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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Holodomor is Ukraine's never-ending trauma



Morgan Williams

Kyiv's first memorial to the victims of the Holodomor.

by Irena Chalupa
RFE/RL

In many ways, Kyiv is a city of contrasts.

On one boulevard you will encounter a rather squat, red granite statue of Lenin, his right hand aloft pointing to the proverbial better tomorrow that, thankfully, after 70 years finally became yesterday. The authorities

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refuse to dismantle the statue, claiming it has "historic" value. That's the Communist touch.

Walk a few blocks down to a short, gray, treeless street called Passage and you will be assaulted by ostentatious conspicuous consumption: Gucci, Louis Vuitton, Bottega Veneta, Bally, Ferragamo. That's the nouveau riche, oligarchic touch.

Up the hill from these two telling spots stands a small – and until, last week, the only – monument to the victims of the 1932-1933 Famine in Ukraine. It was erected in 1993.

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Lytvyn returns as Rada chair Ukraine may soon have new majority coalition

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's Parliament, led by the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, elected Volodymyr Lytvyn as its new chair on December 9, giving Ms. Tymoshenko's government a chance to remain in place and form a new coalition to include the Lytvyn Bloc.

The Tymoshenko Bloc cobbled together 244 votes to support Mr. Lytvyn's candidacy from a broad range of political forces, including the Lytvyn Bloc, the People's Self-Defense wing of the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc and even the Communist Party of Ukraine, which was probably given concessions.

Upon seating himself, Mr. Lytvyn immediately declared that a new government coalition agreement had emerged between the Tymoshenko, Lytvyn and Our Ukraine-People's Self Defense blocs.

"What's left is publishing these materials and publishing the corresponding documents on the (coalition) agreement," Mr. Lytvyn said. "It's understood the decision was reached in quite a difficult situation. I am convinced it will materialize in a practical document."

Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) national deputies leaked to the press a 13-page document to create a National Development, Stability and Order Coalition of the three factions to initiate sweeping reforms in all areas of state policy.

However, the day after Mr. Lytvyn



UNIAN/ Oleksander Kosariev

Volodymyr Lytvyn, leader of the eponymous political bloc, takes his seat as the newly elected chair of the Verkhovna Rada on December 9. He previously served as Rada chair in 2002-2006.

declared the new coalition, the 32 Our Ukraine deputies (of the 72-member OU-PSD faction) who didn't vote for Mr. Lytvyn's candidacy (therefore, remaining loyal to the Presidential Secretariat) withheld support for renewing Ms. Tymoshenko's government.

After meeting with President Viktor Yushchenko on December 11, Our Ukraine National Deputy and Lviv native Yaroslav Kendzior labeled the coalition agreement "complete demagoguery" – a view held by most Our Ukraine deputies and the president himself.

Without the support of the Our Ukraine wing, Mr. Lytvyn's suggested coalition of three factions doesn't have the necessary 226 votes to emerge in the Verkhovna Rada.

People's Self-Defense can't form the coalition without Our Ukraine because only parliamentary factions, elected to Parliament as blocs or parties, can form the coalition government.

According to law, a party can't split from a bloc and form its own parliamentary faction after getting elected.

Political observers said Mr. Lytvyn's election could result in a de facto parliamentary majority consisting of the Tymoshenko Bloc, Lytvyn Bloc and People's Self-Defense, even if a new coalition doesn't emerge on paper.

Although Mr. Yushchenko called for new parliamentary elections, the Tymoshenko Bloc succeeded in postponing them far beyond the holiday season, keeping Prime Minister Tymoshenko's Cabinet of Ministers

NATO offers ANPs, not MAPs, to Ukraine and Georgia

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor

NATO has pushed aside the Membership Action Plans (MAPs) as mechanisms for Ukraine's and Georgia's eventual accession to the alliance. On December 3 in Brussels, the North Atlantic Council (NAC) meeting at the level of ministers of foreign affairs decided to develop Annual National Programs (ANPs) for Ukraine and Georgia, instead of MAPs. The allies have yet to announce how long it will take to develop the first ANP and when it will go into effect.

The alliance split over the Ukrainian and Georgian MAP applications earlier this year. The United States, Canada, Britain (however unfocused on the issue) and almost all the countries that joined NATO in recent years were supportive. Germany led a group of Western European countries in opposition.

The alliance's Bucharest Summit on April 2 reached a hard-fought compromise: it declared unambiguously that Ukraine and Georgia will become members of NATO (a political commitment unprecedented in NATO's history) but did not identify a mechanism or other path toward membership (a failure unprecedented in NATO's enlargement process from the 1990s to date).

The NAC meeting in Brussels on December 3 reaffirmed the political decision made in Bucharest regarding Ukraine and Georgia, now adding an implementation mechanism: the ANPs, presented as a "performance-based process," that is, presumably free from political distortion. The ANPs will provide further assistance to Ukraine and Georgia in implementing necessary reforms "as they progress toward NATO membership."

NATO and the two countries will use the NATO-Ukraine Commission (in existence

since 1997) and the NATO-Georgia Commission (created immediately after the Russian invasion last August), respectively, as "central" instruments in drafting and implementing those reforms. "NATO will maximize its advice, assistance and support" to that end and will review progress on an annual basis (communiqué of the North Atlantic Council meeting, December 3).

The NATO-Ukraine Commission held a meeting at the foreign ministers level on the same day in Brussels. At that meeting the alliance reaffirmed their "conviction that Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity were key factors for ensuring stability in Europe" (the only strategic consideration that entered into NATO's discourse during this entire event).

The meeting welcomed "progress achieved" through the current NATO-Ukraine mechanism, known as Annual

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ANALYSIS

A rogue fleet in the Black Sea

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Russia's Black Sea Fleet operated with total impunity – political and legal, as well as military – against Georgia during the August war. Breaching the neutrality of Ukraine, where it is mainly based, and tearing apart international maritime law, the Russian fleet's actions exploited the vacuum of Western power and international authority in the Black Sea.

With the United States and NATO distracted elsewhere and complacent about Russia, and the Turkish government seeking a special relationship with the Kremlin, the Russian fleet enjoyed a free hand to attack Georgia and to violate Ukraine's sovereignty in the process.

The Russian Defense Ministry's official newspaper *Krasnaya Zvezda* has published a lengthy narrative about one part of the naval operations against Georgia. This account suggests that in late July the Russian fleet was already rehearsing the operation against Georgia that was to follow in August (just as Russian forces in the North Caucasus practiced a ground operation against Georgia) in late July and up to August 2.

According to this partial account, a naval group including the large landing ships *Tsezar Kunikov*, *Saratov* and *Yamal*, as well as four smaller combat ships, most of them based in Sevastopol, took part in the combined-arms exercise *Caucasus-2008*. These ships and their personnel practiced a "landing by assault troops on an unfortified shoreline" on Russia's Black Sea coast, after which they did not return to Sevastopol but anchored in Novorossiysk from July 25 onward, awaiting further orders.

These ships launched the naval operation on August 8, landed naval infantry near Sokhumi, crossed what Russia calls the "Abkhaz-Georgian maritime border" (that is, deep inside Georgia's internationally rec-

ognized territorial waters) on August 9, issued an attack warning against any vessel within a 35-mile radius, and sank (or so the narrative implies) two Georgian coast guard cutters on the high sea. The Russian naval group then proceeded to "screen" Georgia's Poti harbor, where Russian troops sank the remaining Georgian coast guard cutters at their piers in the harbor (*Krasnaya Zvezda*, October 29, via BBC Monitoring Global Newline, November 24).

As an outcome of this war, Russia has substantially expanded its de facto shoreline, territorial waters and economic zone in the Black Sea by absorbing Abkhazia. This expansion has no legal basis; but Russia is enforcing it in practice, and no one will challenge it in the foreseeable future.

The Russian fleet can police this expanded area by operating out of Novorossiysk on the Russian coast and, soon, out of Abkhazia. The Russians plan to create a naval or coast guard station in Sokhumi and have begun rebuilding the naval base at Ochamchire in the southern part of Abkhazia. In Soviet times Ochamchire was used as a submarine base at one stage and for the coast guard at another time. Abandoned in the early 1990s, the base is now being repossessed by the Russians as a valuable asset due to its location inside a bay.

At the moment, Russian divers and other naval specialists are busy measuring the depth and other characteristics of the Ochamchire base, preparatory to defining its role for Russia's Black Sea Fleet or the coast guard. When reactivated, probably starting in 2009, the Ochamchire base will operate in close coordination with three other Russian military installations in Abkhazia: the Gudauta land and air base (which the Russians are now refurbishing), the of the Federal Security Service (FSB) border troops in the Gali district (created in October to face the rest of Georgia) and the

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Naval imbalance in the Black Sea after the Russian-Georgian war

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor

During the last decade a network of maritime security arrangements developed in the Black Sea, with all riparian countries participating. These arrangements center on the BLACKSEAFOR activities, the Black Sea Harmony operation and a few other joint projects on maritime security. Focused on handling post-modern ("new-type") challenges to security, and partly turning from means to that end into ends in themselves, these arrangements ultimately provided a multilateral cover on Russo-Turkish naval joint sovereignty. This de facto condominium has excluded NATO naval presence as such from the Black Sea, to the frustration of NATO members Romania and Bulgaria and NATO aspirants Georgia and Ukraine.

BLACKSEAFOR, Black Sea Harmony and the rest proved completely irrelevant during Russia's attack on Georgia and in its aftermath. They lack the mandate and the means to deal with real security issues and cannot even set the agenda of internal discussions without unanimous consent, that is, without Russian consent in the case of the Russian-Georgian conflict.

These collective arrangements proved equally irrelevant when Russia's Black Sea

Fleet breached Ukraine's neutrality, using its territory to attack Georgia.

Ukrainian President Yushchenko and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs protested this flagrant violation and demanded that the Russian fleet notify Ukraine in advance each time its ships crossed Ukraine's maritime border in the future. Moscow replied disdainfully to the protests, and the Russian fleet has disregarded Ukraine's notification request.

This situation again demonstrated Russia's willingness to exploit its naval superiority against its Black Sea neighbors. With Turkey watching passively from the sidelines and NATO responding with a one-time visit by five ships in September, it has fallen to the United States to address the imbalance in the aftermath of the Russian operation.

From the August war to date, the United States has maintained an uninterrupted naval presence in the Black Sea. That presence is constrained, however, by the Montreux Convention's limitations on naval tonnage passing through the Turkish Straits and duration of naval visits in the Black Sea. The United States therefore, has rotated its ships in the Black Sea at intervals consistent with that convention.

The 60th Fleet's flagship USS Mount

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NEWSBRIEFS

NATO proposes new format

KYIV – NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer stated on December 3 that NATO is proposing a new format of relations with Ukraine within the framework of the so-called Annual National Program (ANP). After a meeting of the NATO Council at the level of foreign ministers in Brussels, he said: "I can say that the allies approved two key items. First: all the elements, I repeat, all the elements remain adopted in Bucharest with regard to Ukraine and Georgia. All the elements, and it includes the fact that later on they will be NATO members if they wish, and it is important to add, when they meet NATO standards." According to the secretary general, "without forecasting any subsequent decisions with regard to MAP [Membership Action Plan]," the allies decided to set up the Annual National Program. Mr. Scheffer explained that NATO intends to render enhanced assistance to both countries in the implementation of the necessary reforms," which "means that NATO will optimize, enhance its assistance within the framework of the Ukraine-NATO Commission." (Ukrinform)

NATO and 'Ukraine's unwillingness'

KYIV – The leader of the opposition Party of Regions, Viktor Yanukovich, reacted to the fact that granting the NATO Membership Action Plan to Ukraine was not even examined at Brussels on December 2 by saying this constituted "respect for the choice of Ukrainian people." He added, "Ukraine as a nation has never supported accession to NATO. All moves towards Ukraine's rapprochement with the alliance were based exclusively on a secret letter of the three leaders of the Orange coalition, which has long split up – [Viktor] Yushchenko, [Arseniy] Yatseniuk and [Yulia] Tymoshenko." Mr. Yanukovich said that "world leaders have realized and acknowledged the fact that Ukrainian citizens, speaking out against entry into the alliance thus expressed their disapproval of further deepening the gap between the two friendly nations of Ukrainians and Russians." (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko: no alternative to NATO

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko

said on December 5 in an interview with the Agence France-Presse news agency that the outcome of the meeting of NATO foreign ministers with respect to Ukraine is "progress." He said that in the last three years Ukraine had taken important steps regarding its aspirations to join the European Union and NATO. "Ukraine's joining NATO has no alternative and it is a difficult geopolitical question. There is much debate on a large piece of interests," he said, adding that a "serious" external influence is being exerted in regard to the alliance's decision on Ukraine. The president said that Ukraine has to do a great deal of work at the bilateral level, particularly with Russia. "During these kinds of talks, the supporters and opponents of Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration should receive answers to all questions they have," Mr. Yushchenko said. He reiterated that Ukraine's entry into NATO poses no threat to Russia. "Ukraine is interested in friendly relations with Russia, and it will build a policy based on neighborhood and partnership with the Russian Federation," President Yushchenko noted. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko see new opportunities

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said the decisions taken by the North Atlantic Council, which held meetings at the level of foreign ministers on December 2-3, are opening new opportunities in the development of Ukrainian relations with NATO. Speaking at a meeting with United Kingdom Minister for Europe Caroline Flint in Kyiv on December 3, Mr. Yushchenko thanked London for supporting Kyiv's plans to join the European Union and NATO. "We appreciate Britain's consistent support in the question of Ukraine's integration with European and Euro-Atlantic structures," he said. During the meeting, Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Flint discussed bilateral relations between Ukraine and Britain, as well as the question of establishing dialogue on the facilitation of a visa regime for Ukrainian citizens. (Ukrinform)

Tarasyuk on Ukraine in NATO

KYIV – No one can doubt that Ukraine

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The Holodomor 75 years later: The Chernihiv Oblast

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KONCHA ZASPA, Ukraine – To execute the Holodomor, the Communist Party dispatched its “aktyvisty,” urban dwellers, often of the criminal element, who didn’t mind bloodying their hands.

Although responsible for carrying out the collectivization, the aktyvisty, or activists, knew nothing of farming.

“This isn’t buckwheat. You’re messing with my head,” one aktyvist exclaimed after examining the crop, according to the testimony of the father of Tamara Demchenko, a Holodomor researcher from Chernihiv.

After whipping out his gun, the villagers convinced the aktyvist that in fact, it was buckwheat, which has an appearance distinct from rye or wheat.

“They sent the worst people, who had some [Bolshevik] revolutionary service or pure-blooded lineage, which was very important in those days,” said Ms. Demchenko, an assistant history professor at Shevchenko State Pedagogical University in Chernihiv. “But their incompetence was astonishing.”

Among the more overlooked aspects of the Holodomor is the role played by the aktyvisty, low-rung or outcast Communist Party members who were suddenly given the chance to prove themselves worthy, Ms. Demchenko said.

Examining more than 1,000 eyewitness testimonies of the Holodomor in her native Chernihiv Oblast, Ms. Demchenko discovered that villagers most reviled the aktyvisty, who became the face of the Communist Party to a peasant class that had no access to information or media to know who was orchestrating the genocide.



Assistant Prof. Tamara Demchenko of Shevchenko State Pedagogical University in Chernihiv, who examined more than 1,000 eyewitness accounts of the Holodomor in her oblast.

To perform the murderous collectivization, Communist officials selected the aktyvisty based on moral and psychological criteria, historians revealed.

Many were Bolshevik revolution veterans and partisans who didn’t advance or were angry at life, she said. Others were disgruntled villagers who had nothing to lose.

Ms. Demchenko estimated that more than 25,000 aktyvisty were dispatched to 1,020 villages in the Chernihiv Oblast, which was created in 1922 and included parts of the present-day Sumy and Poltava

oblasts at the time of the Holodomor.

Though only 36,633 deaths were proven and recorded in the Chernihiv Oblast volume of the Holodomor Victims National Book of Memory, Ms. Demchenko said as many as 363,000 Ukrainians could have perished in the region.

“The Chernihiv Oblast was significantly larger, and this figure would include those who were ‘rozkurkuleni’ [dekulakized] and deported, and those who were arrested,” she said. “Collectivization accompanied active and massive arrests.”

Losses were worst on the southern edges of the Chernihiv Oblast, where as much as a third of the village population perished.

The residents in the northern part of the oblast suffered but endured less casualties because villagers knew the backwoods trails that took them across the border to Belarus and Russia, Ms. Demchenko said.

The northern Chernihiv regions are known for their swamps and marshes, and villagers were able to survive that hellish winter, entirely deprived of food, by feeding on frogs and snails, “which people never would have eaten earlier but began doing so by the masses,” she said.

“Or they went to nearby forests where mushrooms and berries grew,” she said. “But imagine a village where there’s no river or forest, just the steppe and chornozem (black earth), which is fertile but everything is taken away. The casualty rates there were quite high.”

Once social outcasts, the aktyvisty took to the war against Ukraine’s peasants with zeal, determined to prove who was now in charge.

In the Chernihiv village of Blystiv, they labeled and targeted a “kurkul” (well-off farmer) if he scrapped together enough

The Holodomor in the Chernihiv Oblast

36,633 known casualties*
71,840 known survivors remaining
1,020 population centers affected
75 known mass graves

* This official figure grossly underestimates casualties, which were as much as 363,000, according to Assistant Prof. Tamara Demchenko of Shevchenko State Pedagogical University in Chernihiv.

money to paint his wooden, horse-drawn cart.

“The aktyvisty came, ate borsch, took varenyky and stuffed their pockets,” recalled a resident of Lypove, a Chernihiv village. “My brother took a bag of beans, but they seized it and shoved him in the snow.”

The aktyvisty also included women who didn’t hesitate to ransack cellars and took away whatever food was stored for the winter of 1932, Ms. Demchenko said.

In speaking of the aktyvisty, Holodomor survivors often decline to discuss any details about them, she observed, including their sex, age, physical or ethnic characteristics.

In her view, it’s because their resentment runs so deep that they don’t want to afford them the dignity of remembrance.

“If I knew where they were buried, then I would smash their gravestones,” said a Holodomor survivor from the Chernihiv village of Pryputnia.

From MAPs to ANPs: background to NATO’s compromise decision

by Vladinir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor

NATO’s ministerial meeting on December 3 decided to offer Annual National Plans (ANPs), instead of Membership Action Plans (MAPs), to Georgia and Ukraine. The old NATO-Ukraine Commission and the new NATO-Georgia Commission are to draw up and administer the ANPs.

A compromise between U.S.-led and German-led groups of countries yielded this decision. Its true significance will become apparent only when the ANPs’ content takes shape. NATO itself (not just Ukraine and Georgia) faces the risk of another internal struggle if the governments that opposed the MAPs also resist a timely approval of meaningful ANPs.

Had Ukraine’s and Georgia’s strategic significance and their contributions to NATO and U.S. operations been the primary criterion, the two countries would have eminently qualified for MAPs, which are technical mechanisms. Russia opposed the MAPs vociferously, and the German-led group argued that Moscow’s view could not be entirely ignored. The debate within NATO thus became heavily politicized, mainly by the naysaying governments but also to some degree by the applicant and supporting countries.

The same group of countries that had opposed the Ukrainian and Georgian MAPs at NATO’s Bucharest summit in April took the same position at the Brussels meeting on December 3. Most governments in this group are interested in closer and expanded relations with Russia on a bilateral level. Both at the summit and at the ministerial meetings they framed their argument against MAPs as if the issue were accession to NATO member-

ship, for which Ukraine and Georgia do not qualify at present. In fact, the issue was a multi-year plan to prepare Ukraine and Georgia for future membership; but, since previous MAPs had invariably led to membership within five to nine years, Germany and a few other countries maintain that the opening of a membership prospect to Ukraine or Georgia is premature now.

Fresh anti-MAP arguments presented themselves in the run-up to the December gathering: the deepening crisis of government in Ukraine and allegations in the mass media (not in NATO), however, about Georgian culpability for the Russian invasion of that country. These factors did not substantially change the case of the “Russia-firsters” but made it more difficult to overcome by the U.S.-led group of countries (mainly the new member-countries and Britain). In Brussels as at Bucharest, Germany acted far out in front, while France and several other West European governments seemed content to let the Germans bear the brunt of this effort. Italy seconded Germany more actively in Brussels.

Barely a week before the Brussels meeting the United States decided to abandon the hopelessly politicized MAP track, proposing ANPs as substitutes. Germany strongly resisted the U.S. proposal. Complaining that Washington sought to “circumvent” the MAPs, Berlin insisted that Ukraine and Georgia had to go through the MAP process as an absolute requirement, if and when they qualified for it.

Paradoxically, Washington and Berlin seemed to have reversed their positions. The United States switched from championing MAPs to casting them aside, while Germany switched from resisting to defending the MAP process. In fact, how-

The same group of countries that had opposed the Ukrainian and Georgian MAPs at NATO’s Bucharest summit in April took the same position at the Brussels meeting on December 3.

ever, the positions remained consistent: Washington and supporting countries regarded the MAP and, failing that, the ANP, as an integration mechanism, while Berlin seemed to turn the MAP process into a barrier to Ukraine and Georgia.

Ultimately, a small conclave of four ministers – Condoleezza Rice of the United States, Frank-Walter Steinmeier of Germany, David Miliband of Britain and Bernard Kouchner of France – reached the compromise decision on ANPs. At German insistence the communiqué mentions the MAP process; but at U.S. insistence, it does so “without prejudice” about its applicability to Ukraine and Georgia, that is, it would not necessarily be used if the ANPs successfully qualify the two countries for membership over time.

The German minister remains adamant against “shortcuts,” meaning that ANPs

may eventually lead to MAPs, but not to membership. Washington and its supporters echo “no shortcuts,” meaning, however, that the ANPs should be substantive and thus lead to membership in due course. The Russian government and official commentators watched these debating contortions with barely disguised satisfaction (Interfax, ITAR-TASS, Russian Television Channel 1, December 3-6).

In an accompanying compromise, Washington agreed to a limited resumption of NATO’s political dialogue with Moscow, notwithstanding Russia’s occupation of parts of Georgia. In return, Berlin agreed to the language in the Brussels ministerial meeting’s communiqué, which states that NATO’s ANPs will assist Ukraine and Georgia to implement reforms on the path to membership, a stipulation confirming the Bucharest summit’s decision that the two countries will become members of NATO (Communiqué of the North Atlantic Council, December 3).

The ANPs’ effectiveness will hinge on their quality and the resources to back them up. Disagreements may well re-emerge between the same two groups of countries over the ANPs’ scope and pace. Any such differences would be played out in the NATO-Ukraine and NATO-Georgia commissions, and presumably referred back to the North Atlantic Council, if necessary. The ANP mechanism could be compromised if political wrangles, such as those witnessed at the Bucharest summit and Brussels ministerial meeting, end up politicizing the ANPs as they did the MAP process.

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RFE/RL chief speaks on U.S. image in age of Obama NATO offers ANPs...

RFE/RL

WASHINGTON – Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty President Jeffrey Gedmin and Brookings Institution scholar Kenneth Pollack on November 21 assessed the impact of Barack Obama's election as president of the United States on America's image abroad as well as the challenges his administration will likely face as it confronts the 21st century's "war of ideas."

"In public diplomacy, the messenger matters," Mr. Gedmin said to a packed house at the Washington-based Ethics and Public Policy Center (EPPC). "President-elect Obama's global appeal marks a real opportunity for the U.S. to improve its image overseas. But the message matters, too – his administration needs to craft sound policies that advance our interests and values."

Mr. Pollack agreed that the Obama administration represents a chance to improve America's image, but warned that "popularity cannot be a substitute for good policy."

"Our actions speak louder than words," said Mr. Pollack, whose most recent book is titled "A

Path Out of the Desert: A Grand Strategy for America in the Middle East." He added, "Public diplomacy needs to focus on explaining why we do what we do. Of course, America's policies will not always be popular in other countries; however, by explaining our motives, public diplomacy can take the edge off of some of the hostility we engender."

The discussion, titled "Public Diplomacy in the Age of Obama: Getting the War of Ideas Right," was arranged at the invitation of EPPC Senior Fellow Sen. Rick Santorum.

Both speakers argued that U.S. international broadcasters such as the Voice of America (VOA), Radio Free Asia (RFA) and RFE/RL are effective tools of soft power that advance America's foreign policy interests.

"By broadcasting into undemocratic societies, RFE/RL gives people hope," said Mr. Pollack. "It demonstrates that there are attractive alternatives out there for a different world. It also highlights the fact that their governments aren't providing the people what they need – unbiased news and information and a diversity of opinion."

NATO offers ANPs...

(Continued from page 1)

Target Plans within a multi-year Action Plan for security-sector reforms, as well as the NATO-Ukraine Intensified Dialogue at the political level. Ukraine, moreover, has enjoyed a special status since 1997 under the NATO-Ukraine Charter for Distinctive Partnership.

The commission did not clarify how the new Annual National Programs would upgrade the existing framework. Pending such decisions, the alliance decided at this meeting to reinforce the NATO Information and Documentation Center and the NATO Liaison Office in Kyiv.

This immediate decision reflects continuing concern over NATO's low popularity rating in Ukraine and the Orange authorities' failure to educate the public about the alliance, despite multiple promises to do so. The meeting also urged the "political leaders of Ukraine to settle their differences in a way that ensures domestic stability."

Attending the meeting, Ukrainian Minister of Foreign Affairs Volodymyr Ohryzko spoke of the need for more adequate funding of reforms in the military and security sector, and for raising public awareness of NATO issues.

On the level of cooperation in the field, however, NATO-Ukraine relations remain strong. Ukraine participates in NATO missions and operations in Kosovo, the ISAF (International Assistance Force) in Afghanistan, the NATO Training Mission-Iraq and the naval Operation Active Endeavor in the Mediterranean. It recently acceded to NATO's

Air Situation Data Exchange Program, decided to contribute to the British-French Helicopter Initiative within NATO, offered to participate in the NATO Response Force (NRF) currently being developed, and has recently offered to provide overland transit for equipment and supplies for NATO forces in Afghanistan (Communiqué of the NATO-Ukraine Commission meeting, December 3).

Also on December 3 in Brussels, the NATO-Georgia Commission held its first meeting at the level of ministers of foreign affairs. The commission had already met in September at the defense minister level to review the military situation in the immediate aftermath of Russia's invasion of Georgia. During the Brussels meeting the NAC cited its June positive assessment of Georgia's IPAP (Individual Partnership Action Plan) performance and the NAC's successful visit to Georgia in September. It expressed appreciation for Georgia's contributions to NATO-led operations and decided to reinforce the NATO Liaison Office in Tbilisi.

Publicly at least, the meeting abounded in advice to Georgia to continue upgrading its electoral processes, the professionalism and independence of judges, media freedom, transparency in government and the rule of law. "Georgia's continuing implementation of reform initiatives will be watched closely by the alliance," it was noted.

While partly warranted and often useful, such admonitions also reflect two distorting political factors. The first is a sense of unfulfilled expectations after the U.S. rhetoric about "Georgia, the beacon of democracy" had raised the bar for Georgia unrealistically high. The second distorting factor is Western European political correctness in invoking democracy issues to block Georgia's path to NATO, despite Georgia's major strides on those issues from 2003 to date.

The Brussels meeting focused more effectively on Georgia's military and security issues. It recommended a lessons-learned process after the recent armed conflict, incorporating those lessons into Georgia's planned comprehensive review of security documents, as well as improving personnel management within the military, transparency of the defense budget and interoperability of Georgian forces with those of the NATO allies.

Attending the meeting, Georgian Minister of Foreign Affairs Eka Tkeshelashvili expressed gratitude for NATO's commitment to assist Georgian efforts to achieve NATO standards (Communiqué of the NATO-Georgia Commission meeting, December 3).

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THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Halloween at Soyuzivka full of fun for young and not-so-young

by Sonia Semanyshyn

KERHONKSON – It was the start of another scary Halloween weekend at “the Q.” On Friday, October 24, the ghouls were out decorating the Trembita Lounge and the Veselka Banquet Hall for the creepy celebration that was to begin that evening.

As the evening progressed the weather cooperated. By nighttime, however, Soyuzivka changed to “Spookyzivka” with a damp foggy mist rolling in. The lampposts changed from bright lights to ghoulish eyes, while the wind howled through the trees, and the rustling leaves all made you feel as if someone was watching you, following you – very eerie.

It was the perfect beginning to a Halloween weekend.

People began arriving late Friday evening from near and far. The fun continued in the Trembita Lounge where at 10 p.m. Zuki and Mike started firing up the revelers with some good tunes. The party was a little slow to start, but as the evening progressed everyone got into the “spirit,” and the revelry continued well into the early morning.

Saturday morning dawned a little too early for some of the guests (while others, we learned, slept in until it was time to party once more).

The littlest ghouls and goblins met with Bohdanka Puzyk in the Main House to pick out pumpkins and do some arts and crafts. The weather at this point was just not cooperating. It was a rainy dreary day outside, but the children were all dressed up for the short parade



Winners of the Best Couple costume award: Dianna Dekajlo and Kyle.

from the Main House dining room to the lobby so that everyone could show off their costumes.

After the parade the children, and some adults too, were treated to the talents of Jackie the Magician. At one point there was no noise coming from the library, so I went to check to see if the magician had made everyone disappear. Luckily, that was not the case. After the show all the children received little bags of treats.

Then it was time to eat dinner, and Chef Andriy Sonevtsky and his staff prepared a wonderful buffet

dinner. This gave everyone the energy to change into their costumes for the “zabava” that followed a haunted theater in the library.

At 9:30 p.m. the Veselka doors opened to let in the first ghouls and goblins, and by 10 p.m. the Zahrava band was playing to an almost packed dance floor.

The costume contest began, and the judges had a mighty tough decision as the costumes this year were amazing, very thoughtful and creative. Everyone who wanted to be considered for the costume prizes were asked to come and strut their stuff in the appropriate category. Most Original, Best Female, Best Male, Best Couple and Best Group.

By 12:30 a.m. the judges had made their decision and the winners were announced: in the Most Original – the “Fruit Jews” Mykola Hlushko, Michael Naumenko and Nykola Belko, Best Male – Yurko Kobryn as a hot dog vender, Best Female – Lesia Kozicky as the head on a platter, Best Couple – Dianna Dekajlo and Kyle as the Butterfly and the Bug Catcher, Best Group – “The Muppets” Franco Nelson, Brandon Reeves, Letticia Gonzalez, Quinn Smith, Cameron McClean and Julieete Navarette.

After the formalities of the announcements everyone relaxed and rocked as the band played on.

On Sunday everyone woke up slowly but surely while enjoying the morning coffee and danish in the Main House Lobby and discussing the previous night’s costumes and revelry. It was a unanimous decision to declare the Halloween weekend of 2008 a wonderful experience for both young and old and to make a point of returning for Halloween 2009 at Soyuzivka.

Young UNA'ers



Yulia and Oleksa Belej, twin children of Katrusia and Lubko Belej of Mississauga, Ontario, are new members of UNA Branch 777. They were enrolled by their grandparents Nadia and Stefko Belej.



William M. Fox and Michael Halaufia Fox, children of Orysia and Michael Fox of Kissimmee, Fla., are new members of UNA Branch 13. The brothers were enrolled by their grandmother Anna Skaliy Halaufia.



Crystal Leilani Martinez and Jonathan Halaufia Martinez, children of Lesia and Naphtali Martinez of Brandon, Fla., are new members of UNA Branch 13. They were enrolled by their grandmother Anna Skaliy Halaufia.



Fiona Grace Kane, daughter of Romona Pakula Kane and Sean M. Kane of Dearborn, Mich., is a new member of UNA Branch 82. She was enrolled by her grandparents Benjamin and Lida Pakula.

**Do you have
a young UNA'er,
or potential
young UNA'er
in your family?**

**Call the UNA Home Office,
973-292-9800,
to find out how to enroll.**

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Trypillia in Toronto

The exhibit "Mysteries of Ancient Ukraine: The Remarkable Trypilian Culture, 5400-2700 BC," which is currently on view at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, is itself remarkable. The magnificent display answers the question "Who were the Trypilians?" and attempts to tell visitors how, thousands of years ago, this people succeeded in building the largest settlements in Europe – populated by between 10,000 and 15,000 people.

This exhibition was organized by the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) and the National Museum of the History of Ukraine in collaboration with the Institute of Archaeology and the Archaeological Museum of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, the Odesa Archaeological Museum, the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and the Vinnytsia Regional Museum. Its presenting sponsor is Northland Power, whose chairman, James Temerty, proudly notes in his foreword to the exhibit catalogue that this is "the first major museum exhibition to reveal the ancient culture of the Trypilians to North American audiences." He also writes that "This achievement is due in large part of many members of the Ukrainian Canadian community, who have volunteered their time and support to help bring the Royal Ontario Museum's presentation of this remarkable exhibition to fruition." (Other forewords are by First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko and President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine, and William Thorsell, the ROM's director and CEO.)

As reported by Oksana Zakydalsky in last week's issue, the idea for the exhibit at the ROM dates back to 2005 when newly inaugurated President Yushchenko suggested to Mr. Temerty, a Ukrainian Canadian who is chairman of the museum's board of governors, that he should organize a Trypillia exhibit at the ROM. Thus, Ukrainian archeologist Vikenty Khoika's discovery way back in 1896 of the settlement at Trypillia is now being revealed to audiences halfway around the globe. It should be noted that the descriptions of the exhibit's artifacts are available in three languages: English, French and Ukrainian.

The Royal Ontario Museum, founded in 1912, is an excellent venue for such an ambitious undertaking (in 2001 it showcased the exhibit "Legacy in Gold: Scythian Treasure from Ancient Ukraine"). Its mission, according to the museum's website is to "be a world leader in communicating its research and collections to increase understanding of the interdependent domains of cultural and natural diversity, their relationships, significance, preservation and conservation." Its collections contain nearly 6 million objects, and it is visited annually by between 750,000 and 1 million visitors, including numerous school groups.

The landmark exhibit opened at this prestigious museum on November 29 and continues through March 22, 2009. Believe us, it's worth a visit – even from afar. And, if you can't visit in person, we suggest a visit to the museum's website just to get an idea of what the exhibit is about. Better yet, accompanying the exhibit is a gorgeous color catalogue that contains not only photographs – more than 300 of them – and descriptions of the artifacts on display, but scholarly articles on all aspects of the Trypilian culture. The 256-page catalogue has been purchased for The Ukrainian Weekly's library, where it will serve as a definitive go-to source on the Trypilian culture and the archeological expeditions that uncovered this wonder.

Having seen the exhibit and studied the catalogue, we simply must extend a huge thank-you and congratulations to all who were involved in bringing this momentous and unprecedented exhibit about the Trypilian culture to the world's attention.

Dec.
18
2007

Turning the pages back...

Last year, after Yulia Tymoshenko returned as prime minister on December 18, 2007, the coalition approved 25 ministers for Cabinet posts.

In the selection process, Prime Minister Tymoshenko and her bloc were given preference over economic posts, while President Viktor Yushchenko and his Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc secured defense, law enforcement and humanitarian posts.

Six ministers were from the Halychyna region, including Minister of Finance Viktor Pynzenyk of Zakarpattia. Minister of Internal Affairs Yuri Lutsenko of Rivne, who led the Ukraine Without Kuchma movement in 2001, failed to live up to promises of jailing lawbreakers and was accused of engaging in corruption himself.

Vice-Prime Minister for Euro-Integration Issues Hryhorii Nemyria, a native of Donetsk and Ms. Tymoshenko's top foreign policy advisor, and Minister of Foreign Affairs Volodymyr Ohryzko, a native of Kyiv, were strong advocates for Ukraine's integration into Euro-Atlantic structures.

Other appointees included First-Vice-Prime Minister Oleksander Turchynov of Dnipropetrovsk, who previously served as the first assistant secretary of the National Security and Defense Council, and had been allied with Ms. Tymoshenko since the early 1990s when they operated a video rental business.

Vice-Prime Minister for Humanitarian Issues Ivan Vasiunyk, from the Lviv Oblast, served as a longtime advisor to Mr. Yushchenko.

Minister of Agricultural Policy Yuri Melnyk, from the Cherkasy Oblast, was the only minister to remain from the government led by Viktor Yanukovich.

Minister of Culture and Tourism Vasyl Vovkun, from the Lviv Oblast, played a critical role in organizing the Orange Revolution and other government events, such as Holodomor commemorations.

Minister of Defense Yuri Yekhanurov, who was born in the Russian Federation, is a close ally of Mr. Yushchenko, who previously served as prime minister before being

(Continued on page 18)

COMMENTARY

Tough medicine is needed for Ukraine's economic woes

by Volodymyr Lanovy

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

The economic crisis in Ukraine has become a reality: enterprises are halting production, bank branches are going into liquidation, employees are being laid off. It is hard to remember that as recently as three months ago economic-development indicators were steadily rising. One has the impression the country has been swept up in an unexpected tsunami.

The metaphor is apt, even though to a considerable extent the crisis crept into the homes of average Ukrainians bit by bit. In the first half of this year, interest rates soared and the hitherto stable value of the hryvnia was shaken. Investments in the economy dried up, and the construction sector slowed down.

But an economic tsunami did roll over us from the outside. And its effects were hard felt in Ukraine, a country that is neither among the high-technology countries of the West nor among the oil-and-gas giants of the East. Like most countries in the world, Ukraine is between the former and the latter and seems to have been hit from both sides.

First, Ukraine – like all the other countries of the world – has become an unwilling financial donor to a void that opened up in the United States. The outflow of capital from our country has resulted in a catastrophic plunge of the stock-market indices and an abrupt decapitalization of Ukrainian enterprises. By contrast, the U.S.

Volodymyr Lanovy was Ukraine's ministry of the economy and first vice prime minister in 1992 and head of the State Property Fund in 1997-1998. The views expressed in this commentary are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect those of RFE/RL.

markets have seemed virtually stable.

Second, Ukraine – like many Western countries – was vulnerable because the economy had been weakened by inflated global prices for oil and gas. Before the crisis struck, Ukraine was de facto a major contributor to the Stabilization Fund in Russia. Kyiv had no opportunity to build up its own reserves like Russia, many Persian Gulf energy producers, China and other countries were able to do. Now those countries have funds to provide assistance to their own banks and companies and even to offer credit to Western countries. Ukraine is left to compete with other countries for help from the International Monetary Fund or to cope on its own.

Third, Ukraine's economy was relatively weak even before the crisis struck. It is already in its second year of a rapidly rising trade deficit and a negative hard-currency-payments balance. This situation meant that the halt of foreign-capital inflows brought on by the crisis has struck the national currency hard, producing a sharp decline in production and consumption.

Fourth, the slowdown of commodities markets abroad means a decrease in orders for Ukrainian industrial and agricultural products, decreases in the prices for key exports, and sharp losses for major enterprises.

Clearly, Ukraine's recovery plan must extend beyond merely addressing the immediate effects of the crisis. Ukraine must not only cover financial deficits and credits, but it must also recover the position of its enterprises on global markets and ensure that production is sufficient for domestic demand.

A recovery program should include both immediate, extraordinary measures to counter various financial implosions and a com-

(Continued on page 27)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Reflections on D.C. roundtable on 'Ukraine's Regional Commitments'

by Petro S. Mycio

Politicians, entrepreneurs, academics and journalists commanded most of the attention at "Ukraine's Regional Commitments," an event held back on October 15-16 at the Library of Congress

in Washington.

This event marked the ninth edition of a roundtable series titled "Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood," a series organized by the Center for U.S. and Ukrainian Relations, and directed by Walter Zaryckyj.

The conference "brought together key government and non-government representatives," according to the CUSUR website (<http://usukrainianrelations.org>) from Ukraine and the United States, as

(Continued on page 26)

Online petition on Duranty's Pulitzer

The Ukrainian Weekly was informed of an online petition, created and written by Ivan Lozowy (ivan_lozowy@yahoo.com), a Kyiv political insider. The petition is hosted at <http://www.petitiononline.com/lozo2008/petition.html> as a public service. At press time, there are nearly 3,000 signatures.

To: The New York Times

This year, 2008, is the 75th anniversary

of the "Holodomor," the genocidal famine in which up to 10 million Ukrainians died in 1932-33. It behooves The New York Times, whose reporter, Walter Duranty, received a Pulitzer Prize in 1932 and thereafter lied deliberately about the Holodomor, to return his prize. With every day that Duranty's Pulitzer remains with The New York Times, the stain of Duranty's lies spreads ever wider.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We must keep momentum going

Dear Editor:

As the commemorations of the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor come to a close, work to raise awareness about the Ukrainian Genocide is only just beginning. It is crucial to keep the momentum going. Committees throughout the world have been organized to focus attention on the lack of references to the Holodomor-Genocide – especially in the educational field.

Many universities have Holocaust and Genocide resource centers, but it is up to us to make sure that the Holodomor is included in these programs. Most states in the U.S. hold yearly social studies conferences which provide an excellent venue to hold workshops regarding the Holodomor.

An organization called Facing History and Ourselves is an international educational program that promotes tolerance through the study of various genocides (www.facinghistory.org). This organization provides professional development to many educators who then pass their knowledge on to thousands of students. Unfortunately, at this time their curriculum contains no mention of the Holodomor.

As organized groups and individuals, we can and need to make a difference. We must take action and speak out for the millions whose lives were cut short by Stalin's brutal genocide against the Ukrainian people.

Oksana Kiciuk-Kulynych
Yonkers, N.Y.

The letter-writer is chair of Educators for the Study of the Ukrainian Genocide – Holodomor (New York State Chapter).

Two incidents: food for thought

Dear Editor:

In the past 24 hours, I've experienced two incidents that, as a Ukrainian American, I have found very instructive and depressing, providing a lot of food for thought.

On Friday afternoon, November 21, I was driving back to Boston College after a meeting at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute in Cambridge, Mass., and while driving on Washington Street in Brighton Center I noticed a new shop called Melodia, which advertised CDs and DVDs in its windows. There was also

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.

a display of quite a number of nesting matryoshka dolls.

Curiosity got the best of me, and I decided to stop and investigate. I went inside and saw three young staffers in their mid-20s working on putting out new stock on the shelves.

The young woman came toward me to ask if she could help. I thanked her, said yes, and asked if the shop carried any Ukrainian music. She said of course, took me to one of the sections and pointed out some CDs. The labels were all in Russian, and the songs were clearly Russian as well.

I said as much to the woman and she said that Russian and Ukrainian were really the same thing. I looked puzzled and said I thought they were separate countries, much like France and Spain. She said, oh no, the two were really the same and the languages were really the same.

I asked her where she came from, and she said Russia.

I then said I was of Ukrainian ancestry, asked if they were really the same why did Ukrainians vote in such overwhelming numbers to separate from Russia in 1991, and then said I found her comments and attitude very offensive.

She said that she was sorry if she offended me and then pointed to one of the young men and said in justification of her statements: "That's Vasya. He's Ukrainian. He and I have had many talks and he agrees completely with me. If you want to, you can go and ask him."

I told her I had no interest in doing so and that my conscience wouldn't allow me to spend any money in her shop, bid her a good afternoon and left.

On Saturday afternoon, I stopped at the Panera Bakery on Route 9 in Natick, Mass., to get a loaf of bread. My server was a young man of approximately 17 or 18 years of age, and he was wearing a name tag with "Ilya" on it. He also spoke with a bit of an accent, and it was clear that he had not been in this country very long.

I excused myself for getting personal and asked him where he was from. He said from Russia. I asked where? He answered from Russia/Ukraine. I again asked where? He looked a bit confused and answered Kharkiv.

I then asked: "Chy hovorysh po Ukrainsky?" He said no, only Russian and some English. I said I thought that Kharkiv was a Ukrainian city and that people there would at least know Ukrainian. He looked at me and said that Kharkiv is really more a part of Russia than of Ukraine and that everyone there only speaks Russian. I was so surprised that all I could say was "Hmm, interesting."

It was obvious to me that both Vasya and Ilya were too young to remember the Soviet Union and that they had spent the greater part of their formative years in an independent Ukraine. I believe they are typical of their generation and can only wonder about the future of a country that makes such a little impression on its own youth.

After 17 ½ years of independence, is this the best that the Ukrainian government and political leaders can do? Clearly, both young men don't have any conception of their native country, its uniqueness, or its identity. I believe they would even look on indifferently if Russia sent in troops to Ukraine as it recently did in Georgia.

If this is typical of the young generations in Ukraine, is there really any hope for a Ukrainian future?

Peter Woloschuk
Boston

PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



The consequences of godless atheism

Stalin wasn't God, but he certainly acted as if he were, assuming power of life and death over millions of people, even entire nations. The Soviet Union, as we know, was an officially atheist country that suppressed religion and persecuted believers. Still, the instinct to worship is strong – religious talismans, temples, prayers, etc. have been prevalent in every society that's ever been, and the Soviet Union was no exception. When I visited Soviet Ukraine in 1970, I was struck by the ubiquitous, icon-like signs announcing: "Lenin Lived; Lenin Lives; Lenin will always Live!"

Stalin worship in its day was even more rapturous. In 1944 a collective of 13 Ukrainian writers composed "To the Great Stalin from the Ukrainian People," a poem with passages like this:

Today and forever, Oh Stalin be praised,
For the light that the planets and fields emit.

Thou art the heart of the people, the truth and the faith,

We're grateful to Thee for the sun Thou hast lit!

Nine million people signed on. That was also the year the Soviets conducted mass arrests, deportations and murders to liquidate the Ukrainian Catholic Church. They had destroyed the Ukrainian Orthodox Church 20 years earlier.

Taking their cue from Karl Marx, who famously declared that "religion is the opium of the masses," Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin and the other founders of the Soviet state banned religious worship and then substituted themselves, claiming the wisdom and insight to set the course of history, adopting genocidal methods if necessary to steer society toward the "greater good," as they defined it.

According to the First Five Year Plan adopted in 1929, this required the collectivization of agriculture. If peasants viewed that as re-imposing serfdom and refused to give up their land, then Stalin, assuming godlike powers, decreed they should be "liquidated as a class." The result was the Holodomor.

Usurping the role of God, Stalin not only claimed power over individuals, classes and nations that stood in his way, but even over nature. Among the many odious figures in Soviet history was Trofim Lysenko, an agronomist who played a bizarre role in the Famine and then went on to direct Soviet agriculture for a generation afterwards. The son of a Ukrainian peasant, Lysenko attended the Kyiv Agricultural School before moving to Azerbaijan in 1927, where he claimed to have developed a method to plant peas and other produce in the wintertime, supposedly turning frozen fields into a luxuriant green landscape. Rejecting established principles of genetics, he maintained he could alter plant development in such a way that physically imposed characteristics would be passed onto their seeds, inducing crops to adapt to meet the quotas of central planners in Moscow.

Stalin was delighted: the son of a peasant had developed agricultural techniques that doubled, even tripled crop yields and was doing it by forcing nature itself to change – much as Stalin was changing society and the course of history. Genetic laws, discovered by Gregor Mendel (a Catholic priest of all things!) were dismissed as "bourgeois pseudoscience" and "fascist."

And so, during the height of the Famine in 1932, party newspapers exhort-

ed peasants to spread seeds onto frozen fields in late November and December. When farmers failed to achieve the yields Lysenko had outlandishly promised, they were charged with sabotage and "wrecking" and punished by the NKVD. Defending his theories and his position as head of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences of the Soviet Union, Lysenko was responsible for the imprisonment and murder of hundreds of Soviet scientists. Only in 1964, after the fall of Nikita Khrushchev, was Lysenko finally removed.

The collective farm system, however, stayed, surviving well beyond the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991. The Communist Party, which had set out to create utopia, ultimately settled for simply maintaining its members in a life of privilege. Perversely, the Soviet Union imported food throughout the collective farm era. Without wheat from Kansas and the Dakotas along with the tiny private plots that provided 80 percent of vegetables in Soviet society, famine would have been a recurring phenomenon.

As for Stalin, it turned out that he had not lit the sun after all and it didn't explode when he died in 1953. He was just another mortal who suffered a stroke. He'd been consulting doctors for the usual ailments brought on by stress, smoking and age, but they couldn't help him much. Pretending to be God and having millions go along made no difference at all.

In the final analysis, sunlight, genetics, plant germination and, yes, brain aneurisms – all conform to certain natural laws. With mathematical precision, scientists have described and quantified the chemistry, physics, physiology, etc. for all those processes and many more. We know that gravity, inertia, thermodynamics, time – everything from the subatomic to the cosmic—is connected in a complex of laws and principles that all of us must obey. No one knows where all that came from, why it exists at all or where it's going. And because we lack the understanding to fathom those mysteries, we call it God. And from the awe inspired by what we are unable to define or truly understand, there flows a universal instinct to worship.

Nearly a hundred years ago, things went seriously off-track in Russia when the Bolsheviks seized power and soon after forced their rule and philosophy on other parts of what had been the Russian Empire, including Ukraine. It resulted ultimately in moral catastrophe and murder on a scale never before seen. Tragically, the Putin-Medvedev regime that now rules Russia cannot bring itself to condemn the crimes of its predecessors. Instead, they lament the passing of the Soviet Union and even maintain the trappings of that horrific time. Look no further than Moscow's Red Square, where the embalmed body (or a Madame Tussauds replica) of Lenin lies in a massive mausoleum where to this day, people are invited to file past in reverence of the man who banished God and replaced him with "the dictatorship of the proletariat." How refreshing it would be if Russia were to give Lenin, if not a Christian burial, at least a proper one. No need to drive a stake through his heart. He's been dead for years.

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

FOR THE RECORD: Opening remarks at Chicago's Holodomor exhibit

On October 24, the Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago hosted the opening of a unique exhibition of art titled "Our Daily Bread – Holodomor through the Eyes of Ukrainian Artists," commemorating the 1932-1933 Holodomor in Ukraine.

The sobering and powerful exhibit featured 40 works of art from the collection of U.S. businessman Morgan Williams, the trustee of over 300 artworks that portray this devastating event. Most were created after 1988 when Ukrainians were finally free to express the horrors of this genocide.

At the exhibit's opening, and in the presence of over 200 guests, including Mr. Williams, Oryna Hrushetsky-Shiffman, granddaughter of a Holodomor survivor, presented a moving personal account of how this tragedy impacted four generations of her Ukrainian family.

by Oryna Hrushetsky-Shiffman

When I was first learning the prayer "Otche Nash" (Our Father), the words "khib nash nasushnyi" (our daily bread) always invoked the same image – my grade school cafeteria. I remember reaching into my brown paper bag for my "daily bread," while wistfully eyeing the Wonder Bread of the other suburban children. Theirs was white, fluffy, full of air, virtually weightless. Mine was thick-crust, multi-grained, with specks of beige, brown and black – the shades of the earth that spawned it. My daily bread was Ukrainian village bread – it bore the weight of memory.

Before I ever heard them verbalized, I carried the weight of my grandmother's memories. I did not yet know that Babusia Doka served a five-year sentence for taking three ears of corn from her own field, or that she escaped from prison only to find her children – Marussia, Tarasyk and Halynka – swollen and unconscious. I did not know that they died in her arms, their corpses tossed by Red Guards onto a cart and dumped into a ditch.

But I knew that Babusia would tremble at the sight of any red fabric. I knew she would bake thin slices of bread, sew them into sacks made of our old dresses, and hang them in the shed – "for a black day" she would say.

I did not yet know that in the breadbasket of Europe, on the earth's most fertile soil, millions of peasants were robbed of the very grain they harvested, as the Soviet Red Guards collected 200 grams of bread for each corpse they delivered. But I knew that at my grandmother's house, if ever a crumb of bread fell to the floor she would scoop it up, kiss it and whisper a blessing over it. I



"For What Do They Crucify?" by Volodymyr Kutkin (1988).



"Nobody Wanted to Die, 1932-1933" by Mykola Chervotkin (1989).

knew that at Babusia Doka's house not a crumb was to be wasted.

I did not yet know that in 1932-1933, while millions of peasants starved, a record 1.7 million tons of their grain was being dumped on Western markets by the Soviet Communist regime. But I knew to speak the word "Communist" like a swear word. I must have been the only 6-year-old in town who, when bitten by her little sister, cried: "Why don't we send Maryna to Ukrayina to bite all the Communists?!"

Yes, the recipe for memory included rage, but also sanctity. To this day, if my mother sees a loaf of bread tossed upside down on a grocery store conveyor belt, she will reach past its befuddled buyer and turn it right side up. As if she could turn history right side up, simply by remembering it – and making others remember it. This daunting task has consumed her for as long as I can remember.

Rafael Lemkin, who coined the term "genocide" in 1943, explained how Stalin's three-pronged genocide targeted: first Ukraine's "brain" (intelligentsia), then her "soul" (the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church), and, finally, her "spirit" (the peasantry). My mother's generation in the Ukrainian diaspora worked diligently to help resuscitate all three.

Like other Ukrainian mothers, she may



"Unforgettable" by Vira Kuleba-Barynova (2004-2005).

have missed a few PTA meetings, burned a few pots while planning fund-raisers, neglected a few 1970s kiddy fashions, but who could blame her? Halyna and her cohorts were raising hundreds of thousands of dollars (and publishing as many words) for Ukrainian libraries, universities, churches, theaters, schools and orphanages. All to preserve the memory of the Holodomor – and the rich culture it nearly annihilated.

It was a courageous undertaking, considering the resistance they faced from detractors, who looked the other way – just as President Franklin D. Roosevelt had done when he recognized the Soviet Union in 1933, at the height of the Holodomor, and then signed the Yalta Accord with Stalin in 1945, "sending us down the river again," as many of us heard our parents repeatedly lament.

Survivors who fled eastern Ukraine and, after the war, by the grace of Eleanor Roosevelt, immigrated to the West, formed the Bahriany Foundation. From the 1950s they continually sent publications – featuring photos, documents, statistics and eyewitness accounts – to the U.N., to heads of state and to prestigious universities across the globe, to no avail. For post-war academic trendsetters, saying anything anti-Soviet was considered "an affront to liberal decency." She had been denied her land, her harvest

and her children – and now Babusia Doka was being denied her own memory.

There were a few brave dissenters, however, who chose to investigate further those shocking accounts and statistics. In 1968 when Stanford University's Robert Conquest published "The Great Terror," hardliners would tell him: "I read your book – secretly under the pillow."

In the 1980s similar resistance met Harvard's Dr. James Mace, director of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, which was preparing to testify before Congress when federal funds ran out. Determined to raise funds and garner more witnesses for Dr. Mace, my mother organized yet another committee. Which meant yet another file cabinet soon impinged on our basement playroom. This one was labeled "Chicago Committee in Support of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine."

I remember watching Mama gesticulate and pontificate emphatically under her breath. She was elsewhere. Perhaps she was rehearsing a fund-raising pitch, or persuading a survivor still too fearful of persecution to speak.

In 1991, when Ukraine declared independence, I was living in L.A. I could hear my mother's euphoria over the telephone and imagined her marching through Chicago's Ukrainian Village – beaming at the blue-and-yellow flags on every balcony. By then, Holodomor survivors were no longer afraid to speak. By then, the failure of the Soviet experiment was no longer possible to disguise. Russian intellectuals were calling on Robert Conquest to educate them about their own suppressed history. The Moscow News called his book: "one of the most significant of foreign researches into Soviet history."

The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute had paved the way for hundreds of scholars who were now discovering, that, as Sally J. Taylor wrote, in her 1990 Oxford Press publication, this famine "remains the greatest man-made disaster ever recorded, exceeding in scale even the Jewish Holocaust of the next decade." Two years later, Dr. Conquest was awarded the nation's highest humanities honor – the Jefferson Lectureship. He had been vindicated – and the trendy crowd no longer had to read his book "at night, under the pillow." Truth had slowly started seeping in through the cracks of America's amnesia.

(Continued on page 27)



"1932-1933 We Remember!" by Valeriy Vitter (2006).

Chicago Ukrainians remember Holodomor at grand requiem in city center

by Maria Kulczycky

CHICAGO – Chicago's legendary wind whipped brisk and cold as bundled groups formed in Washington Park, the historical site for public debate and eloquent discourse that faces Newberry Library, a storied genealogical research center. People held on to flags, banners, signs and emblems as the wind bent and unfurled them.

For weeks, radio stations, leaflets, church bulletins, posters, e-mail postings and other information channels had been inviting, encouraging and exhorting Ukrainians all over the city and suburbs to come to the city center on Saturday morning, November 15, to join the procession down Chicago's central avenues heading for Holy Name Cathedral, the seat of the vast Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago.

The community had planned a solemn ecumenical requiem to mark the end of its yearlong commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Genocide-Holodomor.

The Soviet-organized and meticulously executed genocide was launched to crush Ukrainian political aspirations and maintain the integrity of the Soviet Union, a strategy that has resonance in current events. Decades-long secrecy about the tragedy was enforced on victims and reinforced with a blockade on travel and a muzzling of the press, making it the largest unknown genocide of the 20th century. The anniversary milestone was a link in an international campaign to focus attention on the horrific event and have it acknowledged as a genocide.

As yellow buses disgorged their occupants, many traveling from distant suburbs, the park filled. Monitors nudged and shaped the crowd into groups by affiliation – parishes, youth groups, civic organizations, Ukrainian schools, the Ukrainian consular staff, and the general public of seniors, parents holding the hands of small children, families with strollers. Many participants wore uniforms and embroidery, as well as black ribbons.

The procession stepped from the park onto the wide street cordoned off by police patrol cars. It moved slowly along the route to the cathedral. In the lead were young men and women in Ukrainian folk garb carrying a birch cross festooned in black ribbon. Three thorn wreaths came next, then a 10-foot blue-and yellow-banner, followed by a coffin draped in black with a large, stark lettering: "10,000,000 Victims."

A large group of clergy from Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox parishes followed the coffin. Then came the Ukrainian and American flags carried by veterans. The procession of orderly, somber participants



Selfreliance UAFCU

At the altar, the chief celebrants, Bishop Alexander, Cardinal Francis George, Bishop Richard Seminack and Bishop Daniel lead a capacity crowd in prayer.

stretched for city blocks as the park emptied. The mood grew exuberant as the marchers looked forward and back, and realized what had happened. They saw friends, colleagues and neighbors, but also faces they didn't recognize. All were united, making a statement with their large ranks, their number calling attention of passersby as if to say: "We ask the world to recognize our genocide, our national tragedy."

As the procession crossed State Street and moved to the stairs of the cathedral, the massive central doors stood closed, cold, forbidding. Then the bells began to intone a rhythmic, grim chant, a funereal peal. The procession stopped, stood for interminable minutes, with buses and traffic piling up on either side.

Suddenly the great doors were flung open. Four hierarchs stood in full religious raiment, inviting the marchers inside. The cross, wreaths, coffin, flags and clergy entered and proceeded down the main aisle as the marchers, 2,000 by some counts, silently streamed into the cavernous sanctuary.

Nestor Popowych, chairman of the 75th Anniversary Commemoration Committee, welcomed the assembled crowd and introduced Cardinal Francis George, archbishop of Chicago, for whom Holy Name Cathedral is the home parish. This was the first public event at the cathedral since a long renovation had

(Continued on page 27)



Cardinal Francis George speaks at the commemoration.



Leading the procession are (from left): Nestor Popowych, chairman of the 75th Anniversary Commemoration Committee; Nicholas Mischenko, president of the Ukrainian Genocide Famine Foundation; and Victor Vojtychiw, member of both committees. All three are children of Holodomor survivors.



A black-draped coffin, followed by Orthodox and Catholic clergy, proclaims "10,000,000 victims."

Yonkers community remembers the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933

by Lesia Schur

YONKERS, N.Y. – On Sunday, November 9, the Ukrainian community of Yonkers, N.Y. marked the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor, which was covered in several articles by the news media in Westchester and Rockland counties.

Approximately 200 people, including Yonkers Mayor Philip Amicone, his wife and three members of the City Council, attended the event, which began with a solemn procession from the Ukrainian Youth Center to St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The marchers carried commemorative signs, two coffins and 100 white crosses, representing the millions of Ukrainians who perished in the Famine-Genocide. The coffins and the crosses formed a symbolic cemetery on the grounds of St. Michael's, where a panakhyda (requiem service) was celebrated by the Very Rev. Philip Weiner, pastor of St. Michael's Church, the Rev. Mark Hirniak and Deacon Mykola Drofych.

Two members of the Ukrainian American Youth Association, Khrystyna Babyn and Marta Wislocky, read poems titled "Holod 33 Roku" and "Land of Plenty of 1933" written by Louis Gomez de Aranda, Spain's ambassador to Ukraine.

The highlight of the commemoration was the emotional speech by Alexander Seweryn, a Holodomor survivor, who

Lesia Shchur is secretary of Educators for the Study of the Ukrainian Genocide Holodomor Famine of 1932-1933.

shared some of his recollections of the tragic events of 1932-1933.

This commemoration was the culmination of a series of events the Holodomor Committee, chaired by Andrij Horbachevsky, organized locally to honor the victims of the Famine-Genocide. In May the International Holodomor Remembrance Flame came to Yonkers as part of its worldwide tour culminating in Ukraine. From the flame of this torch an eternal flame was lit and placed at St. Michael's Church.

In September the film "The Harvest of Despair" was shown in the Yonkers Public Library and subsequently on local cable TV, thanks to the efforts of Mayor Amicone.

In addition, throughout the month of November an informational Holodomor display, organized by Marika Kozicky, took place at the Grinton Will Public Library.

To conclude the program, Slavko Kiciuk, the chair of the Yonkers branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, who conducted the ceremony, thanked all who took part in the commemoration, including the Yonkers Fire Department for lending its tolling bell for the procession, the SUMA Federal Credit Union for donating the funding for all of the expenses throughout the year and all of the committee members for their efforts in making the commemorative events of the past year a success.

The Rev. Weiner then intoned "Vichnaya Pamiat" (Eternal Memory) for those who lost their lives in the Holodomor.



Holodomor survivor Alexander Seweryn with his daughter, Kathy, and wife, Nadia, at his side during the Holodomor commemorations in Yonkers, N.Y.

Following is a translation of remarks delivered in Ukrainian by Holodomor survivor Alexander Seweryn. (The translation is by Dr. Maria Kiciuk.)

As a survivor and witness of the horrific Famine-Genocide in Ukraine – the deliberate destruction of my people by Moscow – I find it extremely difficult both emotionally and physically to talk to you today on this topic.... This was the tragic year of 1933. At that time I was 11 years old and my wife, Nadia, who is with me today, was not quite 9. The pain from this terrible experience makes it impossible to forget ... over time the pain may subside somewhat, but in our lives it explodes with incomprehensible strength again and again.

And how can one forget the great number of corpses, especially the small children who died at the train stations of the cities of Kramatorsk, Druzhkivka, Kostiantynivka, which were at that time in the Stalin County of Ukraine? The famine victims were sprawled all over, the government left them lying for days – near train stations, in the alleys, in the nooks of Lenin Park.

During this very time, the specialized factories of the aforementioned cities were working around the clock to full capacity, urgently building a gigantic tank factory in Novokramatorsk and perfecting other specialized industries. Moscow was preparing to enslave the world and put it under its yoke.

Those who fled from the villages and towns of the regions of Poltava, Kyiv, Sumy and other regions, trying to save themselves from the Famine-Genocide, formed the core of cheap slave labor. The Famine paralyzed the will to live. There were unspeakable events by people driven to insanity by hunger...

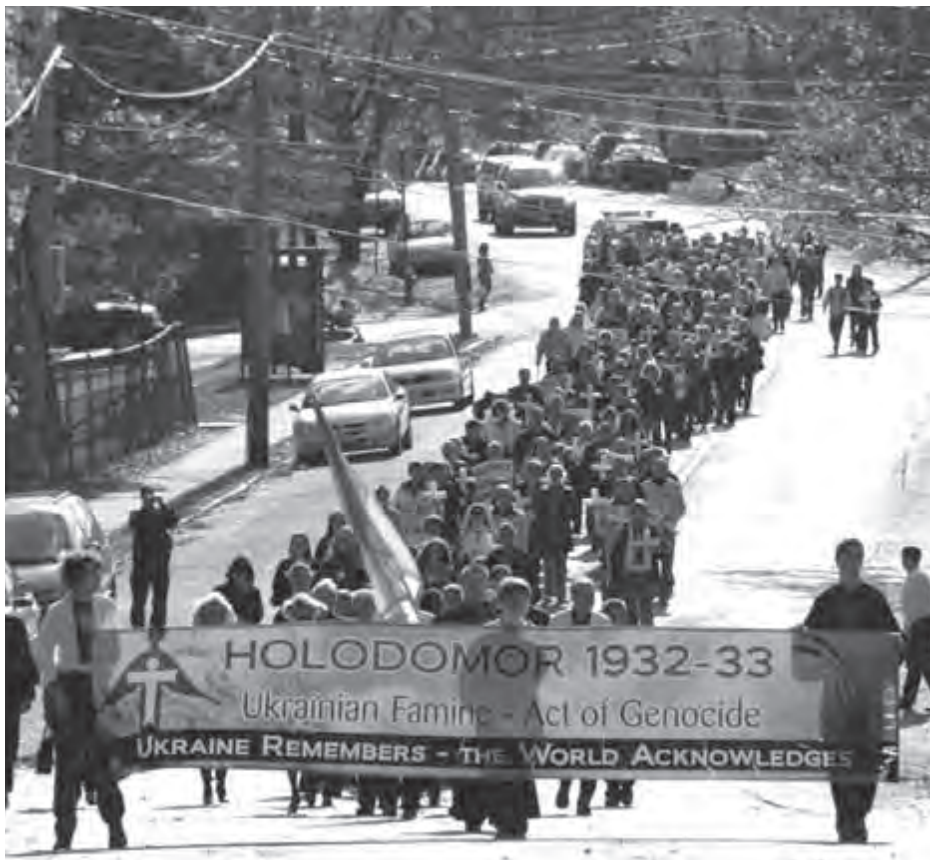
My village, Semenivka, of Kramatorsk County, was not large but proud of the fact that it was a "free" village, founded by the Kozaks, where people were not serfs like those in neighboring villages.

The village had a good elementary school and cared for its development and growth. The Famine halted everything, the students who came to school looked like ghostly shadows ... then someone, a government official, had an idea to organize so-called "breakfasts" for the students.

I ask you to imagine the rows of children ravaged by malnourishment and stricken with diseases raging that spring. I was very young, but I clearly remember one morning when a group of county and local Communists visited our school before the so-called breakfast ... among them Viktor Lykhodii, the later executioner of the village, and the young Bolshevik Oleksander Hovoryn. Perhaps his youth explains Hovoryn's strange openness when he said, "Look at these bastards – with what shall we wage war?" This Bolshevik must have been looking into the future since in eight years the war broke out with unforeseen consequences in its first phase.

The Holodomor has not been forgotten and despite Kremlin's opposition, it will not be forgotten. You are a witness to this. The world finally knows about the tragedy of Ukraine. Despite the machinations of some, the U.N. will in time acknowledge who the authors and perpetrators of Holodomor are. Europe has already done so.

My wife and I would like to thank all of you on behalf of the Holodomor victims for commemorating their memory today. Our Heavenly Father is looking down on us and he knows on whose side the truth lies.



Ray Wasiczko

Procession along the streets of Yonkers to commemorate the Holodomor.

To The Weekly Contributors:

We greatly appreciate the materials – feature articles, news stories, press clippings, letters to the editor, etc. – we receive from our readers. In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- News stories should be sent in not later than 10 days after the occurrence of a given event.
- All materials must be typed (or legibly hand-printed) and double-spaced.
- Photographs (originals only, no photocopies or computer printouts) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped,

addressed envelope.

- Full names (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- Persons who submit any materials must provide a daytime phone number where they may be reached if any additional information is required.
- Unsolicited materials submitted for publication will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.

Ukrainians in Houston mark the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor

by Martha Noukas

HOUSTON – Three Ukrainian organizations in Houston – the Ukrainian American Cultural Club of Houston, Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA) Branch 118 and Protection of the Mother of God (Pokrova) Ukrainian Catholic Church – joined together to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor.

On Sunday, November 16, at 5 p.m., Ukrainians from Houston and surrounding areas gathered on the steps of City Hall in downtown Houston to remember the horrible events of 1932-1933, when millions of people died of starvation on the land of Ukraine.

As participants arrived at the vigil, they were given candles to hold and were greeted with solemn music, while images of the Holodomor were projected onto a screen above the plaza. On each side of the plaza, poster board displays created by Martha Noukas, president of UNWLA Branch 118, provided detailed information and visuals about the devastation of the Famine.

The Zhuravli Ukrainian Dancers, dressed in folk costumes, stood on the top steps behind the podium and held church banners, while several community youths held small Ukrainian flags and Holodomor placards.

The program began with an introduction by Olia Holowka-Palmer, president of the Ukrainian American Cultural Club



The Holodomor commemoration held on Sunday, November 16, on the steps of City Hall in Houston.

of Houston, who greeted all the guests and served as master of ceremonies. Dr. Ewa Thompson, professor of Slavic studies at Rice University, spoke first, setting the groundwork for the evening's event. She described life in Ukraine in the early

1930s and the political apparatus that ruled the country during that time.

Dr. Thompson very eloquently summed up who the perpetrators were and described the destruction of the Holodomor. She also gave positive reinforcement to the commemorations being conducted around the world as a sign of strength for the Ukrainian nation.

Larissa Scates, the chair of the Houston Holodomor Commemoration, wrote an essay titled "Holodomor – The Unknown Genocide," which addressed the egre-

gious omissions of journalistic reporting with regard to the 1932-1933 Famine in Ukraine. The essay was read by Natalka Voynarovska.

Gregory Buchai, honorary consul of Ukraine, was then invited to the podium. He shared his mother's personal recollections of her youth and the horrors she witnessed as a child in Ukraine during the 1932-1933 Famine. Mr. Buchai's speech was very moving and a poignant homage

(Continued on page 27)



The Houston Holodomor Commemoration Committee (from left): Martha Noukas, president of UNWLA Branch 118; Natalka Voynarovska; Olia Holowka-Palmer, president of the Ukrainian American Cultural Club of Houston; Lydia Bodnar-Balahutrak, Houston area artist and member of the National Holodomor Committee; Irene Potoczniak; and Larissa Scates, chair of the Houston Holodomor Commemoration Committee.

Shevchenko Society sponsors sessions at AAAUS focusing on the Holodomor

PHILADELPHIA – This year's National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) was held in Philadelphia on November 20-23. Over 1,200 Slavic area scholars attended the conference, participating in about 586 sessions and panels.

The Shevchenko Scientific Society (USA) organized and sponsored two sessions: "The Holodomor in Ukrainian Literature" (chaired by Thomas Bird, with presentations by Halyna Hryn, Mark Andryczyk and Larissa Onyshkevych) and "The year 1933 and Soviet Acts Regarding the Ukrainian Language" (chaired by Dr. Onyshkevych, with presentations by Yuri Shevchuk and Serhiy Wakulenko).

There was also a history session on "Soviet Famines and the Ukrainian Holodomor of 1932-1933" (chaired by Lubomyr Hajda, with presentations by Hennadii Boriak, Andrea Graziosi, and

Roman Serbyn).

Participating in the above, as well as in other sessions dealing with Ukrainian topics were Slavic scholars from Canada, Italy, Ukraine and the United States.

The Shevchenko Scientific Society also sponsored a reception for all convention participants interested in Ukrainian studies who attended a meeting of the American Association for Ukrainian Studies (chaired by Alexandra Hrycak, president of the association).

Over 100 publishers exhibited their recent publications at the convention. In contrast to conventions during previous decades, about a third of the publishers displayed their books on Ukraine and related subjects – testifying to the interest that Ukraine now holds in the scholarly world.

– Shevchenko Scientific Society Press Group

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BOOK NOTE: Latest volume of Hrushevsky's history of Ukraine

"History of Ukraine-Rus' " (Volume 9, Book 2, Part 1) *"The Cossack Age, 1654-1657."* Edmonton-Toronto: Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press, 2008. 566 pp. \$119.95.

The ninth volume of Mykhailo Hrushevsky's "History of Ukraine-Rus' " is by far the longest in the 10-volume series. Written in the late 1920s, after Hrushevsky had returned to Ukraine from exile, the volume is based mainly on a wealth of documents gathered by Hrushevsky and his students in the Moscow archives. Many of these documents were little used or unknown to previous historians.

The Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), whose major project is a complete English translation of Hrushevsky's "History," issued Book 1 of Volume 9 in 2005.

The very long Book 2 of this volume is being issued in two parts. Book 2, Part 1, comprising Chapters 6 to 9 of Hrushevsky's volume, was published by CIUS Press in September. This book was translated by Marta Daria Olynyk, a Montreal-based translator, editor and broadcaster. It was edited by the director of the Jacyk Center, Dr. Frank E. Sysyn, with the assistance of CIUS Press Senior Editor Myroslav Yurkevich.

The consulting editor of the volume, who also wrote the introduction, was Dr. Serhii Plokh, who now holds the Mykhailo Hrushevsky Chair of Ukrainian History at Harvard University. Other scholars advised on terminological and historical issues.

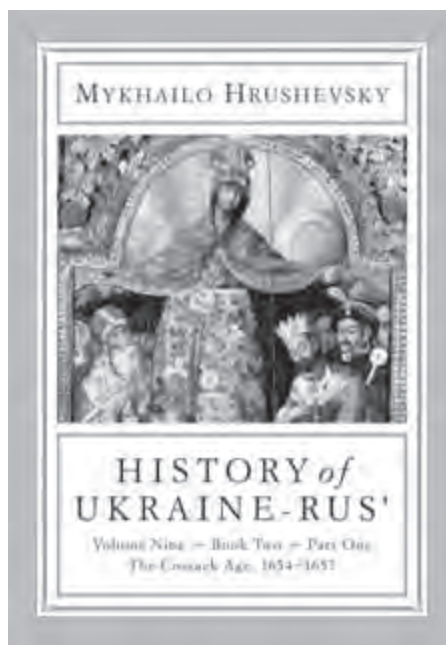
The preparation of this volume was funded by a generous donation from

Daria Mucak-Kowalsky of Etobicoke, Ontario, in memory of her late husband, Mykhailo Kowalsky. Mrs. Mucak-Kowalsky is a well-known and longtime benefactor of the CIUS and Ukrainian studies. Over the course of many years, she, and her husband supported or helped to create important and visionary undertakings through exceptionally generous donations. The largest of these projects is the Kowalsky Program for the Study of Eastern Ukraine, which supports scholarly activity related to Left-Bank Ukraine.

The pivotal event covered in this part of Volume 9 of the "History" is the Pereiaslav Agreement of 1654, which brought Kozak (or Cossack as rendered in these volumes) Ukraine under a Muscovite protectorate. Needing military assistance to continue the struggle with the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, against which the Kozak Host and much of the Ukrainian populace had rebelled in 1648, Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky was prepared to make an agreement that brought Muscovy into the conflict on terms favorable to the Kozaks.

Hrushevsky analyzes the diplomatic and military developments that led up to the agreement, and in Chapter 7 he presents the most detailed and thoughtful treatment in modern historiography of the Pereiaslav Council of January 1654 and the subsequent understandings with Moscow.

Other chapters trace the difficult course of Kozak Ukraine's relations with Muscovy in 1654-1955: the joint military campaign against the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, which almost led to disaster because of poor coordination; the Kozak leadership's efforts to take control of the western Ukrainian and southern Belarusian lands; the ferocious battle of Dryzhytil; and the devastation of the Bratslav region by



Polish and Tatar forces, against which Muscovy provided no effective protection.

On the basis of the travel diary of Paul of Aleppo, a Syrian cleric, Hrushevsky gives an account of daily life in Ukraine at the time, with many details unavailable

in other sources. Unparalleled in breadth of research, Hrushevsky's work brings to life a turbulent and politically decisive period in the life of the Ukrainian people.

Book launches were held for the new volume on September 20 at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York, on September 25 at the University of Alberta, on October 5 at the University of Toronto, and on October 20 at the Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University.

Volume 9, Book 2, Part 1 of the "History of Ukraine-Rus' " is available in a hardcover edition for \$119.95 (plus taxes and shipping; outside Canada prices are in U.S. dollars). The entire set of the "History" is available for the subscription price of \$1,100, while the subscription price of Volumes 7 to 10 (in six books) representing the "History of the Ukrainian Cossacks" is \$600. A subscription placed today entitles the subscriber to receive volumes 1, 7, 8, 9 (Book 1 and Book 2, Part 1) right away, and the remaining volumes as they are published.

Orders can be placed online at www.uto-ron-onto.ca/cius or by contacting CIUS Press, 430 Pembina Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, T6G 2H8; telephone 780-492-2973; e-mail, cius@ualberta.ca.

BOOK REVIEW: Illuminations of Ukrainian literature in translation

"In a Different Light," A Bilingual Anthology of Ukrainian Literature Translated into English by Viriana Tkacz and Wanda Phipps as Performed by Yara Arts Group," compiled and edited by Olha Luchuk. Lviv: Sribne Slovo Press, 2008. 792 pp. \$70 (shipping included).

by Peter Bejger

Images, light, music and space define the theatrical experience. But it all comes down to the word – and not necessarily those found in the scripts created by conventional playwrights. "Poetry is meant to be read aloud, and the stage is the best place for it," writes award-winning theater director, translator and poet Viriana Tkacz.

In her introductory essay to this fascinating compendium of historic and contemporary Ukrainian literary texts, Ms. Tkacz – who is equally at home in Manhattan's East Village, the Carpathian Mountains, Harvard and among Buddhist nomads in Siberia – reveals the creative process behind stage works that have won her critical acclaim for her Yara Arts Group on three continents.

"Due to my grandfather's enthusiasm for dialects and my mother's love of literature, I learned to appreciate Ukrainian poetry and thought it could inspire interesting theater. I was fortunate to work with Wanda Phipps, an African-American poet ... we would sit at my kitchen table reading each text we translated back and forth, adding and changing words out loud till it sounded 'just right.'"

The rhythmic dialogue over the kitchen table has produced a body of bilingual and bicultural presentations that are lavishly documented in this volume. In addition to poetry, this book contains traditional Ukrainian epics, ritual songs, legends and incantations that were translated for Yara Art Group's theatrical performances throughout the world, as well as numerous color photographs of the shows. The organizing principle of the anthology is simple, but unusual – in the order the translations were created and

Peter Bejger is a freelance writer and filmmaker who lives in San Francisco.



performed. In this manner, the book reflects the very personal professional and emotional journey of the creator.

And what a trip! Tkacz's home base is the experimental theater La MaMa E.T.C. in New York, where she works as a director. Much of the material she and Ms. Phipps have translated has been first performed in special workshops by students at Harvard University's Ukrainian Summer Institute. These performances served as a springboard for later productions at LaMaMa and tours in Ukraine.

Ms. Tkacz's theatrical forays into Ukraine would in turn create productive encounters with Ukrainian writers and texts that would lead to performances further afield. For example, Ms. Tkacz was seduced by the poetry of Oleh Lysheha, whose long poem "Swan" inspired projects with the Buryat National Theater in the Siberian city of Ulan Ude. The Buryats were eventually invited to work with Ms. Tkacz in New York and she later staged the complete Lysheha poem as a theater piece titled "Swan" at La MaMa and Harvard.

(Continued on page 26)



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

will mail Christmas greetings and small gift packages to American-Ukrainian service people presently serving their country in many parts of the world.

UNA wishes to solicit your help in getting names, addresses and ranks of any Ukrainian you may know who is serving in the armed forces. Help make this project successful!

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e-mail: oksanauna@comcast.net

Shevchenko Society hears lecture-concert presentation on Skoryk

by Lavrentia Turkewicz

NEW YORK – The Shevchenko Scientific Society on Saturday, November 1 hosted a lecture-concert presentation by Dr. Victor Markiw on the theme “Solo Piano Works of Myroslav Skoryk.” This lecture preceded a concert that took place later in the evening at the Ukrainian Institute of America, as part of the Music at the Institute series, honoring the composer on his 70th birthday.

Dr. Victor Markiw, professor of music at the University of New Haven, received his MFA in piano performance from New York University, where he studied with Volodymyr Vynnytsky, Vladimir Feltsman and Paul Ostrovsky. In 2007 he earned his doctorate in musical arts from the University of Connecticut. His 167-page dissertation was titled “Myroslav Skoryk: Life and Solo Piano Works.”

Following a bilingual introduction by Vasyl Makhno, chairman of the Shevchenko Scientific Society’s Publications Committee, the program began with an exhilarating performance of Mr. Skoryk’s jazz-driven “Three Extravagant Dances for Four Hands.” (1998). Accompanying Dr. Markiw was a colleague from the University of New Haven, Prof. Albert Celotto.

After the performance, Dr. Markiw proceeded with a reading of excerpts from his dissertation, beginning with a biographical sketch of the composer.

Born July 13, 1938, Mr. Skoryk is the son of amateur musicians – his mother, a chemist who played the piano, and his father, a historian-ethnographer who played the violin. During their exile in western Siberia (1947-1955), the young Skoryk studied piano with a student of Rachmaninoff (Valentyna Kantorova). Upon their return to Lviv, he continued his

musical education, eventually graduating from the Lviv Conservatory, where he studied with Stanislav Liudkevych (1879-1979), Roman Simovych (1901-1984) and Adam Soltys (1890-1968). In 1960 he continued postgraduate studies at the Moscow Conservatory, where he studied with Dmitri Kabalevsky.

After graduating in 1964, he returned to Lviv where he taught at the Conservatory for two years; thereafter he moved to the capital where, at the Kyiv Conservatory, he has been teaching composition and contemporary harmony techniques to this day.

In recent years, Mr. Skoryk has been living in both cities and currently holds the posts of professor and dean in the department of history of Ukrainian music, chairman of the Ukrainian Center of Music at the Peter I. Tchaikovsky National Academy of Ukraine in Kyiv, and professor and dean of composition at the Mykola Lysenko Music Academy in Lviv.

Dr. Markiw continued with a discussion of the stylistic development of Mr. Skoryk’s music, noting that the tendency among composers in the second half of the 20th century was to seek “their own style by experimenting with a variety of musical possibilities.” Consequently, Mr. Skoryk’s musical output since the early 1960s included symphonic, chamber, vocal and piano music that was inspired not only by Ukrainian folk music but also jazz, a style from which the ban was lifted in the post-Stalin era.

As a student, Mr. Skoryk was taught in the traditions of such Ukrainian composers as Mykola Lysenko, Liudkevych, Lev Revutsky and Borys Liatoshynsky; on the other hand, his affinity for jazz leaned towards those elements as evident in the musical works of George Gershwin, Aaron Copland and Leonard Bernstein. Drawing a



Volodymyr Tkachenko

At the Shevchenko Scientific Society (from left) are: Anthony Cistulli, Albert Celotto and Victor Markiw.

bridge between the two traditions, Dr. Markiw stated that Mr. Skoryk’s “rhythmic practice relies heavily on syncopation, which is an inherent attribute of both jazz and Ukrainian Carpathian folk music.”

In the mid-1970s, Mr. Skoryk began exploring a “new method” of composing not seen previously in his works, which he labeled “Stylistic Games.” In Dr. Markiw’s words, “Skoryk begins to step away from folk influences; however, this does not mean that he abandons folkloric writing altogether, but that these elements become more or less subsidiary.” As the first of such works, the Partita No. 5 (1975) is not only Mr. Skoryk’s longest composition for piano but also bears a different character from his earlier works.

Prior to performing the innovative com-

position, Dr. Markiw discussed its historical background, after which he provided an analysis of the piece.

Polystylism, as the new technique came to be officially known, appeared with the rise of postmodernism at the end of the 20th century. According to Skoryk, the new movement was not only “very fashionable,” but it also “declared the possibilities of unification of the un-unified, a paradoxical cohabitation of musical styles contained in a work covering diverse extremes of musical material borrowed from different centuries and styles.”

Mr. Skoryk claims that he is influenced by “a classic style which germinates from Prokofiev, Bartók, Szymanowski and

(Continued on page 28)

Concert at Ukrainian Institute honors composer Myroslav Skoryk

by Bohdan Markiw

NEW YORK – On November 1 in Manhattan, Myroslav Skoryk’s 70th birthday was celebrated most appropriately with two memorable musical events.

The first event was an afternoon lecture and performance at the Shevchenko

Scientific Society by pianist Victor Markiw, a faculty member at the University of New Haven. Dr. Markiw’s presentation was titled “Quotation and Cross-Reference in Myroslav Skoryk’s Partita No. 5 and Three Extravagant Pieces for Four Hands.” The latter piece was performed by Dr. Markiw with assistance from Albert Celotto, a colleague at the University of New Haven.

Dr. Markiw deftly incorporated detailed musical examples from both works into his lecture, highlighting significant periods of the composer’s musical accomplishments.

During his informative and entertaining lecture, Dr. Markiw ventured into the more complex aspects of Skoryk’s music but did so in an easy-to-understand manner that made the dual presentation all the more enjoyable to the audience.

Dr. Markiw culminated his presence on stage with a compelling performance of the two works he had previously discussed and introduced to the gathering.

The second birthday celebration, an evening concert held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, featured select works by Mr. Skoryk. The program began with the works “Poem” and “Carpathian Rhapsody” for violin and piano performed by



Lavrentia Turkewicz

Myroslav Skoryk takes a bow at the UIA.

(Continued on page 28)

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St. Michael's Parish in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, celebrates its 100th anniversary

by Peter T. Woloschuk

WOONSOCKET, R.I. – St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church here celebrated the 100th anniversary of its canonical establishment as a parish by Bishop Soter Ortynsky OSBM, the first Ukrainian Catholic bishop in the United States.

The festivities on Sunday, October 26, concluded a spate of anniversary events in eastern New England that included the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Boston, the 90th anniversary of the establishment of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Salem, Mass., the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Manchester, N.H., as well as the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Boston Deanery of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Seven seminarians – Ilie Babota from Rona de Sus, Romania; Celso Belo of Prudentopolis, Brazil; Ioan Dubrovici of Remeti, Romania; Pedro Fulop of Tretama, Brazil; Yuriy Melnyk of Ternopil, Ukraine; Ioan Santa of Czaciunesti, Romania; and Carlos Semchechen of Prudentopolis, Brazil – arrived from St. Basil's College Seminary in Stamford, Conn., on Saturday evening to rehearse for the singing of Sunday's pontifical liturgy.

On Sunday morning the officiating clergy began gathering early in St. Michael's rectory, which is located directly behind the church. Promptly at 10 a.m. a procession which included Bishop Paul P. Chomnycky, OSBM, eparch of Stamford; the Very Rev. Bohdan Danylo, rector of St. Basil's College, Stamford; the Rev. James Morris, pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Salem, Mass.; the Rev. Ivan Mazuryk, dean of men at St. Basil's College; and the Rev. Roman Golemba, pastor of St. Michael's, began to move from the rectory to the church.

The group was greeted at the main doors of the church by trustees John LeMieux and John Tkach. Flowers were presented by children of the parish Olexandra Klufas, Larissa Klufas, Stefan Minyaluk, Danylo Karchut and Olexander Komarynskyj, who were all wearing Ukrainian national dress.

Bishop Chomnycky was the main celebrant of the pontifical liturgy and also served as homilist.

During the course of his sermon the bishop said, "It is important for us to stop and celebrate this important milestone in the life of St. Michael's Parish. Today we mark a



Bohdan Komarynskyj

St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Woonsocket, R.I.

century of service, a century of faith, and a century in growing closer to God."

"The parishioners here in Woonsocket have persevered in spite of all obstacles, and you have not only maintained our Catholic faith but our beautiful Ukrainian rite, traditions and culture as well," he emphasized. "And not only have you managed to do this, but you have also served as a shining example for others. And this is our true duty as Catholics and Christians; to help others and lead them to God."

Following the liturgy, the festivities continued with a gala banquet at the Coachman's Lodge in Bellingham, Mass. Joining the officiating clergy and parishioners were the Very Rev. Canon Edward Young, pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ludlow, Mass. and the Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church in South Deerfield, Mass.; the Very Rev. Archpriest Yaroslav Nalysnyk, pastor of Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Church in Jamaica Plain, Mass., and dean of the Boston Deanery; the Rev. Anthony Perkins, pastor of St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Woonsocket; the Rev. Vasily Lickwar, pastor of the Dormition Orthodox Church of America in Cumberland, R.I. and two other Woonsocket pastors, the Rev. Edward St. Godard of Holy Family Catholic Church and the Rev. Gerald F. Finnegan, SJ, of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, who had been unable to attend the liturgy because of commitments in their own parishes.

Olga Santos, master of ceremonies, welcomed the 240 guests and then called on Bishop Chomnycky to pronounce the invocation. Following the prayer, Mr. Tkach, parish trustee, made the toast and the assembly responded with the singing of the traditional "Mnohaya Lita."

John Kun, native son of St. Michael's and current vice-presi-

dent of the U.S. – Ukraine Foundation, was the main speaker. During the course of his presentation he went over the history of the parish and dwelt on the special impact of two pastors who served the parish for more than 35 years.

"As many of you know," he said, "I grew up in this parish. Even after I moved away in 1978 to work, first in New York City, and later in Washington, D.C., I stayed in contact with St. Michael's by my visits to my mother and father until their passing in 2004 and 2007, respectively. Today, as I work for the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation in our nation's capital, I believe I can further appraise and appreciate the role of St. Michael's beyond just a religious context."

"First of all, I want to point out," he began, "that like Christ, we want to love others and to do good works. In the broader sense, we want to seek justice and to right wrongs. Isn't it funny how those good works and acts of kindness are the things we remember throughout our lives?"

"From this perspective," he continued, "I would ask you to think of and remember the parishioners and pastors of this church, St. Michael's, here in Woonsocket. With all the struggles that entail to begin a new religious organization, you know that our founding parishioners loved their faith and their fellow man."

"We can now look back and appreciate that those who traveled to Woonsocket from their Ukrainian homeland – whether in the early 1900s, following World War II, or at any time during this parish's 100-year history – were impacted by historical forces," Mr. Kun continued. "Many things were beyond their control – such as war, economic hardship and even political rule. However, these brave individuals took their lives into their own hands in trying to do, seek and obtain what must have been unimaginable – the opportunity to live, work and pray in freedom, to

raise children and educate them, and to celebrate life. And by working together here in Woonsocket, they successfully created a community representing the aspirations of their Ukrainian homeland. We can only imagine how exciting that must have felt – to be able to do so much here in the United States that in Europe was not possible."

"Looking back now," he continued, "it is possible that the good times that we all had here seem even a bit more special because of all the difficulties that we encountered, not only as parishioners of St. Michael's, but as new Americans – as newly arrived immigrants or the sons and daughters of immigrants. We all know that it wasn't easy – the language barrier, trying to find a job that could feed a family and encountering discrimination in many aspects of life. Besides economic hardships, there was the ultimate sacrifice for those were called to fight in our nation's wars."



The church's pastor, the Rev. Roman Golemba.



Bishop Paul Chomnycky of Stamford, Conn., celebrates the liturgy.



Bohdan Komarynskyj

Parishioners and guests in front of the church on the day of the parish's centennial celebration.

"For those of us now who have lived through the post-World War II period, Kun added, "we understand about justice being denied to people – both here in the United States and in our ancestral homeland, Ukraine. We also know that through the Soviet period the Ukrainian Catholic Church was an illegal underground Church in Ukraine. That is why I believe Ukrainians here held their Christian convictions even a bit stronger, not only in Woonsocket but in so many communities in the diaspora. They understood and appreciated how precious it was to have the freedom of worship. They would not be defeated even by the evil force of communism."

"Our church members at St. Michael's," Mr. Kun said, "demonstrated, donated their time and energies, educated others, and stood up for a free and independent Ukraine – at Rhode Island Heritage Days in Providence, at international events at Barry Field and by going to distant events, like the unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko Monument in Washington, D.C., in 1964, and so many other countless activities through the years."

"Today America and Ukraine are better places for the tireless work of the parishioners of St. Michael's Church," Mr. Kun pointed out. "We have stood side by side with fellow Ukrainians and Americans in our faith, and through moral, personal and financial assistance. 'In loving our neighbor as ourselves,' we made both countries freer, stronger, more humane and just."

Speaking in Ukrainian, long time parishioner Irene Klufas then said, "When I first came to Woonsocket more than 50 years ago, the church was full and you had to come early or you had to stand outside the doors and follow the liturgy as best you could. I also remember that the church was painted in a primitive fashion with many angels. Near each angel was what I thought was its name. It was only some years later that I found out that the names were those of the benefactors who had paid for the paintings."

"I also remember the excitement in the parish in the late 1950s when it was decided to redo the interior of the church in proper Ukrainian Byzantine fashion and the noted artists Sviatoslav Hordynsky and Serhiy Lytvynenko were engaged to do the work," Mrs. Klufas said. "I can still hear the choir under the direction of Bohdan Lechman and I can recall the many joyful and sad events celebrated at the church."

"However, time, the disappearance of the mills and the factories, and assimilation have all taken their toll," she pointed out, "and St. Michael's has changed with them. On the occasion of this centennial jubilee we need to thank God for all of the blessings that we have received and humbly ask that He continue to help us maintain our church and our traditions and enable to us to hand

them on for future generations, so that we can look forward to our bicentennial jubilee in 100 years."

Following the remarks, the parish trustees and Msgr. Golemba presented Bishop Chomnycky with a small token of appreciation. Live music was provided by Alexander and Liliana Chudolij. Favors for all of the participants were donated by Cathy and Paul Lalanne in memory of Joseph and Mary Wasylean.

At the conclusion of the formal program, the Rev. Morris prayed the benediction.

St. Michael's Jubilee Committee was composed of the members of the Parish Council and included Messrs. Lemieux and Tkach, Mrs. Santos, Dr. Michael Klufas, Dmitry Wolansky and Cornel Osadsa.

Ukrainian settlers first came to Woonsocket and the entire Blackstone Valley, which stretches through a good portion of Rhode Island and Massachusetts, in the mid-1890s. Most of them were young, and the overwhelming majority were single, adventurous males. As with all the other Ukrainian settlements in eastern New England, people were drawn to the area by the opportunity offered for work in the mills and factories, particularly the textile, felt and woolen mills and the leather factories.

Following the lead of other settlers, the early immigrants quickly recognized the need for a church serving their own needs and customs. They organized themselves and contacted the Ukrainian centers in New York and Philadelphia for assistance, and in the spring of 1903 the Rev. Teofan Obushkevych celebrated the first Ukrainian Catholic liturgy in Woonsocket's Precious Blood Roman Catholic Church. At first, services were sporadic and were performed by circuit-riding Ukrainian Catholic priests.

However, within a few months of the first liturgy, a Ukrainian Catholic parish was formed in Cumberland Hill, R.I. There were tensions within the group right from the start, and there was also intense proselytization from the Russian Orthodox Mission and in 1907 a portion of the parish converted to Russian Orthodoxy and took over the property in Cumberland Hill. The Ukrainian Catholic portion of the parish moved the focus of its activities to Woonsocket, renting space in Lyceum Hall for regular services which began on December 7 of that year.

A few months later, in the spring of 1908, the Rev. Michael Struminsky was appointed the first permanent pastor of the new, canonically established parish. In January 1909 St. Michael's was legally incorporated as a religious organization in the state of Rhode Island, boasting a membership of some 600 families. In June 1909, the parish took out a mortgage of \$5,500 and purchased two buildings on West School Street. One was converted into a church, while the other became the rectory. In 1910 the Rev. Volodymyr Dowhovych was appointed pastor by Bishop Ortynsky and in 1911 he was succeeded by the Rev. Vasyl Turula.

Father Turula was a young and energetic priest and he served at St. Michael's for nine years. During his pastorate the parish purchased land for a parish cemetery in Blackstone, Mass.; paid off the mortgage in 1914; and purchased a large lot of land on Blackstone Street for the site of a future, larger church, as well as an adjacent lot with a house on it that would serve as the future rectory. The parish grew rapidly, and between 1911 and 1920 Father Turula baptized 1,290 children.

After the Rev. Turula, the parish saw five pastors in a single year. However, it continued to grow, and in 1923 construction of the

new church in the Ukrainian style with three cupolas was begun at the cost of \$62,000. It was completed within a year and was consecrated on September 24, 1924. When the parish moved into the new edifice, the properties on West School Street were sold.

However, soon after the completion of the church, parishioners were caught up in the controversies then facing the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States, and they also confronted questions of orthodoxy and church jurisdictional issues. As in 1907 the parish split in two and after 12 years of legal battles the Rhode Island Supreme Court declared that St. Michael's would remain under the jurisdiction of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, while the second group formed St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Parish and constructed its own church in the immediate neighborhood.

The Rev. Basil Tremba was appointed pastor in 1932 and served for 17 years; he was succeeded by the Rev. Joseph Galysh, who served for 18 years. The two priests were able to restore stability in the parish and during the 35 years of their combined pastorates did much to deepen the spiritual life of the parishioners. They also were responsible for the installation of a new iconostas, a new tabernacle, stained glass windows and the decoration of the interior of St. Michael's according to Ukrainian church rubrics.

They purchased land for a picnic grounds on Summer Street in Blackstone, Mass., and erected a covered pavilion there. They also bought another building on Blackstone Street for parish functions including parties and social events.

The depression hit the Blackstone Valley hard and times were difficult. Many mills went out of business, and many members of St. Michael's were forced to relocate in search of work. The number of parishioners began a long and slow decline and was only slightly offset by a number of new Ukrainian families who came into the area at the end of World War II.

However, parishioners of St. Michael's remained active, and their ties with Ukraine and Ukrainian culture and tradition remained strong. Over the years there were many good times, including activities with the Holy Name Society, the Women's Sodality and the altar boys. There were bazaars, church dinners, summer clambakes, trips to Stamford, Conn., and to Sloatsburg, N.Y., St. Nicholas parties, Christmas and Easter gatherings.

In 1978 the Rev. Mitred Archpriest John Mowatt was named pastor and served for 10 years and in 1997 the Rev. Golemba was appointed by Bishop Basil Losten and has served for the past 11 years.

In its 100-year history St. Michael's has had 27 pastors; five of them served for a total of 65 years.



At the jubilee dinner (from left) are: Bishop Paul Chomnycky, the Rev. Roman Golemba, and parish trustees John Tkach and John Lemieux.

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“East Village Afternoon” exhibit highlights Ukrainian presence in NYC

NEW YORK – The recent exhibit “East Village Afternoon,” featuring paintings by Andrei Kushnir and Michele Martin Taylor, included several works highlighting the Ukrainian presence in that part of New York City.

The blog “Jeremiah’s Vanishing New York,” which describes itself as “a bitterly nostalgic look at a city in the process of going extinct,” on September 30 wrote of the exhibit: “... on East Sixth Street, in the twin shadows of the Cooper Square Hotel and the Cooper Union ‘Hive,’ the little American Painting gallery goes local, featuring the work of artists Andrei Kushnir and Michele Martin Taylor in a show called

‘East Village Afternoon.’”

Ms. Taylor’s paintings are “floral and foggy,” reminiscent of Pierre Bonnard, and Mr. Kushnir’s works in this exhibit “conjure the remnants of our lost city,” wrote blogger Jeremiah Moss.

Mr. Kushnir’s small paintings, Mr. Moss continued, “feature neighborhood storefronts – Moishe’s Bakery, Saifee Hardware, Lanza’s. I was most taken by his capturing of the East Village in its transition from an accessible community of low-rise tenements to a glass-towered party destination for the affluent.”

Citing the painting “Past, Present, Future,” the blogger notes that it “shows

Taras Shevchenko Place as it was very recently, before the glass went up on the Cooper Union Hive. It’s a familiar New York sight: the half-constructed skeleton of another box, the blue walls, the day-glo safety fencing. It looks as if something alien has landed among the startled masonry, warning of more to come.” (<http://vanishingnewyork.blogspot.com/2008/09/east-village-afternoon.html>).

The exhibit was on view at the American Painting gallery, 206 E. Sixth St., New York, through November 2.

Mr. Kushnir has been a plein air painter for over 25 years, and has exhibited in galleries and museums throughout the United States. He is a member of the Salmagundi Club (New York City), the Washington Society of Landscape Painters, and the National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society.

Ms. Taylor has her own unique post-impressionistic style that includes garden landscape, interiors and figures. More than 1,200 of her original works are found in public and private collections throughout the world.



“Surma Books” (oil on panel) by Andrei Kushnir.



“St. George’s Ukrainian Catholic Church” (oil on panel) by Andrei Kushnir.



“Past, Present, Future” (oil on panel) by Andrei Kushnir shows Taras Shevchenko Place, with the construction of the new Cooper Union building (future) on the left, McSorley’s Ale House (past) in center, and St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church and School (present) on the right.



“Lunch at Veselka Restaurant” (oil on canvas) by Michele Martin Taylor.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

will be a NATO member after all, commented Borys Tarasyuk, chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Euro-integration, at a roundtable held at the offices of Ukrinform on the topic "Ukraine-NATO: What Next?" Mr. Tarasyuk said the latest NATO foreign ministers' meeting in Brussels continued the process launched in April in Bucharest. "The decision to start a new format of relations, namely elaboration of the Annual National Program Ukraine-NATO, and the intention to amend the fundamental document regulating our relations, namely the Charter on a Distinctive Partnership between the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Ukraine, gives grounds to say that Ukraine continues the course toward achieving NATO membership," Mr. Tarasyuk said. According to Mr. Tarasyuk, a transfer to the format of Annual National Program de facto means that Ukraine will keep on working with the alliance in the MAP format, as such programs are envisaged by the NATO Membership Action Plan. Mr. Tarasyuk also commented on Russia's stance on not extending the MAP to Ukraine: "Someone in Russia is trying to interpret this as a victory of this country. This is an attempt at wishful thinking." Vadym Prystaiko, deputy director of the NATO Department at Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, added that excessive politicization of the MAP issue became an obstacle on the Ukraine's path towards the alliance. He noted, however, that Ukraine has gotten a key signal from the alliance: "there is a consensus on Ukraine's accession." Thus, Mr. Prystaiko said, Ukraine has gained an accelerated mechanism to help it join NATO. (Ukrinform)

MFA comments on Eastern Partnership

KYIV – Ukraine is ready to support the Eastern Partnership program suggested by the European Union if this program does not become an alternative to the prospects

of Ukraine's membership in the European Union, noted the press service of Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry (MFA). The ministry said on December 4 that it also expects final approval of the Eastern Partnership by EU member-states to take into account Ukraine's approach. In general, the ministry welcomed this project initiated by Poland and Sweden aimed at creating an important Eastern European dimension in the external policy of the European Union. Moreover, the MFA welcomed the fact that the European Commission had taken into consideration Ukraine's approach to the major goal of the Eastern Partnership, which foresees support for effective political association and economic integration between the EU and its partner-states. The ministry also hailed the project's policy based on a differentiated approach with each partner and dedicated to supporting each individual country to progress in its own way and at its own speed. "Such a flexible approach is a guarantee of turning the future policy of the EU into a really effective mechanism, as a counterbalance to the conceptually incomplete European Neighborhood Policy," read the MFA's statement. The European Union has proposed the Eastern Partnership project to six countries: Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Belarus. (Ukrinform)

Nemyria on Eastern Partnership

KYIV – The Eastern Partnership program "might foster Ukraine's integration with the European Union," Vice Prime Minister Hryhorii Nemyria said on December 8 following a meeting with Hans-Gert Pottering, the president of the European Parliament. "We believe that this initiative and this policy, given that relevant institutional and financial support is provided, will allow the creation of new opportunities for those EU neighboring countries that really wish to become EU members in the future," Mr. Nemyria noted. The official

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Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

succeeded by Ms. Tymoshenko.

Minister of Education Ivan Vakarchuk, who was born in Moldova, served as rector of the Ivan Franko State University in Lviv since 1990.

Minister of Emergency Situations Volodymyr Shandra, from the Ternopil Oblast, is a nuclear engineer and served in the same capacity under the first Tymoshenko government.

Minister of Environmental Defense Heorhii Filipchuk, from the Chernihiv Oblast, served as chair of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc's (YTB) Vinnytsia headquarters.

Minister of Family, Youth and Sports Yurii Pavlenko, from Kyiv, served in the same post in the first Tymoshenko government and is a parent of a godchild to Mr. Yushchenko.

Minister of Fuel and Energy Yurii Prodan, who was born in the Russian Federation, was a veteran of Ukraine's energy industry and advised Mr. Yushchenko during his presidency.

Minister of Health Vasyl Kniazevych, from the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast, was a personal physician to the president.

Minister of Industrial Policy Volodymyr Novytskyi, from the Khmelnytskyi Oblast, was general director of the International Center of Economic Development in Ukraine and served as an assistant industrial minister since 1992.

Minister of Justice Mykola Onischuk, from the Zhytomyr Oblast, was an attorney who parted ways with Anatolii Kinakh after the latter abandoned the opposition to become economy minister in the Yanukovich government.

Minister of Labor and Social Policy Liudmyla Denysova, who was born in the Russian Federation, was the only woman in the Cabinet aside from Ms. Tymoshenko. Ms. Denysova served as finance minister in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

Minister of Regional Development and Construction Vasyl Kuibida, who was born in the Russian Federation, served as mayor of Lviv from 1997 to 2002 and is a leader of the People's Rukh of Ukraine.

Minister of Transport and Communications Yosyp Vynskyi, from the Kmelnytskyi Oblast, abandoned the Socialist Party of Ukraine when Oleksander Moroz joined the Russian-oriented Anti-Crisis Coalition in 2006.

"I am happy that the democratic forces were able to return to government to install order in the country," Ms. Tymoshenko told a press conference, adding "the government appointed today is highly professional and consists of experienced people who don't have a conflict between business interests and their governing tasks."

Source: "New Cabinet of Ministers is decidedly pro-Western," by Zenon Zawada, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, December 23, 2007.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 18)

recalled that the summit meeting of heads of state and government of Eastern Partnership member-states and European Union member-states is supposed to take place in 2009, to be followed by the formal implementation of the program. The Eastern Partnership program will be considered at the European Union summit that is to be held in Brussels. (Ukrinform)

Russian Orthodox patriarch dies

KYIV – Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Alexei II, the head of Russia's Orthodox Church, died on December 5 at the age of 79, announced Vladimir Vigilyansky, spokesman for the Moscow Patriarchate of the Russian Orthodox Church. Alexei II was the 16th patriarch of Moscow and Russia and the primate of the Russian Orthodox Church. He was born as Alexei Ridiger in Tallinn, Estonia, to the family of Russian emigrants; he is a descendant of the German Baltic noble family of von Rudiger, a branch of which adopted Orthodoxy in the 18th century. In 1990 Alexei was chosen to become the new patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church. He is the author of more than 450 theological and church-historical articles, speeches and works. Ukraine's President Viktor Yushchenko extended condolences on the death of Patriarch Alexei II. "A man who was a spiritual authority for millions of Orthodox laity has left the mortal life," the condolences read. The Ukrainian president stressed that the multi-faceted activity of Patriarch Alexei II significantly influenced the religious revival in post-Soviet countries and helped society return to its Christian origins. "Having visited Ukraine, Alexei II inspired our compatriots with his deep belief... A cherished memory of the apostolic patriarch will remain in our hearts forever. Let the Lord lay his soul to rest," the president noted. (Ukrinform)

Holodomor monograph in Croatian

KYIV – A book titled "Genocide of the Totalitarian Regime in Ukraine 1932-1933. Holodomor" was presented on November 21 in Zagreb, according to the Ukrainian diplomatic mission in Croatia. The 300-page monograph, which appeared thanks to the joint efforts of the Ukrainian Embassy in Croatia, the Community of Ukrainian-Croatian Cooperation Khorus, the Ukrainian studies department of Zagreb University and the Croatian Helsinki Group, includes translations of documents, research by leading Ukrainian and foreign historians, articles and speeches of famous political and public figures, and accounts by witnesses of the Famine-Genocide. Among the authors of the book are: Croatian Helsinki Group Chair Ivo Banac, Kateryna Yushchenko, Valentyn Nalyvaichenko, Vasyl Danylenko, Dmytro Soloviy, Robert Conquest, Volodymyr Serhiychuk, Vasyl Barka, Ulas Samchuk, Vasyl Grossman, James Mace, Stanislav Kulchytskyi, Andrea Graziozi, Allan Bessanson and Evhen Paschenko. The book was presented to representatives of the Croatian public and authorities, the Ukrainian community and members of diplomatic corps accredited in Zagreb. Ukraine's Ambassador to Croatia Markiyanyan Lubkivskyi noted that the appearance of the book is an extraordinary event and a significant contribution to distribution of information about the greatest tragedy of Ukrainian people. He thanked everyone who participated in its publication for their "assistance in reconstructing the complicated mosaic of Ukrainian national memory and consciousness." Mr. Lubkivskyi also expressed hope that the Croatian Parliament would soon recognize the Holodomor. (Ukrinform)

Holodomor book in French, Ukrainian

KYIV – A book titled "Holodomor

1932-1933 in Ukraine. Documents and Materials" was published in English and French and presented at the Ukrainian House. The books include documents and materials revealing the reasons, process, scale and consequences of the Holodomor, documents of the Communist Party and various organs of Soviet authority on the local, republic and all-union levels. The book also includes the correspondence of Joseph Stalin, Lazar Kaganovich, Viacheslav Molotov, Stanislav Kosior and other leaders of the Soviet Union in the 1930s. According to Ukrainian Acting First Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Yurii Kostenko, "These books are unique due to the selection of facts and historical materials. They prove that the Holodomor was a planned genocide of the Ukrainian people." The author of the books, doctor of historical sciences Ruslan Piroh, noted that these works reveal the psychology and mentality of Stalin's leadership, which paved the way for the Holodomor. (Ukrinform)

13,000 illegal migrants caught in 2008

KYIV – In the course of the first 10 months of 2008, Ukraine detected 13,000 illegal migrants, repatriated over 2,000 foreigners via court verdicts, and detained 90 more groups of illegal migrants numbering 641 men in total, said Mykhailo Andrienko, head of the Internal Affairs Ministry's department charged with fighting human trafficking. He said that 128 criminal cases were opened pursuant to Article 332 of the Criminal Code (illegal trafficking of people across the state border of Ukraine). Criminal proceedings were instituted against 37 human trafficking managers and 47 accomplices (compared to 22 and 42, respectively, over the same 10-month period in 2007). (Ukrinform)

Odesa police to speak English

KYIV – The administration of the Internal Affairs Ministry of Ukraine in the Odesa region is planning to teach the English language to municipal police officers in order to improve security during the 2012 European Football Championship, the local police department head, Dmytro Kucherenko, said on November 21. He noted that the training would proceed on the basis of the Odesa University of Internal Affairs. The university says special computer programs will help the policemen learn enough English so that they will be able to communicate with foreign visitors to the city. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine second at Junior Eurovision

KYIV – Ukraine's singer Viktoria Petryk took second place at the Junior Eurovision Song Contest – Lemesos 2008, held in Cyprus in late November. She sang "A Sailor" and earned 116 points. Georgia's Bzikibi won the contest with their song "Bzz...!" and received 154 points, while Lithuanian singer Egle Jurgaityte was in third with 103 points. Participating in the contest were junior artists from 15 countries. (Ukrinform)

Ukrainians' attitudes toward Russia

KYIV – According to the results of a social study conducted by the FOM-Ukraine public opinion fund, 70.9 percent of the Ukrainians have a positive attitude toward Russia. In addition, the study found that 17.1 percent of Ukrainians said they were indifferent to Russia, 9.8 percent had a negative attitude to it, and 2.4 percent found it difficult to answer the question. In October 68.6 percent of the people polled by FOM-Ukraine said they viewed Russia positively. The study was conducted on November 12-24 among 2,000 respondents in 160 population centers; the statistical sampling error was less than 2.2 percent. (Ukrinform)



Ділимося сумною вісткою, що в неділю, 7 грудня 2008 р. відійшла у Божу вічність наша найдорожча МАМА, БАБЦЯ І ПРАБАБЦЯ

СВ. П.

Мгр. ПАВЛИНА А. ДАНЧУК

професор і письменниця.

Покійна ціле своє життя вела національно-виховну працю в організаціях ОЖОЧСУ, Шкільній Раді, була директором школи українознавства при осередку СУМ в Нью-Йорку, була членом НТШ.

ПАНАХИДА була відправлена в четвер, 11 грудня о год. 7:30 веч. в похоронному заведенні Петра Яреми в Нью-Йорку.

ПОХОРОННА ВІДПРАВА відбудеться в п'ятницю, 12 грудня о год. 10-й ранку в церкві св. Юра в Нью-Йорку. Покійна буде похована на цвинтарі св. Андрія в С. Бавнд Бруку, Н. Дж.

В глибокому смутку залишилися:

- діти – МАРУСЯ РЕШІТНИК
- НАТАЛКА ОКОПНА
- внуки – СОНЯ ВОЙНИК з родиною
- АЛЕКСАНДЕР РЕШІТНИК
- ОРЕСТ РЕШІТНИК з родиною
- МАРУСЯ МИХАЙЛИК з родиною
- ТАНЯ ОКОПНА з родиною
- ДЕМЕТРІО ОКОПНИЙ
- ПЕТРО ОКОПНИЙ з родиною
- 7 правнуків

та ближча і дальша родина тут і в Україні.

Вічна її пам'ять!

Замість квітів просимо складати пожертви на Шкільну Раду або Школу Українознавства при Осередку СУМ у Нью-Йорку.

Пожертви висилати на адресу:

Mery Reszlitnyk, 100 Montgomery Str., Apt. 21-L
Jersey City, NJ 07302



Ділимося сумною вісткою, що після довгої недуги, з волі Всевишнього, 7 грудня 2008 року відійшов у вічність наш найдорожчий МУЖ, БАТЬКО, ДІДУСЬ, БРАТ І ВУЙКО

СВ. П.

Зенон Форович

народився 8 лютого 1939 року в Болехові, Галичина.

ПАРАСТАС був відправлений в середу, 10 грудня в похоронному заведенні Музики в Чікаго о год. 7 веч.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися в четвер, 11 грудня о годині 10-й ранку в Українському католицькому соборі свв. Володимира і Ольги. Покійний буде похований на цвинтарі св. Миколая в Чікаго.

У глибокому смутку залишилися:

- дружина – Марія та діти
- Зеня, Адріян і Оріон
- син – Роман з дружиною Анною та діти
- Андрій і Олександр
- син – Олександр з дружиною Лесею та діти
- Ліліяна і Марко
- сестра – Юлія Кокорудз та доні
- Христя, Наталка і Марта з родинами
- сестра – Ірена Хиляк з мужем Юрком та діти
- Дарія і Ярослав з дружиною Христіною

та ближча і дальша родина в Америці та Україні

Вічна йому пам'ять!

In gratitude

On April 30, 2007, our beloved husband, father and grandfather, Eugene Jarosewich, passed away unexpectedly. His memory has been graciously honored and our family has received much solace from our community, for which we are deeply grateful.

The family is particularly indebted to Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Rev. Mark Morozowich, Rev. Taras Lonchyna, Rev. Robert Hitchens, and Rev. Deacon Teophil Staruch for their many hours of thoughtful conversation and consolation, and for officiating at the parastas, the funeral and liturgies in memory of Eugene.

We are grateful for the moving letters of tribute, the numerous cards and telephone calls offering condolences and words of support, the beautiful flowers, the liturgies in his memory, the many gifts of kindness and generous contributions to causes he supported, among them the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington, D.C., the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, the US-Ukraine Foundation and St. Rita's School in Solon Ohio. A sum of \$17,525 was collected for these causes. Contributions to the UCNS of the Holy Family, a sum of \$9,950, directly supported the renovation of the bell tower, which was completed in fall 2007. Contributions to the UCEF, a sum of \$6,545, at the request of the family that the funds be used to support understanding between the Ukrainian Orthodox and Ukrainian Catholics in Ukraine, went towards a scholarship fund for Ukrainian Orthodox students from Eastern Ukraine to study at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, and supported the publication of a spring 2008 issue of *Soprychastia*, a journal of the university's Institute for Ecumenical Studies.

We thank the staff of the Ukrainian National Association and both publications, *Svoboda* and *The Ukrainian Weekly* for their kind words, financial contributions and support. We were touched profoundly by the reflections about "pan Evhen" of columnists Taras Szmagala Jr. and Khristina Lew in *The Ukrainian Weekly* in their columns "Diamonds to Dust".

There are not enough words to express the gratitude we feel for the generosity and excellent sense of humor shown our family by the members of the *Plastoviy kurin Burlaky*, as well as their affection for *Genio Granata*.

We deeply appreciate the continued professional recognition and support from Eugene's colleagues at the Department of Mineral Sciences at the Smithsonian Institute, and most recently, the efforts of Ed Vicenzi and Greg Meeker and their colleagues from the Microbeam Analysis Society in organizing a memorial symposium "Microbeam Analysis of Terrestrial and Planetary Sciences" in honor of Eugene Jarosewich at the Society's annual conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico in August 2008.

We are sure that the support and love shown Eugene and his family would have left him dumbfounded, and, as is his family, deeply humbled. In particular, we thank:

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We extend our thanks and gratitude to all.

Wife, Lydia

Daughter, Irene with husband Aleksandr Burakovskiy

Daughter, Martha with husband Stephen Holder

Son, Andrew with wife Tania and sons Nicholas, Daniel and Timothy

Holodomor is...

(Continued from page 1)

Together these three points in Ukraine's capital create a kind of historic Bermuda Triangle into which things disappear and people forget. Lenin gave birth to the people who created the Famine; luxury goods should make everyone forget the deprivations of the Soviet past and the pain of the Famine. But today almost 50 million Ukrainians somehow remain held hostage by one, two, or all three of these points of reference.

Ukraine's current president, Viktor Yushchenko, has made remembering the Famine a cornerstone of his presidency. In 2006, the Parliament passed a law recognizing the Famine as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people. Mr. Yushchenko went to great lengths to ensure that this year's 75th anniversary of the Famine be commemorated on a national level. Foreign leaders participated in the commemorations; conferences were held; memorials unveiled, candles lit and the names of the dead remembered.

In a particularly moving sign of solemnity, the president and the prime minister even suspended their endless bickering

for a day to participate in the unveiling of the new memorial complex in the capital.

Death of a national identity

And yet large swathes of Ukraine remain deeply ambivalent about the Famine. Eastern and southeastern Ukraine – where the Famine took its greatest toll – even today, when the facts about the Famine are widely publicized and accessible, has the fewest memorials. The first attempts to commemorate the victims took place very far away from Ukraine in fact; Canadian Ukrainians erected the first Famine memorial in 1989 in Edmonton.

The late historian James Mace, who joined the Famine project at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute and collected material for Robert Conquest's seminal work "The Harvest of Sorrow," called Ukraine a post-genocidal society. Becoming a Famine expert in his own right, Dr. Mace made Ukraine his adopted homeland. He believed that what Ukrainians call Holodomor (murder by hunger), maimed Ukraine to such an extent that it created a discontinuity in the normal development of the Ukrainian people.

In the former Warsaw Pact countries,

the collapse of communism brought about a restoration of a previous independence. But in Ukraine, the Ukrainian nation – as a community possessing a clear sense of its identity, history and cultural values – remained a national minority in its own country even after independence. The damage from the Soviet legacy was such that Ukrainians lacked a broad consensus concerning their future. All that remained were the surviving structures of Soviet Ukraine. The country was no longer a Ukrainian Soviet republic, but it was also not a Ukrainian Ukraine, in the sense in which Poland is Polish or the Czech Republic is Czech.

The orchestrated Famine wiped out millions of nationally conscious Ukrainians. Whether or not one accepts that the Famine was genocide, there is little doubt that it was targeted against Ukrainian nationalism, against Ukrainianness. Mykola Khvylioviy, one of the most popular and talented writers of the period and a committed Communist, shot himself in helpless protest. The creative engine of a people was destroyed, slowing down and distorting nation building for decades. The Soviet regime prevented families and individuals from processing both personal and national grief. For more than 50 years, Ukraine could not address this trauma openly.

Ukrainian society, however, was soon to experience new shocks: the purges of 1937-1938, war, Nazi occupation and the Holocaust, Soviet reconquest and the 1946-1947 famine. The scars of the Holodomor are overlaid by those of these other tragedies. Yet, under the consequences of these repeated blows, traces of the 1932-1933 Famine are unmistakable. Without taking it into account, for instance, it is impossible to account for the much weaker – compared to what happened in 1914-1922 – Ukrainian national movement that arose in the great upheaval of

World War II. Western Ukraine, which in 1933 was not part of the USSR, is not surprisingly the exception.

What does it mean to be Ukrainian today? What is Ukraine? What is the Ukrainian idea? Former President Leonid Kuchma at one time created quite an angry backlash by stating that the Ukrainian idea had not worked in Ukraine. If a country called Ukraine endlessly convenes conferences on self-identity, if pundits pontificate ad nauseum on "project Ukraine," if Ukrainians themselves can't define their identity or their values, then one can safely admit that the country has something of an identity crisis.

Is it important to have the world acknowledge the Ukrainian Famine as an act of genocide? For the Ukrainian state, yes. But will such recognition help the country itself? Will it ease the effects of the Famine trauma? Will it steer Ukrainian society onto a path of self-awareness? Will it compel the eastern Ukrainian citizen, who is descended from the ethnic Russians who were resettled into the towns and villages emptied by the Famine, feel a connection to this country? Will it give the inhabitants of the more than 13,000 towns and villages who died in 1932-33 a voice and a name? And, most importantly, will today's diverse Ukrainians, who aren't particularly eager to listen to the stories of their painful past, hear those voices?

It seems to me that James Mace was on to something. The Famine is not an only an event in Ukraine's past – it is an event in its present and its future.

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Lytvyn returns...

(Continued from page 1)

in place for at least five more months.

Ms. Tymoshenko can replace ministers during that time, and she indicated that she would consider replacing Economy Minister Bohdan Danylyshyn and Finance Minister Viktor Pynzenyk, possible scapegoats for the global financial crisis.

Mr. Lytvyn's election, and the subsequent coalition talks, did nothing to relieve the ongoing battle between Ms. Tymoshenko's government and the Presidential Secretariat.

At the December 11 parliamentary session, the Tymoshenko Bloc submitted legislation to replace the current State Property Fund Chair, Valentyna Semeniuk-Samsonenko, who is favored by the Presidential Secretariat, with Andrii Portnov, a Tymoshenko Bloc deputy and business partner to Viktor Medvedchuk.

The influential State Property Fund, which determines what state enterprises will be privatized and to whom, was a key battleground in the war for control of government between Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko.

Ms. Tymoshenko also called on Parliament to vote to dismiss Volodymyr Stelmakh, chair of the National Bank of Ukraine, alleging corruption and mismanagement.

In response, Mr. Yushchenko called on his opponents not to politicize the National Bank and its leadership.

Mr. Lytvyn's election marks the second time a confidante of former President Leonid Kuchma joined forces with Ms. Tymoshenko, who grew desperate in her search for political allies in her war with the president, even considering a coalition government with the pro-Russian Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU).

Mr. Medvedchuk, Mr. Kuchma's Presidential Administration chair in 2002-2004, had been offering Ms. Tymoshenko help in dealing with the Russian Federation's government, earning him a return to Ukraine's Higher Justice Council, which has the authority to appoint and dismiss key judges.

Meantime, Mr. Lytvyn was a trusted confidante to the former president ever since Mr. Kuchma tapped him as an advisor in

1994. He climbed his way into the Presidential Administration, serving between 1999 and 2002, when Mr. Kuchma was suspected of ordering the murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze.

A voice believed to be Mr. Lytvyn's was recorded on the Melnychenko tapes, widely believed to prove the Kuchma government's alleged involvement.

When the voice similar to Mr. Kuchma's said he is considering suing Gongadze for his articles, as his lawyers had advised him, the voice similar to Mr. Lytvyn's said, "No, we don't need to do that."

"I know what to do with Heorhii Gongadze," the voice similar to Mr. Lytvyn's said. "Allow [Minister of Internal Affairs] Yuri Kravchenko to visit me." Mr. Kravchenko is widely believed to have arranged for police officers to murder Gongadze.

During the Orange Revolution Mr. Lytvyn played a careful, neutral role as Rada chair, cutting deals with the Orange forces when he noticed the tide turning in their favor.

Since then, he has retooled his political image as a strict centrist who refuses to get enmeshed in the battle between the U.S. and Russia for influence in Ukraine, thus garnering his strongest support in central Ukrainian oblasts, where residents hold similar views.

Political observers have said bribes for votes in those regions also helped his political bloc return to Parliament in the September 2007 election.

Mr. Lytvyn's success will depend on whether he is able to maintain his image as a mediator of Ukraine's battling political factions, observers said. Amidst the slew of legislation that awaits parliamentary approval is the 2009 budget, which has yet to be passed.

At minimum, however, Mr. Lytvyn's election brought stability back to Ukraine's tumultuous political arena, Ms. Tymoshenko assured a national television audience on the evening of December 10.

"I will personally take care of this Parliament and this newly created coalition," she said. "I will never allow the abuse of the Verkhovna Rada and of the country, which we observed in recent months. No presidential elections are worth political adventurers throwing the country into a rift of revolt and chaos."

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The Trypillia exhibit in Toronto: a meeting with organizers from Ukraine

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – A week before the exhibit “Mysteries of Ancient Ukraine: The Remarkable Trypillian Culture (5400-2700 BC)” was scheduled to open at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), the Ukrainian community had the opportunity to meet the five archeologists and scholars who brought the exhibits artifacts from Ukraine.

The event was organized by Lida Smilka of St. Vladimir’s Institute, and the program was introduced by Dr. Daria Darewych of the Shevchenko Scientific Society of Canada.

Dr. Denys Kozak – deputy director of the Institute of Archeology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and manager of the Department of Archeology of the Early Slavs, described the archeological situation in Ukraine today. He emphasized that Ukraine, among the countries of Europe, is one of the richest in archeological sites – for example, there are about 60,000 Trypillian sites. But he called the situation in the field “catastrophic” because of problems such as the lack of funding, so-called “black archeology” and the privatization of land.

Dr. Kozak informed the audience that

since achieving independence, the Ukrainian state has not given “one penny” for archeological digs, which take place only because of non-Ukrainian grants. Although there are laws on ownership and distribution of archeological artifacts in Ukraine, “black archeology” is rampant – vandalism and robbery of archeological sites (often done to satisfy the demands of rich collectors of ancient artifacts), as well as “inside” robbing of museum treasures. Privatization of land is a serious threat where commercial enterprises, in spite of laws about archeological assessments, do not perform them and, therefore, many sites are lost.

Dr. Oleksii Korwin-Piotrowskii – also from the Institute of Archeology – heads the Institute of Trypillian Expeditions and is the author of the article “Eneolit of Ukraine: The Trypillian Culture in Ukraine” in the official ROM catalogue. With the aid of maps, Dr. Korwin-Piotrowskii explained how the Trypillian culture is divided into three periods: Early, Middle and Late Trypillia.

Nina Kowtaniuk, deputy general director, and Tetiana Radiyewska, who works in archeological attribution, represented the National Museum of History in Kyiv.



Oksana Zakydalsky

At a presentation on Trypillian culture (from left) are: Lida Smilka, Nina Kowtaniuk, Wladyslaw Petrenko, Oleksii Korwin-Piotrowskii, Tetiana Radiyewska and Denys Kozak of Ukraine with Daria Darewych of the Shevchenko Scientific Society of Canada.

They spoke about the museum’s collections which hold about 70,000 artifacts of the Trypillian culture.

The third institution that lent artifacts to the ROM exhibit is the National Archeological Museum of Odesa, which

was represented by Wladyslaw Petrenko, research associate. He is the author of the catalogue article “Ancient Trypillians in the Steppe Zone: Usatiw Culture.” He described the collections of the Odesa museum, which was founded in 1825.

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Youth publication about Trypillia available in Ukrainian and English

by Oksana Zakydalsky

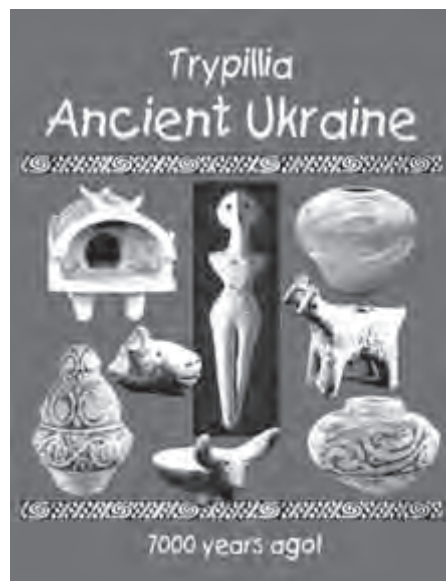
TORONTO – On the occasion of the landmark exhibit of Trypillian culture in Toronto, the publisher of the Plast magazine for cub scouts Hotuys, published a book for young people on the theme of Trypillia, with separate editions in Ukrainian and English.

The 48-page books are titled “Trypiltsi – Nashi Predky” and “Trypillia, Ancient Ukraine.” The books – prepared in the format of an activity book – includes the history of Trypillia, descriptions of the elements and artifacts of Trypillian culture, many colored illustrations, Trypillia-themed

crafts and games. The editor and author of the text is Tanya Dzulynsky.

Although the publisher of the book is the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization’s Hotuys magazine – the Ukrainian-language version has already been mailed to subscribers of Hotuys – it is suitable for a wider youth readership and for us in Ukrainian language schools. The English-language version was published in order to reach a wider youth readership.

To order the publication, which costs \$10, readers may contact the bookstore Koota-Ooma by e-mail: kootaooma@bell-net.ca.



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The covers of the Ukrainian- and English-language versions of a new book for younger generations about the Trypillian culture.

The spelling of “Trypilian”

The catalogue of the exhibit “Mysteries of Ancient Ukraine: the Remarkable Trypillian Culture (5400-2700 BC),” now on display at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), carries an explanation for its use of the spelling “Trypilian” as opposed to “Trypillian” (the adjectival form from the name of the town Trypillia).

The ROM notes: “This exhibition spells the word Trypilian with a single L, and

spells with a double L the name of the modern town where the culture was first discovered, Trypillia. These spellings follow those employed in the Encyclopedia of Ukraine, an intensively researched scholarly work published in five volumes by the University of Toronto Press between 1984 and 1993. This publication has been used as the exhibition’s standard for the spelling of Ukrainian names in English.”

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ON LOCATION: Filming the story of Georgia's "lost crusaders"

by Christina Kotlar

Anyone present at the Ukrainian Film and Cultural Festival held at Soyuzivka in July 2007 may recall watching the award-winning short film "Balloonist" written and directed by Lesya Kalynska. It's an uplifting story about team effort and collaboration between a young Ukrainian man and an elderly yet feisty Georgian who originally take on a vodka promotion job from the whiny Russian businessmen who inexplicably cancel at the last minute. The two take off in the hot air balloon despite the Russian's vehement demands and lambastes, gliding away into the sunset with plans to eventually land in Ukraine. At the time, the underlying theme may have been having the guts to take on a challenge that involves risk – incredible, big-time risk.

Ms. Kalynska then presented a trailer for a film about ancient Georgian martial arts warriors in the faraway hills and valleys of the Caucasus Mountains in the Republic of Georgia. Her feature documentary, "In the Land of the Lost Crusaders," is based on an unprecedented view of a world on the verge of unceremoniously fading into history's black hole of oblivion. With foresight and determination, Ms. Kalynska, and Niko Abazadze, producer, who studied the martial arts warriors for 15 years, bring a relatively unknown aspect of Georgian culture to our attention.

In July 2007 I became part of the film-making team as co-producer and found myself on a plane with Ukrainian and Georgian filmmakers headed out to Tbilisi, the capital of the Republic of Georgia. Since this was a very low budget production, we begged, borrowed and found funding for the scheduled 20-day shoot in the Caucasus Mountains.

Georgia is a transcontinental country located at the juncture of Eastern Europe and Western Asia with a total area of 26,912 square miles, about the size of West Virginia. Its west coast is on the Black Sea, is bordered on the north by Russia, on the south by Turkey and Armenia, and on the east by Azerbaijan. The people refer to themselves as Kartvelebi, their land as Sakartvelo and their language as Kartuli, officially the Georgian language overcom-

Christina Kotlar is a writer, producer and documentary filmmaker. To read more about "In the Land of the Lost Crusaders" and the making of a feature documentary, and to view photos from the film shoot, go to www.filmfestivalreviews.com.

ing the Russian language that was forced upon the people.

Georgians are an ancient people identifying themselves as Karthians and tracing their origins to Noah's great-grandson Karthlos. Georgia is a small but significant piece in the landscape of mountain kingdoms including Colchis (the legendary land of the Golden Fleece) on the Black Sea.

The country converted from paganism in the 4th century, following Armenia's conversion to the Christian faith a quarter of a century earlier. King Gorgasali (446-502) is still considered to be the father of the nation (not unlike St. Volodymyr). St. George slaying the dragon is a powerful symbol, and other saints are held in considerable reverence.

This is where the brave knights (not really "crusaders") of the Caucasus come in, bound by their oath to protect the honor and spirit of the Caucasus, formerly the Georgian Kingdom, as they fought with sword and dagger and became known for their fortitude and strength. Their virtue and prowess was legendary among the people of Georgia, who passed the legends down generations through stories and song.

And a few remained in the mountains fighting well into the 1950s.

Ultimately, the domination of the Soviets took its toll. Despite the fact that Joseph Stalin was born in Georgia, the Soviet regime set out to destroy every tradition and remove national symbols.

"In the Land of the Lost Crusaders" takes the audience to a place to which few are given access. The film crew traveled on narrow roads along steep inclines and the journey took us to remote villages. Led by a local guide, Mindia, on foot and horseback, we saw a land where the masters of the swords are sole heirs to this invaluable knowledge and expertise.

The project began several years ago with Mr. Abazadze, a student of martial arts and a Georgian living in New York, who wanted to go back to his homeland in search of the Khesuverti, the guardians of the Caucasus Mountains. Mr. Abazadze's family came from an aristocratic family whose lineage could be traced back to 6th century Georgian princes. The Abazadze household in Tbilisi, where we established our pre-production office, was once an enormous residence that was eventually reduced into small housing units during the long-endured Soviet occupation.

In a 2005 location scouting tour, the producer found three masters still alive in remote villages. Ms. Kalynska was



The film crew starting out in Tbilisi (from left): Ucha, Christina Kotlar, Giorgi, Lesya Kalynska and Dato.

reminded of the Kozaks whose dedication and passion to a cause – their freedom and the Zaporozhian Sich – was eventually destroyed during Catherine the Great's reign. This passion brought her to Georgia as it did Serhij Mychalchuk, director of photography. Mr. Mychalchuk's work is extensive and recognized internationally, including in the film "Mamay," a masterly cinematographic effort based on an epic poem that became Ukraine's official entry into the 2004 Academy Awards. As co-producer and myself a documentary filmmaker, I understood the urgency that called

us to this historically significant land.

And so in August of last year our film crew embarked on a long, arduous film shoot that culminates to present-day events.

A year later I spoke briefly with Mr. Zbazadze one day before he boarded a plane to Tbilisi, a day before it closed down. I asked about his family in Tbilisi and his brother Rizo, a high-ranking officer in the Georgian army. He said his brother was fighting near the border and he was going out to help them fight the Russians. I haven't heard anything since.



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December 24, 2008 - Christmas Eve
9:00PM Great Complines for Christmas
10:00 PM Divine Liturgy
December 25, 2008 - Christmas Day
11:00AM Christmas Divine Liturgy
December 26, 2008 - Synaxis of the Mother of God
8:30AM Divine Liturgy
December 27, 2008 - Feast of St. Stephen - Protomartyr
5:00PM Divine Liturgy

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Christmas Eve, December 24:
9:00 P.M. - Great Complines
10:00 P.M. - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)
Christmas, December 25:
8:30 A.M. - Divine Liturgy (Eng.)
10:00 A.M. - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)
Theophany, January 6: (Water Blessing)
9:00 A.M. - Divine Liturgy 7:00 P.M. - Divine Liturgy

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Tel. for pyrohy orders: 732.505-6293
Email: aphinagor@hotmail.com
website www.ststephchurch.us

December 25, Christmas Day
8:45 a.m. - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)
10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy (Eng.)
December 26, 2008 - Synaxis of the Mother of God
10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy
December 27, 2008 - St. Stephen (Parish Feast Day)
10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy

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New Jersey 07002
Attended by: Ss. Peter and Paul Church
30 Bentley Avenue, Jersey City, New Jersey 07304
Tel: 201.432.3122 Fax: 201.432.0111

December 25, 2008, Christmas Day
8:30 am - Great Complines (Z namy Boh)
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy
January 6, 2009, Feast of Our Lord's Baptism (Jordan)
11:00 am - Divine Liturgy and Solemn Water Blessing

St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church
Rev. Vasyl Vladyka, Parish Administrator
719 Roosevelt Avenue Carteret, New Jersey
Tel: 732.366-2156 Fax:

December 24, 2008 - Christmas Eve 9:00 pm - Divine Liturgy
December 25, 2008 - Christmas Day 10:30 am - Divine Liturgy

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Christmas Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2008
5:00 PM - Divine Liturgy (Eng.)
10:00 PM - Great Complines for Christmas
11:00 PM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)
Christmas Day, Thursday, Dec. 25, 2008
8:30 AM - Divine Liturgy (Eng.)
10:00 AM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)
Feast of the Circumcision, Thursday, Jan. 1, 2009
10:00 AM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)
7:00 PM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)
Vigil of Theophany, Monday, Jan. 5, 2009
9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.) and Solemn Water Blessing
Theophany of Our Lord, Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2009
8:00 AM - Divine Liturgy (Eng.)
9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.) and Solemn Water Blessing
Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2009 (Julian Calendar Christmas)
9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)
7:00 PM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)
Monday, Jan. 19, 2009 (Julian Calendar Jordan)
9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.) and Solemn Water Blessing

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Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2008 - Christmas Eve
4:00 PM - Children's Liturgy (Eng.)
10:00 PM - Divine Liturgy (Eng.)
Thursday, Dec. 25, 2008 - Christmas Day
9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy
(Ukr.) - responses sung by Choir Boyan
Friday, Dec. 26, 2008 - Synaxis of the Mother of God
9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy
Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2008 - New Year's Eve
7:00 PM - Divine Liturgy
Thursday, Jan. 1, 2009 - New Year's Day
9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy
Monday, Jan. 5, 2009 - Vigil of Theophany
7:00 PM - Divine Liturgy
Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2009 - Theophany of Our Lord
9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.) and Solemn Water Blessing
Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2009 (Julian Calendar Christmas)
9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)

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December 24, 2008, Christmas Eve
4:00 pm - Great Complines (Children's Procession)
and Divine Liturgy (Eng.)
December 25, 2008, Christmas Day
8:45 am - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)

Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church
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December 24, 2008 Christmas Eve
10:00 pm - Great Complines (Z namy Boh)
10:30 pm - Divine Liturgy
December 25, 2008, Christmas Day
11:00 am - Divine Liturgy
January 6, 2009, Feast of Our Lord's Baptism (Jordan)
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy and Blessing of Water

Saint Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church
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Tel: 609.695-3771 Fax: 609.815.0232

December 24, 2008, Christmas Eve
9:00 pm - Great Complines & Divine Liturgy
December 25, 2008, Christmas Day
10:00 am - Divine Liturgy
December 26, 2008, Synaxis of the Mother of God
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy
December 27, 2008, Feast of St. Stephen, Protomartyr
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy
January 1, 2009, New Year's Day
10:00 am - Divine Liturgy
January 6, 2009, Feast of Our Lord's Baptism (Jordan)
10:00 am - Divine Liturgy

Saint Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church
Rev. Joseph Szupa, Pastor
Rev. Vasyl Vladyka, Parochial Vicar
309 Grier Avenue Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202
Tel: 908.352-8823 Fax: 908.352.7648
Email: St.VladimirChurch@verizon.net

December 24, 2008, Christmas Eve
8:30 pm - Great Complines (Children's Procession)
and Divine Liturgy (Eng.)
December 25, 2008, Christmas Day
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)
January 1, 2009, New Year's Day
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy
January 5, 2009, Vigil of Our Lord's Baptism
7:00 pm - Divine Liturgy (Eng.) and Water Blessing
January 6, 2009, Feast of Our Lord's Baptism (Jordan)
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.) and Solemn Water Blessing

Saint Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church
Rev. Vasyl Kornitsky
79 Cherry Lane Ramsey, New Jersey 07446
Tel: 845-238-8936
Email: bkornitsky@yahoo.com

Christmas Day, December 25: 12:00 P.M. - Divine Liturgy

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December 25, 2008 - Christmas Day
7:45AM Great Complines for Christmas
8:30AM Divine Liturgy
December 26, 2008 - Synaxis of the Mother of God
10:30AM Divine Liturgy
December 27, 2008 - Feast of St. Stephen, Protomartyr
7:00 PM Divine Liturgy

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church
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60 Holdsworth Court Passaic, New Jersey 07055
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Website: www.stnicholasucc.org

December 24, 2008 - Christmas Eve
10:00 PM Great Complines for Christmas 10:30 PM - Divine Liturgy
December 25, 2008 - Christmas Day
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Eng.) 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)
December 26, 2008 - Synaxis of the Mother of God
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy 6:00 PM Divine Liturgy
December 27, 2008 - Feast of St. Stephen Protomartyr
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM Divine Liturgy
January 6, 2009 - Feast of Our Lord's Baptism (Jordan)
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy 6:00 PM Divine Liturgy

Vovkulaky fraternity of Plast celebrates 50 years of activity

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – Shortly after the 1957 Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization’s jamboree in Grafton, Ontario, three groups of young Plast members from Toronto, Chicago and Montreal who had met there decided to found a new Plast fraternity (kurin) – and so the Vovkulaky were born.

Fifty years later, 75 members of the fraternity from Canada, United States and Germany – including 10 founding members – met in Toronto from October 10-18, to celebrate the golden anniversary of the Vovkulaky.

At the same time, Vovkulaky in Ukraine, who joined the fraternity soon after Plast was reborn in Ukraine in the 1990s, held anniversary celebrations in Lviv.

The Vovkulaky fraternity is one of the most active in Plast leadership and educational programs. A large number of its

members are involved with youth as counselors – for example, at the 2007 international jamboree in Canada, two of the five boy scout camps were led by Vovkulaky, who also contributed over a dozen camp counselors.

In Ukraine, the head of the Plast organization, Vyacheslav Stebnytsky, is a Vovkulaky member and the chairman of the national council of National Organization of Scouts of Ukraine, Levko Zakharchyshyn, is also a member.

The program of the celebrations was a combination of camaraderie and planning sessions for future activity. The formal anniversary banquet was held on Saturday, October 11 – both in Toronto (75 members and 70 guests) and in Lviv (20 members and 35 guests). On Sunday, after a church service, the groups in Toronto and Lviv, linked by Skype, discussed the future activities of their fraternity.



Vovkulaky at their 50th anniversary celebrations in Toronto.



Vovkulaky in Lviv celebrate the Plast fraternity’s 50th anniversary.

Scout leader from Ukraine visits with his counterparts in Canada

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – Levko Zakharchyshyn, a member of the Vovkulaky Plast fraternity, was invited to Toronto not only to take part in the group’s 50th anniversary celebrations but also, as chairman of the national council of the newly created National Organization of Scouts of Ukraine (NOSU), to explain the status and organization of that scouting organization and to get an understanding of the challenges facing Plast in Ukraine.

As previously reported (July 20), NOSU was co-founded by three existing

scouting organizations in Ukraine – Sich, SPOK and Plast, with Plast being the largest. Mr. Zakharchyshyn explained that NOSU is not a federation or confederation of the three groups but more of a “vessel,” currently empty, that needs to be filled by a membership based on the three scouting groups.

NOSU has a governing body, the national council, which Mr. Zakharchyshyn heads, that is to shape the integration process. He said this does not mean, for example, that current members

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Levko Zakharchyshyn (right) with John Neysmith, international commissioner of Scouts Canada, and Oksana Zakydalsky.

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Scout leader...

(Continued from page 25)

have to abandon Plast to become members of NOSU but can be members of both. Mr. Zakharchyshyn pointed out that the existing groups need to achieve an understanding and agreement of NOSU's mission and approaches to governance.

Mr. Zakharchyshyn said that the current leadership of NOSU would benefit from contact with and advice from an established scouting organization to see how it works. He asked for a meeting with Scouts Canada, which was set up by Vlodko Luciw, past president of Plast in Canada. On October 17, Mr. Zakharchyshyn, Mr. Luciw and this writer met with John Neysmith, international commissioner and Peter Sundborg, executive director, Central Ontario Region, at the Scouts Canada headquarters in Toronto.

At the meeting Mr. Zakharchyshyn explained that NOSU was created to bring together three of the largest scouting groups in Ukraine. Although all three groups subscribe to the mission of scouting and NOSU already has a constitution registered with the Ukrainian government, the key challenge at this point for the national council of NOSU is to develop an integration process and a system of governance.

Mr. Neysmith, who had been at the recent conference of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) held in South Korea and who had worked on behalf of the World Scout Bureau in Yalta, Ukraine, (the location of the Eurasia Scout Region headquarters to which Ukraine belongs) was well informed about the scouting situation in Ukraine and asked specific questions about NOSU. He explained some of the work that Scouts Canada, a member of the Americas Region, had done in bring-

ing various scouting groups together to cooperate on common projects. He agreed with Mr. Zakharchyshyn that the integration of the scouting movement in Ukraine was the most important task at hand and that the national council should take the lead as soon as possible.

Mr. Zakharchyshyn said he hoped that, in some way, Scouts Canada could help in easing the integration of the three groups into one truly national scouting organization. When asked why it was Canada that Ukraine was turning to rather than a European scouting organization, which would be closer, Mr. Zakharchyshyn explained that Canada is a long-standing partner of Ukraine in helping to establish a civil society.

Canada's multicultural values have served as an example to Ukraine in its integration of regions with distinct histories, Mr. Zakharchyshyn noted. He saw this as a parallel with the integration into NOSU of three scouting organizations, all of which have existed for at least 10 years and have developed traditions and practices of their own.

Mr. Neysmith invited Mr. Zakharchyshyn to write up a proposal for a cooperative project of NOSU with Scouts Canada, although he pointed out that he was soon leaving his post as international commissioner to become a member of the Scout Conference (the executive body of WOSM).

The Canadian scout leaders were very welcoming and showed a readiness to consider cooperation with Ukraine. But they cautiously warned Mr. Zakharchyshyn that Plast, which currently is the only one of the three scouting groups in Ukraine that has international contacts, should now turn most of its attention to the integration process of NOSU if it wants to influence the outcome.

Reflections...

(Continued from page 6)

well as various other countries, including those of the European Union. They were there to serve the various interests of their respective governments and organizations.

So, "whom do you represent?" asked Natasha Mazuk of the Open World Program in Kyiv.

"Not really anybody... actually, I guess I'm representing myself," I replied, with a subtle chuckle.

I became aware of this event while reading a Ukrainian newspaper, and I decided I would try my best to attend this conference, even if it meant driving down I-95 in a beat-up old vehicle and staying with old friends of mine in Vienna, Va.

Well, why not? The availability of spare time is a privilege accorded to recent college graduates still trying to figure out what to do with themselves.

My whole life I have been taught to show love and reverence to a country in which I was not born and have travelled to only once. I was told to never forget my roots, which apparently run deep into Ukraine's fertile soil. After a brief period in my life when I utterly rejected any so-called "roots" that I might have, I have come to terms with the reality that I am a Ukrainian American, and understood that I should be proud of that fact. Today I do indeed love and revere a faraway country known as Ukraine.

So where did my interests lie in attending this conference? In Ukraine, where else?

Ukraine, as we know, is a country with a rich culture, extensive history and an abundant potential. However, as we also know, our beloved country is in a dire state. The Orange Coalition has collapsed with various political factions vying for control, while many politicians simply serve their own interests, meanwhile forgetting about the general populace.

I will not stray into detail over what topics were discussed by the speakers and what questions were posed by the audience. It is worth mentioning, however, that the majority of speakers discussed relevant and pertinent topics, and delivered their arguments effectively.

To the dismay of many of my fellow Ukrainian Americans, I also concur with some of the arguments presented by some of the speakers, in particular Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, Ukraine's ambassador to Moscow, who offered different perspectives on Ukraine's "regional commitments." Mr. Gryshchenko argued that whatever dialogue occurs between Ukraine and the West, Russia should be included in this dialogue as a result of being both Ukraine's largest trading partner and its immediate neighbor to the east.

But never mind my opinions.

After the conference's initial stages, I soon found out why I had attended. Not only am I a proud Ukrainian American, but I am also a concerned one as well.

Like so many other Ukrainians and Ukrainian Americans, I am concerned about the current state of affairs in Ukraine and its uncertain future, both long-term and immediate. And what could we possibly do while living halfway across the world?

Solutions to such difficult and complex problems are hard to come by and will take much time and effort by those who dedicate themselves to these issues.

However, forums for deliberating, such as the roundtable series, offer clear paths to such necessary solutions by bringing together some of the best minds and dedicating these people, in one sitting, to the attainment of the goal of building a strong and prosperous Ukraine.

I was certainly pleased that I decided to attend this year's roundtable.

So, in response to the question "Whom do you represent?" I should have replied: "Everyone who cares."

Illuminations...

(Continued from page 12)

Within this magical circle of creation and re-creation, the numerous projects of the Yara Art Groups all share a common thread. Each production is characterized by provocative re-contextualizations, startling juxtapositions, and a tight interweaving of text and performance.

For example, Yara's theater piece "A Light From the East" (later renamed "In the Light" for a bilingual version that went on tour in Ukraine) included poems by the 19th century national bard of Ukraine Taras Shevchenko. As many readers of this publication know all too well, most public performances of Shevchenko's poetry both in the diaspora and Ukraine have been marked by exaggerated solemnity and dire sentimentality. Yara brilliantly transcended the dreary dangers of bowing to a patriotic icon by choosing poems revealing a personal dimension of the writer and through the addition of startling yet complementary texts by the early 20th century modernist poet Pavlo Tychyna. Tychyna was a complex and controversial writer whose delirious riffs on the surreal brutality of the Ukrainian revolution and civil war could be most appreciated today by the shell-shocked residents of Baghdad and Kabul.

The Shevchenko/Tychyna continuum in the piece is further enriched by excerpts from the diaries of experimental theater director Les Kurbas and 18th century poet and philosopher Hryhorii Skovoroda. This dreamy collage of texts, enhanced by originally composed "eastern" music and a stage design of Zen-like simplicity, creates a haunting and medita-

tive work, a work whose creation from original concept to final performance is explained in exquisite detail through commentary by all involved, as well as press reviews.

This anthology presents the literature from over 20 theater pieces performed by Yara under the directorship of Ms. Tkacz as well as an extremely useful list of biographical notes on the authors. Reflecting universal thematic concerns such as feminism, ecology, love and the role of nature in human consciousness, "In A Different Light" offers a unique insight into an ancient and rich oral tradition.

Ms. Tkacz's life work has been to build bridges, and this remarkable book illustrates the heroic service her Yara group has performed to popularize in an exceptionally creative manner Ukrainian literature among audiences who otherwise would have no access to its classics and contemporary explorations. Yara's embrace of experimentation and multiculturalism is ambitious and often fraught with difficulty.

Nevertheless, the last words of Tychyna's poem "War," written in a harrowing context decades ago, indicate the crucial importance of undertaking the journey and focusing on the rewards to be found.

"On the right – the sun.

On the left – the moon.

Ahead – the stars."

The book, compiled and edited by Olha Luchuk, with an introduction by Natalia Pylypiuk, is available for \$70 (shipping included) from: Yara Arts Group, 306 E. 11th St., No. 3B, New York, NY 10003; telephone, 212-475-6474; e-mail, yara@prodigy.net www.brama.com/yara.

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Chicago Ukrainians...

(Continued from page 9)

kept the main sanctuary shut to services. The cardinal came to the lectern and cited St. Paul, commenting on the ecumenical nature of the service. He inveighed against all totalitarian regimes, particularly the Communist terror that destroyed millions.

Next, the new bishop of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Bishop Daniel (Zelinsky) addressed the crowd. An impassioned speaker, he quoted Taras Shevchenko's poem, "The Plague," noting how it foreshadowed the horror and suffering of the Holodomor of 1932-1933. His shout, "10 million!" rang out through the cathedral, to the 65-foot rafters. "We have to teach our succeeding generations. And we can never forget!"

Archbishop Alexander (Bykovetz) of Detroit, a survivor of the Holodomor, spoke in Ukrainian about the loss of future generations, both in numbers and in potential, "the Sheptytskys, Mazepas, Vyhovskys, Petliuras and Banderas," as well as the artists, musicians, writers and other lights of the community that were extinguished before they could be born.

The hierachs returned to the altar and the requiem service began: lyrical, melodic incantations in the Kyivan style of the panakhyda (requiem) sung by a choir collected from the best voices of the numerous Ukrainian Orthodox and Catholic parishes throughout the region. It was conducted by Dr. Vasyl Truchly, noted for

his deep and comprehensive study and propagation of knowledge about Ukrainian liturgical music, and assisted by Michael Holian, a conductor, musician and teacher. The music resonated through the sanctuary, supported by the responses of the bishops and the 20 priests surrounding them, and melding the spirits of the assembled crowd.

Photographers, reporters and cameramen from the local NBC and ABC affiliates and Ukrainian media wandered through the cathedral, capturing the uplifted faces, the rows of Holodomor survivors in the front pews, the youth organizations in uniforms, and the sleeping baby in a mother's lap.

Bishop Richard Seminack, head of the St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Chicago, concluded the service with a moving recollection of the ritual of baking bread that his grandmother practiced, "blessing and praying at each step, picking up a crumb that fell to the floor and kissing it," he recalled. Bread is holy to Ukrainians, and this bread, the basis of their life, was taken away from them, he noted. Their resulting starvation created a wound that hasn't healed through succeeding generations.

Bishop Richard thanked all the participants who so massively participated in the solemn ceremony, concluding right at high noon.

The crowd filed out, a little more noisily now. All had been visibly inspired by an event that will rank among the most memorable and affirming expressions of a community message in the city's history.

Tough medicine...

(Continued from page 6)

plex of structural and institutional reforms, without which we will be unable to compete in today's globalized and pitiless world.

Over the long term, global economics will come down to a struggle among countries for a share in the global investment flow. Therefore, it is essential that our national anti-crisis program include reforms that will make Ukraine a worthy competitor in this struggle.

Ukraine must improve its hard-currency, credit and investment markets. They must be deregulated, transparent, accessible to everyone globally and protected against administrative interventions.

It must implement far-reaching tax reform to reduce corporate and individual taxes, while also introducing mandatory contributions to the state's pension, insurance and environmental funds. It should impose taxes on real estate and the consumption of energy and natural resources.

Kyiv must reform the stock exchange to

protect the rights of minority shareholders, mandate transparency in corporate accounting and reporting, and introduce online trading. It must create investment banks and encourage public share offerings. It must adopt a broad program of demonopolization and credible anti-monopoly regulation.

It must introduce market-oriented reforms of key sectors that remain under state control: the fuel and energy complex, agriculture, machine building, transport, road management, telecommunications, housing and utilities, and others. The country must also face the fact that its management system is shortsighted, cumbersome, onerous and inefficient.

Yes, there is work to be done.

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Link: http://www.rferl.org/content/Tough_Medicine_Needed_For_Ukraines_Economic_Woes/1355819.html.

Opening remarks...

(Continued from page 8)

Today, armed with newly disclosed Soviet archives and the power of the Internet, a new generation of Ukrainians and Americans is sharing the story of the Holodomor. Thanks to organizations like the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide Foundation, the Illinois Senate passed a bill requiring every school in the state to include the Famine-Genocide in history textbooks. Last month, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution condemning the Soviet regime for the Holodomor.

Three Holodomor documentaries were released this year, with more in development. Academic studies, articles, books, plays, exhibits and commemorative rituals are being produced by Ukrainians across the globe. At the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute symposium last fall Prof. Leonid Heretz pointed out that the impetus for Harvard's 25-year-old Famine Project came from the Ukrainian community.

At last month's Chicago conference, the brainchild of Chicago's 75th Anniversary Holodomor Commemoration Committee, Prof. Volodymyr Chumachenko graciously thanked the Ukrainian diaspora for preserving Ukraine's history until an educated, democratic Ukrainian government could bear the responsibility of sharing it with the

world. That government is currently lobbying the U.N. to declare the Holodomor a genocide. Seventy-five years later the burden of memory is slowly returning to its homeland.

It has been a heavy load to carry. But, as Thomas Mann put it: "Beauty can pierce one like a pain." Often the pain imposed upon a culture spurs it to unearth its beauty. Like the pain, the beauty in our lives was bountiful. We were inundated with philosophical literature, theater and poetry, romantic folk songs and dances. Symphonies and ballets based on those songs and dances, sublime crafts and mysterious rituals, humorous expressions and witty aphorisms. And, of course, delectable cuisine. Not surprisingly, my infatuation with Wonder Bread did not last very long.

Today in my household even the driest, hardest bread does not get thrown away. We share it with our squirrel and rabbit neighbors. At school, when they open their Gortex lunch boxes, my children are not the only ones who find dark, whole grain bread. The suburban cafeteria has become a much more culturally diverse space. The other day, my customarily rambunctious son Zorian spotted some kids using their sandwiches as food-fight ammunition. He ceased his antics. "That's not funny," he told them, "that's a sin." And they actually listened. Without even knowing it, Babusia Doka's great-grandson was sharing a grain of her memory.

Ukrainians in Houston...

(Continued from page 11)

to the Holodomor's victims.

The Houston Holodomor Commemoration committee members were all very moved by the article titled "To Remember the Holodomor" written by President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine and decided to include it in the program. The article was read by William Palmer.

Ms. Holowka-Palmer thanked the guest speakers and all who helped to real-

ize the event. Special thanks were given to Lydia Bodnar-Balahutrak and Ms. Voynarovska for putting up the visual displays about the Holodomor in the Houston Public Library downtown. She encouraged everyone to visit the displays, which would run through the month of November.

The Rev. Mykola Dovzhuk was called to the podium to close the solemn ceremonies. Assisting him were altar boys Joseph Kuchta and Alex Pankewicz. After a short memorial service for the dead (panakhyda), all in attendance sang "Vichnaya Pamiat" (Eternal Memory).

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Shevchenko Society...

(Continued from page 13)

Shostakovich." He also mentions Ravel, Debussy and Prokofiev as the major influences on his creativity, stating that "in the music of these composers, we see traditional 'old tonal music' with brilliant findings in modal structures and new harmonic revelations."

In Mr. Skoryk's view, "classical" refers not only to "the folkloric basis contained in many works of these composers," but also to all the techniques which had existed concurrently during the 20th century, such as the later neo-classical works of Stravinsky, or Alban Berg's expressionistic mixture of tonal structure with dodeca-phonic elements.

Similarly, according to Dr. Markiw, Mr. Skoryk's harmonic language can be summarized as the juxtaposition of tonal and atonal practice; furthermore, his style "is based on the foundation of tonal principles of the music of the past, however, not excluding occasional references to dodeca-phonic and serial music, also with influences from electronic and minimalist music."

In the Partita No. 5, the "Stylistic Games" technique is initially implicated in the work's "In Modo Retro" heading and constitutes, in Dr. Markiw's words, "a conglomeration of various stylistic hints and genres of composers like Bach, Ravel, Chopin and Strauss." Thus, within the work all styles of the past are represented in juxtaposition with their 20th-century

counterparts.

Quoting directly from other composers or evoking other styles, Mr. Skoryk uses contrasting elements within individual movements, such as tonality vs. dodeca-phony; Ländler vs. Vienna waltz; Soviet anthem vs. Beethoven's Coriolan Overture; banal romantic sentimentalism and parody; or creates, in Dr. Markiw's words, "an eclectic fusion of neo-baroque and neo-romantic manners."

The composer also uses cross-reference technique, borrowing stylistic elements from earlier movements, which, according to Dr. Markiw, "is in itself a form of quotation." Then, he unifies the work in the finale by again repeating elements from former movements. As opposed to Alfred Schnittke who uses quotations as a means to create sharp contrast, Mr. Skoryk is able to integrate all parts stylistically in his own language.

In his introduction, Dr. Markiw cited Joseph McLellan, the music critic from The Washington Post, who wrote that "He [Skoryk] should be better known in this country; he is an original, a composer with a distinct identity, a mastery of many idioms – jazzy, folk-style and moderately avant-garde – that he uses to shape works embodying piquant contrast, convincing climaxes and sometimes impish wit" (The Washington Post, February 26, 2000).

As a pianist, Dr. Markiw has performed on stage, radio and television. He plans to popularize the music of Mr. Skoryk through lecture-concerts, articles and his own CD recordings.

Naval imbalance...

(Continued from page 2)

Whitney, destroyers USS Dallas and Barry, oceanographic ship Pathfinder and other U.S. ships have been cruising in the Black Sea and visiting Georgian, Bulgarian and Romanian ports, as well as Ukraine's naval port in Sevastopol. The Mount Whitney's second visit ended on November 19 and has been followed seamlessly by the USS Barry on a two-week mission (AGERPRES, November 20).

Although largely symbolic, these naval visits provide a visible demonstration of U.S. security commitments in the region. Beyond symbolism, however, the naval imbalance between Russia and its neighbors needs to be addressed in practical terms following the attack on Georgia.

The United States and Ukraine are discussing the possibility of the U.S. handing over two frigates of the Oliver Hazard Perry class, armed with guided missiles, to the Ukrainian navy. U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Ukrainian Defense Minister Yurii Yekhanurov broke this news on the October 8 during a meeting in Ohrid, Macedonia, of the defense ministers of South-East European countries. The discussions are in progress.

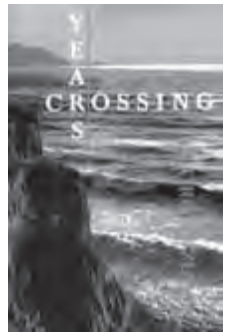
First built in the 1970s by the United States, frigates of this class are equipped for anti-submarine and surface combat, as well as for air defense. According to Ukrainian sources, the U.S. Navy currently has 30 frigates of this class on active duty and another nine in reserve. From 1994 to 2002 the United States handed over four frigates

of this class to Egypt, seven to Turkey and one to Bahrain, and built four of them for the Australian navy. Frigates of this class are regarded as far more advanced and powerful than any ship in the Ukrainian navy's inventory (UNIAN, October 9; Glavred, November 18).

Some West European countries also show an interest in improving Ukraine's naval capabilities, following the Russian fleet's defiance of Ukrainian sovereignty. Dutch diplomats and the Swedish defense attaché in Ukraine met on November 19 with the Ukrainian navy's commander, Admiral Ihor Teniukh, at the Ukrainian naval base in Sevastopol. They discussed possible Dutch participation in the Sea Breeze-2009 exercise (an annual U.S.-led exercise in Ukrainian coastal areas) and possible cooperation by Sweden with the Ukrainian navy's reform program. (UNIAN, November 19).

Following Russia's invasion of Georgia, NATO has disinvited Russia from the alliance's Active Endeavor operation in the Mediterranean (where Russian participation was only token in any case). It remains to be seen whether BLACKSEAFOR activities will continue business as usual with the Russian fleet, after its attack on Georgia and breach of Ukrainian neutrality. For its part, Turkey seems set to proceed with Black Sea Harmony unperturbed by Russia's recent conduct.

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A rogue fleet...

(Continued from page 2)

planned naval station in Sokhumi. Under the Russian Navy's modernization program, 16 new ships are said to be planned for delivery to the Black Sea Fleet by 2015 (RIA Novosti, November 21; Messenger, November 24).

Inasmuch as the new ships will take up berthing space at Novorossiysk, Ochamchire and Sokhumi, this will undoubtedly become an excuse for Russian foot-dragging on withdrawing the fleet from Sevastopol, where the lease from Ukraine will expire in 2017. Given that fleet's size, the relocation from Sevastopol to Russian

Black Sea ports would probably have to commence by 2010 in order to be completed on schedule.

Moscow, however, takes the position that talks with Ukraine on withdrawing the fleet can be held when the 2017 deadline draws near. This would practically ensure the Russian fleet's stay in Ukraine past the deadline, with or without Ukrainian consent to prolong the basing agreement (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, October 23).

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Concert at...

(Continued from page 13)

Yuri Kharenko and the composer himself.

The performance of "Poem," which was written for the Vladimir Horowitz International Competition in Kyiv, had its U.S. premiere that evening. Pianist Mykola Suk followed with an emotional rendition of Partita No. 5 for solo piano, which he premiered in 1975 and has since embraced as his showpiece. In his interpretation, the music emitted an ethereal transparency with subtle shadings and varied dynamic ranges.

Another U.S. premiere that evening was the performance of The Partita No. 6 for string quartet performed by Oleksander Abaev and Yuri Kharenko, violin; Boris Deviatov, viola; and Natalia Khoma, cello. The piece, which calls for four demanding solos for each instrument, was greatly enhanced by the highly successful Ukrainian Institute of America debut of first violinist Mr. Abaev, who exhibited his talents as a chamber musician with a very solid solo performance replete with a beautifully sweet tone, especially evident in his performance of Mr. Skoryk's "Melody."

The second half of the concert featured Volodymyr Vynnytsky on piano performing Skoryk's Piano Concerto No. 3 with string quartet and gran cassa, which was played

by the composer. Mr. Kharenko was the leader of the string quartet, while Mr. Vynnytsky's sparkling virtuosity was exceptional.

The Piano Concerto No. 3 is programmatic with movements titled "Prayer," "Dream" and "Life." The third movement, which contains a direct quotation from the opening movement's theme, was dramatically supported by a heartbeat-like rhythm from the gran cassa, and dissonant chords from the strings. After several measures, the strings give over to the gran cassa thus creating the eerie sensation of an echo.

Later in the program, Mr. Vynnytsky accompanied Ms. Khoma, who played another moving piece titled "A-Ri-A." Mr. Vynnytsky also performed one of Mr. Skoryk's most popular solo piano works, the "Burlesque." The final piece, "Three Jazz Pieces for Four Hands," was artfully performed by Messrs. Vynnytsky and Skoryk.

Upon the completion of the evening's performances, an obviously appreciative audience responded with an enthusiastic ovation for the composer. The tumultuous ovation that followed proved to be a fitting conclusion to an unforgettable birthday for Ukraine's leading composer and a lasting memory for the Ukrainian people and all who treasure the genius of Myroslav Skoryk.

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OUT AND ABOUT

- Current through February 7
Winnipeg, MB
- December 17
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- December 19-20
New York
- December 19
Kensington, MD
- December 20
Bethesda, MD
- December 20
Philadelphia
- December 20
Philadelphia
- December 20
New York
- December 26-28
New York
- December 31
- Exhibit, "Following Yonder Star: The Art of Ukrainian Christmas Cards," Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center, 204-942-0218
- Christmas concert, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School, 973-779-0249
- Concert, "Winter Sun: A Festival of New Arts and Tradition," Yara Arts Group, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660
- 31st Annual Festival of Lights, featuring St. Nicholas Day observance with "Traditional Christmas Eve Dinner" by Dana Loun, Temple Visitor's Center, www.powerofspirit.org/claendar.html
- Holiday Bazaar and St. Nicholas program, Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies, Westland Middle School, www.ukieschool.org
- Concert, "Ukrainian Christmas at Rittenhouse Square," featuring Akkolada Chamber Choir, Church of the Holy Trinity, ukiebar@aol.com
- Christmas Bazaar, Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, 215-656-8521 or 215-332-5760
- Memorial lecture dedicated to Ihor Rymaruk, Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130
- Dramatic presentation, "Still the River Flows," Yara Arts Group, La Mama Experimental Theater Company, 212-475-7710
- New Year's Eve celebration, featuring

Stamford, CT
December 31
Whippany, NJ

music by Hrim, St. Basil College, 203-329-8693 or 203-253-8005

New Year's Eve, featuring music by Chetverta Chvylya, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-652-5389 or 973-585-7175

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.

Philadelphia Archeparchy plans to hold Women's Day in March

PHILADELPHIA – The Archeparchial Women's Day Committee has announced that the next Women's Day will be held on Saturday, March 28. The theme is "From Grief To Grace," based on the "From God's fullness we have all received... grace upon grace" (Jn.1:16).

The keynote speaker will be Kimberly Hashin, M.D., who will guide the reflections for the day. Dr. Hashin is a lifelong member of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Minersville, Pa., where the Rev. Archpriest Michael Hutsko is pastor.

Dr. Hashin received her training from Pennsylvania State University, Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, where she completed an internal medicine residency in 1993-1996 and was chief resident in 1996-1997. Prior to that, she graduated from Pennsylvania State University

College of Medicine and Albright College in Reading, Pa.

Presently she is a board-certified internist with Pottsville Internists Associates. She is also the medical director for Seton Manor Skilled Nursing Home, co-director for the Schuylkill Osteoporosis Clinic and a member of the Cancer Committee for the Schuylkill Medical Center East Norwegian.

Dr. Hashin is the wife of attorney Albert Evans and the mother of Albe and Alan Evans.

For further information about Women's Day, readers may write to Sister Dorothy Ann Buskowsky, OSBM, at dabusowski@stbasils.com or call 215-379-3998, ext. 35. Registration forms may be obtained from local pastors or the office of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia. Pre-registration is \$25 or \$30 at the door.



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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

A young participant's report on remembering the Holodomor

by Irena Browar

CHICAGO – The Chicago commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor began with a two-day conference at the Cervantes Institute.

On Friday night, September 12, there was a reception at which attendees mingled at an exhibit of historical posters created by the Ukraine 3000 International Charitable Foundation chaired by Ukraine's First Lady and former Chicagoan Kateryna Yushchenko.

Attendees also watched a preview screening of the movie "Holodomor – Ukraine's Genocide 1932-1933" by Bobby Leigh, director, and Marta Tomkiw, producer. This is a moving piece which promises to be monumental upon completion.

The exhibit also included documents, period photos, eyewitness accounts and archival materials from collections of the Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago and from several individuals in the Chicagoland area.

Irene Browar, 14, is a freshman at Hinsdale Central High School. She enjoys art, track, skiing, Ukrainian folk dancing and activities of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

Attendance was high for the speakers' conference on the following day, despite torrential rains that flooded the area. Archbishop Alexander Bykovetz opened the conference with eyewitness testimony. The conference speakers included Volodymyr Chumachenko, Lubomyr Luciuk and Nigel Colley, grand nephew of Welsh journalist Gareth Jones.

Conference attendees included students of Grades 8-10 from the local Ukrainian schools.

Dr. Chumachenko spoke about how the secret of the Famine that killed millions was kept from the rest of the world, and Dr. Luciuk spoke of the diaspora and the Holodomor. Mr. Colley spoke of his great uncle's attempt to expose the Holodomor and how it led to his murder. This day also ended with the screening of "Holodomor – Ukraine's Genocide 1932-1933" with Mr. Leigh and Ms. Tomkiw on hand to answer questions.

The following Saturday, a memorial service was held at the Genocide Memorial of St. Andrew's Church in Bloomington, Ill., to commemorate the 10 million victims of the Holodomor. Attending were the general public and students from the surrounding schools, as well as members of the youth organizations Plast, SUM, and ODUM.



Members of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization at the commemoration.

A solemn procession from St. Andrew's Church ended with the laying of a memorial wreath at the Holodomor monument on the church grounds.

The panakhyda (memorial service), was followed by a Ukrainian youth concert consisting of a series of poems, songs and stories related to the Famine-Genocide of Ukraine.

Mishanyna

Picking up on the theme of U.S. presidents begun in last month's Mishanyna, this month we challenge you to find the names of the remaining 18 presidents. Bonus: find the name of the next president of the United States. (Surely you know his name!)

- | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|
| ARTHUR | GARFIELD | PIERCE |
| BUCHANAN | HARDING | POLK |
| CARTER | HAYES | TAYLOR |
| CLEVELAND | JACKSON | TYLER |
| COOLIDGE | MADISON | VAN BUREN |
| FILLMORE | MONROE | |

UAYA's Hartford branch holds its opening assembly



HARTFORD, Conn. – Members of the Hartford, Conn., branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA) are seen above gathered for an assembly on October 7 at the Ukrainian National Home of Hartford. The program consisted of a prayer, a welcome from youth leaders and introduction of youth counselors for 2008-2009, as well as recognition of the winners of Zlet 2008 and participants of UAYA summer camps.

C	S	A	D	A	M	S	A	M	U	E	L	M	A	N
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V	N	O	S	I	R	R	A	H	S	I	D	I	I	I
E	A	S	E	R	N	U	S	A	C	L	O	S	N	L
L	N	T	T	Y	L	E	R	A	D	O	C	O	I	L
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Plast scout group enjoys a unique musical experience



Plast scouts with musicians and carolers from the Carpathian Mountains.

NEW PALTZ, N.Y. – Thanksgiving weekend offered a very special experience for four “yunaky” (Plast scouts), Olesh Hatala, Mykola Paslawsky, Lesyk Gorloff and Maksym Bondarenko from the Cobras in the Whippany, N.J., area.

As part of their project to earn the merit badge for music, they explored the roots of traditional Ukrainian music. It was a coincidence that Halyna Shepko of Shawangunk Ridge Farm, in New Paltz, N.Y., near Soyuzivka, invited them to attend a very unique gathering of talented musicians that included bandurists and folk singers from the Carpathian Mountains in Ukraine.

The boys were magically immersed into a scene which opened at the front door to the bellowing sound of the trembita, the 12-foot-long mountain horn, as the “koliadnyky” (carolers) waited to be invited in by the hostess of the house.

The traditional “koliada,” or winter song ritual, was then accompanied by Mykhailo Tafiychuk, the fiddler, master instrument maker and blacksmith of the Carpathian Mountains. Though the koliady were not the familiar ones, the boys found themselves humming the catchy refrains that celebrated the

birth of the Son of God while forecasting a fertile spring and future harvests.

The next part was especially interesting for the group as the elder Hutsul displayed and demonstrated his hand-made instruments. There were five flute-like instruments: floiara, telenka, duda, dentsivka and sopilka. He also played the volynka, or bagpipes made of goat skin. Another long hornlike instrument was called the rih.

The scouts then listened to an enchanting group of young to teenage children who played banduras as well as sang a number of songs. Julian Kytasty, master bandurist, taught many of these present at a summer bandura camp and performed on what he called a “starodavna” (ancient) bandura.

Mykola Paslawsky recalled viewing a photo album shared by Virlana Tkacz, in which she described to him the monthlong winter ritual when all koliadnyky carol together.

At the conclusion of the evening, the group of Plast yunaky left this musical party behind a little bit more enriched by an experience for which many people yearn – the ageless song of the koliadnyky who share their harmony and good wishes among all in their villages.

Connecticut teen to attend Presidential Inauguration

by Alexandra Lodynsky

I have been invited by the People To People Program, started by Dwight D. Eisenhower, to attend a truly rare and historic event, the 2009 Presidential Inauguration in Washington.

I have been part of this student ambassador program since I was 11 years old and have traveled to England, France, Italy, Australia, Austria, and many more countries. I have been honored for my academic achievement, leadership ability and interest in global citizenship. I get to see the world, meet so many people, and make so many new friends. I have been blessed for these opportunities in my life.

I will be leaving for Washington on January 17 and returning on January 22, 2009. I will also have a chance to go to Arlington National Cemetery, Korean War Memorial, World World II Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Smithsonian American History Museum, Ford's Theater, People to People Inaugural Ball, U.S. Capitol Building and many more sights. I will also have a White House photo opportunity.

I live in Bethany, Conn., and am a



Alexandra Lodynsky

sophomore at Amity High School, member of St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, the Ukrainian Ridna Shkola in New Haven and a member of the Zolotij Promin Ukrainian Dance Group in Hartford.

I have also attended The Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy at Soyuzivka for four years. I also enjoy playing the piano. My parents are Adrian and Halia (Jurczak) Lodynsky and I have two younger brothers, Andre and Adrian Lodynsky. I turned 16 on November 2.

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The next edition of UKELODEON
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We look forward to hearing from you!

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, December 19

NEW YORK: Yara Arts Group and the Ukrainian Institute of America present "Winter Sun: A Festival of New Arts and Tradition." An exhibit of contemporary art inspired by the Hutsul koliada will be opened that evening at 8 p.m. Featured artists: Anya Farion, Annette Friedman, Maya Hayuk, Roman Hrab, Peter Hrycyk, Peter Ihnat, Adriana Kulczycky, Svitlana Matviyenko, Andrea Odezynska, Oksana Prokopenko, Mariya Tarassishina, Marybeth Ward and Andrea Wenglowskyj. The Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia will perform in all the rooms of the Fifth Avenue mansion, joined by Julian Kytasty, Nadia Tarnawska, Brandon Vance, plus Yara artists Cecilia Arana, Zabryna Guevara, Eleanor Lipat and John Guth. The event is at the Ukrainian Institute of America,

2 E. 79th St. at Fifth Avenue. Admission: \$15. For information call 212-288-8660.

Saturday, December 20

NEW YORK: Yara Arts Group and the Ukrainian Institute of America present "Winter Sun: A Festival of New Arts and Tradition." A gala concert will feature the Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia joined by the Svitanya Women's Vocal Ensemble, Julian Kytasty and the New York Bandura Ensemble, Nadia Tarnawsky, Brandon Vance, the Shepko family, Lilia Pavlovsky and family, plus Yara artists. Ritual food as interpreted by food artist Olesia Lew will also be presented. The event is at 8 p.m. at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. at Fifth Avenue New York. Admission: \$25. or \$30 for both this event and the one on Friday (see listing above). For information call 212-288-8660.

NEW YORK: Yara Arts Group presents a workshop in Hutsul music with the legendary musician and instrument maker Mykhailo Tafiychuk and the Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia. Discover the how traditional instruments are made and played. Learn the ancient winter songs. You do not have to be able to read Ukrainian or music to participate. The workshop will be held on Saturday in the afternoon. You must pre-register. For time and place of workshop call Yara, 212-475-6474, or e-mail yara@prodigy.net.

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to an evening dedicated to the memory of Ihor Rymaruk (1958-2008), a prominent Ukrainian poet. The program, part of a "literary bazaar" series at the society, will feature talks about the late poet by Prof. Vasyl Makhno, Dr. Larissa Onyshkevych and Dr. Bohdan Rubchak. Songs with lyrics by Ihor Rymaruk will be performed by Dr. Mark Andryczyk and Yaryna Yakubyak (the "Yeezhak" group). Svitlana Makhno will read selected poems by Ihor Rymaruk. The program will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

Friday-Sunday, December 26-28

NEW YORK: La MaMa ETC and Yara Arts Group present "Still the River Flows," a new theater piece by Yara Arts Group directed by Virlana Tkacz and designed by Watoku

Ueno, with music director Julian Kytasty, featuring the Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia, the Tafiychuk family, Antonia Ermolenko, Lilia Pavlovska, Svitanya Women's Vocal Ensemble, Downtown Bandura Early Music Group, Natalia Honcharenko, Mike Andrec, Roman Turowsky, Nadia Tarnawsky, Brandon Vance and Yara artists plus the Koliada Puppets on Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$25; \$10 for children. La MaMa Experimental Theater is located at 74 E. Fourth St (between Second and Third avenues). For information call 212-475-7710.

Saturday, January 14

CARTERET, N.J.: St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church are co-sponsoring a Malanka (Ukrainian New Year gathering) at the St. Demetrius Community Center, 681 Roosevelt Ave. Music will be by Na Zdorov'ya. Tickets are \$55, which includes admission, choice of sirloin beef or chicken Francaise dinner, open bar, midnight hors d'ouvres and a champagne toast. The center is located just blocks from Exit 12 of the New Jersey Turnpike; there is a Holiday Inn right off the exit. Doors open at 6 p.m.; dinner will be served at 7 p.m.; music starts at 8 p.m. For table and ticket reservations call Peter Prociuk, 732-41-5452. Tickets will not be sold at the door; outside liquor is prohibited. Deadline to purchase tickets is January 11.

Soyuzivka's Datebook

December 31 – New Year's Eve
with Fata Morgana 12/31/08

January 6 – Ukrainian Christmas
Eve Supper

January 10 – Ukrainian Engineers'
Malanka with Svitank 1/10/09



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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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. **NB: If e-mailing, please do not send items as attachments; simply type the text into the body of the e-mail message.**

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