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Poroshenko cuts payments to occupied Donbas region

by Zenon Zawada

KYIV – Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has taken further steps to deal with the decision of the Russian-backed Donbas separatists to flaunt the Minsk ceasefire protocols by organizing illegal elections on November 2.

After announcing plans to repeal the territories' self-governance, he signed a decree on November 14 that, among other measures, ordered the National Bank of Ukraine to halt all money transfers to the occupied territories, including pensions and payments for newborns.

The separatist leaders and the Russian government accused Mr. Poroshenko of imposing economic strangulation on the occupied territories and denying their residents the payments to which they are entitled. Defending his actions, the president said the Russian-backed separatists left him with no other options.

The pseudo-elections for the prime ministers and parliaments of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions "threw us off resolving exceptionally important social issues," the president said at the November 4 meeting of the National Security and Defense Council, during which it approved what it called measures for social-economic stability.

The president's November 14 decree

ordered the implementation of the council's recommended measures.

"We continue to carry the burden, not receiving a cent for electricity or natural gas," he said, as reported by the Ukrayinska Pravda news site. "We continue to heat Donetsk and Luhansk in conditions of freezing temperatures, though based on the law we should have long ago cut heating and energy supplies."

Indeed, the government decided it won't cut off electricity and gas supplies to the occupied Donbas territories, but "the sum accumulated by the government for social payments and subsidies will be reduced based on the [market] value of electricity and gas that we are currently supplying to the territories in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions," said Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk on November 5.

At the same time, the government will be saving about 60 billion hrv annually (\$4 billion) annually by dropping the region's estimated tax burden of about 28 billion hrv (\$1.9 billion), its social payments, as well as mining and energy-related subsidies, estimated Dmytro Boyarchuk, the executive director of the CASE Ukraine Center for Social and Economic Research.

The elimination of mining subsidies is significant because many are in the occu-

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Russian aggression in Ukraine takes center stage at G-20



Liana Slipetsky

Protesters drape their bodies with flags of the countries that lost citizens when Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 was shot down in July, killing 298 people.

BRISBANE, Australia – Although it was not a topic on the official agenda, Russia's role in the ongoing crisis in Ukraine took center stage in Brisbane, Australia, as world leaders gathered for the summit of the Group of 20 (G-20) on November 15-16.

During the meeting of the world's largest advanced and emerging economies, which comprises 19 countries plus the European Union, Canada's Prime Minister Harper was quoted by Canadian media as

saying to Russian President Vladimir Putin: "Well, I guess I'll shake your hand, but I only have one thing to say to you: you need to get out of Ukraine."

That message was also expressed loud and clear by Ukrainian Australians and their supporters, who held what they dubbed a "Protest Against Putin" on November 15 at King George Square outside Brisbane City Hall.

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Anne Applebaum delivers 2014 Ukrainian Famine Lecture



CIUS

Anne Applebaum delivers the annual Ukrainian Famine Lecture in Toronto at the George Ignatieff Theater.

TORONTO – The Toronto Annual Ukrainian Famine Lecture was delivered this year by the celebrated writer Anne Applebaum, who spoke on the Holodomor and its relation to current events in a talk titled "Why Stalin Feared Ukraine and Why Putin Fears It Today."

The event was organized by the Holodomor Research

and Education Consortium of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (Toronto office), University of Alberta; the Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine; the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies; and the Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Toronto.

Ms. Applebaum writes on history and politics in Eastern Europe, Ukraine and Russia and is a columnist for The Washington Post. Her book "Gulag: A History" won the Pulitzer Prize for non-fiction in 2004. Her most recent book, "Iron Curtain: The Crushing of Eastern Europe, 1944-1956," won a number of prestigious prizes, including an Arthur Ross Silver Medal from the Council on Foreign Relations and the Cundill Prize for Historical Literature. She is currently writing a book on the Holodomor, the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933.

Ms. Applebaum began her presentation on October 9 by describing how Joseph Stalin's early career later shaped his policies in Ukraine. In 1918, she explained, he was sent to Tsaritsyn, present-day Volgograd, where he was responsible for grain requisitions. He took over the local secret police, closed the local newspapers and executed railway engineers as "class aliens." As he would do many times later, Stalin invented a counter-revolutionary conspiracy as a pretext for using violence against those who disagreed with him.

Ms. Applebaum explained that throughout his career, Stalin dealt with crises using extra-legal, extra-judicial

"revolutionary methods," adding, "The more violence he used, the more grain he could acquire. And if the price of triumph was extremely high, and the costs of violence extraordinary – that could be covered up later on."

Stalin learned not only from successes but from failures as well, the most significant being the civil war in Ukraine. He knew first hand of the two failed attempts by the Bolsheviks in Ukraine, having served as Lenin's representative there. Armed groups had been sent into villages to collect grain "owed" to the state, a method that fueled resentment, a massive peasant rebellion and a counter-revolution that in 1919 came close to succeeding. Ms. Applebaum asserted that this close call was long remembered by Communist officials. "The prevention of another Ukrainian peasant uprising was absolutely at the center of their concerns," she said.

Ms. Applebaum argued that the experience left its mark on Stalin, who referred to it repeatedly in the early 1930s as his collectivization policy floundered, producing not only anger and open resistance but also lower crop yields. In the summer of 1932 he wrote to Lazar Kaganovich, his representative in Ukraine: "The most important issue right now is Ukraine. ... There is talk that in two regions ... about 50 district party committees have spoken out against the grain-procurements plan, deeming it unrealistic."

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ANALYSIS

In Ukraine, grief, pride and anger as families remember Euro-Maidan dead

by Claire Bigg
RFE/RL

Ulyana Verbytska grieves for her father, Yuri, a soft-spoken seismologist from the western Ukrainian city of Lviv.

In January, Yuri Verbytskyi, 50, had taken leave from work and traveled to Kyiv to join the pro-democracy Euro-Maidan protests. He helped out at the protest camp's kitchen, fixing sandwiches and buoying demonstrators with warm tea and words of support.

"My father was a very kind person," says Ms. Verbytska, a 26-year-old architecture graduate student in Lviv. "He was incapable of turning people down when they needed help."

On January 22, as the two-month-old protests descended into violent clashes with police, Mr. Verbytskyi was found dead in a forest outside Kyiv bearing horrific signs of torture. He was one of Euro-Maidan's first victims.

"I knew he was on the Maidan and I was worried, of course, the entire family was worried," says his daughter. "At the same time, we also supported the protests."

U.S. official says Washington should consider lethal aid to Kyiv

RFE/RL

WASHINGTON – A senior aide to U.S. President Barack Obama has said that the United States should reconsider its policy of not providing lethal aid to Ukraine, which is grappling with pro-Russian separatists in the east of the country.

Tony Blinken, the deputy national security adviser, cited "serious violations" by Moscow of the Minsk agreement. Signed by Russia, Ukraine and rebels from Ukrainian separatist regions of Donetsk and Luhansk on September 5 in the Belarus capital, the agreement imposed a ceasefire and set out steps toward peace.

Mr. Blinken said providing Kyiv with lethal military aid may prompt Moscow "to think twice and deter them from further action." He was speaking on November 19 at a congressional hearing on his nomination to be President Obama's deputy secretary of state.

Analysts say providing defensive military equipment to Ukraine has broad support in Congress.

Ukraine accused Russia last week of sending soldiers and weapons to help separatist rebels in eastern Ukraine launch a new offensive in a conflict that has already killed more than 4,100 people.

NATO has accused Russia of sending tanks and troops to eastern Ukraine in recent days to support the separatists. NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg said on November 18 that there had been a "serious military build-up" both in eastern Ukraine and on the Russian side of the border, and urged Moscow to pull back its forces.

With reporting by the Associated Press and Reuters.

Mr. Verbytskyi last spoke to his daughter from a Kyiv hospital where he was receiving treatment after a police stun grenade sent fragments into his eye. "Don't worry," he told her. "Everything's all right."

Moments later, he and fellow activist Ihor Lutsenko, a prominent journalist, were abducted from the hospital by a group of men. Mr. Lutsenko showed up the next day, battered but alive.

Their captors, he said, had repeatedly beaten, tortured and questioned them about the Euro-Maidan. Mr. Lutsenko said he was eventually dumped in a forest, from which he was able to stumble to safety.

"Didn't die in vain"

Mr. Verbytskyi never made it back. An official autopsy found that he froze to death.

Today, all but one of those suspected of the crime are still at large.

According to Ukraine's new authorities, his killing was sanctioned by officials in former President Viktor Yanukovich's Internal Affairs Ministry and the Procurator General's Office. But out of 13 suspects, only one is currently in detention pending trial.

Mr. Verbytskyi's brutal killing stood in sharp contrast with his own pacifist nature. Those who knew him describe him as a gentle, caring man with a passion for nature and alpinism – a far cry from then-President Yanukovich's portrayal of protesters as rabid nationalist radicals.

"He was against the use of violence, he believed it was always possible to reach an agreement with people," Ms. Verbytska says. "Through his example he taught me to love nature and all forms of life."

Despite the chain of dramatic events unleashed by the Kyiv protests, including the deadly conflict pitting Ukrainian troops against pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine, Ms. Verbytska still staunchly defends the democratic ideals upheld on Maidan and sees her father as a "hero for all Ukrainians."

"I believe my father didn't die in vain, he wanted a better future for Ukraine," she says. "Of course, the current situation in our country is difficult. But we must remember those who gave their lives for it and for our future, and do everything we can to ensure their sacrifice wasn't for nothing."

"Today they don't care"

Not all families of Euro-Maidan victims, however, have been able to make sense of their loss.

Harik Nihoyan, the father of the first killed demonstrator, never shared his son's enthusiasm for the protests.

This ethnic Armenian, who immigrated to Ukraine from the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh in 1992, says the thought that his son died for Ukraine has brought him no solace. "Maybe Ukraine will have a brighter future, but we won't," he says, his voice brimming with anger. "We lost him, full stop."

Serhii Nihoyan left his home in Bereznovativka, a small village outside the eastern city of Dnipropetrovsk, in early December 2013 to join the Euro-Maidan protesters.

Known for his distinctive black beard, the 21-year-old quickly became a fixture on Independence Square, chopping wood or serving as security. He died on January 22 when riot police raided the protest camp. Medics say he was shot multiple times in

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NEWSBRIEFS

Poroshenko: Ukraine 'ready for total war'

KYIV – President Petro Poroshenko has said his country is "prepared for total war," as fighting between Ukrainian forces and pro-Russian separatists continues around the rebel-held city of Donetsk. In an interview with the German daily Bild published on November 17, Mr. Poroshenko said, "I am not afraid of war with Russian troops," adding, "We are prepared for a scenario of total war... We don't want war, we want peace and we are fighting for European values. But Russia does not respect any agreement." The conflict, which has killed more than 4,000 people since April, persists despite a September 5 ceasefire. Mr. Poroshenko said Ukraine's armed forces were better prepared now, and Ukraine had the support of the "entire world." On November 16, during a visit to Bratislava, Mr. Poroshenko said the conflict in the east would "end within two weeks" if the ceasefire signed in Minsk in September was implemented. (RFE/RL, with reporting by Interfax)

Adviser: no point in new talks

KYIV – A Ukrainian security adviser says there is no point in holding new peace talks with pro-Russian separatists until Kyiv is satisfied that the rebels holding territory in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions are adhering to a truce deal signed on September 5 in Minsk. Markian Lubkivsky, an adviser to the chairman of Ukraine's Security Service, said on 1+1 television on November 13 that "there will be no 'Minsk-2', as we have 'Minsk-1' agreements which Ukraine is implementing and the terrorists are not." A Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry representative, Dmytro Kuleba, said in the same televised program that Kyiv will continue talks but only on implementation of existing agreements. Hundreds of combatants and civilians have been killed since the September 5 ceasefire, with each side blaming the other. Kyiv says that November 2 elections in the rebel-held region violated the truce deal, which also included other steps toward peace and was signed by Russia. Russia denies allegations from Kyiv and the West that it has sent troops and weapons into eastern Ukraine, despite sightings of unmarked convoys on rebel-held territory in recent days. (RFE/RL, with reporting by pravda.ua and 1+1 TV)

German minister visits Kyiv, Moscow

PRAGUE – German Foreign Affairs Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier flew from Kyiv to Moscow and met with his Russian counterpart during the evening of November 18. Mr. Steinmeier and Russian Foreign Affairs Minister Sergei Lavrov discussed the deteriorating situation in Ukraine. Both reportedly agreed on the need to return to the so-called Minsk protocol, a dialogue that involves the warring factions in Ukraine, as well as Russia and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Mr. Steinmeier said he did not "see reasons for optimism" that the Minsk protocol could achieve a breakthrough on the ground in eastern Ukraine. But he added that "it would be a huge loss" to abandon the protocol at this time. Messrs. Steinmeier and Lavrov also called on Kyiv and the separatist leadership in Ukraine's eastern Donetsk and Luhansk regions to start direct talks aimed at pulling their military forces back. Mr. Lavrov said the Minsk protocol was a "unique format... the only one in which the conflicting parties are represented with Russia's and the OSCE's participation." Earlier on November 18, Mr. Steinmeier met with Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk in Kyiv. Mr. Yatsenyuk agreed that the basic points of the Minsk agreement "have not been fulfilled" and he stated that "Russia must fulfill what it signed and what it promised to the whole world." A Ukrainian military spokesman said on November 18 that five Ukrainian troops had been killed in the previous 24 hours, and reported the shelling of government positions in several locations including Donetsk airport. (RFE/RL, with reporting by Interfax, TASS and Reuters)

NATO sees military build-up

BRUSSELS – NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg says there has been a "serious military build-up" both in conflict-torn eastern Ukraine and on the Russian side of the border, and he has urged Moscow to pull back its forces. Mr. Stoltenberg told reporters in Brussels that information from NATO and other sources including the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe pointed to "a military build-up..."

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NEWS ANALYSIS

Prime Minister Yatsenyuk says Kyiv won't talk to Moscow's 'mercenaries'

RFE/RL

Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk has rejected a Russian call for direct talks between Kyiv and pro-Russian separatists, saying his government would not talk to Moscow's "mercenaries."

Mr. Yatsenyuk made the remarks at a government meeting after Russian Foreign Affairs Minister Sergei Lavrov, speaking in the lower house of the Russian Parliament on November 19, called for "establishing stable contacts between Kyiv and Donbas aimed at reaching mutually acceptable agreements."

Mr. Yatsenyuk said in Russian, "We will not hold direct talks with your mercenaries." He called on Moscow to "stop playing games aimed at legitimizing bandits and terrorists."

"If you want peace – fulfill the Minsk agreement," Mr. Yatsenyuk said, referring to a September 5 agreement, which Russia signed off on, that imposed a ceasefire and set out steps toward peace.

In his address to the State Duma, Mr. Lavrov said the conflict is the product of 25 years of selfish Western expansionism. "The Ukraine crisis is a consequence of the policy Western states have pursued for a quarter-century of strengthening their own security at the expense of the security of others and broadening the geopolitical space under their control," he said.

Mr. Lavrov said the West "must support the process of mutually acceptable agreements instead of supporting the party of war in Kyiv, closing its eyes on outrageous human rights violations, lawlessness and war crimes."

He repeated Moscow's denials of involvement in an armed conflict between government forces and pro-Russian separatists that has killed more than 4,100 combatants and civilians since April. He said the conflict is an internal issue for Ukraine and "all attempts to turn Russia into a party to the conflict are counterproductive and have no chance of success."

The Russian foreign affairs minister's live televised address to the Duma appeared aimed at assuring Russians that the Kremlin is in the right and fending off growing Western accusations of direct Russian military support for the separatists, who hold large parts of Ukraine's Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.

He spoke a day after President Vladimir Putin, who has used anti-Western words and actions to strengthen his grip on the

country, said that the United States wants to "subordinate" Russia and "solve its problems at our expense."

Mr. Lavrov tempered the anti-Western message by saying that there is no alternative to cooperation between Russia and the European Union, long its biggest trade partner. But he blamed the EU for the strains and said Russia's relations with the West must be based on the assumption of equality, echoing a demand that Mr. Putin set out in a foreign policy decree at the start of his third term in 2012.

Russia banned a broad range of food imports from the EU and the United States in August in retaliation for sanctions they imposed on Russia over the Ukraine crisis.

Kyiv and the West accuse Russia of sending weapons and troops into eastern Ukraine to aid the separatists.

NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg said on November 18 that there had been a "serious military build-up" both in eastern Ukraine and on the Russian side of the border, and urged Moscow to pull back its forces.

Kyiv and Western governments are concerned that Mr. Putin may want pro-Russian separatists to seize more ground in Ukraine or solidify control over the territory they hold, creating a "frozen conflict" that could destabilize the country, drain its economy, and crimp its pro-Western government for years.

On November 19, Mr. Putin said Russia is ready for cooperation with the United States so long as Washington treats Moscow as an equal, respects its interests and refrains from interfering in its affairs.

The Russian president spoke at a ceremony during which he received the credentials of foreign envoys, including John Tefft, the new U.S. ambassador to Moscow.

Meanwhile, U.S. Vice-President Joseph Biden was to arrive in Ukraine on November 20 for a two-day visit. The U.S. ambassador to Kyiv, Geoffrey Pyatt, announced the dates for the "working visit" in a tweet.

Based on reporting by Reuters, the Associated Press, Agence France-Presse and UNIAN.

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Quotable notes

"Eighty-one years ago, in an attempt to silence the Ukrainian nation and quell its aspirations for independence, Stalin's totalitarian regime sentenced millions of our people to death by starvation. 'Ukraine is now of the utmost importance... If we do not deal with the situation in Ukraine, we can lose Ukraine forever...' wrote Joseph Stalin in 1932 to the secretary of the Communist Party, Lazar Kaganovich.

"Despite the decades-long efforts by Communist authorities, and attempts by other contemporary forces, to disinform and erase from human memory the horrific experiences of the Holodomor, the world today knows the facts about this crime. Archival documents, scholarly research and testimonies by survivors have contributed to recognition of the Holodomor as genocide of the Ukrainian nation and to remembrance of the countless victims by governments and international institutions.

"In Canada, we have led the international community with the recognition by the Canadian federal government of the Holodomor as an act of genocide in 2008 with similar recognition by the provincial governments of Saskatchewan, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec.

"The consequences of the Holodomor on the Ukrainian nation still reverberate 81 years later, as the Ukrainian people face a military threat from the Russian Federation to their aspirations for independence – a threat which attempts to deny their right to live in dignity in an independent, sovereign, democratic European state.

"We must continue to raise awareness of the Holodomor and ensure that future generations continue to learn, remember and understand the tragic pages of our history."

– Ukrainian Canadian Congress statement issued for National Holodomor Awareness Week, November 17-23 in Canada.

FOR THE RECORD: U.S. statement at Security Council meeting on Ukraine

Following is a slightly abridged text of remarks by Ambassador Samantha Power, U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations, at the November 12 Security Council meeting on Ukraine.

...This is the Security Council's 26th meeting on the current crisis in Ukraine. If our message and the message of other countries, today, on the deteriorating situation in eastern Ukraine sounds familiar, it is for good reason. For while the situation has evolved, the root of the problem remains the same: Russia's flagrant violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Time and again, Russia has made commitments and then failed to live up to them; and subsequently offered explanations to this council that it knows are untrue.

The most recent example involves the joint commitments made by Russia, the separatists it supports, and Ukraine on September 5 in Minsk. These include: an immediate end to ceasefire violations; restoration of Ukrainian control of its side of the international border; OSCE monitoring of the border; and a security zone on either side of the border; withdrawal of foreign forces, mercenaries and equipment from Ukraine; and the release of hostages and prisoners. On none of these have Russia or the separatists lived up to their word.

At Minsk, all sides committed to an immediate ceasefire. Yet, rather than observe the ceasefire, the separatists have taken advantage of the agreed-upon pause in fighting to try to expand their territory beyond Minsk lines. Meanwhile, Ukraine had maintained a full ceasefire along the agreed lines, as it defends its forces and population from [the] separatists' push for more. Over the last few days, separatist attacks have increased significantly, including on positions around Donetsk airport and Debaltsevo City, and, of course, near Mariupol.

At Minsk, all sides committed to permitting the OSCE to monitor and verify the ceasefire. Yet Russian-backed separatists have fired on OSCE monitoring drones and used jamming signals to interfere with its team members' electronics, using equipment supplied by Moscow.

At Minsk, all sides agreed to permanent monitoring at the Ukrainian-Russian state border and the creation of a security zone along the border. Yet Russia has done nothing to restore Ukrainian government control of the international border. Russia has refused to press separatists to allow the OSCE access to the border. And Russia continues to flout Ukrainian airspace with its helicopters and UAVs. It also continues to send so-called "humanitarian convoys" – convoys it will not allow Ukrainian customs authorities or international monitors to search.

At Minsk, all sides committed to immediately free all hostages and illegally held persons. Yet Russia and the separatists it backs continue to hold approximately 500 captives. These captives include Ukrainian pilot Nadiya Savchenko and Ukrainian film director Oleg Sentsov, both of whom were captured by separatists on Ukrainian soil and illegally transported against their will to Russia.

At Minsk, Russia committed to remove all illegal military formations, military equipment and militants from Ukraine. Yet rather than withdrawing its military forces from Ukraine and rather than cutting off its support for separatists, Russia is instead surging more forces and more equipment

across the border. The Russian military has maintained a forward presence in eastern Ukraine since the ceasefire took effect. We have information indicating that a Russian air defense system was operating near one of the separatists' convoys in Donetsk. Russia has not provided this type of air defense system to separatists to date, suggesting that Russian forces were protecting the convoy.

On November 9, the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission reported two convoys of 17 unmarked green trucks moving west through Donetsk towards the ceasefire line. Yesterday, November 11, OSCE monitors observed the movement of 43 unmarked military vehicles on the eastern outskirts of Donetsk. Five were seen towing 120-mm howitzers, and five others were towing multi-launch rocket systems.

NATO confirmed it has observed columns of Russian equipment, primarily Russian tanks, Russian artillery, Russian air defense systems and Russian combat troops entering Ukraine over the past 48 hours.

The list goes on, but the pattern is clear. Where Russia has made commitments, it has failed to meet them. Russia has negotiated a peace plan, and then systematically undermined it at every step. It talks of peace, but it keeps fueling war.

That is not all. On November 2, Russian-backed separatists held illegal elections in the parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts that they controlled. The elections contravened Ukraine's laws and its sovereignty. They defied Point 9 of the Minsk Protocol.

But if Russia and the separatists intended the elections to cast a veneer of legitimacy on their actions, they failed. Instead, the world saw the elections for what they are: a shameless attempt to validate territory seized at the barrel of the gun: a gun provided by Russia. In keeping with its efforts to escalate rather than de-escalate at every turn, rather than condemn the separatists' sham election like most of the international community, Russia encouraged it. Foreign Minister [Sergey] Lavrov even tried to argue that the elections were part of the Minsk agreements, which clearly stipulate that the elections be local and conducted "in accordance with the law of Ukraine."

Russian and separatist actions in eastern Ukraine currently have nothing to do with improving the humanitarian situation in Donbas or decentralizing power, as called for in Points 3 and 8 of the Minsk Protocol.

A recent Associated Press report from the rebel-held town of Perevalsk – part of the territory that recently declared independence from Ukraine – revealed the town was ruled by a local warlord who goes by the nickname of "Batya," or "Daddy." "Daddy's" power is maintained by a group of armed Cossacks whom he calls his "Great Don Army," and four tanks outside his office fly Russian and rebel flags. Asked where his authority came from, "Daddy" told the AP reporter: "We are an independent organization and we don't depend on anyone. I'm answerable only to President Putin and our Lord."

In neighboring Alchevsk village, rebel leaders preside over the kangaroo trials of people accused of crimes. Defendants are not given lawyers, and their judges are whatever members of the community show up, who vote by a simple show of hands. This is what the separatists' democracy looks like. We continue to see similar

(Continued on page 11)

Ukrainian National Credit Union Association holds annual meeting in Yonkers

by Orysia Burdiak

YONKERS, N.Y. – The Ukrainian National Credit Union Association (UNCUA) held its 33rd fall conference and annual meeting on September 26-27 here at the Ukrainian Youth Center.

The conference was hosted by SUMA Yonkers Federal Credit Union, which was chartered in 1964 and celebrated its 50th anniversary of service to the Ukrainian American community with a commemorative banquet on September 27.

Forty-five participants representing 13 Ukrainian American credit unions gathered to hear presentations on current topics of interest to credit union leaders and to elect a new board of directors.

The conference commenced on Friday morning with welcoming remarks by UNCUA Chair Bohdan Kurczak, SUMA Yonkers FCU President Walter Kozicky and special guest Olya Sheweli, president of the World Council of Ukrainian Cooperatives (WCUC).

Presentations on topics of interest to the credit union industry followed. Attorney Mitchell Pollack, founder and managing member of Mitchell Pollack & Associates, spoke on issues in employment law; Joseph Concannon, president of Integris Security LLC, addressed the issues of both physical and data security; and Ms. Sheweli presented the current status of credit unions in Ukraine.

A credit union roundtable, facilitated by Tamara Denysenko, board member and former CEO of Ukrainian FCU in Rochester, discussed the current challenges facing credit unions: membership, regulatory burdens, succession planning, changing technology and social media.

On Friday evening delegates helped celebrate Mr. Kozicky's 90th birthday with sev-



Participants of the 2014 annual meeting of the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association.

eral hearty rounds of "Mnohaya Lita."

On Saturday, the association conducted its annual meeting, which included reports by management and various committees. The elections of board members for the 2014-2015 term were also held.

UNCUA Chairman Kurczak reported on the activities of the association for the past year, as well as the current status of Ukrainian American credit unions. As of June 30, assets of the 14 UNCUA member credit unions totaled \$2.812 billion – \$45 million more than at year-end 2013. Member deposits totaled \$2.380 billion –

\$32 million more than as of December 31, 2013. Credit union membership dropped to 99,195 individuals.

The 2014 credit union calendar was dedicated to 200th anniversary of Taras Shevchenko's birth, and 29,000 calendars were distributed to credit union members, as reported by UNCUA President Orysia Burdiak.

On Saturday evening, SUMA Yonkers FCU hosted its 50th anniversary banquet with a sold-out crowd. Newly elected UNCUA Chair Wasyl Kornylo and President Burdiak presented SUMA Yonkers FCU Chairman Andrew Horbachevsky with a

plaque of recognition from the association commemorating the credit union's 50 years of service and dedication to the Ukrainian American community. While initially serving the Yonkers area, SUMA eventually opened branches in Spring Valley, N.Y., and Stamford and New Haven, Conn.

Mr. Kornylo and Ms. Burdiak also presented a special plaque to SUMA Yonkers President Kozicky, honoring his 50 years of dedicated service to the Ukrainian American credit union movement. The evening con-

(Continued on page 13)

Russian aggression...

(Continued from page 1)

Stefan Romaniw, president of the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations (AFUO), said: "We say to Putin: we democratic Australians are disgusted by your presence in Australia. We condemn your tyrant terrorism – be it your invasions of smaller countries, your responsibility for those who destroyed MH17 and took Australian lives, your provocative naval activity and your disregard for human rights."

Mr. Romaniw also had a message for the G-20: "We say to G20 Leaders: you have a clear choice. You can stand up to Putin and secure international norms or you can bow to his dangerous plan to destroy the principles of democracy – and the lives that will cost. Putin's aggression – including a full-scale military invasion of Ukraine – will continue if he is not strongly stopped. After that, who will be next?"

The anti-Putin demonstration also included a bit of street theater. Skynews.com.au reported: "Young protesters, wearing headbands reading 'Putin, Killer,' laid down on a large Ukrainian flag near the G-20 summit venue on Saturday, claiming Vladimir Putin had the blood of their compatriots and MH17 passengers on his hands. Their

bodies were draped with the flags of the nations that lost citizens when the Malaysia Airlines flight was shot down in July, killing 298 people, including 38 Australian citizens and residents."

During the G-20 summit, Mr. Putin held informal meetings with British Prime Minister David Cameron, French President Francois Hollande and Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi and Canadian Prime Minister Harper.

International news media reported that British Prime Minister David Cameron, in the days leading up to the G-20 meeting, had said Mr. Putin's actions were similar to those of Nazi Germany and that German Chancellor Angela Merkel had told Mr. Putin to play by 21st century rules.

According to RFE/RL, Chancellor Merkel and Prime Minister Cameron, speaking separately on the sidelines of the summit, warned of more sanctions if Moscow does not withdraw its troops and weaponry from eastern Ukraine. Indeed, the European Union on November 17 added more sanctions against individuals "separatists" in Ukraine, though not against Russia.

And, The New York Times reported that at the end of the G-20 meeting, "President Obama edged closer to describing Russia's military incursions in Ukraine as an invasion, saying on Sunday that the Western campaign to isolate Moscow

would continue, though additional sanctions were unnecessary for now." Mr. Obama said the Russians were supplying heavy arms to separatists in Ukraine in violation of the ceasefire agreement struck in Minsk.

The Times quoted the president as saying, "We're also very firm on the need to uphold core international principles, and one of those principles is you don't invade other countries or finance proxies and support them in ways that break up a country that has mechanisms for democratic elections."

An RFE/RL story noted that President Obama said in a speech at Brisbane's University of Queensland on November 15 that the United States is leading the world in "opposing Russia's aggression against Ukraine," which he described as "a threat to the world."

Meanwhile, Mr. Putin, in an interview with Russia's state-controlled news agency TASS on November 14, said the economic sanctions imposed against Russia by the United States, the European Union and other Western governments go against the principles of the G-20 and international law. The Russian president maintained that the asset freezes, visa bans and blocks put on Russian companies trying to access Western financial markets can only be imposed by the United Nations and the U.N. Security Council, where Russia wields veto powers, RFE/RL reported. Mr. Putin also continued to deny that Russia has any troops or weaponry in eastern Ukraine.

In the aftermath of the summit in Brisbane, Mr. Romaniw of the AFUO called on G-20 leaders to match their strong anti-Putin action to their strong anti-Putin rhetoric by now providing military assistance for Ukraine's self-defense.

"While Ukraine has not sought boots on the ground from the West, it does deserve the material support of G-20 leaders who are recognizing that it is the place where the major threat to international peace and prosperity is most apparent. As a buffer to Putin, it does deserve greater political and economic engagement, where countries like Australia can continue its leadership," Mr. Romaniw said. "Ukraine's fight is the world's fight – and the world needs to invest in defending itself from Putin's neo-imperial ambitions and aggression."

Sources: RFE/RL (with news service reports), Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations, Skynews.com.au, The New York Times.



Two of the Ukrainian Australian demonstrators wear their message.



Australians' message to Russian President Vladimir Putin at a demonstration held during the G-20 summit Brisbane.

Comprehensive Campaign for Ukrainian Catholic University launched in Toronto, New York

Events raise \$6.5 million for university's development

by Matthew Matuszak

CHICAGO – During charitable events held in Toronto on November 1 and New York City on November 2, Bishop Borys Gudziak, the president of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU), announced the launch of the public phase of the Comprehensive Campaign to raise funds to complete the construction of the university's campus, increase the endowment fund for long-term stability and to develop new educational and research programs.

The Toronto event, held at the King's Garden Banquet Hall, and the New York event, held at Manhattan's Roosevelt Hotel, were the first two events in a series of several worldwide to be held this fall, including in Chicago, Cleveland, Montreal, Calgary, London, Paris and Kyiv.

In 2010, the Ukrainian Catholic University launched the first phase of its Comprehensive Campaign with the goal of raising \$65.5 million by the end of 2016. Thanks to the generosity of numerous private benefactors, as of October of this year, \$46 million had been collected – 70 percent of the total. The goal is to raise the additional \$20 million by 2016.

Pope Benedict XVI was the Comprehensive Campaign's first benefactor. He donated 100,000 euros for the needs of the university from gifts he received on the occasion of his birthday. His example was followed by numerous philanthropists in North America, Western Europe and Ukraine, as well as various international funds and foundations.

As he addressed the guests, Bishop

Gudziak stated that support of the university is a concrete contribution to changes in Ukraine, to the triumph of truth and the development of a new generation. "We must understand that a new Ukraine is being built brick by brick, person by person, with concrete efforts, in particular this project. In this way all together we can change Ukraine," emphasized UCU's president.

Students and teachers of UCU from the first days took part in the "Revolution of Dignity" of the winter of 2013-2014, which toppled Viktor Yanukovich's criminal regime and provided for the possibility that a new government, which honors democratic principles and human rights, could come to power, he noted.

"Those values which the university has propagated since its founding are now resonating more fully throughout society. Ukrainians were changed by the Revolution of Dignity on the Maidan. And now, when Ukraine is in a decisive stage of its transformation into a government independent of foreign control and a genuinely democratic society, those who were on the Maidan and who are now fighting the aggressor understand well that our country deeply needs young, professional, ambitious and committed moral leaders. A contribution for education, for the development of a new generation of leaders, is an investment in the future. And so we have launched our campaign under the slogan 'A new generation for a new Ukraine,'" explained UCU's vice-rector for communication and development, Natalia Klymovska.



Anna Zayachkivska speaks at UCU benefit luncheon in New York City.



Mayor Andriy Sadovyi of Lviv speaks at UCU benefit in New York City.



New York event co-MCs Alexandra Zawadiwsky and Orest Temnycky.



New York event donors Wolodymyra and Stefan Slywotzky (center) with Bishop Borys Gudziak and Christine Balko Slywotzky.



Ruslana with guests at the New York event.

The events in Toronto and New York, which included Lviv Mayor Andriy Sadovyi, singer and civic activist Ruslana Lyzhychko, and Miss Ukraine 2013 and Maidan activist Anna Zayachkivska, raised \$6.5 million for the development of the university. A generous donation of \$5 million was received at the charitable evening in Toronto from the Temerty Family Foundation. In New York, a private donor pledged \$1 million to begin in 2015.

In addition, in New York, a donation of \$150,000 from Stephan and Wolodymyra Slywotzky of New York City was announced, as well as a \$50,000 donation from the Self Reliance Federal Credit Union, a \$50,000 gift from Helena and Leonard Mazur of New Jersey, more than \$32,000 from the family of Dr. Irene Klufas in Rhode Island, a \$23,000 gift from Ulana and Ivan Sos of Rhode Island to complete a \$25,000 room at the university, a \$25,000 donation from Stephanie Szygula of New York, \$6,000 from the Self Reliance (N.J.) Federal Credit Union in Clifton towards a scholarship fund and a commitment towards a \$25,000 room in the new university building, and \$5,000 from the Lawrence J. Hyde, Jr. Charitable Trust.

In New York, there were 24 individual sponsors of the event at \$1,500 each, and three "friends and family" sponsors at \$3,500 each. Also announced at the New York event was Helena and Leonard Mazur's donation of \$25,000 toward the Holy Spirit Seminary in Lviv.

The North America events in support of UCU are organized by the university's representative in the United States and Canada, the Ukrainian Catholic Education

Foundation, based in Chicago, and local Friends of UCU committees. Both the Toronto and New York events were attended by between 360 and 400 guests. In New York, a delegation of 50 guests from Lviv, headed by UCU senator, successful businessman and generous UCU contributor Yaroslav Ruschysyn, attended the New York event.

The goal of the events, stated UCEP Director of Development Alex Kuzma, is to bring UCU to a broader audience and share the message of success. "Ukraine is constantly in a battle against disinformation, internal corruption, now a war – struggles that profoundly affect the lives of people in Ukraine in a negative way. However, despite long odds, Ukraine continues to strive to be a success story. UCU, the only Catholic university on the entire territory of the former Soviet Union, is one of the leading examples. The very existence and rapid development of UCU underscores the commitment of countless people to the idea that we must strive to do good. It shows the enormous human potential in Ukraine."

"This year, even more than last year, the banquets in support of the Ukrainian Catholic University were inspiring and life-affirming gatherings of people who are dedicated to the matter of Ukraine's future. I am very grateful to all our benefactors and donors for their openness, generosity and involvement. I do not doubt that each participant of these events will become a bearer of the good news about UCU, Ukraine, and God's wonderful deeds in our time," emphasized Bishop Gudziak.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Putin and the G-20

By all accounts, Russian President Vladimir Putin got an earful at the G-20 summit in Australia over the weekend of November 15-16. To add insult to injury, it appears he was also marginalized by his hosts and the leaders who attended; various media reports said he was avoided, ignored, berated and generally just not accorded the sort of respect he feels he deserves as the leader of a great power.

One after another, G-20 leaders warned Mr. Putin about military incursions into Ukraine, told him to stop the supply of weapons to "separatists" and otherwise made it clear that Russia must withdraw its forces and arms from Ukraine.

Canada's prime minister, Stephen Harper, was perhaps the most blunt. According to the Canadian news media, he told Mr. Putin: "Well, I guess I'll shake your hand, but I only have one thing to say to you: you need to get out of Ukraine." Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told journalists that Mr. Putin answered Mr. Harper with these words: "unfortunately, this is impossible to do, because we are not there." That bogus claim was publicly rejected by other leaders at the summit.

President Barack Obama came as close as he ever has to calling Russia's military presence in Ukraine an invasion, when he said the West would continue to press Russia on its actions regarding Ukraine and said: "We're also very firm on the need to uphold core international principles, and one of those principles is you don't invade other countries or finance proxies and support them in ways that break up a country that has mechanisms for democratic elections." He also told an audience at the University of Queensland in Brisbane that the U.S. leads the world in "opposing Russia's aggression against Ukraine," which he said is "a threat to the world."

Mr. Obama, Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe issued a joint statement saying they are united in "opposing Russia's purported annexation of Crimea and its actions to destabilize eastern Ukraine, and bringing to justice those responsible for the downing of Flight MH17."

Mr. Putin just could not avoid the harsh criticism of his fellow leaders. Apparently, things got so annoying that Mr. Putin left the summit early – before the summit's final communiqué was issued – citing the need to get some rest before returning to work on Monday. Speaking at a press conference before he left Brisbane, he said he was being unfairly criticized for something that was beyond his control. But British PM Cameron was no doubt sharing the sentiments of Western leaders when he commented after Mr. Putin's early departure that the summit had sent "a very clear message" to the Russian president.

That clear message, we hope, will now be followed up by strong actions, including the provision of lethal aid to help Ukraine defend itself.

Prime Minister Arseniy P. Yatsenyuk has urged Western countries to act now. Mr. Putin "is testing the ground," Mr. Yatsenyuk said in a recent interview quoted by The New York Times. "He will move as far as the world will allow him." Citing continuing movements of Russian military vehicles across the border, Mr. Yatsenyuk stated: "Let me put it bluntly: This is a war. ...The well-known diplomatic language of red line is sometimes embarrassing to me because it seems as if we are geopolitically color-blind. Russia has crossed tens of red lines."

Nov.
26
1939

Turning the pages back...

Seventy-five years ago, on November 26, 1939, approximately 2,500 protesters gathered at Cooper Union to protest the Soviet occupation of Western Ukraine (Ukrainian territories once occupied by Czechoslovakia, Poland and Romania during the interwar period; after 1939, these included the Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil and Rivne oblasts), and to demand freedom for all of Ukraine.

The Supreme Soviet voted on November 2, 1939, to incorporate the Western Ukrainian National Republic into the Soviet Union. The staged ceremony featured people who claimed to be members of the Western Ukrainian National Assembly – dressed in Ukrainian embroidery – who asked for admission into the Soviet Union.

During the assembly in New York, Ludwig Lore, a New York Post columnist and radio commentator, stated that the struggle for Ukrainian national freedom was important not only to Ukrainians themselves but also to Europe – and to all persons who hold high the liberties of mankind.

Mr. Lore stressed that if Europe wanted peace it must solve the Ukrainian question too. He urged Ukrainian Americans to redouble their efforts to acquaint American public opinion with the justice of the Ukrainian cause, and suggested the establishment of a "Ukrainian government" at Washington that would represent the enslaved Ukrainian nation.

Rogers Shaw, a former editor of Current History Magazine and author of several books on the European situation, stated, "Ukraine is much better known in newspapers and magazines that you would suppose." Mr. Shaw went on to explain that a number of journalists at Versailles following the first world war felt Ukrainians were more deserving of national freedom, which they did not get. Mr. Shaw stated that the present war was three-sided, with Russia emerging as the victor.

Among those gathered were the event organizers, the Joint Committee of Ukrainian American Organizations of New York. The Ukrainian Central Committee of New York City, also represented, denounced the Soviet invasion of Western Ukraine, called attention to Soviet terror against Ukrainians, and demanded that the Ukrainian people be allowed to live in a free and independent republic.

The event received press coverage from The New York Times and the New York Herald Tribune.

The front-page commentary of The Ukrainian Weekly called on Ukrainians to make the most of the opportunity in the face of long odds against the Ukrainian community as it sought America's public opinion to sway events. It stated: "Tyranny is built on force and

(Continued on page 12)

STATEMENT BY AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR UKRAINE

Ukrainian Americans mobilize campaign for congressional action on Ukraine

In October, a number of individuals affiliated with national Ukrainian American organizations initiated the formation of the Ad Hoc Committee for Ukraine (AHCU). It was established to help coordinate civic efforts in two specific and time-sensitive areas critical to gaining greater U.S. support for Ukraine.

Similar ad hoc committees were established in the past, including for the observance of the Millennium of Christianity in Ukraine and the repeal of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment. Today, the need for community mobilization is of no less significance and consequence.

The purpose of AHCU is to help secure, before the end of 113th Congress, the following near-term goals that carry with them long-term implications for effective engagement in meeting the military needs of Ukraine:

1. To encourage senators to co-sponsor and vote for S 2828, the Menendez bill, which would provide non-provocative, lethal defensive weapons to Ukraine, including anti-tank weapons; and, further to encourage senators to prevail upon Senate leadership to bring up the bill during the lame duck session of Congress, which will commence on November 12 and last for about 10 days.

In this same regard, to encourage representatives to vote out of committee the analogous bill HR 5190 and to bring it to a floor vote during the November session. Alternatively, and in the event of the adoption of S 2828, for the House leadership to bring the same bill to a floor vote in the House of Representatives.

2. To encourage senators to form a bipartisan Senate Task Force on Ukraine. Simultaneously with the adoption S 2828/HR 5190, it is critically important to establish the task force before the end of this Congress for a number of procedural and scheduling reasons. The need for a task force is evinced by the indisputable strong bipartisan support in both the Senate and House for Ukraine's determination to resist Russia's military aggression, including providing non-provocative defensive weapons to Ukraine. Such exceptional bipartisan support is reflected in S 2828 and HR 5190, as well as by the historic and rare honor bestowed on Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko to address a joint session of the U.S. Congress. Nonetheless, the White House has continued to decline Ukraine's request for said arms. This need not be the last word.

Congress makes the laws, with due deference to the executive branch. If Congress enacts, authorizes and appropriates funds for defensive weapons, the executive is bound by oath to execute such laws.

The chair and vice-chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee have introduced bills to supply "lethal defensive weapons, including anti-tank weapons..." S 2828 (Menendez) and S 2277 (Corker). S 2828 has been unanimously reported out of committee, but, even if enacted, Senate appropriations and action by the House are required.

To date, the White House position has prevailed, despite strenuous efforts by the chairs and ranking members of several key Senate committees. Nonetheless, resistance by the Executive branch to legislators' advocacy notwithstanding and eight months after Vladimir Putin annexed Crimea and invaded eastern Ukraine, the co-equal legislative branch has not fully played its role.

Thus, this need not be the end. Rather, it is the beginning of the next phase to secure America's vital national security interests in Europe, stay faithful to its values and principles, and fulfill solemn commitments to Ukraine in accordance with the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances of 1994.

At last count, there are 47 senators supporting defensive weapons for Ukraine, including the chair and vice-chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee – 31 Republicans and 16 Democrats.

Since 47 are supporting, does that mean 53 senators are opposed? No. Except for a few, the 53 have never said anything publicly about providing defensive weapons to Ukraine, one way or the other. Among the 53, surely there are enough silent supporters to constitute a large majority, when added to the 47.

By now it is clear: a few senators cannot change the president's policy. To bring the full weight of their supporters' numbers and their combined constitutional powers to bear, like-minded members should form a bipartisan Senate Task Force on Ukraine, lending adequate staff to ensure the task force is working daily to change policy.

Precedent: In the 1980s, Democratic and Republican senators formed a Task Force on Afghanistan, to overcome executive branch reluctance to supply modern weapons to those fighting the Soviet army. The chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Sen. Claiborne Pell, and Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan were among its active supporters, as was one of the Senate's most senior current members, Sen. Orrin Hatch. Sen. Gordon Humphrey chaired the Senate Task Force on Afghanistan, which was instrumental in securing modern weapons for those in Afghanistan resisting the Soviet army in the 1980s. The weapons changed the calculus in Moscow, and the Soviet army withdrew.

Congress induced the administration to provide greater levels of humanitarian assistance, a larger program of public diplomacy and provision of lethal defensive weapons, including Stinger anti-aircraft weapons. Senators today should reflect on the successful outcome of those efforts to support the Afghan resistance and the means: a dedicated, well-staffed, assertive, bipartisan task force.

Congress can overcome the policy ban on non-provocative, lethal defensive weapons and fully monitor and advise on administration policy, but only if a bipartisan coalition of members fully uses the legitimate and formidable constitutional powers conferred on the co-equal legislative branch. To marshal those powers in the Senate and coordinate the efforts of their many offices and relevant committees, senators supporting Ukraine's sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence must create a bipartisan Senate Task Force on Ukraine.

AHCU Board of Directors

Co-Chairs:

Gordon Humphrey, former U.S. senator
William Miller, former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine

Stefan Kaczaraj, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

Julian Kulas, Heritage Foundation of First Security Bank

Members:

Ilan Berman, American Foreign Policy Council

(Continued on page 14)

COMMENTARY

About still another U.N. Security Council debate on the Ukraine-Russia conflict “Ukraine as a Mirror of the Political” at the New School for Social Research

by Askold S. Lozynskij

Yet another debate on the Ukraine-Russia conflict was held on November 12 by the United Nations Security Council pursuant to the initial request on this issue dated February 28 by Ukraine's permanent representative to the U.N. addressed to the president of the Security Council when Russia invaded Crimea. This latest session was spurred on by a further letter of the Ukrainian side dated November 7, following the purported elections in terrorist held territories of Ukraine and the most recent invasion into Ukraine by Russian troops, tanks, armored vehicles, howitzers and “humanitarian” convoys.

On one hand, the Russian aggression against Ukraine is the subject of international concern at the global community's premier forum. On the other, the proceedings highlight the futility of this forum and more importantly Ukraine's need to take on Russia by itself despite the seeming sympathy of that global community. The U.N. Security Council is essentially a television talk show. There is little purpose for the debate. Despite updates from U.N. under-secretaries and OSCE monitoring mission ambassadors, at the conclusion nothing is decided in this case because Russia holds a veto on action.

Perhaps the most striking example of international futility is that, despite the Minsk protocol and memorandum of September, pursuant to which all parties agreed to OSCE monitoring of the 400-kilometer border between Russia and Ukraine near the war zone, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in effect, monitors some 2 kilometers.

Still the diplomatic debate goes on. Russian Permanent Representative Vitaly Churkin was absent on November 12. His substitute took the floor. Mr. Churkin has not been credible for some time now. The substitute was not only not credible, but he didn't seem to care that no one was believing anything he was saying. In arrogant and boorish fashion, he simply attacked. Perhaps, assuming the tactic of an offense being the strongest defense by deflecting from the real issues, he attacked the OSCE monitors for being invited to brief the debate, thus poisoning objectivity and rendering the debate a farce. He attacked the victim, Ukraine. He attacked the Ukrainian side for not abiding by the Minsk agreement with no examples or evidence and, exhausting himself in the process, he attacked Ukraine for not believing in the Minsk process, but simply using

Askold S. Lozynskij is the immediate past president of the Ukrainian World Congress, an NGO in consultative status with the United Nations

the “ceasefire” to regroup.

Not surprisingly, the representative from Argentina participated in the debate yet managed to say absolutely nothing. Ukrainian sovereignty was never mentioned. Neither was Russia. The word “Ukraine” was used only in a geographic sense. Even China did better, reinforcing its support for Ukraine's sovereignty. What continues to baffle me about this Kirchner position, despite President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner's affinity to Vladimir Putin and Russia, is that there is such a large and vibrant Ukrainian community in Argentina, apparently saying very little or not enough. Even some of my Ukrainian American friends were born or spent their early years in Argentina. Perhaps they need a road map. (The Permanent Mission of Argentina to the U.N. is located at 1 United Nations Plaza, just across First Avenue from the U.N. in New York City. Public assembly and sound device permits can be obtained at the Midtown police precinct on 51st Street between Third Avenue and Lexington.)

Australia chaired the council meeting, and its representative concluded the remarks of the Security Council members. He spoke about respect for Ukrainian sovereignty and its territorial inviolability, and blamed Russia for the conflict as well as the Malaysia Airlines tragedy. However, the language excoriating Russia seemed to lose much of its bite as back home “down under” Prime Minister Tony Abbott was about to host the main perpetrator, Mr. Putin, at the upcoming G-20 summit. How do you condemn someone for murdering almost 300 innocents, among them many of your own people and then wine and dine the criminal in your own home? Only a politician or diplomat can answer that question.

The United Kingdom and France, as usual, spoke diplomatically in support of Ukraine and against Russian aggression and duplicity. So did Rwanda, Chad, Nigeria, Jordan, Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea and Chile. The representative of Lithuania, as usual, was particularly emphatic manifesting a more pronounced understanding of Russian imperialism than the others.

Most disappointing, however, was U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power. She was brilliant, best informed, forceful, articulate, generally disdainful of Russia and Mr. Putin, and strongly supportive of Ukraine. She supported her comments with tangible examples as evidence of Russian aggression and duplicity. But her statement was disappointing because she did not reflect the publicly stated position of her president. President Barack Obama was not listening to those arguments. He was in the Far East, meeting with the object of her strong condemnation.

by Anna Procyk

Under the sponsorship of the Comparative Politics Initiative at the New School for Social Research in New York, a one-day conference with a special focus on Ukraine was held on Friday, October 3. The main theme of the conference, “Grounding Theoretical Reflections in Politics: Ukraine as a Mirror of the Political” was examined from different perspectives at four roundtables by 15 invited panelists.

It was a unique conference in many ways, in particular because the organizers of a well-known institution of higher learning in New York chose to select an array of political scientists and anthropologists whose field of interest in the majority of cases was not even remotely connected to Ukraine. It was the first conference in my memory at which one panelist after another felt obliged to apologize for not knowing much or very little about the state entity he or she had been asked to discuss “as a mirror of the political.”

One of the participants on the first panel, “Narratives of Legitimacy,” admitted frankly that she did not know what to say or how to approach the subject analytically because of a lack of familiarity with the basic facts about Ukraine. To Susan Woodward, a specialist on the conflict in Yugoslavia in the 1990s, the task of investigating the political situation in Ukraine proved especially problematic because the organizers specifically asked the participants not to approach the question from the perspective of nationalism. Considering the area of interest of the majority of the panelists, as well as the restrictions imposed by the organizers, it was predictable that the main question posed to the panelists at this roundtable – “What are the multiple legitimacies at play in the case of Ukraine?” – remained largely unanswered.

A number of participants of the second roundtable, “Overlapping Sovereignities,” also were apologetic about their limited knowledge about Ukraine.

Jan Kubik from the Department of Political Science at Rutgers University had the least reasons to apologize. His thorough scholarly preparation, as well as an in-depth familiarity with the past and present political situation in Poland made his presentation and participation in the discussions an invaluable part of the conference.

Serguei Oushakine from the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Princeton University, on the other hand, did not consider it necessary to make an apology even though, in his 15-minute presentation, he chose to focus exclusively on his experiences in Bishkek and Minsk. At the fourth and final panel, this anthropologist by training with a special interest in the Siberian part of Russia, did say a few words about Ukraine, but perhaps because he viewed the dramatic events in Kyiv in the winter months of this year through the distant lenses of the Kyrgyz Republic, he spoke of the tire-burning event on the Maidan in terms of a purely theatrical spectacle!

Sadly, of those participants who remained present at the final part of the conference (only the panelists were

allowed to participate in the discussion at this stage), there was no one to explain that even though tire-burning did produce a highly dramatic effect at critical moments of the protests on the Maidan, its purpose was far from theatrical. This activity had a very specific goal: the heavy smoke produced by the burning tires provided a defensive screen for the protesters who had nothing but makeshift wooden shields and worker helmets to protect them from the heavily armed special-forces sent to crush the protests by the Yanukovych authorities.

Nancy Ries from the Department of Anthropology at Colgate University, who seemed oblivious to everything but violence in Ukraine and whose focus of interest centered on the effect of violence on the daily life of the common people, would have found it enlightening to learn that the women of Kyiv who day after day patiently carried tires to the Maidan performed this task not because they were interested in a theatrical spectacle but because they wished to protect their sons and grandsons. If the discussion on this topic lasted somewhat longer than one would have anticipated, it was mainly because Jessica Pisano, the chair of the organizing committee, has a special interest in the effect of the theatrical on the political.

Tarik Amar, who teaches history at Columbia University and who was the only panelist at the conference whose area of research centers on Ukraine, most likely could have corrected a number of misconceptions and misinterpretations, yet at the final general roundtable, he chose to be silent. Here, as throughout the conference, he remained true to the guideline he appears to have adopted in recent years: if there is nothing negative to be said about Ukraine, it is better to say nothing.

On the third panel, “Global Politics and the Political,” there were two experts on China who presented a very thorough overview of both domestic and foreign policies in the area of their specialization but showed no knowledge of or any special interest in Ukraine. What saved this roundtable was a highly informative and balanced paper on Ukraine in world politics by Timothy Fry of the Harriman Institute at Columbia, as well as a number of insightful comments made by the panel's chair, Mark Beissinger of Princeton University.

In the concluding exchange of opinion, one of the panelists did venture to bring up the issue of nationalism as the most effective force against imperialism. In the brief discussion that followed, the participants searched in vain for the source of the idea of self-determination: was it the French Revolution or was it Napoleon? Perhaps because of the lateness of the hour, no one among the panelists could remember the name of Giuseppe Mazzini, a well-known political theorist and a champion of self-determination of the subject nationalities in the first half of the 19th century. One should not blame the participants too much because, as noted earlier, according to the instructions provided by the organizing committee, nationalism was to be expunged from the discourse at the conference table.

One of the questions that bewildered a number of guests who attended the conference concerned the reasoning and motives for the exclusion from the conference table

Anna Procyk is a faculty member, Department of History, Political Science and Philosophy, at Kingsborough Community College, City University of New York.

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GUIDELINES

FOR SUBMITTING MATERIALS TO THE WEEKLY

In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- E-mail submissions are preferred. Stories and photos may be sent to staff@ukrweekly.com.
- Materials may also be mailed to: The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.
- Stories should have the name of the author; photographers should be credited for photos. All photos must be clearly labeled and accompanied by captions.
- Persons who submit any materials must provide a complete mailing address and daytime phone number where they may be reached if any additional information is required.
- Full names (i.e., no initials) of all persons mentioned in stories and captions must be provided. English spellings must be verified.
- Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published. For items to be listed in Preview of Events, information must be sent to preview@ukrweekly.com; information for the Out & About listing must be e-mailed to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.

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Ukrainian Technological Society names Dorothy Walgus Waslo Ukrainian of the Year

E. Maxine Bruhns receives Friendship Award

PITTSBURGH – The Ukrainian Technological Society (UTS) of Pittsburgh presented its 2014 Ukrainian of the Year Award to Dorothy Walgus Waslo at its 45th annual award ceremony and dinner-dance, held on Saturday, November 1, at The Club at Nevillewood in Pittsburgh.

Mrs. Waslo was honored for her efforts to promote and maintain the tradition of Ukrainian sacred and choral music through the founding and leadership of the Ukrainian Cultural Trust Choir of Western Pennsylvania since 1990; her directorial accomplishments, as she introduced Ukrainian sacred and choral music through numerous performances to church and community audiences for more than 20 years; her inspiration as a lifelong learner, performer and teacher of Ukrainian sacred and choral music; and her active commitment to her church and to the Pittsburgh Ukrainian community.

Mrs. Waslo is a Pittsburgh native and first learned to sing and perform as a young girl attending St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Ambridge, Pa. She studied choir conducting at the Ukrainian Music Society of Alberta and attended the Ukrainian Choral Conductor's Seminars held in Edmonton, Alberta.

Mrs. Waslo conducted choirs at St. Andrew Byzantine Church in Gibsonia, Pa., and Holy Ghost Byzantine Church in Charleroi, Pa., for a number of years prior to founding, in 1990, the Ukrainian Cultural Trust Choir of Western Pennsylvania. The choir has performed over 60 Christmas and Lenten concerts in area churches and continues to thrive.

Mrs. Waslo earned both Bachelor of Science in Education and Master of Science in Education degrees from Duquesne University. She went on to earn professional certification in K-12 education of mentally challenged, supervision of special education, secondary principal and cooperative education. She taught special education for 35 years.

The UTS also awarded its Friendship Award to E. Maxine Bruhns, director of Nationality Rooms and Intercultural Exchange Programs at the University of Pittsburgh. This award is periodically bestowed upon a non-Ukrainian individual or organization in recognition of service to Ukraine or Ukrainians. This is the society's fifth Friendship Award.

Mrs. Bruhns was honored for her invaluable efforts as liaison between the University of Pittsburgh and the Ukrainian Nationality Room Committee since the committee's inception in 1975 to the final construction of the Ukrainian Nationality Room in the Cathedral of Learning in 1990; her unwavering support over four decades of a Ukrainian presence at the University of Pittsburgh, introducing students and the greater community to Ukrainian culture and traditions; and her deep personal affinity for the Ukrainian community in

Pittsburgh and abroad.

Mrs. Bruhns became director of Nationality Rooms and Intercultural Exchange Programs at the University of Pittsburgh in 1965. She earned degrees from Ohio State University and the American University of Beirut. Previously, she had traveled the world extensively with her husband and gained first-hand knowledge of many cultures and heritages.

Mrs. Bruhns was instrumental in forging a policy change at the University of Pittsburgh which, prior to 1970, allowed the establishment of Nationality Rooms representing only nations recognized by the U.S. Department of State. She worked diligently to change the university's definition of "nation" to allow for the establishment of the Ukrainian Nationality Room.

In her welcoming remarks, Roksana Korchynsky, Ph.D., president of the UTS executive board, provided a brief history of the society – now in its 45th year and one of the longest continuously active Ukrainian organizations in the tri-state area. Dr. Korchynsky noted that the society's long-standing mission is to cultivate Ukrainian culture and social awareness, and to strengthen the Ukrainian community through active participation and leadership.

She also highlighted the meaning of the society's Ukrainian of the Year Award, which recognizes people of local, national and international stature who have contributed to the Ukrainian community or Ukrainian scholarship, or who have demonstrated significant achievement which brings recognition and prestige to the Ukrainian community. These individuals have been exemplary role models for the entire community.

Nickolas C. Kotow, UTS secretary-treasurer, made the first nomination address honoring Mrs. Bruhns as the society's 2014 Friendship Award recipient.

Upon accepting the award, Mrs. Bruhns recalled the numerous personal friendships she has made in the Ukrainian community over the past several decades and how these friendships deepened her awareness and appreciation of Ukraine and Ukrainian culture. She spoke of her commitment to the effort to establish a Ukrainian Nationality Room at the University of Pittsburgh and to the close friendships developed with the Ukrainian Nationality Room committee members – many of which continue to this day. Mrs. Bruhns remarked that she continues to follow the news in Ukraine closely and cares deeply about the fate of Ukraine.

Following the presentation of the Friendship Award, congratulatory messages from Dr. and Mrs. Robert Metil, Russian Room Committee chairs; Dr. David J. Birnbaum, Slavic Department chairman; and Dr. Andrew Konitzer, acting director of Center for Russian and East European Studies; were shared with those attending.

Luba Hlutkowsky, director of the Poltava



At the Ukrainian Technological Society's 45th annual award ceremony (from left) are: Bonnie Reinhart, Dr. Roksana Korchynsky, Nickolas C. Kotow, Ukrainian of the Year Dorothy Walgus Waslo, Roman Danyliw, George Honchar and Motria Hodowanec.



During the awards dinner (from left) are: Nickolas C. Kotow, Dr. Roksana Korchynsky, Friendship Award recipient E. Maxine Bruhns and Dr. Roman Kyshakevych.

Ukrainian Dance Company, presented Mrs. Bruhns with a floral bouquet in appreciation for her steadfast support of the company for many years. Bonnie Reinhart, UTS executive board member, read the award proclamation.

George Honchar, UTS vice-president, then made the nomination address honoring Mrs. Waslo as the society's 2014 Ukrainian of the Year.

Upon accepting the award, Mrs. Waslo first thanked the many parishes that hosted performances by the Ukrainian Cultural Trust Choir of Western Pennsylvania, the appreciative audiences who attended and the generous benefactors who have helped sustain the choir. She spoke of the 60 plus Christmas and Lenten concerts performed by the choir and how particularly sacred the music is during these seasons.

Mrs. Waslo noted that she has been singing all her life and has been continually inspired by "glorious Ukrainian music" created by many well-known Ukrainian composers. "We sing to recognize beauty," she remarked, adding that she is confident the choir will continue in this tradition for

years to come.

Roman Danyliw and Motria Hodowanec, UTS executive board members, read the award proclamation in English and Ukrainian, respectively. Mr. Honchar then invited all present to join in a celebratory "Mnohaya Lita."

The Ukrainian of the Year and Friendship Award commemorative plaques were created by Pittsburgh graphic artist Kathy Boykowycz.

The Rev. Valerian Michlik, pastor of St. Gregory of Nazianzus Byzantine Catholic Church of Upper St. Clair, Pa., gave the invocation, and the Rev. John Haluszczak, pastor of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Pittsburgh, gave the benediction. Music for the evening was provided by the Mosaic Duo.

To learn more about the Ukrainian Technological Society (UTS) of Pittsburgh, the Ukrainian of the Year Award, the UTS annual scholarship program and other UTS activities, readers may visit the UTS website at www.utsphg.org, send an e-mail to Board@utsphg.org, or become a friend on Facebook.

"Ukraine as a Mirror..."

(Continued from page 7)

a number of well-known specialists on Ukraine. Especially striking was the absence from the list of invited speakers of the name of Alexander Motyl, a political scientist at Rutgers University, a scholar with an impeccable academic background and with an impressive number of studies on

Ukraine, even though two faculty members with only indirect ties to the subject under investigation from the same institution were among the invited participants.

In a "letter of clarification" written to the members of the American Association of Ukrainian Studies, Jessica Pisano attempted but failed to explain adequately the reason for the small number of specialists on Ukraine among the invited panelists. Instead of clarifying the matter, her letter

announced bluntly that no questions regarding details of or policy surrounding the current conflict in Ukraine would be entertained. The problem was that matters of detail and policy issues regarding the current situation in Ukraine were brought up by the panelists and often, due to their lack of knowledge and understanding, were presented in a distorted light.

Had the distribution between the invited "experts" and "non-experts" on Ukraine

been more balanced, the conference could have been a first step toward a "search for understanding" rather than, as it turned out to be, a lame attempt in the "search for familiarity." This is a sad assessment to make about a conference sponsored by an institution of higher learning in the center of New York City, an institution at which Ukraine as an object of serious scholarly investigation has been missing during the last two decades.

Anne Applebaum...

(Continued from page 1)

Ms. Applebaum continued, quoting from Stalin's letter, in which he complained about the influence of Poles and Ukrainian nationalists allegedly led by Symon Petliura. Stalin ordered Kaganovich to remove Ukrainian party leaders and to transform Ukraine into "a real fortress of the USSR, into a genuinely exemplary republic," and ended by writing, "without these and similar measures... we may lose Ukraine."

Losing Ukraine was unthinkable, and Stalin turned to the kind of extreme repression he had deployed in Tsaritsyn. Soldiers were sent to villages to confiscate not only grain but vegetables, fruit and livestock. "By the spring of 1933 whole villages had fallen silent as every single one of their inhabitants starved to death," Ms. Applebaum said. To turn Ukraine into a Soviet "fortress" entailed targeting not only the rural popu-

Ukraine represents an existential threat for Putin, as it had for Stalin before him.

lation but also the Ukrainian language and culture. A legacy of these policies is that many Russians were convinced that Ukraine was not a real nation and not significantly different than Russia, she said.

Turning to Putin, Ms. Applebaum suggested that Ukraine represents an existential threat for the Russian president, as it had for Stalin before him. According to Ms. Applebaum, Stalin understood that Ukraine, with a population suspicious of centralized authority and attached to its land and traditions, was different than Russia. Putin, on the other hand, is afraid because a country he sees as indistinguishable from Russia is promoting ideas of freedom, democracy and the West. "If Stalin feared that Ukrainian nationalism could bring down the Soviet regime, Putin fears that Ukraine's example could bring down his own regime, a modern autocratic kleptocracy," she said.

In 1989, when he was a young KGB officer posted to East Germany, Mr. Putin saw terrified KGB and Stasi colleagues burning



Anne Applebaum with Frank Sysyn of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the 2014 Ukrainian Famine Lecture.

their files. He watched with horror as crowds filled the streets, instigated, he believed, by forces in the West. These were formative and cautionary events for Putin just as the civil war in Ukraine had been for Stalin, Ms. Applebaum noted.

Ms. Applebaum spoke of Mr. Putin's perfection of "managed democracy," which

includes the creation of fake political parties and state-managed "civil society organizations" to create the impression of pluralism and democracy. "The result is a system that appears to lend legitimacy to the ruling clique, but which never allows it to be actually threatened," she said. Such methods never entirely worked in Ukraine.

When in 2004, elections results were falsified in favor of presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovich, the Orange Revolution erupted. As in Dresden in 1989, Mr. Putin saw "his" people - pro-Russian politicians funded by Russia and controlled by Russian security officers - threatened by democratic forces. After demonstrations in Moscow in 2011, Mr. Putin worked to ensure that no "color revolution" could take place in Russia, eliminating independent media and any real Russian opposition. He must have been horrified by the eruption of Ukraine's Euro-Maidan revolution in 2014.

Ms. Applebaum posited that what Mr. Putin is fighting against is "not NATO tanks, but popular discontent, public questioning of Putin's personal wealth, open criticism of the basic tenets of Putinism, and, of course, political demonstrations of the sort that created the Orange Revolution in Ukraine, the Moscow demonstrations of 2011 and, above all, the second Maidan in 2014."

Mr. Putin's aggression in Ukraine is fueled by his fear of losing power and what Russian public reaction would be to Putin's villas, yachts, and so much else. She noted, "The protection of this personal property is so important to Putin that he is willing to risk everything, including the economic stability of his country, in order to protect it."

As for Stalin before him, Ukraine represents instability, anarchy and resistance to Putin's regime. Mr. Putin, who witnessed a transition from dictatorship to democracy in East Germany, "knows that the successful Westernization of Ukraine, even the creation of a relatively democratic, relatively prosperous and relatively well integrated Ukraine, is a dire danger for him as well."

Ms. Applebaum ended by noting that the problem for Ukraine is that Russian leaders see it as a factor not in their external diplomacy but in their internal politics. Like Stalin before him, Mr. Putin fears revolution in Ukraine as a threat not only to Russia but to his own political survival.



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Ukrainian film industry's past and future discussed at Shevchenko Society

by Ostap Kin

NEW YORK – The Shevchenko Scientific Society on October 3 hosted a lecture by Dmytro Desyatyryk, a Kyiv-based film critic and observer at the nationwide Ukrainian newspaper Den. Mr. Desyatyryk shed light on the situation in the Ukrainian film industry and outlined perspectives for possible development of this sphere in the near future.

Noting the distressing situation of several recent decades within Ukraine, the film industry excruciatingly needs a number of crucial changes in the areas such as advertisement of films and its production, which are tightly related to the economic situation inside the country. Therefore the circumstances within the film industry in Ukraine, until very recently might have been categorized, according to Mr. Desyatyryk, as a crisis or a coma.

In the 1990s, film conditions looked fatal, and one film might have been produced in several years. In the 2000s, some positive changes happened: a number of new cinemas were built and opened, old cinemas were reconstructed, and directors began to obtain financial investments for production of their films.

Another series of changes took place after the Orange Revolution, and the number of films produced increased. For example, in 2005 three films were made, in 2006 – four films, in 2007 over a dozen. The crisis of 2008 impacted the then-developing Ukrainian film industry, but it wasn't completely devastated. In 2010, 14 films were made, in 2011 – 35, in 2012 – 67 films. However, the vital questions were how many people could have watched these films and what were these films' quality, idea and message.

Speaking about attention-grabbing Ukrainian film directors, Mr. Desyatyryk said the first here to be named should be Kira Muratova, who has produced outstanding films, most recently "The Eternal Return." There were and still are the constant disputes about whether Ms. Muratova should be considered a Ukrainian director. But the speaker said that for him personally this shouldn't raise a question – Ms. Muratova, of course, is a Ukrainian director.

Another positive aspect of recent Ukrainian films is that directors have started to learn a new cinematic language. In 2011, Maryna Vroda, an alumna of Karpenko Karyi Kyiv



Dmytro Desyatyryk speaks at the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

National University of Theatre, Cinematography and Television, directed a short film "Cross." Owing to her new approach to filming, Ms. Vroda received a Palme d'Or for short films at the Cannes Film Festival.

Speaking about genre films, Mr. Desyatyryk pointed to director Lyubomyr Levytskyi, who filmed and produced two thrillers, "Shtolnya" (2006) and "Shadows of Unforgotten Ancestors" (2013), as well as a comedy, "Pawnshop" (2013). Volodymyr Tykhyi, one of the leaders of the Babylon '13 project, made a thriller, "The Green Jacket" (2013). The director Viktor Andriyenko shot a film, "Strong Ivan" (2013), based on the novel by Oleksandr Havrosh.

The most necessary genre at the moment, according to Mr. Desyatyryk, is the genre of historical film and the author's film. The drama "Fire Crosser" (2011) by Mykhailo Illyenko, motivated and tempted people to go to

the cinema and watch this film. In order to make the genre of historical film interesting, lots of investments needed, along with several decades to develop a really powerful sphere.

In 2010, a group "Ukrainian Angry People" (Ukrainski zli), headed by Volodymyr Tykhyi, created an almanac "Mudaky. Arabesky." The authors offered contemporary social films shot on city streets. In 2011, the almanac "Ukraine, Good-bye" featured 25 short films. In 2012, "Ukrainian Angry People" released an almanac with the same title. In 2013, this group was a springboard for the Babylon '13 project – some of whose films were recently presented at the Shevchenko Society. Thanks to the Babylon '13 group, the Ukrainian documentary genre has received a good portion of new ideas.

Myroslav Slaboshpytskyi, a director of the films "Diagnosis," "Deafness" and "Nuclear Waste," made the film "Tribe" – a silent film with sign language – achieving huge success and winning three awards at the Cannes Film Festival earlier this year. "The Tribe" can be seen as a real challenge to all generations of Ukrainian directors and a new example of Ukrainian film, Mr. Desyatyryk said.

Ukrainian documentary film directors are even better represented in Ukraine. They worked intensely even during the poor financial conditions of the 1990s. Mr. Desyatyryk named several of them and their films: Serhiy Bukovsky, who made the films "Spell Your Name" and "The Living" about the Holocaust and the Holodomor, respectively; Valentyn Vasianovych, "Against the Sun"; Maksym Vasianovych, "Mother Died in the Kitchen on Saturday"; and a recent film debut by Yuri Rechynskyi, "Sickf---people."

He added that Serhiy Loznytsia, a native of Belarus who moved to Ukraine at an early age and lived there for more than 20 years, and currently lives in Germany, should also be listed among Ukrainian directors representing Ukraine at various film festivals. He made the film "My Joy" (2010) and the documentary "Maidan" (2014).

At the end of his talk, Mr. Desyatyryk pointed out that this is the beginning of new Ukrainian cinema – a real springboard upon which films about freedom, slavery, people's dignity, life and death will be created in the near future.

Book about the New York Group presented at Shevchenko Society

by Ostap Kin

NEW YORK – The Shevchenko Scientific Society on October 11 hosted a presentation of the book "Literature, Exile, Alterity: The New York Group of Ukrainian Poets," written by Prof. Maria G. Rewakowicz, who is affiliated with the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Washington.

The book, published by Academic Study Press in 2014, was partially sponsored by the Shevchenko Scientific Society from the Dr. Olha Mosiuk Fund.

Prof. Rewakowicz's book is based on her dissertation about the New York Group, which she defended at the University of Toronto. Initially, she had the intention to research and write about Emma Andriyewska, but Prof. Danylo Husar Struk suggested that she write about the New York Group.

Researching the topic, Prof. Rewakowicz concentrated on the works of seven original members of the New York Group: Bohdan Boychuk, Yuri Tarnavsky, Bohdan Rubchak, Patricia Kylyna, Zhenia Vasylkivska, Emma Andriewska and Vira Vovk.

While working on her monograph about the New York Group, Prof. Rewakowicz



Maria G. Rewakowicz discusses her new book, "Literature, Exile, Alterity" (Boston, Academic Studies Press, 2014).

compiled an anthology of poetry of the New York Group, "Pivstolittia Napivtyshi" (2005), and co-edited another anthology of the group's poetry with Vasyl Gabor.

The monograph "Literature, Exile, Alterity" consists of 10 chapters, a conclusion and a bibliography. This study, which is based largely on the archival collections

of the New York Group that are preserved at the Bakhmetyev Archive at Columbia University and at the Central-State Museum-Archive of Literature and Art in Kyiv, is not a history of this literary phenomenon, but rather a look at this phenomenon through the lens of modernism.

Chapter 1 discusses the place of the poets and clarifies the group's aesthetic course. Chapter 2 talks about the group within the social context. Chapter 3 is dedicated to the concept of exile and the poets' location vis-à-vis Ukraine. Chapters 4 and 5 deal with group's creative output from the point of view of two literary genres: modernism and post-modernism. Chapters 6 and 7 discuss the group's oeuvre from thematic perspectives, while Chapter 8 is dedicated to the theme of the exotic in the group's works. Chapter 9 deals exclusively with the works of Patricia Nell Warren (also known as Patricia Kylyna). In Chapter 10 New York City is discussed in the works of Ukrainian poets.

This English-language study is an important publication that sheds light on Ukrainian literature in general and the unique phenomenon of the New York Group in particular.

U.S. statement...

(Continued from page 3)

repressive tendencies in Russian-occupied Crimea, where members of the Tatar minority have been relentlessly persecuted and the free press muzzled. ...

The United States continues to support

the Minsk peace process and we continue to call for its full implementation. We remain prepared to roll back sanctions if the fighting stops, the border is closed, the foreign forces and equipment are withdrawn, and hostages are released.

We have said all along that there is no military solution to this crisis. The solution, as has been said by the OSCE here today

and the United Nations, must be political. And, with Minsk, we have a roadmap to reach that solution. The problem is – and as it has long been throughout this crisis – you cannot reach a political solution if only one side is committed to forging it; and you cannot effectively implement a road map with parties who – like the Russians and the separatists they back – so consistently fail to

keep their word.

We have seen Russia's playbook in Transnistria, South Ossetia, Abkhazia and Crimea. So the question is not what Russia will try to do in eastern Ukraine. The question is what we, the international community, will seek to do to prevent yet another frozen conflict in Europe, manufactured by Russia. ...

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

inside Ukraine, but we also see a military build-up on the Russian side of the border." He added, "And we speak about troops, we speak about equipment, and we speak also about artillery and very modern air-defense systems so this is a serious military build-up." Upon arriving for a meeting with European Union defense ministers, Mr. Stoltenberg urged Moscow to adhere to its commitment to a ceasefire and peace plan agreed in Minsk on September 5, saying that Russia could be "part of a peaceful negotiated solution or... continue on a path of isolation." The NATO chief noted: "We see that Russia is still destabilizing Ukraine, we see the movement of troops, of equipment, of tanks, of artillery and also advanced air defense systems and this is in violation of the cease-fire agreement. And we call on Russia to pull back its forces from eastern Ukraine and to respect the Minsk agreement." (RFE/RL, with reporting by RFE/RL's Rikard Jozwiak, Reuters, TASS, Interfax and Agence France-Presse)

Recovery of MH17 wreckage begins

PRAGUE – Dutch authorities said recovery workers in rebel-controlled eastern Ukraine began to collect debris from the crash site of Malaysia Airlines flight on November 16, four months after the plane was brought down. The operation is being carried out under the supervision of Dutch investigators and officials from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. The operation is expected to take around 10 days. Efforts to conduct investigations have been hampered amid continued

fighting between Ukrainian government forces and pro-Russian separatists. Debris will first be collected at a location near the crash site before being taken to Kharkiv and then to the Netherlands. All 298 people on board the flight from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur were killed. Most of the victims were Dutch. (RFE/RL, based on reporting by the Associated Press, Deutsche Presse-Agentur and Agence France-Presse)

Lavrov on territorial issues

MOSCOW – Russian Foreign Affairs Minister Sergei Lavrov says Moscow will not pressure its "allies" to recognize Crimea as a part of Russia or to join it in recognizing Georgia's breakaway regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia regions as independent states. In a question-and-answer session following an address to Russia's lower house of Parliament on November 19, Mr. Lavrov said the security and economic groupings that Russia is currently building with other former Soviet republics are aimed to "protect the legitimate interests of our countries' security." He said that "on some issues, including the status of Abkhazia, South Ossetia or Crimean history, we are not making our partners share our assessments 100 percent, as we do not want to put them into an awkward position if for some reason it is uncomfortable for them." The remarks appeared aimed to assuage concerns among ex-Soviet republics that Russia, which annexed Crimea in March in a move that Kyiv and the West say was illegal, wants to diminish their sovereignty or control their foreign policy. (RFE/RL)

Russian curriculum in Luhansk

LUHANSK, Ukraine – The principal and four department heads of a school in

Luhansk on November 4 told the Special Monitoring Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) that the school had 200 pupils enrolled, compared to 650 before the conflict in Ukraine's east. The school, they said, had already received textbooks from the Russian Federation and would follow the Russian curriculum as of November 9. The language of instruction is now Russian, whereas it was both Russian and Ukrainian before the conflict, they said. (OSCE Special Monitoring Mission)

Ex-counterintel chief arrested

KYIV – A state security officer who was Ukraine's counterintelligence chief in the final weeks of former President Viktor Yanukovich's rule has been arrested on suspicion of "high treason." The head of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), Valentyn Nalyvaichenko, said in a televised interview late on November 9 that Volodymyr Bik is suspected of helping "a foreign country to prepare sabotage activities in Ukraine." Mr. Nalyvaichenko said Mr. Bik was arrested on November 8. He had been appointed on February 5, weeks before Mr. Yanukovich fled to Russia following huge protests over his decision to abandon plans to tighten ties with Europe. Mr. Nalyvaichenko said investigators are still searching for former SBU chief Oleksander Yakymenko, who is wanted for allegedly giving a command to shoot at the protesters. Messrs. Yakymenko and Bik disappeared after Mr. Yanukovich's ouster. Mr. Nalyvaichenko said 25 high treason probes have been launched against Yanukovich-era SBU officials. (RFE/RL)

U.S. backs Kyiv's probe into shelling

WASHINGTON – Washington says it supports a Ukrainian investigation into the shelling of a school in the rebel-held eastern city of Donetsk that killed two teenagers. U.S. State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki on November 6 condemned the shelling that killed two teenagers and wounded "many others." On November 5, heavy bombardments raged around Donetsk's airport, where government forces are besieged by Russian-backed separatists. One shell landed on the soccer field of a nearby school, killing the teenagers. Kyiv says pro-Russian separatists were behind the deadly mortar attack. Pro-Russian separatists blame Ukrainian government forces. In Russia, investigators opened a criminal case against Ukrainian commanders – claiming the deaths were the result of an effort to "wipe out the Russian-speaking population" in the region. (RFE/RL, based on reporting by the Associated Press, Agence France-Presse and TASS)

Portman on Russian aggression in Ukraine

WASHINGTON – U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Ohio) on November 14 released a statement on continuing Russian aggression in Ukraine. "The news of additional Russian conventional forces entering Ukraine is another harsh reminder of the administration's failed policy toward the crisis. The Obama administration has failed to provide concrete support to Ukraine and our other allies in the region, and only a fraction of what little has been promised has been delivered," Sen. Portman said. "I've called on the administration to equip the armed forces of Ukraine with the defensive military

capabilities that they need to stave off Russian aggression, such as UAVs, Counter-Battery Radar, secure communications equipment, anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons. I asked the president how his administration assesses the needs and capabilities of Ukrainian forces and responds to their requests, and how the aid the U.S. has provided fulfills the objectives of our overall strategy. The response I received was very disappointing and reflects a troubling lack of urgency in addressing the crisis in Ukraine or responding to bipartisan congressional concerns regarding the success of our current strategy." He underscored: "When this administration can't answer the simple question of what capabilities the Ukrainian government has requested and refuses to provide any substantive information on what assistance the U.S. has delivered, we have a significant problem." (Office of Sen. Rob Portman)

Man in alleged plot to kill Putin is freed

ODESA – A Ukrainian court has ordered the release of a Russian citizen who was jailed in 2012 over an alleged plot to kill Russian President Vladimir Putin. The court in the Black Sea port city of Odesa on November 18 sentenced Adam Osmayev to time served – about two years and nine months – after convicting him of illegal explosives possession, damaging private property, and forgery. But amid tension between Moscow and Kyiv over the conflict in eastern Ukraine, authorities dropped the attempted assassination charge against Mr. Osmayev last month. An ethnic Chechen, he was arrested in February 2012 after his associate, Kazakh citizen Ilya Pyanzin, was injured in the accidental explosion of a handmade bomb in Odesa. The blast killed a third man. Messrs. Osmayev and Pyanzin were charged with plotting to kill Mr. Putin. Mr. Pyanzin was extradited to Russia and sentenced to 10 years in prison in September 2013. Mr. Osmayev's extradition had been halted at the request of the European Court for Human Rights. (RFE/RL, based on reporting by TASS and Interfax)

U.N.: Over 950 killed despite truce

GENEVA – The United Nations says fighting in eastern Ukraine has killed an average of 13 people a day since a ceasefire between government forces and pro-Russian rebels was signed on September 5. U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein announced the figure on November 20. The U.N. rights agency said at least 4,317 people have been killed and 9,921 wounded since April in the conflict, which has brought ties between Russia and the West to post-Cold War lows. It said 957 of the deaths were recorded between September 5 and November 18, a toll that reflects daily violations of the ceasefire deal signed in Minsk, including fighting over the airport outside the rebel-held city of Donetsk and the Ukrainian government-controlled Azov Sea coastal city of Mariupol. The number of people registered as displaced within Ukraine soared from 275,489 in mid-September to 466,829 on November 19, the U.N. rights agency said. The ceasefire deal, which was signed by representatives of Russia, Ukraine and the Russian-backed rebels who have seized large parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk

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Turning...

(Continued from page 6)

neither protests nor aroused public opinion alone will cause it to swerve from its despotic ways. Force alone can do that, and naught else. ...At last it has been realized that America and the Soviet Union have very little or nothing in common, as America has always been a democracy

while Russia has always been an autocracy, and never the twain shall meet. This rude awakening of America to the real anti-democratic nature of Poland and Russia is now likely to focus unprecedented attention upon Ukraine and upon the efforts being made to free her."

Source: "Protest Soviet Occupation of Western Ukraine," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, December 2, 1939.

Poroshenko...

(Continued from page 1)

pied territories, as opposed to the two-thirds of the Donbas that is controlled by the Ukrainian government, which is largely rural (there are exceptions, such as Mariupol, home to two large steel factories).

"Abstaining from the 'feed Donbas' game is the single way to survive for Ukraine," Mr. Boyarchuk said. "There's no room for sentiments here. If we don't do this, Ukraine will become the most horrific bankruptcy in modern history."

Indeed Ukraine's debt has reached 63 percent of GDP, which is considered a risky level because of the high interest rates at which the Ukrainian government has to borrow, he added.

Meanwhile, the budget deficit will reach 5 percent of GDP this year (10 percent with Naftohaz's debt), which is unsustainable for the Ukrainian government.

To finance the deficit, the government has been printing hryvni this year "at a Stakhanov pace," which Mr. Boyarchuk estimated at about 250 billion hrv (\$20 billion). That has led to the largest annual inflation rate in Ukraine (at least 20 to 25 percent) since the financial crash of 2008.

The situation in which Donbas residents find themselves drips with irony, Mr. Boyarchuk said. The mounting resentment they held for the Ukrainian government during independence was largely based on the myth that their region "feeds Ukraine," while the other regions, particularly western Ukraine, sponged off their hard labor.

Yet the nation's economists always

understood that the Donetsk and Luhansk regions were a fiscal burden for the Ukrainian government, largely because of the industrial-related subsidies that its oligarchs (particularly Rinat Akhmetov) were able to arrange for their aging and often outdated mines and factories.

In this fashion, the oligarchs reaped enormous profits at the expense of the central budget, Mr. Boyarchuk said.

Now the government has the opportunity to shed these corrupt schemes, shattering the illusions long held by Donbas residents, who are now pleading with Kyiv to keep making payments.

They also have begun to complain about the separatist leaders. Several women gathered at the Yenakiyev City Council on the morning of November 17 with children in their arms demanding their aid for newborns that had been promised by the Kyiv government, reported the Ukrayinska Pravda news site.

The acting mayor told them the money hadn't arrived. He joined the mayor of Horlivka in traveling to Donetsk to request funds. There, Donetsk City Council Head (Mayor) Oleksandr Lukianchenko has been telling them that Kyiv still owes him 700 million hrv (\$47 million) for social payments.

Residents in the occupied towns of Torez and Snizhne blocked a main road on November 17, demanding government aid for the newborns.

Meanwhile, separatist leaders in the Luhansk towns of Sverdlovsk, Rovenky, Antratsyt, Krasnyi Luch, Stakhanov and Chervonopartyzansk have accused the leaders of the "Luhansk People's Republic" of committing fraud with humanitarian aid

and have declared their autonomy from them, reported Ukrayinska Pravda.

That's precisely another reason Mr. Yatsenyuk cited for halting the money flow, which ensures they won't fall into the hands of the Russian-backed separatists, who would use them for purposes other than offering residents social payments.

In a gesture to pensioners and new mothers, the president on November 19 signed a law creating a legal status for displaced persons from the war, providing them with rights such as access to temporary housing and the ability to receive social payments outside the occupied territory.

Mr. Lukianchenko, the Donetsk mayor, estimated on local television on November 20 that 277,000 of the city's pensioners can't travel out of the occupied zone to receive their payments.

The Russian government didn't let the opportunity slip to blame the Kyiv government for the suffering of the Donbas region.

"Unfortunately, instead of establishing stable contact and constructive dialogue with those who don't accept the results of the armed overthrow, Kyiv has taken the path of socio-economic strangulation of the southeast and is threatening to renew attempts of a violent resolution to the conflict," Russian Foreign Affairs Minister

Sergei Lavrov said on November 18, as reported by his press service.

The next day, he told the State Duma that Mr. Poroshenko's decree was intended not only to socially and economically strangle the region, "but to prepare the ground for the latest military invasion and the latest attempt to resolve this problem with force."

Yet if the Ukrainian government truly wanted to "strangle" the Donbas region, it would have done so this summer, Mr. Boyarchuk said. Instead, it kept making social payments despite their enormous burden. "This should have been done already in June," he said. "Russia's strategy in creating a quasi-occupation is to load the Ukrainian government with debt and bankrupt it. Sending money to the Donbas would be playing directly into his trap."

The president's decree, "On the decision of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine from November 4, 'On urgent measures to stabilize the socio-economic situations in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts,'" approved many other recommendations besides halting payments.

Among them is the evacuation of those employees of state enterprises and offices who wish to leave, as well as the evacuation of state property and documentation.

Ukrainian National...

(Continued from page 4)

cluded with an outstanding performance by honored artist of Ukraine Taras Chubai.

The following individuals were elected to the 2014-2015 UNCUA Board of Directors and committees.

- UNCUA Officers: Chair Wasyl Kornylo (Ukrainian FCU, Rochester), Vice-Chair Stephen Kerda (Selfreliance Baltimore), Secretary George Stachiw (Selfreliance New England); Executive Committee members Mary Kolodij (Selfreliance Philadelphia), Walter Kozicky (SUMA Yonkers), Bohdan Kurczak (Self Reliance New York) and Bohdan Watral (Selfreliance Chicago).

- Members of the board of directors: Bohdan Czepak (Cleveland Selfreliance), Roman Jakubowycz (Osnova, Parma, Ohio), Andrew Jakymowych (Future CU, Warren, Mich.), Esteban Kaczurak (Ukrainian National, N.Y.), Michael Lewko (Self Reliance N.J.), Natalie Maruszczak (Selfreliance Michigan) and Eugene Szestak (Selfreliance Pittsburgh).

- Supervisory Committee: Andrew

Jakymowych (Future CU, Warren), Bohdan Lisowsky (Selfreliance Michigan) and Bohdan Wruskyj (Selfreliance Chicago).

- Nominating Committee: Jaroslaw Fedun (Self Reliance N.J.), Orest Liscynsky (Cleveland Selfreliance) and George Stachiw (Selfreliance New England).

- By-Laws Committee: Mary Kolodij (Selfreliance Philadelphia), Orest Liscynsky (Cleveland Selfreliance) and Lubomyr Lypeckyj (Selfreliance Michigan).

- Loan Protection and Life Savings Insurance trustees: Orysia Burdiak, Esteban Kaczurak, Stephen Kerda, Mary Kolodij, Bohdan Kurczak, Ihor Laszok and John Olijarczyk.

Ms. Burdiak was elected president of the association and the Ukrainian Cooperative Insurance Agency in Chicago. UNCUA staff members are Christine Pylypowycz and Nina Bebko.

Mr. Kerda, representing Selfreliance Baltimore Federal Credit Union, invited the delegates to schedule their 2015 UNCUA spring conference and annual meeting in Baltimore on the occasion of Selfreliance Baltimore's 60th anniversary celebration next year.

Ms. Tagliavini is OSCE envoy to the Trilateral Contact Group, which includes senior representatives from Ukraine and Russia. "I am unable to accept any remarks that the ceasefire arrangements of Minsk have fallen apart. Yes, it has been broken many times but it is the only agreement in place which has any restraining power on the use of force," she said. Citing reports from NATO, OSCE observers and journalists of a new military buildup in the conflict zone, Ms. Tagliavini said that "the outlook is still bleak" and that further escalation could have severe consequences for the region and beyond. She said the situation had not improved since a G-20 summit in Australia on November 15-16 during which Western leaders pressed Russian President Vladimir Putin over what NATO says is direct Russian military support for the separatists. (RFE/RL, with reporting by the Associated Press and Reuters)

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 12)

regions, also set out steps aimed to end the conflict. (RFE/RL, with reporting by the Associated Press and Reuters)

OSCE: Outlook for peace still bleak

VIENNA – A senior official of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said that the prospects for peace in eastern Ukraine were "bleak" but that there is no alternative to the Minsk deal. "Whatever [their] shortcomings may be and wherever they may need to be supplemented, the [Minsk] documents are the door on the road to peace in eastern Ukraine, and they will continue to be so," Swiss diplomat Heidi Tagliavini told a meeting of the 57-member OSCE in Vienna.

У першу річницю
відходу у вічність нашого
найдорожчого Чоловіка, Тата і Діда
8 грудня 2014 року

СВ. П.

Ярослава Розумного, д-р філ.



Український літературознавець, професор канадських, американських та європейських університетів, почесний професор та співучасник заснування Національного Університету "Києво-Могилянська Академія", довголітній голова Славистичного Відділу та член Сенату Манітоського Університету, колишній декан філософічного факультету Українського Вільного Університету, президент наукових, культурних і громадських установ (УВАН Канада, Осередок Української Культури і Освіти, Прихильники РУХ-у та Інститут Маркіяна Шашкевича в Вінніпезі), член Наукової Ради Української Дослідної Програми при Іллінойському Університеті, автор монографій і численних статей з української літератури різних періодів та загальної українознавчої проблематики.

У глибокому смутку залишились:

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діти - Лариса з чоловіком Джеймс
- Роман з дружиною Андреею
- Істан
- Руслан з дружиною Дмитрею
внуки - Олександр, Боян, Юрдан, Уляна
швагрові - Віра Гриценко
- Зорянна Гриценко-Лугова з чоловіком
Юрієм Луговим і дітьми Артемом і Адрієюною

ближча і дальша родина в Канаді, Америці та Україні.

Хай буде Вічна Йому пам'ять!



Vlad Holub
Dr. Markian Kuzycz and Adriana Kuropas Ellis, masters of ceremonies at the Ukrainian National Museum banquet.



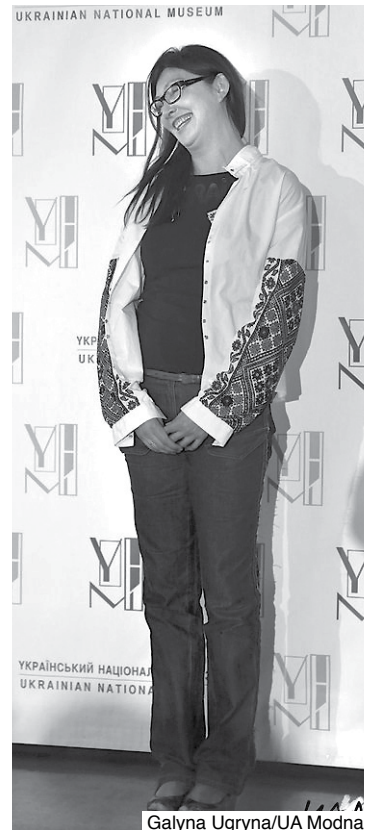
Vlad Holub
An Oksana Karavanska design, modeled by Svitlana Markula.



Maksym Prokopiv
Dr. Neonila Lychyk's dress, modeled by Oleksandra Dobrovolska.



Maksym Prokopiv
A traditional costume from Bukovyna, from the Ukrainian National Museum collection, modeled by Julia Osadtsiv.



Galyna Ugryna/UA Modna
Designer Oksana Karavanska.

Ukrainian National Museum of Chicago celebrates Ukrainian embroidery

by Adriana Kuropas Ellis

CHICAGO – The Ukrainian National Museum leveraged its 62nd annual banquet, sponsored by the Selfreliance Foundation of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union, to celebrate a critical thread of the Ukrainian culture, the “vyshyvka” – Ukrainian embroidery.

The Ukrainian National Museum (UNM) brought to life this unique folk art, which has been passed on from generation to generation, starting as early as 5,000 B.C. with the Trypillian culture. The vyshyvka figured in home decor such as embroidered pillows, tablecloths and rushnyky (embroidered ritual cloths that are central to countless family events, including births and weddings) and is also expressed in clothing, ranging from traditional pieces to fashion-forward designs that grace rural towns, city streets and international runways. This craft showcases Ukraine's bountiful history and immense creativity, bringing to light the true passion, patience and skill of designers as they take countless hours to complete each piece.

The banquet on September 28 brought over 365 guests together for an engaging fashion show to admire the vyshyvka and explore embroidered couture through the works of internationally renowned designer Oksana Karavanska. UNM President Lydia Tkaczuk highlighted the museum's accomplishments over the last year and looked to continue this momentum into 2015.

Two of the Museum's Young Professionals, Dr. Markian Kuzycz and Adriana Kuropas Ellis, emceed the event, kicking off the fashion show by introducing 12 traditional Ukrainian embroidered costumes paying homage to various regions of Ukraine. These classic pieces showcased the different expressions of embroidery based on regions including Bukovyna, Poltava, Hutsulshchyna, Kyiv, Kharkiv and Pokuttia.

The next part of the fashion show featured beautiful models, including Miss Diaspora participants and women from Chicago's Ukrainian community, wearing stylized interpretations of this folk art. Nearly 40 ensembles were modeled, including cocktail, evening and wedding dresses embroidered by diaspora ladies in the 1960s, '70s and '80s. This was only a sneak peak of over 100 dresses that are now part of the exhibit “A Century of Stylish



Vlad Holub
The finale of the fashion show.

Embroidery Fashions” that opened at the Ukrainian National Museum on October 3.

Prior to Ms. Karavanska's grand finale, guests were able to enjoy a song from Sanna, a young lady from Ohio who also sang on the Maidan (Independence Square) in Ukraine, a greeting from Consul General of Ukraine Andriy Pravednyk and a written greeting from Ukraine's First Lady Maryna Poroshenko. In her greeting Mrs. Poroshenko wished the Ukrainian National Museum continued success and optimism in promoting Ukrainian spirituality.

“Your charitable banquet and special fashion show – a retrospective of Ukrainian embroidery and its resonance in contemporary fashion – indicate a sincere desire to revive and widely promote Ukrainian culture and traditions. I am proud of our talented designers, amongst which is Oksana Karavanska, and am happy that you had a chance to become closely acquainted with Oksana and her creativity,” the first lady wrote.

The museum also recognized the warm greetings and generous donations from Heritage Foundation of First Security Federal Savings Bank, MB Financial Bank,

Selfreliance Foundation of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union, Ukrainian National Women's League of America – Chicago Regional Council, Women's Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine – Alla Horska branch, Ukrainian Genocide Famine Foundation USA Inc. and numerous museum patrons.

Since 1997, Ms. Karavanska has been building her brand, which includes women's, men's and children's designs. A world-renowned Ukrainian designer, she has been featured on national and international runways and has been recognized by fashion leaders such as Pierre Cardin. The crowd was excited for her grand finale featuring unique, embroidered couture designs celebrating the beauty and creativity of the Ukrainian culture and folk arts.

The Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago, a treasure chest of folk culture, history and archives, embodies the lively spirit of Ukrainians. The exhibit “A Century of Stylish Embroidery Fashions,” a display of 100 contemporary unique hand-embroidered dresses, is on view through November 28. The Ukrainian National Museum is located at 2249 W. Superior St., Chicago, IL 60612.

Ukrainian Americans...

(Continued from page 6)

Dr. Ariel Cohen, Institute for the Analysis of Global Security
Ihor Kozak, military expert, former NATO officer/diplomat
Dr. Mike Pillsbury, Hudson Institute
Herman Pirchner, American Foreign Policy Council
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Lada Pastushak, U.S.-Ukraine Business Council

Natalka Shyrba, Razom
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Irina Galai, Ukrainian American Community Organizer, Pennsylvania
Andrew S. Fedynsky, Ukrainian Museum-Archives
Mark Romaniw, Center for U.S.-Ukrainian Relations
Roma Lisovich, Ukrainian American community organizer, New Jersey

(AHCU members serve in their personal capacities. Affiliations are for informational purposes only.)

The AHCU is open to and welcomes the support of like-minded fellow Americans and NGOs that support congressional action on Ukraine. For more information and to become involved please write to: AHCU.org@gmail.com.

Klitschko KOs Pulev in fifth round

by Ihor N. Stelmach

SOUTH WINDSOR, Conn. – World heavyweight champion Wladimir Klitschko (63-3, 54 KO) is famous for his powerful right hand and his effective left jab. His left hook doesn't get nearly the attention it deserves, but it is equally destructive. Klitschko utilized his potent left hook for all four of his knockdowns in a one-sided, fifth-round destruction of mandatory IBF challenger Kubrat Pulev (20-1, 11 KO) of Bulgaria at the O2 World Arena in Hamburg, Germany, on November 15. It was the 54th knockout and 63rd victory of Klitschko's career.

What made Klitschko's use of his left hand against Pulev so impressive is that he suffered a torn left biceps in a sparring session in late August that postponed the fight that originally was scheduled for September 6. There obviously were no ill effects of the injury.

In the same city where the Ukrainian pugilist made his pro debut 18 years ago, it was another amazing performance by Klitschko, who retained his title for the 17th time in his second reign, moving closer to a pair of boxing records.

Klitschko currently stands three defenses away from tying with Larry Holmes for second place for most consecutive heavyweight title defenses (20). The legendary Joe Louis owns the record for any weight class with 25. Klitschko has now won 21 fights in a row and has held the title for eight and a half years, the second longest heavyweight title reign behind Louis' 11 years, 8 months. Klitschko will add several more months to his tenure since he is not scheduled to fight again until at least March 2015.

He had no problems with Pulev, a quality contender considered by experts as one of Klitschko's more challenging tests in recent years. This notion disappeared immediately when the Ukrainian floored him twice in the very first round.

The 33-year-old Pulev incurred his first defeat after 20 straight victories and was made to pay for his pre-

fight talk when he described his champion opponent as behaving "like a girl" and "having no heart."

"I have never seen such arrogance from an opponent and there was a price to pay for that," said Klitschko in his post-fight news conference. "I don't think he realized he was playing in the champions league."

Pulev was taken to a hospital after the bout with a severe concussion and suspected fracture of his right cheekbone from the sharp left hook that ended the fight. Knocked down twice in the first round and again in the third prior to the knock-out punch, Pulev sounded ridiculous when he said Klitschko had been "lucky." The IBF, WBO and WBA champion was not impressed.

Pulev's strategy was to go at Klitschko, hoping to surprise him with a big punch early on. The plan of attack failed miserably when Klitschko landed the first of his left hooks barely one minute into the fight. Knocked down to the canvas, Pulev was on wobbly legs when the fight resumed and quickly found himself on his back again, victimized by another left hook.

The Ukrainian champion paid tribute to his countrymen in their ongoing military struggle against Russian-backed separatists in eastern Ukraine after the bout in his adopted home town of Hamburg.

"I want to dedicate this victory to my compatriots in Ukraine, who are experiencing difficult times," said Klitschko, whose brother Vitali, the mayor of Kyiv and an ex-world champion boxer, was in his corner, lending support.

Klitschko's next fight will be against either Bernaine Stiverne (24-1-1, 21 KO) of Canada or Deontay Wilder (32-0-0, 32 KO) of the U.S.A. who will fight for the vacant WBC title, which is still in negotiations with a working date of January 17, 2015, as the two sides agree on a venue and other terms. The fight will put Klitschko one step closer as the undisputed heavyweight champion, even though Klitschko holds three out of four (IBF, WBO, WBA) of the heavyweight division titles.

"Goals for Ukraine" fund-raiser to benefit Ukrainian relief efforts

WASHINGTON – Goals for Ukraine announced the launch of its fund-raising drive on October 8, coinciding with the start of the Washington Capitals 2014-2015 season, with a donor challenge linked to the number of goals scored by Capitals' superstar Alex Ovechkin. Proceeds will go to the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, a Washington-based nonprofit.

Goals for Ukraine urged supporters to pledge donations for each goal scored by Ovechkin during the Capitals' regular season (October 9 through April 11, 2015). For example, a \$5 pledge per goal, based on Ovechkin's average of 45-50 goals, would be about \$8-\$10 per week during the season.

In August 2014, Ovechkin promoted a Russian social media campaign that has been used to support Russia's military intervention in Ukraine. In response, Goals for Ukraine was created so that hockey and sports fans throughout the world could demonstrate their support for Ukraine's democracy, freedom and self-determination, explained Goals for Ukraine director Brian Allen.

Donations will provide such assistance as food, water, clothing, housing and medical aid for those impacted by the war in eastern Ukraine. Over 1 million people have been displaced, according to the United Nations, and over 4,000 people have died.

One-time or recurring donations can be made at <http://usukraine.org/goalsforukraine/>. U.S. donations are tax-deductible as provided by law.

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation is a U.S. 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nongovernmental organization established in 1991 to support democracy, a free market and human rights for Ukraine. The foundation has directed over \$900,000 for education, training and humanitarian efforts during the past five years alone, including \$100,000 in August-September of this year.

For information e-mail goalsforukraine@gmail.com.

THE GUIDE, THE MOST TALKED ABOUT FILM FROM UKRAINE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY. BE THE FIRST TO SEE IT.

Celebrating its tenth anniversary as the only permanent forum of the Ukrainian cinema in North America, the Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University organizes a six-city tour of THE GUIDE, historical drama, directed by Oles Sanin, Ukraine's entry for Oscar-2014. An American boy Peter Shamrock travels to Ukraine with his father in the early 1930s only to be thrown into one of the greatest cataclysms in the twentieth-century history. Inspired by real life events. The part of Peter Shamrock is played by Anton Sviatoslav Greene of Ann Arbor, MI. The magnetic Crimean Tatar singer Jamala also plays in the film.

The GUIDE film tour will open by the screening at Columbia University, on **December 2, 2014, at 7:30 PM, at 501 Schermerhorn Hall, Columbia's Morningside Campus**. Dr. Yuri Shevchuk, the director of the Ukrainian Film Club will introduce the film and mediate the post-screening discussion.

The film tour is co-organized by the Ukrainian Studies Program and the Harriman Institute, Columbia University.



Schedule of *The Guide* screening in the USA:

Philadelphia, Dec. 3, 7:00 PM, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Rd., Jenkintown, PA, 19046.
Harvard University, Dec. 4, 6:00 PM, Belfer Case Study Room, Room S-020, Center for Government and International Studies, Harvard University, CGIS South Building, 1730 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.
Chicago, Dec. 5, 7:00 PM, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W Chicago Ave, Chicago, IL 60622.
Ann Arbor, Dec. 9, 7:00 PM, Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor MI, 48104.
Detroit, Dec. 10, 6:00 PM, Wayne State University, Afro-American Room (Rm 91), Manoogian Hall, 42 W. Warren Ave. Detroit, MI 48202.
Ukrainian Museum, NYC, Dec. 11, 6:00, 222 E 6th Street, New York, NY 10003.

The screenings in Chicago, Ann Arbor, Detroit, and New York (Ukrainian Museum) will be attended by the director Oles Sanin, the lead actor Anton Sviatoslav Greene.

FOR LOVERS OF UKRAINIAN ART

Several works of art from a significant private collection are being released for sale.

The private collection includes icons as well as works by Mykola Pymonenko, Ivan Trush, Vasyl Kassian, Roman Selsky, Roman Kurach, Mykola Azovsky, Oleksa Hryshchenko, Victor Cymbal, Borys Kriukov, Nadia Somko, Volodymyr Makarenko and Mykola Nedilko.

All of the artwork, which was maintained in the diaspora, can be authenticated.

For more detailed information, please contact the following email:

ukrainianpaintings@gmail.com

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& The Ukrainian Institute of America

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Chornomortsi honor two valiant sons of the Black Sea

by Zenon Stakhiv

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J. – Not 100 yards apart, two noble men lie buried here at St. Andrew Cemetery, part of the Metropolia Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. – one by birth and the other by deeds. One was a captain of the Ukrainian National Republic (UNR) Black Sea Fleet, the other was a scout commander of Plast and leader of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization's Chornomortsi fraternity (one of the original group of founders in 1927 was another hero of Ukraine, Roman Shukhevych).

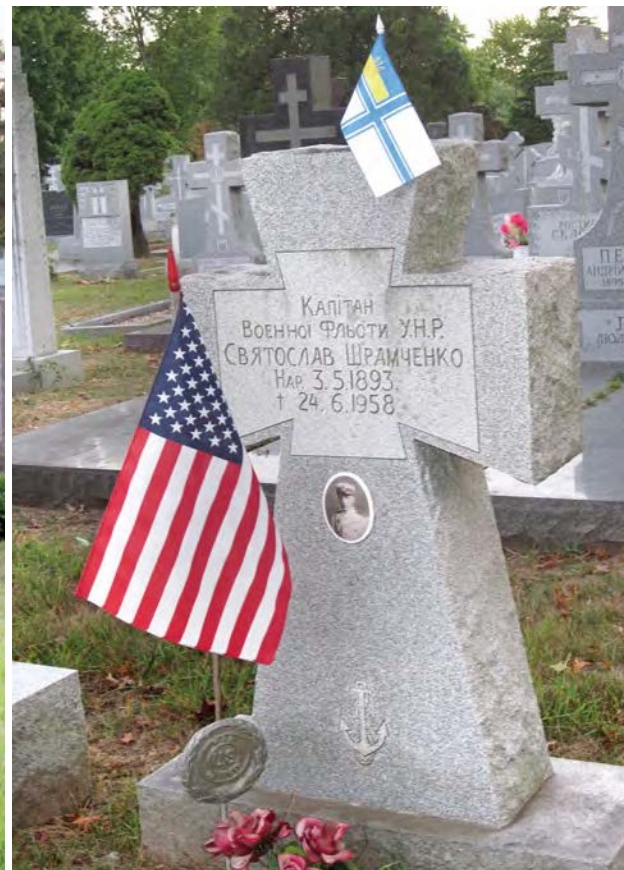
Neither knew the other, and their paths never crossed – except at their final resting places in the cemetery, but their lives are connected by the slender threads of a common turbulent Ukrainian history and its historic connection to the Black Sea.

On Monday evening, September 23, the four Chornomortsi fraternal organizations (fraternities and sororities) of Plast in the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area commemorated the lives and passing of Yaroslav Luchkan and Sviatoslav Shramchenko with short and solemn graveside ceremonies. The Rev. Leonid Malkov, pastor of St. John the Baptists Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N.J., led the memorial services. There were no speeches – the mourners held their thoughts and memories to themselves.

Not all present knew Luchkan, and certainly no one personally knew Shramchenko, for he passed away on June 24, 1958, though he is known as a historical figure. What was the link between these two men?

St. Andrew Cemetery is our Ukrainian diaspora's de facto "Arlington National Cemetery," for this is where many of Ukraine's forgotten heroes of countless wars of liberation are buried. They served in the armies of the Ukrainian Sich Riflemen, the Ukrainian National Republic (UNR), Ukrainian Insurgent Army and Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists. One of those nearly forgotten war heroes was Capt. Shramchenko of the UNR Black Sea Fleet (1918-1921).

Patriarch Mstyslav (Skrypnyk) of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, who is buried in Bound Brook, fought bravely with the 3rd Iron Division of the UNR army. He was a nephew of Symon Petliura and was his personal adjutant in 1920-1921. In that position, Patriarch Mstyslav surely



The gravestones of two sons of the Black Sea, Slavko Luchkan (left) and Sviatoslav Shramchenko, both buried at St. Andrew Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

knew Shramchenko, for in 1919, Shramchenko was promoted to vice-admiral so that he could head the Ministry of Naval Affairs in 1919-1920.

On September 29, 1973, Patriarch Mstyslav, a close friend of the Luchkan family, led the funeral services for Yaroslav Luchkan at Bound Brook. Such are the slender threads of history that link these two noble sons of the Black Sea.

Luchkan was a very active Ukrainian civic leader in Hartford, Conn., but is mostly known for his lifelong activity and key leadership positions in Plast and his scouting

fraternity, Chornomortsi. From 1962 to 1973, he worked as an aeronautical engineer for United Technologies, ultimately ending up on the Apollo space program. He was assigned to a secret project involving the testing and quality control of various components of the Apollo rocket that was destined to take U.S. astronauts to the moon in 1969. During that same decade, he was elected as commander of Plast scouts in the United States. Before that, he was leader

(Continued on page 18)

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Plast members leverage aid for Maidan and war victims

NEW YORK – A bright yellow plastic construction helmet was part of the varied improvised headgear that helped protect Maidan activists in Kyiv last winter from blows inflicted by police batons. It never occurred to them that they would need much more durable protection to withstand the sniper bullets that followed, killing and wounding hundreds of members the so-called self-defense units or “sotni.”

Desperate for aid for the gravely wounded and for the families of those massacred at the Maidan, members of the 3rd Brigade turned to fund-raising through the Internet with the help of two activists from the Washington, D.C., area, Tetyana Aldave and Halyna Yatsiv. An artist in Kyiv, Yaroslav Ilkiv, decorated several of the helmets, using colored markers to draw traditional folk designs and inscribing these words, taken from Psalm 41: “Blessed are those who care for the wretched; the Lord delivers them in times of trouble.”

The helmets were taken to the United States, where they became the backbone of a grassroots charitable online auction effort on the EuroMaidan Items Auction Facebook page. Other media circulated this information, which caught the eye of Andrew Fylypovych of Meadowbrook, Pa. Not a Facebook user himself, Mr. Fylypovych enlisted the help of his daughter, Alexandra, to bid for the helmet. The joint effort paid off and in July, for \$1,000, he became the successful bidder for the first helmet.

Interviewed by the Kyiv-based Korrespondent.net, Mr. Fylypovych stated: “Seems that this was a real bargain for such an historic item. Holding the helmet in my hands is like holding a hetman’s bulava [mace]. I am surprised there was so little competition. \$1,000 is a paltry sum to pay in comparison to the sacrifices made by those dying in Ukraine.”



Alexandra Fylypovych

Delivering the helmet to The Ukrainian Museum (from left) are: Boris Hayda, Andrew Fylypovych, Maria Shust (museum director) and George Demidowich.



The ad for the first helmet auction on Facebook.

Shortly thereafter Mr. Fylypovych saw reports how his relatively small contribution had to be shared among several families in Ukraine. Particularly moving was the story that one of the wounded victims refused assistance because he felt there were others who needed help more urgently.

Mr. Fylypovych, who is a member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization’s Pobratymy fraternity, issued a challenge to his fellow scouts: if they were to raise \$10,000 for victims of the atrocities at the Maidan and the Russian-led war in eastern Ukraine, he would donate the historic helmet to The Ukrainian Museum in New York.

During their annual meeting in September, the Plast scouts turned to their Pobratymy Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) entity that for years has been able to assist Plast-affiliated persons and entities because of the significant community

support of its annual golf outing in Chicago. The foundation agreed to donate \$10,000 to the fund specially created by the worldwide Plast Conference Inc. to help activist Plast members serving on the eastern front in Ukraine and their families.

On November 8, Mr. Fylypovych, with fellow Pobratymy George Demidowich and Boris Hayda, traveled to Manhattan to deliver the helmet to Maria Shust, the director of The Ukrainian Museum. Mr. Fylypovych also provided the museum with copies of Internet articles and links to videos documenting the provenance of the helmet, as well as the resultant relief efforts.

“Let’s hope that those who visit the museum and see this helmet will be spurred to join these relief efforts – they are sorely needed,” said Mr. Fylypovych.

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“Manhattan Metrospective” photography exhibit opens at Shevchenko Society



Stefa Charczenko at the opening of her photography exhibit at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York.

NEW YORK – The Shevchenko Scientific Society announced the opening of a photography exhibit titled “Manhattan Metrospective” by Stefa Charczenko. The exhibit features mixed-media fine art photographs including canvas, framed and metal art prints.

Ms. Charczenko lives in New York City, one of the most exhilarating and stimulating photographic subjects in the world. As she strolls through the streets of Manhattan and all of its multi-dimensional sights, Ms. Charczenko’s extremely discerning artistic eye and penchant for vibrant colors and textures transform the simplest photographic images into masterpieces of fine art photography.

Miraculously, with the click of a shutter and much purposeful artistic deliberation, the photographer transforms the lifeless Manhattan mannequins, reflections and other inanimate subjects into masterful photographic pieces of art. The photos are not manipulated in any fashion; she merely projects herself into the depths of New York City’s panorama and creates magical images of her beloved city.

Part of the proceeds from Ms. Charczenko’s exhibit sales will be donated to Ukrainian soldiers for much-needed equip-

ment and supplies.

Ms. Charczenko has dedicated her photography exhibit to her father, Juchym Charczenko (1912-2004), who was affiliated with the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists and was sent to a concentration camp in Ihren, Germany. He spent two years as a political prisoner in the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany and was then moved to a displaced persons camp in Cornberg, Germany, where he was elected mayor of the camp.

Released from Cornberg in 1951, he gathered his family and came to the United States, settling in Jersey City, N.J., where he was a longtime member of the board of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the deputy head of the Organization for Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine and an active member of other Ukrainian organizations. His memoirs are being published by the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

The exhibit will be on view through the end of January 2015 at the Shevchenko Society, 63 Fourth Ave., New York, NY 10003. Hours are: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For information call 212-254-5130 or e-mail: info@shevchenko.org.

Chornomortsi...

(Continued from page 16)

of the Chornomortsi and caretaker of the Plast summer camps at Bobrivka with his father, Volodymyr. He died tragically in an airplane mishap on September 22, 1973.

Shramchenko played a key role in a series of important episodes during the short-lived and fateful history of the UNR Black Sea Fleet. He was born in Baku, on the shores of the Caspian Sea in what is present-day Azerbaijan. He was descended from old Ukrainian nobility, centered in Chernihiv region. He finished the gymnasium in Kyiv and went to study maritime law at the naval academy in St. Petersburg, Russia. He received his commission as ensign in May 1917 and was assigned to the tsarist Baltic Fleet.

When the Russian October Revolution broke out in 1917, then Lt. Shramchenko was among the leaders who organized a Ukrainian Revolutionary Naval Staff in the Baltic Sea Fleet and convinced them to join the Black Sea Fleet in Sevastopol. Later, in Kyiv, he served as an adjutant to the naval minister of UNR in 1918 during a critical period when the Central Rada proclaimed the Black Sea Fleet as part of the UNR on April 29, 1918. It was on that day that the Ukrainian flag was officially raised on all the vessels of the Black Sea Fleet.

Shramchenko served in increasingly more responsible positions in Kyiv under several governments until 1921, being promoted to vice-admiral in March 1919, and then appointed as minister of naval affairs in April 1919. It was in April of that year, no doubt at the urging of Minister Shramchenko, that April 29 was proclaimed Commemoration Day of the Ukrainian National Fleet, and known thereafter as Ukrainian Sea Day (Sviato Ukrayinskoho Morya).

After the Entente forces took over the Black Sea Fleet in 1921, he stayed with the demobilized Ukrainian fleet that sailed first to Constantinople and then to Bizerte (current Tunisia) under French control in 1922. He emigrated to Poland in 1923, where he stayed until 1944 and became a Ukrainian civic leader, and then to Philadelphia in 1950. Shramchenko’s extensive collected works covering that period of history (over 200 articles and monographs) reside at the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences (known by its Ukrainian acronym as UVAN) in New York.

Shramchenko is the Chornomortsi fraternity’s connec-



Members of Plast’s Chornomortsi and Chornomorski Khvyli, and community members, during a memorial service at the grave of Slavko Luchkan.

tion to the fateful events of Ukraine’s independence proclamation in 1918, which we commemorate each year. We all recall the pride that we felt on August 24, 1991, when Ukraine was finally able to raise its national flag – and one can easily imagine that is how Shramchenko felt on April 29, 1918. In a letter dated May 2, 1953, on the 35th anniversary of the proclamation of Ukrainian Sea Day, Shramchenko congratulated the Chornomortsi for remembering and celebrating that important moment in Ukraine’s history. He died five years later in Philadelphia.

Roksolana Luchkan stood silently with her son Finn, as the panakhyda was read by the Rev. Malkov, reflecting on fate and destiny. Hers were virtual memories of her father, for she was only 3 when he died. Her “memories” were mostly derived from her mother’s stories, or those she heard third hand from her father’s friends and family. But they were as vivid to her as they were to those who shared their adventures with Luchkan at the Plast camp Bobrivka, or flew the skies with him, or sailed with him at the many sea scouting camps that he organized for the

Chornomortsi. In 1965, he was the first to introduce flying at the Chornomortsi’s camps at Indian Lake, N.Y., where then Gov. Nelson Rockefeller visited.

After the ceremony at the gravesites, the entire group met for a dinner of fond memories and recollections of times with Slavko Luchkan. Named “Vykhor” by his Chornomortsi brothers, he was a whirlwind, a dynamo of activity, who swept everyone into his vortex. His energy cleared the way for many to fruitfully use their talents on projects that were of value to the Ukrainian community. He was a true leader, by example and by deeds.

His great love was Plast and Chornomortsi. It was there that he had his greatest impact, because he left behind a lasting legacy of many young men and women whom he had mentored to take over leadership positions that he had once held.

On September 23, those gathered at St. Andrew Cemetery paid tribute to two unique men who represent our ancestry and our heritage – each in his own way, and each with his own unique history.

In Ukraine...

(Continued from page 2)

the chest, head and neck.

His parents, who say they “don’t care who is in charge” of the country, had been fiercely opposed to his departure. Now, they accuse former Euro-Maidan leaders, some of whom hold positions in the new

post-Yanukovych government, of turning their backs on slain protesters.

“They all ran around Maidan, rallying, giving directions, but today they don’t care,” says Harik Nihoyan. “No one called us, no one came to see us, no one asked us a single question, nothing.”

Millions of Ukrainians will nonetheless honor Serhii Nihoyan this week, along with the more than 110 activists who lost their

lives during the protests. Proposals have also poured in from across Ukraine to pay lasting tribute to the victims.

A square in the western city of Berezhany has already been renamed after Serhii Nihoyan, and Ukrainian composer Valentin Silvestrov has composed a hymn in his memory.

In Lviv, members of the city’s alpine club plan to have a mountain in the eastern

Caucasus named after their friend and fellow climber, Yurii Verbytskyi.

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OUT & ABOUT

- November 24
Cambridge, MA Seminar with Natalia Laas, "The Postwar Harvard Interview Project and the Ukrainian Community: A Failed Dialogue?" Harvard University, 617-495-4053
- November 24
Ottawa Seminar with Mikhail Kasyanov, "Canada 2020," University of Ottawa, www.canada2020.ca/events/mikhail-ksayanov
- November 25
Las Vegas Concert with the University of Nevada Las Vegas Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Taras Krysa, Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall, 702-895-3011
- December 1
Cambridge, MA Symposium, "Twenty Years After Ukraine's Denuclearization: Its Aftermath for Ukraine, Its Implications for Nonproliferation and International Security," Harvard University, 617-495-4053
- December 5
New York Film screening, "The Dream" by Volodymyr Denysenko, The Ukrainian Museum, www.ukrainianmuseum.org
- December 5
Chicago Film screening, "The Guide" by Oles Sanin, Ukrainian Cultural Center, events@uima-chicago.org or 773-227-5522
- December 6
New York Workshop on Ukrainian Christmas Traditions, The Ukrainian Museum, www.ukrainianmuseum.org
- December 6
Chicago Christmas concert, featuring the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, St. Joseph the Betrothed Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, 773-505-4806
- December 6
Miami Christmas choral program, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 954-434-4635 or donnamak@bellsouth.net
- December 6
New York Performance, "Koliada and Music from the Carpathians," featuring the Yara Arts Group and the Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 or www.ukrainianmuseum.org
- December 6-7
New York Christmas bazaar, The Ukrainian Museum, www.ukrainianmuseum.org or 212-228-0110
- December 7
Whippany, NJ Performance, "Koliada and Music from the Carpathians," featuring the Yara Arts Group and the Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-590-8026 or www.uaccnj.org
- December 7
Chicago Divine liturgy sung by the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, St. Joseph the Betrothed Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, followed by auditions for new members, 773-505-4806
- December 7
New York Concert marking Taras Shevchenko's 200th birthday, featuring vocalist Oksana Dyka, pianist Mykola Suk and violinist Solomiya Ivakhiv, Shevchenko Scientific Society, Ukrainian Institute of America, Merkin Concert Hall, info@shevchenko.org or 212-254-5130
- December 7
Hillside, NJ St. Nicholas Children's Program, Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church, 908-322-7350 or www.byzcath.org/immaculateconception
- December 7
New York Children's Christmas Party and Tree Trimming, Ukrainian Institute of America, www.ukrainianinstitute.org
- December 7
Toronto Book launch and panel discussion, "History of Ukraine-Rus'. Volume 10. The Cossack Age, 1657-1659" by Mykhailo Hrushevsky, with celebration of the sponsor of the volume, the late John Yaremko, St. Vladimir Institute, 416-923-3318
- December 11
New York Film screening, "The Guide," with director Oles Sanin and Anton Sviatoslav Greene, Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University, Harriman Institute at Columbia University, The Ukrainian Museum, www.ukrainianmuseum.org or 212-228-0110
- December 11
Ottawa Christmas dinner and presentation of awards, Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association of Ottawa, Marconi Center, cornell.popyk@gmail.com or 613-851-9171

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. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, November 23

PINELLAS PARK, Fla.: St. Michael Parish of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. will be celebrating its parish feast day. The divine liturgy is at 10 a.m., followed by a festive lunch. The church is located at 9201 60th St. N. Pinellas Park, FL 33782. For information call 727-541-1552 or log on to www.OrthodoxFlorida.org.

Friday, December 5

NEW YORK: The 1964 film "The Dream" (Son) will be screened at 7 p.m. This Ukrainian-language production (no subtitles) is director Volodymyr Denysenko's interpretation of Taras Shevchenko's satirical poem written in 1844 exposing Russian tsarism as a ruthless and authoritarian regime, which led to Shevchenko's arrest and 10-year exile. An introduction will be given by Dr. Vitaly A. Chernetsky, University of Kansas, with Q&A after the screening. Admission (includes reception and gallery access) is \$15; \$10 for members and seniors; \$5 for students. Tickets may be purchased online or at the door. The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St., between Second and Third avenues; phone number, 212-228-0110; website, www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

Saturday, December 6

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Museum and Yara Arts Group present "Koliada and Music from the Carpathians" featuring the Koliadnyky from Kryvorivnia Ivan and Mykola Zelenchuk, with "troista" musicians Mykola Ilyuk, Vasyl Tymchuk and Ostap Kostyuk. They will be joined by special guests: Crimean Tatars violinist Nariman Asanov and percussionist Lennur Mamutov, as well as bandurist Julian Kytasty. The program is at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. at The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St. Tickets: \$25; \$20 for museum members, seniors and students. For information call 212-228-0110 or visit www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

MIAMI: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church Choir invites you to its sixth annual Christmas choral program featuring traditional Ukrainian Christmas/holiday songs of the season. The

concert is at 7 p.m. at the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 38 NW 57th Ave. (at Flagler Street). Admission is free. Donations go toward the Church Building Fund. For more information contact Donna Maksymowich-Waskiewicz at 954-434-4635 or donnamak@bellsouth.net.

Saturday-Sunday, December 6-7

NEW YORK: Do not miss the Christmas Bazaar and its unique gifts at 11 a.m.-5 p.m. This annual sale organized by The Ukrainian Museum's "Wednesday Volunteers" is a great opportunity to purchase folk art items, ornaments, Christmas cards, books, artwork, contemporary crafts and jewelry, home-baked goods and much more. Come early for the best selections, or check the online gift shop at www.ukrainianmuseum.org. Admission is free. The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St., between Second and Third avenues; phone number, 212-228-0110; website, www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

Sunday, December 7

WHIPPANY, N.J.: The Arts, Culture and Education Committee of the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (UACCNJ) and Yara Arts Group presents "Koliada and Music from the Carpathians" featuring the Koliadnyky from Kryvorivnia Ivan and Mykola Zelenchuk, with the "troista" musicians Mykola Ilyuk, Vasyl Tymchuk and Ostap Kostyuk. They will be joined by special guests: Korinya Ukrainian Folk Band, Max Lozynskyj and bandurist Julian Kytasty. The program is at 1:30 p.m. at the UACCNJ, 60-C N Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07054. Tickets: \$25; \$20 for seniors, students and children. For information call 973-590-8026 or log on to www.uaccnj.org.

Thursday, December 11

NEW YORK: Join us at 7 p.m. for a special screening of "The Guide" ("Povodyr"), Ukraine's official submission for the 2014 foreign language Oscar. An American boy, Peter, and blind minstrel (kobzar) Ivan Kochera are thrown together by fate in turbulent mid-30s Soviet Ukraine. Meet film director Oles Sanin and Anton Sviatoslav Greene, the young actor

who plays the kobzar's guide. The film's director will present the film. This event is co-organized with Dr. Yuri Shevchuk of the Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University and the Harriman Institute at Columbia University. Admission (including reception and gallery access) is \$15; \$10 for members and seniors; \$5 for students. Seating is limited. Purchase tickets in advance online. The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St., between Second and Third avenues; phone number, 212-228-0110; website, www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, N.Y.: Yara Arts Group presents "Koliada and Music from the Carpathians" featuring the Koliadnyky from Kryvorivnia Ivan and Mykola Zelenchuk, with "troista" musicians Mykola Ilyuk, Vasyl Tymchuk and Ostap Kostyuk. They will be joined by special guests: Raphaele Condo and bandurist Julian Kytasty. The program is at 8 p.m., at Bard College, Bard Hall, 70 N. Ravine Road. For information e-mail msonelyt@bard.edu or call 845-752-2405. The concert is free and open to the public.

Friday, December 12

NEW YORK: Join us at 7 p.m. for a concert with Solomia Soroka, violin, and Arthur Greene, piano, who will perform works by Franz Schubert, Frédéric Chopin, Maksym Berezovsky, Johannes Brahms, William Grant Still and Mykola Lysenko, including his "Elegy" commemorating Taras Shevchenko's death. The duo are the parents of Anton Sviatoslav Greene, the star of "The Guide", which is showing December 11. Mr. Greene will be playing a Steinway grand piano generously donated by Jaroslaw and Alla Leshko. Admission (includes reception and gallery access) is \$15; \$10 for members and seniors; \$5 for students. Seating is limited; tickets may be purchased online or at the door. The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St., between Second and Third avenues; phone number, 212-228-0110; website, www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

Saturday, December 13

PHILADELPHIA: Yara Arts Group presents "Koliada and Music from the Carpathians" fea-

turing the Koliadnyky from Kryvorivnia Ivan and Mykola Zelenchuk, with "troista" musicians Mykola Ilyuk, Vasyl Tymchuk and Ostap Kostyuk. They will be joined by the Accolada Chamber Choir. The program is at 7:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, 800 N. 23rd St. Tickets: \$25; \$20 for seniors, students and children. For information call 215-776-1004.

Saturday-Sunday, December 13-14

NEW YORK: Create your own traditional Ukrainian Christmas tree ornaments such as spiders, cradles, stars, mobiles and garlands using beads, walnut shells, colored ribbons and paper. Sign up for this great activity for the entire family (children age 7 and up) on Saturday, 2-4 p.m., or Sunday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. or 2-4 p.m. Fee: adults, \$15; students over 12 and seniors, \$10; children age 7-12, \$5; members - 10 percent discount. Pre-registration is required. The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St., between Second and Third avenues; phone number, 212-228-0110; website, www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

Sunday, December 14

WASHINGTON: Yara Arts Group presents "Koliada and Music from the Carpathians" featuring the Koliadnyky from Kryvorivnia Ivan and Mykola Zelenchuk, with "troista" musicians Mykola Ilyuk, Vasyl Tymchuk and Ostap Kostyuk. They will be joined by the SPIV-Zhyttia vocal ensemble, as well as bandurist Julian Kytasty. The program is at 2:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian National Catholic Shrine of the Holy Family, 4250 Harewood Road NE. Tickets: \$25; \$15 for seniors and students. For information e-mail ukelivingsong@gmail.com.

Saturday-Sunday, December 27-28

NEW YORK: Yara's new theater piece "Winter Light" with koliada and verpep featuring Koliadnyky, Yara artists and special guests. The program is on Saturday at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. La MaMa Experimental Theater is located at 66 E. Fourth St. Admission is \$25; \$20 for seniors, students and children. Tickets may be purchased by calling 212-475-7710 or at www.lamama.org.



Thanksgiving Day

November 27th 2014 at Soyuzivka
 Traditional Thanksgiving Feast
 Buffet-Style from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
 Featuring Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings
 Beef Carving Station, Salmon ala Snake, and Roasted Pork Tenderloin
 Plus Soup, Salad and Desserts
 \$40 per adult, 5 to 12 - ½ price, 4 & under - free
 Call for reservations 845-626-5641 ext. 140
 SOYUZIVKA 216 Foordmore Rd Kerhonkson NY 12446