UNA Agent Recap Report New Business-CWA Collected only July 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006 | | | | |
|--|----------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Name | Life | Face amount | Ann. prem. | Total Life & Ann. |
| Miskiv, Tatiana | 2 | 20,000 | 287.40 | 287.40 |
| Total | 2 | 20,000 | 287.40 | 287.40 |
| January 1, 2007 - June 30, 2007 | | | | |
| Burij Anna | 1 | 49,000 | 73.51 | 73.51 |
| Smal, Emilia | 1 | 5,000 | 605.80 | 605.80 |
| Dolnycky, Alexandra | 1 | 10,000 | 84.60 | 84.60 |
| Groch, Myron | 1 | 25,000 | 54.00 | 54.00 |
| Total | 4 | 89,000 | 817.91 | 817.91 |

Report of UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich

"We choose to go...not because it is easy, but because it is hard, because that goal will serve to measure and organize the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one which we intend to win."
— J.F. Kennedy



Roma Lisovich

Despite many challenges, financial and otherwise that the UNA faces, we, members of the Executive Committee, acknowledge and accept this challenge and are striving to bring back the financial strength of the 113-year-old organization. We remain confident that with the improving economy, and new marketing efforts, significantly reducing the cost of the fraternal benefit/publications, and eliminating the impact of the Soyuzivka Heritage Center on the UNA's financial statement, the organization will be poised for a financial recovery.

We are happy to report that the financial performance of 2007 has greatly improved over the weak performance recorded for the whole of 2006. The overall financial position of the UNA reached a critical level at the end of 2006 as the performance of annuities; the UNA's prime product for revenue generation, fell far short of expectations, reaching only \$912,000 for the whole of 2006 in comparison with \$2,033,000 achieved in the prior year ending 12/31/2005. The poor performance of our insurance

business, coupled with the deficit of Soyuzivka impacted placed pressure on the surplus position bringing it to a level of only \$2,852,000. We can see a marked improvement in performance in 2007. Firstly, annuities have recovered and annuity premium income stood at \$1,041,000 on June 30, 2007 as compared with \$630,000 on June 30, 2006 and surpassed the total recorded for all of 2006 of \$912,000. In contrast to new life insurance business production, deferred annuities are written showing a first year profit. Life insurance policies, however, do not record a profit until about the third year of their life cycle. In the current environment life insurance companies have been able to compete with deferred annuities strongly against the relatively lower rates of interest offered by banks and credit unions. The continued volatility of the U.S. stock market also makes the guaranteed interest rate option of the deferred annuity products very attractive – even at lower rates. Nonetheless, the growth of the insurance business is paramount as, ideally, an insurance business should be growing on a profitable basis along side the annuities. Annuity sales should be used as a "lead-in" product to generate further life insurance sales. Premium income from traditional life products remains steady. The most significant reason for the improved performance is that we raised the rates for annuities in May 2007.

The rates we can offer for annuities are contingent on the amount of investment income we earn. As the investment portfolio's average yield increased, so did the rate we could offer our membership. There continues to be an opportunity for UNA to build an asset bases for the future through writing deferred annuity business – however it must be done on a long-term objective with very close attention paid to asset management. This business is tied to interest rates, and therefore, UNA's competitiveness is impacted not only by sales performance but by investment portfolio yields.

During the past year, we analyzed all of our assets to determine how best to achieve a maximum return on investments. This analysis included all of our real estate holdings and investments, including our corporate headquarters. It was an objective look that would allow us to take advantage of market opportunities when they arise. This analysis is what led to the determination that it was time to sell our corporate headquarters. Although profitable, the building, over a 5-year period, was bringing us average cash on cash return of approximately 2%. When we can receive an annual yield on a bond of 6% in the current marketplace, a 2% return is inadequate. In order to capitalize on an opportunity, the building was sold and the money will be reinvested in higher yielding instruments.

The sale of the corporate headquarters allowed UNA to seize the opportunity and capitalize on a lucrative commercial real estate market, selling the asset at a substantial profit for \$11,000,000 and, at the same time, strengthened the reserve position. The surplus which stood at \$2,852,000 at the year ending 12/31/2006 has improved to \$7,357,000 at the end of the 2nd quarter ending June 30, 2007. It provides UNA with sufficient funds to expand our sales force, engage a professional marketing company, redesign new brochures, and begin an aggressive marketing and advertising campaign, all for the purpose of revenue generation – the key to our future.

The importance of improving the financial position is paramount and my colleagues and I pursued remedial measures aggressively throughout the first half of 2007 and will continue to do so. We will rely on the input and close cooperation with our General Assembly, or, as we would define in modern terms, our "board of directors." We need your active and effective participation. Why is this important?

The expansion of duties that the three working executives must assume, the burgeoning amount of administrative responsibility we must juggle in an environment of limited resources is an example of multi-tasking at its highest level. There are more and more regulatory reporting requirements, systems changes which must be adopted, ever-increasing administrative paperwork coupled with business and promotional weekend events to attend – demands which have increased at an incredible pace. For example, not only are financial reporting required quarterly to the sixteen states in which we are licensed, we now have to provide this information electronically, by hard copy and by disk. We then provide a multitude of detailed voluminous reports that were not required of us in the past and for a company of our small size, must still be prepared manually. The same reporting requirements that exist for the largest of insurance companies and/or financial institutions are required of UNA. Our size and our status as a fraternal organization notwithstanding.

This year, for example, aside from our financials, we submitted a long term strategic business plan and projections, a Business Continuity plan, a Disaster Recovery Plan, a Pandemic Flu Business Continuity Plan, an IT system business contingency plan, Unclaimed Property Policies and Procedures, Anti-Terrorist Prevention Policies and Procedures, Money Laundering Policies and procedures. Unfortunately, a one-page description is not adequate and the reports are lengthy. We are subject to regular anti-terrorist reporting; we incorporated a new Investment Policy, updated an Employee Manual, and must conduct regular analysis of business lines and performance, etc. Although all of these policies and requirements have merit, they are time-consuming and demanding for our limited resources. We also find ourselves designing brochures, ads, promotional material and taking care of countless other managerial and administrative tasks. The paperwork alone is daunting and, it is a challenge to keep all of the varied projects and innumerable tasks going simultaneously. As one of my old banker colleagues characterized with needed levity when we found ourselves in a similarly demanding environment – it is a managerial challenge roughly to "herding cats."

Aside from the tasks outlined above, much of my time has been spending going out "in the field" to promote UNA. This means that every weekend I find myself representing UNA at some function and event. That is why we need you, every member of the General Assembly to increase your participation in our organization. It is a task the three sitting Executives cannot accomplish alone.

Despite the difficulties and demands, we see that our plans are being realized; goals are being met and slowly we are moving toward success. Perhaps slower than we would have liked – but steadily and surely. The President will highlight the overall financial condition of the UNA and the National Secretary will concentrate on outlining the insurance business. So as not to be redundant, I will concentrate on the second largest component of revenue for UNA: investment income and our fraternal benefits

Soyuzivka, which has occupied much time and effort in trying to find a solution to the financial drain on our institution, profitability and liquidity. Please refer to the financial spreadsheets for detailed analysis.

KEY FINANCIAL INDICATORS (in thousands of dollars)

| Year | Assets | Capital Surplus Funds | Net Premiums Written | Net Invest Income | Net Income |
|---------|--------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------|
| 2006 | 62,173 | 2,852 | 2,382 | 3,052 | -1,903 |
| 06/2006 | 63,896 | 3,448 | 1,371 | 1,519 | -1,154 |
| 06/2007 | 62,421 | 7,357 | 1,778 | 1,586 | -491 |

Current Year Geographic Direct Premium Distribution (\$000): Pennsylvania, \$771 (31.9%); New Jersey, \$696 (28.8%); New York, \$367 (15.2%); Washington, \$78 (3.2%); other jurisdictions, \$422 (17.5%); Canada, \$81 (3.4%).

Lines of Business performance and Trends: In 2006, the operating lines of business for UNA – (life insurance, annuities supplementary contracts and accident & health) posted modest profits – albeit not enough to sustain the fraternal benefits which posted over a \$1,400,000 loss (primarily Soyuzivka and publictions). 2006 performance was weak as each line of business posted losses. Although fraternal benefits losses were contained at 2005 levels, the impact on the bottom line of UNA was serious and point to the fact that UNA cannot support the level of fraternal benefits in place without jeopardizing UNA's sustainability. This is the reason why we have placed so much emphasis on a "Soyuzivka solution" which will be addressed.

The first six months of 2007 show a marked recovery in all UNA business lines and the total net premium income generated is growing at a rate of 49% over 2006. As fraternal benefits losses are minimized, UNA will be poised for a recovery.

| RATIOS | | UNA | fraternal societies |
|--|----------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Liquidity-Solvency (Net admitted Assets/Liabilities) | 12.31.06 6.30.07 | 105% 11.3% | 109% N/A |
| Total Income/Total Expenses | 12.31.06 6.30.07 | 34% | 30% |
| Profitability Ratios | | | |
| Return on Assets (ROA) | 12.31.06 | -3% | |
| Return on Equity (ROE) | 6.30.07 | -7% | |
| Lapse Ratio | 12.31.06 6.30.07 | 4% | 3.5% N/A |
| Mortality Ratio | 12.31.06 6.30.07 | 27% | 49% N/A |
| Annuity/Commissions | 12.31.06 6.30.07 | 3.0% | 2% N/A |

Liquidity: Liquidity is the ability to meet expected and unexpected demands for cash. Specifically, it is a company's ability to meet the cash demands of its policy and contract holders without suffering any (or a very minimal) loss. The liquidity profile of a company is a function of both its assets and liabilities. Liquidity risk is inherent in the financial services industry and one must understand, measure, monitor, and manage this risk. UNA's solvency ratio (net admitted assets/liabilities), which was 107% in 2005 declined to 104% in 2006. 2007 sees a marked improvement as the ratio stands at 113% as of June 30, 2007, a very acceptable level in comparison with other fraternal which averaged 109% in 2006.

All of the other profitability ratios as of June 30, 2007 are recording a marked improvement from the prior year. Once fraternal benefit losses and Soyuzivka is transferred off UNA books, these ratios will recover.

A mortality ratio of only 27% (ranking 5th among 29 fraternal benefit societies which average a rate of 49%) is remarkable. To add a little humor to a financial report, can we interpret this to mean that Ukrainians— and, specifically, UNA members live significantly longer than the average non-Ukrainian? I can see a future ad campaign in the making....

CASH FLOW

Bond maturities, calls, and mortgage principal payments are expected to provide ample cash for future needs in excess of cash from operations as bond performance and investment income continue to improve. Expenses, death maturity, and surrender benefits are the prime sources of cash outflow. These expenses increased in the first half of 2007, but expense containment initiatives for both operating expenses and fraternal benefits and retention policies were successfully implemented. The increase in offered annuity rates in May 2007 has successfully curtailed cash surrenders and withdrawals.

INVESTMENTS

Aside from premium income, the second largest component of any insurance company's profits is investment income. The same is true for UNA. Investment income as of June 30, 2007 stood at \$1,665,000 outpacing the six-month performance recorded on June 30, 2006 of \$1,579,000 as we continue to concentrate on fine-tuning our investment strategy. In order to understand the portfolio performance, it is necessary to understand the trend in the general market and U.S. economy.

US Economy & Market Overview

Economic analysts, prior to the summer, believed US growth was poised to exit its mid-cycle slump and expected to see stronger, though not robust growth ahead. Real GDP growth was +0.7% in 1Q07 and the previous three quarters had seen growth in a range of 2.0% to 2.6%. Looking ahead, the forecast for growth is still forecast to rebound to the 2.5% to 3.0% range each quarter through the end of 2008 despite the housing crisis of the summer. Residential construction (and housing in general) remains a risk to the forecast which will have to be watched very closely.

The steady growths in bond rates throughout the 1st two quarters of 2007 were shaken through the housing crisis of the summer. The turmoil in credit and equity markets in August was associated with a 'flight to quality'. And investors began switching into safer government bonds and yields fell in all the major markets. In the US, yields are now lower than they were a year ago. The Federal Reserve looked to ease some of the problems in short-term money markets by cutting its discount rate from 6.25% to 5.75%, while leaving the Fed funds target rate unchanged at 5.25% in August. The forecast remains good for bond rates through 2007 and possibly the first half of 2008 as well but continued actions by the Fed will impact bond performance. The following remain the current forecast:

| | 20 July 2007 | June 2008* |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------|
| 10 year US bond yields % | 4.59 | 5.50 |

*Henderson forecast

Bond yields have been driven lower and are now below the level justified by current economic fundamentals. If some order is restored to financial markets and the global economy continues to grow at a rapid pace, then yields are likely to increase again. Bond market returns may disappoint once riskier financial markets settle down. This point in the cycle, featuring improving growth prospects, increasing inflation concerns and rising interest rates, is usually not a good one for bonds. Our goal remains to achieve a 6% average yield of our portfolio, despite the recent downturn.

UNA PORTFOLIO

Highlights of June 30 2006-June 30, 2007 reporting period include:

- The engagement of professional asset management advisor in August 2006.
- The rewriting of a new Investment policy to reflect stated objectives within the constraints of relevant statutes;
 - A detailed analysis of portfolio which found that the portfolio lacked necessary diversification; required greater duration. A new dynamic portfolio structure has been implemented.
 - The addition of several asset classes previously underutilized due to limited data and experience in evaluating these risks;
 - The increase of the overall portfolio quality from Aa3 to Aa2 while effective duration has increased only marginally; Asset quality continues to be very high with 99% in investment grade holdings, in comparison with the fraternal average of 94%.
 - An increase in the portfolio yield from 5.04% to 5.70% during this time reflecting reinvestment of slightly more than \$20mm;
 - Annuity marketing effort called for higher nominal yields. The lower rates we were offering our members did not meet consumer demands and our low portfolio yields prohibited us from raising our rates. This impacted our annuity performance in 2006. The improved performance of our portfolio allowed us to raise annuity rates, which then resulted in a more competitive annuity product which resulted in annuity premiums growth from \$630,117 recorded on 6/30/2006 to \$1,041,225 as of same period 2007, surpassing the total annuity premium collected for the year ending 12/31/2006 of \$912,000.
 - The incremental investment to date has been slightly in excess of 6%;
 - The Canadian portfolio (~ \$10mm US) investment yields have been slightly less than 5% causing some 'drag' on the overall portfolio yield;
 - The portfolio has specifically avoided financial issues thereby mitigating headline financial risk in sub prime lending;
 - The weighted average of remaining years to maturity of the bond portfolio is very short, of approximately 6 years in comparison to the fraternal average of 12 years. Of the goals is to extend our maturities.
 - The projected cash flow(s) for \$US portfolio (\$2mm ('07)/\$8.9mm ('08)) and \$CA portfolio (\$1.2mm ('07)/\$1.7mm ('08)) reflect maturities of shorter securities. In the future, a cash flow turnover of 10% is more likely

Working closely with our professional asset advisor, we continue to realign our portfolio to improve yield without sacrificing credit quality. This requires a daily careful monitoring our investment portfolio. Efforts show results. The goal remains to improve the yield of the portfolio, lengthening the duration of our maturities, while maintaining an acceptable level of credit quality risk. A comparison of our portfolio as of June 30 2007 is not available, as comparative portfolio reporting was conducted as of August 2006. Nonetheless, this has no significant bearing on the results. This chart shows the improvement.

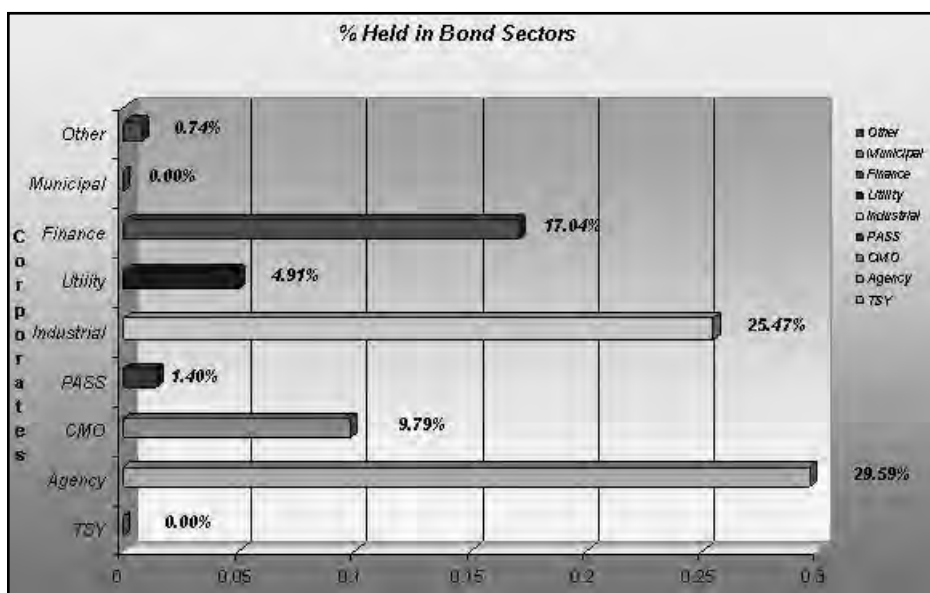
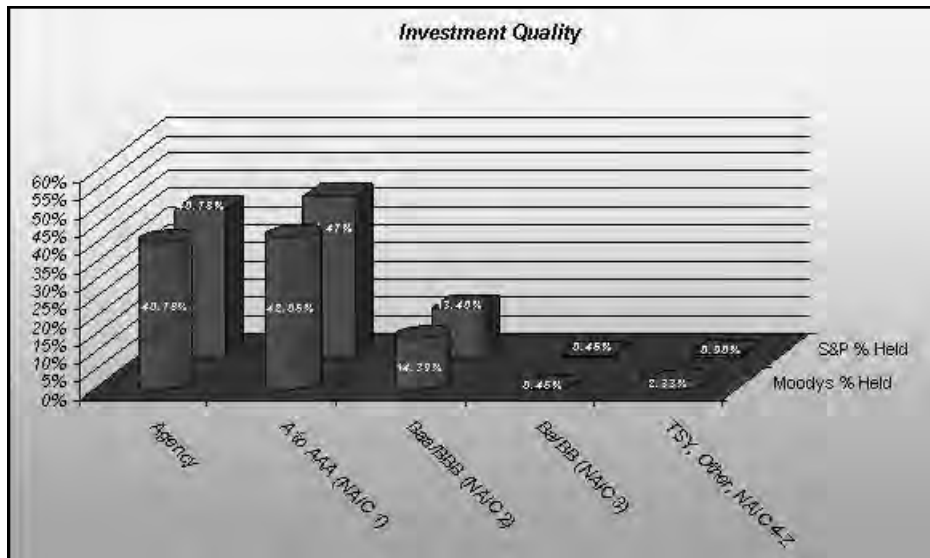
UNA Overall Portfolio Metrics

| | 2006 8/1/2006 | 2007 8/2/2007 |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|
| Quality | Aa2 | Aa2 |
| Dur (mod) | 3.79 | 4.49 |
| Dur (eff) | 3.14 | 3.84 |
| Yield | 5.04 | 5.71 |

The asset quality remains excellent and has shown improvement over the past reporting period. A carefully management investment strategy was implemented with the goals of improving investment yield will continue in 2007 and 2008. The aim is to increase average portfolio yield without impacting overall credit quality. This is being

achieved by purchasing Class 2 bonds of B1-BBB quality, buying investment vehicles of greater duration which carry higher yields, and at the same time diversifying the portfolio to avoid a concentration in any one-industry category. The aforementioned strategy will allow us to continue more aggressively to increase our average portfolio yield which stood at a little above 5% as of the yearend 2006. It is the Management's goal to increase the average yield to 6%. Although there was greater investment in Class II bonds, a concerted effort was made to sell off low-yielding, lesser credit instruments.

The charts below indicate the status of our portfolio today:



CANADA

In order to conduct business in Canada, we must maintain investments in Canadian dollars in Canada. This subjects UNA to what is called foreign exchange risk and we must keep a substantial investment portfolio of about \$10,000,000 on reserve in Canada, at rates of approximately 1% less than US market rates. UNA also incurs substantial accounting, actuarial and other expenses for our book of Canadian\$ business, all for a business line which brought in a dismal \$1,000 in new premium income over this last reporting period.

The Convention body voted to continue maintaining a Canadian \$ portfolio and it is imperative that the Canadian members provide the General Assembly with strategic guidance and plans as to how to approach this market. Is there a product that UNA can offer the Canadian marketplace which is competitive? If so, let's go ahead and develop it. This requires careful and objective analysis. No initiatives have been taken by the Executive Committee to convert the Canadian Dollar policies to US\$ policies, but this is certainly, one way which would do away with the need to keep a low-yielding investment portfolio in Canada, reduce operating expenses and allow us to remain in the Canadian marketplace, servicing our Canadian members.

Our very informal review of Canadian members under the age of 50 seem to be inclined to view this solution positively as it would provide a desired multi-currency investment diversification. It will be imperative that our Canadian advisors provide input for this idea or provide other solutions. Without a substantial improvement in performance, the validity of maintaining this line of business will need to be re-addressed.

The outlook for the Canadian dollar, however, is excellent, rising against the US dollar in the past year to a current rate of C \$.96 to U.S. \$1. However, in an effort to mitigate foreign exchange exposure and improve yield of our overall portfolio, Canadian bonds have been allowed to mature and then reinvested in higher yielding, less risky US\$ bonds during this past reporting period. UNA must maintain a portfolio of CAD investments of approx \$10 million per Canadian regulation and we have reached this level.

INVESTMENT SUMMARY

Our implemented strategy should allow us to continue to increase our net average portfolio yield to our goal of 6%. We will continue to pursue greater investment in Class II bonds, with concerted effort to sell off low-yielding, lower credit worthy instruments.

Our overall investment goals for the coming period are: boost the bottom line of

UNA by an estimated \$500,000 annually; reduce credit risk even further; improve cash flow; improve the yield of our portfolio without extending maturities significantly.

SOYUZVKA:

Please refer to the Soyuzivka spreadsheet for income and expense figures in detail.

Fraternal benefits, like the publications and Soyuzivka, have defined our organization for many decades. Unfortunately, without sufficient revenues generated from our prime insurance business, they cannot be sustained. Fraternal benefits continue to drain surplus. UNA management has worked diligently over the past two years to reduce expenses vis a vis fraternal benefits but progress is slower than anticipated. Much of my time, as well the time of my colleagues has been on finding a solution for Soyuzivka. How do we retain the asset for the community; reduce operating expenses; mitigate the negative impact on UNA's balance sheet and make it a self-sustaining, profitable entity?! The deficit as of 12/31/2006 stood at \$635,000 and UNA cannot financially sustain subsidizing the Center.

We see an improvement in 2007 as the deficit stand at \$336,000 for the first half of the year ending 6.30.2007 in comparison with \$433,000 recorded in the same period prior year. The expenses containment initiatives have been successful as expenses decreased by \$205,000 to \$681,000 as of June 30 2007 from \$886,000 recorded on June 30, 2006. The Income for the first six months of 2007 reflects a decrease as Soyuzivka was partially closed for business and efforts were made not to book events until Memorial Day in order to contain expenses. Income, therefore, stood at \$393,000 as of June 30, 2007 in comparison to \$500,000 recorded as of June 30, 1006. The summer was profitable and income figures will reflect this fact as of the end of the third quarter 2007.

The task is great. We have been working on a number of initiative measures, and innovative solutions to alleviate this situation, and we believe, we have developed a solution which I will highlight later in a separate detailed presentation on Soyuzivka Development plans.

However over the past year, the following initiatives were diligently worked on:

•Transfer of the asset to a Foundation: The transfer to the Foundation, which will take place in the 4th quarter of 2007, is a necessary step, which would limit the UNA's exposure and negate the impact on the our financial statement. The IRS designation to a 501(c) 3 requires amendments and reapplication to conform to IRS "guidelines." It necessitates re-marketing Soyuzivka, not as a "resort," but as a Heritage Center. For this reason, we have completely been revamping our website, redesigning it to reflect our cultural and educational programs and the summer camps which we offer our membership and the community; we have redesigned our marketing brochures, and are developing plans to have a museum, developed educational, cultural seminars, and programs in order to meet compliance regulations. We were able to attract more children's camps, the Dance workshop, Sitch Sports Camp even a Polish Ballroom Dance Camp successfully. Much time was spent planning and organizing the first film and Cultural festival held at Soyuzivka in July, which was a great success as part of Soyuzivka's new emphasis. As we develop new programs we will be in a position to successfully conclude the pursuit of the IRS non-profit designation. The transfer to the Heritage Foundation as a new restructured entity with a new focus and emphasis will allow us to meet all the criteria needed for the designation.

The transfer should take place at the end of the summer, at a time when the deficit is at its lowest level and revenue is at its highest peak.

Sale of approx. 250 acres: The UNA is in contract negotiations with a buyer to purchase approximately 200 -250 acres of forested, uninhabitable land to be preserved as part of NY state park system, (Minnewaska State Park) in conjunction with their Greenway Preservation Project. Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation will have the right to use the land for recreational purposes in perpetuity. We have received a contract from the buyer, Open Space Institute but are negotiating a higher price. It is our intent to close this deal in 2007 or early 2008. The terms of the sale and the timing of the closing will have to synchronize very closely with the Co-op development project which will be discussed in the next section in order not to negatively impact the development project. The water rights, access to the land, etc. are essential components of the contract negotiations for both the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation and the developers of the Co-op project. The proceeds from the sale would provide the Foundation with the operating capital required to continue to pay for the taxes, insurance, and other operating expenses once UNA withdraws its support. A portion will be pursued to upgrade the main common areas as part of the development project described below.

Co-op Development Project. We have received a proposal from a development group wishing to develop 30-50 acres of land of Soyuzivka. We are proceeding to contract. Both the Open Space sale and the Co-op contract require careful coordination in the protection of water rights, road access and other terms and as such the same attorney will handle both negotiations. For the developers, the Co-op project is conditional on the existence of the Soyuzivka Heritage Center exists as a viable entity. The development plan calls for a combination of new units and renovation of existing buildings. The project calls for between 119-140 total units which would be sold to private individuals on a Co-op basis. The developer would contribute all development and construction costs; the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation would contribute the land. Both parties will share in the profits of each sale on a percentage basis to be determined once development and construction costs have been identified.

These privately-owned units then would be part of a Co-op association, and modeling themselves after popular American resort/hotel vacation area arrangements, the unit owners would participate in a rental pool which will be managed by the Soyuzivka Foundation. Soyuzivka will rent these units and share in the rental revenue. The Foundation collects a housekeeping fee from each owner, as well. In addition, each unit owner is charged a monthly maintenance and activity fee for use of the Soyuzivka common recreational facilities creating another revenue stream. Each unit

owner is responsible for paying their own property taxes and utilities further reducing the Foundation's expense burden. A portion of the funds from the Open Space sale will be used to improve the common recreational areas adding to the marketability of the units and provide for working capital through out the development period.

This Soyuzivka Heritage Center property will house the meeting, camp, and recreational and dining facilities, as well as approximately 30 units. This area will continue to be used for seminars, summer camps and other expanded UNA programs with a permanent area for a UNA representative office. More than 5,000 visitors visit Soyuzivka annually and with a constant presence, UNA would be able to continuously solicit to this target group.

The result of the project will leave Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation with a much smaller, more manageable property of approx. 80 acres. It will remove from its ownership the costliest-to-maintain buildings and 30-50 acres of land. The tax burden will be substantially lessened as will the insurance, utility and maintenance costs. More importantly, it will open other revenue streams as income will be generated by: 1: the collection of maintenance and activity fees for the common areas 2: the proceeds from the sale of the Co-ops (to be identified once building costs are determined 3: the rental of the units on an ongoing yearly basis as the renovation of the meeting facilities and rental units will allow for the use of the facility during the off-season for business seminars and corporate meetings. 4. The proceeds from organized cultural events, traditional ethnic summer camp programs and catering.

It is the intent of the developers to have the units built in a phased approach, with the first ones being marketed for sale in 2008.

All the pre-development and construction costs are being born by the developers. Once the pre-estimated costs are determined, a concise project plan with costing will be completed.

A development plan will be shared with the body later in a separate presentation as well as very preliminary figures of estimated project costs and profits.

CONCLUSION

We are striving to bring back the financial strength of our hundred-year-old organization. Key strategies remain to achieving these goals: accelerate product launches by strengthening marketing efforts and identifying niche markets, expand sales staff by utilizing sales staff and commissioned third party agents and strengthen internal sales staff. A professional marketing campaign and strategy is essential.

I would like to thank my colleagues, our staff, and the General Assembly members for their cooperation. Special thanks to the Soyuzivka staff with its General Manager that worked so tirelessly throughout the season and during the Festival. The festival was not only a monetary success and an example of logistic genius, professionalism, and cultural excellence, but a model for teamwork and volunteerism. More than 60 volunteers participated in the event, not only for the days of the Festival, but for the many months prior working with us to organize and plan the event. Now, the question remains, how do we translate this enthusiasm and spirit into volunteerism for UNA as a whole?

It is imperative that the General Assembly members and the Executive Committee increase their exposure in the public and their promotional; role. Only through this exposure to the community can we rebuild a loyal membership base. The cooperation of each of you will be required.

Much effort is needed and a firm commitment from our "core supporters" – the General Assembly and branch secretaries will result in success. I believe, with your help and the successful implementation of the initiatives brought forth, we will succeed.

Report of UNA Auditor Slavko Tysiak

As the incoming new Chairman of UNA's Auditing Committee, I have had a busy time since election at the 36th Regular Convention held at Soyuzivka May 26-29, 2006. Joining me on the Auditing Committee, as new members, are Dr. Wasyl Szeremeta and Dr. Vasyl Luchkiw.

For all three of us this past year has been marked as one devoted to learning about UNA's wide ranging activities, developing working relationships, and providing oversight balanced with solid business advice while safeguarding the safety and security of member assets.

Here's a more detailed glimpse into my activities since becoming Chairman:

During the months of July and August, 2006, I requested UNA's Treasurer and National Secretary provide me with an extensive list of documents and informational materials to enable the Auditing Committee to familiarize itself with where UNA stood from both strategic and fiscal perspectives. The UNA materials were shared among members of the Auditing Committee to help us identify and understand the current areas of concern and risk.

On September 14-16, 2006, I attended my first meeting of the General Assembly.

During the months of October through December, 2006, members of the Auditing Committee started planning its first comprehensive audit of UNA finances, management and operations. This involved making numerous contacts with UNA management to obtain the latest financial and operational documents, to establish acceptable work protocols, to schedule acceptable work dates, and telephonic communications with our predecessors on the Auditing Committee to obtain their views on the status of issues identified in earlier audits.

On January 12, 2007, I attended a board meeting of the Ukrainian National Urban Renewal Corporation (UNURC).

On January 25, 2007, a comprehensive audit was formally announced by an engagement letter sent to UNA Executive Committee members.

On February 1 and 2, 2007, the Auditing Committee worked at UNA's Home Office and conducted a comprehensive audit that included an examination of financial



Slavko Tysiak

and operational reports produced for the twelve-month period ended December 31, 2006 and six-month period ended December 31, 2005.

On February 6, 2007, as Chairman, I filed a set of official minutes with insurance regulators on the conduct of the audit completed in compliance with requirements.

On February 6, 2006, the Auditing Committee concurrently transmitted a draft audit report to UNA's six-member Executive Committee along with a request for their comments.

On March 23, 2007, together with Dr. Luchkiw, we participated in our first meeting of the full Executive Committee. We presented for acceptance our final report on the comprehensive UNA audit. Subsequently, the final report was published in Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly.

On April 5, 2007, the Auditing Committee announced an audit of internal controls over fiscal operations at Soyuzivka. Prior to the announcement, UNA and Soyuzivka management had been consulted to obtain the latest financial and operational documents, to establish audit scope and objectives, and to establish the protocols and timing of the audit.

On May 4 and 5, 2007, together with Dr. Luchkiw, we conducted an audit of the internal controls over the basic business practices at Soyuzivka.

On May 10, 2007, a draft report on internal controls at Soyuzivka with a request for comments was transmitted to Soyuzivka management.

On July 6, 2007, Dr. Luchkiw and I participated in the second meeting of the full Executive Committee in calendar year 2007. At that meeting we presented for acceptance the final report on the Soyuzivka audit. Subsequent, to filing the final report, the Auditing Committee submitted a press release for publication in Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly.

On July 31, 2007, I initiated discussions with UNA management on plans to conduct an interim audit of UNA operations for the six-month period ended June 30, 2007. The precise scope and objectives of the audit are pending definition and the availability of UNA management to provide necessary financial and operational reports but the expectation is that it will be conducted during the Fall of 2007.

During calendar year 2006 and to the present, above and beyond my UNA activities, I have also served as President of the St. Nicholas Brotherhood (Bratstvo) in Watervliet, NY. The Bratstvo meets monthly except during the summer months.

As one of early brotherhoods that helped form today's UNA, the Bratstvo has been and continues to be cooperatively associated with UNA Branch 13 for the past century. The Bratstvo in Watervliet has currently 42 members and UNA Branch 13 has over 200 members primarily drawn from the local communities of Albany, Troy and Watervliet. Each year Bratstvo members along with guests conclude their traditional year by attending the Father's Day Luncheon and Cultural Program at Soyuzivka on Father's Day. Nearly 70 people associated with the Bratstvo from New York State Capital District Region attended Father's Day festivities at Soyuzivka on June 17, 2007.

During this same time period, I have also served as Secretary of UNA Albany District. Information on the activities of these organizations has been reported primarily in The Ukrainian Weekly.

Slavko Tysiak, auditor did not sign up any members this reporting period.

Report of UNA Auditor Wasyl Szeremeta

It gives me great pleasure to take this opportunity to present my Annual Report as Auditor for the Ukrainian National Association. During the last year, I have endeavored to attend all the meetings which were requested of me both at the National and Regional level. I wish to take this opportunity to thank my fellow auditors, Vasyl Luchkiw, and Slavko Tysiak who have done the lion share of work this past year. I am especially grateful to S. Tysiak who has kept our efforts very well organized and has been pro-active in making sure all the auditing procedures are carried out to the best of our abilities.



Wasyl Szeremeta

My personal goals with regards to the UNA were limited this year. Normally, I do not like to limit myself, but it is better to limit oneself, be realistic, and be successful at accomplishing one's goals, rather than to foolishly promise many things, and be doomed to certain failure. During this past year I was honored by my academic department at Temple University to take over as Chairman of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery. As one of the youngest chairs in the entire country, this is an honor and responsibility which I take very seriously and am committed to fulfill to the best of my ability. With this sudden change, I needed to adjust my other responsibilities, including those to the UNA, to be able to fulfill my new responsibilities as Chairman. As the new responsibilities have stabilized and I am prepared to enter my second year as Chairman, I can reassume those duties which needed to be set aside temporarily. If my choice has offended anyone, I ask their forgiveness and allow me to complete those duties which are required of very few individuals.

As a new auditor I have spent much of this year trying to figure out what makes this fine organization work and what holds it back from the successes should enjoy and deeply deserves. My experience at last year's General Assembly Meeting and at the subsequent Auditor's Meeting led me to believe that we have the correct core of individuals to make the hard decisions and to move the organization forward. What I feel I need to do next year better than I did this year is to take that fire and bring it back to my region and local community. One project which I have completed and will take to the public is a multimedia presentation that focuses on financing our children's education and how the UNA should fit in those plans, be it with the Coverdell IRA or with a Millennium II policy. It is my personal goal to be able to present these options to our membership and to others in the community during the coming year.

Wasyl Szeremeta, auditor signed one new member during this reporting period.

Звіт контролера УНСоюзу Василя Лучкового

Остання Конвенція Українського Народного Союзу вибрала трьох нових членів Контрольної комісії. У висліді, перших шість місяців ми дослівно вивчали наші завдання і обов'язки. Це була досить „пинява“ робота, бо було багато матеріалу, а мало часу.

Голова Контрольної комісії Славко Тисяк, 25 січня 2007 року повідомив про докладну перевірку УНСоюзу. Контрольна комісія, у складі Славка Тисяка (голова), д-ра Василя Шеремети і д-ра Василя Лучкового (члени) працювала у приміщеннях Головного бюро УНСоюзу 1 і 2 лютого 2007 року. Ми звернули особливу увагу на фінансовий відділ і на працю Головного бюро УНСоюзу за час шість місяців, що закінчились 31 грудня 2005 року, і 12 місяців, що закінчились 31 грудня 2006 року.

В березні (23-3-07), разом із головою Контрольної комісії взяв участь у засіданні Екзекутиви УНСоюзу. Ми представили членам Екзекутиви звіт із нашої докладної перевірки, і вони його прийняли. Остаточний звіт був надрукований у „Свободі“, і „Українському Тижневику“.

Контрольна комісія 5 квітня 2007 року, після узгодження з Екзекутивою УНСоюзу і управою Союзівки, оголосила перегляд фінансової діяльності і праці Союзівки. У травні (4 і 5) 2007 року голова Контрольної комісії і я провели такий перегляд. Окрему увагу ми присвятили прийнятим засадам доброї фінансової господарки, і як їх уведено у фінансову діяльність Союзівки.

В липні (7-31-07), разом із головою Контрольної комісії був учасником другого засідання Екзекутиви УНСоюзу. Ми представили Екзекутиві кінцевий звіт з нашої перевірки Союзівки. Ми також дали його для друкування в наших виданнях.

Я, вже від довшого часу є секретарем 16-го Відділу УНСоюзу (Товариство „Просвіта“) в Спрінг Валлей, Н.Й., одного із найстарших Відділів нашої організації. Кожного року, ми разом із 16-ою станицею Українських Американських Ветеранів у Спрінг Валлей, Н.Й. улаштуємо в нашому повіті (Ракленд Каунті) Свято Незалежності України – „Український День“. Пересічне число учасників – 50-75 осіб. Я звичайно представляю УНСоюз та його 16-ий Відділ на всіх місцевих святкуваннях та підприємствах.

Василь Лучків не придбав нових членів за цей звітний час.



Василь Лучків

Report of UNA Advisor Maya Lew

Dear members of the UNA Executive, fellow General Assembly members and members of our vibrant UNA and Ukrainian community. I want to thank you for the opportunity to be a Secretary/Organizer for Branch 5, for being elected to be a General Assembly member as well as being elected District Head of the New York district. I am honored to serve in these positions, and am both excited and humbled by your faith in me. I work diligently and treat my roles within the UNA as a top priority; with passion and drive for our fraternal organization to continue to be successful, and to grow and thrive.



Maya Lew

It has been a very busy year since I was elected into the General Assembly at the 36th Convention held at Soyuzivka last May. The UNA's success is as simple as this: we must continue to grow and sell our products, which are the lifeblood of our organization. Just in the short time that I have been active with the UNA, I am proud of the progress I have witnessed in the last year.

I have wanted my contribution to the UNA to include not only strengthening the framework that has already been established by dedicated UNA people in the past, but working to strategize and implement new and innovative ways to continue to market the UNA and its products, to engage the next generation of UNA members, to help in maintaining and promoting Soyuzivka and coordinating the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation, and to continue to promote the UNA publications.

In June of 2006, I jumped right in and volunteered to help the Executive in streamlining and updating the UNA Website. Having a background in web development and coordination, I worked very closely with Christine E. Kozak, UNA National Secretary in implementing simple but impactful changes to the newly redesigned UNA website, which included navigation changes, text edits, and more sensitivity to our Canadian membership.

In July, August and October of 2006, I volunteered as a UNA representative at the popular weekends at Soyuzivka. I see Soyuzivka as not only our cultural jewel and a place for Ukrainian North Americans to meet, reunite and have amazing times – but also and perhaps even more importantly, as the best marketing tool the UNA has to continue to educate the public about the UNA and make potential sales of annuities and insurance.

I am one of the co-founders of the Brooklyn Ukrainian Group, a volunteer group that supports Ukrainian arts and culture. In September of 2006, my sister Ruta (another co-founder of BUG) and I came up with the idea for BUG to create a calendar to help raise funds for the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation. We invited the entire community to participate in submitting their favorite photos of Soyuzivka, and we created, marketed and sold with the help of Soyuzivka staff, management and the UNF, 300 calendars by the end of January 2007. The calendar brought in over \$2,000.00 in calendar sales and donations, and it was something that demonstrated great teamwork that we were excited about since it was the first time it had been done.

In September of 2006 I attended my first General Assembly meeting that was well attended and I felt, to be very successful in our discussions, action items, and plans.

In October of 2006 I attended the UNA Secretary training course that was extremely well organized by Christine Kozak and Oksana Trytjak, National Organizer. I felt it to be crucial training for any Branch Secretary or Organizer of the UNA. Lida Prokop, who has worked in

the financial industry for several years, gave an excellent presentation, and I would highly recommend and hope that everyone attend any of these Secretary training courses.

In January of 2007, as a representative of the UNA I worked with BUG and the Ukrainian Engineers Society of America (UESA) to host a Pub Night for the Soyuzivka Malanka where we held a raffle that helped to fund energy efficient lightbulbs for Soyuzivka. To date we have personally installed over 100 EE lightbulbs and it is already saving Soyuzivka an estimated \$600/year. Based on action items from the Organizing Committee at our General Assembly meeting, in February of 2007 I began to create a Sales Book that could be used by Branch Secretaries/Organizers. After organizing this book, in April of 2007 Christine Kozak and I worked very closely to start creating an online Sales Resource Center, based on everything that was in the Sales Book.

The purpose of this password protected, information-packed and user-friendly site is to act as the resource center and sales toolkit for any organizer, branch secretary or field agent of the UNA – providing any materials necessary for the success of the UNA's sales force – right at their fingertips. This resource center is something I am proud to have been able to implement.

In April of 2007 I also worked to research the various additional ways the UNA could continue to advertise. Although the UNA's papers, The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda are an excellent means as well as our primary marketing vehicles - I think it is important to advertise outside of our subscription base. Advertising outside of the UNA's papers not only promotes and markets the UNA as a whole, but also the newspapers themselves as well as Soyuzivka.

One very exciting thing that was implemented was adding UNA to Google Ad Words, a program where a UNA ad is displayed when people search certain Ukrainian related keywords on Google. This alone has resulted in over 800 clicks to the UNA website in the last four months at a fraction of the cost of traditional advertising.

In April of 2007, through the Brooklyn Ukrainian Group, I was able to gather 21 volunteers to take part in “BUG Spring Cleaning,” a weekend which helps to prepare Soyuzivka for the upcoming season by helping with various repairs, renovations and clean up. This was our fourth year, and to date we have saved Soyuzivka an estimated \$40,000 in repair and renovation costs.

In June of 2007 I volunteered to act as the Coordinator for the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation. Roma Lisovich, UNA treasurer, lay a strong framework for the management of foundation members; and I have taken on this role to continue maintaining the membership and renewal process as the Foundation grows. To date the SHF has 230 members and families, and has brought in over \$50,000 from membership dues since its inception in March of 2006. I am proud of the work the Foundation has done to date, and excited about its future.

In June of 2007 through my personal marketing efforts, I helped to secure 15% of the total ad space as well as 60% of the booster ads in the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation Festival Brochure. The festival in July was simply SPECTACULAR, and I was so pleased with the UNA and Soyuzivka in every way. I encourage everyone to attend next year!

Since June of last year, I have worked hard to promote the UNA in any way I can find the opportunity to – while talking to friends, sending emails, posting on popular Ukrainian websites/ mailing lists such as www.brama.com and ukrainian.multiply.com. I have sold 14 policies since June of 2006 that total over one million dollars in insurance; and as I write this report, I am anticipating four more completed applications for insurance in the mail.

My one thought/request would be for all of us who are active in the UNA, to continue communicating as much as possible. I have often felt discouraged at the seeming lack of involvement of some General Assembly members as well as Branch Secretaries. And if in fact many of these people are active, then I want to encourage each of us to share that information, so we can all continue to inspire and motivate one another for the good of our organization. Perception so often, is everything.

I hope for us to continue increasing the sales of UNA products by encouraging branch secretaries to attend training and get licensure as well as by bringing in independent agents, and by reaching out to outside marketing experts to help us in our goal; I hope for us to continue to work together to market and support the plans of the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation as well as continuing to promote our publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly. I personally am eager to dedicate more time to holding district events in New York, which I plan to hold within the next 3 months.

I hope for us to continue moving forward using all the resources we have at our disposal, and not dwell or complain about the past. We have within us and as a group the ability to make change. We have the technology and the ability to implement projects and events. We have the vehicles for communication and the resources for success. Let us use them!

I am confident in the positive direction the UNA continues to take. I will continue to work hard along with my fellow General Assembly members and Branch Secretaries to redesign the UNA for the 21st century, utilizing technology to our advantage and finding innovative ways to continue to grow our amazing and long standing fraternal organization.

Maya Lew, advisor has signed up 12 new members this reporting period.

Report of UNA Advisor Gloria Paproski Horbaty

As always, it has been an honor and a privilege to serve the Ukrainian National Association on the General Assembly as a member of the Board of Advisors. I was honored to be reelected at the 36th UNA Convention, the first one at Soyuzivka. I had always supported having the convention there.

Some activities I have accomplished in the capacity as UNA Advisor:

Attended the July 16, 2006 Verkovyna Festival where UNA had exposure with an information table. Our UNA table has improved over the last 6 years with attractive displays that create a professional image. We have the resources; now we need to capture the business. Also made a visit to Soyuzivka and had the opportunity to speak with Manager Nestor



Gloria Paproski Horbaty

Paslowsky and Chef Andrij Sonevsky. I congratulated them on a very successful first UNA convention at Soyuzivka in May. We had some discussions about the convention and ideas for the future.

August 27, 2006, while volunteering at the parish festival of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church of Bridgeport, Conn., I set up a UNA information table with the materials I had. The purpose was to expose those in attendance, who do not belong to a Ukrainian church, to our organization. Many were interested in our newspapers.

Labor Day 2006 I made another visit to Soyuzivka while on the way home from another event. It was nice to see all the younger adult guests.

On September 10, the UNA had a booth at the 39th annual Connecticut Ukrainian Day Festival in Stamford, Connecticut. Because I was the Vendor and Children's Activities Chairperson for the Festival, I was only able to help set up the UNA table. It was a pleasure to see all the activity at the booth, especially the youngsters waiting for their "UNA balloons." August 2000 I had invited the UNA to consider renting table space at the 2000 Ukrainian Day Festival to promote the organization. Now, 6 years later, not only have they been to the last 6 Ukrainian Day festivals, but also to Verkovyna, Suma and others. We are going to the public – promoting ourselves, answering questions – it shows that we are alive and well. This is "A Good Thing!"

September 16-17, 2006, a special General Assembly meeting was held that I attended. There was serious business to discuss with decisions to be made. I was a member of the Organizing and Fraternal Benefits Committees. Both committees came up with some creative ideas. However, in order to accomplish some of these ideas, we need to develop a committee to continue working after the General Assembly meeting concludes.

November 11, 2006, three officers from my branch and I attended the Secretarial Course, presented by National Secretary Christine Kozak and assisted by National Organizer Oksana Trytjak, that was offered to UNA branch secretaries, organizers and officers in Hartford, Connecticut. The information was professionally presented with printed material and handouts, as well as a power point presentation. The course was thorough with opportunity to ask questions as we proceeded in the course. We all left with more confidence and the desire to apply this knowledge and gain new UNA members. I urge anyone who has the opportunity to take this course. The time is well worth it! Suggestion to implement some type of course was often discussed at our past General Assembly committee meetings.

On December 2, 2006, my husband and I attended the UNA Christmas Party for its employees at Soyuzivka. Soyuzivka looked festive and everyone seemed to enjoy a lovely holiday social. It's always nice to have the opportunity to personally meet and thank those employees whom we deal with on the phone.

April 21, 2007, was the Connecticut Regional Meeting. Unfortunately, I had to miss this meeting due to work commitment and late notice. This is the first scheduled meeting I have ever missed since becoming Financial Secretary of my branch. A report was provided.

June 10-15, 2007, I attended the UNA Seniors Conference at Soyuzivka along with 105 other "young at heart" guests. It was very well organized with interesting speakers, fun activities and great guests. I was asked to serve on the Credentials Committee. More people should take advantage of this fun event.

Locally, I serve as Financial Secretary of Branch 414, New Haven, Conn. In cooperation with the home office, our branch gave a gift of UNA coloring books, crayons and candy canes to over 30 children in attendance at the St. Michael's Ukrainian Ridna Shkola St. Nicholas Play on December 17, 2006.

Each book had a note attached indicating that the donation was from the branch and listed the names of the officers. A photo of some of the youngsters was printed in The Ukrainian Weekly. On April 1, 2007, the branch held its 5th Annual Easter Egg hunt for children from infant to age 15 of the Ukrainian community including UNA members. The nearly twenty youngsters played activities including "Pin the Tail on the Bunny," guess the number of animal crackers in the jar and, of course, hunting for plastic eggs and candy. At the end prizes were awarded. There was a UNA information table set up. Officers also personally passed out Soyuzivka Foundation information.

From July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007, I sold 5 endowment policies with a value of \$30,000 and a total premium of \$1,250.

I continue to be disappointed that not all Advisors attend our General Assembly meetings. We need their input and thoughtful contributions. At the convention there were some very qualified candidates who cared and wanted to become Advisors to serve our organization. They showed commitment. I am also disappointed that the Executive Board does not communicate major dealings of the UNA to the General Assembly members before those become public knowledge.

For example, I was told of the sale of the Home Office by a total stranger before I received the email. I had hoped that the Ukrainian Cultural Course for young adults, that was strongly supported by delegates at the 36th Convention, would have been implemented by now.

Whenever possible, I try to promote our UNA – the organization and its products. I enjoy meeting UNA members and conversing with them. It's amazing how many Ukrainians here and in Canada, in addition to the new immigrants, who are not aware of the history and service that this organization has provided, and continues to provide, to our Ukrainian community for over 113 years. It is important that we find a way to keep these people involved in their Ukrainian community. Once we lose them, it will be difficult for any Ukrainian organization to thrive.

I will continue to work for our fraternal organization and continue to promote its mission. Our emphasis must be on growth – to promote more sales of our products and more subscriptions to our publications and more guests to our resort. Doing so will improve our financial picture. It takes all of us – UNA members – to strive to reach this goal in order for UNA to continue to hold an important position in our Ukrainian community.

Gloria Horbaty, advisor signed 5 new members during this reporting period.

Звіт радного УНСоюзу Миколи Філя



Микола Філь

Це мій перший звіт як Радний УНС. Я був делегатом на останніх 5 конвенціях УНС, а на 36-ій конвенції яка відбулася вперше на нашій улюбленій Союзівці я мав честь бути вибраним Радним УНС. Я є членом майже всіх українських організацій та установ але праця в УНС дає мені найбільше сатисфакції, тому що до неї можуть належати всі українці без огляду на їх місце народження, їх віровизнання, чи їх політична приналежність. УНС – це Братська установа яка вже понад 100 років служить нашим громадам (Забезпеченням, газетами, Союзівкою).

А за останніх 52 роки за свої гроші утримує Союзівку, якою користуються всі українці, а спеціально наша молодь.

Я хочу висловити щире подяку делегатам 36-ої Конвенції за їх голоси та за довіря до мене. Я говорю про важливість УНС для наших громад при всіх нагодах, та чому треба бути його членом. У вересні 2006 року я брав участь в нарадах Головного Уряду УНС на Союзівці. Працював в Комісії Секретарів та Союзівки. В жовтні брав участь в курсах секретарів на Союзівці. В квітню неділю перед Великоднем на базарі Союзу Українок у Вотерволіт, Н.И. зорганізував інформаційний стіл УНС, на котрому було багато інформації про УНС та фотографії стипендістів УНС. В грудні був присутній на Службі Божій за померших членів 13 відділу УНС та Братства Св. о. Миколая, а після Служби разом із Головою Братства Славком Тисяком зорганізував сніданок в Українському Клубі у Вотервліт. В лютому був присутній на річних зборах Братства та 13-го відділу УНС, де був перевибраний секретарем відділу. В березні був присутній на концерті Т. Шевченка, який організувала Школа Українознавства під протекторатом УККА. В травні цього року був присутній на концерті в Трой Мусік Гол, з нагоди 100-ліття існування Церкви Св. Петра і Павла в Коговз, Н.И., а пізніше на бенкеті з цієї нагоди. Також був присутнім, та одним із організаторів пікніку з нагоди 100-річного існування церкви Св. о. Миколая у Вотерволіт. В червні цього року як і в попередних роках зорганізував поїздку на Союзівку з нагоди Дня Батька. Після обіду відбув Річні Збори УНС Округи Олбані в бібліотеці Союзівки. Дав звіт з переробленої праці та попросив секретарів та присутніх членів приїхати на 1-ий фестиваль фільму і музики, який відбудеться на Союзівці. За цей час записав до УНС тільки 2 члени, але надіюся що в найблищому часі це число збільшиться. Заохочую всіх Українців стати членом найбільшої Української Братської Установи якою є УНС, щоби продовжувати добру працю, яку почали наші піонери.

Микола Філь, радний, не придбав нових членів за цей звітний час.

Звіт радного УНСоюзу Евгена Осціславського



Евген

Осціславський

За цей період часу я працював і далі працюю над тим, щоб наша найстарша братська установа в діаспорі, яка вже понад 113 років служить і повинна служити українській громаді в Америці і Канаді, а через них і всьому українському народові у його боротьбі за визволення. Така праця і служба мусить базуватися на єдності, з повною толеранцією всіх членів, без огляду на те, коли вони приїхали до Америки чи Канади, до якого належать вони віровизнання чи політичних переконань. Місце в УНСоюзі є для всіх українців, які не сходять з патріотичних й ідейних принципів боротьби українського народу за соборну самостійну державу.

УНСоюз – це установа, яка у своїх рядах згуртувала тисячі членства різних політичних і релігійних напрямків, чим стала найбільшою і заслуженою установою. Тому мусимо дбати, щоб не допустити до занепаду так все сильної нашої братської організації.

На протязі всіх років моєї приналежності до Головного Уряду УНС я брав участь у нарадах Головного Уряду на Союзівці, на яких я працював в Братській комісії, завданням якої було виготовлення перспективних плянів праці. Репрезентував УНСоюз на Округних зборах, бенкетах, на фестивалях (у Торонто, Канаді, Стемфорді, Кон., Союзівці і інших), на концертах (четвертоя хвилі у Парсипані, Н. Дж., на різного роду виступах (у Нью-Бронвіку, Н. Дж., Бавнд-Бруку, Н. Дж. і т. п.). Окрім УНСоюзових завдань я бував на імпрезах, які організував Союз Українок Америки (відзначення 40-ліття Відділів у Менвіл, Н. Дж., прицерковні імпрези СУА і Сестрицтва при церкві Різдва Пресвятої Богородиці у Нью-Бронзвіку, Н. Дж. і т. п.

Працюючи для УНСоюзу впродовж 15 років я був посереднім помічником Екзекутиви в реалізуванні плянів організаційної ділянки. Як секретар 234 Відділу УНС активно працюю над збільшенням членства, що є найважливіше для нашої установи. Від 1-го липня 2006 р. до 30 червня 2007 року я приєднав до УНСоюзу 17 нових членів на загальну суму 244,000 дол.

Стараюся допомагати УНСоюзові розв'язувати членські проблеми пов'язані зі змінами адрес, справами незаплачених вкладок у відділі, часто буваю посередником у полагожденні справ пов'язаних зі зміною адрес, виплатою посмертних поліс і т. п. Я є готовий служити УНСоюзові і виконувати всі доручення з боку Екзекутивного Комітету, які провадять до росту і втримання нашої найстаршої установи. Пропоную оживити братську діяльність, що допоможе нам у збільшенні членства.

Вірю, що ми українці доложимо всіх зусиль, щоб не тільки втримати УНСоюз, але відбудувати його. Коли думаємо про забезпечення індивідуальне чи родинне просимо все у першу чергу звернутися до УНСоюзових секретарів, які є все готові допомогти громаді у всяких проблемах. Закликаю всіх українців стати членами нашої найстаршої і найбільшої братської установи, якою є Український Народний Союз!

Евген Осціславський, радний придбав 17 нових членів.

Звіт радного УНСоюзу Мирона Пилип'яка

Знову промайнув рік. Так мені промайнув. Ось УНС має 113 років, Україна має 16 років, а я маю 63 роки. Я пам'ятаю, коли прийшов до УНС, то був чорновусий та чорнобривий, тепер я маю білі вуса. Дякую Богові, ми живі і можемо працювати на розбудову нашого УНС.

Як відомо я працюю менеджером кредитівки (філія від Дітройту, де за загальним менеджером є Борис Блюй).

На протязі звітного року було зроблено дуже багато, як в нашому 496-му Відділі так і в кредитівці. Маємо online. Незважаючи на те, що наша кредитівка, напевне одна в Америці і не має debit card, ми зростаємо кількісно, збільшилися інвестиції. Але мова в даному звіті повинна йти про досягнення в праці в УНС.

В кінці минулого року ми відвідували церкви, де пропонували різні пляни страхівок. В результаті збільшилося Р-20. Шкода, що ми не маємо ніякої наглядної агітації, а та, що була, вимагає кращої мови. Але треба користуватися тим, що маємо. Те, що я пасу не останніх, заслуга не тільки моя, але без допомоги Степана Качарая, Христини Козак я б не був там, де я є. На відміну від пана Качарая, який періодично цікавиться нашими успіхами, мені активно допомагає Надя Салабай. Тільки в спільній праці досягається успіх.

Я бажаю успіху, плодovitой праці на розбудову Українського Народного Союзу, дирекції та усім секретарям.

Радний Мирон Пилип'як придбав 11 членів за цей звітний час.



Мирон Пилип'як

Report of UNA Advisor Olya N. Czerkas

The position of advisor for the UNA is one of much responsibility to the UNA membership and, for me, an honor. Being newly elected to this position and living in St. Petersburg, Fla., I have found that some of the responsibilities as an advisor may be slightly different than those who may have held this position previously and those who live close to the UNA main headquarters. The 2006-2007 year has brought me many opportunities to help the UNA through education, personal contacts, and representation.



Olya N. Czerkas

UNA Visit:

In order to gain a better knowledge about the UNA products, meet individuals, and learn about UNA mechanics, I visited the UNA headquarters in June 2006. I gained much professional insight that will be most beneficial in my upcoming years as an advisor. I also had the opportunity to meet with Christina Kozak who spent most of the day educating me about the many products UNA has available to our membership.

General Assembly Meeting:

The General Assembly Meeting was held in September, 2006. I attended the meeting at Soyuzivka, volunteered to be a committee member on three committees, and was an active participant in the many discussions which involved the growth and betterment of UNA and Soyuzivka.

The three-day meeting was filled with many topics that needed our input so that educated decisions could be made. We, the advisory board and executive committee, discussed in great depth, reviewed and voted on issues, with the goals of progress and growth of UNA membership and Soyuzivka in mind.

Secretaries' Training:

Ms. Kozak had conducted a Secretaries Training session in October 2006. I attended this weekend training session at Soyuzivka in order to gain more insight into the products offered to our membership and sales procedures. The weekend was very educational since it was filled with all topics relevant to sales of UNA products.

UNA Cruise:

This year, as a fundraiser, UNA offered a cruise package to the Caribbean through Zenia's Travel Club. This cruise left from the Port of Tampa in March with many individuals who wanted to support UNA and Soyuzivka while vacationing. Zenia Brozyna, the owner of Zenia's Travel Club, asked my recommendations concerning hotels and entertainment in the Tampa Bay area.

I was instrumental in helping her find a very convenient and comfortable hotel and entertainment. It was a pleasure for us, my husband and me, to greet UNA members and cruise participants to the Tampa Bay area at the world renowned Columbia Restaurant.

Tennis Camp:

Camps at Soyuzivka have been one of the most instrumental activities in bringing youth, young adults and parents to Soyuzivka. In 1990, I started working with the Soyuzivka Children's Camp as a counselor and then director for many years. This year, as in the past five years, I have worked with the Tennis Camp under the direction of Mr. Sawchak. As an advisor, I spoke on behalf of the UNA and Soyuzivka, thanking Mr. Sawchak for his dedication to Soyuzivka, for his commitment to our youth, and constant hard work over these past 40 years. On behalf of the UNA, I presented Mr. Sawchak with a plaque acknowledging his dedication and service. We also had a moment of silence in

memory Zenon Snylyk, the original camp director.

In summery, I believe that over this past year I have personally learned more about the UNA and, in turn, have been able to speak to others about the products UNA offers. I have been involved with many Ukrainian activities in our community and have shared the information about the UNA and Soyuzivka whenever possible. I have also been called upon to honorably represent the UNA at functions, which I have proudly done. I do believe that my commitment and dedication to our youth at Soyuzivka, the United States and Ukraine is the greatest contribution to the growth and prosperity of our UNA. I will proudly continue to work toward educating our children about their heritage, their background and their UNA and Soyuzivka community.

Olya N. Czerkas, advisor did not sign up any members this reporting period.

Report of UNA Advisor Al Kachkowski

Activities sponsored directly by the UNA have been minimal. However, by virtue of its membership in the membership in the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the UNA is a visible and active part of the Ukrainian community in Saskatoon and is involved in a number of activities. Most notably it helps sponsor Ukraine Day in the Park, Saskatchewan's only outdoor Ukrainian festival and the UCC branch's Immigration Committee, which is very active and has received government funding to assist the dozens of immigrants that have recently been arriving to work and live in Saskatoon.



Al Kachkowski

II

I have represented the UNA at monthly meetings of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Saskatoon Branch. The congress branch now consists of 27 organizations of which the UNA Branch here is one. I have distributed copies of brochures about the UNA and its services and also brochures about Soyuzivka. The result is increased awareness about the UNA. The long term intended result will be more fertile ground for membership recruitment when such a campaign is launched.

III

At the last General Assembly meeting, due to the Canadian Director's early departure. I initiated a meeting of the Canadian committee at which I thanked the United States members who volunteered to serve. At this meeting it was stressed that communication with existing secretaries is important. Those who want to be replaced need to be identified and initiatives need to take place regarding new secretaries.

Towards this end, in order to assist the Director for Canada, I have volunteered to visit those secretaries in the Winnipeg District.

In November I visited the secretary of the Branch in the City of Winnipeg. The same month I also arranged for a good will meeting with the secretary in Minneapolis, Minn.

Follow up to both these meetings needs to occur.

I have contributed Ukrainian Canadian community information for publication in The Ukrainian Weekly and continue to do so from time to time.

Al Kachkowski, advisor did not sign up any members this reporting period.

PAUL PRINKO UNA ADVISOR

DID NOT SUMMIT A REPORT

We cannot reach him. He is in Ukraine have no contact with him.

BOHDAN KUKURUZA UNA ADVISOR

DID NOT SUMMIT A REPORT

Report of UNA Advisor Eugene Serba

I was honored to be elected Advisor at the 36th Ukrainian National Association Convention held at Soyuzivka in May, 2006. Despite my busy professional schedule, I have supported the UNA wherever feasible in a number of different ways.

The dominant concern at the 36th Convention was the expenses and revenues associated with Soyuzivka and the effect on the UNA and its reserves. As requested at the convention, I personally contributed to the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation in July, 2006. In addition, I wrote a letter to the Editor of The Ukrainian Weekly published in August, 2006 asking for support for the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation from all Ukrainians. On a personal note, I mailed letters to friends and contacts soliciting support and contributions for Soyuzivka in September, 2006. Throughout the year I have reviewed documents and plans for Soyuzivka as presented by the Executive Board.

In September, 2006 I attended my first UNA General Assembly Meeting at Soyuzivka. I participated and continue on the finance committee. I feel confident decisions that are being made by the Executive Board are being analyzed and presented to the appropriate Advisors and committee members throughout the year.

I sent a designee to the UNA Philadelphia District Meeting in October, 2006 because I had professional obligations out of town. I attended a special Board Meeting of the Ukrainian National Urban Renewal Corporation in Parsippany, N.J. in January, 2007. All of these meetings and discussions focused on keeping the UNA solvent with



Eugene Serba

regard to its principle business while converting the real estate holdings to “usable” reserves.

On a more local level I conducted the UNA Branch 173 annual meeting in February 2007. Following the theme of “fraternal brotherhood” UNA Branch 173 sponsored and organized the portraits of Cardinal Slipyj and Metropolitan Sheptytsky that were blessed in February, 2007 and are on permanent display in the vestibule of St. Nicholas Church in Wilmington, Del.

On a personal note I participated in the 20th Tryzub Tennis Tournament held in April 2007. I realize that there are a great many people that have long contributed to the success of various Ukrainian and more specifically UNA projects. One of such individuals continues to be George Sawchak. He has conducted the tennis camp for Ukrainian youths at Soyuzivka for 40 years! I helped organize a recognition of this outstanding achievement in June, 2007.

In a more patriotic vein, I began a campaign to get the Ukrainian flag permanently on display in North Wildwood, N.J. I realize that a great many Ukrainians vacation in the Wildwoods. Why can't a Ukrainian flag be displayed? I have attended several city council meetings and hope to have approval in 2008.

Throughout the year via telephone, e-mail, and in person I have sought to provide support to the UNA and its publications Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly. My role as Advisor has provided consultation and support concerning finances and continued growth. I have organized 11 annuity and insurance policies while maintaining contact with a great many individuals on the Executive Board and fellow Advisors. I look forward to continuing work as an Advisor in 2008.

Eugene Serba, advisor signed up 3 members this reporting period.

SERGUEI DJOULA
ADVISOR from CANADA

DID NOT SUMMIT A REPORT

We cannot reach him. Have no contact with him.

6. Report of the Editor-in-Chief of Svoboda
Roma Hadzewycz

The period covered in my report extends from February 1, 2007 – when I assumed the duties of Svoboda's editor-in-chief in addition to my duties as editor-in-chief of The Ukrainian Weekly – through the beginning of September of this year.

It was very hard to bid farewell to my colleague of many years, Irene Jarosewich, whom we lost as Svoboda's editor-in-chief due to the UNA's restructuring of its operations – a move meant “to streamline operations, reduce costs and maximize efficiencies.” As part of this restructuring, the UNA Executive Committee noted in an official announcement dated December 1, 2006, “the two positions of editors-in-chief of the UNA's publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, were combined into one position.” In that announcement UNA executives thanked Ms. Jarosewich, who served for six years as Svoboda's editor-in-chief, for her dedicated service and said a further announcement on restructuring plans for UNA publications would be made at a later date. (It should be noted also that Ms. Jarosewich was on the editorial staff of The Weekly for four years.)

Ms. Jarosewich graciously accepted the news and, in her own farewell note, wrote (in part): “I take this opportunity to sincerely thank my colleagues at both newspapers, our community, and, most of all, Svoboda's loyal readers, for their support for the past six years. It has been an honor to have been the editor-in-chief of Svoboda.”

The announcement of my appointment as Svoboda's editor-in-chief appeared in the paper's February 9 issue. (It happened to coincide with the 30th anniversary as a full-time editorial staffer at The Weekly.) However, the first editorial staff meeting with me at the helm took place on February 1.

I must be honest: I did not want to take on this additional responsibility and did not even know if I could do it. However, after consulting with the staffers of both newspapers and receiving their support, I agreed to give it a try. I'm still trying...

I am thankful that in trying to accomplish this extremely difficult feat, I have the cooperation of a dedicated and hard-working editorial staff at Svoboda. Today that staff comprises: Petro Chasto, Lev Khmelkovsky and Chrystyna Ferencevych. (After more than 25 years as a columnist and reporter, editor Olha Kuzmowycz retired in January 2007, before I assumed my duties at Svoboda.)

On the production side we have layout artist, webmaster, archivist and computer troubleshooter Ihor Pylypchuk and typesetter Daria Malynovsky.

We are served by members of the two UNA newspapers' administration: Walter Honcharyk, who heads the administration, and Maria Pendzola of the subscription/circulation department. We have an advertising department headed by Maria Oscislowski, who is assisted by one typesetter, Ida Fox. In addition, we have a part-time employee, Alexandra Khmelkovsky, who is in charge of our mailroom and what remains of the bookstore.

I should also note that during the school year, we had the assistance of a high school student, Ariana Semegen, who did filing, organized our books and did some research work (as well as proofreading on The Ukrainian Weekly side).

Our regular contributors

Svoboda's regular contributors include Rostyk Chomiak in Kyiv (and sometimes in the United States), Roman Ferencevych in Washington, Anatolii Horokhovskiy, Hyrhorii Kuras and Serhii Panko in the United States, Volodymyr Yefymov and Oleksander Vivcharyk in Ukraine, Svitlana Hlaz in Israel, and others. The newspaper

runs a regular column prepared by the Shevchenko Scientific Society, as well as a monthly page prepared by the Bahriany Foundation.

Svoboda's most important correspondents may well be those community activists from various parts of the United States and Canada – as well as around the globe – who send in stories, commentaries and letters to the editor. Thus, it is no longer odd to see stories from Kamchatka as well as from Sacramento. The volume of information we receive from our readers is simply astounding.

Svoboda website and digital archives

With Svoboda's expansion in cyberspace, we hope to be able to reach even more readers. Our colleague Mr. Pylypchuk is constantly working on upgrading and updating the Svoboda website. Look for more developments on that front in the near future.

Mr. Pylypchuk has also taken on the mammoth task of archiving all past issues of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly via digitization. Currently, issues of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly are available at our home office in the form of bound copies of the newspapers, as well as on microfilm, which also deteriorates over time. Not all years are available, however.

Research by perusing bound copies of the newspapers – some volumes of which are in a quite fragile state – or by looking through rolls of microfilm is a tedious task. Digitization of both newspapers' issues will not only guarantee broader access to Svoboda's and The Ukrainian Weekly's back issues, but will render these archives searchable. Furthermore, these digitized archives can then be made available to universities, libraries, scholarly institutions and other interested parties around the globe.

We are in the process now of seeking grants to support this work, which will require a huge amount of manpower, plus specialized equipment.

Poor postal delivery

Our newspapers' biggest problem is poor postal delivery. No, it is atrocious postal delivery! Although our papers are completed on deadline and printed and mailed without fail on their designated days (Thursdays for Svoboda; Fridays for The Weekly), those on the receiving end would not know it. Their newspapers come days, and often weeks later; oftentimes several issues will arrive at once. (That prompted at least one subscriber to ask whether we were somehow trying to save money by mailing them all at once.) Our newspapers are not being treated by the U.S. Postal Service like the second-class mail for which we pay a substantial amount.

Furthermore, there is anecdotal evidence that issues of Svoboda are delivered even more poorly than The Weekly, with many readers and us at the home office surmising that we may be the victim of ethnic discrimination since the paper handed by postal workers appears in some foreign language.

During the report period Svoboda has covered so many different types of stories, ranging from the first visit to Ukraine by Ukrainian American astronaut Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper to an exclusive interview with Valentyn Moroz, from the Verkhovna Rada's first sittings this year in February to its dismissal later in the year by President Viktor Yushchenko, from Yulia Tymoshenko's visit to Washington, to the U.S. Helsinki Commission's trip to Ukraine, from the establishment of a united opposition to the upcoming pre-term parliamentary elections. Leading up to the 75th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide, Svoboda has published much information dealing with the Holodomor and plans to commemorate its anniversary.

We've begun several new columns in Svoboda; their titles may be loosely translated as “This month in history,” “The Topic of the Day” and “Commentator's Column.”

Stories appear under such rubrics as “Community Life,” “Ukraine and the World,” “Literary and Art News,” “Leisure Time,” “Travels,” “Sports,” “New Publications,” “Notable People” “Philately,” and, of course, “The Ukrainian National Association Page.”

Color pages in our newspaper

Also, Svoboda has begun producing issues that contain color pages (our first color front page was on May 25, 2007). Usually these are printed when there is a color advertisement that covers the additional cost. However, we have also produced color pages when there was a special feature that just cried out for color. Thus far this year we have published 11 issues that had full-color pages.

Reader support for Svoboda remains high, as can be judged from donations to the Svoboda Press Fund. Since January of this year, the fund has received \$ 26,661.31 in donations. Of that amount \$10,519.18 in donations came in as donations sent in with payment for the 2007 UNA Almanac prepared and published by Svoboda.

UNA and Soyuzivka advertising plus UNA pages in Svoboda during the first eight months of 2007 totaled 125.57 pages.

Here, I think it is important to cite the UNA Auditing Committee's report (published in April of this year), which noted that the committee had “observed that the UNA needs a better picture of mutual benefits relative to internal advertising of the UNA activities. Currently, the UNA provides certain administrative and financial support for the newspaper publications and, in return, the newspaper publications provide advertising space and news coverage for UNA activities.” The committee issued the following recommendation: “Develop a cost-accounting methodology to allocate in-house services shared between the UNA's insurance business and the newspaper publications.”

I wholeheartedly support that recommendation as I feel it is only fair that the space our newspapers devote to UNA and Soyuzivka advertisements and promotional materials should be accounted for. After all, promotion and marketing are not free!

Finally, I must thank the UNA's Executive Committee, as well as others on the General Assembly for their moral support, and their understanding and empathy toward me personally. However, I strongly feel the UNA's newspapers need – indeed require – more of the UNA's attention if they are to flourish in the coming decades. That attention must take the form of marketing and promotion of the paper.

The year 2008 will mark the 115th anniversary of Svoboda. It is only fitting that we approach that anniversary with some hopeful blueprint for the future of the newspaper that gave birth to the Ukrainian National Association.

6. Report of the Editor-in-Chief of The Ukrainian Weekly Roma Hadzewycz

For the purposes of my report, the report period extends from May 2006 through the beginning of September 2007. As you recall, the last time I reported to you and, by extension, to the UNA membership, was at the UNA Convention in 2006; during the General Assembly's extraordinary session held several months after the convention, the agenda did not include the reports traditionally given at annual meetings of the General Assembly.

Our staff

The editorial staff of The Ukrainian Weekly at the Home Office in Parsippany, N.J., now includes: Editor-in-Chief Roma Hadzewycz, who joined the staff full-time in 1977 and has been editor-in-chief since 1980; and Matthew Dubas, who was hired in March 2006 and was officially announced as a new member of the staff in June of that year. Mr. Dubas has become a very valuable staffer on whom I know I can depend.

One of our former editorial staff members, Khristina Lew, comes in one day per week for proofreading and editing duty. We are extremely grateful for her assistance.

Meanwhile, in Kyiv, Editor Zenon Zawada, an experienced journalist who took up his assignment in February 2005, continues doing amazing reporting on the fascinating developments in Ukraine. He not only reported the major news developments (some of which are outlined below), but also filed exclusive feature stories such as the two-part series headlined "The political divorce of Viktor and Yulia" and his three-part analysis of the political situation in Ukraine one year after the parliamentary elections of March 2006.

During the report period The Weekly's production staff was composed of Awilda Rolon, who does typesetting and layout, a stalwart who has been with us since December 1980; and layout artist Larissa Oprysko, who joined us in May 2004, but left for a job at The Wall Street Journal Reports in June of this year.

During the summer we were extremely lucky to have the services of Dara Denysyk, a student of graphic arts and multi-media studies at Centenary College (Hackettstown, N.J.). As of September, Ms. Denysyk is working part-time while attending classes. However, we are ready to hire a full-time layout artist, and I expect everything will be determined by later this month.

Serge (Serhiy) Polishchuk, our layout artist and all-around computer troubleshooter from June 1992 to September 2001, continued to maintain The Ukrainian Weekly Archive on the Internet until this summer. Then the webmaster's job was taken over by Ihor Pylypchuk, Svoboda's layout artist, computer troubleshooter, webmaster and archivist.

Mr. Pylypchuk has also taken on the mammoth task of archiving all past issues of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly via digitization. Digitization of both newspapers' issues will not only guarantee broader access to Svoboda's and The Ukrainian Weekly's back issues, but will render these archives searchable. Furthermore, these digitized archives can then be made available to universities, libraries, scholarly institutions and other interested parties around the globe. We are in the process now of seeking grants to support this work, which will require a huge amount of manpower, plus specialized equipment.

The student interns who worked with us in Parsippany during summertimes were: Natalie Temnycky and Adriana Brodyn in 2006 (the two interns were shared with Svoboda), and Roman Tabatchouk in 2007. During the 2006-2007 school year we also had the assistance of Ariana Semegen, who did filing, organized our books, read proofs and assisted with research; as well she helped with such tasks at Svoboda.

We have exemplary cooperation with the administration of the UNA's two newspapers, which is headed by Walter Honcharyk, as well as with our advertising manager, Maria Oscislawski; and our subscriptions/circulation manager, Mary Pendzola. In addition, we have a part-time employee, Alexandra Khmelkovsky, who is in charge of the mailroom and what remains of the Svoboda bookstore. A sincere thank-you to them all for their hard work and assistance.

Correspondents

Our regular correspondents include: Yaro Bihun in Washington and Oksana Zakydalsky in Toronto. Our columnists are: Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, Andrew Fedynsky, Orysia Paszczak Tracz, Khristina Lew, Taras Szmagala Jr. and Andrew Sorokowskii.

In September 2006 we introduced a new column by Yaro Bihun titled "Why not? Let's talk." In 2007 we began running an occasional column called "Taras Kuzio's Blog," which is an English-language version of his Ukrainian blog for the BBC.

Among our regular contributors during the report period were: Dr. Kuzio, Roman Kupchinsky, Adrianna Melnyk, Helen Smindak, Roman Solchanyk, Yuri Shevchuk, Peter Woloschuk, Andrew Nynka, Ihor Stelmach, Yarema Belej, Diana Howansky, Halyna Holubec, Christina Kotlar and Alexandra Hawryluk.

Postal delivery

The Weekly's (and Svoboda's) biggest problem is lousy postal delivery. Although our paper is completed on deadline and printed and mailed without fail on Fridays, readers receive the paper days, and often weeks, later; often, several issues will arrive at once. I must underscore that our newspapers are not being treated by the U.S. Postal Service like the second-class mail for which we pay a substantial amount.

It is high time we did something to resolve this problem. Though our Home Office executive officers are keenly aware of the problem, perhaps this is a case in which the General Assembly's Publications Committee (Honorary Members of the General Assembly Taras Szmagala Sr. and Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, Auditor Dr. Wasyl Luchkiw, and Vice-Presidents Zenon Holubec and Michael Koziupa) could take the lead. Also, it may be possible to get the assistance of the National Fraternal Congress of America, which has a lobbying presence in Washington, to argue our case. I'm sure there are other fraternal organizations whose publications suffer similar problems.

Major news stories

During the report period The Ukrainian Weekly covered many major news stories. Among them were these developments in Ukraine covered in 2006: the controversy



Roma Hadzewycz

surrounding recognition of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), Russophiles protesting the domestic and foreign policies of President Viktor Yushchenko, the establishment of the Orange coalition and its subsequent collapse, the formation of the Anti-Crisis Coalition led by the Party of the Regions, Ukraine's World Cup soccer debut, the release of Disney's "Cars" in Ukrainian, Viktor Yanukovich's selection as prime minister, movement on a design for the Holodomor complex in Kyiv, the 750th anniversary of Lviv, Our Ukraine's move to join the opposition, the Verkhovna Rada's passage of a law recognizing the Holodomor as a genocide, Prime Minister Yanukovich's visit to Washington and the establishment of a Chair of Ukrainian Diaspora History at the National University of Ostroh Academy.

Thus far in 2007 we have covered such stories as: the expansion of the Ukrainian Cabinet's authority at the expense of the president, Vitalii Klitschko's return to boxing, the resignation of Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk and the naming of Arseniy Yatsenyuk as his successor, the visit to Ukraine of astronaut Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper, the U.S. visit of Yulia Tymoshenko, the political crisis that led to the dismissal of the Verkhovna Rada and more crisis, the selection of Ukraine and Poland as hosts of soccer's Euro Cup 2012, Minister Yatsenyuk's visits to Washington and Ottawa, Ukraine's Verka Serdushka at Eurovision 2007, the Kyiv meeting of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the expansion of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, the centennial of Yurii Shukhevych's birth, the unification of 10 national democratic political parties for the pre-term parliamentary elections in September, the toxic train derailment near Lviv and the beginning of the political campaign for Rada seats.

Back in North America, the top stories during 2006 included: the appointment of a new U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, Ukrainian Ambassador Oleh Shamshur's visit to the Ukrainian National Association headquarters, the activation of a Plast branch in Seattle, Wash., the Hall of Fame induction of the Rutgers volleyball team of 1976-1977 that was composed largely of Ukrainians, the landmark exhibit "Crossroads: Modernism in Ukraine 1910-1930" that opened in Chicago and later traveled to New York, the space flight of Ukrainian American Heidemarie-Stefanyshyn-Piper (whom we declared our Ukrainian of 2006), the appointment of Dr. Boris D. Lushniak as assistant surgeon general of the U.S., the emergence of actress Vera Farmiga (seen as "the new Meryl Streep"), the adoption of the spelling "K-Y-I-V" by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (a decision that affects the whole government bureaucracy), President George W. Bush's signing of a bill on the Famine-Genocide memorial in Washington, the grand opening of the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, the Woskob family's donation of \$1 million for Ukrainian studies at Penn State, a Ukrainian American's design for a 9/11 memorial in Pennsylvania and the 30th anniversary of The Ukrainian Museum.

In 2007 The Weekly carried many more stories about and of concern to our community in the diaspora, including: Voice of America's decision to axe a popular Ukrainian morning radio program, the USCAK soccer team's journey to Australia for a Ukrainian soccer tournament, an Ottawa forum about the trafficking of women from Ukraine, Australia's jamboree celebrating the 95th anniversary of Plast, the Ukrainian Canadian community's continuing campaign for redress for World War I-era internment operations, the Ukrainian World Congress' preparations for the 75th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, diaspora scholars' protest regarding the language issue in Ukraine, the UNA cruise to benefit the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation and the press funds of Svoboda and The Weekly, the naming of a new Ukrainian history chair at Harvard, the revival of SUSTA, Akcja Wisla's 60th anniversary, the case of Ukrainian Canadian Wasyl Odynsky who was accused of being a Nazi collaborator, the first annual Ukrainian Film and Cultural Festival at Soyuzivka, Verkhovyna's sale at a foreclosure auction and the International Plast Jamboree held in Canada.

In addition, we regularly carried numerous features about sports, books, art, music, people, local community news and more, thus trying to present something to interest all of our readers.

Issues of special focus, special features

It was in 2007 that The Ukrainian Weekly started printing issues with color front pages, as well as color inside. Thus far we have published eight such issues when funds permit or when we have special features that merit color.

During the report period The Weekly published a number of special issues or sections:

* "A Ukrainian Summer," published in May 2006 and May 2007. It should be noted that the 2007 release was the first of our issues to contain color pages of editorial material.

* Two issues devoted to the 20th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear accident (three others were published in 2006 prior to the period under review).

* Six issues containing special sections on the 15th anniversary of Ukraine's independence.

* "2006: The Year in Review," an issue that comprised 56 pages.

* The UNA Scholarships section published in March 2007 (containing photos of scholarship and stipend recipients for academic year 2006-2007).

* The "Ukrainian Debutante Balls" issue released in March 2007.

In July 2007 we unveiled a new monthly section (composed of one or two pages, depending on materials available) that is meant to engage the age 18-35 set. "Generation Uke" is prepared by our own Matthew Dubas and his colleague Yarema Belej. Response to the new section has been largely positive as Messrs. Dubas and Belej have succeeded in finding interesting content for their section.

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund

Donations to The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund from May through December 2006 totaled \$17,570.54, while during the first eight months of this year they added up to \$17,216.93.

UNA materials and advertising

Most important among the UNA events covered by The Ukrainian Weekly was the convention of May 2006, which was contained in three successive issues. As well there was a report on the first meeting of the newly elected General Assembly, which took place in September 2006.

From May through December 2006 we published 27 pages of "The Ukrainian National Association Forum," while during the first eight months of 2007 there were 22 such pages. There were six UNA-related editorials during the report period in 2006 and two in 2007 as of the end of August 2006.

UNA and Soyuzivka advertising plus UNA pages in The Weekly from May through December 2006 took up 127.13 pages, while during the first eight months of 2007 they totaled 119.38 pages.

In addition, there is the work that our staffers do in preparing (typesetting, laying out, etc.) of such special inserts as the annual UNA Scholarships issue, or the minutes of General Assembly meetings or conventions.

Here I would like to refer readers to my Svoboda report in which I cite the UNA Auditing Committee recommendation (contained in its report published in April 2007) that calls for the development of a "cost-accounting methodology to allocate in-house services shared" by the UNA and its newspapers.

The Weekly on the Internet

As of February 22, 2007, the full texts of the 2006 issues of The Ukrainian Weekly have been available online at www.ukrweekly.com, the newspaper's official website. The new addition was unveiled, as has become tradition, on the anniversary of the founding of the Ukrainian National Association.

The 53 issues published in 2006 include 1,849 articles. Thus, The Weekly's website now contains 20,189 full-text articles.

Unveiled in August 1998, The Weekly's official website – called The Ukrainian Weekly Archive – is dedicated to archival materials published in the newspaper since its founding in 1933. It includes the full texts of articles published from 1996 through 2006, as well as articles from a variety of special issues published through the newspaper's nearly 74 years of service to the Ukrainian community. In addition, excerpts of the top news stories published each week during the current year are available on The Weekly's website.

The site is searchable. Readers may click on a year or the "Special Issues" section and enter their search terms. The Weekly index also may be searched (although the search is made of only the table of contents, not full texts of articles).

Miscellany

On October 29, 2006, I addressed a gathering sponsored by the Detroit branch of the Shevchenko Scientific Society and the Detroit District Committee of the UNA, speaking on the topic "The Ukrainian Press in America: Do We Need It?" (I assume you know my answer.) Let me take this opportunity to thank my most gracious hosts and the community members who attended the talk.

Wish list

We desperately need a professional marketing plan for both our publications, The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda, as well as for the entire Ukrainian National Association. Without such a plan, and the professionals to carry it out, none of us can hope to increase the reach of the UNA's publications, the number of guests at Soyuzivka, or membership in the UNA. Money spent on marketing will be money well spent, as it is an investment in the future.

I must note here that this wish truly is a perennial one – I have raised it at each General Assembly meeting and each convention since my first report to the UNA Convention in 1982.

This year, however, I feel that this wish has a chance of being granted given that the UNA has now set out to implement its plan "Redesigning the UNA for the 21st Century."

Conclusion

This brief report can present only the highlights of our work during the report period and the most important information about our activity day to day, however, I trust that most General Assembly members are familiar with our work through reading The Ukrainian Weekly. (I invite those of you who are not to become subscribers of The Ukrainian Weekly.)

I am willing, ready and able to reply to all questions and provide any additional information General Assembly members may need. I wish you success in your deliberations.

To conclude, let me just underscore that The Ukrainian Weekly can best be viewed as a network that connects our community members far and wide, that lets readers in, say, North Carolina, know what their fellow Ukrainians are up to in Michigan and vice versa. We pride ourselves on our relationship with our readers and our role as an intermediary in uniting disparate and distant elements of our community, from Seattle to Quebec City. We characterize our newspaper's functioning as a partnership with our community.

Why a partnership? Because for decades this paper has worked with our community activists by providing a forum for their ideas and opinions, serving as a venue where various concerns and causes could be addressed, and galvanizing community action on issues of the day. The Weekly has been a crusader working alongside our community organizations to promote such grand projects as Ukrainian studies chairs at Harvard University, the Shevchenko monument in Washington, redress for the World War I internment of Ukrainian Canadians, a U.S. government commission on the Ukrainian Famine and international recognition of the Holodomor as a genocide. The Weekly has been our community's voice in Washington and beyond since our newspaper is read by members of Congress and other leading decision-makers, analysts and scholars.

As we look ahead to this community newspaper's 75th anniversary in 2008, I firmly believe it is time for The Ukrainian Weekly – and for the UNA – to renew and strengthen this partnership with the Ukrainian community that we serve.

5. REPORTS

Stefan Kaczaraj, President, reported that the UNA's financial status has improved since our last reporting period. One of the reasons is that we sold the UNA building in Parsippany, N.J. with a profit of 4.5 million dollars. Also, we lowered our expenses and there was improvement in our income. Our reserves for last year was \$2,900,000 but in the last 6 months the reserves rose to \$4,500,000. In the last 6 months we have

paid out \$336,000 in subsidies to Soyuzivka, \$50,000 to publications, and \$56,000 towards fraternal benefits, last year a total of \$1,007,000 was paid out in subsidies. He asked everyone to check the financials and review the comparisons between last year's figures and this year. He explained various line items.

- Stefan Kaczaraj explained that much time is spent in compliance with the insurance department in order to fulfill their requests. This is a part of our job that requires much time and effort but it cannot be dismissed.

- Re our publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, in restructuring the papers, we now have one Editor-in-Chief of both papers, Roma Hadzewycz. This has brought some of the expenses down. New Mac computers and software were purchased for the publications department which now enable the papers to be forwarded to the printers directly by internet this is more efficient, saves time and effort.

- We have hired a financial advisor who helps us with our investments.
- We are constantly trying to improve our web pages.
- Stefan Kaczaraj, spoke about other duties of his office, the executives and the General Assembly members. Getting to know the community and meeting with UNA secretaries, district chairmen and the community at large is imperative. S. Kaczaraj reminded everyone that it's everybody's responsibility to promote the UNA, Soyuzivka and our publications within the community. All the members of the General Assembly should attend as many as possible community gatherings including festivals and the like where we can meet the community and promote the UNA.

Christine E. Kozak, National Secretary, requested that everyone read her detailed report but did want to reiterate a couple of important items.

- Regarding yearly reports that are forwarded by the General Assembly members in reference to their work for UNA. An outline was forwarded to each member and she requested that each member comply with the outline. Each member's report should reflect the work done on behalf of the UNA. The outline should include for example each member's organizational work in the community or attendance at any activity on behalf of the UNA. There are many items being reported that are not related to UNA in any way. Christine Kozak requested that members report only on work relating to UNA and its membership.

- Christine Kozak wanted to explain the focus on agency building, contracting professional agents to promote and sell our products. This year due to very favorable annuity rates, the professional agents sold a record number of UNA annuities. The professional agents account for most of our sales. It is therefore important for us to continue to advertise in professional insurance journals for professional agents and the UNA will continue to do so in the following states: in Ohio, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Florida and Michigan. In the first six months of this year UNA has gained more income from annuity sales than all of 2006.

- The UNA has hired a new employee in our insurance department, Oksana Stanko, who is consumer oriented, who has just completed her insurance license. She will be in charge of our professional agents, and we are very happy to have her.

- Referring to various regulations, in issuing new annuities or life insurance policies we are required to issue and complete CIP (Customer Identification Program) forms, annuity suitability forms, replacement forms etc. Completing all these forms require various procedures and much time.

- Regarding the UNA web page, please note that Maya Lew was instrumental in compiling the UNA secretary's and field agent's Resource Center. The UNA rate book tutorial is included on the web page. Also, the UNA brochures can be found on the web and many of the various forms are included. She encourages everyone to log on the web page and if there are any suggestions she will be glad to entertain them.

- The UNA is in the process of converting all our products to the new 2001 mortality table. This must be done by 2009. The new mortality table is calculated up to 121 years of age. We will be converting to the new table one product at a time. She was pleased to announce that the UNA will be adding two new products – 20 year term with a refund of premiums rider and an immediate annuity product. She advised everyone that the Universal Life insurance product will be discontinued.

- Regarding the UNA districts, the following Districts do not have district chairmen: Allentown, Baltimore, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Syracuse, Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg. C. Kozak requested that every member of the General Assembly help to find a chairman in each of those districts.

Zenon Holubec, First Vice-President, had nothing to add to his written report.

Michael Koziupa, Second Vice-President, had nothing to add to his written report.

Myron Groch, Director for Canada, had nothing to add to his written report.

Roma Lisovich, Treasurer, requested that everyone read her detailed report. She explained that it is necessary to understand the line items and how they impact on the profitability of the UNA. We need to monitor our profitability more closely and watch our investment portfolio and our lines of business from an operating standpoint.

- In 2006 for the first time our insurance business fell. The UNA's future depends on the growth of our insurance and annuity business.

- Fortunately, our investment portfolio has increased and therefore we could afford to increase the interest on our annuity products. We are very pleased with our financial investment advisor.

- Most of our premium income comes from the following states: Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Washington state are the highest premium income producers and 33% comes from the 3 east coast states.

- Regarding the selling of the UNA building, when checking the cash to cash ratio, our building gave us a return of 2%. This is a small portion on an annual yield basis when you could invest the funds in bonds at 6%. Therefore the decision was made to sell the building and invest the funds in higher yielding investments.

- Roma Lisovich congratulated Nestor Paslawsky, his staff and all the volunteers for a very successful festival at Soyuzivka. She thanked everyone for their cooperation.

- Roma Lisovich at various times during the meeting handed out and discussed appropriate reports: Business Contingency Plan, Strategic Business Plan with Projections, UNA Investment Policy Report, UNA Variance Report, Development Plan for Cooperative Housing at Soyuzivka,

Stefan Kaczaraj welcomed former UNA auditor, guest Alexander Serafyn to the

General Assembly meeting.

Gerald Tysiak, Auditor, had nothing to add to his written report.

Vasyl Luchkiw, Auditor, had nothing to add to his written report.

Wasyl Szeremeta, Auditor, was delayed, forwarded a written report.

Maya Lew, Advisor, was delayed, she forwarded a written report.

Gloria Horbaty, Advisor, had nothing to add to her written report.

Nicholas Fil, Advisor, had nothing to add to his written report.

Eugene Oscislowski, Advisor, had nothing to add to his written report.

Myron Pylypiak, Advisor, was not present, forwarded a written report.

Olya Czerkas, Advisor, wants to add to her written report.

Al Kachkowski, Advisor, was not present, forwarded a written report.

Paul Prinko, Advisor, was not present, did not forward a written report.

Bohdan Kukuruza, Advisor, was not present, did not forward a written report.

Eugene Serba, Advisor, had nothing to add to his written report.

Serguei Djoula, Advisor, was not present, did not forward a written report.

Roma Hadzewycz, Editor-in-Chief of both Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly had nothing to add to her written report.

8. DISCUSSION ON THE REPORTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

There was a discussion about our publications and the possibilities of obtaining subscriptions online. The current papers each have a different model on the Internet. The UNA cannot afford to give up the hard print – we will lose our revenue. These are possibilities that must be considered and reviewed. We are looking into various options.

Christine Kozak took this opportunity to thank Maya Lew for her input in creating the website for the UNA, Soyuzivka and the UNA Resource Center which is accessible through the UNA webpage. She also thanked Eugene Oscislowski for his continued work in bringing in new members, he is always willing to extend a helping hand.

Committee meetings were arranged.

11. RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT REPORTS AS PRESENTED.

MOTION:

Vasyl Luchkiw, seconded Zenon Holubec

Motion to accept reports as presented.

No discussion

Motion passed unanimously.

9. REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE

Gerald Tysiak, chairman of the Auditing committee thanked the other members of the auditing committee, Vasyl Luchkiw and Wasyl Szeremeta. There were two auditing reports published in our publications. They as auditors critically checked the future plans of the executives. They asked questions as to what their strategic plans are and how they plan to execute them. They were impressed with the quality of thinking and were glad to offer ideas as to executing some of the plans. There is good communication between the executives and the auditing committee. The finances were reviewed in the different departments and they believe the information that was provided gave them a fair and complete picture as to what is going on at the UNA. They reviewed the operations at Soyuzivka, and though the system in place is far from the state of the art, their financials are complete and precise. They keep good manual records. As auditors they found everything is carried out in an appropriate manner, they have no reservations as to the activities in both UNA and Soyuzivka.

13. PROPOSAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF 2008 BUDGET

The following members participated in the Budget meeting, chaired by Roma Lisovich, treasurer, Myron Groch, Stefan Kaczaraj, Michael Koziupa, Vasyl Luchkiw, Eugene Serba. The proposed budget was presented and a discussion ensued.

- The UNA is planning to reorganize the Home Office working space and decrease it from 17,000 sq. ft. to approximately 11,000 sq. ft. At that time there will be a need for some new furniture, carpeting and some new computers.

- There was a discussion about dividends and since the UNA is projecting some profit, we should consider giving dividends, even if it's a symbolic gesture. From a marketing standpoint giving dividends even small ones may be profitable in the long run. On the other hand our membership is used to no dividends, unless we have reasonable profits a couple of years we should not be considering dividend payouts. A payout dividend of a couple of dollars is not cost effective, the administrative work, the postage etc., to pay out a dividend of \$1.00 may defeat the purpose.

MOTION:

Eugene Serba, seconded by Myron Groch

Accept 2008 Budget as presented with minor adjustments.

No further discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Maya Lew, suggested that all recommendations and resolutions suggested on the Committee reports have assigned members claim ownership of the various resolutions and recommendations. Having one or more members assigned to a resolution or suggestion will make it easier to follow progress of said suggestions. And it will be easier to follow whether items have been done or are yet outstanding.

10. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTION

Fraternal Activities Committee Report: Chaired by Christine Kozak, Eugene Oscislowski, Gloria Horbaty, Olya Czerkas made the following recommendations:

- The UNA will contact and invite all non UNA camp participants to join the UNA
- Use camp advertisements for Soyuzivka camps to be utilized in general promotion of Soyuzivka at churches, credit unions and national homes.

- The committee will write a proposal on creating a Ukrainian Cultural Course for high school students at Soyuzivka. The proposal will include types of activities and finding an appropriate person to run the course and present to the manager of Soyuzivka, Nestor Paslawsky to co-ordinate dates and fees.

- The committee recommends that the names of deceased UNA members be listed in both our publications.

- Both publications should have a tear out portion for new subscriptions.

- When distributing our papers at specific events in specific areas include in that publication the names and addresses of the local UNA secretaries.

- UNA should try to have promotional tables at various festivals in the U.S. and in Canada

- As a fraternal benefit each branch should hold a Mass once a year in memory of all deceased members in that branch.

- Branches and Districts should hold "UNA Month" activities, sponsor events, invite Executives to promote UNA events, etc.,

- Continue the UNA Scholarship and Awards program.

- The UNA and Soyuzivka should promote Miss Soyuzivka in our newspapers well in advance to attract more contestants. We could consider other venues like Mrs. Soyuzivka, Mr. Soyuzivka, Ukrainian Idol, essay contests and Ukrainian dance contests.

- During Ukrainian Week at Wildwood and during Labor Day at SUM have a plane fly over the area with a banner soliciting membership at the UNA, and join our web page, including becoming a subscriber of Svoboda or The Ukrainian Weekly.

- Re the Soyuzivka Cultural Festival, in the future, encourage UNA Secretaries and District heads to organize busses to Soyuzivka. As a promotion the Branch could receive a discount depending on how many people are on the bus.

- Regarding the Festival, work with Branches and District heads to sell advance tickets and forward flyers and posters to them.

- Advertise the Festival in Church bulletins, make personal contact with parish priests to encourage organizing buses to the festival.

Soyuzivka Committee Report: members of the committee chaired by Maya Lew, Roma Lisovich, Olya Czerkas, Nicholas Fil, Gloria Horbaty

- Recommends that the UNA activate and empower the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation to activate its charter.

- The UNA and UNF will continue to support The Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation and help raise funds and make available funds that have been allocated for the Foundation.

- The UNA will continue writing about and explaining and distributing information about the transition of Soyuzivka from the UNA to the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation.

- The auditing committee should monitor these developments.

- The UNA to establish a permanent working committee to support and work in cooperation with the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation.

- Profits from UNA Christmas Card Project and Calendar drive will continue to be allocated to the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation.

Organizing Committee Report: members of the committee chaired by Maya Lew, Christine Kozak, Michael Koziupa, Gloria Horbaty, Olya Czerkas, Roma Lisovich, Mykola Fil, Oksana Trytjak joined the discussion

Recommendations:

- The UNA will continue to encourage and guide Branch Secretaries to get licensed in order to be better salespeople and have more knowledge of the insurance industry and UNA products.

- We should create a questionnaire to be used when new members are filling out their applications. This will help the UNA to find more information about their members and better market their products.

- To continue to encourage and include the Ukrainian speaking potential members, we should translate the UNA website as well as the UNA brochures into the Ukrainian language.

- The UNA should advertise and make members aware that they can make their premium payments electronically, through their financial institution. Also, the UNA should work on offering direct debit services.

- We should add UNA branch Secretary contact information to the UNA website. Phase (1) will include a list and phase (2) will include a clickable map of North America where users of the UNA website can click and locate secretaries/agents in their area.

- The UNA will offer business cards and professional name tags for all Branch secretaries when they are needed.

- The UNA will check signatures on the official UNA policies; in some cases ink is illegible.

- Create new banners for advertising purposes at festivals, special weekends, events which will include all the logos, UNA, Foundation, publications and Soyuzivka

- The UNA should have an office at Soyuzivka, so that not only UNA volunteers can promote but have a space where knowledgeable personnel can actually be available to provide quotes and sign on new members.

- The UNA should cross promote with other Ukrainian organizations like UMANÄ, UAPBA, and UABA and others. Insert specific advertisement in their promotional materials and in turn UNA could help them in administrative duties.

- The UNA should create a means and guideline for people who are potentially interested in selling UNA policies. Potential titles include Sales Rep or Membership rep. These reps would hold that title until they sign up 15 new members, therefore allowing them to form a branch.

- UNA should insure that every District have a District head.

- The UNA should continue to research and implement inexpensive yet impacting marketing and advertising campaigns as much as possible utilizing UNA's new brand.

Publications Committee Report: members of the committee chaired by Zenon Holubec, Vasyl Luchkiw, Michael Koziupa, Olya Czerkas, Eugene Serba, Gloria Horbaty, Myron Groch, Stefan Kaczaraj, Taras Szmagala Sr., and Myron Kuropas (the last two members were not present).

The Committee addresses three issues: (1) Postal Delivery (2) Marketing of Publications (3) Making Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly available on the Internet.

1. Numerous subscribers of the two publications have complained that postal delivery is not timely, sometimes weeks after the publication date. The Committee recommends to Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly to run a survey via its publications to run for 4 consecutive weeks, asking the subscribers to record the publication date, the date of delivery and their zip code. If the data indicates unacceptable and untimely delivery, the UNA Executive Committee will relate this data to the Postmaster General with copies to members of the Congressional Postal Committee, with a complaint that our subscribers are not receiving the delivery service paid for by the UNA.

2. The Committee acknowledges that UNA publications need to be marketed in order to reverse the decline in subscribers, it is recommended that responsibility for marketing publications be given to the general marketing department (to be created) by UNA. It is also recommended that this department utilize church bulletins that carry an advertisement page, the Brama Website, local Ukrainian newspapers, etc., It is recommended that the National Secretary request input from branch secretaries in order to identify churches that publish bulletins and local Ukrainian newspapers and periodicals in their area. Olya Czerkas has volunteered to compile the data and pass it on to the marketing department.

3. It is recommended that the UNA publications department make available online versions of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly in PDF FORMAT. This method is the most economical at this time. This can be revenue neutral if online access would be made available at the current subscription costs. Provided that hard copy would not be mailed. Should a subscriber wish to have both delivery online and hard copy, there would be a minimal surcharge of \$15.00 per year.

Canadian Committee Report: members of the committee chaired by Stefan Kaczaraj, Myron Groch, Slavko Tysiak, Eugene Serba, Wasyl Luchkiw, Maya Lew

1. Establishing a network of insurance agents
2. Reviving the secretarial network in Canada
3. Establishing an events presence in Canada
4. Church bulletins

- Network of agents in Canada should be modeled on what we use in the U.S.A. Myron Groch, director for Canada, will contact Ms. Choma an independent insurance agent in Toronto, in the hopes that she can help identify independent insurance agents in Canada. Christine Kozak, the UNA National Secretary, will serve as the UNA contact to facilitate all arrangements and answer any questions. Our goal is to make every attempt to use all the materials that are used in the U.S.A. such as brochures to advertise and promote the UNA insurance business in Canada. To launch this new wave of advertising and recognition of the UNA business in Canada Roma Hadzewycz volunteered to write an article about revival of the UNA insurance business in Canada, under the banner of "Redesigning for the 21st century." This will put every one on notice that the UNA is reestablishing its business in Canada

- There is a need to reviving the UNA branch network in Canada. Myron Groch with the help of Christine Kozak will schedule a meeting of all UNA Secretaries in the Toronto District. It is imperative to establish a working district in Toronto, and appoint a District chairman.

- Myron Groch and Al Kachkowski will revive the numerous actions made in 2006, these initiatives have merit and they will be revisited. Specific plans of action were established at last year's annual meeting, each plan of action will be revisited. In order for the Canadian Committee to be in tune with one another and be aware of updates as to what is happening a Progress Report prepared by M. Groch and C. Kozak will be shared with all members on a monthly basis.

- In order to plan special events and thus make a presence of the UNA both Myron Groch and Al Kachkowski will check all the festivals and events where the UNA can participate.

- Regarding advertising in church bulletins. Myron Groch will establish a list of Ukrainian churches in Canada and find out where and how much advertising will cost.

- Roma Lisovich made an inquiry regarding planning in Canada. Prior to making all the above plans it will be wise to find out which of our products are sellable in Canada. We should compare our insurance products to the top few comparable products being sold in Canada and see how competitive we are in Canada.

- Speaking from the perspective of the audit committee, we should give Canada all the support we can with in reason and that is cost effective. We should help them resolve the challenges that face them, and that there is some closure to whether or not the UNA should remain in Canada and thus make a decision by the next Convention. By supporting Canada we will either succeed or fail and that decision will be made on merit.

- It would be beneficial if Myron Groch could present a monthly detailed report of what is being done in Canada, this will give the Executive Committee a good feel of the progress being done in Canada.

12. REPORT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST REVIEW

The auditors reviewed the Conflict of Interest reports and found them to be in order. The reports of the members who were not present will be completed and forwarded to Stefan Kaczaraj by mail.

7. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER OF SOYUZIVKA

Nestor Paslawsky the manager of Soyuzivka welcomed all the members of the General Assembly and guests. He listed the events held at Soyuzivka chronologically.

- Traditionally Soyuzivka's season begins at Memorial Day
- Orchidea Reunion, with a Zabava
- Full week of the Stamford Diocese priests
- UNA Seniors Week with over 100 attendees
- Included scattered throughout the summer are private affairs, christenings, reunions, birthdays etc.,
- Adoptive parents weekend
- UMANA held their first reunion in many years at Soyuzivka, with over 200 attendees. Nestor Paslawsky was the Keynote speaker the topic they requested was Soyuzivka and its future. After his address, which included both history and plans for the future of Soyuzivka, over 25 attendees gave their names and expressed interest in investing in Soyuzivka.
- Camps are an important portion of our summer season

- Tabir Ptashat, two tabirs are held each season for pre schoolers
- Tennis camp with a record number of registrants
- Roma Pryma Bohachevska Dance Workshops

First Ukrainian Film Festival and Cultural Festival, over 2,500 participants, during the Cultural Festival, SUM tabir 100 participants came to blaze trails on our property. During the opening ceremonies of the Festival both SUM and PLAST members were part of the ceremonies. There were 3 main shows, with many artists from Ukraine, dances every evening, vendors, food and a good time was had by all. Nestor Paslawsky thanked Stefan Kaczaraj for his financial and moral support, Maya Lew, Gloria and Donald Horbaty who volunteered much time and effort and Roma Lisovich and Oksana Trytjak for helping at all levels.

- Heritage Camps
- Exploration Camp
- Dance Camp
- Sitch Camp relocated to Soyuzivka with over 50 participants
- Miss Soyuzivka Weekend
- Dance Recital Weekend
- Joseph School of Ballroom Dancing
- And the very successful Labor Day Weekend.
- It was very evident this summer the number of young adults and children that attended, volunteers, participants and visitors. There is an overwhelming interest in Soyuzivka.
- All the members discussed the success and some of the problems facing Soyuzivka.
- There is a 10% discount for UNA members at Soyuzivka, this amounts to approximately \$75,000 for last year. This is income that is lost to Soyuzivka. There was a discussion of having a sliding % from 5 to 10%. Or have a cap of up to a certain amount. We should tie the discount to the number of years one is a member of the UNA. It is important to have this fraternal benefit for members of the UNA and or the Heritage Foundation, but at weddings this discount becomes somewhat of a problem. Some people become a member of the UNA with a minimal policy, receive a discount of 10% on their wedding package which can be in the thousands, then the following year cancel their UNA policy. This is problematic to say the least. It's a loss of revenue for Soyuzivka as well as for the UNA.

- It was stated that Soyuzivka will be closed off season to reduce costs and do some renovations. Most of the employees will be laid off during the winter season and will be rehired in the spring. There are still some events which will be held in the fall because of prior commitments like KPS, KLK, and some Plast reunions, Halloween, and a few private parties. In the spring we will reopen.

- There will be a savings of up to \$300,000. The regulators will be pleased to see this savings.

- Soyuzivka has close to 400 acres of land. The Open Space Institute wants to purchase 250 acres of forest land which borders Minnewaska preserve. This land would never be developed and would be used by our members as park property. We are in negotiations with the Open Space Institute.

- We are planning to use up to 50 acres where we could build the co-ops and the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation would be the cultural portion of Soyuzivka, swimming pool, Veselka, Main House.

14. MISCELLANEOUS

- Wasyl Szeremeta presented a very interesting presentation which he presents to parents and college students. This is a presentation on funding your children's education. It was detailed, personal and entertaining.

- W. Szeremeta was congratulated by General assembly members for his initiative to come up with a proposal and presentation where he makes himself more marketable within the community.

- Roma Lisovich had a power point presentation on the Soyuzivka Development Plan with preliminary projections. When the time comes the UNA is considering offering mortgage loans to people wanting to purchase co-ops at Soyuzivka.

- There was a discussion regarding the two General Assembly members who are not accessible and/or active. We have not heard from either Paul Prinko or Serguei Djoula.

- Stefan Kaczaraj was advised that Paul Prinko will resign and if so the National Secretary Christine Kozak will ask Lubov Streletsky to replace Paul Prinko and Julian Pishko to replace Serguei Djoula.

MOTION:

Christine C. Kozak Seconded by Eugene Serba

Motion was made to have Lubov Streletsky and Julian Pishko replace Paul Prinko and Serguei Djoula. C. Kozak will get in touch with both members advising them and requesting they join the General Assembly.

Motion passed unanimously

Stefan Kaczaraj advised that the UNA holds notes payable in the amount of \$2,500,000 We will be sending letters to members and organizations who own these notes payable and request that they transfer either to a UNA annuity or a UNA deposit.

Note that each UNA branch keeps their own financial books. Some of the branches have accumulated a large sum. We would like to encourage the branches to invest their funds in UNA deposits. It would be beneficial for the Home office to know what funds are being accumulated within our branches and districts. There have been times where secretaries have passed away and no one knew where and how much money was in the branch. It is suggested that the yearly branch dues received by the Secretary be transferred directly to the UNA deposit in that branch name. Also, we should change the By Laws to reflect that all monies from the branch be transferred to the UNA if the branch is disbanded. It should be explained that all monies in the branch are UNA branch money not individual money and should the branch dissolve the money reverts to the UNA Home Office.

MOTION:

Roma Lisovich seconded by Myron Groch

Adjourn the General Assembly meeting

Motion passed unanimously

Stefan Kaczaraj thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting was adjourned with the singing of the Ukrainian National Anthem.

Activity-packed weekends conclude summer camps at Plast's Vovcha Tropa

by Natalka Salek

EAST CHATHAM, N.Y. – The 55th season of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization's camps at the Vovcha Tropa campground was action-packed. Programs for the five camps held at the campsite offered experiences in hiking, sports and games, arts and crafts, Ukrainian folk song and dance, and the opportunity to achieve merit badges in numerous fields related to the outdoors and nature.

The weekends featured special activities. On Saturday, July 12, the campground was an explosion of colors and balloons as the Plast sorority Chortopolokhy held a carnival for the younger campers ("novaky" and "novachky"). The event included various stations of fun and competition, as the participants sack-raced, bean-tossed, fished, beaded, sang and face-masked their way through the day.

On the same weekend, the older campers ("yunaky" and "yunachky") worked on earning physical fitness badges. Organized for the eighth year by the Spartanky sorority, this initiative tests the fitness of participants in five events against age-based expectations: push-ups, sit-ups, distance power-walking, track running and swimming. Spartanky received assistance from the sorority Chornomorski Khvyli sorority in conducting the swimming component.

The weekend of July 19-20 had Vovcha Tropa playing host to campers' families and friends for "Den Plastuna." The two-day event was kicked off with performances by each of the five camps showcasing their camp themes: for novachky – "Khodit zi Mnoyu" (Come with Me); for novaky – "Viyavliaty Scho Ye Nashe" (Discovering What is Ours); for yunachky – "Za Poklykom Sertsia" (Following Our Hearts); for yunaky –

"Khodit Brattia Soyuz Rozbyvaty" (Brothers, Eliminate the Union); and for the older teens – "Bezmezhe Zhyttia" (A Life Without Limits).

That weekend campers get to spend free time with their families on both Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday evening, a beautiful bonfire constructed by the campers stood silently as rain poured relentlessly. Instead, the festivities were held under the ample roof of the newly completed pavilion, where first, the cub scouts and then the older scouts engaged in hearty singing and skits.

The evening was enriched by the comedic mother-son team of Christine and Stefan Stawnychy, who amused the audience with their Ukrainian rendition of the Pointer Sisters' song "Fire," now forever to be remembered as "Vaaa-tra" (Bonfire).

On Sunday campers and visitors climbed the hill to the ornate wooden chapel in the woods, where the Bishop Paul P. Chomnycky, OSBM, eparch of Stamford, Conn., celebrated liturgy. The words of his homily were directed at the youths, who listened intently and giggled appropriately at some of Bishop Chomnycky's humorous analogies.

The older teens' camp concluded its two-week program on Sunday, following a five-day outing to Saranac Lake, where the campers canoed, portaged, and rock-climbed. For the final week of the four other camps, one-, two-, and three-day hikes were planned for the scouts to North, North Lake State Forest, Giant Ledge and Stoppel Point, all in the Catskill region.

On July 26, campers and staff bid farewell to each other and to Vovcha Tropa, where they had spent three weeks learning to live harmoniously in an atmo-

(Continued on page 22)



Petro Bokalo

"Yunaky" perform their theme song.



Bishop Paul Chomnycky distributes communion.



The ceremonial march during "Den Plastuna."



The Spartanky sorority, organizers of the annual testing for the Plast physical fitness badge.



"Novachky" and counselors perform their camp song.



"Yunatstvo" do the track run component of the physical fitness badge.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

"People in military uniform should be removed from their influence on the conflict, while its settlement should be in the hands of diplomats and international organizations," Mr. Yatsenyuk said. "We can no longer describe this conflict as frozen. This is a conflict in which houses are on fire, civilians are being bombed, economic foundations for regional development are being ruined and blood is being shed. This must be immediately stopped," he said. (Ukrinform)

Kravchuk: aggression must be condemned

KYIV – Ukraine's first president since the country's declaration of independence in 1991, Leonid Kravchuk, said on August 11 that Ukraine should condemn the aggressive actions of both Georgia and Russia in the South Ossetian conflict. In an interview with 1+1 TV Channel, he said that Ukraine should take a more clear position in this issue. Mr. Kravchuk said that Ukraine should observe two international principles: the protection of territorial integrity and non-intervention in the domestic affairs of any country. He also commented that there could not be a conflict in Crimea similar to that in South Ossetia. (Ukrinform)

Ukrainian president leaves for Tbilisi

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on August 12 urgently left for Tbilisi, where the presidents of Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia also were to arrive. The leaders of the five countries said the goal of their mission was to meet with the Georgian president and his government and do everything possible in order to stop a tragic development of events in the Russian-Georgian conflict. Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry noted that all actions and political-diplomatic measures carried out by representatives of international organizations and leaders of individual countries had thus far failed to yield results. The military actions of the Russian Federation extended outside the boundaries of the conflict zone and reached other territories in Georgia, violating the sovereignty and territorial integrity of an independent state. (Ukrinform)

Ukrainians evacuated from Georgia

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko is taking all steps necessary to ensure the evacuation of Ukrainian citizens from military actions zone in Georgia, the presidential press said on August 12. On the president's orders, two charter flights have been sent to take Ukrainian citizens from Georgia to Ukraine. "All Ukrainian citizens will be returned to the motherland. Not a single Ukrainian will remain alone in trouble," Mr. Yushchenko emphasized. The president also noted that, on his instructions, a 'round-the-clock headquarters has been set up at the Ukrainian Embassy in Tbilisi and in the Consular Agency of Ukraine in Batumi, which will render assistance to Ukrainians. Additional transport vehicles will be added as needed to evacuate more citizens. As of August 12 about 350 citizens had approached Ukraine's diplomatic representations in Georgia to ask for assistance with evacuation. Some Ukrainian citizens independently left Georgia for Ukraine via Armenia. (Ukrinform)

Party urges boycott of Russian goods

KYIV – The Ukrainian Republican Party Sobor, which is a part of the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc, on August 12 called for a boycott of Russian goods all over the world in protest against Moscow's military operation in the

Caucasus. The party appealed to related parties in democratic states to begin picketing Russian Embassies in all capitals and a boycott of Russian goods and services. These actions aim to show "solidarity with the freedom-loving Georgian people," said a statement by party leader Anatolii Matviyenko. "The events of these two days should become a lesson for Ukraine. They demonstrated that the 'new' Russian leadership is ready to defend Russia's imperialistic line in neighboring independent countries from a position of strength," the Sobor Party noted. (Ukrinform)

Cabinet acts on humanitarian aid

KYIV – The Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers has allocated 30 million hrv from the national budget's reserve fund as humanitarian aid to Georgia. The money will be sent to the Ukrainian Emergencies Ministry to render humanitarian assistance to Georgia in connection with the armed conflict in South Ossetia. The government also ordered the Foreign Affairs Ministry, along with the Emergencies Ministry, the Academy of Medical Sciences and the Ukrainian Red Cross Society, to determine the list and volume of humanitarian assistance – medicine, bandages, food, as well as other essentials, to be sent to the people in Georgia. (Ukrinform)

Anxiety in Sevastopol

SEVASTOPOL – Sevastopol residents are worried about the military confrontation between Georgia and South Ossetia, as well as numerous victims among the peaceful population, emphasized an August 12 statement adopted by a special session of the City council. The confrontation threatens to grow into a full-scale war, which in the opinion of Sevastopol deputies is an argument for preserving Ukraine's non-bloc status. The Sevastopol City Council approached the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine with an appeal to give an objective appraisal of the events and take steps in order not to involve Ukraine in a military conflict. (Ukrinform)

PRU: Ukraine's leaders must not take sides

KYIV – The Party of the Regions (PRU) on August 12 urged Ukrainian authorities to take care of national interests and not any side in the Georgian-South-Ossetian-Russian conflict. A meeting of the party's presidium made a decision to provide assistance to Ossetian and Georgian families who live in the conflict zone. Humanitarian aid consisting of 1,000 tons of food will be sent to the conflict region soon. (Ukrinform)

Socialists for non-aligned status

KYIV – About 200 representatives of the Socialist Party of Ukraine (SPU) on August 13 held a meeting near the Foreign Affairs Ministry building, demanding a halt to Ukraine's involvement in the Georgian-Russian conflict and a confirmation of Ukraine's non-aligned status. A resolution of the SPU will be handed over to representatives of the Foreign Affairs Ministry. The SPU resolution says that the crisis in the northern Caucasus should be a lesson for Ukraine and its leadership. It also stresses that "Ukraine should remain a non-aligned state." The SPU also is demanding that the Verkhovna Rada establish a special commission of inquiry on weapons sales to Georgia. (Ukrinform)

Crimean Tatars react to conflict

KYIV – The presidium of the Crimean Tatar People, known as the Mejlis, during its meeting on August 12, passed a resolution on the hostilities in Georgia. Mejlis called on all Crimean residents to con-

(Continued on page 15)

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

denn the escalation of the military confrontation between Georgia and Russia and called for the immediate withdrawal of Russian troops from Georgia. The Mejlis also urged the Georgian government to start direct negotiations with the Ossetian and Abkhaz nations on the principles of mutual residence and development. (Ukrinform)

Russian Embassy is picketed

KYIV – The Ukrainian People's Party on August 12 picketed near the Russian Embassy in Kyiv, demanding the withdrawal of Russian troops from Georgia, an end to support for separatists and halting the use of ships of the Russian Black Sea Fleet based in Sevastopol in military actions in the conflict zone. "We are viewing the actions of Russian authorities in Georgia as aggression against a sovereign state jeopardizing peace and stability, not only in the Caucasian region, but also in the whole of Europe," National Deputy Ivan Zayets said. The Embassy's envoy, Vsevolod Loskutov, in turn, described the picketing as offensive to Russia. "We are protecting South Ossetia, Russian citizens and Russian peacekeepers," he said, adding that around 2,000 Russian citizens have been killed in South Ossetia. Picketers then headed to the Georgian Embassy to express their support and solidarity. Similar pickets of Russian Consulates in Ukraine also took place in Lviv and Odesa. (Ukrinform)

OU-PSD: Russian passports in Crimea

KYIV – Russia is actively issuing its passports to the residents of Ukrainian Sevastopol and are getting dual citizenship, which is yet not envisaged by Ukrainian law, said the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc. National Deputy Mykola Stretovych (OU-PSD) is insisting that negotiations on the Russia-Ukraine fleet deal be started immediately. (Ukrinform)

Georgians picket Russian Consulate

KHARKIV, Ukraine – Fifty active members of the Georgia public association in Kharkiv picketed the Russian Consulate General in the central part of the city on August 12. The head of the association, Zurab Kiria, said he has no contact with his relatives, who are in Tbilisi, and that it is impossible to call Georgia. Luiza Labzhnia, another protester, said airports are blocked and trains are not running. She noted that she has a mother and a niece with a newborn baby in Georgia, adding that the people are hiding in basements and are afraid to go out into the streets. Russian Consul General Vsevolod Filipp told journalists that picketers have a one-sided view of the events. The Georgia public association said the picketing near the Russian Consulate General will continue until Russian halts its military actions. (Ukrinform)

RFE/RL increases Georgian broadcasts

TBILISI, Georgia – Until further notice, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's Georgia Service will be adding a fourth hour of prime-time news coverage for its listeners in Georgia and surrounding areas, it was announced on August 11. Since the fighting broke out, RFE/RL's Tbilisi bureau has deployed correspondents throughout the country, reporting from the front lines of the battle zones. "With the Russian and Georgian media providing, at times, wildly different accounts of what is actually happening on the ground, our listeners depend on us for accurate, objective information," said David Kakabadze, director of

the RFE/RL Georgia Service. "Our journalists are sorting through the ethnic and nationalist passions stirred up by this conflict in order to let people on both sides of the war know what is really taking place in the region." Similarly, Georgian radio programming of Voice of America has been extended to two hours daily. Meanwhile VOA's Russian radio and TV have been off the air since the end of July. (RFE/RL, Voice of America)

Romania honors RFE/RL, BBC

BUCHAREST – In a ceremony on July 30 at the Cotroceni Palace in Bucharest, Romanian President Traian Basescu awarded Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) and the BBC the "High Commander of Cultural Merit" award for their decades of providing uncensored news and information to the people of Romania. "This distinction represents a sign of recognition for these two radios that for more than 50 years were in a terrible struggle for the truth – the truth about what was happening in their country in order to counter a powerful propaganda," Mr. Basescu said. "Radio Free Europe and BBC fought heroically in order to create a window through which the Romanians were able to see their truths." On hand in Bucharest to accept the awards were RFE/RL President Jeffrey Gedmin and the chief of the BBC's Romanian Department, Razvan Scortea. Both RFE/RL's and the BBC's Romanian-language services ceased broadcasting to Romania on August 1. A group of Romanian civic organizations, which in an open letter protested the end of the RFE/RL and BBC broadcasts, said Romania should not be counted among the league of Western democracies and that the media landscape is far from even. "Almost all media in Romania was and still is under the control of an oligarchy rooted in the former Communist regime and its secret police [the Securitate]," reads the letter, signed by leaders of 15 civic associations and trade unions and addressed to top U.S. and British government officials, as well as the heads of both RFE/RL and the BBC World Service. (RFE/RL)

Kyiv preps for Ukrainian World Congress

KYIV – The ninth conclave of the Ukrainian World Congress (once known as the World Congress of Free Ukrainians) will take place in Kyiv on August 20-22 with the participation of 250 delegates from 31 countries of the world, representing the interests of 20 million Ukrainians living beyond the borders of Ukraine. President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine is planning to take part in the forum. The delegates will report on their work during the past five years, outline a work plan for the next term and elect a new leadership. A special meeting will be devoted to the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor in Ukraine. (Ukrinform)

Report on flood zone conditions

KYIV – As of August 7, a total of 12 population centers and 323 residential houses remained flooded in six western regions, particularly in the Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv, Vinnytsia, Chernivtsi, Zakarpattia and Ternopil oblasts, that were hit by the recent floods. According to the Emergencies Ministry, the water supply has been resumed in 46 population centers (two remain without water), the electricity supply in 392 towns and villages has been restarted (one remains) and the gas supply in 143 localities has been reinstated (49 remain). A total of 77 dams and riverbank fortifications have been strengthened and 272.35 kilometers of roads were reconstructed. Emergency ministry workers pumped out water from 21,033 flooded houses and delivered 298.4 tons of food, 972,989 liters of drinking water and over six tons of medi-

cine to the flood-hit regions. Work continues on pumping out water from flooded houses and wells, and clearing roads and passages. The health inspection service is constantly monitoring the epidemiological situation. In all, 10,484 people and 2,180 units of equipment of the civil defense forces, the Internal Affairs Ministry and the Defense Ministry, including 6,225 people and 1,555 units of automobile and special equipment from the Emergencies Ministry, are involved in the rescue work. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine still counting losses from floods

KYIV – The tentative cost of the effort to alleviate the aftereffects of the late July flooding in Ukraine's western oblasts and restore infrastructure facilities continues growing, having already reached 6 billion hrv (\$1.24 billion U.S.), Minister of the Economy Bohdan Danylyshyn said. (Ukrinform)

Flood death toll: 38

KYIV – Thirty-eight people were killed by torrential rains in western Ukraine in late July, according to an August 13 report issued by the press service of the Ukrainian Labor and Social Policy Ministry. A total of 35 families who lost their relatives due to the floods have already received financial aid worth around \$20,000 (U.S.). (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko criticizes anti-flood programs

KYIV – "The authorities should radically change their policy in the question of tackling floods. We cannot see each year with new alarm, incomprehensible and unreasoned actions," Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said at a press conference in Mohyliv-Podilskyi on August 6. The president criticized the financing of anti-flooding programs. In order to improve this situation, Mr. Yushchenko ordered the Accounting Chamber to analyze the financing of anti-flooding programs beginning with 2004, so that a reason for this situation is established. "I am giving an order to the Accounting Chamber to analyze the pace of financing of anti-flooding programs over the last four years," he said. The president said that no single government had thoroughly financed anti-flooding programs. "Obviously, we have the current consequences because state programs have not been fully financed," Mr. Yushchenko said. Moreover, the president said that the recent devastating floods in Ukraine are evidence of an ineffective and careless environmental policy. Mr. Yushchenko also said that the flood aftermath could have been less severe, if there had been no mass cutting of forests. He told journalists about his order creating a commission headed by the deputy procurator general to monitor forestry management in the Vinnytsia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Zakarpattia, Lviv, Ternopil and Chernivtsi regions hit by flooding. (Ukrinform)



Our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother,
and a Ukrainian patriot,

Olena Movchan (born Skibicka)

passed away on Friday August 8, 2008,
in Warren, Michigan, in her 84th year of life.



1946



1970



2008

Widow of Dr. Julian Movchan, she was born on February 25, 1925 in Hrymaliv, near Ternopil in Ukraine.

From 1960 to 2001, she lived in Macedonia, Ohio, and was an active participant in the Parma and Cleveland Ukrainian communities.

Surviving family:

Daughters: Lida Plesh
Ola Iwanicki Novak
with husband Stephen
Grandsons: Andrew Pleshkevich
with wife Olga Mikhailova
Adam Plesh
Orest Iwanicki
Oleh Iwanicki

Great-granddaughters: Maria and Elizaveta Pleshkevich

Funeral Services will take place at Union Funeral Home (Lytwyn & Lytwyn), 1600 Stuyvesant Avenue in Union, N.J. (tel. 908-964-4222) at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday August 16, 2008, (visitation 9-11 a.m.), with burial immediately afterwards in St. Andrew's Cemetery (7D, O, 34) in South Bound Brook, N.J.

Any donations may be made to the Ukrainian Museum Archives at 1201 Kenilworth, Cleveland, Ohio 44113, tel 216-781-4329, www.umacleland.org.

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Celebrate 70th wedding anniversary

STOW, Ohio – Nicholas and Mary (Szmagala) Bobeczko were married 70 years ago on August 6, 1938, at Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church on West Seventh Street in Cleveland.

The Bobeczkos are the proud parents of Gerald, who resides in Berlin, Md., with his wife, Mary Jo; and Daniel who resides in Mentor, Ohio, with his wife, Oxana. They also have six grandchildren, and 11 great grandchildren.

The elder Bobeczkos received a home blessing and marriage blessing on Saturday, August 9, at their new home in Stow, from the Rev. Jaroslav Pidlusky, pastor from Ukraine, and Dr. Michael Kulick, deacon of St. Andrew's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Parma, Ohio, in honor of the couple's 70 years together. At that time, they were also presented with a proclamation honoring their anniversary from Bishop Robert Moskal of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Parma.

Immediate family members and some residents and staff gathered in the dining room of the Emeritus at Stow for a small celebration.

Four generations were present at the memorable get-together: Nicholas and

Mary's son Dan and his wife, Oxana Bobeczko; grandson Daniel Bobeczko, Jr. and Gary DiBianca of Cleveland; granddaughter Andrea Gyure with great grandchildren Delaney and twins Austin and Hayden of Mentor; grandson Gregory and Kristin Bobeczko with great grandchildren Quinlan and Justin of Geneva, Ill.; as well as brother-in-law Eugene Woloshyn of Stow; niece Elaine and Richard Stahl of Stow; niece Evonne Woloshyn of Rockford, Ill; and Mary's brother, Taras Szmagala, and his wife, Katherine, of Brecksville, Ohio. Friends Bill and Kathy Dobda of Mentor were also present.

The Bobeczkos were active members of Ukrainian National Association Branch 102 of Cleveland, and the UNA Seniors who meet at Soyuzivka every year in June. They attended and participated in many UNA conventions – Nicholas as a delegate and Mary as a guest.

Since Mr. Bobeczko retired as Financial Secretary of UNA Branch 102, and Mary broke her hip in December 2007, they have been resting and relaxing in their new home in Stow. The couple's new address is 5511 Fishcreek Road, Stow, OH 44224. They both welcome correspondence from any friends or acquaintances – new and old.



Mary and Nicholas Bobeczko



Nicholas and Mary Bobeczko among family members on the occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary.

Completes Tulane Medical School

ANNANDALE, Va. – Steven Mychajlo Yevich graduated from Tulane Medical School, New Orleans, in May. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va., completing his undergraduate degree in three years.

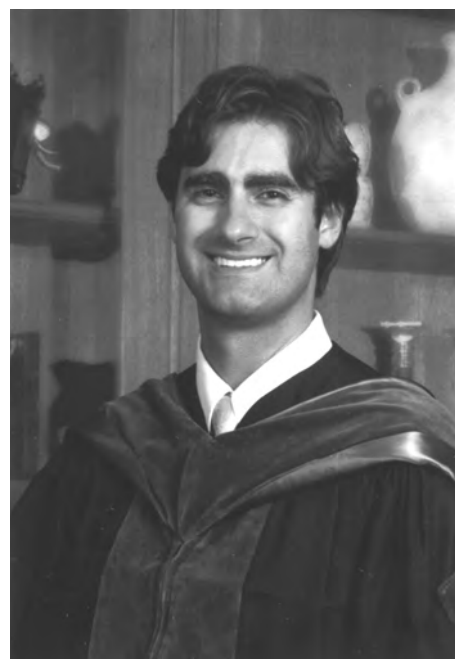
While an undergraduate, he pursued his interest in medicine by getting a paramedic license and working as a volunteer on the Charlottesville Rescue Squad. He also loved the nearby mountains, and so did some interesting volunteer work as a rescuer in the Blue Ridge Mountain Rescue Group. He once spent several days on a rescue mission helping to locate a lost camper.

Because he knew that he was going to pursue a career in medicine and would be starting intensive studying in medical school, Mr. Yevich took the opportunity to travel the world after graduating from college. With a backpack on his shoulders, he started in France, and then the world opened up: Cape Town, South Africa, Oman, the Taj Mahal in India, Bali, Perth and Cairns in Australia, Argentina and finally came home to Annandale, Va.

He had seen so much, met interesting people, learned to live frugally and experienced life richly. Now he was ready for medical school.

Mr. Yevich took a year of leave after his third year of Medical School at Tulane to attend the Harvard School of Public Health, and graduated from there with a Master's in Public Health. While getting his master's degree, his love for travel and desire to help people was gratified by spending a summer month in Guatemala working in a health clinic.

This summer, after receiving his M.D. degree, and before starting his medical



Steven M. Yevich, M.D.

Internship in San Diego, Dr. Yevich decided it was a good time to return to Ukraine for a visit. Although he visited several different areas of Ukraine, such as Odesa and Crimea, his favorite was the city where his grandparents, Mychajlo and Natalia Hikawyj, met married and lived until the war forced them to flee – Lviv. He felt at home with the people, loved the beauty of the city, and was very glad that he had finished his "matura" (comprehensive exams) Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies in Washington.

Dr. Yevich is a parishioner of St Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of the Washington area. He is also a member of the Ukrainian National Association, and has good memories of vacations at Soyuzivka.

He is anticipating continuing his education with a radiology residency at Baylor University Medical Center in Houston.

"Notes on People" is a feature geared toward reporting on the achievements of members of the Ukrainian National Association and the Ukrainian community. All submissions should be concise due to space limitations and must include the person's UNA branch number (if applicable). Items will be published as soon as possible after their receipt.



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Zorya Vocal Ensemble on a musical journey with a mission

by Michelle Schidowka

CLEVELAND – In February 2007 the Ukrainian Cultural Arts Association of Greater Cleveland (UCAA), parent organization of the Kashtan school of Ukrainian dance, announced the creation of the Zorya Ukrainian Female Vocal Ensemble under the direction of Natalia Basladytsky-Mahlay.

Since its inception, Zorya has embarked on a musical journey to fulfill its ambitious mission statement: to bring forth high-quality, vibrant Ukrainian female vocal artistry to all audiences through performances, recordings and education that feature the depth and beauty of the Ukrainian vocal tradition.

Zorya has had a welcoming debut in the Greater Cleveland community. After a well-received first performance at the annual Pokrova Church Ukrainian Festival, the ensemble performed at the Ukrainian Catholic bishop's Annual Charity Ball in Parma, Ohio. These successful fall performances were followed by other performances within the greater Cleveland community, including festivals, celebrations of church feast days, a performance at Cleveland's annual commemoration of Taras Shevchenko, as well as a joint performance with its sister group, the Kashtan School of Ukrainian Dance. More recently, the ensemble sang choral pieces during the consecration of Bishop Daniel (Zelinsky) of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

Zorya held its first independent Christmas concert on December 30, 2007. Despite the chilly temperatures, over 450 people gathered at St. Vladimir Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, for the program led by master of ceremonies Marta Kelleher, UCAA board member. The ensemble sang traditional Ukrainian carols with interludes of holiday well-wishes recited by Natalka Krislatyj-Liscynsky.

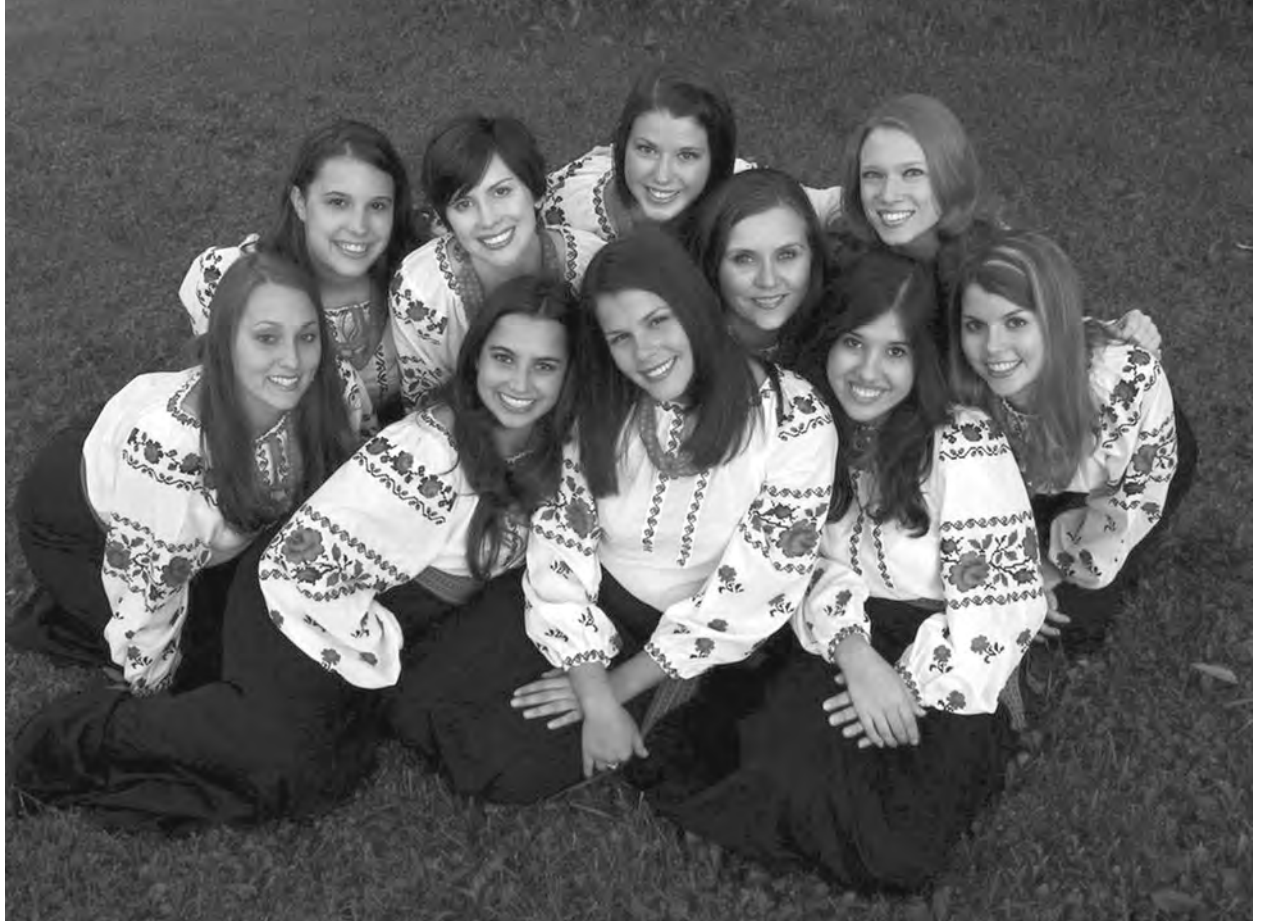
Auditions have been ongoing since the ensemble's inception. Audition panel members have included Ms. Basladytsky-Mahlay, Anna Keller (director of St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Church Choir, Parma), Iryna Zawadiwsky (accomplished performer and instructor at Hryhory Kytasty school of Bandura, Parma), and Oleh Mahlay (artistic director of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, Detroit).

The initial auditions produced an original ensemble of eight dedicated singers, and the ensemble has steadily grown to include members of older and newer waves of immigration. Auditions of prospective singers continue on a regular basis.

The ensemble meets on an average two to three times per month. The repertoire includes Ukrainian folk, religious and seasonal songs that are performed a cappella.

Ms. Basladytsky-Mahlay stated, "I am extremely impressed with the membership we have thus far. These are active young women who have undertaken careers in areas including music, business, the medical field and the culinary arts, to name a few. Yet, each has retained a desire to continue being active in the Ukrainian community through music, which I respect and am very proud of."

Zorya's operations are supported by a network of vol-



The Zorya Ukrainian Female Vocal Ensemble: (back row, from left) Diana Prodan, Olena Gudz, Katia Lys, Michelle Schidowka, Natalia Basladytsky-Mahlay, (front row) Tamara Sopka, Andrea Komichak, Natasha Riedy, Myrosia Stefaniuk, Orysia Gudz. Not pictured: Oksana Vignan, Chrystyna Migielicz and Lesya Kozlovskaiia.

unteers who have dedicated their time and talent to the creation of an organizational structure that can support the ensemble's musical ventures for years to come. The operations committee is currently working on many projects, including developing a performance costume, fund-raising efforts, a CD recording project, as well as pursuing and managing future performances and musical endeavors.

About the artistic director

Ms. Basladytsky-Mahlay, artistic director of the ensemble, began her Ukrainian music studies as a student of the Hryhory Kytasty School of Bandura in Parma. She also participated in a number of Kobzarska Sich Bandura Camps through the years. Ms. Basladytsky-Mahlay went on to become an instructor at both the Kytasty School of Bandura and bandura camps. She also had the opportunity to direct female ensembles at the camps, teaching both bandura and vocals.

During her undergraduate studies in economics at John Carroll University, Ms. Basladytsky-Mahlay had the opportunity to sing with the campus vocal ensemble Schola Cantorum and was featured as a solo performer. In 2001 Ms. Basladytsky-Mahlay performed as part of

the trio Ridna Dusha at the famed Ukraina Palace in Kyiv for 10th anniversary celebration of Ukraine's independence.

Ms. Basladytsky-Mahlay has been studying voice with Miss Norma Codispoti, mezzo-soprano, who teaches voice at the Baldwin Wallace College Music Conservatory. In addition to working with Ukrainian music, Ms. Basladytsky-Mahlay has performed with the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus and the Blossom Festival Chorus.

Ms. Basladytsky-Mahlay has a bachelors degree in economics, and graduated with a joint law and M.B.A. degree in 2003 from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and the Nance School of Business Administration at Cleveland State University. She currently practices law as a federal government attorney.

Ms. Basladytsky-Mahlay is also a graduate of the School of Ukrainian Studies, as well as an alumna of the Kashtan School of Ukrainian Dance in Parma.

Further information about the Zorya Ukrainian Female Vocal Ensemble may be requested by contacting ZoryaCleveland@yahoo.com.

Ukrainian break-dance team to make U.S. debut

by Danylo Peleschuk

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – One of Ukraine's top amateur break-dance teams will head to Los Angeles to compete in its first ever American competition.

Ruffneck Attack, a six-man, Kyiv-based dance team, will compete in "Freestyle Sessions" on August 23-24.

Boasting one of the most impressive records of any Ukrainian break-dance team, Ruffneck Attack has competed in international contests across Western, Central and Eastern Europe, twice beating an American team from Los Angeles, often considered one of the birthplaces of break-dancing.

Each dancer dubs himself "b-boy," and prides himself on a personalized style cultivated from his own creativity.

"Break-dancing is about using your creativity to express yourself," said dancer Andriy Kurnosov, 22. "Every day, we create new moves and new styles that will add flavor to our routines."

The dancers travels throughout

Europe several times a year to international competitions to showcase their abilities, and to represent Ukraine in a sphere which few get to see. Oftentimes they're sponsored by the host organizations, but this time, the group is hopping the Atlantic on its own dime.

"This is a big opportunity not only for us, but for hip-hop in Ukraine," said Mr. Kurnosov. "To gain respect in America, you have to pay your own way, show up and win. We're confident that we'll show our professionalism and talent."

Break-dancing is a style of dance that traces its roots back to the hip-hop scenes of the 1970s and 80s in America's urban centers, most notably New York City and Los Angeles. Each dancer is encouraged to explore his own creativity when dancing, but holds loosely to the basic structure of spinning, jumping, and flipping.

To see Ruffneck Attack in action, search for their videos on YouTube or log onto www.ruffneckattack.com. To donate to their cause, e-mail manager Vadim Birukovich at ruffneckfamily@gmail.com.



The Ruffneck Attack break-dance team of Kyiv.

Vadim Birukovich

The goals behind...

(Continued from page 2)

The goals behind Moscow's operation are threefold, each with its own time frame.

The immediate goal is to re-establish the authority of Russian-controlled negotiating and "peacekeeping" formats. By firing on Georgian positions unremittingly and escalating the intensity of the fire with every passing day, Moscow hopes to force Georgia to turn to those Russian-controlled formats to relieve the pressure. Furthermore, Moscow wants to force Tbilisi to acknowledge a leading Russian role as "guarantor" of an eventual political settlement.

Moscow's next goal, on a timeframe overlapping with the first, is to capture Georgian-controlled villages in South Ossetia. The pattern of attacks since August 6 indicate the intent to reduce the Sanakoyev administration's territory to insignificance or even remove it from South Ossetia altogether. If successful, this undertaking may well be replicated in upper Abkhazia by Russian and proxy forces attempting to evict authorities loyal to Tbilisi.

The strategic political goal is to dissuade NATO from approving a membership action plan (MAP) for Georgia at the alliance's December 2008 or April 2009 meetings. More immediately, Moscow seeks to derail the North Atlantic Council's assessment visit to Georgia, scheduled for September, or at least to influence the visit's assessment about Georgia's eligibility for a MAP. Since NATO's "Russia-Firsters" insist that unresolved conflicts disqualify Georgia from a MAP, Russia seeks to demonstrate that those conflicts are indeed unresolved. NATO's failure to approve a Georgian MAP at the April summit emboldened Russia to escalate military operations against Georgia.

Moscow also seeks to bleed Georgia economically through protracted military operations. Russia can not tolerate the successful economic performance of a Western-oriented government on Russia's border. Aware, furthermore, that Georgia's government is accountable to public opinion, Moscow seeks to force the government to choose between yielding at the risk of a domestic backlash or, alterna-

tively, fighting back in a costly confrontation.

Resemblances with the Russian interventions in the early 1990s in Transnistria and Abkhazia are unmistakable. In that scenario, the Russian media create a hysterical, brink-of-war atmosphere, portraying the small country targeted for attack as a dangerous aggressor. Russian-armed proxy troops, already in place on the target country's territory, attack localities and seats of authority. Cossacks and North Caucasus "volunteers" are sent in.

Russian officials can claim that the attackers act on their own, outside Moscow's control. Russian military intelligence coordinates the operation, while air and ground forces provide cover and would intervene directly if the target country defends itself. In the final stage of this scenario, Russian "peacekeepers" perpetuate the gains achieved on the ground.

Throughout the crisis, most Western governments are confused and react irrelevantly by urging restraint on "both sides," ultimately tolerating the Russian faits accomplis.

That scenario started unfolding in South Ossetia in late July. By August 6 and 7, heavily armed proxy troops opened fire on Georgian villages, while the secessionist authorities refused to talk with Tbilisi. The attacking forces began destroying the transmission antennae of Georgian mobile telephone systems. Arms and paramilitary groups poured in from Russia to South Ossetia through the Russian-controlled Roki tunnel. Russian officials in Georgia claimed that the attacking forces were out of Russia's control.

Officials in Moscow, meanwhile, justified the attacks directly and indirectly by accusing Georgia of aggression (Interfax, Itar-Tass, Russian Television, August 4-7).

At 7 p.m. local time on August 7, Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili spoke live on national television, announcing a unilateral ceasefire and asking the other side also to cease hostilities. In highly conciliatory words, Mr. Saakashvili called for talks "in any format"; reaffirmed the long-standing offer of full autonomy for South Ossetia; proposed that Russia should guarantee that solution; offered a general amnesty; and pleaded for international intercession to

stop the hostilities (Rustavi-2 TV, August 7).

Following President Saakashvili's address, attacks on Georgian villages intensified. The village of Avnevi was almost completely destroyed, Tamarasheni and Prisi shelled, and the police station in Kurta, seat of the Sanakoyev administration, smashed by artillery fire. Civilians began fleeing the villages.

These attacks forced Tbilisi to take

defensive action. By 10:30 p.m. local time on August 7 the Georgians returned fire. During the night, Georgian forces including armored columns began advancing toward Tskhinvali, the secessionist authorities' administrative center.

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

Prime minister ...

(Continued from page 2)

July 31).

Also on July 31, the Financial Times quoted Igor Yurgens, who heads the Institute of Contemporary Development, a think-tank that advises Mr. Medvedev, as criticizing Mr. Putin more directly than did the Russian president. "It is not correct to destroy your own stock market," Mr. Yurgens told the newspaper. "It's just not the right thing. There are 150 ways of resolving problems with Zyuzin without resorting to such comments."

Following the Mechel incident, an apparently unapologetic Prime Minister Putin spoke out about foreign policy and security issues in a manner that would appear to encroach on the constitutional prerogatives of the Russian president.

Following a trip to Cuba by two longtime Mr. Putin allies and representatives of the "siloviki" hardliners, Deputy Prime Minister Igor Sechin and Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev, Mr. Putin declared during a Cabinet meeting: "We need to re-establish positions on Cuba and in other countries" (Interfax, August 4). Mr. Putin also told his Cabinet on August 4 that while "serious blows" had been dealt to terrorist leaders and networks, a "very serious" terrorist threat remained and "tens of billions" of rubles would be provided for the federal anti-terrorism program (RIA-Novosti, August 4).

Just several days earlier, a Foreign Ministry official who asked to remain anonymous had told a group of journalists, "In the role of prime minister, Vladimir Putin may be even more influential in the area of foreign policy, since he is engaged in real matters, about what Russia will be in five to 10 years. He is more involved in that than the president"

(Vremya novostei, July 30).

Mr. Putin's attack on Mechel was "a demonstration of who is engaged in 'real matters' in Russia today," Kirill Rogov wrote in Novaya Gazeta. "And in Putinite Russia, the one engaged in 'real matters' is undoubtedly he who can give instructions about where and at what price you should sell your products, which company the control organs should concern themselves with, who should merge with whom and who should separate from whom. And, finally, who should be sick and who should not. [It is] he who can bring down the [share-price] quotation of a company 40 percent over two days. Because the market knows who decides whether this or that company will exist ... and how it will exist" (Novaya Gazeta, July 4).

Noting that Russia's stock markets had lost \$65 billion after Prime Minister Putin's attack on Mechel, the commentator Yulia Latynina said, "Might comes in two forms: [political] power and money. And this \$65 billion that disappeared from the Russian [stock market's] capitalization didn't go anywhere - it was converted into Mr. Putin's power, it increased the might of the prime minister. Because if we had any doubt before this story about which of them was chief, Messrs. Putin or Medvedev, you have to agree that after Mr. Medvedev said that health inspectors should not 'cause nightmares' for small business while Mr. Putin drops the capitalization of the market by \$65 billion with just one word, then just as there is value-added a la Marx, there is power-added [for Putin]" (Ekho Moskv, August 2).

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Part I: Welcome...

(Continued from page 6)

we sat tight - slightly nervous but fully excited - as I turned to Max and uttered, "Welcome to Ukraine."

Upon our arrival into the city, we met the man who was to put us up together for a few weeks, and myself for the entire summer. Thanks to his typically Ukrainian, heartfelt generosity, Oleg made our Ukrainian adventure entirely possible, offering us his Kyiv apartment as a base for our travels. Needless to say, we arrived at our new temporary home to a fully prepared meal - "salo," bread, potatoes, tomatoes, pepper and pickles. Oh - and vodka, of course.

On top of all this, however, Oleg offered what looked to us like little candy-coated, chocolate eggs - those gumball-size treats you'd often find floating around supermarkets during the Easter season. He explained to us that these "pereplyni" are bird eggs that provide tons of protein and apparently do wonders for your stomach.

Because of their miniature size, I figured that we'd have to fry up at least seven or eight of them to feed the three of us. "No no," Oleg assured me, "no need. Just watch me." He took a knife and poked a small hole on top of the egg,

and another on the bottom. Holding his finger over the bottom hole, he lifted the egg to his lips, cocked his head back and slurped the entire contents down his throat in one, alarmingly fluid motion.

After downing a few more, Oleg turned to us with two eggs in his hand and suggested with his eyes that it was our turn to try.

We looked at each other, then at our eggs, then back at each other. "Why not?" we reasoned, semi-confidently. We wished each other luck and, as Ukrainians say, "poyikhaly" (went ahead).

The only wonder the eggs performed for our stomachs was one that we weren't sure we could hold in. Struggling to feign a look of satisfaction, we half-smiled and said to Oleg, "Uh, yeah... Good stuff..." Because both Max and I are cultured, well-behaved boys, we waited for Oleg to leave the kitchen before bolting to the sink to rinse our mouths. I think I still had half of the oily substance floating around in my mouth.

After drinking a few glasses of water to rinse out any trace of our Easter eggsgone-wrong, we joined each other in the next room to quietly exchange our thoughts on the trauma we had just lived through.

"What the hell was that?!" Max exclaimed. "I don't know, man," I responded, "but welcome to Ukraine."



Danylo Peleschuk in June near Soborna Ploscha in Lviv, having arrived there by overnight train from Kyiv.

The ABCs...

(Continued from page 7)

virtually impossible to change it later. No one likes to re-do old business. Once it's done, it's done. The Ukrainians will be so eager to get something, even anything, done they will go along. Later, we will ram it down their throats.

6) We have considerable weight in international forums, even in the U.S. Congress, especially with the lobbyists we've hired with our newly found oil wealth. We must use this to make sure no one offends the Great Russian People. Having suffered themselves in the Great War and the "Great Famine Tragedy," the Great Russian People are sympathetic to all its victims. Let's get that sympathy working for us.

7) Invite (or challenge) them to "scholarly" and "scientific" conferences of "experts." We still have lots of our old fellow travelers (or their progeny) in influential places, especially in Western universities and think-tanks (See, I told you that would be a good investment.) They will keep these Ukrainians debating how many devils can dance on the head of a pin until doomsday. We don't need to prove anything. As long as we keep them debating, they have proven nothing.

8) These Ukrainians are such polite little lambs, like wide-eyed little children, so eager to prove their case. Let's just hope no one tells them some things are simply not debatable. The Jewish community would never allow Alfred R. Butz or ex-Nazis to speak about the Holocaust. But Ukrainians will allow any Communist or Ukrainian-hating Holodomor denier a forum – even us!

9) Co-opt some of their "experts" and "scholars." This is a lot easier than most people think. Start now by building relationships, especially with those in second-tier universities out in the provinces. Tell them they are underappreciated geniuses. Invite them to speak at conferences. They all have unpublished manuscripts. Tell them you will get their books published; you will get them tenure; even that coveted chairman of the department position. You will get the world to finally appreciate their real genius.

Then, here's the pitch: "Gee, there's just one problem. It's this Holodomor bit. You're just too radical on it and people aren't comfortable with radical scholars. Yet, your work is such genius – maybe if you'd just tone down that Holodomor stuff a little – maybe use a more 'realistic' number? And, at the end of the day, are you that absolutely positive it was genocide? I mean, were you there? It was so long ago, who can really prove it?"

Before you know it they'll be meow-meowing any tune you suggest. And others will follow. And, here's the best part – once they're done, you'll never have to publish any of their rubbish anyway.

10) Waste their resources on little things while blocking serious efforts. In Kyiv there must be no Holodomor memorial complex by 2008. Let them talk about monuments, but remember to make sure nothing ever stands taller than our Titanium Queen.

There must be no major Ukrainian movie on the Holodomor. You never know, it might just catch on. Look what Anne Frank did for the Holocaust. We can't have anything like that. There must be nothing that can really catch the imagination of the world.

We have enough agents of influence in Ukraine and in the diaspora to channel this. In Ukraine, make sure there's no state funding and keep reminding their oligarchs that we are their business partners. In the diaspora, let them waste their time and money on chasing monuments no one will see anyway. Keep them busy chasing their own tails within their own little circles. Let them sing in the showers. Never let them near a stage. Make sure nothing happens that can impact on the real world.

11) Use our influence on media in

Ukraine to block out news and programs about the Holodomor. Counter-program, put Holodomor stuff on little watched channels, at odd times in the middle of the night, etc. Start complaining this Holodomor stuff is getting wearisome, that it's anti-Russian propaganda by fascists, traitors, enemies, etc. "Enough already with this Holodomor stuff – this is starting to sound like a broken record. It's all nonsense anyway."

12) Use our influence on media in the West to block out news and programs about the Holodomor. Counter-program with stuff on other genocides. Call for more programming on the Holocaust – a "real" genocide! Pressure the television and news executives that this Holodomor stuff is not proven, that it's anti-Russian propaganda, hate mongering legends. Promote stories of anti-Semitism in Ukraine instead. Most U.S. television is owned by corporations. Remind them of Russian wealth and influence, the importance of the Russian market for their programs and movies. Do they really want to insult all these innocent people, offend this huge emerging market?

13) Drag out those documents we forged in the 1950s with the East Germans about collaboration between Ukrainians and Germans during the war – the stories we invented about how they turned our Jewish friends over to the Nazis. Keep talking about Ukrainian Nazi collaborators, over and over. We've been telling those lies for so long now that even I am starting to believe them. No one will know the opposite is true, that the Ukrainians issued orders to protect Jews from the Nazis. Even if the Ukrainians figure out our documents are forged lies, by the time they get their act together to tell the world about it, the debate will be over. What a brilliant idea. What a great way to shift blame from the perpetrators to the victims.

14) Remember that kid's finger your grandfather cut off and tossed into the sausage machine? It became more ubiquitous than Kilroy. Remember the photographs of "cannibals" they staged for the press? Always talk about cannibalism. How can cannibals be "victims" of anything? Who would ever feel sorry for a cannibal? The more we talk about cannibalism, the less sympathy they get from all those dead babies. Always attack the victims, make them the guilty ones.

15) Let's find some naïve Ukrainian pups (or some of our own) out there to promote a "Truth and Reconciliation Commission" on Holodomor. This will channel Ukrainian energies into a dead end. They will talk their hearts out into a void no one will remember. We will control the "genocide" bit and focus on little individual tragedies. The world doesn't really want to deal with genocide any more. After Cambodia, Rwanda, Darfur, the shock of genocide is gone. This will put it all into an easy little box no one will have to look into anymore. For us, it will be contained, harmless and over. The world will never miss it.

Look at South Africa – all "Truth and Reconciliation" did was whitewash the guilty in exchange for "confessions." Can you imagine if Nuremburg had been a "Truth and Reconciliation Commission"? Why, we'd be having drinks on the terrace with old Adolf at his villa in Versailles. I can live with that.

So, here we have it: It wasn't that many; we all suffered; it wasn't genocide; no one is really sure what happened – they can't even agree among themselves. Waste their time and resources. Frustrate their best efforts. They're such bad people anyway, maybe they even did it to themselves. If need be, let's embrace them to help them "find the truth." We suffered too. Let's work together, let's reconcile and all live together happily ever after. Let's put a positive future on all this. Enough of the negative past.

We have the best propaganda machine in the world. We sold "communism" to half the planet! Only that damned Coca-Cola has done better. Ukrainians aren't like Jews or

Armenians. Those people will never forget and will never let anyone else forget. In time, Ukrainians will get over it. They don't really like these unpleasant things anyway. They really will be happiest back in the Russian Empire. It's always been their place. They need to feel the master's hand on their leash as it tightens around their

necks. And, if they're obedient, we will reward them, just like in the old days.

Trust me. We can do this.

Your faithful servant,
Herman V. Spinmeister et al
New York, Londongrad and St.
Leningrad

Pianist Valentina Lisitsa to debut at the Grazhda

JEWETT, N.Y. – The 2008 Summer Concert Series at the Grazhda will conclude on August 30 with a performance by concert pianist Valentina Lisitsa.

Described by critics as a "bona fide angel playing" and an "electrifying pianist," the Ukrainian-born artist has been receiving rave reviews since her arrival in the United States in 1991. Ms. Lisitsa is at ease in a vast repertoire ranging from Bach and Mozart to Shostakovich and Bernstein. Enthusiastic audiences throughout the world have greeted Ms. Lisitsa with her highly individual and fearless approach to every work she performs.

Born to a family of non-musicians in Kyiv, Ms. Lisitsa began playing the piano at the age of 3 and performed her first solo recital at age 4. In 1991 Valentina and her husband, Alexei Kuznetsoff, became the recipients of the first prize of The Murray Dranoff Two-Piano Competition in the United States. This recognition, as well as their orchestral debut at the Mostly Mozart Festival at Lincoln Center in New York, helped launch their partnership as one of the most highly esteemed piano duos in the country.

Soon Ms. Lisitsa was also performing as a soloist in the world's most prestigious concert venues, from New York's Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall, to Vienna's

Musikverein, to Amsterdam's Concertgebouw. Having well over 30 concerti in her repertoire, she crisscrossed the globe performing with such orchestras as the Sao Paolo Symphony in Brazil, the New Zealand Philharmonic and the Prague Chamber Orchestra.

Ms. Lisitsa is frequently invited to participate in chamber music performances with such prominent musicians as the cellist Lynn Harrell, violinists Ida Haendel and Hilary Hahn. She has recorded eight CDs for the Audiofon Record Company, and her DVD of the 24 Chopin Études is the first in a series of her music videos. Two more DVDs – one of Schubert-Liszt songs and another of virtuoso masterpieces, including Ravel's "Gaspard de la Nuit" and Liszt's "Don Juan" – were released in the fall of 2006.

At the Grazhda, Ms. Lisitsa will perform works by Beethoven, Schumann, Brahms, Ravel and Lysenko. The concert takes place on Saturday, August 30, at 8 p.m. The Grazhda concert hall is located on Route 23A, Jewett, N.Y. (adjacent to the Ukrainian church). Tickets are \$15; \$12 for senior citizens and members. For additional information and reservations readers may call 518-989-6479 or check the website www.grazhdamusicandart.org.



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Poet Orlowsky...

(Continued from page 11)

A young, emerging poet's conscious decision to write "of the heart" often moves him or her toward larger abstractions, "important" themes that, unfortunately, more often than not, result in unearned or sentimental verse. I see this with many students. It's best to move your poem's energies from precise details and images from your life: the sights, smells, textures that you know like the back of your hand. If you stay true to those details, the poem will, in turn, rise from a place that rings true.

And when work rings true, it resonates with its reader or listener. The beautiful reflection or echo from that exchange designates for me that something pure has been released and revealed.

You refer to Ohio quite a bit in your work. Did living in the Midwest help shape your subjects?

A serious introvert growing up, I spent a lot of time sitting in our 10-acre meadow watching and waiting for Ohio's famous storms, trying to will clouds into dog shapes, imposing my restlessness on surrounding trees – "Standing still at great speeds" as the late poet Joe Bolton once wrote.

I wasn't exposed to urban distractions, so I spent a lot of time traveling inward. I also spent a lot of time reading James Wright. Someone once said Midwestern writers grow up between two polarities: cornfields and death.

Sounds like something you might've said.

Maybe.

What's the key to a good poem?

When the last line confirms the first line wasn't a waste of time.

You used to write art and culture criticism for *Suchasnist*, the Ukrainian journal of politics and the arts, in the 1970s. How did you get involved in that?

I met Ukrainian poet Bohdan Boychuk through the painter Jurij Solovij in New York back in the late '70s. I was working at the Metropolitan Museum of Art at the time. Solovij was working on his "1,000 Heads" project and asked that I write a review of it for *Svoboda*. I'd also become involved with photography and had a strong interest in Earthwork artists, as well as conceptual/performance artists such as Joseph Beuys. I'd also interned at the Paula Cooper Gallery and worked as studio assistant to Earthwork artist Alan Sonfist. So, you could say I was interested in the New York City art scene.

I wrote reviews for *Suchasnist* for only a relatively short period of time. A highlight for me was interviewing George Costakis shortly after the Museum of Modern Art showcased his breathtaking, massive col-

lection of Russian avant-garde art.

Are you still writing criticism?

Not at present.

Let's go back to your other triumphs. You've also won the very prestigious Pushcart Prize in Poetry.

I'd been nominated nine times prior to winning. Always the bridesmaid, never the bride, as the saying goes – though it's an honor just to be nominated. I was finally awarded the prize in 2006 for a poem titled "Nude Descending" from "Convertible Night, Flurry of Stones." I was thrilled.

I understand your novel, "Who Killed Andrei Warhol," was also nominated fairly recently. Congratulations!

Does that mean I need eight more nominations before I win?

With poets, that seems to be the myth. But given that you're a fiction writer, who knows? In any event, the nomination certainly was well deserved.

Who are your favorite poets? Which poets influenced you the most?

Your first question is always difficult to answer as there are far too many to begin to list. Also, sometimes it's a favorite image or line rather than an entire poem or collection that stays with me for days and influences me most.

But certainly several poets immediately come to mind. Sylvia Plath, for example. I recently re-visited her work through a student of mine, Emily Van Duyne, with whom I worked this past academic term. Emily wrote an astute paper on Plato's influences on Plath's work. Re-reading Plath's poems, I was struck by her ability to say the unsayable, to work language and imagery in a way that very few poets are able to.

Thomas Lux's poems were also a strong first love for me. When his early books, "Memory's Hand Grenade" and "The Glass Blower's Breath," first came out, I read them over and over, night after night. I carried them with me everywhere I went. He changed the tone of what I thought poetry had to be. Above all, his poems were funny. Funny, but serious. I wasn't used to that.

Finally, anyone who knows me well knows I'm a huge fan of Franz Wright's poems. (Both he and his late father, poet James Wright, are Pulitzer Prize recipients.) Franz and I met at Oberlin. The first time I read one of his poems in *Field* magazine back in the '70s, I had the sensation of being in the presence of something I'd never felt before. I felt physically changed.

Do you have any favorite Ukrainian poets?

I've long admired the poetry of (in no particular order here) Oksana Zabuzhko, Natalka Bilotserkivets, Serhiy Zhadan, Lyudmila Taran, Yaroslav Dovhan and Oleh

Lysheha, to name a few. There are others. Last summer, for example, I had the pleasure of meeting, Marjana Savka, an exciting young poet whose work is new to me.

Did any Ukrainian poets influence you?

I can't say that my work has been directly influenced by these wonderful poets. More critical to my work was the hybrid identity of growing up a first-generation Ukrainian American in the Midwest. One of my favorite quotes is: "Any culture that cannot laugh at itself, cannot survive itself," though I don't recall who said it.

This is not to say that I grew up laughing at all the things that confused me. But humor certainly played an important role in connecting with others on issues of ritual and cultural identity. I never consciously intended my poems to be funny. But I love it when audiences laugh at certain passages or images. It brings down our defenses; we listen closer, experience one another more deeply.

You're also a translator – of poetry, and of Alexander Dovzhenko's "The Enchanted Desna."

It was actually fiction writer Volodymyr Dibrova who introduced me to this piece and suggested I attempt to translate it. I'm grateful for his encouragement. It took me over five years to translate it with generous help from many, though I will always remain particularly grateful to Volodymyr, my late mother, Tamara Orlowsky, Basil Fedun and Lev Chaban. They were patient and helpful beyond the call of duty.

Dovzhenko's is a magical piece. There's one meditation on the pleasant/unpleasant things of the world which, to my mind, could easily be one of the most beautiful prose poems I've ever read. Actually, a number of the novella's sections read like prose poems. I've used this piece to teach translation and to generate exercises at conferences. It's very well received and effective as a teaching tool. I hope to present this translation at future conferences, particularly those that cross-genre with film.

In addition to Dovzhenko's "Desna," I've had the opportunity to translate numerous Ukrainian poets, but no one extensively. Currently, I'm working on translating a larger group of Natalka Bilotserkivets's poems.

Is translating poetry like writing it?

Yes and no. Yes, because you're paying

attention to form and craft and language all the time – same as when you write your own poems. No, because you're working to bring forth another's voice rather than your own – although some might argue this would be similar to writing a persona poem.

Translators often can't help (or rather deliberately choose to) impose their particular sensibilities on a poem. Some poems need that kind of intervention because the poem just isn't as strong in English. We often complain that a work has "lost something in the translation." But I've seen the opposite too: the work that loses something in the original. Both conditions exist.

The important thing is to keep writers interested in translating. Oftentimes it's a thankless task. As I once wrote to Dibrova: it's "the sound of one hand clapping."

Your most recent book, "Convertible Night, Flurry of Stones," which was released this past March, has a terrific title, but a rather somber set of themes related to your battle with cancer.

The book is about my journey through breast cancer. When I first started writing it, I thought no one is going to want to read this. In fact, in the midst of my crisis, I certainly never imagined myself writing these poems. I was too terrified. But faith is about turning that corner, eventually, toward light. As they say: one door closes and another door opens. But the corridor can be hell.

But turn that corner you did. And, amazingly, you managed to do it with a sense of humor.

I had angels, even in that corridor. My sister, Maria, kept me believing positive things about my body; poet friend Nancy Mitchell turned me repeatedly to my blank pages, encouraging me to write through my deepest doubts.

In a review of my book in *ForeWord Magazine*, the poet and critic Melanie Drane wrote: "Through words, human beings possess the power to articulate experience that would otherwise remain merely an incoherent jumble of events. To discern meaning in times of profound rupture is a fundamentally creative act – and an insistence on survival. In this way, literature and writing often serve as life-affirming, urgent resources, especially amidst crisis." I learned a lot from all three women for whom I feel much respect and love.

Thank you, Dzvinia, for sharing yourself with us.

Nearly 200...

(Continued from page 10)

their surroundings" when they travel to Lviv for classes.

But holding some classes in the students' home eparchies, Kyiv and Donetsk, "helps the students to become more aware of the needs of their local communities," Sr. Ciupa.

In particular, cults are very active in eastern Ukraine and, in the words of catechist Yulia Petrovska, from the Donetsk region, "the methodological tips and theological gems that we take from the institute save the lives of many people in real-life situations."

On June 30 and July 26, the CPI had two separate graduation ceremonies, with a total of 79 graduates. In the 10 years of its existence, the CPI has had a total of 1411 graduates.

The CPI asked a distinguished guest in June when Ukrainian First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko greeted the children who were participating in a contest of religious music, "Song of the Heart," co-organized by the CPI and the Patriarchal Catechetical Commission of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

CPI's extension program was supported in 2007 and 2008 partly by a grant that the Chicago-based Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation secured from another foundation.

Further information about UCU (in English and Ukrainian) is available on the university's website at www.ucu.edu.ua. Readers may also contact the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, which raises about half of UCU's annual operating budget of approximately \$2.5 million. One of the effects of this assistance is to provide scholarships to worthy students, allowing them to get an excellent education that they otherwise might not be able to afford. And the UCEF is operating at an outstanding level of efficiency. Of every dollar the UCEF spends, more than 84 cents goes to its charitable programs, ranking the UCEF among the most efficient and effective charities in the nation. The UCEF may be contacted in writing at 2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60622; by phoning 773-235-8462; e-mailing ucef@ucef.org; or browsing its website, www.ucef.org. The phone number of the UCEF in Canada is (416) 239-2495.

Activity-packed...

(Continued from page 13)

sphere of mutual respect and affection.

This camping season was made possible through the efforts of the dedicated and hardworking members of the Regional Camp Committee of Vovcha Trova chaired by Sonia Slobodian Bokalo. Petro Bokalo shared responsibility for the physical operation of the campground with Joe Patti, while Lida Huk and her assistants Lida Moczula and Larissa Oprysko had the daunting responsibility of supervising camp programs as well as camp counselors. Lida Chernichenko and Katria Harasewych, treasurer and secretary, respectively, made sure the books were in good order

all year round. The administrative staff of Darka Halaburda Patti, Darka Temnycka and Iliana Paslavska attended to the day-to-day needs of the campers and staff, and placed pictures on the camp website (www.vovchatropa.org) so that parents could see what their children were doing. The popular website has received over 15,000 hits to date.

Emilia Liteplo led the kitchen staff, which prepared delicious and nourishing meals four times a day. Medical care was provided by Regina Michels, RN, and her assistant Zenia Olesnycky. At the camp's candy store, Orysia Buzetta assisted the youngsters with their selections. Many other volunteers, too numerous to mention, also contributed to making the 2008 season successful.

OUT AND ABOUT

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|
| August 22 Perry Hall, MD | Crab feast, Baltimore Ukrainian Festival Committee, St. Joseph Parish Fullerton, 410-591-7566 | August 28 Washington | Piano concert, featuring Eva Nesterenko, Embassy of Ukraine, 202-349-2923 or voloshyn@ukremb.com |
| August 23 Toms River, NJ | Ukrainian Festival, featuring live music, St. Stephen Ukrainian Catholic Church, 732-505-6053 or aphinagor@htomail.com | August 30 Jewett, NY | Piano recital by Valentyna Lisitsa, Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479 |
| August 23 Davis, CA | Ukrainian Festival, Ukrainian Heritage Club of Northern California, Veterans Center Theater and Hall, 916-482-4706 | August 30 Kerhonkson, NY | Swim meet, Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada, Soyuzivka Heritage Center, 908-881-0617 |
| August 23 Ottawa | Ukrainian Community Garage Sale, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 613-728-4923 or 613-728-0856 | August 31 San Diego, CA | Ukrainian Festival, House of Ukraine at Balboa Park, 619-460-5733 |
| August 23 Trenton, NJ | Flea Market, Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 609-393-5330 | September 5 Washington | Monthly social, The Washington Group, National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden, 240-381-0993 |
| August 23-24 Chicago | Ukrainian Festival, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America - Chicago Branch, Smith Park, 773-772-4500 | September 5-7 Chicago | Ukrainian Festival, Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church, 312-829-5209 |
| August 24 San Francisco | Ukrainian Day, Golden Gate Park, 650-868-1568 | September 6 Ottawa | Golf tournament, Ottawa Ukrainian Golf Association, The Meadows Golf and Country Club, 613-731-4453 or 613-834-9935 |
| August 24 Silver Spring, MD | Ukrainian Independence Day picnic, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 301-593-5316 | September 6-7 Baltimore | Ukrainian Festival, Baltimore Ukrainian Festival Committee, Patterson Park, 410-687-3465 |
| August 24 Buffalo, NY | Ukrainian Independence Day celebration, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America - Buffalo branch, Ukrainian Cultural Center Dnipro, 716-856-4476 | September 7 Kenmore, NY | Ukrainian Festival, St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, 716-873-5011 |
| August 24 Ukrainian | Ukrainian Independence Day celebration, American Somerset, NJ Cultural Society of Central New Jersey, Ukrainian Orthodox Cultural Center, 908-788-3025 or 908-534-6683 | | |
| August 24 Horsham, PA | Ukrainian Independence Day celebration, Ukrainian American Sports Club Tryzub, 215-343-5412 | | |

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in *The Ukrainian Weekly*. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows; photos will be considered. Please note: items will be printed a maximum of two times each. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.

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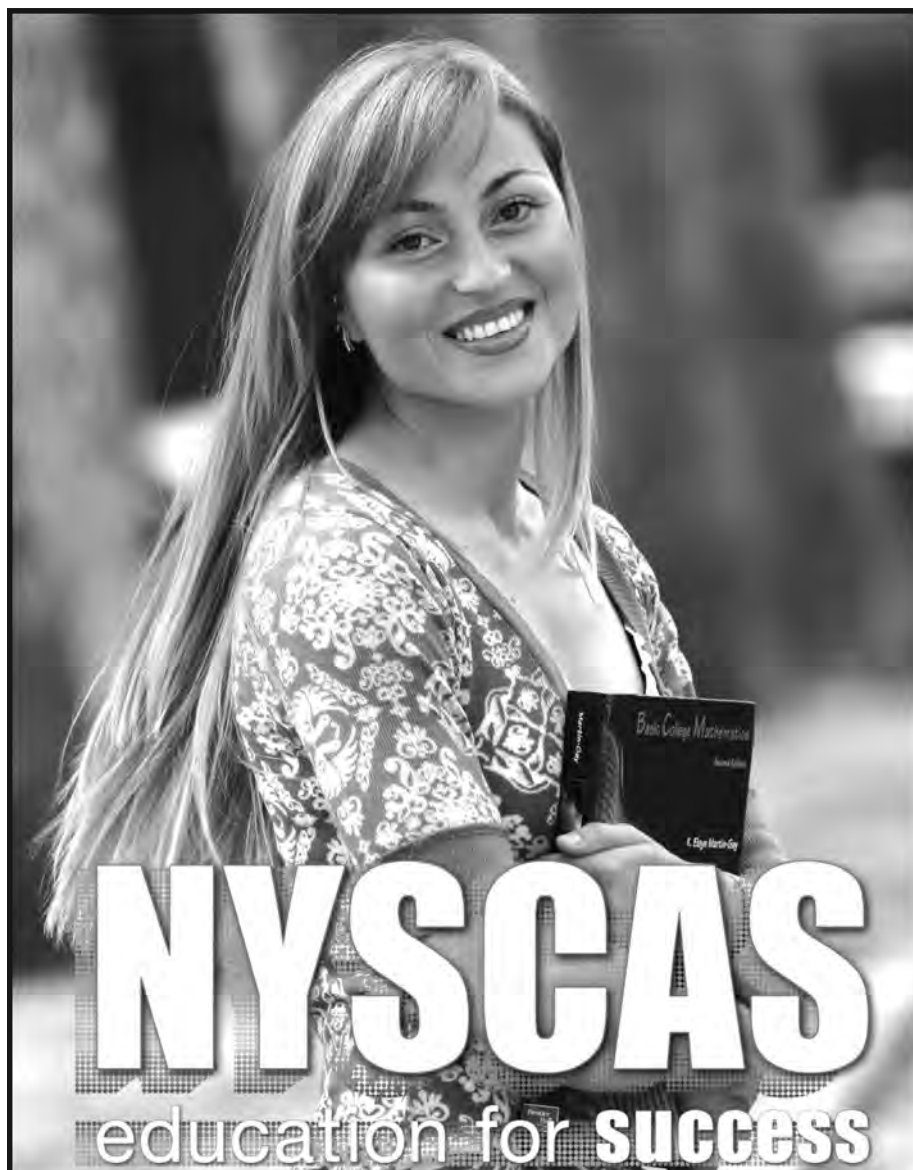
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Soyuzivka's Datebook

August 17 - 23 – Joseph's School of Dance (Ballroom Dance Camp) August 25 - September 1 – Labor Day Week

August 23 – Ballroom Dance recital



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday-Sunday, August 23-24

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Illinois Division, presents the Ukrainian Festival 2008 at Chicago's Smith Park, 2500 W. Grand Ave. (corner of North Campbell Street) from noon to 10 p.m. both days. This is the largest Ukrainian festival in the Midwest. Attractions include Ukrainian foods, crafts, music, dancing and much more. Pony rides and children's attractions add to the entertainment for the whole family. Featured will be performers from Ukraine and local talent; dance groups will perform on Sunday afternoon. The celebration of Ukraine's Declaration of Independence will begin on Sunday at 1:30 pm. For more information contact Pavlo T. Bandriwsky, 773-772-4500.

Sunday, August 24

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub, will host the 17th annual Ukrainian Independence Day Folk Festival at Tryzubivka, County Line and Lower State roads. Doors open at noon. The festival show begins at 1:30 p.m. Headliners are: the Syzokryli Ukrainian Folk Dance Ensemble (New York City), Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Philadelphia), Luna Band (New Jersey) and Svitanya Eastern European Women's Vocal Ensemble (Philadelphia). A dance (zabava) to the music of Luna will follow the stage show at 4:30 p.m. Ukrainian foods and baked goods, picnic fare and cool refreshments will be plentiful. Vendors are welcome. An arts and crafts bazaar and a children's fun area will be open all day. Admission: \$15; children under age 13, free; free parking. Proceeds benefit youth soccer and cultural and community programs. For further information call 215-343-5412 or log on to www.tryzub.org.

SOMERSET, N.J.: The Ukrainian American Cultural Society of Central New Jersey invites you and your friends to the commemoration of the 17th Independence Day celebration of Ukraine. The festivities will take place at 3 p.m. at the Ukrainian Orthodox Cultural Center, 3 Davidson Ave., Somerset, NJ 08873. The program will include: Honored Artist of Ukraine Rostyslaw Wasylenko, the Fourth Wave Orchestra, the Barvinok dance ensemble, the Akkolada choir and others. There will be refreshments during intermission. Admission: \$15; free for children. For information call 908-788-3025 or 908-534-6683.

BUFFALO, N.Y.: The Buffalo Branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America invites all to attend Ukrainian Day, celebrating the 17th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, at the Ukrainian Cultural Center Dnipro, 562 Genesee St. The celebration begins at 1 p.m.; there will be a moleben at 1:45 p.m. Featured will

be: traditional Ukrainian food, pastries, beverages, music, crafts, a lottery, raffles, children's games and a performance by Ukrainian dance groups. Admission is free; ample parking is available. For more information log on to www.ukrainiansof-buffalo.com.

Friday-Sunday, August 29-31

SAN DIEGO: The 33rd annual San Diego Ukrainian Festival will feature the Rozmai Ukrainian Dance Ensemble from Winnipeg, Manitoba, and the Mriya Musical Ensemble from Chicago. For more information call 619-460-5733, e-mail housandiego@aol.com or log on to www.houseofukraine.com.

Saturday, August 30

JEWETT, N.Y.: The 2008 Summer Concert Series at the Grazhda will conclude with a performance by concert pianist Valentina Lisitsa. Described by critics as a "bona fide angel playing" and an "electrifying pianist," the Ukrainian-born artist has been receiving rave reviews since her arrival in the United States in 1991. Ms. Lisitsa will perform works by Beethoven, Schumann, Brahms, Ravel and Lysenko. The concert is at 8 p.m. at the Grazhda, Route 23A. General admission \$15; seniors and members, \$12. For information, call 518-989-6479 or visit the website www.GrazhdaMusicandArt.org.

Monday, September 8

NEWARK, N.J.: St. John's Ukrainian Preschool will re-open with Ukrainian-language Montessori sessions each weekday morning from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Extended hours from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. are available to serve working parents. Minimum age is 2 years, 6 months by September. The school emphasizes respect for the child, individualized learning and promotion of the child's independence. For more information call Olenka Makarushka-Kolodiy, 973-763-1797. Visit the website at http://www.members.aol.com/olenkam.

Sunday, September 14

STAMFORD, Conn.: The 41st Ukrainian Day Festival sponsored by the Connecticut State Ukrainian Day Committee will take place here at St. Basil's Seminary. Beginning at 9 a.m. there will be over 15 Ukrainian vendors, coffee and donuts; in addition priests will be available to hear confessions before the liturgy. The 11 a.m. liturgy will be celebrated by Bishop Paul Chomnycky. Afterwards there will be plenty of Ukrainian picnic food and refreshments. The festival program begins at 2:45 p.m.; performers to be announced. For children, there will be a moonwalk and games. Admission for all age 12 and over is \$5 per person for advance-purchase tickets; \$10 at the gate. Parking is free. For tickets call 860-568-5445. For more information or to volunteer to help call 203-269-5909.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES:

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per submission) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community.

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, senders are asked to include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours, as well as their complete mailing address.

Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, 973-644-9510; e-mail, preview@ukrweekly.com.