

**INSIDE:**

- An advance look at Ukraine's parliamentary elections — page 2.
- The Zarvanytsia shrine, St. Michael of the Golden Domes — page 8.
- Our Christmas traditions live on — page 9.

# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a fraternal non-profit association

Vol. LXVI

No. 1

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 1998

\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

## Peace Corps in Ukraine: five years of involvement

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — When Jerry Dutkewych arrived here in November 1992 as the first country director of the Peace Corps in Ukraine, in charge of the first inter-governmental collaboration between Ukraine and the United States, he had an American staff of three, a small, Ukrainian support staff, two telephones and a load of boxes.

"We did have offices, but they were very primitive. Many of the staff were working on top of boxes, the furniture hadn't arrived yet. We had two telephones and 50 volunteers in training," said Mr. Dutkewych, a 49-year-old Detroit native of Ukrainian descent.

When the first group of 47 volunteers, who came to Ukraine in fulfillment of an agreement signed by U.S. President George Bush and Ukraine's President Leonid Kravchuk, went into the field in February 1993 they had to deal with Ukrainians who could not understand why well-educated, young Americans were doing volunteer work in this post-Soviet country, which a few short years ago was considered a prime U.S. enemy. "In a humorous way we were often asked if we were here gathering intelligence," explained Mr. Dutkewych.

Less humorous were visits by members of the local militia after volunteers had arrived in cities and towns to begin their projects, who wanted to know the nature of the work the volunteers were to undertake. But those misunderstandings were cleared up after more contact with local and state officials. "Today we don't have those problems," said Mr. Dutkewych.

Now, after five years of developing the organization's infrastructure, the Peace Corps can be found in every oblast of Ukraine, and most people know what it is that the group does. "I think one of our biggest successes is that Ukrainians know that Peace Corps volunteers are in Ukraine," said Mr. Dutkewych.

Today he works closely with many of Ukraine's state organizations and ministries, including the National Agency for Reconstruction and Development and the Ministry of Education, to expand and deepen the Peace Corps' involvement in this country of 50.9 million. He has a volunteer group of 190 U.S. citizens working in 78 cities in all the oblasts of Ukraine, who will be joined by 45 additional volunteers in February to make the Peace Corps-Ukraine the organization's largest country project in the world. He has a support staff of 38, proper accommodations and plenty of telephones.

He also was renewed for a third term of assignment, the first time a country director has been given a third tour; not an easy achievement given that Peace

Corps regulations direct that no one stay in one spot for more than five years.

Brendan Daly, the press director of the Peace Corps in Washington, explained that the decision to renew Mr. Dutkewych's contract was straightforward. "We are pleased with the work he has done. He has been very effective. He has begun a number of projects that we felt he could best complete," said Mr. Daly.

Roman Shpek, chairman of Ukraine's National Agency for Reconstruction and Development, while congratulating the Peace Corps and Mr. Dutkewych on five years' work in Ukraine at a party thrown in the organization's honor at the American Business Center in Kyiv on December 8, 1997, made the comment that when even the president of the U.S. is limited to two terms Mr. Dutkewych's

(Continued on page 3)

## Verkhovna Rada OKs 1998 budget thanks to cooperation with Cabinet

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada endorsed the national budget for 1998 on December 30, 1997, dodging any possibility that once again a budget would not be in place as the fiscal year began.

By voting for the budget, 240 to 45, the legislature avoided a repeat of 1997, when it could not approve a 1997 budget until the middle of the fiscal year, which made it necessary to institute emergency budgets based on expenditures from the previous year beginning on January 1.

The big difference this year was that the Verkhovna Rada and the Cabinet of Ministers worked together and not against each other. The Verkhovna Rada budget committee, headed by National Deputy Volodymyr Pustovoitovskiy, a member of the Communist faction, met with representatives of the Cabinet of Ministers, includ-

ing Vice Prime Minister Serhii Tyhytko, Finance Minister Ihor Mitiukov and Minister of the Economy Viktor Suslov, after each reading of the budget to iron out differences and address issues raised by the national deputies during their plenary sessions.

In the third and final reading, the budget smoothly flew through Parliament. When issues could not be resolved, such as a desire by the Cabinet of Ministers, for approval of a bill to revamp the corporate tax structure, an issue left over from the great budget debacle of 1997, they temporarily shelved it. That bill and several others will be looked at in the several sessions that are still left before this Verkhovna Rada completes its work and prepares for elections.

The 1998 budget authorizes outlays of 21.1 billion hrv against revenues of 24.5 billion hrv. The deficit of 3.4 billion hrv comes to 3.3 percent of the GDP, which is close to the guidelines that the International Monetary Fund requires that Ukraine meet in order to receive additional IMF financial support.

Ukraine is counting on foreign sources of borrowing to the tune of 2.3 billion hrv, much of it promised IMF money, to help defray some of the deficit. The other 1.1 billion hrv will be covered by internal sources of borrowing.

For the first time the Verkhovna Rada voted to include in the budget a list of items that must be maintained as expenditure priorities, including wage payments to government workers, purchases of adequate food supplies, medicine purchases and servicing interest on the national debt.

## Procurator general investigates Lazarenko

by Roman Woronowycz  
by Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The business and personal dealings of Pavlo Lazarenko, the leading critic of Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma and a potential presidential candidate in the 1999 elections, are being investigated by Ukraine's procurator general as counter-charges fly that revelations of possible criminal wrongdoing are part of a plan developed by the president's administration to discredit the former prime minister and his Hromada Party.

Acting Procurator General Oleh Lytvak announced on December 26, 1997, that his department is investigating former Prime Minister Lazarenko on charges of unlawful use and concealment of currency earnings. The announcement

## CHRIST IS BORN — GLORIFY HIM!



A Christmas card published by Molode Zhyttia featuring artwork by Edward Kozak.

(Continued on page 7)

## ANALYSIS

## The Ukrainian parliamentary election campaign: parties aplenty, but how much democracy?

by Markian Bilynskyj

KYIV — The chairman of the newly constituted Central Electoral Commission (CEC) on November 14, 1997, announced the official start of the March 1998 parliamentary election campaign. In fact, the campaign had begun in earnest much earlier. Some political parties had already held their election-dominated party conferences even before President Leonid Kuchma somewhat reluctantly signed the new election law on October 23. Together with the creation of the CEC this was the key precondition for the campaign's formal commencement.

The new election law creates a so-called mixed majoritarian-proportional system. Two hundred and twenty five deputies will be elected directly in single mandate majoritarian districts. An additional 225 deputies will enter the Verkhovna Rada on party lists in proportion to the number of votes their political party receives nationwide. In order to be represented in the Verkhovna Rada, parties must receive no less than 4 percent of the total votes cast.

Neither the adoption of the election law nor the creation of the CEC were straightforward affairs. The election law was adopted by the Verkhovna Rada after approximately nine months of sometimes acrimonious debate. During that time, alliances formed and vanished in almost kaleidoscopic fashion, as new and established parties sought to secure the inside track by shifting their support between the various electoral models. Indeed, one of the few constant features was the almost identical stance adopted by Rukh and the Communists — the only two Ukrainian parties that can genuinely claim to have anything beyond a narrow regional influence — as they strove to consolidate their edge at their respective ends of the political spectrum.

Moreover, President Kuchma proved to be a rather reluctant midwife to the new election law. The reason behind the president's vacillation was a nagging uncertainty within the administration — an uncertainty characterized by the fact that the president had on at least three occasions publicly changed his preference for the various electoral models — over what kind of Verkhovna Rada the new election law would produce.

At one point in mid-October, the president had even made a public show of seriously considering the arguments of those national deputies who claimed that the mixed electoral law is unconstitutional. The primary objection of opponents is that the law discriminates against independent candidates by allowing those on party lists to run simultaneously in single mandate constituencies. (These national deputies remain fundamentally opposed to the mixed system and will very likely petition the Constitutional Court in the near future.) Eventually, however, President Kuchma simply returned the law to the Verkhovna Rada with some relatively minor observations. The Verkhovna Rada very quickly accommodated these reservations, leaving the president little choice but to sign the law.

The major contention regarding the CEC concerned not so much the law itself but the

commission's composition. Being responsible, among other things, for approving party lists, the lists of voter signatures and, most critically, supervising and approving ballot counting, the CEC will play a critical role not only in the forthcoming parliamentary elections but also in the 1999 presidential elections.

The list submitted by President Kuchma for Verkhovna Rada approval contained several nominees from the administration. The president's apparently blatant attempt to pack the CEC was unacceptable to many national deputies — and not just from the left — who were quick to claim that this was simply the president's latest attempt to stall election preparations as a pretext for their eventual cancellation. President Kuchma categorically refused to submit alternative nominees, and a compromise was eventually reached whereby all but the most obvious pro-presidential individuals were approved.

This compromise gave the CEC the necessary two-thirds quorum with which it could begin its work. (President Kuchma has in fact vetoed the CEC law on the grounds that certain provisions compromise its independent status. Administration spokesmen insisted that this did not prevent the CEC from functioning because the president had no reservations over the mechanism by which the members of the CEC themselves had been confirmed.)

Differences between the Verkhovna Rada and the president are nothing new. What was more interesting in the dispute over the CEC were the dynamics within the Verkhovna Rada itself. Several groups had a shared interest in prolonging the deadlock. First, there were elements of the left, and some independents, who supported the old, exclusively majoritarian electoral system. Having lost that particular battle, they saw the CEC issue as another way of frustrating the implementation of a new electoral system.

Then, there were those parties — principally the Communist, and Socialist and Peasants' (SPP) — that viewed any delay as a way to put the squeeze on potential competitors. Under the new election law each party had to collect at least 200,000 voters' signatures (including at least 10,000 from 14 separate oblasts) by December 19, 1997. The larger parties — such as the Communists and Rukh, as well as possibly the SPP, the National Democratic Party of Ukraine (NDPU) and the Agrarian Party — possess a sufficiently broad party or political base to have met this target under a very compressed schedule without difficulty.

For the Communists and the SPP the target was, and remains, the maverick Progressive Socialist Party (PSP). For the purposes of the parliamentary elections at least, the PSP has settled into a potentially rewarding populist groove of criticizing the leadership of the traditional left (including Oleksander Moroz, the Socialist chairman of the Verkhovna Rada) for betraying their ideological heritage no less vigorously than it attacks the Kuchma administration and government. This kind of procedural attrition could also have worked in favor of the larger parties at the other end of the spectrum, such as Rukh and the PDP.

Most observers concur that money will play a much bigger role in these parliamentary elections than in 1994 and that support will therefore not necessarily be based on political convictions. Thus, it is very difficult at the moment to predict which parties will actually cross the 200,000 signature threshold. Indeed, by the end of the first

Markian Bilynskyj is director of the Pylyp Orlyk Institute, an independent public policy, research and information center located in Kyiv that is supported by the Washington-based U.S.-Ukraine Foundation.

(Continued on page 12)

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Ukraine's population continues to decline

KYIV — As a result of rising death rates and falling birth rates, the population of Ukraine declined by approximately 400,000 people in 1997, the State Statistics Committee announced on December 26, 1997. The country's population now stands at 50.48 million, down from 50.85 million a year ago. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kuchma responds to Council of Europe

KYIV — In a letter to the president of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine said he and his government have done all they could to end the death penalty in Ukraine as they had promised, but that the country's Verkhovna Rada had refused to act, ITAR-TASS reported on December 24, 1997. The Parliamentary Assembly has said it will suspend Ukraine's participation in that body unless it abolishes the death penalty, something the Verkhovna Rada has refused to do. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Long ballot may stall elections

KYIV — Central Election Commission Chairman Mykhailo Riabets told Ukrainian Television on December 24, 1997, that Kyiv might have to delay parliamentary elections scheduled for March because the country lacks the physical capacity to print what would be three-meter-long ballots. The ballots are so lengthy because the Verkhovna Rada has required a large amount of personal data to be listed under each name. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Antonov tests new aircraft

KYIV — The Antonov Design Bureau's new aircraft, the AN-70, is currently being tested, the Antonov press service reported on December 18, 1997. The AN-70 is to replace the AN-12, which recently celebrated its 40th anniversary. Experts expect it to go on being used until 2005-2010. At present, 70 AN-12s are in use in Ukraine and 700 around the world. (Eastern Economist)

### Top business schools hold MBA fair

KYIV — Three European MBA schools, the London Business School and the French INSEAD and Spanish IESE held an MBA Fair on November 15, 1997, at Ukraine House. About 200 Ukrainians turned up to find out about enrollment and possible financing. The relatively high tuition fees can be paid through special loan programs financed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and ABN-AMRO Bank. Under the student loan program, the bank pays a student's tuition fees. The annual percentage rate ranges from 8 to 13 percent and the repayment period is 13.5 years. The banks stipulate that recipients of such loans must return to Eastern or Central Europe and work there for at least three years after graduation. According to LBS Marketing and Enquiries Manager Mary Ferreira, it is much easier to get financing for the program than to actually enroll in the MBA program. All three schools are highly rated in Europe and have a very competitive selection procedure. (Eastern Economist)

(Continued on page 16)

## U.N. report predicts further decline

Eastern Economist

KYIV — The United Nations Development Program's annual Human Development Report on Ukraine predicts that quality of life in Ukraine will continue to decline in the near future.

"The report is a U.N. publication, but it is a Ukrainian document, prepared by Ukrainians and to be used by Ukrainians," said the head of the United Nations Office in Ukraine, Pedro Pablo Kuczynski. The report, prepared jointly by the UNDP and a team of national experts and policymakers, analyzes living standards, the labor market and welfare provision.

The so-called Human Development Index, consisting of factors such as mortality rates, life expectancy, education and economic indicators, places Ukraine 95th among 175 countries. The

Ukrainian HDI is likely to decrease even further because of falling life expectancy, worsening education and public health standards, as well as the decline in the gross domestic product.

The population numbers 50.9 million in Ukraine, 72.7 percent of whom are ethnic Ukrainians. "The demographic situation is very serious," Prof. Valentyna Steshenko reported. "Since 1970, average life expectancy has fallen 4.5 years for men and 2.5 years for women," reaching 62 and 73 years, respectively.

Migration trends continue to be negative, with about 50,000 highly educated specialists emigrating each year. "With the situation continuing to deteriorate, people are going elsewhere to find a better place to live," noted Mr. Kuczynski. The Human Development Report was released in Kyiv on December 10, 1997.

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Yearly subscription rate: \$60; for UNA members — \$40.

Second-class postage paid at Jersey City, NJ 07302.  
(ISSN — 0273-9348)

Also published by the UNA: Svoboda, a Ukrainian-language daily newspaper (annual subscription fee: \$100; \$75 for UNA members).

The Weekly and Svoboda:  
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510

UNA:  
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

Postmaster, send address changes to:  
The Ukrainian Weekly  
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280  
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz  
Assistant editor: Kristina Lew  
Staff editors: Roman Woronowycz (Kyiv)  
Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj (Toronto)  
Irene Jarosewich

The Ukrainian Weekly, January 4, 1998, No. 1, Vol. LXVI

Copyright © 1998 The Ukrainian Weekly



## Peace Corps...

(Continued from page 1)

success here must truly be amazing.

For his part, Mr. Dutkewych explained that his success is merely evidence of the success the Peace Corps has enjoyed here.

The organization that Mr. Dutkewych directs in Ukraine today is not your daddy's Peace Corps. Although the volunteers are still all college-educated, today Peace Corps volunteers come with work experience and living experiences, not just a degree and youthful enthusiasm, which were the only real requirements when the Peace Corps began its work in the early 1960s. And their field work today is done more often in business offices than on the street or in the village.

The average age of the volunteers in Ukraine today is 35, and about half have master's degrees. Those in the business development program must also show at least five years' work experience in the business sector to qualify for a volunteer assignment in Ukraine. In the 1960s most volunteers were fresh out of college with degrees in liberal arts.

The 400 volunteers who have served in Ukraine since 1992 are the key to the success of the Peace Corps program here. Their mission is to teach Ukrainians Western business practices and to give them exposure to Western standards and Western life.

But Mr. Dutkewych said there is a deeper underlying theme that runs through all the Peace Corps programs, which it tries to instill in Ukrainians — that "individuals need to take it upon themselves to make change happen."

It is up to the volunteers, who are the ground troops, to instill that notion. They are given three months' training in language, culture and customs, in the history of the country and in its current economic development after they arrive in Ukraine. When they go into the field they must rely on that and their education and general knowledge to get the job done.

### Economic development a priority

The first volunteers in Ukraine worked on the economic development project, whose aim it is to transfer free market business skills and expertise to those who are interested in entrepreneurial careers. That project continues with 89 of the 199 volunteers involved.

They work in regional and municipal government offices, post-privatization centers, business centers that are now cropping up throughout the country, non-governmental (NGO) centers and educational institutions, where they help current and future entrepreneurs develop skills in forming business plans, marketing plans and a sense of business ethics, explained Mr. Dutkewych.

At these locations they are used as consultants by organizations and individuals interested in developing or maintaining businesses. They are never assigned to individual firms, although they will work individually with enterprises going through privatization, but only as consultants to the government.

The second program that the Peace Corps has developed in Ukraine, which currently involves 85 volunteers, is the English as a Foreign Language project. The idea behind the effort is to help Ukrainians participate in international exchanges of information through the most widely used language in the world. The program was begun in June 1993, earlier than had been planned, because the Ukrainian government realized that a need existed not only for business education but for training in the language of business, according to Mr. Dutkewych.



Peace Corps volunteers in Ukraine with Jerry Dutkewych, country director for Ukraine.

Today Peace Corps volunteers teach English in secondary schools and at teacher re-certification institutes. There are several volunteers assigned to Kyiv State University and the Ministry of Education to develop teacher preparatory materials, textbooks and audio cassettes on how to teach English. Volunteers also aid teachers and school administrators in requesting textbooks from U.S. publishers. To date 200,000 English-language books have been gathered for Ukrainian schools and libraries.

### New project focuses on environment

The newest Peace Corps program, initiated on December 10, 1997, when 16 volunteers were sworn in at the American Business Center by U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Green Miller, is the environmental protection project. Its aim is environmental education and public awareness, as well as community development.

Many of the 16 volunteers will spend time in the Carpathian Mountains in villages and small towns working on forestry and water projects. Some will help communities develop tourism programs. One of the ecology consultants will be stationed at the new Environmental Resources Center in Kyiv, which is funded by the United

Nations and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Dutkewych said a team of volunteers would also develop an ad campaign on the environment and the individual's role in maintaining it.

While the volunteers, whether ecology consultants, English teachers or business advisors, work to complete their primary assignments, they are encouraged to develop secondary projects that might fulfill personal interests or a need in the community in which they are placed, as well.

Mr. Dutkewych cited numerous projects that have blossomed in Ukraine from the personal initiatives of a volunteer. One was an Earth Day clean-up campaign along the Dnipro River in May. A project that started with a class of English-language students cleaning up trash along the banks of the Dnipro River one weekend mushroomed into a community effort that eventually collected 20,000 pounds of trash.

In Zaporizhia, volunteers helped the handicapped purchase sewing machines to put their skills to use and give them the ability to generate income. A baseball little league has been formed in Ukraine, also through the help of Peace Corps volunteers.

Many of the volunteers must enjoy their experiences in Ukraine. Only 7 per-



Jerry Dutkewych

cent leave before training is complete (the world rate is 26 percent). And more strikingly, 25 percent of the volunteers have stayed on in Ukraine to pursue business or other interests after their Peace Corps days were up. Another interesting statistic: 10 percent have married Ukrainians.

## Canadian Ukrainians protest Sher appointment

CALGARY — Canada's Ukrainian community has reacted with dismay to news of the appointment of an American Nazi hunter as a special consultant to the Canadian Ministry of Justice War Crimes Unit.

Justice Minister Anne McLellan defended her decision to appoint Neal Sher, a Washington-based lawyer who served as director of the U.S. Office of Special Investigations in 1983-1994, by saying that he is "one of the world's leading experts in dealing with war criminals."

J. B. Gregorovich, chairman of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, noted that the OSI has been discredited in the U.S. for its unscrupulous tactics in pursuit of alleged Nazi war criminals, its officers having been accused of making use of forged documents and

failing to disclose exculpatory evidence.

He added that the Ukrainian Canadian community has expressed grave concerns over Ottawa's drift toward a policy of denaturalizing Canadian citizens then deporting them to other countries rather than bringing alleged war criminals to trial in Canada under Canadian criminal law.

"Basically," said Mr. Gregorovich, "the government has not been able to prove that there are any Nazi war criminals living in Canada. As a result, Ottawa has abandoned the promised 'made in Canada' solution for the easier route of deporting persons without providing convincingly that they are actually guilty of wrongdoing. We find this objectionable."

As for Mr. Sher's appointment, Mr. Gregorovich said: "We find it odd that the government of Canada was not able to

locate a Canadian lawyer for this responsible role, as there are many fine unemployed barristers and solicitors in Canada, Jews and non-Jews alike, who could bring the necessary ethical and professional qualifications to bear on these investigations.

"Mr. Sher is a controversial appointee, whose partiality is open to serious question. But perhaps the Minister of Justice had other considerations in making her appointment that she did not wish to share with us. Let the record note that a UCCLA delegation informed the minister in Edmonton several weeks ago about our objections to Mr. Sher being put on a government payroll. She obviously chose to ignore the honestly communicated concerns of her constituents and of our community."



## Canadian Friends of Ukraine plan Parliamentary Resource Center

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — The local branch of Canadian Friends of Ukraine has announced plans to help establish a Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Resource Center at the Verkhovna Rada in Kyiv, and to give teaching awards to leading pedagogues in eastern Ukraine.

The president of CFU Toronto, Bohdan Wynnyckyj, told *The Weekly* in a recent interview that his organization works with "a broad coalition of activists and organizations in Ukraine, without regard for specific political affiliation."

The CFU official also expressed hope that the Ukrainian community in the diaspora "will rally behind our projects as they have our five library support efforts in Luhansk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Symferopol and, most recently, in Odesa."

The Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Resource Center would house pertinent Canadian federal and provincial laws, as well as regulations concerning various agencies and quasi-governmental institutions.

The intent is to make a broad spectrum of information pertaining to trade and economic development, environmental protection, constitutional reform, federal provincial relations, cultural preservation, health care, human rights, and other areas accessible to Ukraine's elected officials and public servants, as well as the general public and scholars.

Mr. Wynnyckyj said that Leonid Kravchuk, former president of Ukraine and currently a National Deputy has endorsed this project and agreed to be its honorary patron in Ukraine. As a testament to the CFU's political ecumenism, Mr. Wynnyckyj said that Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz also has given his blessing to the project.

Prof. Orest Subtelny of York University, the CFU project chairman, said, "[Ukrainian officials] often look to Canadian legal precedent, and it's very important for them to know how [Western] judiciaries and legislatures operate." The historian added that former Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk also expressed great interest in the project.

Mr. Wynnyckyj said that while there are copies of Canadian statutes in Kyiv, they are spread out all over the capital in various academic institutions and government ministries. "We'd like to provide one central area where people can go to access legal information," the CFU branch president said.

Dealing with the nuts and bolts of the operation in Ukraine will be the secretariat of Ukraine's Parliament, headed by Leonid Horiovy, and the Rada's Library Information Branch, headed by Dr. Edvard Afonin.

While he was optimistic about the impact this initiative would have, Mr. Wynnyckyj was realistic about how soon it would be up and running. "It's still going to take a while," he said, "the major problem is getting the Canadian government and the Canadian Industrial Development Agency interested. Our partners in Ukraine are raring to go, now we have to work on people

on this side of the ocean."

Individuals and organizations are invited to support this project. Donors contributing \$500 or more will be recognized as the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Resource Center's honorary founders, and their names will appear on a permanent plaque in Ukraine's Parliament building.

Lisa Shymko, CFU Toronto Branch executive administrator, told *The Weekly* that the CFU's Teachers Awards Fund was established in response to the challenges faced by Ukrainian educators in the eastern oblasts of Ukraine.

In a recent interview, Prof. Jurij Darewych, CFU Toronto vice-president and teachers' fund chair, said "the aim is to encourage and reward those professionals in rural areas of Ukraine's eastern oblasts, to whom the least amount of attention has been paid to date." Initially, each award will be valued at \$100 (U.S.).

Mr. Wynnyckyj added that the decision to concentrate on eastern Ukraine was predicated on a desire to counter the effects of Russification. "It would be nice to say that

we could reverse Russification, or slow it down," he said, "but the best we can do is to get Russian speakers to feel good about also speaking Ukrainian, their country's official language."

Prof. Darewych, who teaches physics at York University, said the effort, which aims to reward nine teachers by the end of the current academic year in the oblasts of Chernihiv, Sumy and Luhansk, is still at the organizational stage. The intention is to form three-person committees consisting of one local CFU member, one local representative of a civic organization, such as Prosvita or the Shevchenko Ukrainian Language Association, and one member of a local teachers' council or some other third party representing teachers.

Pedagogues may either be nominated, or they may they may apply directly themselves.

Prof. Darewych said the CFU is about a month away from having these committees struck and ready to process applications. He added that Dr. Maria Fischer-Slyzh of Toronto donated the \$900 (U.S.) for this

year's round of awards. The CFU vice-president said the fund eventually intends to reach into every oblast and to establish itself as a self-supporting endowment fund.

Mr. Wynnyckyj explained that the project is unique, "because it's a small, grass-roots program, as compared to many of the huge projects administered by CIDA." He added, "Some of the most successful programs [in Ukraine] are those that do not command the big dollars."

Donors who wish to establish an award in their name or in the name of a patron of their choice have two options: by contributing \$545 Canadian (or \$390 U.S.), donors will establish an oblast award in their name; or by making a donation of \$1,250 Canadian (\$900 U.S.) donors will establish a three-oblast annual award in their name. CFU Toronto intends to recognize donors with special certificates.

For further information contact the Canadian Friends of Ukraine, Toronto Branch, 620 Spadina Ave., Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2H4; telephone, (416) 964-6644; fax, (416) 964-6085.

## Hnatyshyn counsels patience in dealing with Ukraine

by Christopher Guly

OTTAWA — Ukrainian Canadians eager to offer Ukrainians "free advice" on how to push Ukraine faster along its current path of reforms should "have a sense of patience and understanding about the challenges [Ukrainians] face," Canada's former Governor General Ramon Hnatyshyn told the annual awards dinner of the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association of Ottawa on November 22, 1997.

"Ukrainians are living the reality of facing a system they have to change and are trying to change," he explained. "It's important to be supportive of Ukraine in the challenges they face. But we have to understand that Ukraine is not a country that knows democracy very well and has never known a free-market economy."

Mr. Hnatyshyn, the first Ukrainian Canadian to hold the country's highest office as Canada's constitutional head of state in 1990-1995, was also the first foreign head of state to visit Ukraine in September 1992 — a year after the country declared independence. "It was certainly one of the emotional highlights of my term in office," said Mr. Hnatyshyn, who recalled meeting a relative, Ivan Hnatyshyn, a senior official in Bukovyna.

Saskatoon-born Mr. Hnatyshyn, a former federal Conservative Cabinet minister prior to his appointment as governor general, also reminded his audience of approximately 120 guests of Ukrainians' "enormous contribution to Canada's way of life." He mentioned John Sopinka, whom he appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada during his term as Canada's attorney general in the late 1980s. "There was a time in Saskatchewan when we pretty well ran things," he continued lightheartedly. "We had a governor general, a premier [Roy Romanow], the chief justice of the Court of Appeal [Edward Bayda] and a lieutenant governor



Ramon Hnatyshyn and his wife, Gerda, at the Ps & Bs dinner in Ottawa.

[Dr. Sylvia Fedoruk, replaced by Ukrainian Canadian John Wiebe] from the province who were all of Ukrainian descent."

Serving as Canada's governor general during the 1991-1992 centennial year of Ukrainian settlement was another highlight for him, said Mr. Hnatyshyn. His appearance at an Ottawa P's and B's gathering was the first in about a decade — a time not forgotten by Mr. Hnatyshyn. "I was representing the prime minister [Brian Mulroney] and recall sitting next to an Ottawa alderman by the name of 'Smith,'" said Mr. Hnatyshyn, the son of the first Ukrainian Canadian senator, John Hnatyshyn. "He was Ukrainian but changed his name to Smith to get elected in Ottawa. When it was my time to speak, I said I was born a Smith but changed my name to Hnatyshyn to get elected in Saskatoon-Biggan [the electoral district that he represented in the House of Commons]."

Given Mr. Hnatyshyn's references of Ukrainian Canadiana, it was easy to overlook some of the anomalies present at the

P's and B's event. The site for the third annual awards dinner was Greek (the Hellenic Banquet Center) and the menu was distinctly North American (roast sirloin of beef, with not a varenyk to be found).

Nevertheless, the mood was decidedly celebratory in terms of local Ukrainian Canadian accomplishments. Lucy Hirniak, an 18-year volunteer in Ottawa who served four terms as president of the local Ukrainian Canadian Congress and hosts a weekly community cable-TV series, "Ukrainian Profile," was given the Filip Konowal V.C. Memorial Achievement Award, which honors the only Ukrainian Canadian veteran to receive the prestigious Victoria Cross. Retired Justice Department lawyer Peter Sorokan was awarded the "Member of the Year" prize.

The Ps and Bs event also raised \$1,500 for the Help Us Help the Children Fund, which has distributed 1 million kilograms (approximately 2 million pounds) of medical supplies, clothing and infant formula worth about \$7 million (\$5 million U.S.) to 170 institutions throughout Ukraine.



**Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund**  
272 Old Short Hills Road  
Short Hills, New Jersey 07078  
TEL: 973-376-5140/ FAX: 973-376-4988

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 |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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



# Ukrainian American Bar Association celebrates 20th anniversary

by Bohdanna Pochoday

WASHINGTON — The Ukrainian American Bar Association (UABA) held its annual fall meeting and commemorated 20 years of its existence here during the weekend of November 14-15, 1997. The four-part anniversary program was attended by approximately one-sixth of known lawyers and law students of Ukrainian descent from throughout the United States, as well as fellow jurists from Canada and Ukraine, and members of the Ukrainian diplomatic corps.

Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S., Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, greeted the UABA and its guests in the historic Georgetown home of the Embassy on the occasion of the UABA's 20th anniversary. The ambassador noted the UABA's efforts on behalf of Ukrainian dissidents and its involvement in other issues over the years.

In addition to UABA members attending the reception, there was a delegation of 20 jurists from Ukraine and its Constitutional Court, as well as a group of local Washingtonians, including Michael Sawkiw Jr., director of Ukrainian National Information Service; George Masiuk, president of The Washington Group (TWG); and Dr. Roman Goy, who represented the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America and the World Federation of Ukrainian Medical Associations.

At the UABA's request, the Embassy staff prepared a wonderful buffet of "zakusky" served in the Embassy's lower-level reception room. Afterwards, UABA members and their guests retreated to the UABA hospitality suite at the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel, just over the bridge from the Embassy, for further camaraderie and reminiscing.

The UABA's all-day conference, held on Saturday, November 15, at the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel, commenced at 9 a.m. The conference addressed both internal and external issues affecting the UABA.

The morning session included introductory comments by Bohdanna Pochoday, president of the UABA, and a financial report by Bohdan Ozaruk, UABA treasurer. A UABA Scholarship Fund report was presented by Andre Michniak, and Bohdan Shandor, co-chairmen of the UABA Scholarship Fund Inc., a separate IRC 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

The present goal of the UABA Scholarship Fund is to provide scholarships to needy and qualified jurists from Ukraine who come to the United States for graduate law studies. In the past U.S. law students received such aid. However, after Ukraine's independence, the primary focus was changed to help Ukrainian, English-speaking law graduates complete their law studies in the U.S. These scholarship recipients are requested to return to Ukraine upon the completion of their studies, where it is hoped they will use their newly acquired knowledge to help Ukraine in its process of legal and commercial reform. It is anticipated that in the future, upon accumulation of adequate funds, both Ukrainian American and Ukrainian law students could be assisted by the fund.

The issue of an agreed-upon name for the UABA in the Ukrainian language was raised by Ms. Pochoday in view of the confusion that has developed over the years in diaspora organizations, as well as in Ukraine itself. After some discussion and the appointment of a committee comprising Ulana Baransky, Wolodymyr Bazarko, Walter Lupan and Victor Rud from the U.S., and Danylo Kordelchouk and Ihor Shevchenko of Ukraine, the conference agreed to utilize the committee's proposed name: "Asotsiatsia Ukrainskykh Pravnykyv Ameryky" in future situations requiring identification in the Ukrainian language. A logo for the UABA will be worked on for future approval.

In addition, upon earlier proposals made by UABA members, the conference agreed to provide retired UABA members a 50 percent discount on their annual membership dues, and to consider the reduction of dues in special circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

During the later part of the morning session, Richard Rezie, a second-year law student from Case Western University School of Law, made some suggestions as to how law students could obtain information about the UABA. Vyacheslav Bihun, a jurist from Ukraine enrolled in the master's law program at the University of Connecticut and a former president of the Ukrainian Law Students Association, also greeted the attendants.

The final presentation before the lunch break consisted of an interesting and absorbing hands-on Internet presentation by Myroslaw Smorodsky, a former UABA president who administers the UABA web page, and a computer presentation by UABA Secretary George Pazuniak, focusing on practical use. Mr. Smorodsky demonstrated how the Internet offers a wealth of information to the Ukrainian American community in general, as well as to attorneys seeking information about Ukrainian legal sources. Mr. Pazuniak provided an 18-page booklet with citations to legal databases, search engines, and addressed the issues of

video animation, coding and imaging, ABA and other sources providing links to legal research and information resources on the Internet.

During a formal luncheon UABA President Pochoday awarded certificates of recognition to each of the past UABA presidents, namely: Victor Borowsky (1977-1978), Myroslaw Smorodsky (1978-1979), Taras Modny (1979-1980), Ihor Rakowsky (1980-1981), Bohdan E. Porytko (1981-1982), Bohdan Shandor (1982-1983), Bohdan Futey (1983-1986), Taras Gawryk (1986-1988), Andrew Fylypovych (1988-1990); Mr. Smorodsky (1990-1993), Walter M. Lupan (1993-1995), Orest A. Jejna (1995-1997).

The current UABA president was presented a beautiful bandura, with the emblem of Lviv (lion), by Danylo Kordelchouk on behalf of the International Bar Association of Ukraine ("Iniurkolegia") on the occasion of the UABA's 20th anniversary.

Ms. Pochoday then introduced the luncheon's keynote speaker, Carlos Pascual, director for Russian, Ukrainian and Eurasian Affairs at the U.S. National Security Council. Mr. Pascual, who has traveled to and is quite knowledgeable about Ukraine, presented a very supportive and cooperative position towards the legal, economic and democratic growth of Ukraine, stating that it is in everyone's interest to see Ukraine prosper.

Mr. Pascual stated that Ukraine must undertake a program of reduced spending and focus on expanding privatization efforts, provide a forum for investors to resolve commercial disputes and enforce commercial agreements, and take measures for macroeconomic stability within Ukraine. Notwithstanding continued U.S. assistance to Ukraine, Mr. Pascual said that Ukraine must stay on a clear course of reform, despite the roadblocks that may be laid as a result of the impending parliamentary elections and the presidential campaign.

The conference resumed after the luncheon with a discussion of a proposed commercial law project for Ukraine. UABA member Askold Lozynskyy, who is president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), along with James Huntwork of Arizona and UABA Vice-President Petro Piddoubny, briefed the audience on the need for support, and the possibilities of obtaining a USAID grant for a commercial law project under the auspices of the UCCA.

Stating that there is no comprehensive system of commercial law in Ukraine, the panel underscored that the UABA's support, and legal assistance for such a project is indispensable. UABA members were asked to provide assistance both in terms of lobbying their congressional representatives and lending their expertise to the project. Sitting in the audience was Patricia Liefert, a representative of the U.S. Agency for International Development, who was able to address some questions posed by members of the audience.

## "UABA: Quo Vadis?"

What some regarded as the main focus of the meeting — a panel discussion on the topic "UABA: Quo Vadis?" — was shortened due to time constraints. As expected, many strug-

gled with the questions raised: the future of the UABA, the purposes of the association, the needs of the diaspora, the original mission of the UABA, and what had changed. Former UABA President Lupan moderated the afternoon panel, which commenced with a historical perspective. A brief retrospect into the motivation and objectives of the founders of the UABA was provided by Mr. Rud, a member of the initiative committee that organized the conference at which the UABA was established, and Mr. Bazarko, the first UABA vice-president.

A synopsis of the UABA's history over the period of 20 years was presented by two former UABA presidents, Messrs. Smorodsky and Fylypovych. Mr. Smorodsky commented that many of the driving issues in the 1970s and 1980s — political repression in the former Soviet Union, attacks on the Ukrainian American community in connection with denaturalization and deportation proceedings initiated by the Office of Special Investigations, and the absence of the word "Ukraine" from the U.S. government lexicon — are now either irrelevant or largely in the past.

Thereafter, Ihor Bardyn, a barrister practicing in Toronto, discussed some parallels in organizational problems applicable to both the Canadian Professional and Businesspersons Association and the UABA, and suggested some changes and approaches to improve the association. Mr. Bardyn expressed the view that Ukrainian Americans and Ukrainian Canadians had much to learn from the most recent book by author and law professor Alan Dershowitz titled "The Vanishing American Jew." Noting that just as anti-Semitism was becoming a less potent factor binding American Jews, he said Ukrainians in the diaspora no longer have anti-communism to cement their ties.

With the demise of the Soviet Union, Mr. Bardyn suggested that Ukrainians need to redefine themselves and their mission. Noting a recent scandal involving a Ukrainian official in Canada, Mr. Bardyn stated that the Canadian Ukrainian Ps & Bs have decided to concentrate on affairs in Canada. Mr. Bardyn spoke harshly of the current generation in Ukraine. He opined that Americans and Canadians of Ukrainian descent should assist Ukraine by helping to shape the values of the next generation of Ukrainians.

Mr. Jejna of Arizona, raised some contemporary problems within the UABA, the need to find ways of attracting additional members, and increasing attendance at meetings, member participation and input into the UABA. The moderator, Mr. Lupan, expressed his frustration with getting things done, saying that all sorts of projects and committees were being proposed, but only a few people carry out the work. Other speakers, however, noted that, as a percentage of its membership, UABA members are more active than comparable American bar associations, including the powerful American Bar Association.

Unfortunately, due to time limitations, there was insufficient time to discuss in any detailed manner the UABA's future objectives and goals, and its relationship with other

(Continued on page 14)

## Historical background of the UABA

Twenty years ago, on September 23-24, 1977, the first national convention of Ukrainian American lawyers took place in Cleveland. Fifty-one attorneys from 13 states attended this convention, for the specific purpose of organizing the Ukrainian American Bar Association (UABA), the first national association of Ukrainian American lawyers, and to commence work on a national level.

This conference was prepared through the efforts of an organizational committee consisting of Viktor Rud, George Pazuniak, Jurij Stepanenko and others. The convention was greeted by UCCA Cleveland Branch President Bohdan Futey; Andrew Boyko, mayor of Parma; John O. Flis, on behalf of the UCCA and the Ukrainian National Association; and Yaroslav Padoch of the Scientific Society of Shevchenko. In addition, greetings were sent by the president of the Society of Ukrainian Attorneys in the U.S., W. Sawchak, and were also delivered by Mr. Borowsky, president of the Michigan Ukrainian American Bar Association.

At this founding conference, Mr. Pazuniak enumerated the reasons for establishing the national Ukrainian American Bar Association: the desire to work more closely with the Ukrainian community and its organizations, and to stand in defense of Ukrainian brethren fighting for a better future in Soviet-dominated Ukraine. It was noted that if U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark could stand in defense of dissidents in Ukraine, then Ukrainian American lawyers of the "free

world" should even more vigorously undertake the task.

These thoughts were echoed by Messrs. Rud and Mr. Stepanenko, who stressed the importance of working closely with the Society of Ukrainian Attorneys in New York, which united former jurists from Ukraine and published the journal "Legal News."

The conference was also attended by Canadian jurists Jurij Danyliw, Ihor Bardyn and Orest Rudzik.

The first elected board of governors of the UABA (which was divided into six districts) consisted of: Nestor Olesnycky, Mr. Pazuniak, Wolodymyr Anastas, Mr. Borowsky, Taras Modny and Mr. Stepanenko (who was chosen as the board's first chairman). Andriy Steckiwi was selected as the law student representative.

The first elected officers of the UABA were as follows: Victor Borowsky, president; Wolodymyr Bazarko, vice-president; Zenon Forowych, corresponding secretary; Ivan Shandor, recording secretary; and Dennis Grunyk, treasurer.

The convention addressed issues such as the representation of dissidents, particularly Ukrainian dissidents, in the Soviet Union, as well as non-testamentary and testamentary dispositions to individuals in the Soviet Union.

Dr. Padoch noted that during Ukraine's history Ukrainian jurists had played a significant role in the renaissance of the Ukrainian nation and in its defense at times of occupation. He stressed the need for contemporary jurists to continue in this role.



## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Sharing our Christmas

On January 7, many of us will celebrate Christmas according to the Julian calendar. And, since that is the date on which Christmas is observed in Ukraine, it is only natural that our thoughts turn to the land of our parents, grandparents, great-grandparents ...

Many of us, while sitting at the dinner table during "Sviat Vechir," as Christmas Eve is called in Ukrainian, will think of family, friends and colleagues in distant Ukraine. In our thoughts, and perhaps in our toasts, we will wish them a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

During our "Sviata Vechera" we feel a strong connection, by way of tradition, with our kith and kin in Ukraine. The same customs we observe here in the diaspora are observed in Ukraine. They have been passed down through the ages from generation to generation. They have survived wars and other cataclysms, migrations and deportations, exile and repression.

One Ukrainian youth organization active throughout the world has made that Christmas connection seem even more real with a very special ritual. On January 6, on Christmas Eve, members gather at the same hour that the first star appeared in the heavens above Ukraine, marking the start of the traditional 12-course meatless repast on Sviat Vechir. At what is called the "Svichechka," Plast members light candles, sing our beautiful Ukrainian Christmas carols and partake of the most important course of the special Christmas Eve dinner, the "kutia" — so rich in its symbolism and in its ties to the very essence of Ukraine.

In the early days of this custom of the Svichechka (literally: little candle), Plast members would solemnly recall that Christmas could not be celebrated openly in Soviet-dominated Ukraine. Later they cautiously rejoiced when the spiritual rebirth of Ukraine was beginning. Now they simply join with fellow Ukrainians in the joy of the newborn Christ Child, all the while realizing that others worldwide are doing the very same thing on Sviat Vechir.

During this Christmas season, let us Ukrainians around the world continue this remarkable connection with each other. No matter where we are, let us symbolically join hands and hearts as together we celebrate Christmas.

"Khrystos Rodyvsia — Slavim Yoho!"



Jan.  
5  
1996

### Turning the pages back...

On January 5, 1996, 250 kilometers south of Kyiv, the defense ministers of Ukraine and Russia, and the defense secretary of the United States witnessed the destruction of an ICBM missile silo — one of 130 in Ukraine that were to be destroyed by November of 1998 in accordance with provisions of the START I disarmament treaty.

The silo, located in Pervomaisk, was the third destroyed by Ukraine.

U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry and Russian Minister of Defense Pavel Grachev had arrived in Ukraine two days earlier for talks with Ukrainian Minister of Defense Valerii Shmarov. The three met with President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine. Messrs. Perry and Shmarov also signed an agreement on closer military cooperation between the United States and Ukraine.

The three defense officials flew from Kyiv to Pervomaisk on January 5, but due to inclement weather their plane was forced to land not at the airport near that city in Mykolaiv Oblast, but on an icy runway in Uman, Cherkasy Oblast. From there the entourage traveled some 90 kilometers by car to the base of the 43rd Strategic Missile Forces. Demolition of the missile silo at Pervomaisk got under way at 1 p.m., four hours later than scheduled.

On January 14, 1994, Ukraine had signed a tripartite agreement with the United States and Russia, thus paving the way for Ukraine's disarmament and the destruction of its nuclear arms. At the time, Ukraine possessed 1,300 warheads for intercontinental ballistic missiles and more than 600 cruise missile warheads. It had 176 silos for strategic nuclear missiles: 130 SS-19s and 46 SS-24s. Thus, it was the world's third largest nuclear power.

However, Ukraine had stated in 1990 in its Declaration on State Sovereignty that it would abide by three non-nuclear principles: not to accept, not to provide and not to procure nuclear weapons. Then, in 1993, the Verkhovna Rada ratified START I.

At the end of 1995, 90 percent of Ukraine's missiles had been deactivated; 70 percent of its warheads had been transferred to Russia, where they were being destroyed under international supervision, including representatives of the Ukrainian military.

Source: "Defense ministers witness demolition of missile silo in Ukraine," special to The Ukrainian Weekly by Borys Klymenko, January 14, 1996, Vol. LXIV, No. 2.

## CHRISTMAS PASTORAL LETTER

### We are one holy family of God

To the Distinguished Pastors, Deacons in Christ, Venerable Monastics and Christ-loving faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A., Canada and diaspora:

May the peace of the Lord, born in Bethlehem, be with all of you!

Christ is born!

Let us glorify Him!

Beloved spiritual children in Christ:

Christmas is a celebration of the birth of the Son of God. Motivated by love for all of humanity which He fashioned, our Heavenly Father sent His Only begotten Son so that whosoever believes in Him might not perish, but have life everlasting. Through the instrumentality of the star of Bethlehem, the Heavenly Father, through an angel, announced to the world, the birth of His beloved Son: "And this shall be a sign unto you; You will find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, laying in a manger" (Lk. 2, 12).

The Infant Who was born in Bethlehem — the city of David seemed, to the shepherds, Magi and those who beheld Him, like any other infant. Tiny and weak, the Infant required assistance and was totally dependent upon His parents. Mary, the Most pure one, nourishes Him, bathes and clothes Him and, like any other mother, tends to His every need. St. Joseph, like every devoted husband and father, conscientiously provides for the family entrusted to his care. In reflecting on this mystery of the incarnation of the Son of God, St. Paul, writing to the believers of his time, says of Christ, that "(He) in all things was similar to us, except sin" (Hebrews 4, 15).

The Infant born in Bethlehem was truly God, the One promised by the Heavenly Father, the very fulfillment of the Law and the prophets. His external condition was not an indication of internal frailty. The Infant born in Bethlehem was the very power, the life and the force of God the Heavenly Father. Centuries before the birth of Christ Jesus, God's servant, the prophet Isaiah, inspired by the Holy Spirit, proclaimed that this Child would be "the Prince of Peace, a Marvelous Counselor, the Mighty God" (Isaiah 9, 6).

It is interesting to point out that when God appeared to the people of Old Testament times, they were struck with fear when they encountered His manifestations. In reading the books of the Old Testament we see how the theophanies of God the Father elicited fear and trepidation. However, the opposite occurred when "grace came and the shadow of the law faded" (Vesper Dogmatikon, Tone 2). The innate divinity of the Infant in the manger does not strike fear in our hearts, His hidden wisdom does not put us to shame. Shrouded is His righteousness. Let us gaze upon the traditional icon of Christ's Nativity. The countenance of the Divine Infant radiates love, confidence and meekness. Having encountered this, the shepherds, as recorded by Holy Writ, "returned, glorifying and praising God for all that they had seen and heard" (Luke 2, 20).

Dearly beloved in Christ! The Divine Infant lives among us in this feast of Nativity. He is with us in our nativity worship services, in our devout customs, in the words of the Gospel and in the Holy Eucharist. The Divine Infant, born in Bethlehem, lives among us when we, via charitable and compassionate deeds, make Him a reality and accessible to those who even today are overwhelmed by the spiritual darkness that has enveloped contemporary humanity.

Our meditations on the Divine Infant give rise to spiritual reflection and encourage us to holiness and to oneness with the Son of God, Who is our Way, Truth and

Life. Using that night in Bethlehem as a starting point in our lives, we all can count ourselves among those "who received Him, and to whom He gave the power to be children of God, to them who have believed in His name."

For all of us this feast is a joyful celebration, for it draws attention to God's love for us, and encourages us to make love for fellow man a reality in our daily life. In the presence of the children of Bethlehem, we sense a nearness to our Heavenly Father, and perceive that we are indeed partakers of His immeasurable love for all people. We also sense the reality of the invitation given by Christ Jesus the Son of God, an invitation to be perfect, to be holy and to be one.

As we celebrate the Birth of Christ, we Orthodox Ukrainians in Ukraine and beyond her borders are prepared to transform ourselves into one holy family of God, Who calls us to mutual love and unity in the Church which He heads.

We, beloved in the Lord, have at last come to this great feast, a feast filled with love — the feast of the Nativity of the Son of God. As we celebrate this feast, we embrace in Christ's divine love which overcomes all, the archpastors, pastors and all of our faithful — our brothers and sisters in free and independent Ukraine. Together with us, they, at the Nativity Liturgy, proclaim the brief but powerful credo: "One is Holy, One is Lord, Jesus Christ."

It is our prayerful wish for you, the spiritual children, whom the Lord has entrusted to our archpastoral care, that the days of Christ's Nativity and Holy Theophany be joyous and blessed. May these days, filled with the spirit of love and holiness, be for all of us a source of sanctification and days of personal renewal in the Lord.

May the Infant of Bethlehem, Who, except for the manger, had no place to lay His head, find a place of rest in our hearts. May the star of Bethlehem, lead us as it did the Magi, to Him Who is above all of us — to our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, so that in joyful song we might be able to proclaim: "God is with us!"

Christ is born! Let us glorify Him with all of our being!

† **Wasyly**  
Metropolitan of the Ukrainian  
Orthodox Church of Canada

† **Constantine**  
Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox  
Church of the U.S.A. and Diaspora

† **Ivan**  
Archbishop of the Ukrainian  
Orthodox Church of Canada

† **Antony**  
Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox  
Church of the U.S.A.; Ruling Archbishop  
of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church  
of Australia and New Zealand

† **Vsevolod**  
Archbishop of the Ukrainian  
Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

† **Paisij**  
Bishop of the Ukrainian  
Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

† **Yurij**  
Bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox  
Church of Canada

† **Ioan**  
Bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox  
Church in the Diaspora

† **Jeremiah**  
Bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox  
Church in Latin America

Issued on the 1,998th commemoration of the Nativity according to the flesh of our



## Procurator general...

(Continued from page 1)

came in connection with documents the procurator had obtained, which indicate that Mr. Lazarenko holds foreign currency accounts in a Swiss bank into which he has transferred money earned in his business dealings in this country.

The procurator's office is trying to determine whether a bank account opened at the Swiss bank UBS in the name of a firm registered as LTP HANDEL AG actually belongs to Mr. Lazarenko.

Because the investigation is ongoing, the Procurator General's Office would not comment on the details.

However, because Mr. Lazarenko, as a national deputy in the Verkhovna Rada, has criminal immunity and is not subject to prosecution, the Procurator General's Office took pains to explain that the point of the investigation is to determine the facts, not to indict Mr. Lazarenko.

"The investigation is not against Lazarenko. It is simply an investigation to determine the facts," said press spokesperson Maksym Krechetov. "Should the facts reveal that there is cause for prosecution, a request could be made to have the Verkhovna Rada vote on whether to lift criminal immunity."

Mr. Lazarenko replied to the public announcement of the investigation in a strongly worded statement that was published in a leading Ukrainian daily, *Vseukrainskie Viedomosti*. He denied having a Swiss bank account or that he has ever been involved with LTP HANDEL AG. "I want to make it clear that I do not have any kind of foreign currency accounts and that I have absolutely no relations with the corporation LTP HANDEL AG," stated Mr. Lazarenko.

The question of who owns the Swiss bank account alleged to be in Mr. Lazarenko's name is not the only problem that the former prime minister has with the Procurator General's Office. Two days prior to the announcement by Procurator General Lytvak, a formal criminal investigation also was begun into the financial source for a questionable 5 million hryv renovation of a country estate after it was given to Mr. Lazarenko by the government when he assumed the post of prime minister. Olga Kolinko, deputy procurator general, said the former head of government has been accused of unauthorized use of budgetary funds for the repairs of two country houses at the Puscha Vodytsia estate, located on the outskirts of Kyiv.

Ms. Kolinko said the charges are not "politically motivated." She explained that the investigation was begun after an inquiry by National Deputy Anatolii Yermak begun in early September revealed possible financial improprieties.

However, in his rebuttal in the newspaper *Vseukrainskie Viedomosti*, Mr. Lazarenko said the investigations are part of a concerted attack against himself and the Hromada Party that he leads to discredit them before the elections. "The campaign of persecution against me and the Hromada party that is being coordinated by high government officials associated with the president on the eve of elections to the Parliament has the goal of destroying the centrist political opposition, which has become their No. 1 enemy," stated Mr. Lazarenko.

Coincidentally or not, the same day (and on the same page) that the Lazarenko rebuttal was published, an allegedly confidential document from the offices of the presidential administration also appeared. Originally printed in the Russian newspaper *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* on December 24, the document outlines a seven-point plan, allegedly formulated

by members of the Kuchma administration and signed by a "high-ranking official in the Kuchma government," to discredit Mr. Lazarenko and the Hromada Party in the eyes of the electorate.

The document describes a scenario that the Procurator General's Office seems to be playing out: that it should begin investigations in conjunction with the Verkhovna Rada against both Mr. Lazarenko and Yulia Tymoshenko, who is a close associate of Mr. Lazarenko, as well as the prime minister of Hromada's shadow government. The goal, as the document states, is "to instill the following stereotypes in society: Hromada — bandits; leaders of Hromada — leading criminal figures; if Hromada wins, criminals will run the country; Lazarenko has started a criminal war; there are no victors in disputes among criminals."

Other points of the alleged plan to discredit Mr. Lazarenko and his political party include investigations by the Security Service, tax authorities and the Internal Affairs Ministry into the dealings of companies and organizations associated with Hromada and Mr. Lazarenko, and the distribution of information among the Odesa, Kyiv, Donetsk, Crimean and Russian criminal organizations about Mr. Lazarenko's alleged ties to the Odesa mob, the ramifications of electoral success of Lazarenko's political organizations for the other criminal organizations and the need to take "preventive measures."

Volodymyr Horbulin, secretary of the National Security and Defense Council in the Kuchma administration, on December 25 denied that a document like the one printed in *Nesavisimaya Gazeta* exists. "In the first place, with full responsibility, I must state that the document does not exist, much less that it has been submitted to the president," said Mr. Horbulin. "We have carried out the necessary investigations, and I have every reason to make such a statement."

Mr. Horbulin added that he believes the "fabrications" to be Ukraine-based. "It is far simpler to publish such nonsense in the Ukrainian mass media by quoting foreign publications, thus shunning direct responsibility," said Mr. Horbulin.

He said the government would request that *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* give it the original documents. "If there are such materials, they will help us to track down the forgers and stave off fresh provocations."

Mr. Lazarenko, once a close political crony of President Kuchma and prime minister until his dismissal in July after much criticism by the president for his inability to get a 1997 budget approved and his lackluster effort in fighting corruption, is considered among the wealthiest people in Ukraine. Most political observers agree that he earned large sums of money trading in gas and oil with Russia. His close business partner is said to be Ms. Tymoshenko, president of United Energy Systems, considered the largest privately owned company in Ukraine before it ran into financial problems several months back. Mr. Lazarenko has denied that the two are business partners.

Ms. Tymoshenko, like Mr. Lazarenko, is a national deputy in the Verkhovna Rada. The Procurator General's Office has recently requested that the Verkhovna Rada lift her immunity from prosecution so that charges could proceed against her for illegally attempting to transfer money out of the country. She is accused of carrying \$26,000 in undeclared cash onto a flight bound for Moscow from Zaporizhia.

When the charges were announced in early December, Ms. Tymoshenko called the action a political effort by the president's administration to muzzle her.

## Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



## A dark cloud over Canada

A dark cloud hovers over Canada, and its name is Neal Sher.

Recently appointed a special consultant to the Canadian Justice Department's war crimes unit, Mr. Sher was head of the U.S. Office of Special Investigations (OSI) from 1983 to 1994. Prior to that time, he was OSI deputy director.

It was during Neal Sher's tenure that fraud against federal courts was committed. Aware that John Demjanjuk was not "Ivan the Terrible," OSI lawyers conspired to keep exonerating evidence from his defense attorneys. When these documents were found in a trash bin, OSI attorneys accused the defense of stealing them. One of the trashed documents revealed that Mr. Sher was present at a meeting on July 2, 1986, when deception in the Demjanjuk case was revealed. Small wonder that the OSI sought to destroy this type of information.

Such duplicity was exposed several years ago by Samel Francis in an article that appeared in *Insight* magazine. "OSI has a clever excuse for skirting law and justice," Mr. Francis wrote. "It doesn't actually try those it accuses. It merely seeks to show that when they entered the United States, they lied or failed to tell the truth about their supposed role as Nazis or Nazi collaborators." This is exactly what Mr. Sher will be advising the Canadian authorities to do. Justice for "war criminals" is not the issue.

Some of the alleged "war criminals" in the United States have gone to court. Even though all of the trials have been in civil courts, where "preponderance of evidence" is all that is needed to convict, the OSI claims that it has held to a standard that is "substantially identical" to the criminal standard: proof beyond a reasonable doubt. Don't believe it. Since most of those accused by the OSI must hire their own lawyer (in contrast to criminal trials in which the courts provide legal counsel) all the OSI has to do to "win a case" is to announce to the media that someone is being investigated and it's over. No trial. No due process. Guilty by accusation. Unable to bear the enormous legal fees and emotional turmoil required for an adequate defense, the accused sometimes leaves the country. "The procedures and standards by which it [the OSI] operates are offensive and unjust under American concepts," concluded Mr. Francis.

None of this matters to Neal Sher, who once explained to the *Washington Post* that mere association with Nazis is enough to convict. How outrageous! Under U.S. law and that of any civilized society a person can't be charged with a crime simply because he willingly or unwillingly associated with criminals. Nor is misrepresentation necessarily a reason to deport. In the case of Antanas Spokevicious of Chicago, the U.S. Board of Immigration Appeals ruled that the Immigration Act of 1948 did "not preclude the issuance of a visa to a bona fide refugee who has made a willful misrepresentation of a material fact where the misrepresentation was made because of fear of being repatriated to his former homeland."

A double standard has always operated within the OSI regarding the Judenrat and Kapos, Jews who worked for the Nazis. To my knowledge, no Judenrat member was ever accused by the OSI; if there were such accusations there was no public fanfare. Only three Judenrat members — Heinrich Friedman, Jakob Tencer and Jones Lewy — were identified by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service

(INS) earlier. None were deported.

The same double standard has operated in Israel. According to Tom Segev, a columnist for the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz*, the Israeli Ministry of Justice introduced an Act against Jewish War Criminals in 1949 and by the mid-1950s was investigating some 40 Jews suspected of collaboration. Some of the accused were acquitted. In his 1993 book "The Seventh Million: Israelis and the Holocaust," Mr. Segev writes: "As for the guilty, their sentences tended to be lightened on appeal, generally two or three years, but even as little as a few months." One of the judicial decisions read: "It is hard for us, the judges of Israel, to free ourselves of the feeling that, in punishing a worm of this sort, we are diminishing, even by only a trace, the abysmal guilt of the Nazis themselves."

Mr. Sher has been identified as a "top American Nazi hunter" by the Canadian press. He is no such thing. Only Aryan Germans were permitted membership in the Nazi Party and thus far Mr. Sher has found no Nazi Party members in the U.S.

Given the thorough examination of alleged Canadian war criminals by the Deschenes Commission a decade ago, how did Canada manage to get itself into this mess? Ukrainians in Canada can thank CBS's "60 Minutes," which started the ball rolling last February with an "expose" of "Nazi war criminals hiding in Canada" titled "Canada's Dark Secret." This was followed by an NBC "Dateline" segment devoted to the same subject.

In April, B'nai B'rith Canada, headed by Lyle Smordin, and the Simon Wiesenthal Center, headed by Sol Littman, created a commission to pursue the matter with the Canadian government. They met with Justice Minister Allan Rock, demanding changes in the Criminal Code to make prosecutions easier, harmonization of the Immigration and Citizenship Acts to expedite proceedings against suspects, and investigation and prosecution of members of the Ukrainian Waffen SS unit Galicia who, in the words of Paul Lungen of the Canadian Jewish News, "engaged in mass murder of Jews and Poles."

Ignoring the fact that the Deschenes Commission had thoroughly discredited his "evidence" 10 years ago, Mr. Littman argued that the 2,000 members of the Galicia Division "have been ignored by the Canadian government."

And finally, voila! Neal Sher appears to rescue the day, saying that his hiring "shows Canada was serious about tracking war criminals in the country." Can anyone believe that none of this was coordinated?

A note to Canadian Ukrainians based on our experience in the U.S.: Do not believe for one minute that Mr. Sher and his minions will be fair or that their goal is justice. Do not fall for the ruse, which will be voiced by Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike, that this has nothing to do with our community, that a few expendable Ukrainians, regardless of their guilt, are not worth the trouble. Don't be intimidated by those who argue that resistance to Mr. Sher will be viewed as anti-Semitic by non-Jews. And finally, ally yourself with other Eastern European groups who also are being damned.

The reputation of our community is on the line. Be prepared to fight for it.

Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: [mbkuropas@compuserve.com](mailto:mbkuropas@compuserve.com)

## PROGRESS REPORT: Shrine of Zarvanytsia begins construction

by the Rev. Roman Hankevych

Every year in the spring, on the Feast of St. George, pilgrimages to Zarvanytsia begin. They continue until the Feast of the Protection of the Blessed Mother on October 14.

Every Sunday, and on important holy days, great numbers of faithful come to receive confession, participate in the liturgy and receive communion. Pilgrims kneel and pray before the miraculous icon of the Mother of God, tell the Blessed Mother their troubles, and thank her for the special grace of a pilgrimage to Zarvanytsia. At the conclusion of the pilgrimage, they go to the spring to pray again, wash in the miraculous water and possibly take some home in a little bottle for those who were not able to make the pilgrimage.

On May 11, 1997, the first Sunday after the Feast of St. George, Bishop Mykhail Sabryha, with the blessing of the cornerstone, began the great task of building the grand sobor of the Mother of God of Zarvanytsia. Many church and government dignitaries, and thousands of faithful helped to make this historic day unforgettable. Following an old custom, entire parishes with their priests, carrying banners and singing songs, came to Zarvanytsia for this beloved pilgrimage.

In the summer, the Youth Congress was begun with an unprecedented pilgrimage from Zakarpattia. On July 20, 1997, more than a thousand pilgrims came by bus and car, under the leadership of Bishop Ivan Margitych of Zakarpattia. On Friday, July 25, 1997, the Youth Congress began with thousands of young men and women participating. There were more than 200 priests, a great numbers of sisters, monks, and seminarians present.

Since 1997 had been declared the year dedicated to Jesus Christ, the theme of the Congress was "You are Christ, the Son of the Living God"; its goal was for youth to get to know and understand Jesus Christ more closely. There are still many atheists in Ukraine, thus, there is a need to speak about God, and God's Word needs to be spread among youth.

On Saturday, Bishop Lubomyr Husar, the auxiliary bishop to Cardinal Myroslav Ivan Lubachivsky, primate of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, arrived to participate.

On Sunday liturgy was celebrated by Bishops Husar, Sabryha and Margitych. In his sermon, Bishop Husar called youth to be faithful to God, and encouraged each, according

to his ability, to do everything possible to spread and strengthen belief in God and faithfulness to Christian morality in Ukraine.

Every evening, near the miraculous fresh-water spring, concerts took place in the candlelight. Just before the sun rose in the morning, a bonfire was lit. On July 28, 1997, the Congress ended. Youths and their leaders returned home with new enthusiasm, and a renewed and strengthened Christian view of life.

Usually, the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God is a most popular holy day. Since the harvest is over, homes can be left behind and attention turned towards returning the spirit.

This year, the Dormition pilgrimage was unusually grand. For decades the communists had tried to destroy everything Ukrainian. They destroyed customs and folk traditions, but they didn't destroy the faith of the people nor their love for the Mother of God. With the first glimmer of freedom, the people returned to their ancestral customs and practices, and among these practices there is a renewed interest in pilgrimages.

In the past there was a practice whereby a whole village would go on a pilgrimage to Zarvanytsia. Some pilgrims walked for as long as five days from Kolomyia, Nadvirna, Kosiv, Hordenka, Zalischyky and other places. They carried their food in baskets slung across their shoulders, slept in barns offered by good people, sang together and asked local priests to lead the Akafist to the Mother of God in their churches. One pilgrim recalled the years before the second world war when the pilgrims filled the roads and paths on the way to Zarvanytsia, and from afar one could tell by their dress and embroidery the regions from where they came.

During the Feast of the Dormition, the main liturgy was celebrated by Bishop Pavlo Vasylyk, the hero of Zarvanytsia, who in 1988 – despite danger and threats – courageously celebrated a liturgy to commemorate the Millennium of Christianity in Ukraine.

This year, over 6,000 pilgrims received the sacraments. After the liturgy, a traditional procession to the miraculous spring took place, where water was blessed as well as flowers – which is the prescribed practice of this feast.

On the Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God, 110 seminarians of the Ternopil Eparchy went on a pilgrimage, walking all the way from Ternopil to Zarvanytsia under the

leadership of their priests. Many of them had begun their priestly studies in the rectory in Zarvanytsia. In 1990 the Rev. Vasyl Semiuk, the pastor in Zarvanytsia, had founded a home for young candidates to further their knowledge of religion as the instruction they had received in their homes may not have been adequate to enter the seminary.

On the Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God, the pilgrimages ended to be begun again on the Feast of St. George in the spring of 1998. Parish life in Zarvanytsia will continue, however. The building of the Church of the Mother of God in Zarvanytsia, started on May 11, 1997, also will go on.

Many Ukrainians in the diaspora responded to the call of Cardinal Lubachivsky and all the bishops and sent their offerings, but the needs are still great.

In his letter "to all people of good will," Cardinal Lubachivsky asked the professionals and businesspeople to set aside funds for the building of this church. He especially addressed those whom God had blessed with special talents, those who were able to complete their studies and become professionals.

Cardinal Lubachivsky wrote: "Let us honor the Mother of God of Zarvanytsia, in the same manner as the French honor Lourdes and the Portuguese honor Fatima and the Polish honor an icon that originated in Ukraine and now is known as the Mother of God of Czestochowa." He and all the bishops of the Greek-Catholic Church in Ukraine asked all to join the great collection. Offerings will help erect a worthy temple to house the miraculously saved icon of the Mother of God of Zarvanytsia.

Ukrainians from the diaspora visit Ukraine and do not forget about Zarvanytsia. They offer their support, remembering the past and expressing gratitude for protection in difficult times, for saved lives. Their deep devotion to the Blessed Mother is felt by those in Ukraine. The Rev. Semiuk said: "Although you are far away, with your hearts you are always near. We feel that."

Even the smallest offering will be recognized with a personal certificate; the names of major donors will be inscribed on a commemorative plaque in the shrine.

Please make checks payable to Shrine of the Zarvanytsia Mother of God and mail them to: Sobor Building Committee, 15 St. Olga St., Hamilton, Ontario L8L 6R3; or to Selfreliance Credit Union, 108 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003-8392.

## NEWS AND VIEWS: The bells of St. Michael's

by Michael Heretz

In 1996 President Leonid Kuchma issued an appeal to the Ukrainian nation around the world. It was titled "Let Us Renew Our Ukrainian Spirituality." The appeal was signed by Patriarch Filaret and also by a number of well-known Ukrainian writers and scholars. Little-noted in the appeal was a call to the Ukrainian diaspora to join hands in rebuilding St. Michael's Cathedral of the Golden Domes, destroyed by the Soviets in 1935.

Unfortunately, very few in our community in the diaspora were made aware of the president's appeal, and there has been virtually no response to it. Determined to proceed with the rebuilding of St. Michael's Cathedral of the Golden Domes, President Kuchma and Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko decided to tap into their already strained budgets and to begin the reconstruction with state and city funds.

Construction is now under way. We are pleased to report that the finest construction techniques are being employed and the work is proceeding rapidly. It is the goal of the president and the mayor that the reconstruction of at least the bell tower of the famous cathedral should be completed before the Kyiv Days celebration this coming May and that the entire project be completed before the year 2000. There is every sign that this goal will be achieved.

But the president and the mayor left one part of the bell tower out of their budget: the bells.

Mayor Omelchenko made it quite clear that while he and President Kuchma have undertaken the general construction, he expects that the bells will be purchased by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate. It is his stated intention to return the cathedral to the Kyiv Patriarchate. But first, and quite rightly, the mayor expects that there should be some indication that the Church has sufficient interest in the rebuilding project. In this sense, the purchase of the bells by the people of the Kyiv Patriarchate would constitute "down payment."

Most importantly the Kyiv Patriarchate's purchase of the bells will give the mayor a firm moral basis for the eventual transfer of the completed Cathedral to the Kyiv Patriarchate and not to others, who have expressed interest in it.

Only \$25,000 is needed to duplicate the original 12th

century bells.

This is not just another appeal for funds. If the 3,000 parishes of the Kyiv Patriarchate fail to deliver such a minimal amount of money for the bells of St. Michael's Cathedral of the Golden Domes, we have learned that Moscow Patriarchate stands ready to provide the funds immediately. They would expect that if they provide the money for the bells, they would be the ones to hold the rebuilt St. Michael's Cathedral of the Golden Domes. If we do not respond to this appeal, the mayor will have no moral basis to deny their request.

Attempts to raise the money among Kyiv Patriarchate parishes have been unsuccessful. This is no surprise, considering the difficult economic conditions. Patriarch Filaret has turned to us, the St. Andrew's Society, asking us to appeal to persons of good will in the U.S. to help raise the necessary funds so that St. Michael's Cathedral of the Golden Domes does not meet the same fate as the Monastery of Caves, which is now held by the Moscow Patriarchate.

Let us all work together to realize the 60-year dream of all Ukrainians: that the bells of St. Michael's Cathedral of the Golden Domes will again ring out across Kyiv, as they did for more than 800 years before the cathedral's destruction.

Please help us to buy the bells and restore St. Michael's Cathedral of the Golden Domes to the Kyiv Patriarchate. To let our historic temple fall into the hands of the successors to the very group that violently destroyed it in 1935 would be a harsh insult to all of us. Please do not let this happen.

The names of those able to give \$1,000 or more will be permanently inscribed at the bell tower entrance, and the names of all contributors, even those who can send only \$5 or \$10 will be published in the official Information Bulletin of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate. The edition of the bulletin containing the names will be preserved at the cathedral forever, for you, your children and your children's children to see.

All donations are tax-deductible in the U.S. Please make checks payable to St. Michael's Cathedral Fund and mail to: St. Andrew's Society, c/o Anna Wojtiuk, 162-4 E. 23rd St., Paterson, NJ 07514.

## Ukrainian Orthodox Church to honor Archbishop Antony

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J. – On Saturday, January 17, the Saturday before Theophany, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. will honor Archbishop Antony of New York, ruling bishop of the Eastern Eparchy and president of the Consistory, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the holy priesthood.

Solemnities will begin with the celebration of a divine liturgy of thanksgiving at 10 a.m. in St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle Memorial Church in South Bound Brook, N.J. The principal celebrant of the liturgy will be Metropolitan Constantine; concelebrating will be bishops and archbishops, and local clergy.

Following the liturgy, an agape banquet and program honoring the archbishop will be held in the main auditorium of the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 135 Davidson Ave., Franklin Township, N.J.

Ordained to the holy priesthood on November 26, 1976, in St. John the Baptist Parish in Sharon, Pa., Archbishop Antony, then the Rev. John, served as pastor of St. Vladimir Parish in Ambidge, Pa., and St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Hammond, Ind. In addition to his pastoral duties, he served as spiritual advisor of the senior and junior chapters of the Ukrainian Orthodox League, editor of the UOLeague Bulletin, editor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Word and rector of St. Sophia Theological Seminary.

Archimandrite Antony was called by the Council of Bishops and the Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. to episcopal service and was consecrated to the episcopacy in St. Andrew Memorial Church by the late Patriarch Mstyslav I and the present Church primate, Metropolitan Constantine. Elected to the position of consistory president, Archbishop Antony's ministry is focused on the spiritual and material growth and development of Ukrainian Orthodox parishes in the U.S.

Agape banquet tickets at \$30 per person, may be purchased at local Ukrainian Orthodox parishes or at the consistory by telephoning (732) 356-0090. Reservations and ticket orders must be made with the consistory by January 12.



## Our Christmas: nothing's really changed

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

You think you're helping and comforting them, and you're the one who benefits the most.

These are usually my thoughts after my monthly evenings at The Holy Family Nursing Home in Winnipeg, but especially so this mid-December. I visit one evening a month, and I guess I could call myself the program or the entertainment for that week. The residents who are able – physically and mentally – to sit through an hour or so of talking and singing are brought to the sitting area where we meet.

In the past, we've talked about folk medicine and Shevchenko (on different evenings), and we sang. Therapists know that music heals and comforts, and this was certainly true when we sang together. I tried to select the real oldies but goodies, including "Dai Nam, Bozhe, Dobryi Chas," which everyone remembered. We will sing more in future visits, especially because I'm learning new verses I haven't heard before.

The residents at the nursing home are a microcosm of Ukrainian Winnipeg. There are those who were babies when they arrived with their pioneer parents around a century ago, those who were born in Manitoba 100 or 90 years ago, those from the post-world war immigrations (both of them), and now the elderly of the later immigrations (from Poland and Ukraine). Right after dinner on this December evening (bedtime is early in a nursing home), we gathered to talk about Ukrainian Christmas traditions. I looked forward to learning something new, as well as confirming certain things I had read. I went through the traditions of Sviat Vechir (Christmas Eve), and into Malanka (New Year's Eve) and Yordan (Feast of the Epiphany) – and as I mentioned a particular ritual or custom, at least one of the residents would add more. What was especially interesting was to hear how on the farms in Manitoba, or in the city of Winnipeg back in the 1910s to 1930s, the same celebrations were happening as in Ukraine.

We started with kutia (the ritual food of cooked wheat grains, poppy seeds and honey), and it was interesting that in many regions of western Ukraine whence most of the residents or their families emigrated, this dish was just called "pshenytsia" (wheat). But this was not ordinary wheat, because even the pronunciation of "pshenytsia" was reverent. We discussed varieties of fish, borsch and mushrooms. The fillings for varenyky certainly went beyond potato and onion, sauerkraut, plums, other fruit and berries. There were varenyky filled with buckwheat, and one lady always made sardine-filled varenyky, which her family enjoyed. This filling could have been a variation on a fish filling, with the canned sardines an economic necessity – or, maybe the family really liked them.

The various broad bean dishes were discussed, and these were especially popular among those from Bukovyna and Podillia (salamakha – a casserole of crushed beans and garlic; the word also means something that is a real mess). "Horokh z kapustoiu" (dried peas with sauerkraut baked in a casserole) is a phrase also often used to indicate that something is all mixed up.

There was a discussion of what the liquid refreshment should be on Sviat Vechir, with one lady saying that they drank only wine that evening, and everything else the next day. All remembered the empty place setting, and leaving the food for the souls all night. Some spoke about throwing the kutia to the ceiling, and what a problem that became when the ceiling was a stuccoed one.

One woman remembered the pampushky fried in konopli (hemp) oil, done in that oil only for Sviat Vechir, and how delicious they and the oil were. She started up "Boh

Predvichnyi" in almost the same melody we all know, but with a folk kick. The rhythm and melody almost reminded me of a kolomyika, but the words were all there. She would sing out the koliada whenever the spirit moved her during the rest of the evening.

Some visiting adult children sat with their resident parents. One son, probably in his late 50s himself, later told me how much he enjoyed reminiscing, because he and his wife, their children and grandchildren still celebrate most of the traditions. His quite elderly mother, in her 80s or early 90s, was the daughter of pioneers from Horodenka and Bukovyna. Even though her face was deeply wrinkled, that elegant Ukrainian beauty of eyes, cheekbones and lips was still there.

When I mentioned some custom as it was celebrated in Ukraine long ago, another resident corrected me, "What do you mean in Ukraine? Here in Winnipeg, too!" She was a Winnipeg native, whose parents arrived at the turn of the century.

Carolling was especially fun in the rural areas of Manitoba. The distances were far, the snow was very deep and not plowed, but if the families could not afford horses yet, the koliadnyky walked from homestead to homestead. If a sleigh and horses were available, these were used. Of course, the horses' bridles were decorated for the occasion. One woman remembered that the koliadnyky were fed in every house, and her father, the sleigh driver, also had a charka or two of something stronger to warm up. By early morning the horses pulling the sleigh full of koliadnyky found their own way home. In Winnipeg and among the scattered towns certain neighborhoods were completely Ukrainian, so the koliadnyky just went door-to-door, without asking.

We remembered how cold it could be on Yordan, when the water is blessed outside. It is usually the most bitterly cold and freezing day of the winter so far, and that is the morning the parishioners gather outside for the blessing. Of course, crosses made of blocks of ice stand at every Ukrainian church. And, of course, in the old days, and still now in rural areas, those crosses are cut out of the river or lake ice (at least a foot or two thick by January 19).

In his play "Tin Can Cathedral" about Ukrainian and Canadian church politics in Winnipeg in 1903, Winnipeg playwright Nick Mitchell has the French Roman Catholic bishop look out onto the frozen Red River and remark that there go those "Ruthenians" cutting ice out of the river again! During the Prairie Theater Exchange production of this play, the Ukrainians in the audience were the ones to burst out laughing.

After Yordan, just like back in Ukraine, all the hay and straw from the house and the didukh were disposed of in the traditional way. In the yard, where two paths cross, the didukh and the rest were burned. Of course, reverent, symbolic items such as this could not be just discarded. The family members would then jump over the fire, to ensure health and everything good in the new year. Shades of Kupalo! A person from the Gardenton-Vita area of southeastern Manitoba even has a photograph of his mother jumping over the burning didukh.

There are many people of Ukrainian descent in Winnipeg who no longer celebrate "Ukrainian" Christmas. And yet, considering that Ukrainians have been in Canada for over a century now, so very many still do celebrate – and the rest of the community knows, respects and often even envies us for our Ukrainian Christmas.

The seniors at Holy Family Nursing Home are some of the ones who over the years made sure that our Christmas traditions continue to flourish.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

# CLASSIFIEDS

CALL (973) 292-9800

## FlowerExpress

Now you can send flowers to your relatives or friends in **PRZEMYSL, POLAND** or any town within its district.

Call us!

We deliver wreaths, baskets or lit candles to grave sites.

We will even send you a photo of the decorated grave.

(732)-235-0202 1pm-7pm

## Need a back issue?

If you'd like to obtain a back issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, send \$2 per copy (first-class postage included) to:  
Administration, The Ukrainian Weekly,  
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

## Free Cash Grants!

College. Scholarships. Business. Medical Bills. Never Repay.

## WEST ARKA

2282 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ont., Canada M6S 1N9

### Gifts

Ukrainian Handicrafts

Art, Ceramics, Jewellery

A. CHORNY

Books, Newspapers

Cassettes, CDs, Videos

Embroidery Supplies

Packages and Services to Ukraine

Tel.: (416) 762-8751

Fax: (416) 767-6839

TRIDENT Associates Printing  
Toronto — St. Catharines  
Buffalo

Українська Друкарня  
Торонто — Ст. Катріна  
Б'юфало

Toll Free 1-800-821-6034 • Fax: (716) 691-4532

UKRAINIAN PRINTERS

Our Specialty:  
Ukrainian Engraved Wedding Invitations  
Books • Journals • Newsletters • Magazines  
Ribbons • Tickets • Program Books

## YEVSHAN

Distributor of fine Ukrainian products - Cassettes, Compact discs - Videos - Language tapes & Dictionaries - Computer fonts for PC & MAC - Imported Icons - Ukrainian Stationery - Cookbooks - Food parcels to Ukraine

Call for a free catalog

1-800-265-9858

VISA - MASTERCARD - AMEX ACCEPTED  
FAX ORDERS ACCEPTED (514) 630-9960  
BOX 325, BEACONSFIELD, QUEBEC  
CANADA - H9W 5T8

## FOR SALE

2 adjacent lots in Port Charlotte, Fla.  
Call 416-245-7236 after 6 p.m.  
Ask for Peter

## FIRST QUALITY

UKRAINIAN TRADITIONAL-STYLE

## MONUMENTS

SERVING NY/NJ/CT REGION CEMETERIES

## OBLAST MEMORIALS

P.O. BOX 746

Chester, NY 10918

914-469-4247

BILINGUAL HOME APPOINTMENTS

## SEIZED CARS from \$175.

Porsches, Cadillacs, Chevys.  
BMW's, Corvettes. Also Jeeps,  
4WD's.

Your area. Toll Free 1-800-218-9000 Ext. A-1871 for current

1998  
**UKRAINE**  
Your program is ready!

Early registration bonus:  
3 FREE DAYS in BUDAPEST  
at Deluxe GELLERT HOTEL  
Offer expires Dec. 23, 1997

scope travel inc  
1605 Springlist Ave. Maplewood, NJ 07040  
973 373-8998 or 800 242-7257

## Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

### 'Second best' vows to keep trying harder

The International Hockey League has two teams on suspension and several others on life support, but that has done nothing to diminish Commissioner Bob Ufer's optimism for the long-range health of the league. The league clearly does not want to compete with the NHL, despite the concerns of some in the older league who believe the IHL may try to go the way of the World Hockey Association.

Ufer thinks the league has found its niche by promoting itself as the "second-best league in the world" and said the results are beginning to show on the bottom line.

The San Francisco Spiders and Phoenix Roadrunners franchises are on suspension for 1997-1998, but the league is expected to announce shortly that deals have been completed to move them to Victoria, British Columbia, and Toronto, respectively, in time for 1999-2000. And more teams, he said, have stemmed the free-flowing river of red ink.

Teams such as the Las Vegas Thunder, Indianapolis Ice, Fort Wayne Komets and Quebec Rafales have encountered financial problems the past few seasons, but Ufer said the league is working with teams to stop that. He said two key factors are careful marketing plans and new arenas.

The Utah Grizzlies are in the new E Center this season, and team president Tim Mouser said its impact is already apparent.

"Look at the (Detroit) Vipers," Mouser said. "They don't need the ticket revenue because they control the parking

and the concessions, and as long as they have people in the building, they'll do fine. The building is the key."

The league is experimenting with rule changes Ufer hopes will create more offense and speed up the game without offending traditionalists.

"As great as this game is, we feel we can make it better," Ufer said. "We're confronted with greater than ever size, speed and strength of our players. What we're doing is looking for ways to improve the excitement and offensive capabilities. While some of our proposals may not be the answer, we owe it to our fans to continue to explore ways to improve it."

### Minors have major numbers

The bottom rung of professional hockey was once described as the Jules Verne League. You know, 20,000 leagues beneath the NHL.

But now there are seven minor professional leagues, and they're all trying to forge their own identity. Things are clear at the top where the American and International leagues are Nos. 1 and 2, but not so crystal clear beneath them. Prior to the formation of the Colonial League in 1991-1992, the "low minors" of hockey consisted of just 11 teams in the East Coast League.

But the secondary minor league network now includes 67 teams in five leagues. That's 600 percent growth in six years — from 200 players to more than 1,300.

How confusing is it? Until the Colonial League changed its name to the United League this summer, it shared the

(Continued on page 11)

## STILL PAYING 18% ON YOUR CREDIT CARDS?

## UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

PROUDLY ANNOUNCES OUR NEW

## NO FEE VISA CLASSIC CREDIT CARD

with

## 10.9% APR

This holiday season don't get saddled with high interest rates on your bank credit card. Get a card you can depend on and one that will save you money!

Ukrainian Orthodox FCU Visa Classic Credit Card

APPLY TODAY!

Ukrainian Orthodox Federal Credit Union

Main Office: 215 Second Ave., New York, N.Y. 10003  
Tel.: (212) 533-2980 Fax: (212) 995-5204

Branch Office: 35 Main St., So. Bound Brook, N.J. 08880  
Tel.: (732) 469-9085 Fax: (732) 469-9165

# UKRAINE-PAC

(201) 831-1499

PACKAGE and FOOD Parcel Service

ZAKARPATSKA, IVANO-FRANKIVSKA  
LVIVSKA and CHERNIVTSI OBLAST

Highway Travel  
Kathway, NJ  
908 381-8800

Glover MUGBY  
Milvick, NJ  
609 825-7655

AUTHORIZED AGENTS



## Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 10)

CHL designation with the 10-team Central League. There's the third-year West Coast League and the second-year Western Pro League.

Including the AHL and IHL, there are more than 100 minor pro teams and 2,000 players this season. So how do the leagues fit in the minor-pro network?

Well, there really isn't a Triple-A, Double-A, Single-A system like you have in baseball. The AHL and IHL, to a lesser extent, are the developmental leagues. The ECHL is struggling to make it, too, but it's not quite there yet.

Unlike baseball, where it's common for young prospects to advance through the ranks from rookie to Single-A to Double-A to Triple-A before making the majors, blue-chip hockey prospects don't drop below the AHL or IHL.

The ECHL is a catch-all league for secondary prospects and career minor leaguers. Granted, 21 of 25 ECHL teams have working agreements with NHL teams, and a handful of players such as Olaf Kolzig of the Washington Capitals, Paul Laus of the Florida Panthers and Harry York of the St. Louis Blues eventually make the jump. But there isn't what you would call a pipeline of prospects flowing through the ECHL.

In terms of caliber of play, the ECHL is rated slightly ahead of the UHL. The WPHL is a step below the UHL and a step above the CHL and WCHL.

Minor league hockey headhunter Dan Delaney sends his best clients to the ECHL (the only unionized league of the bottom five) and UHL. "The ECHL is established because of its working agreements with NHL teams," says Delaney. "But the United League is probably just as competitive because it has a nine-player veteran rule. Other leagues allow only three or four veterans."

Another factor that has a huge impact on caliber is salary. One reason why the Texas-strong WPHL leap-frogged ahead of the CHL this past year is because its players are paid 43 percent better. WPHL teams have weekly salary caps of \$9,450 compared to \$6,600 in the CHL.

The WPHL also has better goaltending because of a three-marquee-player rule that allows each team to budget a total of \$100,000 for three players. That lured ex-NHLers Daniel Berthiaume and John Blue, as well as several other former AHL and IHL goalies last season, although Berthiaume returned to the ECHL this year.

The growing war between the WPHL and CHL may be a battle to the death. Or, perhaps, a battle that will result in a union of the two.

The CHL has traditionally been strong at the gate, although average attendance last season dropped to 4,600 after three straight years above 5,600. The upstart WPHL averaged 4,506 in its first season in 1996-1997. To address a downward trend in attendance, caliber of play and credibility, the CHL recently airlifted in Ray Compton and Tom Berry from the IHL's head office to serve as president and commissioner, respectively. Berry isn't about to start a minor league war.

"There's an absolute guaranteed reality that these two leagues join in the next two or three years," Berry says. "It makes sense for us to help each other, not compete."

Perhaps fitting into this future union is the nine-team WCHL. Ambitious and well-organized, it has three teams in California and another in Alaska.

Here are the basics about the East Coast, United, Western Pro, Central and West Coast leagues. The rating on caliber of play was determined in a The Hockey News survey of minor league experts.

Working agreements includes all those with NHL, AHL and IHL clubs.

### Working agreements

1. ECHL: 21 of 25 teams
2. UHL: 6 of 10 teams
3. WCHL: 2 of 9 teams
4. WPHL: 2 of 13 teams
5. CHL: 1 of 10 teams

### 1996-1997 average attendance

1. ECHL: 5,273
2. CHL: 4,600
3. WPHL: 4,506
4. WCHL: 3,069
5. UHL: 2,824

### Weekly salary cap (U.S.\$)

1. WPHL: \$9,450
2. UHL: \$8,800
3. ECHL: \$8,000
4. WCHL: \$7,125
5. CHL: \$6,600

### Caliber of play

1. East Coast League
2. United League
3. Western Pro League
4. Central League
5. West Coast League

### New franchises putting fans back in arenas

Minor pro hockey experienced a resurgence at the gate last season thanks to eight new venues. Attendance in the American, International and East Coast leagues increased 7 percent compared to 1995-1996. That contrasts the dropoff of a year before when attendance in the three leagues dipped by 8 percent.

New teams in Quebec, Grand Rapids and Manitoba in the IHL, Philadelphia and Kentucky in the AHL, and Mississippi, Pensacola and Baton Rouge in the ECHL attracted more fans than the league averages. The San Antonio Dragons (IHL) and Hamilton Bulldogs (AHL) were new teams with below average totals.

The Detroit Vipers (IHL) again led the way with an average of 12,506. That's more than the NHL's New York Islanders and Los Angeles Kings.

New minor league teams this season are the Cincinnati Mighty Ducks, Hartford Wolf Pack and Beast of New Haven in the AHL, and the Chesapeake Icebreakers, New Orleans Brass and Pee Dee Pride in the ECHL.

Teams that have not returned are the Phoenix Roadrunners (IHL), Baltimore Bandits, Binghamton Rangers and Carolina Monarchs in the AHL, and Knoxville Cherokees in the ECHL.

### Top three minor leagues boast a total of 52 Ukes

The top three professional minor league circuits (AHL, IHL and ECHL) are very capably represented by Ukrainian players.

The American Hockey League has 14 Ukrainians on rosters at press time, including the recently signed Oleg Tverdovsky, contract holdout with Phoenix, signing with Hamilton in early December. The more independent International League lists 19 Ukrainian pucksters, as does the East Coast League. Of the total of 52 Ukes, three have also spent time with their parent clubs in the NHL this season. They include Drake Berehowsky, Wade Belak and Steve Halko, all defensemen.

As for the remaining lower minor leagues, information concerning team rosters and scoring statistics are almost impossible to obtain. Rest assured that there are many more Ukes toiling away in these lower leagues. Among the better known is veteran netminder Sergei Tkachenko, tending goal for the Anchorage Aces in the West Coast Hockey League. We'll try to get the inside scoop out here, too.

## American Hockey League

Player	Pos.	Team
Peter Ambroziak	LW	Hershey Bears
Wade Belak	D	Hershey Bears
Drake Berehowsky	D	Hamilton Bulldogs
Frank Bialowas	D	Philadelphia Phantoms
Steve Halko	D	Beast of New Heaven
Todd Hlushko	RW	St. John Flames
Sergei Klimientiev	D	Rochester Americans
Mike Maneluk	LW	Philadelphia Phantoms
Nick Naumenko	D	Worcester Icecats
Peter Sidorkiewicz	GT	Albany River Rats
Lee Sorochan	D	Hartford Wolf Pack
Oleg Tverdovsky	D	Hamilton Bulldogs
Alex Vasilevski	RW	HamiltonBulldogs
Brendan Yarema	C	Kentucky Thoroughblades

## International Hockey League

Player	Pos.	Team
Aaron Boh	D	Fort Wayne Komets
Mike Buzak	GT	Long Beach Ice Dogs
Dave Chyzowski	LW	Orlando-San Antonio Dragons
Brent Fedyk	LW	Detroit Vipers
Alex Gattcheniuk	C	Michigan K-Wings
Alexander Godynyuk	D	Chicago Wolves
Tony Hrkac	C	Michigan K-Wings
Ryan Huska	LW	Indianapolis Ice
Paul Koch	D	Chicago Wolves
Mark Kolesar	LW	Manitoba Moose
Brad Lukowich	D	Michigan K-Wings
Jeremy Mylymok	D	Quebec Rafales
Yevgeny Namestnikov	D	Utah Grizzlies
Greg Pankiewicz	RW	Manitoba Moose
Dan Ratushny	D	Quebec Rafales
Russ Romaniuk	LW	Manitoba-Long Beach
Jeff Salajko	GT	Kansas City Blades
Mike Tomlak	C	Milwaukee Admirals
Dan Trybovovich	D	Grand Rapids Griffins

## East Coast League

Player	Pos.	Team
Alexander Alexeev	D	Hampton Roads Admirals
Steve Cheredaryk	D	New Orleans Brass
David Craievich	LW	Mobile Mysticks
Brad Federenko	LW	Jacksonville Lizard Kings
Garry Gulash	D	Birmingham Bulls
Dieter Kochan	GT	Louisville Riverfrogs
Jack Kowal	LW	Louisville Riverfrogs
Rick Kowalsky	RW	Hampton Roads Admirals
Taras Lendzyk	GT	Richmond Renegades
Alex Matvichuk		Wheeling Thunderbirds
Jay Mazur	RW	Pee Dee Pride
Marty Melnychuk		Huntington Blizzard
Mikhail Nemirovsky		New Orleans Brass
Dan Pawlaczuk		Chesapeake Icebreakers
Ryan Pisiak		Louisiana Icegators
Mark Polak		Pensacola Ice Pilots
Sergei Radchenko		Wheeling Thunderbirds
Steve Suk		Mobilee Mysticks
Brad Zavisha		Birmingham Bulls

**PACKAGES TO UKRAINE**  
as low as \$ .69 per Lb

**DNIPRO CO**

NEWARK, NJ | PHILADELPHIA | CLIFTON, NJ

698 Sanford Ave | 1801 Cottman Ave | 565 Clifton Ave  
Tel. 201-373-8783 | Tel. 215-728-6040 | Tel. 201-916-1543

\*Pick up service available



**Ukraine's Economic Monitor is the only publication I have read so far that provides such accurate and comprehensive up-to-date economic insight into a country of 52 million people. It is simply the easiest, cheapest way to do business here!**

**UKRAINE'S ECONOMIC MONITOR**  
 THE LEADING ECONOMIC MONTHLY REVIEW

**ESSENTIAL READING TO REACH & UNDERSTAND AN EXTRAORDINARY MARKET OF MORE THAN 52 MILLION PEOPLE**

**IF ANY MONTHLY REPORT FAILS TO MEET YOUR EXPECTATIONS IN THE FIRST 3 MONTHS OF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION, WE WILL REFUND YOUR MONEY IN FULL.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT NOW:**

**ANDERSON MACASKILL**  
 29 SKATERIDGE DRIVE, GLASGOW, G11 1SR, U.K.  
 TEL/FAX: IDC (44) 151 950 2172  
 MOBILE: IDC (44) 1772 44282  
 E-MAIL: am@macskill.com

**ANN DAVY**  
 730 GUTHRIE COURT, GLENAGLES VILLAGE, PERTSHIRE, PH3 1SD, U.K.  
 TEL/FAX: IDC (44) 1764 663571  
 E-MAIL: ann.davy@btinternet.com

### The Ukrainian parliamentary...

(Continued from page 2)

week of the official campaign, newspapers began carrying reports of some of the smaller parties and blocs literally buying signatures so as to clear the first hurdle.

President Kuchma's concerns over the likely outcome of the parliamentary elections are not unfounded. He has understandably avoided openly associating himself with any particular party. Instead, the president has publicly identified the left as the unacceptable face of any Verkhovna Rada and declared his support for, and willingness to work with, all centrist forces.

What this means in practice, however, is difficult to determine. Although the left is heading toward the elections as a much less coherent entity than in 1994, the center – however defined – is as divided as ever. Opinion polls show that around 40 percent of respondents with a preference would vote for moderates. Thus, squeezing into the increasingly crowded niche on either side, but within touching distance of the political center, is very much the order of the day for many relatively established parties as well as the parvenus.

Voter identification with the center, however, is somewhat abstract and hence tenuous. Very few voters (or, indeed, experts) can, for example, readily differentiate between the platforms of most of the parties now claiming – in the case of the extreme right Ukrainian National Assembly, amusingly so – centrist credentials.

Currently, the center consists of approximately 15 parties and blocs. Politically – use economic criteria and the arrangement changes somewhat – the center can be said to range from the Social Democrats Party (Unified), or SDP(U), ironically born of a party schism, and former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko's Hromada party on the left, to Rukh (whose original national democratic message now has a marked social democratic content), and possibly the National Front (an alliance of nationalist parties such as the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists, the Republican Party and the Conservative Republican Party) on the right. The edges of this scheme are further blurred by the fact that it is not at all easy to differentiate between, say, the Moroz par-

liamentary wing of the SPP and some members of the SDP(U), such as another former prime minister, Yevhen Marchuk, and of Hromada, including Mr. Lazarenko himself.

While there was much talk of creating a unified centrist bloc, the idea has again failed to blossom, once more falling foul of narrow political, more accurately leadership, ambitions. Therefore, many centrist parties have settled for a, thus far, rather half-hearted call to coordinate candidacies in single mandate constituencies so as not to take votes away from each other. (Such proposals will almost certainly be taken much more seriously closer to election time.)

The first attempt to coordinate something along these lines was in fact undertaken by President Kuchma. On October 3, 1997, he persuaded the representatives of nine parties to sign a memorandum of cooperation. Almost immediately, however, the parties began denying that their signatures represented a compromise of their political identities. But the president's motives were clear enough and were reiterated by his chief of staff, Yevhen Kushnariov, at a November 26, 1997, press briefing: President Kuchma sees these parties as the most likely source of support within the next Verkhovna Rada for his and the government's policies (as well as for his possible re-election bid).

However, short-term goals, such as in this case the principally negative one of preventing the left from exploiting differences among the centrists, remain a central feature of post-independence Ukrainian politics. This enduring reality is simply brought into sharper relief during periods of heightened political activity.

Extrapolating from current dynamics, President Kuchma's future relationship with the parliamentary center is unlikely to differ greatly from the position in which he finds himself today. Beyond a core of usually supportive parties, he must rely on his ability or, most crucially, his inclination or disinclination to form issue-specific alliances with individuals or groups of individuals wherever he can find them within the Verkhovna Rada.

As money will help determine which parties will clear the first formal electoral obstacle, celebrity will play a key role in helping parties negotiate the second, 4 percent vote, barrier. It is premature to argue that Ukrainian politics is now shaped by the kind of triumph of style over substance so characteristic of a growing number of Western electoral processes. Yet given that most centrist parties are very new, regionally based and divided less by philosophy than by irreconcilable personality conflicts, resorting to gimmickry offers the best way of winning over the hearts (if not the minds) of a sufficient number of voters for just as long as it takes for them to mark their ballot paper. Thus, while some popular entertainers have thrown in their lot with political parties out of conviction – with Rukh and the Communists among the beneficiaries – others, or more accurately their agents, have rather less than discreetly hinted that their clients are available for hire.

Celebrity comes in many forms. The most successful example of this new political symbiosis is offered by the Social Democrats Party (Unified), who can be considered a serious party with an essentially appealing message for the many Ukrainians with a visceral affinity for the left of center.

In contrast, the most glaring failures in this regard have been the Democratic Party of Ukraine (DPU) and the Christian Republican Party (CRP). The DPU placed Deputy Prime Minister Serhii Tyhyhko second on their ticket but without his consent. This put the DPU in the embarrassing position of having to remove Mr. Tyhyhko's name from the list when he made it clear that he would not be running for

(Continued on page 13)

### TALENT SEARCH FOR AN ASSIGNMENT IN UKRAINE

- I. MARKETING MANAGER
- II. CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

UKRAINIAN WAVE, INC. – AN AMERICAN-UKRAINIAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANY IS SEEKING RESULTS-ORIENTED, EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONAL TO FILL THESE TWO KEY POSITIONS IN THE CITY OF LVIV

Minimum Qualifications:

- 5 years of experience in telecommunication or related field.
- Western education and training with degrees from accredited University.
- Motivated self starters. Objective driven.
- Computer literacy and passable command of Ukrainian is a must.
- Good and patient communicator and trainer of local workforce.
- Willing to be based in Lviv for several years.

UW will offer a competitive compensation package for the right candidate commensurable with experience and education. Benefits, performance incentives as well as hardship pay will be valued as part of the comp.

Qualified candidates are urged to send a LETTER OF INTRODUCTION and recent RESUME to:  
 UW Staffing, P.O. Box 92,  
 Brush Prairie, WA 98606

To subscribe: Send \$60 (\$40 if you are a member of the UNA) to The Ukrainian Weekly, Subscription Department, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054

**WE ARE THE BEST IN THE BUSINESS!**

*We deliver to:*  
**Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Baltic States**

**MONEY TRANSFER**  
 Personally hand-delivered in terms from 3 to 18 days  
 Express delivery within 24-60 hours

**NEW REDUCED PRICES**

**STANDARD FOOD SETS**  
 Standard food sets composed of high-quality food products  
 Delivery from 1 to 4 weeks

**PARCELS**  
**Sea Parcels**  
 Delivery from 4 to 8 weeks

**Air Parcels**  
 Delivery from 1 to 4 weeks  
 Containers are bonded and shipped many weeks.  
 We can pick up your parcel from your home through 125 countries.

**Why are we the best?**

- Because we care for each and every order placed with us.
- Because we guarantee 100% delivery within specified terms.
- Because of our personal, we are prepared to update you on the status of your order.

**OTHER SERVICES**  
 We also deliver:

- CARS, TRACTORS, FARMING EQUIPMENT
- ELECTRONICS AND HOME APPLIANCES
- LETTERS, DOCUMENTS, GIFTS
- CARS OR SEA CONTAINERS
- OTHER PERSONAL AND COMMERCIAL CARGO

**Upon completion of the order you will be supplied with hand written confirmation from the receiver**

<b>Eastern USA</b> MEEST-AMERICA 617 Popponesset Ave. Linden, NJ 07036 tel: (908) 924-5526 1-800-280-9549	<b>Central USA</b> MEEST-KARPATY 2200 West Chicago Ave. Chicago, IL 60622 tel: (312) 469-9225 1-800-KARPATY	<b>Western USA</b> MEEST-CALIFORNIA 980 East Harvard St. Gardena, CA 90247 tel: (310) 547-4916	<b>Eastern Canada</b> MEEST-MONTREAL 3012 Taschereau East Montreal, QC H3T 1S7 tel: (514) 593-4315	<b>Western Canada</b> MEEST-ALBERTA 19644 92 St. Edmonton, AB T6H 3N3 tel: (403) 424-1277 1-800-516-3558
--	--	--	--	---

*To provide you with better service we have over 250 dealers all across North America  
 For information on our representative in your area please call this toll-free number 1-800-361-7345*



## The Ukrainian parliamentary...

(Continued from page 12)

Parliament, but should he elect to do so he would choose his party allegiance on his own. The CRP found itself in an almost identical position, being too eager to announce that Leonid Kadenyuk, who on November 21, 1997, became independent Ukraine's first astronaut as part of the current Shuttle mission, would run on their ticket.

At their party conference the SDP(U) surprisingly announced that the top two berths in their party ticket will go to former President Leonid Kravchuk and ex-Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk, respectively. The party leader, former Minister of Justice Vasyi Onopenko, will run third, a small – and very likely temporary – inconvenience given that the SDP(U) has now managed to raise its profile considerably in what is undoubtedly at present the most crowded part of the political spectrum. But what are the possible implications for the voter, and, by extension, the idea of representative democracy?

None of these maneuverings can detract from the fact that Messrs. Kravchuk and Marchuk are genuine political heavy-weights. But while there can be little doubting their commitment to the idea of social democracy – an identification that can only be consolidated among the electorate at large through their relationship with the SDP(U) – there are genuine doubts about their commitment to the SDP(U) itself. In fact, neither is a party member.

Thus, the SDP(U) presence in the next Verkhovna Rada might be attributable in no small measure to two individuals who will probably choose to represent their single mandate districts – where they are unlikely to be seriously challenged – as independents. Mr. Onopenko will return to the top berth, and the natural order of things will have been re-established within the SDP(U). But those who voted for the party (a distinction must be drawn between them and SDP(U) supporters) on the basis of the appeal of the Kravchuk-Marchuk dominated ticket will most certainly have been short-changed, and, arguably, deceived. (How many of these voters will actually care is, of course, a completely different issue.)

This is not the only shortcoming of the current system. Just as before, there is nothing in the new electoral regime that obliges an incumbent national deputy to run for re-election in his or her original constituency. This deprives constituents of their only real opportunity to pass judgment on his or her performance. (Running on a party ticket obviously offers yet another way of avoiding the negative consequences of possible voter censure.)

Moreover, anyone wishing to discover something more substantial concerning these peripatetic candidates, in order to make a more informed choice will have to contend with a recent ruling of the Constitutional Court.

The verdict in the Ustyenko case essentially denies access to confidential information on someone without that individual's consent. Confidential information includes, among other things, education, marital status, religious convictions, state of health, date and place of birth, and financial status. Most remarkably, because of sloppy legislating, this anonymity is applicable only to those national deputies running on party tickets. (Candidates running simultaneously on party tickets and in single mandate districts are obliged to reveal biographical details in the latter case only!) While it has not yet caused much concern within the Verkhovna Rada itself, this absurdity is hardly conducive to the creation of an atmosphere that would encourage people to take an active interest in the elections.

By commencing the consolidation of political parties within the Verkhovna Rada, the new electoral system does offer the promise of an eventually more broadly based, accountable system of government. But it does little more than that in the present. Indeed, it is even possible to argue, without much risk of exaggeration, that the first systematic steps towards consolidating party-based democracy in Ukraine are to begin with the paradox – that pervasive and enduring Ukrainian condition – of a somewhat circumscribed democracy; in other words, one existing largely to serve the Ukrainian political elite, which, despite impending months of rhetoric to the contrary, continues to define itself primarily in terms of its own immediate interests and apart from, rather than as an organic part of, Ukrainian society as a whole.

The Consulate General of Ukraine in New York  
expresses its deepest condolences to the family of  
longtime pastor of St. Volodymyr Cathedral in New York

The Very Rev. Protopresbyter

**Volodymyr Bazylevsky**

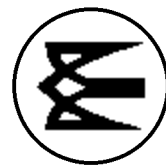
whom we all knew, valued and respected.

The Mohyla Academic Society, Inc., a charitable and tax-exempt organization which lends support to the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NaUKMA), wishes a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year to all benefactors for their generosity and their appreciation of the NaUKMA's role in the cultural, political and economic life of Ukraine. This academic year, after only five years of its rebirth, NaUKMA is attended by 2,252 undergraduate and graduate students at its three campuses (Kyiv, Ostrih and Mykolayiv). Moreover, NaUKMA maintains a number of secondary schools (in Chernihiv, Zaporizhia, Feodosiya, Mykolaiv and Rozhniv in Ivano-Frankivsk district). It has its own university press which to date has published over 30 scholarly books as well as several scholarly and student magazines, a student radio station, a research library with ca. 300,000 volumes, four computer centers, and Internet page, art gallery, several research institutes, a student theater. This is but a partial list of UKMA's achievements. But above all, UKMA is entirely a **UKRAINIAN UNIVERSITY**, totally dedicated to the further development and strengthening of the Ukrainian state.

Your assistance has played a significant role in these achievements. The Mohyla Academic Society is grateful for this and hopes that you will continue to be an active participant in UKMA's academic growth. (Mail your correspondence to: Prof. John Fizer, 26 Bedford Rd., Somerset, N.J. 08873)

Vsevolod Onyshkevych  
Larissa Onyshkevych  
Lydia Zaininger  
George Farion  
Volodymyr Bandera  
John Fizer

To subscribe: Send \$60 (\$40 if you are a member of the UNA) to The Ukrainian Weekly, Subscription Department, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054



# Air Ukraine

non-stop

flights

**NEW YORK - KYIV**  
**NEW YORK - LVIV**

- ◆ Flying time is 4 hours shorter than any other airline
- ◆ Highly qualified pilots
- ◆ Excellent service with traditional Ukrainian hospitality and great meals on board
- ◆ Convenient day-time and evening flights from New York, JFK

**1-800-UKRAINE**  
**(1-800-857-2463)**

Arrival and departure information: JFK - (718) 656-9896, (718) 632-6909

551 Fifth Ave., Suite 1002, 1005



**Air Ukraine - Cargo**  
2307 Coney Island Ave. (Ave. T), Brooklyn, NY 11223  
tel.: 718-376-1023, fax: 718-376-1073

Tis the season of giving ...

Give your loved ones  
the gift that keeps on giving...



**Membership**  
in

**SELF RELIANCE NEW YORK  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

Open a Share Savings Account for your loved ones (under 18\*), between November 15, 1997 and January 15, 1998. Deposit at least \$50.00, we will add \$50.00 to this account.\*\*



**SELF RELIANCE NEW YORK F.C.U.**

Main Office: 38 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10011 Tel: 212-677-7429 Fax: 212-677-3219  
Brooklyn Branch: 21 West Street, Brooklyn, NY 11249 Tel: 718-656-2522 Fax: 718-628-6638

OUTSIDE NYC CALL TOLL FREE: 1-888-581-6031

\* Adult member only, who qualify for membership from 1981 or later

\*\* If balance of at least \$200.00 must be maintained in this new account for at least 1 year.

This Credit Union is federally insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

## Ukrainian American Bar...

(Continued from page 5)

organizations, with the Ukrainian diaspora and Ukraine. Ms. Pochoday, Mr. Michniak and Mr. Shandor summarily addressed the issues. Mr. Shandor commented that the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York had to contend with many of the same issues and was able to make progress in attempting to determine the nature of the community it now serves. He described some ideas that worked for the UIA, and suggested that they may be utilized to some degree by the UABA.

The gala dinner-dance was held that evening at the sophisticated Metropolitan Club of Washington, made available to the UABA through the courtesy of its member, Michael Waris Jr. The private Metropolitan Club, with mahogany wood paneling and gilded ceilings, tables elegantly decorated with large pink rose centerpieces and delicately bowed dinner programs and menus was a most-fitting location for the 20th anniversary evening celebrations.

During the cocktail hour, the attending UABA officers: Ms. Pochoday (president), Mr. Ozaruk (treasurer), George Pazuniak

(secretary), and the members of the board of governors, Mr. Jejna (chairman), Tanya K. Karpiak, Hilary Kinal and Mr. Michniak, greeted and escorted the honored Ukrainian guests, namely: Foreign Affairs Minister of Ukraine and President of the 52nd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations Hennadii Udovenko and his wife, Dina; Ambassador to the U.S., Dr. Yuri Scherbak and his wife, Maria; and Consul General of New York Viktor Kryzhanivsky.

UABA President Pochoday commenced the dinner with "The Lord's Prayer," greeted special guests and provided a brief overview of the activities of the UABA over its first 20 years and its aspirations for the future.

Some of the greetings received by the UABA were then read, including messages from: the Ukrainian Legal Foundation, Ukrainian International Bar Association, Ukrainian Notary Chamber and Association of Ukrainian Advocates, all in Ukraine; The Washington Group, Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America and the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. An oral greeting was presented later that evening by Dr. Goy on behalf of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) and the World Federation of Medical Associations (WFUMA).

The keynote speaker, Minister Udovenko, was introduced by Ms. Pochoday, who noted that he is a career diplomat who joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in 1959. Mr. Udovenko served in numerous capacities at the U.N. in New York and in Geneva. He was Ukraine's ambassador to Poland in 1992-1994 and was appointed as minister of foreign affairs of Ukraine in 1994.

On September 16, Minister Udovenko was unanimously elected president of the 52nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, replacing Razali Ismail of Malaysia. In this capacity he oversees the work of six permanent committees of the General Assembly and the assembly body of 185 representatives of U.N. member-states.

Ms. Pochoday noted that this is a critical time for the minister to serve as president of the General Assembly and underlined that Minister Udovenko's election was not only an honor for him personally, but also for Ukraine.

Minister Udovenko expressed his congratulations on the occasion of the UABA's 20th anniversary. He noted that the organization's efforts were "essential in the process of developing of a truly democratic society in Ukraine, in particular, indepen-

dent Ukraine in creating its independent judiciary, drafting a new Constitution and starting comprehensive legal and economic reform."

In his address Minister Udovenko concentrated on three issues: the place and role of the United Nations in international affairs, the situation in Ukraine and some aspects of Ukrainian-American cooperation. Notably, he criticized the U.S. Congress over the recent failure to act on U.S. membership dues to the United Nations and warned that this failure threatens the U.N.'s future work.

Minister Udovenko highlighted some steps taken by Ukraine in the aftermath of its independence, including the adoption of the Ukrainian Constitution, its record on human rights, the development of political and party systems, the rapid growth of public and professional organizations, the renaissance in organized religion, the removal of nuclear armaments from its territory, membership in the Council of Europe and the establishment of a special partnership with NATO. Minister Udovenko stressed that "the process of democratic and economic reform in Ukraine is irreversible."

Ukraine "will continue to focus attention on issues that can help improve the investment climate in Ukraine, combat corruption and improve public administration. ... We are also determined to make the privatization process in Ukraine a success story," he said. The audience was reminded that Ukraine is still a young country of only six years, and that Ukraine is quite aware that it faces serious problems and challenges. But it also has "the will, the heart and the great talents of the Ukrainian people," emphasized Minister Udovenko.

The dynamic nature of U.S.-Ukraine relations was also mentioned by the minister, who noted that the key to this bilateral relationship is the recognition that "a free, independent and sovereign Ukraine, its security and prosperity, are matters of high importance to the United States of America."

At the conclusion of Minister Udovenko's address, Ms. Pochoday extended the UABA's best wishes for a successful and fruitful term as president of the 52nd Session of the General Assembly and presented Mr. Udovenko with a bronzed statue of the Lady of Blind Justice holding the scales, in recognition and appreciation of his achievements, and as a gentle reminder that blind justice and fairness are the keystones to democratic decision-making.

The awards portion of the evening program ended on an emotional note. On behalf of the UABA and the UABA Scholarship Fund Inc., Ms. Pochoday conferred a posthumous award recognizing the achievements of longtime UABA member, former officer and director Ivan Shandor, who was killed in an accident in April of 1997. Accepting the award for the family was Ivan's brother, Bohdan Shandor, who tearfully reminisced that many of his fondest memories were of attending UABA meetings with Ivan.

Upon the conclusion of the formal portion of the evening program, the guests danced to the tunes of the popular Ukrainian orchestra Tempo.

\* \* \*

The UABA is now preparing for its meeting in the spring of 1998, as well as the fourth World Congress of Ukrainian Jurists (a federation of Ukrainian jurists from throughout the world), which is scheduled to take place in the fall of 1998 in Ukraine. Anyone wishing to contact the UABA and/or apply for membership may call 1-888-UABA-LAW (toll-free in the U.S.) or (973) 635-3167; write to UABA President Bohdanna Pochoday, 4-G Avon Court, Chatham, NJ 07928-1765; or may visit the UABA homepage at <http://www.brama.com/uaba>



## The Ukrainian American Youth Assn.

invites you to the annual

# Debutante Ball

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1998  
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL,  
WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.

Featuring  
BURLAKY (Montreal, Canada)

COCKTAILS AT 6:30 P.M.  
DINNER AT 7:30 P.M.  
ZABAVA AT 9:00 P.M.

DEBUTANTE PRESENTATION AT 9:30 P.M.

Open bar and dinner from 6:30-2:00 — \$80.00 per person

Open bar and zabava 9:00-2:00 — \$35.00 per person

Zabava only (under 21 years old) — \$20.00 per person

For table reservations call Lesia or Slawko Palylyk  
at 203-792-2798

For hotel reservations  
call 914-682-0050 and ask for special  
Ukrainian American Youth Association room rates.

(Please forward this information along to your friends)



Adrianna Rudyk



Oliana Ros



Grace Ann Woloschuk



Maria Dubas



Irene Liber



Anastasia Pazana



Oksana Hucul



Lada Kyj

This announcement was paid for by SUMA Yonkers Federal Credit Union





# *American Friends For Ukraine*

*Founder and Chair  
Vira Hladun Goldman*

*would like to extend its gratitude to the Ukrainian communities  
for their continuing support, most recently, the American  
debut of the Kyiv Chamber Choir*

*Special thanks to the following:*

The White House Social Office  
The United States Embassy to Ukraine  
The Embassy of Ukraine to the United States  
The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations  
The Consulate-General of Ukraine in New York  
Carnegie Hall  
The Washington National Cathedral  
George Mason University Center for the Arts  
The Music Hall of Portsmouth, New Hampshire  
The Ukrainian Cultural Center of Greater Philadelphia  
Air Ukraine  
Coca-Cola Ukraine  
Delta Airlines  
The Washington Performing Arts Society  
The Department of Culture of the City of Kyiv  
The Ukrainian American Broadcasting Company, Inc.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Inc.  
The Ukrainian Institute of America, Inc.  
The Ukrainian National Association, Inc.  
The Washington Group Cultural Fund  
Micocci Productions LLC  
Rubenstein Public Relations, Inc.  
The Honorable William Green Miller  
The Honorable Volodymyr Yelchenko  
Alexander Bystrushkin  
Dr. Lydia Korniy  
Victor Kytasty  
Roksolana Stojko-Lozynskyj  
Roman Sawycky  
Irene Stecura  
Olia Swed

Modern Technology Linking Our Communities Together!

# KON-TAKT

North America's Ukrainian TV

**Philadelphia** WYBE Ch. 35 Sun. 2:00 PM  
**New York** Back In The Fall  
**New Jersey**  
**Ottawa** CFMT Sat. 1:00 PM  
**Toronto**  
**Thunder Bay** CHFD Sun. 12:00 PM  
**Sacramento** RCC Ch 20 Sat. 10:00 PM  
**Chicago** WFBT Sat. 4:00 PM  
**Alberta** Access TV Sat. 2:00 PM  
**Manitoba** CKY Sat. 11:00 AM  
**Vancouver** RMC Ch. 4 Sun. 8 PM  
**Val d'Or - Quebec** TVC - 9 Sun. 2:00 PM

- News from Ukraine
- Youth Segment
- Community News
- Arts
- Travel
- Entertainment
- Business
- Sports
- Kid's Corner

**Coming Soon...** Montreal  
Washington - Florida  
Pittsburgh - Detroit

Connect your Community to the Network!  
CALL Jurii Klufas at 1-416-410-1155

UKRAINIAN for CHILDREN:

**«КАЗКИ»**  
COMPACT DISC DIGITAL AUDIO US\$15.95

**«КОЗАЦЬКА АБЕТКА»**  
CD-ROM for WINDOWS US\$29.95

For information or to order:  
fax: 416 259-0669  
www.interlog.com/~alepki/kids.htm

#### TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 172

As of January 1, 1998, the secretary's duties of Branch 172 will be assumed by Mr. Stephan Kosonocky. We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance, as well as their membership premiums to the address listed below:

Mr. Stephan Kosonocky  
39 Malapardis Road,  
Whippany, NJ 07981-1004  
(973) 887-7730

**Join the UNA!**

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

#### Wednesday, January 7

**PARMA, Ohio:** St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral will sponsor its 11th annual Christmas radio program for their sick and shut-in parishoners. The entire 9:30 a.m. divine liturgy will be broadcast over radio station WMIH, 1260 AM, Cleveland at 1-3 p.m.. The liturgy will be celebrated by Metropolitan Constantine. He will be assisted by the clergy of the cathedral. The cathedral choirs will sing the responses. Also at St. Vladimir's, on Christmas Eve, Great Complies and Matins will be celebrated at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6.

#### Saturday, January 10

**PARMA, Ohio:** The Brotherhood of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral is sponsoring its 34th annual "Malanka" dinner/dance in the parish center, immediately following the 6 p.m. Vespers in church. Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased by calling (440) 661-5646.

#### Monday, January 12

**WASHINGTON:** The Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies will hold a discussion on "Ukraine: Challenges in 1998" at noon. Carlos Pascual, director for Russian, Ukrainian and Eurasian Affairs at the National Security Council, will lead the discussion. For additional information call (202) 287-3400.

#### Saturday, January 17

**TUSCON, Ariz.:** The Ukrainian American Society of Tuscon will be holding its annual "Malanka" New Year's party at the Heidelberg, 4606 E. Pima. This is a benefit dance for the Children of Chornobyl Relief Fund and part of the ticket price is tax deductible. Cocktails are at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. and dancing to the tunes of Tom Scheneck's band at 8-11 p.m.. Tickets: adults, \$20; students, \$15. Reservations are required; for tickets call (520) 296-0085.

#### Saturday, January 17

**WARNERS, N.Y.:** Chervona Ruta cordially invites the community to the New Year's "Malanka" dance at St. Luke's Ukrainian Parish Hall. A buffet dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.; admission: adults, \$15; students,

\$7. Tickets for the dance only, which will begin at 8 p.m., are \$5. Please make reservations by January 10 by calling (315) 672-5361 or (315) 468-2804.

#### Sunday, January 18

**NEW YORK:** The Brooklyn Philharmonic Orchestra will perform Verdi's "Requiem" in Carnegie Hall at 8:30 p.m. Featured performers: Oksana Krovvytska, soprano; Victoria Livengood, mezzo-soprano; Bo Song, tenor; John Cheek, bass-baritone. Participating choruses: The Hartford Chorale, Columbia Union Collegiate Choir, Queensborough Chorus, Long Island Choral Society, Long Island Masterworks Chorus, Warwick Valley Chorale, Taghkanic Chorale. Tickets: \$55, \$44, \$30, \$16. For tickets call (212) 247-7800.

#### Saturday, January 24

**CHICAGO:** The Ukrainian American Veterans (UAV) Post 32 will hold an organizational meeting at 9-10 a.m. at the Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church Cultural Center, Chicago Avenue and Oakley Boulevard. Anyone who has served in any branch of the armed forces of the United States may join the UAV. New members are welcome. For more information call Roman Golash, post commander, at (847) 885-0208 or e-mail him at Golash\_Roman@compuserve.com

#### Saturday, January 24

**CHICAGO:** The Ukrainian American Military Association (UAMA) and the Ukrainian American Veterans (UAV) Post 32 are sponsoring an informational conference "Peace Shield Missions 1995-1998." The conference will provide an overview of the most recent peacekeeping missions by actual participants and discuss the evolving relationship between the United States and Ukrainian armed forces. The conference will take place at the Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Cultural Center at 10 a.m.- noon. Everyone is invited; the sessions will be in English. Slides and official military videos will be shown. The sessions will be moderated by Commander Chuck Dobra (USNR). For more information call Major Roman Golash (USAR) at (847) 885-0208 or e-mail him at Golash\_Roman@compuserve.com

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information written in Preview format (date, place, type of event, admission, sponsor, etc., in the English language, providing full names of persons and/or organizations mentioned, and listing a contact person for additional information). Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published. Please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours.

## Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

#### Winner Ford opens tech center in Rivne

RIVNE — Winner Ford-Ukraine opened a new technical servicing station in Rivne on November 18, 1997. This is the sixth such station to be opened by Winner Ford in Ukraine. It will cover the region of western Ukraine. Seventy skilled workers trained at the Kyiv center will work in three shifts at the new premises. The center will offer modern equipment and a wide selection of spare parts. Winner Ford's owner and president, John Hynansky, noted that the Rivne center meets the highest international standards for servicing Ford cars. Similar stations will soon open in Kharkiv, Lviv and Symferopol. (Eastern Economist)

#### Ukraine has negative trade balance

KYIV — The total volume of foreign trade in the first 10 months of 1997 totaled \$25 billion (U.S.). Figures released by the Ministry of Statistics confirmed that imports totaled \$13.6 billion. Ukraine now has a negative trade balance of \$2.2 billion. (Eastern Economist)

#### Popular TV program suspended

KYIV — TV Studio 1+1 has suspended broadcasting of its popular discussion program "Pisliamova" and cut the air time of its news program TSN by half for the duration of the election campaign. The changes will be in place until April 5, announced Chief Producer Oleksander Rodnianskyi on December 16, 1997. He added that the political pressure on these programs had "reached such forms that affects it the future of the programs and the lives of journalists were under threat." Mr. Rodnianskyi said representatives of at least 11 political forces held "quite harsh talks" with studio management. He confirmed that 1+1 will introduce new projects from the beginning of 1998 to compensate for suspension of the two programs. (Eastern Economist)

#### Novartis eyes Ukrainian market

ODESA — Novartis, a world leader in measures designed to protect plants, held a presentation in Odesa on December 16, 1997. Novartis has operated in Ukraine since 1996 when two chemical firms, Ciba and Sandoz, merged. The company develops fertilizers and pesticides. It is a leader also in medicine and the food industry. (Eastern Economist)

**SELF RELIANCE (NEWARK, NJ)**  
Federal Credit Union

734 SANDFORD AVENUE, NEWARK, NJ 07106  
Tel. (973) 373-7839 • http://www.selfreliance.org • Fax (973) 373-8612  
BUSINESS HOURS:  
Tue & Fri - 12:00 noon to 7:00 PM • Wed & Thurs - 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM • Sat - 9:00 to 12:00 noon • Mon - Closed

**DIRECT DEPOSIT**

THE SAFE WAY TO DEPOSIT YOUR MONEY

Your money will:

- be there when you need it
- earn dividends from day of deposit
- be safe from thieves and vandals

Contact us for details!

Self Reliance NEWARK - Your Savings Source!

Ваші гроші завжди будуть надійно захищені