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With state-owned collective farms now gone, Ukraine seeks to complete privatization of land

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — More than five years after private land ownership was legalized by the Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine's state-owned collective farms have finally been disassembled. Fledgling agro-enterprises and private farms are emerging, but the process is far from complete.

"We can say today that the land reform that began with the giving of certificates to individuals and legal entities is practically complete," said Volodymyr Kulynych, deputy chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee on Land Resources on December 4 at a roundtable on land privatization sponsored by the World Bank.

Ukraine legalized the private ownership of land in 1992, but only in August 1995, when President Leonid Kuchma signed an edict on the procedure for delving out shares of state collective farms to individuals and organizations, did the transfer of state-owned land into private hands begin. That act and one from November 1994, which initiated the privatization of agricultural lands, began putting land in the hands of the farmers who had worked it for years for the Soviet state.

Since then, 8 million hectares of land have been privatized through the issuance of certificates to farmers in state collective farms. The average size of a plot of land redeemed for a certificate is 5 hectares. In the eastern and southern regions of Ukraine some of the plots doled out were as large as 20 hectares, while in the western portions of the country certificates were redeemed for as little as eight-tenths of a hectare.

Mr. Kulynych said he still views the process as one of transformation. "Today it is important that we develop the markets and infrastructures that will allow this effort to proceed to a true free market system," said Mr. Kulynych.

That process also has begun. Ukraine's State Property Fund has slated for privatization in mid-December a large number of agricultural storage silos. It is the beginning of a large-scale sell-off of the agro-industry by the government, which it hopes will be the seed for a natural development of the infrastructure the industry requires.

But problems remain, the most notable of which is resistance by the Left in the Verkhovna Rada, specifically by Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz. He has resisted the land privatization effort and has said that he would never allow foreigners to own Ukrainian land. The Parliament under his leadership has not passed a single piece of legislation in favor of land reform.

This, according to Mr. Kulynych, has led to a situation in which new landowners are not sure of their rights and responsibilities. "I must admit that there still are serious problems with the ownership of land. Even at the village level this has resulted

in disagreements and arguments," said Mr. Kulynych. He said also there have been instances where farmers have had difficulties receiving their parcels.

As in most every aspect of Ukrainian life, organized crime has made its presence felt here. Racketeers have moved into several regions and forced landowners to give up their claims at dirt cheap prices.

Even where farmers are not pressured to sell by organized rackets, land at times sells at bargain prices. Viktor Sinchenko, head of the district administration of Kaharlyk, in the Chernihiv region, said that pensioners have sold plots of land worth \$6,000-\$7,000 per hectare for \$100 in his district. "Because of the serious economic situation in Ukraine those who have money are buying from those who need the money at very low prices," said Mr. Sinchenko. "Unfortunately, there are no formal mechanisms for the buying and selling of land."

Today landowners can do one of four things with their plots. They can sell them to others, work the land as individual farmers, rent the land or include it in a private collective agricultural enterprise. Oleksii Onyshchenko, agronomist at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, said that

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World Bank to review direction of Ukraine's battle with corruption

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — A World Bank representative said on December 3 that the organization was not pleased with the results of a symposium on corruption that it co-sponsored with Ukraine's Ministry of Justice, and will review its commitment to a Ukrainian government anti-corruption program.

"We see that much wrongdoing goes on," said Volodymyr Omelianenko, economic development representative for the World Bank in Ukraine. "The government has admitted as much, but says it is under control."

Although government officials continue to maintain that corruption in Ukraine is no worse than elsewhere, a recent World Bank study identified Ukraine as one of the 10 most corrupt countries in the world. The U.S. Embassy's senior commercial officer, Andrew Bihun, had told The Weekly in an interview in the early fall that so many certificates and licenses are needed to begin a business in Ukraine, whether by nationals or foreigners, that the atmosphere lends itself to vast corruption.

The Ukrainian government has made an effort to tackle the problem — which has made many foreign investors wary of entering the Ukrainian market and has prompted

others to leave it — by developing an anti-corruption program called "Clean Hands." It is an effort to implement a system of accountability, government review, and checks and balances to reduce the ability of government bureaucrats to supplement their incomes with bribes and blackmail.

Mr. Omelianenko explained that the World Bank is not satisfied with the pace and from of the anti-corruption effort. He said he agreed with a statement made to the Toronto Globe and Mail by Peter Langseth, a World Bank anti-corruption specialist who attended the symposium, that the institution will decide whether to continue its anti-corruption work in Ukraine based on the outcome of the conference.

"Ukraine must do more than express a desire to work, it must follow the action plan," said Mr. Omelianenko. "It depends on who is leading the effort. The committee [on the fight against organized crime and corruption headed by Vasyl Durdynets] is currently working poorly; it is not serious."

The World Bank official said that Minister of Justice Suzanna Stanik was informed of the organization's views at the conference. "Mr. Langseth told the minister that the way Ukraine acts will have an effect on how donor money continues to

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Ukrainian Cultural Research Center dedicated in Stamford

by Irene Jarosewich

STAMFORD, Conn. — More than six decades have passed since Bishop Constantine Bohachevsky of the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of Stamford first articulated his vision: to establish a Ukrainian educational center in the United States for those who had left their homeland, and for their children and grandchildren who were destined to be born in America. According to the bishop's vision, the center was to serve as a link between the New World and historical legacy. The bishop understood that true spiritual depth and integrity could only come with knowing the past.

Though Bishop Bohachevsky began to assemble a collection in 1935, it was in 1937 that the Ukrainian Museum and Library Complex of the Diocese of Stamford was formally established. It was a modest beginning of books and documents, folk art and religious artifacts. Sixty years later, on November 22, the new, vastly expanded, renovated, and modernized Ukrainian Cultural Research Center, which combines museum, library and archival photo and music collections, was formally dedicated and opened in two large buildings on the campus of St. Basil College Seminary and the diocesan center of Stamford.

The renovated buildings that house the diocesan center, the educational center and

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Hennadii Udovenko (left) and Bishop Basil Losten cut the ribbon at the front entrance of the library building, part of the recently dedicated Ukrainian Cultural Research Center.

Ukraine-Russia treaty ratification expected

Eastern Economist, RFE/RL Newline

MOSCOW — Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz and Russian Duma Chairman Gennadii Selezniiov agreed on December 1 that ratification of the Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership Treaty between Ukraine and Russia should go ahead this month. The treaty marked a thawing in relations when it was signed in Kyiv in May.

Mr. Selezniiov confirmed that the Russian Duma "received the agreement for ratification late and now a lot of effort is needed to approve it within this time frame." Mr. Moroz said that most of the Verkhovna Rada's committees have already discussed the agreement and come to a positive decision on its ratification.

Mr. Moroz stressed that "difficulties during the discussion stage of the law in the Verkhovna Rada could occur," though he added that these difficulties would not interfere with ratification. According to Mr. Moroz, relations between Kyiv and Moscow "are and will be defined mainly by ratification of this agreement and principles and ideas included therein."

Mr. Moroz said he was sure the "agreement will be ratified by the Verkhovna

Rada and Duma, and it will be obvious that those who oppose the agreement do not support the political and economic interests of both nations."

The head of the Russian Communists faction, Gennadii Zyuganov, said that if more favorable conditions were created for the Russian population in Ukraine, then the agreement would be supported by the Communists.

Yet, the head of the Russian Liberal Democratic Party, Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, said that relations between Ukraine and Russia are a "political game between the two presidents" and added that his party would be voting against ratification.

Mr. Moroz said that "a synchronized ratification" of the treaty will strengthen the authority of Ukrainian lawmakers before Ukraine's parliamentary elections in March 1998.

Georgii Tikhonov, the chairman of the Duma Committee for the CIS and Relations with Russians Abroad, noted on December 1 that the status of the Russian language in Ukraine may become a bone of contention during ratification discussions. But Mr. Moroz argued that "there are no problems with the use of the Russian language in Ukraine."

OBITUARY

Former dissident Vasyl Sichko, 41

CHICAGO — Former Soviet political prisoner Vasyl Sichko, 41, tragically burned to death in a house fire in Chicago on November 18.

He was born in exile in Magadan in 1956. For the past 20 years he had been involved in dissident activities in the USSR and later became active in political and community affairs in independent Ukraine.

Brutal repressions against him by the Soviet Union regime began as early as 1977 when he was only 21 years old. Due to his outspokenness and the activities of his parents, he was dismissed from the university he attended in Kyiv where he was studying journalism. He then demonstratively gave up his Soviet citizenship and passport and refused to serve in the Soviet army. He applied unsuccessfully for emigration. Because of his insubordinate behavior he was detained in a psychiatric prison for 14 days in 1978.

Mr. Sichko was unable to find employment because he was branded a troublemaker and did not have a passport. His father, Petro, and he were both arrested in 1979 because of a scathing speech given at the Lychakiv Cemetery in Lviv during the funeral of composer Volodymyr Ivasiuk.

Vasyl Sichko was detained for 40 days in a psychiatric prison, tried for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" and imprisoned in a special-regime labor camp for three years.

In 1978 Mr. Sichko joined the Ukrainian Helsinki Group. Upon release from prison, he continued his pursuits in the Ukrainian Helsinki Union and other groups that stood up to the Soviet regime. After the collapse of the Soviet Union he became president of the Ukrainian Christian Democratic Party in Ukraine.

Due to economic hardships, he came to the U.S. looking for work in 1996. His mother, Stefania, who was a staunch defender of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, died shortly afterwards and he was obligated to return to Ukraine to take care of his two children, 9-year-old Petro and 6-year-old Stefania.

In 1997 Mr. Sichko returned to the U.S. to earn money for the support of his family. He worked in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and then moved to Chicago. It was in Chicago that he met his death in a fire. His body will be transported to Ukraine for burial.

In addition to his two children, Mr. Sichko is survived by his father his sister, Oksana, and brother, Volodymyr.



Vasyl Sichko is flanked by Walter Bodnar (left) and Bozhena Olshaniwsky of Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine in a 1996 photo.

NEWSBRIEFS

IMF approves two tranches of credit

KYIV — The IMF board of directors decided on November 27 to disburse two previously withheld tranches of Ukraine's stand-by credit worth about \$103 million (U.S.). The IMF board concluded that by October Ukraine had more or less met the macroeconomic indicators required under its Memorandum on Conditions of Cooperation with the IMF and had speeded up the process of structural reform, especially in the area of privatization. The IMF's Kyiv representative noted that, in the first 10 months of 1997, inflation had been lower than expected and that the decline in production seemed to have stopped, though this tendency remained weak. The IMF also praised the Ukrainian government's efforts to cushion the effects of international stock market instability on the Ukrainian currency market. However, Presidential Adviser Valerii Lytvvyskyi noted that the board had expressed concern about the absence of real reforms in Ukraine's budgetary sector which was reducing the effectiveness of state currency policies. "The IMF hopes for improvement and therefore it will continue providing Ukraine with tranches," said Mr. Lytvvyskyi. Monthly increases in the size of the budget deficit caused friction between the IMF and Ukraine in August and September. As a result, Ukraine has so far received only one stand-by tranche worth \$49 million (U.S.) in 1997. (Eastern Economist)

Ukraine won't sign land-mine convention

KYIV — Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Viktor Nahaichuk said on December 2 that Kyiv will not sign the land-mine convention in Ottawa, Interfax reported. He added, however, that Ukraine's decision was motivated by a lack of money with which to comply rather than by opposition to the ban on land mines. Mr. Nahaichuk noted that Ukraine might accede to the agreement sometime in the future. (RFE/RL Newline)

Ukrainian peacekeepers to Transdnierster?

CHISINAU — A Ukrainian peacekeeping unit will soon be stationed in the Transdnierster, RFE/RL's Chisinau bureau reported on December 2, citing the Russian-language pro-government daily Nezavisimaya Moldova. The daily said that Russia, which previously opposed the stationing of the Ukrainian troops, has changed its position following the recent visit to Chisinau and Tiraspol of Russian Minister for CIS Affairs Anatolii Adamishin. The newspaper also commented that separatist leader Igor Smirnov hopes the presence of the Ukrainian peacekeepers

will result in a competition for influence in the Transdnierster between Moscow and Kyiv. Moldovan presidential adviser Anatol Taranu, who heads the Chisinau team in parleys with Tiraspol, said Moldova is ready to accept the Ukrainian contingent in order to "once more demonstrate its good will and readiness to accept a compromise." (RFE/RL Newline)

Summit held at Kuchma residence

KYIV — The presidents of Ukraine, Lithuania and Latvia held an informal summit at President Leonid Kuchma's residence in the Zalissia forest preserve outside of the Ukrainian capital. The three heads of state discussed economic cooperation in the Baltic-Black Sea region, as well as matters related to European security and integration. (Respublika)

WTO thinking of admitting Ukraine

GENEVA — Ukraine is making steady progress on market access for foreign goods in talks with other countries regarding admission to the World Trade Organization. First Deputy Minister for Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Andrii Honcharuk confirmed the news after presenting new documents on Ukraine's trade policies and tax legislation as part of its bid for membership. In order to gain membership, an applicant country must convince current members that its markets will be accessible for goods and services and negotiate the text of a protocol covering trade policy. Ukraine's bid for membership began in November of 1993. (Eastern Economist)

900 cases of abuse are revealed

KYIV — Deputy Prosecutor General Olha Kolinko reported that her agency had disclosed approximately 900 cases of abuse in the budget sphere. UkrGaz spent 360,000 hrv of budget money on tie clips and golden emblems. The Cabinet spent 2.15 million hrv on buying apartments for high officials, and 5 million hrv on repairing former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko's dacha. Ms. Kolinko also reported that "The whole downtown of Dnipropetrovsk was privatized illegally." (Eastern Economist)

Insurance not mandatory for visas

KYIV — In order to receive entry visas for Ukraine, U.S. citizens will not first have to have health insurance. Agreement on this point was reached last week at talks in Washington between the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry and the U.S. State Department's consular departments. (Eastern Economist)

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Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
Assistant editor: Kristina Lew
Staff editors: Roman Woronowycz (Kyiv)
and Andriy Kudla Wynnnykyj (Toronto)

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Ukrainian Cultural Research...

(Continued from page 1)

seminary are located on several acres of what was formerly the Quintard Estate, the private home of a millionaire. The estate later became a private girls' academy, and in 1932 was purchased by Bishop Bohachevsky for the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Msgr. John Terlecky, director of the Ukrainian Cultural Research Center, credits Bishop Basil Losten with providing the opportunity and commitment since he came to Stamford in 1977 to expand and complete the center. Hennadii Udovenko, president of the United Nations General Assembly and Ukraine's foreign affairs minister, was the keynote speaker at the dedication. He also praised Bishop Losten's commitment and added with admiration that he is "always amazed by Vladyka (Bishop) Losten's energy," as well as his scope of knowledge and interest.

More than 120 guests attended the formal opening on Saturday afternoon, and the guests were wonderfully entertained by the "Pre-Freshman Six," a group of young seminarians from Ukraine who have formed a musical group. By early evening, their lively voices pulled remaining guests into a circle around them, with people joining hands and singing along to favorite Ukrainian folk songs.

Fifty-six young men now attend St. Basil's Seminary, and, according to Lubov Wolynetz, chief curator of the museum collection and the center's computer reference librarian, "these young men enliven our diocese, and they will be the bridge between us and Ukraine in the future."

Mrs. Wolynetz shoulders much of the responsibility of including Stamford's library collection in the On-line Computer Library Center (OCLC). This cataloguing system, which was started in Ohio in 1967, is now used by 22,000 scholarly and research libraries worldwide. According to Mrs. Wolynetz, "Our library is the first diasporan library to be part of system. We have a large number of books that nobody has, and we do original cataloguing (on Ukrainian topics), which makes us very proud." Mrs. Wolynetz noted that there are collegial relations between Slavic librarians and cataloguers in North America and, with the advent of computer networks, a frequent and easy exchange of information.

Dr. Wasyl Lencyk, who was director of the Ukrainian Museum and Library Complex since the mid-1950s until his recent retirement, noted in his presentation at the dedication that the collection at Stamford has "one of the best libraries in Ukrainian studies in North America, not necessarily in number of volumes, but in terms of quality of collection, in the type of books and completion of collections."

Bishop Bohachevsky provided the initial foundation for the collection. In addition to his own personal collection, the bishop received advice from Yevhen Yurii Pelenskyi, a Lviv scholar and archivist, on which books should be purchased and acquired. In the years before the second world war, the bishop traveled to Lviv frequently, often bringing back collection materials with him.

The library now contains 52,000 volumes, and the archive also includes a comprehensive collection of Ukrainian immigrant documents, statutes and by-laws from numerous diaspora organizations, as well as artifacts, photos and documents from religious and community life in North America.

Msgr. Terlecky noted that his career with Stamford's library and archive collection began rather inauspiciously with a simple query from Bishop Basil: "Do you think



On opening day (from left) are: Lubov Wolynetz, Msgr. John Terlecky, Dr. Wasyl Lencyk, Bishop Basil Losten, Hennadii Udovenko and Dina Udovenko.

Glints of history

The newly dedicated Ukrainian Cultural Research Center in Stamford encompasses the collections of the diocesan museum, library and archives, containing items that reflect Ukrainian history and culture over more than five centuries and from many countries. Below is just a small sample of some of the exhibits and information available, by no means comprehensively representative, of what was seen, or spoken about, during the opening day.

- Handwritten original, in Latin, of the first census taken of Ukrainian-Ruthenian Greek-Catholic parishes in the U.S. Commissioned by the Vatican, the census was conducted in 1905, and used to support the request that a Greek-Catholic bishop be sent to the U.S. The census lists 500,000 faithful, with the two largest parishes located in Jersey City and Brooklyn, at 10,000 parishioners each.

- One of the original copies of the "First Map of the Sovereign Ukrainian Republic" issued in 1918. Printed in Vienna, by the renowned firm of map publishers Freytag and Berndt, the map is meticulously bordered with a hand-drawn Ukrainian embroidery pattern, and all the information is in Ukrainian. Even the publisher's name, which had also appeared on earlier maps of Ukraine, but in Latin letters, was transcribed in Cyrillic, and handwritten.

- An original copy from October 1919 of the Ukrainian-language newsletter, Ranna Zoria (The Morning Star), the "official organ of the Ukrainian Women's Alliance," a diaspora organization. On the front page of the issue appears an appeal in support of the Ukrainian Red Cross directed "to the Ukrainian Mission" to the attention of "Mr. J. Baczynski, 1960 Biltmore Street, Washington, D.C." Located on a hill, in the Kalorama neighborhood of Washington, the townhouse that housed the Ukrainian mission was within walking distance of several other embassies and missions, including Poland's, those of the three Baltic states and Hungary.

- A fragment from the oldest Cyrillic Bible known to exist, which was printed by the firm S. Fiola in 1491 in Cracow.

- A set of 18th century vestments from the Kyiv Pecherska Lavra.

- An original map from 1777 of the Ottoman Empire, clearly depicting the vast expanses of south-



From the research center's archives: A photo of members of the War Administration (Boyeva Uprava) of the Ukrainian Sich Riflemen (from left) Prof. Ivan Bobersky, Dr. Mykhailo Voloshyn and Dr. Lonhyn Tsehelsky in Vienna, circa 1917. The Sich Riflemen trained in Austria, originally as part of the Austrian Army; after the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, they became an independent army.

eastern, southern and southwestern Ukraine under the domination of the Turks.

- An original pamphlet printed in 1896, authored by Mykhailo Pavlyk, a colleague of Ivan Franko and historian Mykhailo Drahomanov, titled "Narodnyi Rukh Avstro-Uhorskykh Rusyniv" (The National Movement of the Austro-Hungarian Rusyns). Since Austro-Hungarian authorities forbade the publication of this type of political literature, the Ruskyi Narodnyi Soyuz (as the Ukrainian National Association was originally called), then located in Shamokin, Pa., printed the pamphlet.

that you can do something with all of these boxes?"

Often the library would receive a phone call from a relative of a priest, or parishioner, who had recently passed away, asking whether the center would be interested in the deceased's collection of books, or parish photos, or other items. Over the years, the center received dozens of donations from a wide variety of personal collections.

Among the notable collections, according to Msgr. Terlecky, are those of Prof. Nicholas Chubaty, an outstanding church historian and the first editor of The Ukrainian Quarterly; the Rev. Maxim Kinash, a renowned collector of Ukrainian folk art and folk music, as well as pre-World War II publications from Ukraine; cantor Stepan Hrabar who donated an extensive collec-

tion of printed sheet music, many pages with verses printed in Old Cyrillic; the collection of Dr. Basil Steciuk, a professor of classics and literature at Seton Hall University; as well as the Kobrynsky collection of fine art and literature.

The center is open by appointment only. Scholars, individual guests and tour organizers are encouraged to call (203) 327-7899 or 323-7512, or fax (203) 967-9948;



Lubov Wolynetz stands before the original 1937 poster that announced the opening of the Stamford museum and library complex. The poster was designed in the U.S., but printed in Lviv, since pre-war conditions allowed for open travel and exchanges with western Ukraine.

Ansonia's Ss. Peter and Paul Parish celebrates its centennial

ANSONIA, Conn. – The parishioners of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church marked its centennial with a special liturgy and banquet on Sunday, October 5.

The 100th birthday celebration began at 10:45 a.m. with church bells ringing during the procession as Bishop Basil H. Losten of the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of Stamford, accompanied by many clergy, altar boys and parish youths, was escorted by the Knights of Columbus Honor Guard into the church.

More than 600 parishioners, guests and dignitaries greeted the centennial procession with a standing ovation. The children's choir performed Ukrainian hymns under the direction of Jolanta Kowal, and the children of the first holy communion class made a traditional Ukrainian presentation to the bishop.

Bishop Losten and all clergy was welcomed by Michael T.W. Smerznak, chairman of the Centennial Committee, with warm words and with bread and salt. Parish children Jennifer Walker, Michael Tchir, Michael Zanowiak, Thomas Slota and Genevieve Ivanoff greeted the bishop with poems in both the Ukrainian and English languages and presented him with a bouquet of roses.

The pontifical divine liturgy was celebrated by Bishop Losten with the following as concelebrants: the Rev. Robert J. Batcho, pastor; Deacon Mark A. Hirniak; Msgr. Peter Skrinicosky, spiritual director of St. Basil's Seminary; Msgr. Leon A. Mosko, pastor of St. Michael's Church in Hartford, Conn.; and the Rev. Stepan Yanowski of Holy Protection Church in Bridgeport, Conn.

The liturgical responses were sung by the St. Macrina Choir, under the direction of John Szpak, and Brian Moir served as lector. The altar boys were Stephen Zuraw, John Zanowiak, Matthew Syombathy, Timothy Rozum, Michael Rozum, Gregory Rozum, Michael Pysarchyk and David Garahan.

Following the reading of the Gospel, Bishop Losten delivered his warmest greeting to the congregation along with a sermon about the relationship with the Lord Jesus in Ukrainian Catholic churches. In conclusion, the bishop said he was proud and happy to be celebrating the church's 100th birthday, extended his blessings for unity and hard work, and prayed for the preservation of this beautiful church for future generations.

Holy communion was distributed to over 300 faithful by Bishop Losten, the Rev. Batcho and the Rev. Ihor Midzak of St. Michael's Church in Hartford. At the conclusion of the divine liturgy, Bishop Losten and the entire congregation sang "Mnohaya Lita." Lastly, after a parish photo was taken, the Knights of Columbus honor guard escorted the bishop, clergy and nuns to the parish auditorium for a reception.

The reception was provided and hosted by Alice O'Doy, Claire Pusateri and Deborah German. The centennial banquet and concert celebration was attended by over 500 people at the Actor's Colony Inn in Seymour, Conn. Guests were greeted at the door by members of the banquet committee, which consisted of Mary Ellen Kowalchik, Shirley Drake, Olga Kowalsky, Richard Kowalchik and David Dziadik.

Guests were ushered to their tables and presented with pewter medallions commemorating the church's 100th birthday.

Paul Mudry, master of ceremonies, and Stanley Orzechowski, parish president, escorted Bishop Losten and all other dignitaries to the head table as they were given a standing ovation. Mr. Mudry then led the audience in the singing of the national anthem, and the program began with Bishop Losten leading all in the "Our Father" in Ukrainian and English. A champagne toast followed.

At the close of the dinner, Mr. Mudry introduced all guests and church leaders. He underlined that the parish consists of many talented workers, nurses, doctors, lawyers, judges, engineers, architects, teachers, political leaders (including first selectmen, mayors and a state legislator), nuns, priests and many U.S. military officers, including Four-Star Gen. Samuel Jaskilka.

Mr. Orzechowski, who also is a member of most parish



Bishop Basil Losten is welcomed by parishioners, including the centennial committee chairman, Michael T. W. Smerznak (to the right of the bishop).

organizations and coach of the church's youth sports activities, expressed his sincere thanks to everyone who helped plan and execute the centennial event.

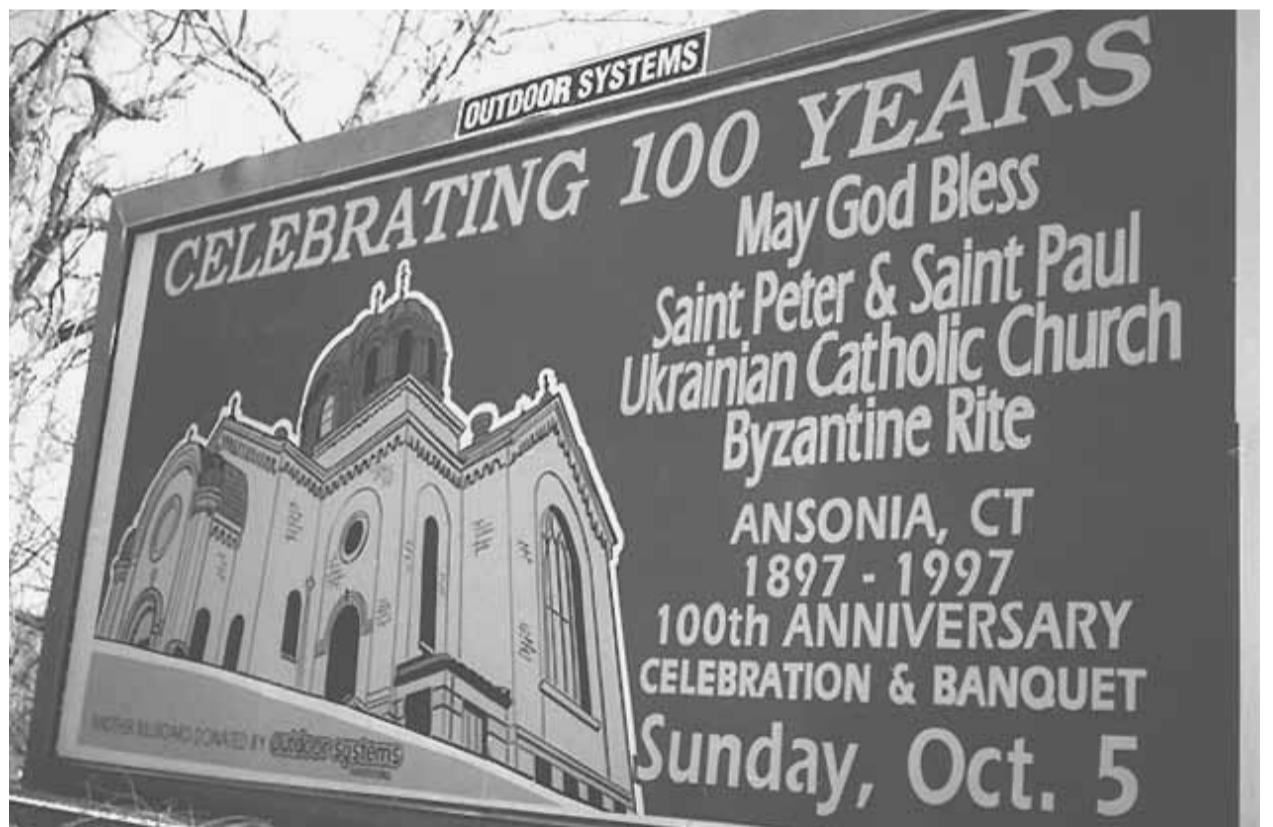
Msgr. Skrinicosky, former pastor of the parish, delivered a keynote address that focused on the history of the first parishioners who built the church. He emphasized that our grandfathers and grandmothers began their immigration from the western regions of Ukraine to the United States in the late 1870s and in the early 1880s. Mostly they were poor farmers with very little education. They struggled to make their living, but they loved their heritage and religion. These were the people, he said, who sacrificed to build and preserve Ss. Peter and Paul Church, the second oldest Ukrainian Catholic church in the United States.

Msgr. John Squiller, pastor of St. Michael's Church in Woonsocket, R.I. and once the longest serving pastor of

the parish, as well as principal and teacher of the parish school, extended his sincerest congratulations and best wishes. He acknowledged the presence of the first nuns who taught at the parish school, Sister Charlotte SSMI, and Sister Bernard SSMI. He asked parents to encourage their children to participate in church, religious and cultural activities, and to teach them to live a Christian life.

Special greetings were sent by Pope John Paul II, Cardinal Myroslav Ivan Lubachivsky of Lviv, Archbishop Stephen Sulyk of Philadelphia, Bishop Robert Moskal of Parma, Ohio, Bishop Michael Wiwchar of Chicago, President Bill Clinton, Connecticut Gov. John Rowland, U.S. Sen. Joseph Lieberman, Connecticut State Speaker of the House Thomas Ritter, State Sen. Joseph Crisco (17th District), State Rep. Vincent Tonuccio (104th District) and

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An outdoor billboard announces the parish centennial.

Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund
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Your donation makes a difference to these children.(please check off):

<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
<input type="checkbox"/> \$500	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

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Please make checks payable to CCRF. Your gift is fully tax-deductible. Thank you!



With state-owned...

(Continued from page 1)

although Ukraine is encouraging farmers to form large collectives, which would allow for large-scale agricultural production, he sees no problem with a network of small farmers. "The factor of private ownership is the deciding sociological factor. It has more influence on the success of the agricultural industry than size," explained Mr. Onyschenko. "Larger would be better, but it is not the deciding factor."

Adrian Neal, project manager for a World Bank-supported agricultural education project in Ukraine called the British Know-How Fund, which has invested \$10 million in land reform, best summed up the current state of confusion in Ukraine's agricultural sector. "People are frightened — they are not sure of their rights. Politicians are scared of losing control of the situation. Landowners are not sure of where to put their land shares; which choice will give them the best economic opportunity."

He also noted ominously that his organization "has not seen one kopek of investment by the government into land reform," and that "if we don't soon see a partnership we and other agencies will start to leave."

World Bank...

(Continued from page 1)

flow here," said Mr. Omelianenko.

Minister Stanik said she felt that the symposium was a success, and that the World Bank looked at Ukraine's recommendations and plans in a positive manner. "The World Bank agreed to all our proposals," said Mrs. Stanik. She said that reports were prepared at the highest levels of government that not only identified the state of criminality but also what needs to be done to bring the situation under control.

The November 28-29 symposium, titled "On the Path to Morality," which Mr. Omelianenko and Mr. Langseth helped organize, was officially sponsored by Ukraine's Ministry of Justice. It was to be a review of current efforts to fight corruption followed by brainstorming sessions with government and civic representatives and leaders of the anti-corruption effort.

"We wanted awareness training. We thought that there might be fresh ideas for the government," said Mr. Omelianenko. "The way it happened, it was a report by the government of its work."

He said World Bank officials were surprised and dismayed that few non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and members of the media were invited. He also said that the World Bank was not pleased that Serhii Holovaty, the former minister of justice who developed the Clean Hands anti-corruption program for Ukraine, was not allowed to participate.

"We do not understand why Holovaty was not invited. From May we worked with him as minister of justice in developing the Clean Hands program," said Mr. Omelianenko. "We never received a specific answer from the ministry as to why he was not invited to attend the symposium. We do not know whether it was a personal matter or a matter of principle."

Justice Minister Stanik defended the way her ministry organized the event. She said all the NGOs that the World Bank requested were invited to the symposium, along with 40 representatives of the media. She added that a representative of the Ukrainian Legal Foundation, which is headed by Mr. Holovaty, was present and even delivered a report. Asked about the absence of Mr. Holovaty, the minister responded, "I can't give you that answer, because he did not turn to me for an invitation." She then added, "Mr. Holovaty needs to allow time

Ukrainian World Congress presidium meets

by Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj

Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — The presidium of the Ukrainian World Congress has decided to up the tempo of its dance with the Kyiv-based Ukrainian World Coordinating Council by sending it a "report card" on the UWCC's activities and accountability, and stating that payment of dues would be suspended until a full budget and statement of accounts has been received, according to a resolution passed at the most recent meetings, held November 21-22 at UWC headquarters here.

Reports submitted by UWC President Dmytro Cipywnyk, Vice-President Vasyly Velyha, General Secretary Volodymyr Sokolyk and Christina Isajiw, executive director of the UWC headquarters, were all critical of the UWCC's inability to communicate effectively, while UWC Chief Financial Officer William Sametz pushed for the application of financial pressure.

Criticism was directed also at resolutions of the World Forum of Ukrainians, which, according to the UWCC's by-laws, are to provide direction and policy initiatives for its executive and member-organizations. The resolutions were characterized by UWC officers as "unusable."

for his emotions to subside. I entirely understand his situation."

Mr. Holovaty has become the major critic of the program that he formulated in April at the initiative of President Leonid Kuchma, but then was not allowed to carry out. After accusing the Cabinet of Ministers of attempting to scuttle the program, Mr. Holovaty was not asked to return as minister of justice in August, when Valerii Pustovoitenko was appointed head of government. During his battle to implement the anti-corruption program Mr. Holovaty had expressed frustration with attempts by many ministers to change wording in the plan that would have made it toothless or would have excluded their departments from participation in the program.

At a press conference called on December 2, Mr. Holovaty, who today is the director of a non-governmental organization fighting corruption called Clean Hands, as well as president of the Ukrainian Legal Foundation, explained that to date only four of 35 reforms outlined in the program had been implemented "Our main point is that the government says the plan has been fulfilled. We say that little of it has been implemented."

He also reiterated his long-held view that President Kuchma works by a double standard. "One is for the West, aimed at receiving Western credits, and one is for daily internal policy," said Mr. Holovaty.

He criticized the centerpiece of the Justice Ministry's symposium, a long-term approach to the fight against corruption in the form of a plan titled "The Conception of the Fight Against Corruption for 1998-2005." Mr. Holovaty underscored, "What is needed is a plan for the next seven months, not the next seven years." Ironically, it was Mr. Holovaty who initiated the development of the report and who was its outspoken proponent until his dismissal in September.

Mr. Omelianenko of the World Bank said the organization is presently reviewing the results of the conference. "The fact that the symposium occurred is a positive thing. We are now drawing conclusions," said Mr. Omelianenko.

He added that World Bank officials will meet with representatives of the Ministry of Justice to review the direction of the Clean Hands program in the near future. There also will be a meeting with President Kuchma before the bank decides its future role in Ukraine's fight with corruption.

Dr. Cipywnyk indicated that, given the competing interests involved in formulating Ukraine's policy towards the diaspora and the seeming inability of Ukrainians to understand the necessity of governmental non-involvement with non-governmental organizations, there will be no quick fixes. He said that what is needed is "time, endurance, understanding and patience."

UWC Vice-President Oleh Romanyshyn added that a conference of UWCC and Ukrainian government representatives held in North America would be far preferable to future consultations in Kyiv. "In Ukraine," Dr. Romanyshyn said, "a perplexing emotional and patriotic haze always seems to descend on proceedings." No formal proposal to hold such meetings was adopted, but general agreement was reached that the possibility should be explored.

Contacts with Ukrainian government

Dr. Cipywnyk, Mr. Sokolyk and Ms. Isajiw also noted an increased effort on the part of Ukraine's government, particularly through the office of Andrii Popok, chief of administration at the Ministry of Immigration and Diaspora Affairs, to encourage the UWC to participate in its policies.

Last year, the presidential administration in Kyiv had proposed a vaguely worded program, titled "The Ukrainian Diaspora up to the Year 2000," to "examine the needs of the Ukrainian diaspora in the areas of education, science and culture." A new set of directives recently signed by President Leonid Kuchma has allegedly given new impetus to the effort. These developments were greeted with guarded enthusiasm by the UWC presidium, and a letter of agreement with the program's general principles was sent out.

The UWC offices also received a letter from Ukraine's ambassador to Canada, Volodymyr Furkalo, requesting that the diaspora body "examine the possibility of providing financial assistance to Ukraine ... by way of the creation of a special fund or any other means" to defray the cost of his country's decision to accept the presidency of the United Nations General Assembly. This request was turned down. Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs Hennadii Udovenko was elected to that post in September.

Human rights commission active

Mere months after being reactivated, the UWC's Commission on Human and Civil Rights (CHCR), led by Ms. Isajiw, is back in the swing of things. The Toronto-based activist reported that the commission has been monitoring the situation of Mikolaj Siwicki, author of a study of Polish-Ukrainian conflicts, currently on trial in Poland on charges brought in connection with its publication.

In connection with the forcible takeover of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Noginsk, Russia, the CHCR has written letters of protest to Max von der Stoel, high commissioner on minority rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, chair of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe; Keston College in England; and other institutions.

OSCE materials concerning the rights of minorities were sent to the second Congress of Ukrainians of Russia in order to provide an international legal framework within which to pursue their rights to freedom of religion, preservation of culture, and to secure individual and collective rights.

In a related development, the UWC voted to invite the re-elected president of the Association of Ukrainians in Russia, Oleksander Rudenko-Desniak, and defray the costs of his accommodations in North America. Mr. Desniak is expected to arrive in the new year.

World Ukrainian Games

UWC Sports Commissioner Vsevolod Sokolyk reported that the first phase of plans to hold World Ukrainian Games in Kyiv in the summer of 1999 has been set in motion. He said that a committee of activists has been formed and their first meeting has been scheduled for January.

Based in part on the Maccabiah Games held since 1929 to gather representatives of the world's Jewish community, Mr. Sokolyk said the Ukrainian games would have a cultural as well as sporting character and are intended to attract Ukrainians from the West, Kazakstan, Russia and other countries.

The committee will debate the question of whether or not to work with Ukraine's government, Mr. Sokolyk said, but is likely to be in favor of such an arrangement, since it would ensure access to stadiums, accommodations and other facilities.

Turning to the Olympic effort, the sports commissioner highlighted the efforts of Roman Dekhnych of Sydney, Australia, head of the committee struck to assist Ukrainian athletes arriving in his country to participate in the 2000 games. The current focus is on the formation of an acclimatization camp for athletes.

Mr. Sokolyk said that, in a departure from recent practices by host countries, the Australian government has offered serious financial support to all groups preparing for the Olympiad, and the Ukrainian committee has already received a list of 45 to 50 sites to choose from for training camps.

Little on-site support is foreseen for competitors travelling to Japan for the upcoming winter Olympics in Nagano, given the virtual absence of a local

(Continued on page 18)

INTELNEWS

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Chornobyl attitudes

The complex tragedy of Chornobyl was center stage during a recent week of international events, once again underscoring the growing, not diminishing, nature of the problem.

In mid-November, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton greeted the delivery of millions of dollars of American government and private aid to hospitals in Lviv that care for victims of Chornobyl. On November 20 in New York, on behalf of the G-7, the United States hosted a pledging conference during which more than \$36 million was committed for the rebuilding of the crumbling sarcophagus that covers the damaged fourth reactor at the Chornobyl nuclear power plant. And on November 25 at United Nations headquarters, the first in a series of conference meetings about Chornobyl was held to initiate the U.N.'s medical aid, research and public education programs.

In the first weeks after the disaster in 1986, the prognosis of Chornobyl's consequences ranged from "it's really nothing" to "millions will die." Between these sensationalistic extremes, the voice of level-headed experts was drowned out: physicians who predicted that health consequences would appear gradually over 15 to 20 years, that millions would not die, but would become ill; mental health experts who predicted that long-term public anger and fear would turn into depression, social hostility, lethargy and despair; environmentalists who predicted long-term contamination of the watertable through seepage of radioactive fallout, and the destruction of thousands of micro-eco systems. These less sensationalistic, but no less dramatic, predictions are coming to pass.

However, the misinformation, mismanagement and financial chicanery from the first years after the disaster have taken their toll. At a U.N. press conference, Ukraine's vice minister for emergencies, Volodymyr Kholosha, acknowledged that the original confusion that enveloped the disaster, a brew of ignorance and deliberate misinformation, reverberates to this day.

Moscow first denied that the explosion occurred, then admitted the explosion occurred, but claimed that it wasn't that bad, then claimed that it was bad and took hundreds of millions of dollars in relief money from the West, then pocketed the money instead of giving it to those in need. As a result of these actions, an aura of distrust continues to hover around the issue.

However, lingering confusion and mistrust are not the only attitudes that people concerned with alleviating the consequences of Chornobyl must confront.

There is, for example, the attitude of cold-hearted cost/benefit analysis: Chornobyl is immense – a problem that no amount of money can solve. The problem should be allowed to run its course, since most people affected by Chornobyl will be dead in 30 years anyway – no use sinking money into a black hole.

There is the patronizing "it's not that bad" attitude prevalent among many nuclear industry supporters, who fail to explain exactly what "that bad" would be. Sensation-seekers, often our fellow journalists, want stories and photos of deformed dying children – not statistics about increased rates of miscarriages and thyroid cancer, male infertility and leukemia.

There is the attitude that refuses to acknowledge the problem, psychologists call this "psychic numbing," and the "it's no big deal (my problem is worse)" attitude maintained by organizations, groups and countries that resent the money and attention given to Chornobyl.

There is callousness, the "really, go away, you're being a bother" attitude to the tragedy, as well as the fact that at the end of the 20th century, after famines, genocides, mass deportations, assassinations, wars and revolutions, people are tired and unable, or unwilling, to give any event but the most cursory of attention.

All of these attitudes towards Chornobyl continue to inform public debate and decision-making. Therefore we find the visit by the first lady, the efforts of the G-7, and the attention of the U.N. encouraging. Chornobyl is a long, slow, endless, insidious drag on the environment and on the health of millions, a historic tragedy that must be resolved. The truth of Chornobyl – that it's not visually dramatic like an earthquake, not easily identified like fleeing refugees from war, not relatively explainable like an epidemic, and not contained like a flood – is being recognized at the highest levels of international leadership. This is the attitude of commitment that we understand.

Dec.
8
1868

Turning the pages back...

In 1848, the Supreme Ruthenian Council established the Halytsko-Ruska Matytsia as a literary and educational society in order to foster schooling and general cultural enlightenment.

In the 1860s, however, it was taken over by Russophiles and began to be the vehicle of an increasingly conservative ideology.

One of its founding members, a populist priest named Stepan Kachala, became disenchanted with this trend. Together with a group of 72 like-minded clergymen and intellectuals, he decided to found the Prosvita (Enlightenment) society on December 8, 1868, in Lviv. Composer Anatol Vakhnianyn was elected as its first president.

Prosvita's first by-laws defined its purpose as "to know and edify the people" and to "collect and publish all the fruits of oral folk literature."

Two years later, the society's mandate was changed to "promoting education among the Ruthenian [Ukrainian] people" by means of popular publications in the vernacular and the organization of district committees, which eventually developed into branches that housed Prosvita's characteristic reading rooms.

Ironically, it was under the presidency of Volodyslav Fedorovych, a wealthy patron

(Continued on page 17)

NEWS AND VIEWS

U.S.-Ukraine Foundation selects Constitutional Court project advisors

by Victor Lychyk

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation has recently completed selection of a U.S. advisory board for its grant project titled "Integrating the Constitutional Court into Ukraine's Civil Society." Board members include two chief justices and one justice of a state supreme court, a federal judge, professors, scholars of law and political science, and representatives of the federal government.

The U.S. advisory board will provide expert advice to the USUF to help ensure that topics most critical to the court's development will be addressed in the program. The members of the board are Judge Bohdan A. Futey, U.S. Court of Federal Claims; Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer, Supreme Court of Ohio; Chief Justice Joseph R. Wiesberger, Supreme Court of Rhode Island; Justice Elizabeth Lacy, Virginia Supreme Court; James G. Apple, Federal Judicial Center; Prof. Stephen Holmes, New York University; Prof. Joseph Gordon Hylton, Marquette University; Prof. Herman Schwartz, American University; Prof. Robert Sharlet, Union College; and Dr. Bruce Smith, Brookings Institution.

The USUF received funding for this grant from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Information Agency, under the authority of the Fulbright-Hayes Act of 1961. The general purpose of this program is increase understanding among citizens of Ukraine of the Constitution and the

Constitutional Court.

Publicizing and explaining the structure and duties of the court is important for several reasons. The Constitutional Court is the sole government agency charged with interpreting the Constitution of Ukraine; its proper functioning is essential to guaranteeing the protection and development of democratic values enshrined in the Ukrainian Constitution. The Constitutional Court is an entirely new institution in Ukrainian government, and its mission must be publicized so that an understanding and acceptance of the court can take hold in Ukrainian society.

In Ukraine, news agencies reported on September 25 that the last nominee to the 18-member Constitutional Court was approved, thereby making the composition of that court complete. Work on organizing a counterpart advisory board in Ukraine has already begun. The U.S. and Ukraine boards will work together to assist the USUF in preparing seminars and publications that will form the substance of the program.

For more information about the USUF Constitutional Court program, contact the foundation by phone at (202) 347-4264, by fax at (202) 347-4267, by e-mail at ukraine@access.digex.net, or by mail at 1511 K St. NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005. More news about USUF is available at the foundation's website at <http://www.erols.com/usuf>.

FOR THE RECORD

UCCA president issues clarification regarding Lazarenko's visit to U.S.

The clarification below was released on November 21 by Askold S. Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America generally does not respond to inaccurate press reports about its activities, unless those reports in some way affect the functioning of the Ukrainian American community or impugn innocent institutions or individuals with whom the UCCA has a relationship. However, recent press reports in Ukraine about Pavlo Lazarenko's trip to the United States have reached a new level of distortion. In an effort to limit further debate, we would like to set the record straight.

The UCCA did not invite Mr. Lazarenko to the United States. We merely expedited his agenda. Mr. Lazarenko does not need the UCCA's invitation to procure a visitor's visa, inasmuch as he is a member of Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada. Furthermore, the UCCA did not finance the visit in any way. The UCCA routinely expedites visits for many public servants, scholars, artists from Ukraine for informational purposes only, with no financial undertaking.

The director of our Washington office

did not detract in any way from the generally positive relationship between the Ukrainian Embassy or consulates and the Ukrainian American community. We enjoy a close working relationship with Ukraine's representatives in the United States, essentially predicated on a mutually beneficial exchange of information. Our purposes are different, but not conflicting.

Finally, the Ukrainian Embassy did not communicate with us for the purpose of inhibiting Mr. Lazarenko's visit. In fact, we made his schedule available to any interested person, including Embassy and Consulate staff, and received no comment from the recipients. Our understanding is that while Mr. Lazarenko may be President Leonid Kuchma's political rival, he certainly is not an enemy of Ukraine or the United States.

Having offered this clarification, the UCCA would like to stress that should Mr. Lazarenko or anyone else request our assistance in the future, unless he/she espouses a communist/socialist/fascist ideology, we will try to be helpful within the parameters of our charter. We sincerely hope that the press in Ukraine recognizes that our assistance is not a political endorsement.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Church should value nationalism

Dear Editor:

Andrew Estocin's letter to the editor (October 26) represents the unfortunate philosophy and logic that has contributed to the break-up of Ukrainians both in the diaspora and in Ukraine. There is a huge difference between "nationalism" and "politics." Nationalism means loyalty and devotion to a nation, in other words, a sense of identity, a heritage, specific traditions, a separate language, literature, etc. Politics is the science and art of government within a national structure.

Contrary to what Mr. Estocin writes, our Orthodox youth should be raised on a vision of Orthodox Christianity that stresses Ukrainian nationalism. Other Orthodox Christians are. E.g., read the enthronement homily of Greek Orthodox Archbishop Spyridon. Although U.S.-born, he stresses the value of Greek heritage and language – in other words Greek nationalism.

Others want and fight for their own Church jurisdictions. There are Greek Orthodox, Finnish Orthodox, Bulgarian Orthodox, Romanian Orthodox, Ukrainian Catholics, Polish Catholics, etc. Why? One reason is that a nationalistic Church nurtures, preserves and perpetuates a national identity. Also, history has proven that some jurisdictions (e.g., Russian) have used the Church to subjugate countries to a foreign power and to try to eliminate everything nationalistic. But perhaps that is unimportant for Mr. Estocin.

Simon T. Nahnybida
Basking Ridge, N.J.

Patriarch not "man of vision"

Dear Editor:

I am, as I am sure are many other Ukrainian Orthodox, in complete disagreement with your "Man of vision" editorial of November 9.

Patriarch Bartholomew's visit to the Ukrainian Orthodox Center in South Bound Brook, N.J., was not such a resounding success as your editorial and recent articles in The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda make it appear. As reported by the New Jersey Network News on Monday evening, November 27, there were approximately 500 people at the Orthodox Center to welcome the patriarch. Furthermore, more than 50 percent of those present were Greek and not Ukrainian.

This was not a "welcome" by the Ukrainian Orthodox community. This was a silent protest by the Ukrainian Orthodox faithful to the recent statements made by the patriarch in Odesa that there is "only one canonical Church in Ukraine and that is the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate." And further, "all others should unite under the Moscow Patriarchate." These statements are certainly not from a "man of vision" or a man who "feels our pain."

When Archbishop Antony, on a visit to Istanbul on November 7, asked for clarifi-

cation, the patriarch responded that "We recognize the jurisdiction of the Moscow Patriarchate as the canonical jurisdiction here." What about the thousands of Orthodox faithful who belong to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate and the thousands who belong to the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church? Are these people pagans? On this question the patriarch of Constantinople is very generous. He recognizes that there are "problems" in Ukraine that need to be solved.

These are statements not of a "man of vision" but of a man whose vision is myopic and whose judgement has been overpowered by Patriarch Aleksei II of Moscow.

Patriarch Bartholomew does not "feel our pain." He is rubbing salt into our wounds.

Victor Babanskyj
Watchung, N.J.

Editor's note: According to security personnel that accompanied Patriarch Bartholomew, 1,200 people were awaiting the arrival of the patriarch, the number that we provided in our report of November 2. The group that awaited the patriarch was divided into two: at the time of his arrival, several hundred people were waiting at the meadow, outside the Orthodox Center for the patriarch's helicopter to land. However, the majority of people were already waiting by the church. Later the two groups merged during the moleben. That evening, approximately 500 people attended the banquet inside the center.

We have no way of knowing whether more than 50 percent of those in attendance were of Greek descent, since we did not do a survey of the crowd. We're not sure how Mr. Babanskyj can be so sure either. However, because we spoke with several guests, we do know that Serbian, Greek, Ukrainian and Carpatho-Rusyn Orthodox faithful were present.

In the printed materials that we have received from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and the Archdiocese of the Greek Orthodox Church, nowhere does Patriarch Bartholomew state that the Orthodox faithful in Ukraine "should, or must, unite under the Moscow Patriarchate." We would like to know Mr. Babanskyj's source for the quote that he attributes to the patriarch. Information to that effect was distributed by the Interfax and Reuters news services, which were transmitting information released by sources associated with the patriarch of Moscow. Mr. Babanskyj can decide for himself how much credence he wishes to give to "news reports" vis-à-vis the Ukrainian Orthodox Church that originated with the Moscow patriarch; this paper views such sources with skepticism.

I admire courage of Prof. Koropeckyj

Dear Editor:

I support Prof. Roman Koropeckyj's letter of October 26, unreservedly. I admire his courage in writing to you.

M. Szul
Toronto

Note from the editor:

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

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Another OSI casualty

If it were not for the Demjanjuk debacle, Gilbert Merritt would probably be a U.S. Supreme Court justice. So believes Yossi Melman, who traced the career of the judge for a recent article in Ha'aretz, a respected Israeli newspaper.

Judge Merritt was the federal judge who, in April 1985, upheld the ruling that John Demjanjuk was "Ivan the Terrible" of Treblinka. At the time, his decision was praised by major Jewish organizations.

When the Israeli Supreme Court found Mr. Demjanjuk innocent of the charges brought against him, Judge Merritt regretted his earlier judgment. He quickly came to believe he had been duped; he denounced the U.S. Department of Justice, particularly the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) which, he argued, "had perpetrated fraud upon the court," the Israeli Foreign Ministry and various Jewish organizations, all of whom had insisted (and still insist) that John Demjanjuk was guilty.

Big mistake! Judge Merritt's change of heart was severely criticized by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), the World Jewish Congress (WJC) and the Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC), the very organizations that had praised him earlier. Overnight Judge Merritt went from hero to pariah in the eyes of the Jewish nomenclatura.

Some believe that up until then, Judge Merritt, a liberal Democrat, was on a fast track to the Supreme Court. He has a Harvard law degree, extensive experience and a sterling judicial and civic record. That didn't matter. The ADL, the WJC and the SWC lobbied the White House and Congress against any thought of his elevation to the Supreme Court. "They hinted that Merritt was anti-Semitic," according to the Ha'aretz article, "and was not suited for the position of the Supreme Court. President Clinton buckled under to the pressure of the Jewish lobby and opted to appoint Ruth Ginsburg to the post four years ago."

As anyone familiar with the Demjanjuk case now knows full well, back in the 1980s, the OSI, fully funded by American taxpayers, was under great congressional pressure to produce results. Criticized for being inefficient and inept, OSI officials were told to produce results or lose their funding. In the words of Allan Ryan, then the director of the OSI, during a 1981 interview with an Alabama newspaper: "It [Demjanjuk] was one of the first cases we tried, and we were very much on the line. If we had lost that case, we probably would have had a very short lifespan." It is ironic that in his Ukrainophobic book "Quiet Neighbors," Mr. Ryan condemns John Demjanjuk as a person who "when his own security and well being was threatened, had shown no feeling for the lives of others." At the time Mr. Ryan knew that his statement was a lie. In reality, it was the OSI that had conspired to shorten Mr. Demjanjuk's life in order to lengthen its own. OSI officials concealed documents exonerating Mr. Demjanjuk for four years!

Despite the scurrilous attacks he has had to endure, Judge Merritt is unrepentant. During his interview with Ha'aretz, Judge Merritt noted: "Today we know that they – the OSI, the prosecution in the case and the State Department – lied through their teeth. Even when they knew without a doubt that Demjanjuk was not 'Ivan the Terrible,'

they hid the information from us." Judge Merritt has since demanded an investigation of the OSI, especially Mr. Ryan, on suspicion of violating Mr. Demjanjuk's civil rights. "My moral and legal obligation, as a human being and as a judge, is to the Constitution and to the rule of law," he said. "This is also the obligation of the officials in Washington." His request for an investigation is still pending.

Amazingly, Judge Merritt praises Michael Shaked, the prosecutor in the Israeli show trial of John Demjanjuk, whom he considers to be "a noble man with the highest of principles, quite unlike our own liars." He credits Mr. Shaked with having doubts about the evidence early in the trial. It was these doubts, he believes, that eventually led to Mr. Demjanjuk's freedom.

Yoram Sheftel, the Israeli attorney who defended John Demjanjuk, has a different opinion of Michael Shaked. "Shaked's argument [before the Israeli Supreme Court] brought the prosecution to a nadir, in terms of both professional honesty and the quality of the argument expected from a public prosecutor in the Supreme Court," writes Mr. Sheftel in his book "Defending Ivan the Terrible: The Conspiracy to Convict John Demjanjuk." He writes: "The argument that Shaked made in the Supreme Court, at the behest of his superiors, was no more than a sordid attempt to commit cold-blooded judicial murder. The intended victim was Demjanjuk; the subterfuge the prosecution used to carry out its evil scheme was the argument, which it knew to be false that Demjanjuk was Ivan the Terrible; the weapon was not a pistol or a knife, but Shaked's tongue." Shaked did not restrict his argument to Treblinka. He now argued that John Demjanjuk was at Sobibor, despite the fact that there were no witnesses from Sobibor who could identify him, nor any document of any kind indicting that Mr. Demjanjuk had been there.

The Israeli Supreme Court praised the lower court for its diligence, but overruled its verdict adding, as if to justify Mr. Demjanjuk's seven-and-a-half-year incarceration, that he had been an SS camp guard trained at Trawniki – this despite the fact that there was no evidence that he had ever been there or at any other Nazi death camp.

One would think that, given the years of public interest in the Demjanjuk case, the TV commentaries, the hundreds of articles and newspaper stories, the "60 Minutes" broadcast, as well as the condemnations of Ukrainian Americans who defended John Demjanjuk, that America's mass media would be more interested in the aftermath of the trial. If nothing else, one might have expected that Mr. Sheftel's book about the Israeli show trial would become a best seller. Nothing of the kind. Mr. Sheftel did a book tour a while back, spoke on a few obscure radio shows, and that was that. No Larry King. No "60 Minutes." Not even a significant book review. On the contrary, his book was ignored and is now practically unavailable.

Fortunately, the Ukrainian American Justice Committee has a few copies left. Interested parties can order one from: UAJC, 107 Ileshamwood Drive, DeKalb, IL 60115. Enclose a check for \$40 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling.

Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com

Sheptytsky Institute inaugurates new chairs, prepares graduate programs

OTTAWA — The Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies began its sixth academic year at St. Paul University with a search for the position of professor in theology with a specialization in Ukrainian and Eastern Christian Church history.

The search follows the inauguration this past spring of the the second endowed chair at the institute, the Chair of Eastern Christian Liturgy, funded by the Kule family. In 1994 the institute had established the Chair of Eastern Theology and Spirituality, also funded by Doris and Peter Kule of Edmonton.

This fall 25 students, including 13 seminarians from Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Seminary, have enrolled in the undergraduate programs offered by the Sheptytsky Institute in Ottawa. Another 15 students from other concentrations also attend Eastern Christian studies courses.

As part of its three-year undergraduate program, the faculty of theology offers seven Eastern Christian studies courses annually, taught by Orthodox as well as Eastern and Roman Catholic professors. Among professors lecturing this year are: the Rev. Stephane Bigham, the Rev. Andrew Morbey, the Rev. Andrew T. Onuferko and Prof. Horia Roscanu; as well as two full-time faculty of theology professors, the Rev. Andriy Chirovsky (Chair of Eastern Christian Theology and Spirituality) and the Rev. Dr. Peter Galadza (Chair of Eastern Christian Liturgy).

Ongoing preparations for master's and doctoral programs in Eastern Christian Studies should be completed by the fall of 1998, and the hiring of a third professor by May 1998 is an important step in this effort. Applications for the third full-time theology professorship with a specialization in Ukrainian and Eastern Christian Church history are being received by the dean of the faculty of theology at St. Paul University, 223 Main St., Ottawa, Ontario K1S 1C4.

Founded in Chicago in 1986, the Sheptytsky Institute relocated in 1992 to Ottawa where, as an integral unit of the St. Paul University's faculty of theology, it has introduced hundreds of students to the theological and spiritual heritage of Eastern Christianity.

Inauguration of second chair

It was on April 28 that a capacity crowd of over 300 people from across Canada and abroad had gathered at the Sheptytsky Institute to celebrate the creation of the first endowed university Chair of Eastern Christian Liturgy in North America, and the installation of the chair's professor, the Rev. Dr. Galadza.

The evening, Easter Monday according to the Julian calendar, began with the celebration of paschal vespers, presided over by Archbishop Michael Bzdel, metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in Canada along with the Rt. Rev. Exarch Habib Kwaiter of Ss. Peter and Paul Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, the Rev. Galadza and Deacon Brad Moleski of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church). Also participating were Bishop Lawrence Huculak, the newly consecrated eparch of Edmonton, numerous representatives from the Roman Catholic, Eastern Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican and other Christian communities, along with members of the Sheptytsky Institute Foundation and the local Ukrainian community.

The Sheptytsky Institute's director, the Rev. Chirovsky, along with a Sheptytsky Institute student, Monica Hladunewich of Edmonton, presided over the official inaugural program.

Sheptytsky Institute Foundation board members from every Canadian eparchy were formally introduced.

In particular, the university's rector, the Rev. Dale Schlitt, introduced the new chair's benefactors, Peter and Doris Kule of Edmonton, who in 1994 had funded the institute's Chair of Eastern Theology and Spirituality. Foundation President Eugene Cherwick of Winnipeg presented commemorative icons from Ukraine to the benefactors — who contributed \$1 million for each of the two chairs.

The dean of the faculty of theology, Prof. James Pambrun, spoke of the unique contribution of the Sheptytsky Institute's Eastern Christian studies programs and expressed his conviction that the Rev. Dr. Galadza is undoubtedly the most qualified choice in North America to hold the new chair. Thus introduced, the chair's first professor was officially installed by the university's chancellor,



Archbishop Marcel Gervais (left), chancellor of St. Paul University, installs the Rev. Peter Galadza as holder of the Chair in Eastern Christian Liturgy.

Archbishop Marcel Gervais of Ottawa.

In his inaugural address, "Going to the Center to Find the Real: The Centrality of Liturgy in Theological Formation," the Rev. Galadza outlined how liturgical experience serves to make theology come alive. In the narrative sections of his lecture he drew attention to the fact that the liturgy chair was being inaugurated exactly 100 years after the Rev. Nestor Dmytriw celebrated the first Ukrainian Catholic worship services in Canada.

The Rev. Galadza holds a Ph.D. from St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, and has been teaching at St. Paul University since 1992. However, his association with the institute began many years prior to that, as he lectured at the institute's unique summer program at Mount Tabor Monastery in California.

The lecture brought the audience to its feet for an enduring ovation, and "Mnohaya Lita" was sung for the chairholder.

It is noteworthy that the professor's late father, Mychajlo Galadza, who spent his life as an extraordinary cantor, had been recognized and honored for his

work by a special certificate from Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky some six decades earlier.

Summer programs in the U.S., Ukraine

As in previous years, in 1997 the institute once again offered its intensive summer programs both in California and Ukraine. With the Rev. Chirovsky lecturing on "Eastern Patristic Spirituality," and Father Abbot Boniface Luykx on "Byzantine Eucharistic Liturgy," 15 students from across the U.S., Canada and Ukraine attended the 11th annual Mount Tabor program at Holy Transfiguration Monastery in Redwood Valley, Calif. (June 21-July 19).

The summer program in Ukraine, co-sponsored by the Lviv Theological Academy, was held for the second year (July 5 - August 3) at Holy Dormition Monastery in Univ (one hour east of Lviv). Thirty students from all over the country participated in the program. Among them were not only Greek-Catholics, Orthodox and a Roman Catholic, but also a Lutheran and an Evangelical. Two courses were offered: "The Byzantine Liturgy of the Hours" (the Rev. Galadza) and "Eastern Christian Doctrine I: Trinity, Christ and the Holy Spirit" (Prof. Jaroslaw Skira).

At this remote Studite monastery founded by Metropolitan Sheptytsky, participants enjoy the Christian hospitality of the monastic community and experienced Byzantine liturgical and spiritual traditions brought alive through prayer and study.

The director of the institute, the Rev. Chirovsky, explained: "One of the important characteristics of all Sheptytsky Institute programs, whether here in Ottawa or abroad, is the unity of theological study and liturgical prayer. Whereas in the classroom we often make God the object of our study, in the chapel we seek to restore the proper relationship between God, the Creator, the Savior, the Source of all Life, and human beings, redeemed, living creatures, whose proud intellect is a mere reflection of the infinite wisdom of God."

For more information on the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies and its programs, or to make a tax-deductible contribution, please write to: The Sheptytsky Institute, St. Paul University, 233 Main St., Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 1C4. phone: (613) 236-1393, ext. 2332; fax: 782-3026.



Participants of the summer program at Holy Transfiguration Monastery in California.

New York events recall Akcja Wisla tragedy and formation of UPA

by Bohdanna T. Pochoday

NEW YORK — A series of Ukrainian commemorative events took place on October 17-26 in New York City to recall three historic anniversaries: the 55th anniversary of the formation of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), the 50th anniversary of the raids by certain divisions of the UPA and the 50th anniversary of the forcible deportation of ethnic Ukrainians by the Polish Communist government, commonly known as Akcja Wisla.

Committee for commemorations

It was on February 22, during a meeting of numerous Ukrainian community organizations from the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area, that an executive committee was formed for the express purpose of preparing a commemorative program honoring these tragic anniversaries and its fallen victims and heroes. The committee members were: Barbara Bachynsky (Ukrainian National Women's League of America), president; Lev Futala (Society of Soldiers of the UPA), Marie Duplak (Organization for the Defense of Lemkivschyna) and Julian Kotlar (Association of Veterans of the UPA), vice-presidents; Zenia Brozyna (Plast), corresponding secretary; Joseph Trush (Ukrainian American Coordinating Council), recording secretary; Bohdanna T. Pochoday (Ukrainian American Bar Association), treasurer; Michael Kowalczyk (United Ukrainian American Relief Committee), Stepan Woroch (Ukrainian Medical Association of North America), Alexander Bilewicz (Association of Veterans of the UPA) and Wolodymyr Janiw (Ukrainian National Aid Association), members.

Requiem services

Commemorations of the 1947 anniversary had commenced earlier in the year with requiem services in various Ukrainian Baptist, Catholic and Orthodox churches throughout the United States, remembering those who had died or suffered during this tragic period. Ukrainians worldwide were asked to unite in spirit with Ukrainians in Poland on Sunday, May 11. (Not all parishes, however, were able to heed this plea, in part due to the fact that this was Mothers' Day in the United States and other church events already had been planned.)

Educational conference

The second commemorative event prepared by the executive committee was an educational conference, for the express purpose of reviewing the history of, and new information about, the formation of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and Akcja Wisla. Attracting a capacity audience of approximately 140 people, the conference took place on Saturday, October 18, at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York City.

The panel participants at the conference included Prof. Stepan Zabrowarnyj from Szczecin, Poland, Prof. Volodymyr Serhiichuk from Kyiv and Maj. Petro Sodol. As president of the executive committee, Mrs. Bachynsky greeted the audience and turned over the conduct of the three-hour conference to Prof. Volodymyr Stojko of New York.

Prof. Stojko commenced the conference discussions with a review of the motivations for the formation and activities of the UPA and the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) during the World War II period. In particular, Prof. Stojko commented on the formation of Soviet and partisan groups in the Volyn region of Ukraine, the German occupation and the Soviet partisans' activities that led to the formation of the UPA. It was explained

that OUN leaders had assigned Serhii Kachynsky to form the first company of the UPA, after reviewing the need and desire for partisan activities.

The UPA is deemed to have been officially formed on October 14, 1942. In November 1943 the general staff of the OUN reformulated itself as the general army staff of the UPA. This staff was headed by Taras Chuprynka (Roman Shukhevych), who took on the role of leading UPA battles. In December 1943 partisan groups, including the division of Bulba Borovets and Melnyk supporters of the OUN, folded into the UPA structure in view of the emerging need to create military formations.

Prof. Zabrowarnyj, an economics professor at Szczecin University in Poland, elaborated on the atmosphere and motivations existing in Poland during the 1939-1949 period. He referred to Akcja Wisla as a totalitarian act and classified it as genocide. Prof. Zabrowarnyj summarized the illegal operation as a forcible relocation of over 1,000 Ukrainian villages to lands taken by the Poles from Germany, whose primary purpose was the complete denationalization and Polonization of the Ukrainian populace. The Jaworzno concentration camp, only a few miles from the infamous Auschwitz death camp, was formed as part of the process of this forcible deportation. Over 4,000 members of the Ukrainian intelligentsia — men, women and children, religious and teachers were sent there.

An additional aspect of this annihilation process was Poland's control over the assets of Ukrainians and the destruction of many libraries, churches and other evidence of Ukrainian life — all in an attempt to cover the government's criminal acts.

Prof. Zabrowarnyj, also focused on the difficult lives of Ukrainians in their relocat-



Volodymyr Kurylo conducts the commemorative program held at The Cooper Union in New York.

ed Polish territories. Contact with the West, especially the Ukrainian diaspora, was deemed to be sufficient to cause additional problems for the deported Ukrainians. Ukrainians were stereotyped by the Poles as being nothing more than "bandits" who deserved their fates. Over the years, some members of the Polish intelligentsia have acknowledged the criminality of this treatment of Ukrainians, including Akcja Wisla.

Prof. Serhiichuk, a historian and professor from Kyiv, was the third panelist at the conference. Prof. Serhiichuk was able

to demonstrate and explain to the audience some recently accessible top-secret documents, including those signed by Nikita Khrushchev from formerly secret USSR archives, which elucidate the Soviet Union's role, or the lack thereof, in Akcja Wisla. Prof. Serhiichuk pointed out that the Molotov-Ribbentrop Treaty of August 23, 1939, was critical to the fate of western Ukrainians.

Finally, Maj. Sodol of New York, author

(Continued on page 16)

Commemorative concert features top talents

by Helen Smindak

NEW YORK — A program featuring some of the finest Ukrainian talents of the U.S. and Ukraine could only be described as exceptional. And that's exactly what an October concert at The Cooper Union in lower Manhattan turned out to be, bringing on stage tenor Volodymyr Grishko, coloratura soprano Alexandra Hrabova, world-renowned pianist Alexander Slobodyanik, dancer Andriy Cybyk and

New York's popular Promin vocal ensemble.

The occasion was part of solemn weekend events commemorating the 50th anniversary of Akcja Wisla and the 55th anniversary of the founding of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), as well as the 50th anniversary of raids by some UPA divisions. The performers chose material that suited the subject, resulting in a subdued and modulated, but lovely production. Sometimes less is more.

Mr. Grishko, who hails from Kyiv and is appearing at the New York City Opera this season in "La Traviata" and "Macbeth," sang Petro's yearning aria "Sontse Nyzenko" from the opera "Natalka Poltavka" and Leontovych's contemplative work "Dyvlius Ya na Nebo."

From Ms. Hrabova, a soloist of the Lviv Theater of Opera and Ballet and a

(Continued on page 16)



A combined choir, directed by Bohdanna Wolansky, sings the prayer "Vladyko Neba i Zemli" at the conclusion of the concert program.

FOLLOW-UP: First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in Lviv

Excerpts of First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's address at the Ivan Franko Opera Theater:

... The writer, Ivan Franko, after whom this beautiful opera house is named, wrote that, "There will come a time when you will sit in

the circle of free nations." That time for Ukraine is now – and I am honored to be sharing that time with you.

... I would like to talk with you about voices – the voices of women, the voices of young people, the voices of all those throughout Ukraine and the newly independent states who

are speaking a new language of freedom and democracy and then turning their words and ideas into concrete actions.

I can think of no better place to do this than in Ukraine. It was here in Lviv in 1879 that the Union of Ukrainian Women [Soyuz Ukrainok] was established.

This organization – one of the largest women's organizations in Europe between the two world wars – went into villages to teach women and their families how to start small businesses, how to start child care centers, how to pool their resources to purchase first aid materials that would save lives in rural areas.

Like so much that is good, the union was crushed by communism. And like so much that is good, it was reborn in 1990 – along with your sovereignty. With each year of freedom, the union has grown stronger. And this fall, thousands of people gathered where the remains of the union's last pre-communist president – Milena Rudnytska – were brought back here to Lviv for eternal rest.

... If you think about a modern, independent, well-functioning society as being like a three-legged stool, you and this audience have been working to strengthen each of the three legs. You have worked in government, to make the government democratic and transparent. You have worked to build a free market economy that gives more opportunity to individuals. And you have worked to create the third leg of this stool, what we call civil society.

You have chosen to help build civil society, by fighting for women's health, by running for political office, by cleaning up the environment, by starting child care centers and beginning summer camps for the children of Chernobyl, and in many other ways.

... Yesterday, I saw citizens of this city building a civil society. I stood with thousands of people at the new memorial honoring victims of Communist repression. This memorial was erected not by the government. It was a gift of the victims of communism, their families, and private organizations. They didn't have to do this – but they did.

I visited a health clinic filled with children balanced between life and death. Infants born prematurely, some critically ill. But for their cries, these children have no voice. They cannot compel someone to come to their aid. And yet doctors, and nurses, parents and communities – from both Ukraine and the United States – chose to do so. As one mother told me, doc-

tors and nurses she didn't even know saved her child's life. They didn't have to do this – but they did.

I stood inside the beautifully restored Gilad Synagogue, where citizens can once again worship freely. There, the rabbi told me what it meant to open a Jewish school after so many years of unspeakable hardship. That it had given him faith that the community would survive. The community didn't have to do this for its children – but it did.

I stood inside the magnificent, renovated St. George's Cathedral. For too many years, the faith of the people whom I met had been driven underground. The congregation prayed in hidden places; the beautiful symbols of their faith were hidden away in cellars and attics. Today, the members of St. George's practice their religion in the clear light of day. And they are using their faith not only to worship as they please, but also to reach out to others whom society pushed away, such as children with disabilities. The people of St. George's didn't have to do this – but they did.

... It is especially important that the voices of women be heard, for the legacy of communism placed special strains on women.

Especially in the old state structures, too many women are the first to lose their jobs and the last to get new ones. Too many women often live in fear of violence at the hands of family members. For them, home provides no refuge, the law no protection and public opinion no sympathy. Too many women are prevented from getting proper health care, either because quality care is not available, or because they are simply unable to find the time, between family and work obligations, to care for themselves. And through all of this, not enough women are sitting at the table when decisions are made in too many countries.

And it is clear that democracy without the full participation of women is a contradiction in terms. And that human rights are women's rights and they must be respected.

It is, for example, a violation of human rights when women are trafficked, bought and sold as prostitutes. As my husband has said, this is nothing less than modern-day slavery. And I know that many of you here today are working hard to end this practice once and for all.

Today, I am pleased to announce that the United States government, in cooperation with the United Nations, will be working with NGOs in Ukraine to launch a new information campaign to reach women who may be in danger, and to inform law enforcement and consular officers, and international organizations so they can be on the look-out for, and ultimately put a stop to this crime against humanity.

I will return home with many impressions and wonderful memories. I will also return home to speak to my own people, the citizens of the United States. I will tell my fellow citizens what I have seen and why the United States must stay constantly engaged to support forward-looking reform and leaders who are working on reform. In recent days, I have seen first-hand what America, working hand in hand with the people of Ukraine, has accomplished: fostering innovative health clinics, providing loans to start small businesses, sending Peace Corps volunteers to work with the people here.

... Just six years after your independence, you have much to be proud of. The sun of freedom is higher in the sky. And yes, it has a way to travel. I know you will stay the course. And as you do, please know the American people will stand with you. I hope that you take great pride in where Ukraine stands today and that you take great confidence in the fact that the United States will be your partner, and your friend, as we travel together into the 21st century and the new millennium.

Thank you very much. God bless the United States and God bless Ukraine.



Official White House Photograph

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks at the Lviv opera house.



Roman Woronowycz

The first lady at the memorial to victims of Soviet repression, after being introduced by former Soviet political prisoner Ivan Gel.

Excerpts of the first lady's remarks at the Gilad Synagogue:

... this is an historic place, both for the Jewish community and for the entire Ukrainian people.

Just as we are here with a revitalized, very strong Jewish community, we are here in a country that is rebuilding itself as well. One of the most important values of any democracy is the freedom of religion and respect for people of different religious faiths. I'm very impressed at the attitude of the Ukrainian government and people who are supporting such a strong commitment to religious freedom in this country. And so we can see the enthusiastic faces of the children who are learning and studying here – and as the rabbi so profoundly said, becoming both Jewish and Ukrainian, with great pride.

I come on behalf of my husband, the president of the United States, and the American people to strengthen the bonds of friendship and partnership between the United States and Ukraine so that together we can build a future that is worthy of the children of my country and the children of Ukraine. I thank you for the many contributions and efforts that all of you are making to make that better future a reality. ...



Official White House Photograph

Children greet the first lady at the Gilad Synagogue.



Official White House Photograph

First Ladies Hillary Rodham Clinton and Liudmyla Kuchma at the Icon Restoration Institute at the Ukrainian National Historical Museum.



Roman Woronowycz

The first lady's entourage is given a tour of St. George Cathedral by Dr. Borys Gudziak of the Lviv Theological Academy. On the left is Bishop Lubomyr Husar; on the right is Lviv Mayor Vasyl Kuibida.

Excerpts of the first lady's remarks at the Neonatal Resuscitation Center of the Lviv Regional Clinical Hospital:

... I hope my visit also reinforces the strong ties between the American and Ukrainian peoples. One of the examples of those ties is found right here at this hospital in the partnership between the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, and the doctors and nurses here at this hospital. I am also very pleased about the role that the American International Health Alliance and the United States Agency for International Development have played in supporting this partnership since 1993. This center represents a partnership between the government, the private sector, and the voluntary sector of your country and my country.

Since the partnership here began, infant mortality has been reduced by 30 percent. Clearly, this model works, and I am very pleased to learn that the Ministry of Health is working with USAID, AIHA and the Henry Ford Hospital to establish centers like this one throughout Ukraine.

I also want to acknowledge some of the other partners in this effort. I am delighted that the United States government's Operation Provide Hope, working with Nadia Matkiwsky and the Children of the Chernobyl Relief Fund, this week delivered a major shipment of donated pharmaceuticals, medical supplies and equipment to the center, including an ambulance. The airlift from project Provide Hope also came with winter clothes and relief supplies gathered by Rep. Marcy Kaptur of Ohio through the Anastasia Fund and the Toledo Sister Cities Organization. I also want to thank Ford, both here and in the United States, for the ambulance which Ford donated.

I look forward to working with and learning more about other partnerships between my government and yours to advance health care. ...



Official White House Photograph

The first lady at the Lviv Regional Clinical Hospital's neonatal unit.

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SPORTSLINE

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj

A true sign of this sport's global appeal is that this space received two excellent submissions concerning Ukrainian doings in international competition. The first, by Nestor Jaworsky of Australia, concerns the national team's valiant, but ultimately failed, attempt to qualify for the World Cup competition in France next year. The second, by George Hawrylyshyn of Brazil, concerns Kyiv Dynamo's success in the European Cup. Both have been supplemented by wire material and reports compiled by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj.

Refereeing decision helps end World Cup campaign

After playing 12 matches in six different countries over a period of 15 months, Ukraine's World Cup campaign came to an end when the national team fell at the last hurdle. It was a remarkable effort to get as far as it did, as Ukraine's chances of reaching the finals in France were slim from the time it was placed in Group Nine along with Germany in Portugal.

Stunning wins over Portugal allowed Team Ukraine to qualify for the group play-offs. Unfortunately, Ukraine drew badly once again — it was matched against a desperate Croatia, which surprisingly failed to qualify automatically. It can be said that only Italy would have been a tougher opponent. Had Ukraine drawn Hungary, Ireland or Belgium, even Russia, it would doubtless have qualified.

In the first match of the playoff, Croatia dominated as expected, winning 2-0. In a test played in Zagreb on October 28, Slaven Bilic (who plays for the English first division team Everton) scored in the first half, at the 11th minute, and Goran Vlaovic netted one in the second at the 49th, handing Croatia the initiative.

Ukraine clearly missed suspended Dynamo Kyiv stars midfielder Yurii Kalitvintsev and striker Andrii Shevchenko, failing to create any threatening attacks.

In coming home to Kyiv for the return leg on November 15, the blue-and-yellows needed to win by a seemingly impossible three goal margin to advance against a confident and powerful Balkan squad.

For one brief moment on that Saturday it seemed the fairy tale would continue. According to the excited commentator, Vitalii Kossovskyi had just scored Ukraine's second goal at the 12th minute of the first half.

Was this the impossible coming true? English bookmakers Landbrokes were betting 5-1 against Ukraine, suggesting it had no chance.

But Mr. Shevchenko had stunned the Croatians at the four-minute mark after Croatian keeper Marijan Mrmic mishandled a shot from Mr. Kossovskyi. Eight minutes later, Mr. Kossovskyi swept behind the red and white checked defenders as the ball bounced away from the Croatian keeper and slotted the ball home.

It seemed too good to believe. And it was.

The very next words from a disbelieving commentator were that Mr. Kossovskyi's goal had been disallowed by Norwegian referee Len Pederson. The decision seemed to stop Ukraine's momentum and allow a rattled Croatia to regain its composure in front of 100,000 vocal supporters at the Republican Stadium.

A disheartening sleet began to fall. Then a Croatian defender flew, spikes first, into Mr. Shevchenko's legs as the Ukrainian was mounting one of his lightning runs towards the penalty area. No card. No foul.

Further disaster followed. At the 27th minute, Alen Boksic, a forward who plays for Italy's Lazio team, turned in front of the

goal and rifled a shot that deflected off at least one player, sending the Ukrainian goalkeeper in the wrong direction and into despair.

With the score at 1-1, Ukraine needed another three goals, and Croatia could smell success. Their defense clamped down in an iron grip, and Ukraine's attack withered.

As reported by Reuters, at a press conference following the match, a visibly upset Ukrainian coach, Josef Szabo, said: "It was a clear goal" (referring to Mr. Kossovskyi's effort). "The referee's mistake cost us dearly. It forced us to change strategy." It also cost Ukraine a place in the World Cup.

The Ukrainian press was scathing. "What do we feel after Saturday's match?" asked the reporter for Kievskiy Viedomosti, "Frustrated. Dissatisfied. Insulted. It's as if some magic doll invited you into the fairy-tale kingdom of the World Cup finals and then slammed the door in your face."

Kievskiy Viedomosti said the rain on Saturday night in Kyiv and the two-year ban handed down to midfielder Serhii Nahorniak after he failed a drug test following the first leg had put Coach Szabo's young side off balance.

Miroslav Blazevic, the relieved Croatian coach, praised his opponents. "I feel sorry for Ukraine. In all my years of coaching I was never more scared than when Ukraine scored their second goal. Fortunately for us, the referee ruled off-side."

Earlier in the week, it was reported that the Croatian national coach was so worried about the return play-off in Kyiv that he had taken to tranquilizers and chocolates to stay in one piece.

For Coach Szabo it may unfortunately be the end. Ukraine did not qualify, but Mr. Szabo's effort to get so close was a great achievement. He deserved better.

Before the match on November 15, he was asked whether his future depended on the outcome. His response: "I hope not, but the decision lies with the Football Federation of Ukraine."

Mr. Szabo added that whether or not the national team reached France, Valerii Lobanovskyi should be its leader in the future. "We should use his talent and experience to build the basis of Ukrainian football," Mr. Szabo said.

According to a report in the November 13-19 issue of The European, Mr. Lobanovskyi "is the reason why many players have not followed the lead of former European footballer of the year Oleh Blokhin, Andrii Kanchelskis and so many others in moving West."

The result is a disappointment to the players also. Mr. Kalitvintsev is a Russian who chose to play for Ukraine, and was made captain. Since leaving Moscow Dynamo for Kyiv Dynamo, Mr. Kalitvintsev has given Ukrainian football excellent service and leadership.

When asked before the match what his reaction would have been had Ukraine drawn Russia for the playoffs, he said: "I was looking forward to it, but I would have preferred for both Ukraine and Russia to have qualified." Neither did.

The same day, dubbed by the football press as "the weekend of destiny," Russia and its Ukrainian players Serhii Yuran and Viktor Onopko (Mr. Kanchelskis was suspended for injuring the Italian goalkeeper in Moscow) lost to Italy 1-0 and were also out.

Serhii Rebrov will no doubt be distraught. As Ukraine's other outstanding striker, he scored the winning goal on no less than three occasions in this qualifying campaign.

Oleh Luzhnyi, the redoubtable fullback who refused to play for Russia in the 1994

(Continued on page 13)

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Sportsline

(Continued from page 12)

World Cup after the Russian Football Federation blocked Ukraine's participation in it, will also be disappointed. It is to be hoped that Mr. Luzhnyi, a former member of a Soviet squad who will be 33 when the World Cup comes around again in 2002, has not missed his chance.

There is a saying that everything comes to those who are prepared to wait.

It appears that Mr. Shevchenko, 21, is willing to do just that. According to The European, in the past year he turned down offers from AC Milan and Manchester United, two of Europe's wealthiest and most successful clubs, so that he could continue his football studies in the Ukrainian capital.

"I am flattered by the interest of such famous clubs," Mr. Shevchenko said, "but I grew up watching players like Blokhin who were coached by Mr. Lobanovskyi. I am happy to learn from him also."

European Champions' League success

As Dominic O'Reilly put it in The European, "Napoleon would have appreciated the way Dynamo Kyiv have leapt from exile to majesty in barely a year."

In 1995 they drew a three-year ban for allegedly attempting to bribe a referee with furs before a match with Greece's Panathinaikos. After an impassioned appeal from Ukraine's federation head, protesting that this was a death sentence for his country's program, the ban was reduced to one year.

Instead of killing Ukrainian football, it seems to have had the opposite effect. Dynamo has ridden a sense of mission to right injustice and a newfound patriotism to crush powerful opponents such as Newcastle of England and PSV Eindhoven of the Netherlands. Recently it wreaked out-

right havoc and destruction on Barcelona (4-0 in Spain and 3-0 at home in the Ukrainian capital).

As Mr. O'Reilly mentioned in his report, under communism Dynamo was a rallying point for Ukrainians who objected to rule from Moscow, but after 1991, club officials stuck in Soviet times began discouraging displays of patriotism.

Now, according to a Ukrainian fan interviewed by The European, "the players applaud us when they see the flags and banners. They know we are celebrating the rebirth of the Ukrainian nation."

"Life is hard here," Ukrainian journalist Fidel Pavlenko told The European. "Success in football gives us a rare chance to come together, cheer and be proud of being Ukrainian. We used to see reports referring to 'Kiev of Russia.' Now everyone knows where Kyiv is."

The two multi-goal wins against Barcelona were particularly impressive. Although "Barca" no longer counts on Brazilian whiz kid Ronaldinho, it is still one of the strongest international teams, and includes three Brazilians: Rivaldo, Anderson and Giovanni.

Andrii Shevchenko put on a show in Barcelona, scoring a hat trick. He opened the scoring at the 10-minute mark of the first half, and had the Spaniards staring. They began to press and left themselves open to dangerous Dynamo counterattacks. As one local sports paper put it: "Shevchenko was diabolical and buried Barcelona's hopes with two more goals in the same period at 33 and 44 minutes. In the second half, Serhii Rebrov closed the count for Dynamo at the 25-minute mark."

On American Thanksgiving Day, November 27, they are at home hosting PSV Eindhoven. If they win, they will advance to the eliminatory playoffs of the Champions League competition.

Maybe it does take the Shevchenko family to bring back the glory days.



Efrem Lukatsky

Andrii Shevchenko (right) celebrates the tying goal in the Ukrainian team's game against Croatia on November 15 with his teammates Serhii Rebrov (left) and Vitalii Kossovskiy.

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Phoenix marks "International Christmas"



PHOENIX, Ariz. – International Christmas XVII is the annual holiday festival held in downtown Phoenix, on the indoor concourse of Bank One Center. Between November 30 and January 2, 1998, the display will include 46 individually decorated trees representing ethnic groups from the community, Christmas characters and Santa carvings by artist Joseph Cabeen, hundreds of dolls collected from around the world (courtesy of the Arizona Doll and Toy Museum) and dozens of nativity sets (courtesy of the Bill Wilbur collection). Midday choral concerts will be presented on weekdays of December 1-19, and ethnic entrees will be served for lunch at the Coin Room Cafe throughout the month. For additional information call (602) 221-1005. Seen above decorating the tree representing Ukraine are: (from left) pianist Anna Dworskis and artist Christine Boyko.

Ansonia's...

(Continued from page 4)

Mayor Nancy Valentine of Ansonia.

Frank F. Stuban, co-chairman of the Centennial Committee, presented a short history of Ukraine, highlighting the traditions, dances, songs and regional costumes. He also asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of all the deceased parishioners who had worked hard for the church.

The original Ss. Peter and Paul Parish was founded on March 18, 1897. The church was built on May Street in Ansonia, and was dedicated on July 24, 1898. The present church was constructed in 1915-1916. Its exterior is yellow brick; the roof is covered with red slate and the domes with copper. The interior walls are covered with artificial Numidian marble with reddish-brown veins. The stained glass windows, the iconostas and the murals on the 90-foot-high center dome are the church's distinguishing feature.

The Obrij dancers of the parish, under the direction of Mr. Stuban, welcomed the audience with sheaves of wheat, bread and flowers. The children went down on their knees and prayed the Guardian Angel prayer in Ukrainian. They also danced the "Zhuravli," "Velykodnivka," "Yordan-ivka" and "Chomomortsi."

Another parish group, the Vesna dancers under the direction of Beata Slota and Jolanta Kowal, danced the "Polka," "Kozachok" and "Hopak."

Both ensembles comprise children age 3 to 15. Troupe members were dressed in traditional colorful costumes from several regions of Ukraine.

The Obrij dancers sang the Ukrainian national anthem and the Rev. Batcho concluded the parish celebrations with an expression of thanks to all and a benediction. The audience then sang "Mnohaya Lita."

Dance music was provided by Peter Dutkanych and Ed Bednarskij and their six-piece band until 10 p.m.



The Obrij singers and dancers with their director, Frank F. Stuban.

Yes, I wish to support The Ukrainian National Foundation Inc. of THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION. I enclose my tax-deductible donation for the UNA's 1997-1998 Christmas cards.



Guardian Angels - 1994 by Christina Saj, Bloomfield, NJ



Praying Child - 1947 by Jacques Hnizdovsky, New York, NY



Angel - contemporary by George Kozak, Detroit, MI

The Ukrainian National Association has published a new series of Christmas cards for 1997-1998. The cards are reproductions of works of Ukrainian artists. Archangel Michael-XVIIc. Holy Ghost Church, Rohatyn Ukraine, Icon Archangel Gabriel-XVc. Lviv Ukrainian Art Museum; Icon Archangel Michael-XVIIc. by Ilia Brodjakovych, Transcarpathian Art Museum, Ukraine, Praying Child, by Jacques Hnizdovsky, New York, NY, Guardian Angels, by Christina Saj, Bloomfield, NJ, Angel, by George Kozak, Detroit MI.

All proceeds from the sale of these cards are designated to aid and support educational, charitable religious and scientific projects in the Ukrainian community in the Diaspora and in Ukraine. Contributions are tax-deductible through UNA's Ukrainian National Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt non profit foundation.

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ART SCENE

Christina Saj's "Remembering Myth"

by Olha Shevchenko

MONTCLAIR, N.J. — In an exhibition titled "Remembering Myth," held here at the Midland Gallery on September 6 - October 3, painter Christina Saj made a personal visual statement about her belief in the importance of myth and ritual in modern society.

Ms. Saj, whose artistic philosophy is rooted in the Byzantine tradition of icon-painting, has not chosen this theme with the intention of simply illustrating myths from a variety of ancient or primitive cultures for their own sake — rather, something universal is being sought through their exploration. The realization that all cultures are involved in the search for spiritual meaning in human existence has led Ms. Saj to move beyond her habitual parameters of the Christian belief system in her work.

The paintings in her most recent exhibition can be divided into three categories: the first features Christian themes, the second deals with the Greco-Roman mythological tradition, and the third encompasses paintings that depict generic myths and myths belonging to other cultures, as well as broad spiritual concepts.

Christian subjects take on the quality of myth insofar as they seek to explain mysteries that are basic to the experience of all mankind. For example, the well-known story of original sin offers a Christian explanation for mankind's suffering on earth. Ms. Saj deals with this subject in a work titled "Adam and Eve." The ancient Greek explanation for the presence of suffering among men is the subject of another painting called "Pandora's Box." Within the context of the pursuit of a universal spiritual consciousness, these paintings, and the stories on which they are based, take on a modified significance. It is not important that one is Christian and the other ancient Greek, but that they are parallel examples of universal wonder about the origins of man and woman and the reasons for the existence of suffering on earth.

Much of our knowledge regarding classical mythology comes to us in the form of epic poetry widely accepted to be the work of Homer. Ms. Saj pays tribute to him in an elegant, shimmering composition painted on steel in shades of green, blue and silver titled "Homerus — The Bard." An abstract faceless "portrait" of the poet occupies the upper left corner of the painting, while disembodied hands reach up from the lower right towards a radiating orb. The enigmatic setting seems to mythologize the very existence of the poet.

We are quite accustomed to personified, usually idealized, visual images of Greek and Roman gods that have come to us by way of the ancients themselves. Favoring abstraction, Ms. Saj diverges significantly from established images of the gods in order to include them in her vision of universal mythological symbolism. Such works as "Apollo," "Poseidon" and "Vulcan" are frontal, abstract, monumental, faceless representations of the gods conceived in a fashion similar to the manner in which the artist creates icons. Like icons, these paintings are meant to be experienced as spiritual objects, a means to enter the mythological world they represent.

"Green Goddess" is a painting that refers to a generic goddess invented by the artist to evoke the concept of Mother Earth. The figure has been conceived in terms of basic geometric shapes — a circular form resting upon two thin vertical rectangular elements — and has been placed against a colorful decorative background.

The circle is surrounded by a shimmering gold aureole, a device used by Ms. Saj to lend her imagined goddess an air of consecrated authority and link her with the custom of using halos to connote power or holiness shared by both Christian and ancient Greco-Roman traditions.

The circle is a symbol that is present in many of Ms. Saj's paintings, either incidentally or as the focus of a composition, as in the work "Magic Circles." This is not surprising, as the circle is considered to be one of the great primordial images of mankind and a very powerful universal spiritual symbol.

The topic of shamanism, the most ancient of mankind's religions, is a natural diversion from the subject of magic. Shamans are best known for their supernatural ability to heal, in which capacity they are sometimes referred to as "medicine men." "The Dance of the Shaman," humorously subtitled "Tango," symbolically represents the ritual that enacts the shamanistic myth. In this painting Ms. Saj depicts the dance as a tango performed by two bone-like elements, a symbol that recurs in several other works in this collection.

Ms. Saj's intention in presenting her paintings as a coherent body of work is to emphasize the parallels and overlap between religions and cultures of the world. By looking back at ancient times and primitive peoples through the vehicle of mythology, one moves closer to a recognition of what is basic to our existence. By rendering the paintings in a modern visual vocabulary, and employing innovative materials such as industrial glass and steel plates mounted on magnets, Ms. Saj emphasizes the persistent significance of these issues for mankind in the 20th century and beyond.

Further information about Christina Saj's most recent exhibition, as well as previous exhibitions, can be found online at <http://www.artonline.net>. The artist also welcomes inquiries and comments by e-mail at chryssa@bc.cybernet.net. Studio visits can be arranged by appointment.

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

- ✦ News stories should be sent in **not later than 10 days** after the occurrence of a given event.
- ✦ All materials must be typed (or legibly hand-printed) and double-spaced.
- ✦ Photographs submitted for publication must be black and white (or color with good contrast). Captions must be provided. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
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- ✦ Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- ✦ Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- ✦ Persons who submit any materials must provide a phone number where they may be reached during the work day if any additional information is required.

Commemorative...

(Continued from page 9)

recent arrival on these shores, there were skillfully executed presentations of quiet songs by Liudkevych and Kytasty and a very fine rendition of Kropyvnytsky's "Soloveyko," ending with a series of trills resembling a nightingale's song. Both Ms. Hrabova and Mr. Grishko were accompanied by pianist Sonia Szereg.

With his performance of the sonorous march from Beethoven's Sonata Opus 26, Mr. Slobodyanik demonstrated the expertise and bold execution that brought him critical acclaim after his Carnegie Hall debut in 1968. Before attempting his second work (Liszt's thunderous "Mazepa"), he made a surprise move – he brought on stage young Vitalii Baran of Lviv, one of the winners of this year's Horowitz piano competition in Kyiv, who was touring in the U.S. at the time with other winners. The young pianist's performance of Myroslav Skoryk's "Variations," with ponderous chords contrasting with quieter, brooding passages, could be considered flawless.

Included in the concert were recitations by actor Volodymyr Kurylo, who also served as master of ceremonies, and an interpretive dance, titled "Strakhittia Viiny" (The Horrors of War), that portrayed a soldier wounded in battle, choreographed and danced by Mr. Cybyk, an assistant instructor of the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Studio. A slide montage prepared by Petro Bokalo and narrated by Mr. Kurylo depicted scenes in the Lemko village of Zavadka, which was particularly hard hit by Akcja Wisla's resettlement of Lemkos to other parts of Poland.

Sorrowful folk songs arranged by Hryhoriy Kytasty and Yevhen Kozak, the Ukrainian Sich Riflemen's song "Oy u Luzi Chervona Kalyna" and the fervent prayer for Ukraine's safety "Bozhe Velykyi, Yedynyi" were presented by the Promin ensemble, which has been directed by Bohdanna Wolansky since its inception 25 years ago.

For the finale, Ms. Wolansky directed a combined group of guest artists and Promin singers in a stirring performance of the prayer "Vladyko Neba i Zemli" from Hulak-Artemovsky's well-known opera "Zaporozhets za Dunayem."

New York events...

(Continued from page 9)

of several works on the UPA, portrayed the UPA's organizational structure from the very beginnings of its formation to 1947. He was able to provide specifics about the commanders and head counts of various divisions, companies and brigades.

The speakers assumed that the audience of approximately 140 people, predominantly persons over age 55, had experienced or already knew the basic facts being discussed. Unfortunately, this part of Ukraine's tragic history is little known to the younger generation – not to mention Ukrainians from central and eastern Ukraine.

A late afternoon luncheon respite was partaken by the attendees of the conference upon its conclusion. The participants also had an opportunity to purchase books written by some of the speakers and others on the UPA and Akcja Wisla.

Commemorative concert

The New York community was given an opportunity to listen to and view several renowned Ukrainian artists on Sunday, October 19, at The Cooper Union in New York City. The concert, organized by the executive committee, was attended by approximately 600 individuals of a mature age – two-thirds of capacity. As in the case of the conference, there were very few persons in the audience under the age of 30, with a majority of the concert-goers in the retired category.

The concert performers included world renowned pianist Alexander Slobodyanik, tenor Volodymyr Grishko, soprano Alexandra Hrabova and the Promin vocal ensemble under the direction of Bohdanna Wolansky. The concert opened with Volodymyr Kurylo's recitation of "Molytva za Poliahlykh" (Prayer for the Fallen).

A unique video montage titled "Glory to the UPA – Bow to Victims of Akcja Wisla," prepared by Petro Bokalo, was shown in the first half of the concert, providing a striking visual effect for the audience.

For a change of pace, the audience was also treated to a dance solo titled "Strakhittia Viiny" (The Horrors of War) performed by Andriy Cybyk of the dance studio of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky.

(For a complete account of the concert, see Helen Smindak's story on page 9.)

"1947" photo and document exhibit

In addition to the conference and the concert, a unique exhibit, titled "1947,"

was on view in New York City on October 17-26 at the Mayana Gallery. This exhibit, which included photographs and documents from the 1947 period, as well as the Jaworzno concentration camp, was prepared by the Association of Ukrainians of Zakerzonnia based in Toronto. Unique in its nature and a rarity, due to the scarcity of documents and photos available from that time period, the display complemented the other commemorative events.

Unfortunately, only a small group of individuals availed themselves of this rare opportunity. On opening night, Friday, October 17, approximately 30 people came for the viewing – compared to the hundreds who had attended the same exhibit in Toronto.

These events concluded the commemoration of the three anniversaries in the New York metropolitan area. During the planning of these commemorative events, the executive committee had received some donations from individuals and organizations, but the committee has not been able to collect sufficient funds to pay all expenses. Any individual or organization wishing to make a tax-free donation may send a check payable to the order of "UPA-Wisla" to: Bohdanna T. Pochoday, UPA/Wisla Treasurer, 4-G Avon Court, Chatham, NJ 07928.

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Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

of the arts, that Prosvita became a truly popular organization. In 1876, the by-laws were amended, abolishing admission fees, reducing membership dues and providing for the publication of mass-circulation booklets, and focused its recruitment on the peasantry.

Its leaders also began pressuring the Austrian government to establish Ukrainian schools and provide for the teaching of Ukrainian language generally in the education system. In 1881, its activists established the Ruthenian Pedagogical Society, which later became Ridna Shkola.

By 1885 Prosvita had 320 reading rooms under its care, and six years later, following more by-laws amendments, a centralized network was set up. Membership exploded. By 1914, 75 percent of the cities, towns and villages in Galicia had a Prosvita reading room, and 20 percent of the province's Ukrainian population were members.

In the 1890s, the society's success attracted interest among Ukrainian circles in central Ukraine, dominated by the Russian empire, but did not gain real momentum until after the revolution of 1905. However, Prosvita did spread readily to the rest of Europe, North and South America. After 1917, Prosvita enjoyed a quantum leap in activity, and for the next four years moved into the center of Ukrainian national life with its broad-based literacy and general education programs.

The Soviet regime proved to be Prosvita's great nemesis, by 1924 effectively stamping out a movement that boasted 4,500 branches at its height just three years earlier. In western Ukraine, Prosvita groups were dismantled when that territory was seized by the Soviets under the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact in 1939.

Since independence was declared in 1991, Prosvita has made a comeback, even affording its president, Pavlo Movchan, a measure of political clout in the country.

"Kachala, Stepan," "Prosvita," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine, Vols. 2, 4* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1988, 1993).

Marynowych program announces Christmas schedule

NEW YORK – Roman Marynowych's "Ukrainian Melody Hour" Christmas program will air in four U.S. cities.

The broadcast schedule for the program is as follows:

- Sunday, December 21, Philadelphia, 8:30 p.m., WYBE -TV, Channel 23;

- Chicago, 3:30 p.m., WFBT-TV, Channel 23.

- Monday, December 22, New York, 8:30 p.m., WNYE – 91.5 FM.

- Thursday, December 25, Sacramento, Calif., 6 p.m., KVIE-TV, Channel 7.

- Saturday, December 27, Sacramento, Calif., 4:30 p.m., KVIE-TV, Channel 7.

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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

Asian market turmoil to affect Ukraine

KYIV — The recent closures of the Yamaichi Securities Brokerage house and Tokyo City Bank, and the continuing crisis on world stock markets, especially in Asia, will have an adverse affect on the Ukrainian economy. Exports to the once booming, but now struggling, economies of Southeast Asia make up 20 percent of all exports from Ukraine. South Korea, Thailand and Indonesia are all discussing credits with the IMF. Japan's Central Bank has promised to help reimburse depositors who lost money in the closures of Yamaichi and Tokyo City Bank. The placement of Ukrainian Eurobonds and Samurai bonds will be put off for at least a few months. (Eastern Economist)

U.S. ambassador to Russia lists priorities

MOSCOW — James Collins, the new U.S. ambassador to Russia, announced in November at his first press conference in Moscow that "security issues and preventing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction" are among his top priorities, Agence France Press and Russian news agencies reported. Ambassador Collins also called on Russia to ratify the START II arms control treaty. He said President Bill Clinton plans to visit Russia during the first half of 1998, although no date has been set. He added that President Clinton's visit would be "most productive" following ratification of START II, so that he and Russian President Boris Yeltsin could discuss further arms control agreements. There is staunch opposition to START II in the Duma. Mr. Collins also said the U.S. will closely watch how Russian authorities implement the new religion law, which imposes restrictions on foreign missionaries and certain religious groups. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Ukraine's mint to open in early 1998

KYIV — Ukraine, having issued its first coins at a newly built mint in Kyiv, has become only the second country on the territory of the former Soviet Union to have its own mint. It was constructed by the Austrian mint. Deputy Director Mykola Obelets noted it will operate at full capacity by the end of 1998. (Eastern Economist)

Motor-Sich to supply Iranian companies

ZAPORIZHZHIA — The Zaporizhzhia-based Motor-Sich plant has signed a \$140 million (U.S.) contract with Iranian companies to supply equipment for the production of aircraft engines and training of local personnel. The contract is part of a larger project to build a plant to produce AN-140 planes using Ukrainian know-how. Motor-Sich deputy director Yaroslav Sukhin announced the news, adding that the AN-

140 will be built in Ukraine, Iran and Russia. The tender was won jointly by the Motor-Sich plant, the Kharkiv Aviation design bureau against stiff competition. The total value of the project is approximately \$4 billion (U.S.). The plant's construction is set for 1999. (Eastern Economist)

Obolon beer to be sold in cans

KYIV — Kyiv's Obolon brewery is to start selling beer in cans as well as bottles beginning on November 27. The brewery will use a German-built beer-canning production line. The quality of canned beer will be identical to that of bottled beer, Obolon's technical control department head Vasyl Mikusevych promised. The canned beer will have a shelf life of 90 days. (Eastern Economist)

Ukraine continues to downsize military

KYIV — Defense Minister Oleksander Kuzmuk told a Kyiv news conference on December 1 that he will continue downsizing Ukraine's armed forces, cutting another 36,000 jobs by 2005. He said his ability to downsize has been limited by inadequate government support for the army and noted that he has asked the Verkhovna Rada to double its allocations to the military in 1998. In other comments, Minister Kuzmuk acknowledged he has released from duty three Ukrainian officers accused of smuggling while in Bosnia, but he repeated Kyiv's insistence that the seven Ukrainian soldiers arrested in Mostar had not violated any law. He suggested those soldiers had been victims of a provocation of some kind. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Ukrainian World Congress...

(Continued from page 5)

Ukrainian community there, but fund-raising efforts by the Friends of Ukraine's International Olympic Committee are ongoing.

Having led with the good news, Mr. Sokolyk raised questions about Ukraine's Olympic movement and the funding gathered in support by the diaspora. He reported having received a list of candidates that would be going to Japan, and was surprised to find that only 35 of the proposed 130-member delegation would be athletes. "This ratio of bureaucrats to athletes is exceeded only by China," Mr. Sokolyk said.

The sports commissioner also pointed to the extravagance of the promoter who bought up \$1 million of tickets to a recent Kyiv Dynamo game in the Ukrainian capital and distributed them free of charge among its citizenry. "If individuals and enterprises in Ukraine can afford to be so generous," Mr. Sokolyk said, "it is difficult for the diaspora not to be skeptical of pleas of poverty from Ukrainian sports officials."

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 7

SOMERSET, N.J.: Single Ukrainian Weekenders will hold their first Ukrainian singles mixer brunch at the Marriott, 110 Davison Ave., at 12:30 p.m. Cost of the buffet-style brunch at Allies American Grill is \$11. For additional information call (888) 321-2800. To be informed of further events that will be held at different locations write to: Weekenders, P.O. Box 1607, N.Y., N.Y. 10009-1607. Include an e-mail address if available. (Look for the group's website starting February 1998.)

Friday-Sunday, December 12-14

CHICAGO: The Chicago branch of the Pershi Stezhi Plast sorority will hold an exhibit by Ukrainian artist Andrii Khomyk at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave. The exhibit opening will be held December 12 at 7 p.m. For more information call (773) 594-1770.

Saturday, December 13

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America will host its annual festive "yalynka" with the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America. Members, their families, friends and the Ukrainian community are cordially invited. The evening includes a musical Christmas program followed by a reception, light buffet and open bar. The "yalynka" will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th Street. Admission: \$25; seniors, \$15; children under 16, free. For more information call (201) 777-7346.

Sunday, December 14

NEW YORK: The Lastivka Women's Vocal Ensemble, under the direction of Michael Lev, will present a "Festival of Ukrainian Christmas Carols" at 2 p.m. at St. Mark's Church, Second Avenue and 10th Street. Featured are carols and "shchedrivky" from various regions of Ukraine in arrangement by Mr. Lev. Tickets: \$10; \$5 for seniors and students.

BETHLEHEM, Pa.: The Lehigh Valley Ukrainian Millennium Choir, under the direction of Michael Prosak, will appear in

a Christmas concert at St. Josaphat's Church Hall, Union Boulevard and Kenmore Avenue, at 3 p.m. The concert is sponsored by the Tryzub Brotherhood Organization. Admission: \$5 (at the door).

Monday, December 15

TORONTO: St. Vladimir Institute, 620 Spadina Ave., is holding a class, as part of its culinary classes titled "How to Eat Ukrainian," on the preparation of traditional dishes for the Christmas Eve supper - Sviata Vecheria. Traditional dishes are prepared using local ingredients and utensils. Handouts with recipes and tips will assist in the preparation of the dishes. The instructor is Hanya Cirka. The class will be held at 6:30-9 p.m. To register call (416) 923-3318.

Friday, December 19

PHIALDELPHIA: The annual "Ukie" Christmas party for Ukrainian professionals will be held at Ulana's Club, 205 Bainbridge, at 9 p.m.-2 a.m. For more information call (215) 922-4152.

Sunday, December 21

PASSAIC, N.J.: The Plast branch in Passaic invites all children, young and old, to a Christmas play, followed by a visit from St. Nicholas at noon at St. Nicholas School Hall, 212 President St. The heavenly office will open at 10 a.m. Please mark packages clearly.

Wednesday, December 31

HARTFORD, Conn.: The Ukrainian National Home of Hartford will hold a New Year's Eve Dance at 9 p.m. at 961 Wethersfield Ave. Music by Zorepad. Evening attire requested. Donation: adults, \$20; students, \$15. For tickets call (860) 292-5702.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Saturday, January 3

PALOS PARK, Ill.: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 8530 W. 131st St., is holding a New Year's dance with a Hawaiian luau buffet at 7 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Reservations are needed; call (708) 361-8876.

PLEASE NOTE: Individuals or organizations who have not taken into account the changes in Preview requirements announced on April 13 and have not submitted information in Preview format will find that their entries have not been published in this issue.

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