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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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

Vol. LXVI

No. 46

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1998

\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

4,500 attend Famine memorial at St. Patrick's

by Irene Jarosewich

NEW YORK — Ukrainian Americans of metropolitan New York commemorated the 65th anniversary of the Great Famine of 1932-1933 at St. Patrick's Cathedral on November 8 with a one-hour, two-part program. The Dumka Choir began the commemoration with a solemn rendition of "Otche Nash," which was followed by a "panakhyda" (memorial service) for the famine victims celebrated by Bishop Robert Brucato, auxiliary bishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York; Bishop Basil Losten, eparch of the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of Stamford; and the Rev. Andrei Kulyk from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

During the second part of the program Ukrainian Congress Committee President Askold Lozynskij read greetings from President Bill Clinton and New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, as well as the text of the Congressional Resolution, which had been approved by both houses of the U.S. Congress. Orysia Voloshyn officially represented New York Gov. George Pataki and read the greeting from his office.

Introductory remarks were offered by Bishop Losten and Bishop Brucato, and the keynote and final addresses were given by Ambassador William Green Miller, former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, and by Ukraine's permanent representative to the U.N., Volodymyr Yelchenko.

The cathedral, which seats 4,500, was filled to capacity. Representatives of the event organizers, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, were gratified with the large turnout.

According to Tamara Gallo, director of the New York office of the UCCA, "We are impressed with, and very thankful for, the support that the Ukrainian American community gave this event. We know that several communities organized busloads of people, which we appreciate, since we know that often it is difficult to come into the center of Manhattan. Though our guests also included those not of Ukrainian descent, we believe they numbered only several hundred. And besides the guests from the pre- and post-war immigration, we realize that a very large number of guests were from among the newly arrived immigrants, for which

(Continued on page 4)

Scuffle breaks out in Verkhovna Rada over October Revolution anniversary



Communist deputies applaud as Volodymyr Moiseienko hoists a Soviet-era red flag and congratulates Verkhovna Rada deputies on the 82nd anniversary of the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution.

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — A scuffle between two leading members of opposing factions in the Verkhovna Rada on November 6 added some color to relatively peaceful October Revolution commemorations in Ukraine.

The brief skirmish in Ukraine's legislature and what has become an annual confrontation between Social Nationalists and Communists in Lviv were the only two disturbances in what leftist political leaders had predicted would be a weekend marked by large-scale demonstrations.

The commemorations, and the first confrontation, began in the Verkhovna Rada, whose ideological split and paralysis to many is symbolic of the problems in this country of 50.9 million. At the opening of the morning session, while Rada Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko read a statement honoring World War II veterans who helped free Kyiv from Nazi occupation on November 6, 1943, a radical member of the Communist faction, Volodymyr Moiseienko, unfurled a red Soviet banner and began waving it about the session hall.

As other Communists took their turn with the flag, including faction leader Petro Symonenko, annoyed national deputies from the democratic right, mostly members of the Rukh faction, moved to wrest from the hands of the leftists what for them is a symbol of 70-plus years of Soviet tyranny.

(Continued on page 4)

UNA General Assembly meets at first post-convention session

by Roma Hadzewycz

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — The Ukrainian National Association's General Assembly, newly elected at the fraternal organization's 34th Regular Convention in May, held its first meeting here at the UNA resort, Soyuzivka, on November 7-8.

As this was a special meeting of the 25-member General Assembly, the agenda included only three items: review of UNA operations for 1998, approval of the 1999 budget, and review of organizing results for 1998 and plans for the coming year. (During convention years, regular annual meetings of the General Assembly are not held; the next annual meeting will take place in November 1999.)

In attendance were the following members of the UNA General Assembly:

Executive Committee members — President Ulana Diachuk, First Vice-President Stefko Kuropas, Second Vice-President Anya Dydyk-Petrenko, Director for Canada the Rev. Myron Stasiw, National Secretary Martha Lysko and Treasurer Stefan Kaczaraj;

Auditing Committee members — William Pastuszek, Stefan Hawrysz,

Alexander Serafyn, Yaroslav Zaviysky and Myron Groch;

Advisors — Taras Szmagala Jr., Tekla Moroz, Halyna Kolessa, Nick Diakiwsky, Walter Korchynsky, Wasyl Szeremeta, Wasyl Luchkiv, Stephanie Hawryluk, Andre Worobec, Eugene Oscislawski, Barbara Bachynsky, Andrij Skyba and Al Kachkowski. (Alex Chudolij was unable to attend.)

Also present were: The Ukrainian Weekly Editor-in-Chief Roma Hadzewycz and Svoboda Editor-in-Chief Raissa Galechko, as well as honorary members of the General Assembly Walter Sochan and Joseph Lesawyer. Soyuzivka Manager John A. Flis was present during a session at which Soyuzivka operations were discussed.

The meeting was called to order and chaired by the UNA president. After the Rev. Stasiw delivered the invocation seeking God's intercession to ensure that General Assembly members work for the good of the UNA and its membership, a moment of silence was declared in memory of Dr. Jaroslaw Padoch, longtime UNA

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IMF representative assures Ukraine on loan program

by Pavel Politiuk

KYIV – International Monetary Fund representative John Odling-Smee said on November 4 after his meeting with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma there will be no changes in Ukraine's \$2.2 billion, three-year Extended Fund Facility (EFF) program in the near future.

The same day, the National Bank of Ukraine said it had received the latest tranche of \$78 million from the IMF, after the financial organization's board of director's approved the second installment of the EFF, which is being paid in monthly installments subject to progress on economic and political reform. Together with the September tranche Ukraine has thus far received \$335 million from the IMF.

But the country must continue to meet stringent conditions, including currency reserve and quarterly budget deficit targets, to be eligible for further payments.

In the last week the Ukrainian government, including President Kuchma, had proposed that some IMF stipulations should be relaxed and that Ukraine may need an emission of hryvni to pay long-delayed back wages and pensions.

Ukraine is struggling with the effects of the lingering financial turmoil in Russia, Ukraine's largest trading partner,

which has helped push the hryvnia down to 3.43 against the dollar.

Large wage and pension debts, estimated at more than 6 billion hrv (\$1.75 billion) along with a 6.2 percent jump in inflation in October has put Ukraine in a position in which it may not be able to maintain IMF conditions that it keep the budget deficit and inflation in check.

On October 29 President Kuchma said the EFF program is good for an economically and financially stable Ukraine, but that Kyiv needs adjustments in the program's conditions because of changes in the international and domestic economy.

"We will talk with the IMF mission about softening the program that we have now," President Kuchma told reporters, "and that, of course, means some kind of emissionary measures, but which must not under any circumstances stimulate inflationary processes."

Mr. Odling-Smee said after his meeting with President Kuchma on November 4 that Ukraine's leaders did not say anything about printing money as one way to overcome Ukraine's current financial difficulties.

"No, there is no question about printing money in Ukraine," Mr. Odling-Smee told journalists. "It would be a very bad thing to do, and I am sure the president has no intention of allowing that."

Valerii Lytvynskyi, economic advisor to President Kuchma, said after the meeting that the issue of monetary emission was raised at lower levels during the IMF's weeklong stay in Kyiv, but that the chances of issuing money are slim.

"The issue of printing money cannot be taken on its own, it is not the central problem," Mr. Lytvynskyi said. "The central theme of the talks was the effort Ukraine needs to make to speed up structural, especially fiscal, reform."

The presidential advisor also said that Mr. Odling-Smee gave a positive evaluation of Ukraine's move to speed up structural reform in the privatization and budget sectors. "They made positive comments on Ukraine's work with foreign investors and creditors ... and the more or less successful external debt conversion program," said Mr. Lytvynskyi. He added that the stabilization of the currency market was praised.

Ukraine, which a week ago ceased devaluing the hryvnia versus the dollar, is now interested in reviving the currency trading market and banking activity in the country of 50.9 million.

The IMF and the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) are weighing the possibility of cutting the refinancing rate. The vice-chairman of the central bank, Volodymyr Bondar, told journalists on November 3 that the NBU may cut the refinancing rate from its current 82 percent if it was in conditions on the foreign exchange market are favorable.

Mr. Bondar also said the NBU is planning to use a large part of the planned issue of new money for 1999 – about 900 million hrv (\$236 million) – to stimulate commercial bank lending, which would in turn allow a cut in interest rates.

However, the plan depends on the Verkhovna Rada's approval of the 1999 budget, which sets the budget deficit at 0.6 percent of the gross domestic product. Opposition deputies who initiated an unsuccessful no-confidence vote in the government last month, have threatened to dilute key provisions of the bill, which could potentially wreak havoc with the overall budget.

Ukrainian national deputies decided on November 3 to pass a final budget by December 23.

NEWSBRIEFS

Ukraine asks for aid to flood victims

KYIV – Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk has sent letters to the United Nations and the European Union asking for humanitarian help to victims of the floods in Ukraine's Transcarpathian region, the DPA news agency reported on November 8. Heavy rains have caused five mountain rivers to inundate some 120 settlements in Zakarpatska Oblast, forcing some 25,000 people to leave their homes. The Ukrainian government has provided \$600,000 for rescue efforts, while neighboring Hungary donated \$250,000 to help the flooded area. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Russia, Belarus to form joint Parliament

YAROSLAVL, Russia – Representatives to the Union of Russia and Belarus meeting in Yaroslavl on November 2 agreed to reorganize the union into a two-chamber legislative body. The Associated Press reported that the new body will pass laws relevant only to the union and is not intended to substitute for the two states' own legislatures. The upper chamber of the new body will consist of legislators from the two countries, while the members of the lower chamber will be elected directly by voters in each country during national parliamentary elections, according to ITAR-TASS. Twenty-five seats will be reserved for Belarus and 75 for Russia. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yugoslavia considers joining union

YAROSLAVL, Russia – Yugoslav Deputy Prime Minister Vojislav Seselj, who attended a meeting of the Union of Russia and Belarus here early this month, said Yugoslavia wants to join the union and that "the freedom of Slavic peoples can be defended only by uniting." The president of Belarus, Alyaksandr Lukashenka, also was enthusiastic, saying that Yugoslavia "has a favorable strategic situation and climatic conditions" and "would do Belarus and Russia much good from an economic and strategic point of view." Meanwhile, Anatol Malafeyeu, chairman of Belarus's Chamber of Representatives, expressed hope that Yevgenii Primakov's appointment as Russia's prime minister would "deepen integration processes" between Russia and Belarus. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Delegates discuss union's border policy

YAROSLAVL, Russia – Delegates to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia have approved a draft document outlining the organization's border policy, which envisions a visa valid for the entire territory of the union. According

to an ITAR-TASS report of November 3, Russia will provide more than 20 million rubles (\$1.3 million) and Belarus 9 million rubles to the union's 1999 budget. Russian State Duma Speaker Gennadii Seleznev, who is attending the assembly in Yaroslavl, told reporters that he favors a national referendum in Russia on the question of a union of Russia, Belarus and Ukraine. Mr. Seleznev said he does not rule out the idea of Yugoslavia joining the union at some point in the future and added that he thinks Bulgaria will also likely want to join. Europe long ago started to integrate, he said, and "we also should think about integration." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Miners demand unpaid wages, subsidies

KYIV – Thousands of miners demonstrated throughout Ukraine on November 4 to demand overdue wages and more government subsidies to the coal industry. Some 1,000 miners picketed the Verkhovna Rada and government buildings in Kyiv, while another 5,000 held a rally in Donetsk. Organizers said some 10,000 miners were on strike at their mines to support the demands of the demonstrators. Mykhailo Volynets, a coal mining trade union leader, told Reuters that unless the government pays overdue wages to the miners, they will launch a "bigger nationwide strike in December for an indefinite period." The government owes the miners 2.4 billion hryvni (some \$700 million) in back wages. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine continues lobbying for oil route

KYIV – Two prominent Ukrainian officials have again argued the merits of transporting some Caspian oil to international markets via Ukrainian territory rather than through the planned Baku-Ceyhan pipeline. Following a meeting of the Ukrainian-Polish Consultative Council, Ukraine's Security and Defense Council Secretary Volodymyr Horbulin pointed out on November 3 that transportation costs per metric ton of crude via Ukraine would be \$10 cheaper than via Turkey. In Baku, Ukrainian Ambassador Borys Alekseienco said that the Odesa-Brody pipeline, which links up with the Druzhba pipeline, would be able to transport 40 million tons per year on completion late in 1999. He said that Ukraine could refine half of this quantity domestically. Mr. Alekseienco also endorsed proposals for routing the planned Baku-Ceyhan pipeline via the Georgian Black Sea port of Supsa and the Turkish Black Sea port of Samsun, according to ANS-Press. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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Talbott calls for realism about Russia

RFE/RL Newsline

STANFORD, Calif. – In an address given at Stanford University on November 6, Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott suggested the U.S. and the West adopt a realistic but not pessimistic perspective on events in Russia. He asserted that Russia is not necessarily "a troika-wreck waiting to happen" and called for "realism about the complexity of the challenges and uncertainty Russia faces."

He said it is still "too early to proclaim Russian democratization irreversible" since "the longer the economic meltdown continues," the harder it will be for Russia to sustain the institutions and habits required for "political normalcy."

While he cautioned that the U.S. and Russia "may be in for heightened tensions over security and diplomatic issues," he also noted that "virtually every issue between [the U.S. and Russia] can be boiled down to matters of mutual interest and mutual benefit."

Mr. Talbott also concluded that Russia will "never again be a monolith" because of its pattern of regional differentiation with "oases of liberalization" in Nizhny Novgorod, Samara, Leningrad and Sverdlovsk oblasts on one hand and "Jurassic-like theme parks of Soviet-era policies and personalities," such as Kursk, Krasnodar, Belgorod, Pskov and Volgograd oblasts on the other.

He noted that while aid from institutions such as the International Monetary Fund will have to wait until Russia appears willing "to make difficult structural adjustments," the U.S. will remain engaged in key areas.

He said that Western energy companies continue to want to invest into Russia's oil sector, which will need close to "\$15 billion a year for the next seven or eight years just to get back to 1988 production levels."

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: \$50; for UNA members – \$40.

Periodicals postage paid at Parsippany, NJ 07054 and additional mailing offices. (ISSN – 0273-9348)

Also published by the UNA: Svoboda, a Ukrainian-language weekly newspaper (annual subscription fee: \$50; \$40 for UNA members).

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

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The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, November 15, 1998, No. 46, Vol. LXVI

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INTERVIEW: Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak speaks at the conclusion of his tour of duty

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – On November 20, Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak and his wife, Maria, will return home to Kyiv, having served four years as Ukraine's official representative to the United States.

While preparing for his departure and between numerous farewell receptions and banquets, Ambassador Shcherbak gave his last interview to *The Ukrainian Weekly's* special correspondent, Yaro Bihun. He recalled the historic changes in U.S.-Ukraine relations during that period, its high points and low points, his relationship with the Ukrainian American community and what he sees as its future role with respect to Ukraine, and the development of Ukraine's new diplomatic corps, among other issues.

Following are excerpts from the hourlong interview, which was translated from Ukrainian.

Over the past four years you have been a witness to – or more accurately, a participant in – the important development of relations between Ukraine and the United States. Could you point out some of the most important moments of that period?

The pivotal year in our relationship was 1994. It happened during President Leonid Kuchma's first visit, which coincided with my arrival and presentation of my credentials to President Bill Clinton. It was the first-ever state visit to the United States by a Ukrainian president, and it was important for the signing of the basic document that outlines our relationship: the charter on cooperation and friendship, which included such important points as the U.S. recognition of Ukraine's importance for European and world security and its support of Ukraine's independence and territorial integrity.

To better understand the background, one must remember that in 1992, 1993 and the beginning of 1994, our bilateral relationship was strained because of the large number of nuclear arms positioned on Ukrainian territory. Understandably, the United States was interested in resolving its own strategic concerns; they pressed for the removal of this nuclear threat, which, during the Soviet, Cold War years, indeed, was a direct threat to the United States. But Ukraine, too, which had pledged to become a non-nuclear country, was now able to fulfill this promise and at the same time resolve all outstanding issues in the U.S.-Ukraine bilateral relationship before or during President Kuchma's visit.

We can state that 1994 saw the beginning of a qualitatively new period in our relationship. We called this relationship a "democratic partnership" then, but in 1995, during President Kuchma's second visit to Washington, the proposal was made to raise the relationship to a higher level, to that of a "strategic partnership." And we reached that level in 1996. Since then, the Binational Kuchma-Gore Commission began its work through its four committees and held two plenary sessions, first in Washington in 1997 and this year in Kyiv. These were very important steps in building closer ties and enhancing mutual understanding.

The road we traveled over these four years leads us to expanded cooperation in the 21st century. We have grown used to each other. Our relationship is not merely a diplomatic formality, we are now real partners – we know each other's problems – we have strong ties, including close personal ties, which are also important in politics, when people meet as old friends without the need to get re-acquainted or explain again one's position.

I think that Ukraine is one of a few, if not the only country in the former Soviet Union, that has such a relationship and that level of openness and trust as we now have with the United States. Our views may differ on some issues, but we try to resolve these differences at the conference table, within the bilateral process.

We still have a long way to go in further improving our relationship, but what was accomplished in the past four years was a good beginning.

And, if it's proper for a diplomat to be so candid, in the midst of these accomplishments, were there also any low points in the relationship?

There were moments of discouragement and disappointment, of course, when, for example, the expectations of swift and effective reforms in Ukraine proved unrealistic, when we discussed American investors' problems in Ukraine in which our side was at fault.

The "certification" process was a very difficult time, when the U.S. secretary of state had to certify that Ukraine was making progress in market reforms and in

resolving disputes with U.S. companies. This was a very unpleasant time, as we strove to resolve these problems and ultimately received certification. But it was not easy.

We understand, however, that cooperation does not come easily between countries that have such different roots, traditions and histories, as well as social and political development experiences.

But, here again, even these negative moments underscore the positive nature of our relations. The Americans now understand us better; they listen to our explanations, which was not always the case in the past when they were far more uncompromising and inflexible in their positions. Constructive cooperation developed later.

You, no doubt, have a number of plans or ideas for which you either did not have time or, for other reasons, could not bring to fruition. What tops this list?

I think there is a potential for increased cooperation in many areas, first of all, in trade. We certainly cannot be satisfied with the level of our trade relations. Because of barriers to Ukrainian exports, we were not able to take full advantage of the potential of the U.S. market. I'm convinced that we can do much more than we are doing, but this would require very intensive efforts and hard work to expand our market share.

There is also a great potential for cooperation in small businesses and in agriculture, where we have initiated relationships, but they are far below their potential – as is foreign investment in Ukraine.

What are some of the major problems your successor will have to face in his – or her – first few months as ambassador here?

First of all, I heartily welcome my successor. I know him – I can reveal that it is a "him" and not a "her" – he is a highly qualified and experienced Ukrainian diplomat, and I wish him all the success in continuing and improving what was begun.

I think, basically, that he will face, more or less, the same problems we faced. For example, the Kuchma-Gore foreign affairs committee has already started discussing the next "certification." And I'll admit that it will not be any easier than the previous one, because the criteria now are wider in scope, dealing with not only investment disputes, but with the investment climate in general as well as progress on reforms – all very subjective issues.

And my successor will begin with this. He will have to go and seek support in Congress, stay in constant touch with the administration and try to limit the issues to a few concrete problem areas that can be resolved. This will not be easy, and I wish him all the best in meeting this first challenge as the new ambassador.

And what other problems stand in the way of further improving U.S.-Ukrainian relations?

Our countries are different in too many ways. There



Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak in his office.

are major psychological barriers. If the Americans frequently do not agree on issues with even some of the highly developed European democracies – the Americans and French frequently do not see eye-to-eye on things, for example – then what can one say about us, with our history, biography, and psychological development?

This is a major problem, which ultimately will be overcome, but it will take at least another generation.

From the outset, you have tried to maintain close, cooperative ties with the Ukrainian American community and its organizations. How would you describe your efforts in this area?

First of all, we had a clear goal: to work together on a regular basis while adhering to the principles of mutual trust and respect, and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

Second, we understood the complexity of the situation. There are organizations with varying political orientations. There are some that have yet to realize that the period for destruction must give way to a period of construction – the need to shift from revolutionary goals to the important, although sometimes less-than-exciting job of building a country. And there were instances when we did not understand well enough the situation within the Ukrainian community.

Our plan, which was formulated in consultation with the Ukrainian community, included regular consultations with the leaders of Ukrainian organizations, during which the community learned much, recognized some

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New Yorkers bid a fond farewell to ambassador

by Roma Hadzewycz

NEW YORK – New Yorkers bid a fond farewell to Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, and his wife, Maria, during a November 3 reception in their honor at the stately Ukrainian Institute of America. The evening was sponsored by the Ukrainian Institute of America, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council.

In his introductory remarks before an audience of some 60 invited guests, UIA Vice-President Walter Baranetsky summed up the illustrious career of the honoree: service as a people's deputy of the USSR and independent Ukraine's minister of the environment and ambassador to Israel, work as an epidemiologist and writer, and contributions as a public activist and intellectual.

As well, he pointed to

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Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak is greeted by well-wishers following his farewell address at the Ukrainian Institute of America.

4,500 attend...

(Continued from page 1)

we are very grateful."

Bishop Brucato, represented the archdiocese of New York and brought greetings from Cardinal John O'Connor. In welcoming the guests to the commemoration, the bishop noted that "every Sunday the divine liturgy is celebrated in more than 32 languages in our archdiocese ... and it is a very international community that greets you and prays with you today as you commemorate this great tragedy."

In his greeting to the participants, President Bill Clinton wrote, "... the Famine still evokes strong feelings of grief and anger. We have a solemn obligation to keep alive the memory of the innocent victims who suffered and died because of Stalin's attempt to crush Ukraine."

Ambassador Miller placed the Famine within the broader context of the geopolitics that defined the 20th century. He underscored the unflinching determination of Ukrainians, in spite of incredible obstacles and a history filled with tragedy, to establish an independent state.

For the city and state of New York, Mayor Gulliani and Gov. Pataki declared November 8 as Ukrainian Famine Remembrance Day.

The commemoration concluded with the Dumka Choir leading the guests in singing "Bozhe Velykyi Yedynyi."

President, governor send messages to commemorate Great Famine

Published below are the texts of a message from President Bill Clinton and a proclamation signed by New York Gov. George E. Pataki, which were read at the commemoration of the Great Famine held at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York.

President Bill Clinton

On the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine, I join the Ukrainian people and the entire Ukrainian American community in commemorating this tragic chapter in Ukraine's history.

To survivors and their families, the Famine still evokes strong feelings of grief and anger. We have a solemn obligation to keep alive the memory of the innocent victims who suffered and died because of Stalin's attempt to crush Ukraine. But we also must remember the determination and unyielding faith of Ukrainians who struggled and sacrificed for so long to realize their dream of freedom.

While this anniversary is an occasion for both sorrow and reflection, it also reminds us of Ukraine's steadfast commitment to democracy and to continuing its political, social and economic evolution. Today is a time of extraordinary opportunity for the nations of the world as old barriers fall and a new and truly global community emerges. The people of Ukraine, with their rich heritage and reverence for freedom, have much to offer this global community.

As you mark this solemn milestone, I commend you for working to build a brighter future. Best wishes for a memorable observance.

Gov. George E. Pataki

Whereas, the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933 is a truly painful chapter in the history of Ukraine, the magnitude of this tragedy becomes even greater in view of the fact that the Famine was not the result of natural causes, but was induced as a brutal Soviet policy directed against the Ukrainian people; and

Whereas, the poignancy that envelopes this sorrowful episode in Ukrainian history stems from the fact that it was a phenomenon unlike others - an artificial famine that was engineered by the Stalin regime in an attempt to collectivize agriculture and crush the nationally conscious Ukrainian nation; and

Whereas, the Famine was a truly callous act aimed at oppressing the political, cultural and human rights of the Ukrainian people; the immediate result was the death of more than 7 million Ukrainians, including the elimination of Ukraine's intelligentsia and its middle class; since it occurred, the Famine has had a lasting impact and has left a permanent mark upon the Ukrainian people, in addition the policies instituted during the Famine period have impeded Ukraine's economy and political development; and

Whereas, in perpetuating this indescribable crime against humanity, the Soviet government had complete control of the borders and food supplies, deliberately refusing to accept relief efforts; at the same time, the Soviets ignored various appeals from foreign governments and organizations to alleviate the catastrophic conditions resulting from the Famine; and

Whereas, the people of a free and independent Ukraine have established a democratic system of government, instituted a free market economy and enacted policies that ensure full respect for human rights; it is important for New Yorkers, as well as all Americans and people worldwide, to continue providing support and assistance to Ukraine as it proceeds down the path of becoming a strong and self-governed nation:

Now, therefore, I, George E. Pataki, governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim November 8-9, 1998, as Ukrainian Famine Days of Remembrance in the Empire State and encourage the world community to recognize that the best safeguard against future atrocities of this nature is to maintain and ensure support for an independent Ukrainian state and all democratic nations.

Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this 6th day of November in the year 1998.

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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Scuffle breaks out...

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A tussle occurred between Communist Moiseienko and Rukh member Bohdan Boyko, which nearly led to a melee on the Parliament floor before order was restored.

Rukh leader Vyacheslav Chornovil, who took to the rostrum after Mr. Moiseienko had been given permission to speak, called for a moment of silence in memory of the victims of Soviet repression. With shouts of "Get off the rostrum" emanating from the Communist section of the hall, Mr. Chornovil called on deputies to abandon the hall in protest against the Communist "provocation." Only members of the Rukh faction heeded their leader's request.

This year's commemoration of the most important holiday in the Soviet Communist world, the storming of the Winter Palace in St. Petersburg in 1917, which led to the Bolshevik overthrow of the Kerensky government, was even more important to leftist forces because it was celebrated in conjunction with official government commemoration of the 55th anniversary of Kyiv's liberation from Nazi occupation.

Leftist leaders, most notably Communist Party leader Mr. Symonenko, had said people would take to the streets in numbers not seen since Ukraine declared independence in 1991. However, only some 90,000 Ukrainians nationwide thought it important to attend Communist demonstrations on November 7 in commemoration of the October Revolution and in protest against the current administration's pro-West policies. A scant 4,000 demonstrated in Kyiv. Ukraine's leftist political parties have some 170,000 registered members.

At a rally in Kyiv on European Square, before what was once the Lenin Museum but today is the Ukrainian National Home, leading members of the left, including Mr. Symonenko, Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz and the head of the Chernobyl Union Yurii Andreiev, called on Ukraine to alter its course of reforms, join the Commonwealth of Independent States Inter-Parliamentary Assembly and the Russia-Belarus Union, and ban all NATO military exercises in Ukraine.

After the rally the throng marched down the Khreschatyk to the Lenin monument.

Meanwhile Rukh held its own rally in Mykhailivskiyi Square, where more than 1,500 national democrats and their supporters paid tribute to victims of Soviet repression. After laying flowers at the Shevchenko Monument, they held a mourning march down Volodymyrska Street, the location of some of Ukraine's most important historic landmarks, including the Teacher's Building, in front of which the Ukrainian National Republic was proclaimed in 1918, and the Golden Gates (Zoloti Vorota) and the St. Sophia Sobor, both built by Prime Yaroslav the Wise in the 11th century.

The Young Rukh bloc of the party held an unusual action of its own that same day. After the Communist march and rally had ended, Young Rukh members followed with a "sanitation action." Several dozen young men walked the route of the Communist demonstration wearing gas masks and white lab coats, and holding disinfection apparatus in a symbolic cleansing of what Rukh Press Secretary Dmytro Ponomarchuk called "the red infection."

In Lviv, which had marked the 80th anniversary of the establishment of the Western Ukrainian National Republic the week before, October Revolution demonstrations became violent when rightists and leftists crossed paths after their separate rallies were over. A confrontation between the leftist Socialist Youth Congress and the rightist Social National Party of Ukraine and the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists turned into a brawl that chiefly involved the leftists and the police, after someone tried to destroy a leftist placard. Order was quickly restored, but not before five people were injured and 21 Socialists were arrested. All were later released.

No more than 250 people attended the Socialist demonstration that took place before the disturbance. The rightists' rally, held to protest October Revolution Day celebrations, involved some 100 individuals.

In other major cities of Ukraine police reported only peaceful demonstrations. The largest rallies were held in Mykolaiv and Kharkiv; approximately 5,000 people participated in each rally.

New president of UCC outlines priorities

by **Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj**
Toronto Press Bureau

WINNIPEG – Go mainstream, put your money where your mouth is, and function as a fully democratic organization. These were the three principal messages of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress's new president, elected by acclamation here at the national umbrella body's 19th triennial congress.

On October 11, Evhen Czolij, the head of Québec's UCC Provincial Council for the past five years, and vice-president of the national UCC for the past three, became the youngest president of the UCC in its 48-year history. Mr. Czolij is 39.

In his first address as president, the Montreal-based lawyer stressed that "the UCC has to react to Canadian issues" and needs to "be more mainstream in order to be counted in Canadian politics."

Throwing his wholehearted support behind a resolution calling for the immediate re-opening of the UCC's Ottawa bureau, Mr. Czolij declared that the UCC "must have a permanent and visible presence in our capital city." He said this is essential for the UCC to be true to its mandate to "act as an authoritative representative for the Ukrainian Canadian community before the people and government of Canada."

The money issue

However, Mr. Czolij said, "the reality check is very brutal: a real Ottawa bureau costs money."

The new president challenged those who gave so generously to the [Ukrainian] Embassy Fund, those who support "all kinds of projects in Ukraine," and those who give money "to all the Ukrainian politicians who came to Canada to build a better Ukraine, and then forgot all about us on the way back to Ukraine," to make substantial contributions that would assist the UCC in its effort to maintain a presence near Parliament Hill.

Mr. Czolij suggested the Ukrainian

Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko should "grant significant yearly subventions for the UCC to maintain a fully operational Ottawa bureau."

In turn, he enjoined Ukrainian Canadians to donate generously to the foundation and its latest project, the Kobzar Fellowship.

He even hinted at the possibility that the UCC's headquarters could be moved from its long-standing seat in Winnipeg, as a by-law amendment ratified at the congress removed specific mention of a site.

"In 1998 that change is more symbolic than life-threatening for Winnipeggers," Mr. Czolij said. "However, the underlying message is clear: the UCC is a national body."

According to Mr. Czolij, "this inevitably ties in with the self-evident additional assertion that we must have a permanent and visible presence in our capital city."

Turning to mainstream Canadian issues, Mr. Czolij said the UCC was "politically astute to go all the way to Québec" to choose a president, given the current constitutional debates in the country and concerns about national unity. He affirmed his support of the 19th triennial congress's resolution recognizing the province's distinctive status within Canada.

Mr. Czolij mentioned his testimony on behalf of the UCC before the Bélanger Campeau Commission in 1991, at which he stressed that "we as Canadians need to recognize and accept our differences, be intellectually flexible and genuinely seek new and fresh solutions that will make the great majority of Canadians in all of the provinces true nation-builders."

He also said he will make a renewed effort to "reach out to successful, prominent and influential Canadians of Ukrainian descent."

The UCC official said: "They do not need to come to all our meetings, ... to be part of our team. They must, however, be accessible to us and willing to support our cause – especially when their input could make a difference."



UCC President Evhen Czolij

Mr. Czolij reasserted the UCC's need to maintain ties with and support for Ukraine, particularly through formal relations with the Embassy of Ukraine in Ottawa, and through support of the UCC adjunct Canada-Ukraine Foundation.

The new president said support for the CUF's fund-raising and lobbying effort to have the federal government establish a "Canada-Ukraine Community Matching Dollar Trust Fund," that would entail a federal grant of \$3 million per year for the next 10 years, would be a priority. He said Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's upcoming trip to Ukraine, scheduled for January 1999, presents an excellent occasion to press home with this initiative.

Mr. Czolij also assured delegates that "the issue of denaturalization and deportation will be a priority for the UCC."

"The UCC will defend the principle that Canadian citizens should be tried by Canadian criminal courts for any alleged

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UCC inaugurates youth awards

by **Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj**
Toronto Press Bureau

WINNIPEG – At its 19th triennial congress, which featured a record 31 delegates under age 25, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress inaugurated its Ukrainian Canadian Youth Leadership Award of Excellence and celebrated its honorees at a special banquet in the Lombard Hotel's Constitution Ballroom.

Pursuant to a resolution of the 18th UCC congress to recognize the contribution of youth to the Ukrainian Canadian community and Canadian society as a whole, 13 Ukrainian Canadians between the ages of 16 and 25 from across the country were nominated for the prize, and three recipients were chosen for the first round of awards.

The winners were Stefan Holowka of Montréal, Orest Pilipowicz of Winnipeg and Rosemarie Skavinski, also of Winnipeg.

According to the banquet program, which spelled out the criteria for their selection, "each of the award recipients is a member of a Ukrainian Canadian organization where he/she has shown consistent positive involvement for a minimum of three years, and has demonstrated excellent leadership in the areas of communication skills, showing initiative, consensus building and team work, and raising the positive profile of Ukrainians in the community."

Maria Stebelska, president of the Ukrainian Social Services of Canada, and Oleh Romaniw, outgoing UCC president, made the presentations at the October 10 banquet.

Mr. Pilipowicz, 24, is enrolled in a master's program in human anatomy at the University of Manitoba faculty of medicine and is doing research on muscular dystrophy. He was nominated by the UCC's Manitoba Provincial Council. He is president of the Manitoba chapter of the Ukrainian Catholic Youth Organization, a member of the Plast Ukrainian Youth Association and of the board of directors of the Ukrainian National Federation of Dance, as well as a dancer with the Rusalka Dance Ensemble. Mr. Pilipowicz established the local UCYO's newsletter, reopened a branch of the Ukrainian National Youth Federation of Canada in Winnipeg, and in 1996 travelled to Kyiv for the International Conference of Youth in Ukraine.

Ms. Skavinski, 24, is studying theology at the University of Manitoba and was nominated by the national Ukrainian Orthodox Youth Association (SUMK). Ms. Skavinski, the president of SUMK's Manitoba Regional Executive and editor of its newsletter, Tryzub, was honored for serving as the organization's representative on the UCC national board of directors (formerly the presidium) since 1993 (she also served on the community development, constitution and planning committees that prepared for the 19th triennial congress); for service as coordinator of the St. Andrew's College (at the University of Manitoba) student exchange program and as editor of the college's newsletter; and for participation in the planning of 50th anniversary celebrations of the Winnipeg-based Koshetz Choir.

Mr. Holowka, 22, is currently studying engineering at Concordia University and was nominated by the Québec provincial branch of the Ukrainian Youth Association (SUM). Mr. Holowka, a member of the SUM national organizing committee and SUM's youth director in his home province, a member of the Trembita Brass Band, the Zolota Bulava dance band and a dancer with the Marunczak Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, attended SUM's World

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Shevchenko Medals awarded to 29 activists

WINNIPEG – During the Ukrainian Canadian Congress's triennial congress, an awards banquet was held on October 10 to honor recipients of the umbrella body's highest prizes: the Shevchenko Medal.

According to the evening's program, the laureates are 29 individuals "who have made an outstanding effort and accomplished extraordinary deeds in the Ukrainian Canadian community. The public recognition of a lifetime of tireless

and selfless work – because it was given freely out of love for the community and not for personal gain – hopes to inspire a whole new generation."

According to a press release issued the previous day, the medal "is awarded to individuals of Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian descent for their outstanding contribution towards the growth of the Ukrainian presence in Canada on a national level."

However, at this congress, the UCC

also decided to include organizations among the recipients, and recognized the contributions of two Ukrainian youth associations, Plast and SUM.

Among the Shevchenko Medal recipients at this congress was the late Justice John Sopinka (1933-1997). The UCC press item mentioned that Judge Sopinka was the first Ukrainian Canadian appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada and the first to speak Ukrainian at his swearing-in ceremony.

While still in private practice as a lawyer, the honoree represented the UCC before the Deschênes Commission of Inquiry in 1986 and was legal counsel for an International Commission on the Great-Famine Genocide in Soviet Ukraine in 1932-1933, which presented testimony to the International Court in The Hague.

Thirty-five recipients of the Shevchenko Diploma of Merit, the UCC's second highest award, were recognized at the congress's Thanksgiving Day (Canadian) brunch on October 12. The diploma is awarded to individuals of Ukrainian or non-Ukrainian descent who "have significantly contributed to the development of the Ukrainian Canadian community on a regional or local level," as the UCC media item specified.

Based on organizational or individual recommendations, candidates are selected by the Shevchenko Awards Committee and approved by the UCC's National Executive.



Dr. David Marples (right), one of the recipients of the Shevchenko Medal, stands next to UCC Past President Oleh Romaniw.

Andrij Wynnyckyj



Roma Hadzewycz

General Assembly members, with executive officers seated in the front row, during their meeting at Soyuzivka.

UNA General Assembly...

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supreme secretary.

Leading off the discussion about UNA operations, Mrs. Diachuk focused on the UNA's publications, *Svoboda* and *The Ukrainian Weekly*, noting that expenses had been reduced by \$141,780 during the first nine months of the year, while income also was down by \$162,877, mostly due to a decline in subscription income from *Svoboda*, which was a daily through the end of June and with its transformation to a weekly lowered its subscription prices. Subscription income increased for *The Weekly*, however.

As regards the number of subscribers to the UNA's weeklies, Mrs. Diachuk reported that both have now gained subscribers in the period of July through September, after losing readers during the first half of the year.

When *Svoboda* became a weekly in July, Serhiy Myroniuk was tapped as the acting editor-in-chief. The UNA president reported that the new editor took charge of *Svoboda* in early September and that Ms. Galechko will soon be signed to a two-year contract.

Ms. Galechko was introduced to the assembly and given an opportunity to share her plans for *Svoboda*. She noted that "what is most important is for the

paper to be interesting because then it will attract readers," and went on to report that she is seeking news and commentary from Ukraine, as well as shorter articles from local communities in the diaspora.

Acknowledging that she had been told to decrease expenses, Ms. Galechko said that she as editor can organize work more effectively and use materials that are available over the Internet. "This will allow us to decrease costs and to cut personnel, since the paper is now a weekly," she said.

Mrs. Diachuk continued her report by pointing to the creation of a special marketing group composed of editors, *Svoboda* Press administration personnel, the UNA's marketing/advertising consultant and herself, which is now working to expand circulation of the UNA's publications by trying to attract former subscribers and offering discounts for subscribers as a pre-Christmas promotion.

A review of *Soyuzivka* operations showed that income was up during the first nine months of 1998 by \$118,645 when compared to the same period in the previous year. Expenses were down by \$35,465. Nonetheless, *Soyuzivka*'s net loss thus far this year is \$233,654.

Mrs. Diachuk shared with General Assembly members suggestions that a Club *Soyuzivka* be created whereby an annual membership could be bought for a

set amount that would provide members with certain, as yet undetermined, benefits. She stated that the resort needs to attract mid-week business, and that it must advertise in Russian and Polish newspapers in order to attract newly arrived immigrants from Ukraine. She also emphasized, "We must make *Soyuzivka* self-sustaining within two years, no matter what."

Assembly members offered various suggestions of how to assist *Soyuzivka* during these difficult financial times; these ranged from approaching former employees to make donations to the resort and setting up a *Soyuzivka* endowment fund, to organizing volunteer groups to help upkeep the resort and having district committees adopt individual buildings at the resort which they would help maintain.

Advisor Skyba suggested contacting professional travel agents to organize tours to *Soyuzivka* that would take advantage of the many recreational and historical offerings in the region.

On the suggestion of Advisor Szmagala, a new Standing Committee on *Soyuzivka* was organized. Its members are: Messrs. Korchynsky, Skyba and Szmagala, Prof. Luchkiv, Dr. Szeremeta, Ms. Hawryluk and Ms. Kolessa; Vice-President Kuropas will chair the committee.

National Secretary Lysko spoke about the UNA's Scholarship Program and sug-

gested a simplification of procedures, including a less demanding application process and pre-determined scholarship grants to be awarded to students based on whether they are freshmen, sophomores, juniors or seniors, with the amounts being lowest for freshmen and highest for seniors.

The advantages of such a procedure, Mrs. Lysko argued, are that red tape is eliminated, all members are given equal treatment, and administrative costs are decreased.

She explained, however, that requirements for special scholarships awarded by the UNA on the basis of merit or field of study, would not change.

A discussion arose over the amounts to be awarded by the Scholarship Program with some General Assembly members questioning whether these are scholarships at all, or simply grants or stipends. After some debate it was decided to continue calling these "scholarships." Auditor Hawrysz suggested that the UNA could appeal to former scholarship recipients for donations to the UNA Scholarship Program.

A special three-person committee, composed of an advisor, an auditor and the UNA treasurer, was created to review the applications for special scholarships; its members are Prof. Luchkiv, Mr. Pastuszek and Mr. Kaczaraj.

The national secretary also briefed General Assembly members about upcoming changes to be put into effect once the Home Office's new computer system is fully functional. The changes are to be detailed in a letter to secretaries and will be published to notify the membership.

Treasurer Kaczaraj reported that the UNA's assets as of September 30 stood at \$69,865,000, but that this is a 2.15 percent loss from January's figure of \$71,404,000.

Turning to financial results of the first nine months of 1998, Mr. Kaczaraj pointed to losses of \$876,000 (cash basis, adjusted for certain expenses like depreciation, adjustment of reserve for life certificates, etc.): \$286,000 on *Soyuzivka*, \$274,000 on publications, \$173,000 on the Toronto sales office and \$143,000 on UNA operations. He added, however, that losses had decreased from the same nine-month period in the previous year when they totaled \$1,537,000: \$444,000 on *Soyuzivka*, \$307,000 on publications, \$309,000 on the Toronto office and \$377,000 on UNA operations). Thus, losses decreased by almost one-half since last year, he underlined.

The treasurer noted that downsizing and reorganization will soon be put into effect at the Home Office. As well, the UNA will

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Honorary member of the General Assembly Walter Sochan (center) is congratulated on his 75th birthday by (from left) First Vice-President Stefko Kuropas, Director for Canada the Rev. Myron Stasiw, Auditor Stefan Hawrysz and Second Vice-President Anya Dydyk.



Svoboda Editor-in-Chief Raissa Galechko addresses the meeting. Seated are President Ulana Diachuk and Treasurer Stefan Kaczaraj.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Newly elected auditors conduct first review of UNA operations



Roma Hadzewycz

The Ukrainian National Association's Auditing Committee conducted its first review of the fraternal organization's operations since the 34th Regular UNA Convention held in May. The review was conducted on November 4-6 at the UNA's Corporate Headquarters in Parsippany, N.J. In the photo above are: William Pastuszek (center), chairman of the Auditing Committee, with fellow auditors (from left) Yaroslav Zaviysky, Myron Groch, Stefan Hawrysz and Alexander Serafyn.

UNA General Assembly...

(Continued from page 6)

decrease the amount of space it occupies in its corporate headquarters, thus making more rental space available and increasing income.

Next Mr. Kaczaraj provided a quick overview of the UNA's budget for 1999, which foresees income of \$6,187,433, disbursements of \$6,123,429 and a net profit of \$64,004. Certain expenses were not included in the budget provided, he explained.

The treasurer forecast a loss on the UNA resort's operations of \$311,747 and emphasized that "Soyuzivka will have to save some more money." Regarding the UNA's publications, he stated that the convention had decided the UNA subsidy to its publications should be \$100,000, and added, "We have to stick to that."

As presented, the budget had allocated \$25,000 for the UNA Scholarship Program in 1999. However, after General Assembly members voiced concern about such a low figure, the sum was upped to \$35,000.

Another point of concern was the amount budgeted for salaries of employees (not including executive or publications personnel), which was listed at \$512,000, down from the previous year's level of \$1 million.

Among other issues discussed were losses on the UNA's Toronto sales office and the UNA's investments.

The budget proposal was passed by a vote of 13 for and eight against (abstentions were not counted).

Mrs. Lysko returned to the podium the next day to discuss the UNA Home Office's plans for the future, including new insurance products. She pointed to improvements in current products, such as preferred ratings for non-smokers, lower prices on 10-year term policies and higher age limits on life insurance policies, and the elimination of some policies, such as annual renewable term and decreasing 30-year term.

She also reported that the UNA would be discontinuing its endowment policies, which account for 12 percent of the UNA policies sold, because most fraternal no longer sell these products since their annu-

al growth (cash value) is now taxed. That proposal elicited a lengthy discussion in which all advisors and auditors speaking said they would like to keep the endowment policies as they do sell well to a specific market, for example to grandparents who purchase these as gifts for their grandchildren, are a product geared for children and can be sold by any secretary as it does not require an insurance license.

Ultimately, UNA officers agreed to keep the endowment policies for the time being and to review the success of a new combination of products that is meant to replace them before doing away with all or some endowment certificates.

Mrs. Lysko also reported that the UNA is now negotiating with an independent contractor who will find brokers to sell UNA insurance products. In addition, via a special arrangement with a brokerage firm, the UNA is able to obtain insurance coverage from over 200 insurance companies for products that the UNA does not have in its own portfolio of offerings. The UNA receives only overrides on such referrals.

The 1999 Organizing Plan, she reported, calls for enrolling 1,250 members covered for a total of \$20 million of life insurance.

At the conclusion of the Sunday session, Advisor Szeremeta asked the UNA president to review progress made on implementing the resolutions and recommendations passed by the 34th Convention in May.

Dr. Szeremeta also voiced concern that there had not been sufficient time to examine the figures presented by Mr. Kaczaraj to the General Assembly. Dr. Szeremeta moved to have budget figures and other pertinent information sent to General Assembly members at least one week before their meetings so that members have time to review them in preparation for their deliberations. The motion was seconded by Advisor Kachkowski and unanimously approved.

At the conclusion of the session, President Diachuk thanked all General Assembly members for their constructive input "given for the good of our organization and in an effort to solve our problems." She added, "May we return next year with fewer problems."

Historian speaks on UNA's past, present and future

by Roma Hadzewycz

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Northern New Jersey District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association hosted Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, author of the book "Ukrainian American Citadel: The First Hundred Years of the Ukrainian National Association," on Sunday, October 11, here at the UNA Corporate Headquarters.

After a brief introduction by the chairman of the Northern New Jersey District Committee, Eugene Oscislawski, the UNA historian spoke on the topic "The UNA: Past, Present and Future."

"No other organization in the diaspora is as powerful as the Ukrainian National Association," noted Dr. Kuropas at the outset of his remarks. He then proceeded to review the accomplishments of the UNA decade by decade since the organization's founding in 1894.

Perhaps the UNA's greatest achievement was that it created and reinforced a Ukrainian identity among immigrants to the United States, he stated. Between the years 1904 and 1914, the author noted, the people who called themselves Rusyns became Ukrainians; and by 1914 the fraternal organization, which had been called the Ruskyi Narodnyi Soyuz, became the Ukrainskyi Narodnyi Soyuz, or Ukrainian National Association.

Then, beginning in 1914, the UNA developed a program to help Ukraine and launched a fund drive, first to help Ukrainian war victims, then an independent Ukraine and later Halychyna, which remained outside the orbit of the USSR.

Dr. Kuropas continued his overview of UNA history by pointing out an anomaly: at the time of the Depression in the United States, the UNA and the Ukrainian community prospered. The UNA doubled in size, The Ukrainian Weekly was founded, the Ukrainian Youth League of North America was founded, and the Ukrainian Pavilion – the only pavilion funded by a nation that did not have its own independent state – was unveiled at the Chicago World's Fair.

In the 1940s, the author related, the displaced persons began to arrive and in the 1950s they began to join the UNA, while also creating their own new organizations. At the same time, the UNA sponsored the publication of books by historian Dr. Clarence A. Manning of Columbia

University and Soyuzivka was purchased.

The 1960s were highlighted by the unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko monument – a project that became reality thanks to the leading role of the UNA and its publications. As well, the UNA promoted the establishment of the World Congress of Free Ukrainians and published the first volume of "Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia."

In the 1970s, Dr. Kuropas said, the UNA built its 15-story headquarters building in Jersey City, N.J., and became actively involved in the defense of Ukrainian human rights activists, and the 1980s saw the formation of the Ukrainian Heritage Defense Committee in response to the defamation of Ukrainians.

During the 1990s, however, the UNA has experienced a difficult period during which Svoboda was transformed into a weekly, the UNA building in Jersey City was sold, dividends were cut, scholarships were scaled back and Veselka ceased publication. Soyuzivka is threatened and there is a possibility that Svoboda and The Weekly may become one publication, he commented.

The reasons for this can be found in declining membership and poor management of investments, he said. "We are an organization that needs vision," he added. "We must stop fooling ourselves that everything is fine," he explained, and "we have to ask the right questions in order to prod our leadership to respond and to make the right decisions."

Dr. Kuropas concluded his presentation by noting the arrival of the "Fourth Wave" of immigrants from Ukraine, which he estimated includes about 35,000 to 40,000 legal immigrants and perhaps another 60,000 whose status is illegal, and emphasizing that the UNA has to find an approach to reach them and enroll them as members. "We have to help the 'Fourth Wave' as we helped previous immigrations; we have to show them that we care about their well-being," he stated.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Dr. Kuropas autographed copies of his history of the UNA, which was available for purchase.

While enjoying refreshments served after the presentation, the audience had an opportunity to view a display of art works by Roman Demko, formerly of Lviv and now a resident of Newark, N.J.



Roma Hadzewycz

Dr. Myron B. Kuropas speaks on UNA history during an afternoon presentation sponsored by the Northern New Jersey District Committee. Seated (from left) are Eugene Oscislawski, district chairman, Andre Worobec, UNA advisor, and Stefko Kuropas, first vice-president of the UNA.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Famine denial

One of the most enduring characteristics of the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine is how often and the variety of ways in which it was, and in some ways still is, denied.

When it was happening, almost everyone denied that it was happening.

When it was over, almost everyone agreed that it never happened.

When eyewitness reports, survivor testimonies, census statistics and diplomatic documents surfaced indicating that at least 5 million, and by some estimates 15 million, had died from forced starvation in Ukraine in the course of 18 months, the information was denied as exaggeration, part of a Ukrainian émigré bourgeois nationalist plot drummed up in cahoots with right-wing running dog intelligence services.

After all, it was simply a bad harvest in a year of bad weather, and unfortunately some people in remote villages did not get enough to eat.

Fifty-five years later, during the flush of glasnost and perestroika, the Soviet government began to admit that the Famine had occurred, and that it wasn't just the result of bad weather. The deniers were replaced by apologists.

After all, Stalin was simply overzealous in his attempt to collectivize agriculture. He didn't mean to hurt anyone, not his own people for heaven's sake. And then, why would he kill them all, who would do the farming? Seven million dead – it was public policy gone awry.

Or, it's the Ukrainians' own damn fault that millions of them starved. In other places where Stalin undertook collectivization, resisters were arrested or deported. But the Ukrainians resisted too much, that's why he had to kill them.

When it became clear that during his collectivization efforts Stalin specifically and consciously targeted the Ukrainian village – which he regarded as the seedbed of Ukrainian consciousness – because it was Ukrainian, and not simply because it was a village, the apologists began to hush. After all, if Stalin wanted to collectivize, he simply had to deport the land-owning kulak. But to get rid of Ukrainian consciousness he had to destroy the Ukrainian.

Then the deniers popped back up: after all, the Famine's not as bad as other world tragedies, there have been worse; or, only about 20 to 25 percent of the population starved; or, it was all so long ago, hardly anyone remembers; and besides when you talk about numbers of dead, the war was terrible – now that was a tragedy!

Stalin undertook collectivization throughout the Soviet Union, and over the years hundreds of thousands of non-Ukrainians died and were deported as well as a result of his aggressive attempts to reorganize agriculture. But the 1932-1933 Famine in Ukraine was first and foremost a Ukrainian Famine: under the guise of collectivization, the richest farmland in Europe was stolen and in the process the Ukrainian who for centuries had farmed it was purposefully killed.

The Famine's legacy endures: collective farm managers and hard-core Communists don't want the Famine and the taint of brutal death associated with their preferred form of agricultural management. In turn, people state flat out that they are unwilling to assume the risk of large-scale private farming, in part because of the cost and in greater part because they don't believe that in another generation the land won't be taken away from them, again, and maybe their children along with it.

Throughout Ukraine, almost every family is directly connected to the land for food – parents feed children in the city, city dwellers maintain food plots in the suburbs, nouveau riche hire villagers to work the land beside their dachas. Everyone knows someone who knows someone who knows how to get a burlap sack or two of vegetables. Foreign economists argue that this is an indicator of poverty and the failure of the centralized distribution system. Ukrainians explain it more simply: even if I had money, I would grow my own food – I would never completely trust anybody else to feed me.

More than two generations have passed since the Famine, yet it will only be the third generation that will be able to fully begin to acknowledge the horrific consequences of those two winters.

NEWS AND VIEWS

The significance of education

by Bohdan Oryshkevich

Dr. Myron B. Kuropas's narrowly focused op-ed piece (The Ukrainian Weekly, October 4) on the diaspora's ethnonational survival and the year 2020 concerned me. Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky's wish list of things to happen to help preserve the diaspora (October 25 and November 1) brought to light the tremendous disarray of the increasingly suburban diaspora.

Ethnonational survival in the American "melting pot" context can occur only with a strong emphasis on education. Without education and without the consequent understanding of the core values to be preserved, what remains is little more than nostalgia.

Many ethnic groups have simply disappeared, yet their Churches have evolved into quintessentially American and Americanizing institutions. One can see this happening with the Orthodox Church in America. It has happened with the Lutherans who came from Germany and the Catholics who came from many parts of continental Europe. Religion ultimately deals with one's relationship with God and with the universe, not with one's ethnic background. While religion hopefully sets up an ethical framework, it has little to do with language and ethnic preservation. The Ukrainian Byzantine Rite liturgy can take place in English. Without relevance to spiritual needs, a denomination is likely to wane for lack of purpose. Judaism, so closely tied to Ukraine, may be the only (albeit partially successful) exception to the assimilative tendency of religion.

At the same time, it is hard to see how the purchase of life insurance policies from the Ukrainian National Association would preserve the rapidly declining Ukrainian identity in America above and beyond the capital it would provide indirectly for Ukrainian activities. The survival of the Ukrainian National Association as it exists today is important, but not intrinsic, to the survival of Ukrainian American activity and identity in America. There is nothing intrinsically Ukrainian about Soyuzivka or IRAs or mortgages. One can also stay in touch and be informed immediately about the diaspora and even about Ukraine in Ukrainian (nonetheless) by various Ukrainian periodicals and bulletins on the Internet. One can buy virtually any Ukrainian newspaper, magazine or book from <http://www.eastview.com/>.

Perhaps Dr. Kuropas has very limited objectives in pushing for Ukrainian ethnonational survival. His concerns may lie only with the Ukrainian National Association, but what will keep the increasingly dispersed potential members of the diaspora together?

People who are poorly educated are not likely to understand their past or be good Americans. Education is more than simply literacy and the acquisition of a profession.

Ukrainian Americans need to put a much greater emphasis on education in order to advance in this society, develop a better self-image, keep up with changes in Ukraine, and at the same time preserve or develop their identity and maintain their own institutions. This emphasis on education is more important than ever now that Ukraine is independent, is sadly declining into a not so pre-industrial state and exposing the fundamental fault lines in Ukrainian identity and culture. Education is more than glorification of a past, which

in the case of Ukraine is one that is tragic.

Education will require more than the continuation of Ukrainian folk music and arts, and the similarly limited field of Ukrainian studies. Education to preserve the Ukrainian identity will require extensive home-stays by Ukrainian American students in Ukraine to experience Ukraine first-hand and to learn the reality of what is Ukraine. You cannot miss or care for what you have not seen or experienced first-hand. Summer immersion into Ukrainian studies in America is simply too unidimensional to achieve the understanding necessary for a coherent and productive ethnonational identity. But, most importantly, this education will require the best in liberal arts education. This liberal arts education will enable students to understand the complexities of a multidimensional identity and the development of analytical abilities to develop a functioning identity for themselves and help Ukrainian-Americans and Ukraine solve the tremendous challenges that Ukraine is facing.

Without the challenges presented by Ukraine, a Ukrainian American identity is largely meaningless and serves little purpose since assimilation is a natural, benign and reasonable process. It is not the bogeyman that "involuntary ethnics" portrayed it to be. America has its own extremely varied and continuously evolving identity and problems that deserve the undivided participation of its ever-assimilating citizens. One does not need a mediocre limited Ukrainian American identity to be a first-rate American.

Ukrainian Americans should spend a much greater effort on identifying their best and brightest young students in achieving their life goals and on encouraging them to integrate their Ukrainian and American identities in their academic, professional and employment lives. Such integration will not come easily, for it will require a new openness to excellence and academic freedom that is visibly lacking within the Ukrainian American community and in Ukrainian studies programs. It will also require a massive reallocation of resources to educational programs for gifted children and young adults. Such programs are largely absent within the Ukrainian American and Canadian communities. Student dances, sport teams, summer camps, dance troupes, Ukrainian pop orchestras and even music schools do not meet the strategic needs of the Ukrainian community. The various patriotic Ukrainian youth organizations have largely failed to bring up a leadership corps capable of leading the diaspora in a new era of assimilation and independence.

By emphasizing purely recreational rather than cognitive skills, the Ukrainian American community has long been institutionalizing a very limited ethnonational identity, accelerating the assimilation of the Ukrainian American youth. It has been losing the best and the brightest to a purely American existence.

The education of the diaspora (for its own preservation) and the education of Ukraine are closely linked. Both are critical to Ukraine in an era of a global economy. This is especially vital in the Washington-to-Boston corridor with its world-class universities, Wall Street, the U.S. government

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Addendum

For more information about the Ukrainian World Association of Professional Educators, readers may write to: UWAPE, 804 N. Woodstock St., Philadelphia, PA 19130.

Bohdan Oryshkevich is a physician based in New York. He is the founder of the Ukrainian Student Association of the U.S.A. (USA-U.S.A.)

Nov.
14-17
1988

Turning the pages back...

Ten years ago in November, Ukrainian and other political dissidents, many of them already veterans of the Soviet gulag, were invited by a U.S. congressional delegation to Moscow. This historic event was covered on the pages of The Weekly

by Roma Hadzewycz, who had the good fortune of being in the Russian capital at precisely that time along with a frequent contributor to the newspaper, Dr. David Marples, as part of a delegation of journalists and scholars visiting the USSR.

Following are excerpts of Ms. Hadzewycz's account of those historic days in 1988.

MOSCOW – In what many observers both in the USSR and the United States described as an unprecedented series of meetings, a 14-member delegation representing the U.S. Congressional Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe and members of the USSR Supreme Soviet met here for four days on November 14-17 to discuss a variety of human rights concerns.

The Moscow session, which culminated on Friday, November 18, with a press conference featuring U.S. and Soviet officials, was noteworthy also for the participation of approximately 100 human, national and religious rights activists, as well as

(Continued on page 9)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Let's use campaign for our community

Dear Editor:

Every year during October, the United Way initiates its campaign to collect money for various charitable organizations. Most employers hand out booklets that list all the registered organizations that qualify to receive funds, along with contribution forms to facilitate employee donations. The forms are printed with the employee's name and social security number, and the only thing that needs to be done is to designate an amount, fill in the recipient organization's registered number and sign it. If organizations are not registered, a write-in procedure exists. Many companies or corporations set monetary contribution goals. Although employees are not coerced to contribute, pressure is nevertheless often applied to meet goals. Most individuals respond. The federal government conducts its campaign under the name Combined Federal Campaign (CFC).

There are many individuals who contribute, but do not designate a specific recipient organization. Those funds go into a general pool, which becomes quite large, and are distributed to all registered area organizations via pre-established weighted factors or formulas. Opinions vary on how funds are distributed for write-in organizations. One thing is very certain: the chances for receiving contributions increase significantly when an organization has a registered number.

I work in Philadelphia and I have perused this year's CFC area booklet from cover to cover. I have not found a single listing for a Ukrainian organization. The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center (UECC), United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC) and countless others are not listed. The UECC and UUARC were listed in the past, but have subsequently vanished. For the past two or three years, I had contacted the UECC directly and mentioned the non-listing. Many others had done the same. Apparently our concerns have fallen on deaf ears. Is the lack of action attributable to ignorance, negligence or indifference? Are these organizations so financially comfortable that they do not need monies from the United Way? Certainly that is not the case. Therefore, the only explanation is that individuals who work in these organizations are "neglecting their duties" and missing a great opportunity to obtain relatively easy funds.

The situation described above probably is not unique and therefore exists in other regions where there is a heavy concentration of Ukrainians. Isn't 50 years long enough to learn how the game is played? The UECC and others, let's get on the ball and make the United Way work for the benefit of our community. We cannot afford to lose tens of thousands of dollars annually. (Word has it that the UUARC alone received approximately \$40,000 yearly when they were listed).

Eugene Zyblikewycz
Marlton, N.J.

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 8)

refuseniks – a group representing all shades of dissent in the Soviet Union.

Among the rights activists present were 15 Ukrainians involved in the struggle for national and religious rights, including a delegation headed by Bishop Pavlo Vasylyk representing the still outlawed Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The U.S. delegation, headed by the chairman of the Helsinki Commission, Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-Md.), sought the release of all Soviet political prisoners – 179 cases were cited by the Americans – and the resolution of 600 refuseniks' cases. ...

Ukrainian rights activists who participated at various times in formal and informal meetings with U.S. officials, luncheons with U.S. and Soviet delegates, and a reception at Spaso House, the official residence of the U.S. ambassador to the USSR, were: Mykhailo and Bohdan Horyn, Mykola Horbal, Vyacheslav Chornovil, Stepan Khmara, Oles Shevchenko, Serhiy Naboka, Yevhen Sverstiuk, Ivan and Maria Hel, Bishop Vasylyk, the Revs. Mykhailo Havryliv and Hryhoriy Simkailo, Mykhailo Osadchy and Mykola Muratov. ...

According to participants, many substantive issues were raised in these sessions, among them the legalization of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and the release of the two Helsinki monitors still serving sentences for their rights activity, Lev Lukianenko and Mykola Matusevych of the Ukrainian Helsinki Union, who are both serving exile sentences. ...

According to Mr. Chornovil, a long-time human and national rights activist and veteran political prisoner, exchanges at the luncheons were forthright and substantive. Mr. Chornovil told *The Weekly* that Soviet officials and rights activists engaged in an unprecedented face-to-face discussion on human rights and reforms in the USSR.

... Additionally, other meetings held outside the scope of official sessions took place between U.S. officials and Soviet dissenters. One such meeting brought several Ukrainian rights activists together with Rep. Ritter of the Helsinki Commission and Orest Deychakiwsky, a commission staffer.

A reception for members of the U.S. delegation, deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet, rights activists and invited guests – several hundred persons in all – was held Thursday evening, November 17, at Spaso House. (Ms. Hadzewycz and Dr. Marples were able to attend thanks to Mr. Deychakiwsky.) Here one saw Ukrainian human rights activists, leaders of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Estonian national rights activists, members of the Hare Krishna sect, refuseniks and other dissidents mingling with American and Soviet officials, and speaking a variety of languages. ...

Asked to sum up the feelings of the U.S. delegation at the conclusion of their meetings in Moscow, Mr. Deychakiwsky, a staffer of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, said, "for members of our delegation it was an unforgettable week – in particular our meetings with Soviet dissidents."

"Many members of our delegation," he continued, "were genuinely moved by their personal meetings with Soviet rights activists on whose behalf many of them had spoken out."

Source: "U.S., Soviet officials address human rights in Moscow talks; Dissidents participate in historic meetings, voice concerns" by Roma Hadzewycz, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, November 27, 1988, Vol. LVI, No. 48.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Canada scores again!

From a Ukrainian perspective, October was a rewarding month for me personally. It began with the highly energizing The Year 2020 Conference in New Jersey, an event that convinced me that our professionals are alive and well and willing to address the significant community problems of the day.

On October 21 I participated in the 45th anniversary of the Rochester Ukrainian Federal Credit Union. This event persuaded me that where there is institutional vision and professionalism, our future is secure.

On October 29-31 I participated in an academic conference in Toronto titled "Cross-Stitching Cultural Borders: Comparing Ukrainian Experience in Canada and the United States." This conference reassured me that our community is not neglecting its past. For an immigration historian, this is good news.

Differences between the Canadian and American approaches to Ukrainian identity were identified in most of the presentations. Natalia Shostak of the University of Alberta, for example, compared Saskatoon's Ukrainian Museum of Canada with New York City's Ukrainian Museum. The former, directed by the Ukrainian Orthodox Women's Organization of Canada, focuses on the immigrant experience of Ukrainian Canadians, especially the Orthodox. The emphasis in New York, on the other hand, a museum organized by the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, tends to emphasize Ukrainian nationhood and the Ukrainian legacy. Although there was a pictorial exposition of the immigrant experience offered in 1984, the exhibit has since left New York and is traveling to various cities, even in Ukraine.

There are historical reasons for these dissimilarities. Prof. Wsevolod Isajiw, University of Toronto, argued that while Ukrainian immigration to the U.S. was somewhat haphazard, Canada supervised the settlement of Ukrainians. Cultural pluralism rather than the melting pot approach was fostered in Canada.

Francis Swyripa, University of Alberta, pointed out that Ukrainian pioneers who settled in the western prairie provinces legitimized Ukrainians as an integral part of the Canadian nation-building experience. She compared the Shevchenko monuments in Winnipeg and Washington. The Canadian portrayal is that of an old man, a Ukrainian Robert Burns. Explanatory notes around the statue focus on the Canadian immigration and its ability, like Shevchenko, to overcome hardships. The U.S. statue was erected at the height of the Cold War. The poet is portrayed as a young freedom fighter, and no mention is made of the Ukrainian immigration.

Prof. Orest Subtelny, York University, compared the growth of Plast, the Ukrainian scouting organization in the U.S. and Canada. Plast is accepted by Canadian mainstream society. Jamborees are held near large cities; Canadian national symbols are integrated into Plast symbols; Ukrainian scouts have received government grants. All of this is in direct contrast to the United States, where Plast remains on the periphery of the American mainstream, jamborees are held in isolated areas (East Chatham, N.Y., for example), few American symbols can be found, and there appears to be no attempt to obtain U.S. government grants.

Panelists who have lived in both Canada and the United States also offered interesting perspectives. The Ukrainian Weekly columnist Orysia Tracz of the University of Manitoba has concluded that it's easier being Ukrainian in Canada because

Ukrainians are more accepted. Olga Andriewsky of Trent University believes there are more ways to express one's Ukrainianism in Canada than in the United States, where options are limited by ideological considerations.

Not everyone addressed differences. Comparing Ukrainian festivals, Andriy Nahachewsky, University of Alberta, discovered similarities between those in Dauphin, Manitoba, which began in 1966, and those in Dickenson, N.D., initiated in 1986. Both emphasized educating the non-Ukrainian public and appealing to children, and featured Ukrainian music, dance and cuisine. "Eat, Dance and Be Ukrainian" seems to be the theme in Dickenson. The language at both events is English.

An especially interesting (and courageous) presentation was made by Vivian Olender of the University of Toronto, who addressed the problem women face in the contemporary Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada where the patriarchy often makes them feel like second-class faithful. It has been my observation that the problem is not unique to Ukrainian Orthodox.

As an American, I was especially pleased to learn that significant research on the Ukrainian immigrant experience is still being conducted. Zenon Wasyliv of Ithaca College is studying the role of Ukrainian and Rusyn fraternal organizations in the U.S. labor movement; Jars Balan, who is with the Kalyna Country Ecomuseum is examining the role America's first Ukrainian immigrant, the Rev. Ahapius Honcharenko, played in the formation of Canada's early Ukrainian intelligentsia.

The conference also included reviews of the novels of American Askold Melnyczuk and Canadian Janice Kulyk Keefer; an overview of research documents available at the National Archives of Canada in Ottawa and the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota; émigré philately; our icon traditions; Ukrainian American filmmaking; and the influence of Ukrainian music and drama on American and Canadian popular culture.

Oleh Wolowyna, formerly of the University of North Carolina, offered a masterful presentation on demographic trends in North America. There are many non-Ukrainians who speak Ukrainian at home, Dr. Wolowyna noted, and they are an "untapped reservoir" for our community.

As I've mentioned on these pages many, many times, I've rarely been disappointed during my visits to Canada's Ukrainian communities. Still, all is not well in Canada, as Prof. Jaroslav Rozumnyj of the University of Manitoba pointed out last June. His analysis was confirmed in Toronto by Dr. Frank Sysyn of the University of Alberta, who believes that the Ukrainian position has declined in Canada because of increasing Americanization. Community "sinews" have disappeared, and no strategy has yet emerged to counteract this decline.

Despite these concerns, I believe Canada's young Ukrainian talent (in evidence throughout the conference) will take over the reins and turn things around. There is much we Ukrainians in America can learn from Ukrainian Canadians. That was true in the past, and it's true today.

Congratulations to Profs. Isajiw and Swyripa for pulling together such an enlightening, multifaceted, impressive and thoroughly delightful conclave.

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

Canada marks 125th anniversary of Shevchenko Scientific Society

by **Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj**

Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — The Canadian branch of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) marked the 125th anniversary of the scholarly body's founding in Lviv (which coincides with the Toronto branch's 50th), by holding a symposium on the international scholarly association's activities and by sponsoring a banquet, both at the Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation's gallery on September 19.

Keynote speakers for the events were NTSh-Ukraine President Dr. Oleh Romaniv of Lviv University and NTSh-U.S. President Prof. Leonid Rudnytzky of LaSalle University in Philadelphia. They are also general secretary and president, respectively, of the World Council of Shevchenko Scientific Societies.

Dr. Romaniv delivered a wide-ranging overview of the society's history, beginning with its founding on December 11, 1873, and the days in the 1870s when it served as the carrier of an emergent national consciousness in direct confrontation with imperial Russia's anti-Ukrainian policies (such as the Ems Ukase of 1876).

The headiest days of the NTSh began in 1894, when historian Mykhailo Hrushevsky arrived in Lviv to head up the society's "Golden Triad," which included the polymathic scholar and writer Ivan Franko and the similarly versatile ethnographer, translator and journalist Volodymyr Hnatiuk. Through personal effort and an authoritative charisma that attracted other contributors, they filled the society's journal, *Zapysky NTSh*, with material whose influence cannot be overestimated.

As Dr. Romaniv related proudly, from the 1890s to the early years of the 20th century "the imprimatur of NTSh was the most glorious and respected in the Ukrainian world." The Lviv-based scholar also enumerated the various journals devoted to ethnography, history, philology, the social sciences, medicine and the natural sciences that came into being under the society's aegis.

Dr. Romaniv also listed the "first wave" of full members of NTSh, which read like a who's who of Ukrainian scholarship and activism, including jurist and parliamentarian Oleksander Barvinsky; historians Ivan Dzhydzhora, Ivan Krypiakievych and Stepan Smal-Stocky; jurists Kost Levytsky and Volodymyr Starosolsky; physicist Ivan Puluji; archaeographers Fedir Vovk and Mykhailo Vozniak; and literary scholar Serhiy Yefremov.

The Ukrainian NTSh president recounted how the society pressured Lviv University to establish eight chairs in Ukrainian studies and secured full recognition as an academic institution from the Austrian imperial authorities just as the first world war broke out in 1914.

Surviving tsarism and Polish rule

Dr. Romaniv said that when Russian tsarism's marauders took Lviv in 1915, they destroyed significant amounts of the society's library and archival collections, despoiled its museum holdings, and confiscated its printing presses, moving them to Moscow. After the war, Poland's so-called Sanacja regime (1926-1939) provided no reprieve, as students along with their NTSh pedagogues were subjected to a wide range of repressions.

Nevertheless, Dr. Romaniv related, in 1922-1927 the society still managed to provide the backbone to Lviv's Underground Ukrainian University, and in the 1930s a new generation of scholars emerged, including physicists Yulian Hirniak, Volodymyr Kucher and Oleksander Smakula; metallurgist Ivan Feshchenko; geographer Volodymyr Kubijovyc; anthropologist and zoologist Ivan Rakovsky; and ethnographer, linguist and historian (eventually also Orthodox metropolitan) Ivan Ohienko. Their work was of such caliber, Dr. Romaniv asserted, that it enabled them to maintain ties with luminaries of world scholarship such as Albert Einstein, Vatroan Jagic, Abram Joffe, Max Planck and Tomas Masaryk.

Stalinist devastation

The most devastating assault on the institution was launched after the Soviet occupation of western Ukraine in 1939. Local Stalinist authorities dissolved the NTSh on January 14, 1940. Dr. Romaniv said that while the Bolsheviks claimed to have parcelled out the society's holdings and archives among various branches of the USSR's and the Ukrainian SSR's Academy of Sciences, in actuality much of the library and art collection, regenerated in part under the Polish regime, were physically destroyed.

The society's scholars and supporters fared no better, the current NTSh president said. Most were either executed in situ or died in labor or extermination camps. Roman Zubyk, an economic historian who had the temerity to express an official protest at the meeting liquidating the society, was barbarically tortured to death in a Lviv prison by the NKVD as the Soviets

reeled from the Nazi advance in 1941. Literary scholar Kyrylo Studnytsky and Petro Franko (Ivan Franko's son) were "evacuated" and met their fate en route in unknown circumstances.

Hitler's occupiers did not allow the NTSh to function, and it was not until 1947 that Dr. Kubijovyc, along with Dr. Rakovsky, formally revived the society in Munich, in 1951 moving its headquarters to Sarcelles, on the outskirts of Paris. As members of the émigré scholarly community moved further westward, the U.S., Canadian and Australian chapters were established, respectively, by Drs. Nicholas Chubaty (1947), Yevhen Vertyporokh (1948) and Yevhen Pelensky (1950).

Ukraine vs. the émigrés

Dr. Romaniv provided a survey of the émigré NTSh's activities up to the present day, paying gracious tribute to the memory and labors of the late Dr. Kubijovyc, who oversaw work on the 10-volume Ukrainian-language *Entsyklopedia Ukrainoznavstva* (EU), undertaken as a direct challenge to the falsifications of the Soviet regime.

Dr. Kubijovych lived to see the first volume of the English-language *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* published in 1984, the Lviv-based scholar said, adding praise for the efforts of Prof. Danylo Struk, current president of NTSh in western Europe and editor-in-chief of the Toronto-based *Encyclopedia of Ukraine Project*, who brought work on the five-volume English edition to a successful conclusion in 1993 (although an index and subsequent companion volumes are still planned).

Dr. Romaniv related that, despite ongoing repressions over the years, the NTSh's ideals lived on in Ukraine. Thus, when the perestroika period's liberalizations allowed, the society was officially revived on its original home turf on October 21, 1989.

NTSh in Ukraine today

The NTSh-Ukraine president outlined the society's current status: over 1,200 members, of whom 90 are full members, organized among 35 scholarly committees. Apart from its headquarters in Lviv, there are another 15 regional branches in various Ukrainian cities.

The editorial offices of the *Zapysky NTSh* journal were relocated to Lviv from the diaspora in 1991, and a jubilee edition is expected to roll off the presses soon. The *NTSh Chronicle* has also been issued in Lviv (rather than Sarcelles) since 1990.

Dr. Romaniv said the 10-volume Ukrainian-language *Entsyklopedia Ukrainoznavstva* has been reprinted, as have Stepan Ripetsky's monograph on the Sich Riflemen and Volodymyr Kosyk's "Ukraine and Germany in the Second World War." Lev Shankovsky's "The Ukrainian Galician Army" is being prepared for release to coincide with the UHA's 80th anniversary.

Dr. Romaniv said the NTSh has petitioned the Ukrainian government to have "at least one of three" of the society's former buildings returned to it, in order to properly locate its library, archives, computer center, administrative offices and conference hall. However, he expressed doubt that such rightful restitution would come to pass.

He opined that "Austria had been a good mother [to the NTSh], but the government of a sovereign and independent Ukraine has been, at best, a step-mother."

Prospects for the 21st century

The NTSh-Ukraine president said that, while there is little doubt the society will continue to develop, conditions in the country are very difficult and thus threats

are rife. Institutionally, Ukraine's academics have become accustomed to work with the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NANU) and state universities. Financially, even long-standing institutions such as the NANU have been left far short of the funding necessary for their operating needs. This means that the NTSh's scholars and adherents are in a constant day-to-day search for resources, Dr. Romaniv said.

He added that the NTSh "is not trying to compete with the NANU, only to act as a catalyst for scholarship that involves a national consciousness." The NTSh activist said the society will continue to consider its tasks to include the preservation of Ukrainian historical memory, ethnocultural values, language, literature and culture, as well as the development of a broad range of social scientific thought. Dr. Romaniv said the NTSh will also have an abiding interest in encyclopedic work.

Dr. Romaniv expressed his expectation that NTSh branches in the diaspora will continue to provide "spiritual/intellectual centers of gravity," but that unless scholars continue to migrate from Ukraine, difficulties in maintaining sufficient cadres are likely to be encountered.

In conclusion, the NTSh-Ukraine president sounded a high-minded and optimistic note, saying that, "difficulties notwithstanding, the NTSh both in the diaspora and Ukraine ... continues to be the berehynia (protectress) of the new Ukraine's spiritual values, the shrine to its spirituality, a temple that will eternally serve our people, as well as European and world culture."

At the banquet later that evening, Dr. Romaniv read greetings from President Leonid Kuchma and said that NANU President Borys Paton is likely to attend 125th anniversary celebrations in Lviv.

In his greeting, Mr. Kuchma recognized that through its "development of scholarly knowledge in all facets of Ukrainian studies and in the exact sciences, [NTSh] aspired to awaken the national intellect and thereby ensure the eventual establishment of statehood."

President Kuchma praised the diaspora NTSh for its role in "safeguarding the objective development of Ukrainian studies and maintenance of spiritual values during the period of onerous prohibitions that reigned in our country."

Dr. Romaniv also read a greeting from Lviv Mayor Vasyl Kuibida.

Rudnytzky speaks of potential

In his address, at the banquet, the president of the World Council of Shevchenko Scientific Societies, Prof. Leonid Rudnytzky, stressed the society's international character, and mused that it is the best positioned scholarly institution to act as the representative of Ukrainian scholarship at international forums, but is not doing enough to realize its potential.

He averred that while the habit of poetizing the past and turning a more prosaic eye on the present is a universal one, Ukrainians seem to be more in thrall to it, "perhaps because of the influence of Taras Shevchenko."

"The late NTSh scholars Volodymyr Janiw and the Rev. Prof. Petro Bilaniuk, whose recent passing we feel keenly, both often pointed out to me that we have a tendency to commemorate our defeats," Prof. Rudnytzky said.

The medieval epic "Slovo o Polku Ihorevi," the Philadelphia-based scholar pointed out wryly, concerns the defeat of Rus' forces, and ends not with the dramatic death or triumphant victory of the title's hero, as is the case of western European heroes, but rather his furtive deliverance from captivity thanks to the intercession-

(Continued on page 11)



Andrij Wynnyckyj

Dr. Oleh Romaniv (left), general secretary of the NTSh World Council, presents NTSh-Canada President Dr. Wolodymyr Mackiw with honorary membership in the World Council, as the council's president, Dr. Leonid Rudnytzky, looks on.

Ukrainian Greek-Catholics begin construction of church in Kyiv

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – After years of waiting, Ukraine's Greek-Catholics will have their first new church and monastery in the capital by the fall of next year. The new house of worship, to be called St. Vasylii (St. Basil), will stand out from the hundreds of other churches in the city of Golden Domes because of its unconventional design, which has brought some controversy to the project.

The monastic Order of St. Basil, which is overseeing the construction and will occupy the new church, has decided to move away from the Eastern religious tradition of domes and cupolas and incorporate a series of small roofs over the church, called "dashky," into the architectural design.

The design by prominent Ukrainian architect Larysa Skoryk integrates traditional Kyivan Rus' architecture with architectural traditions of the churches of western Ukraine. Yet, as the Rev. Teodosii, protogegumen of the Order of St. Basil in Lviv who is responsible for the project, explained, the church design is contemporary and modernistic.

"Each era should develop its own architectural tradition," said the Rev. Teodosii in an interview with *The Weekly*. "It's about time we create something new."

The design has been subject to some critical commentary from members of the Ukrainian community in the United States, some of whom according to the Rev. Teodosii, would like a more traditional design. "Yes, I know that some people wanted domes," said the Rev. Teodosii. "But why not do something new, interesting? Why must we always have domes? Why must we have another St. Sophia, which is right down the street from us?"

The Rev. Bernard Panczuk of St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York explained that the church's design looks very modern and doesn't have the appear-



Revised design for St. Vasylii Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in Kyiv. Architect: Larysa Skoryk, faculty member of the School of Architecture, Ukrainian Academy of Art in Kyiv.

ance of a traditional church. "In general people here had expectations of a more traditional structure," he said.

Today the construction site's most prominent features are a large hole from which the church structure will rise, and the cranes and earth movers doing the work. By September 1999, when construction is completed, the site will be occupied by a church proper, with room for 400 to 500 worshippers, two side halls for community meetings and an adjoining monastery, which will house 12 monks of the Order of St. Basil. The groundbreaking for the complex took place in July of this year. The laying of the cornerstone is scheduled for late November or early December.

The land for the church complex is located on a hilltop bluff in the city center near the Ukrainian Institute of Art and the buildings of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and is located on the same street that once housed the Greek-Catholic center in Kyiv, which then was called Vozdvizhenska Street.

The site was obtained in 1994. In March of this year, the Basilian Fathers assumed responsibility for the site from the Kyiv-Vyshhorod Exarchate of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church.

Currently there are two Ukrainian Greek-Catholic churches in Kyiv – neither of which can be considered much more than a chapel. Both are named in honor of St. Mykolai (St. Nicholas); one is located in the

Podil district; the other at Askold's Tomb.

The Basilian Fathers have begun a fund-raising effort to offset the expected \$600,000 cost of construction of St. Vasylii's and are asking for support from the Ukrainian diaspora. The names of all benefactors will be engraved on stone tablets that will be placed in the walls of the hall in the church basement.

The Rev. Teodosii said that to date the Ukrainian diaspora has contributed more than \$100,000 toward the project.

The Basilian Fathers request that donations be sent to the Kyiv Monastery Fund, Account No. 24447-000, at the Selfreliance Federal Credit Union, 108 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003.



A view of the construction site located on a Kyiv hilltop.

Canada marks...

(Continued from page 10)

ary prayers of his wife.

With gentle irony, Prof. Rudnytsky suggested this less grandiose approach, and its tempered acceptance of adversities, could serve as a guiding principle for the council as it seeks to rebuild the authority of NTSh in Europe and assist further in the development of the NTSh in Ukraine.

He saw as the world council's primary task to take maximum advantage of newly available communications technology to create a viable network of interaction among scholars, and thereby, more effectively mobilize Ukrainian intellectual resources, both in Ukraine and beyond its borders.

According to Prof. Rudnytsky, in this fashion, Ukraine's scholarly community would serve as a vehicle for raising their country's position from that of a state constantly in need of assistance, Prof. Rudnytsky said.

He proposed that NTSh members should conduct "local self-studies" of scholarship in Ukraine and in the Ukrainian diaspora, and prepare suggestions for solutions to the flaws perceived.

Canadian NTSh survey

During the symposium, Toronto-based historian Vasyl Veryha provided a dry but comprehensively detailed survey of the history of the NTSh in Canada, from the tenure of its first president and branch founder, Dr. Vertyporokh (1948-1973), to the current holder of the NTSh presidency, Dr. Volodymyr Mackiw.

Mr. Veryha enumerated the composition of NTSh Canada's executives over the years, as well as the conferences, seminars and various jubilees that were organized.

Former University of Alberta Chancellor Petro Savaryn gave a similar overview of the local Edmonton NTSh chapter, whose "small but impressive membership" included historian Ivan Lysiak-Rudnytsky, writer and editor Yuriy Stefanyk, and linguist Yar Slavutych.

"NTSh is interesting because soon after its founding it managed to remain active in various political climates and under various regimes, and because it endured even though it left the land where it was established," Dr. Savaryn said.

Zenon Yankovsky provided a sketch of the Ottawa chapter's accomplishments, most notable of which has been the compilation of statistical data about Ukrainians in Canada collected by the federal government's statistical service but not published in its official publications. Also worthy of mention was the work of Dr. Roman Osadchuk, currently a counsellor to the Ukrainian Embassy in Ottawa on nuclear energy matters.

Prof. Yarema Kelebay of Concordia University outlined the work of the Montreal-based chapter founded by Dr. Vertyporokh, whose constituency in the 1950s-1960s included the publicist Dmytro Dontsov and biologist Yuriy Rusov. Prof. Kelebay praised the efforts of the late Dr. Bohdan Stebelsky, who revived the Montreal chapter after it had remained essentially inactive through the 1970s until 1982.

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New president...

(Continued from page 5)

World War II crimes with the safeguards enshrined by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and other common law principles of fairness and justice," Mr. Czolij said.

One of the jurist's first acts as president had been to threaten to resign if a resolution making the issue a binding priority for him personally and for the UCC executive was not withdrawn.

Another priority for Mr. Czolij was to address the harsh reality "that our community life is deteriorating at an accelerated pace." He said that the approach of the third millennium should be seen as "an opportunity to activate our community as we did in the past during the celebrations of the millennium of Christianity in Ukraine and the centennial of Ukrainian settlement in Canada."

Internal democracy achieved

In his own words, Mr. Czolij "chaired the last Constitution Committee, which spearheaded fundamental changes to the UCC Constitution... [which should] put an end to the unfounded accusations that the UCC is not a fully democratic body."

For having agreed to give up the power of veto and specific ex officio ties to the UCC executive, Mr. Czolij congratulated the six "category 3 a)" organizations: the Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood of Canada, Ukrainian Self-Reliance League of Canada, League of Ukrainian Canadians, Ukrainian National Federation, Council of Ukrainian Credit Unions in Canada and the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation. He spoke of their "sacrifice and good judgment, which demonstrates, once again, their great organizational maturity."

Mr. Czolij said that now "all organiza-

tions have an equal moral obligation to contribute their maximum for the good of the UCC. No single organization or group controls the UCC; instead every single one should carry the burden of the UCC, share its successes and take the blame for its occasional failures."

As potential beneficiaries of this new institutional openness, the new president singled out Ukrainian university students.

"They are educated and exposed to the latest, the newest and the most advanced science. They should share this knowledge with the rest of us, and we should open our minds to them," Mr. Czolij said, adding that "we should also open our minds once they do come in through these doors with different and unconventional methods of obtaining a common goal."

President presents his resumé

Although by no means an unknown quantity in the Ukrainian community, in his first address as UCC president Mr. Czolij also presented his resumé to the audience of 267 delegates. He outlined his career as a commercial litigator at the Montreal-based law firm Desjardins, Ducharme, Stein, Monast, the third largest in Québec, serving eight years as an associate, and eight as a partner.

He mentioned his activism in the League of Ukrainian Canadians and the Ukrainian Youth Association (SUM), and the chairmanship of the Conference of Ukrainian Youth Organizations (an adjunct of the Ukrainian World Congress).

Mr. Czolij also put the congress's translators through their paces, as he spoke in Ukrainian and in both of Canada's two official languages, English and French.



In French, Mr. Czolij quipped that he completed his secondary schooling in the language of Shakespeare and his law degree at the Université de Montréal in the language of Molière.

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Stage presentation to recall Eko and Safroniv-Levitsky

by Marta Baczynsky

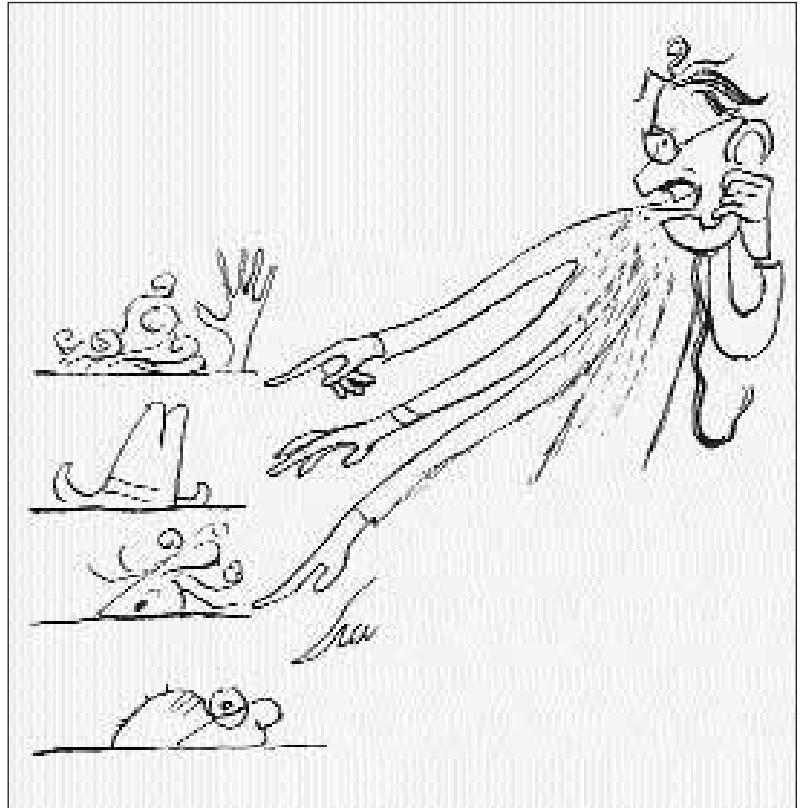
NEW YORK – “In a Crooked Mirror – Humorous Anecdotes,” a stage presentation of the humorous and satirical writings of Edward Kozak and the humorous play of Wasyl Safroniv-Levitsky will be presented by the Ukrainian Stage Ensemble, under the direction of Lydia Krushelnytsky, on Sunday, November 22. Sponsored by The Ukrainian Museum, the event will be held at the Ukrainian National Home, 140 Second Ave., at 2 p.m. Proceeds from the event will benefit the museum.

Edward Kozak (1902-1992) was born in Ukraine and was widely known under his pseudonym EKO. He was a writer/satirist, an artist/illustrator and an editor. Mr. Kozak founded the quintessential magazine of humor, *Lys Mykyta*, in 1948, in which with his inimitable drawing style and caustic narrative he continued to comment for many years on the Ukrainian community’s political and social life. (The Ukrainian Museum is very fortunate to have in its archival collection the complete series of the magazine for the years 1951-1991, donated in 1997 by Nadia and Stepan Kostyk.)

Mr. Kozak was also the creator of the imaginary peasant philosopher Hryts Zozulia, a character whose common sense, truisms and piquant and well-turned phrases are forever preserved in two collections of humorous sketches by Mr. Kozak: “Hryts Zozulia” (1973) and “Na Khlopsyj Rozum Hrytsia Zozuli” (According to the Common Sense of Hryts Zozulia), 1982. Excerpts from these collections will be offered in the stage presentation.

The literary work of Ukrainian-born Wasyl Safroniv-Levitsky (1899-1975) encompasses a rich legacy of plays for children, young people and adults, as well as many years of journalistic enterprise, but it is his novels that are the core of his creative output. Levitsky was influenced by the French writers of the 19th century, many of whose works he translated. He infused his plots with poignant situations with deep psychological overtones, his characters with traits of spiritual strength and aspirations for the sublime. He, too, was an observer and chronicler of the life and mores of the Ukrainian community (he lived in Canada since 1950) and often, with humor, he expressed his point of view on paper. One example of such humorous observations will be presented at the event.

The Ukrainian Stage Ensemble has delighted audiences since 1965 with a rich variety of theater productions, at first children’s plays progressing with time to the dramatic works of noted Ukrainian writers such as Lesia Ukrainka, works from European classical drama, French classical comedy, and in recent times modern plays.

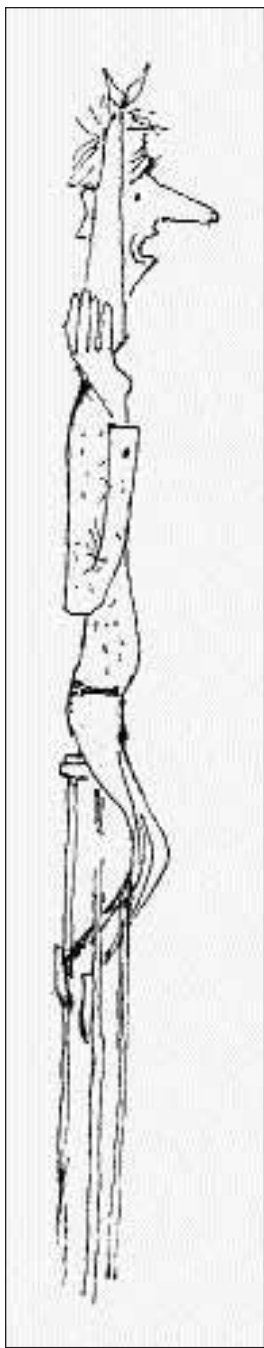


Seen above and on the left are drawings by Edward Kozak (Eko).

According to its director and founder, Lydia Krushelnytsky, through the years hundreds of Ukrainian boys and girls, young men and women, studied in her school of drama and performed before numerous audiences. “The repertoire of the company matured with my students,” said the director. Their latest achievement was “Woman Through the Ages,” a series of dramatic poems by Lesia Ukrainka, first presented in June 1997.

Tickets for the performance “In a Crooked Mirror – Humorous Anecdotes” will be available at the door. Tickets are \$10 (includes refreshments).

For additional information contact The Ukrainian Museum at: telephone, (212) 228-0110; fax, (212) 228-1947; e-mail, UkrMus@aol.com; webpage, http://www.brama.com/ukrainian_museum/.



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The significance...

(Continued from page 8)

the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations and a whole plethora of similar world important institutions. In an isolationist America these institutions provide sustenance to those with an international, if not an ethnic perspective. The increasingly suburban and comfortable Ukrainian American community has yet to develop more than a token presence in these critically important organizations.

At the same time, the Internet and the rapidly evolving information technology revolution are making the world an infinitely smaller place with an interlocking set of identities and interests.

To illustrate some of the critical issues facing Ukraine, I have chosen to illustrate three different but related problems confronting Ukraine – none of which have been extensively discussed in The Ukrainian Weekly or elsewhere in Ukrainian American circles.

At this time Ukraine is ranked 50th out of 50 countries in economic competitiveness according to the World Economic Forum at <http://www.weforum.org/>.

According to the United Nations Development Program (www.undp.org) Ukraine is ranked 102nd in development in the world in 1998, below such countries as Botswana, Albania and Russia. Canada is ranked first, as usual, and the United States is fourth. Ukraine is ranked low despite its high literacy rate, thus underlining that there is more to education and development than simple literacy.

The British Council under contract to the United Nations has prognosticated that Ukraine will suffer as many as 1.6 million deaths from AIDS by the year 2016 (<http://www.britcoun.org/country/ukraine/>). This and other health and economic factors are projected to lead to a decline in the population of Ukraine to 40 million people by the year 2016, to the creation of hundreds

of thousands of new orphans and to a generation of pensioners without children to help support them.

Education and world-class skills are the only elements that will provide Ukraine and its diaspora with the skills to address these inadequacies and problems, and maintain a functioning rather than a dysfunctional identity. In recent weeks, both the newspapers Den and the Kyiv Post have pointed out the fundamental decline and corruption in Ukrainian higher education. The diaspora, especially that in the United States, could clearly serve as an example of emphasis on education in Ukraine. Sadly, it is not.

In light of such challenges, the sale of insurance policies by the Ukrainian National Association as the salvation of the Ukrainian American identity seems rather far-fetched. People are likely to seek to cherish and preserve the culture and institutions of a successful diaspora and country. And a successful country is more likely to have the funds to help a far-flung diaspora preserve its culture.

No matter what the diaspora hopes to believe, its future is more closely than ever tied to the future of independent Ukraine and to education. Without a reason to maintain an identity and without the skills acquired through education and experience the Ukrainian American community in the United States will have neither the technical expertise nor the will to run its own fraternal and other organizations. Ukrainian Americans with true education, albeit with a practical dimension, might reanimate the Ukrainian National Association and other organizations with new services and a new vision, if not a new rationale for their existence.

But this emphasis on education will depend upon a tremendous change in emphasis and unprecedented cognitive, temporal and financial investment by the younger generation of "voluntary ethnics" who can pursue education much more comfortably within the American sphere.

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1. Publication Title The Ukrainian Weekly	2. Publication Number 0 5 7 0 - 0 8 7 0	3. Filing Date Oct. 1, 1998
4. Issue Frequency Weekly	5. Number of Issues Published Annually 52	6. Annual Subscription Price 40.00 members 50.00 non-members
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4) 2200 Rt. 10, PO Box 280, Parsippany, Morris County, New Jersey 07054		Contact Person Walter Honcharyk Telephone (973) 292-9800 X 3041
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) 2200 Rt. 10, PO Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054		
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank) Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Ukrainian National Association, Inc. 2200 Rt. 10, PO Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054 Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Roma Hadzemycz 2200 Rt. 10, PO Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054 Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address)		
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5. Paid and/or Requested Circulation	(1) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, and Counter Sales (Not mailed)	67
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Ukrainian Technological Society names Romankiw Ukrainian of the Year 1998

PITTSBURGH – The Ukrainian Technological Society has announced that the 1998 recipient of the UTS Ukrainian of the Year Award is Dr. Lubomyr T. Romankiw.

Dr. Romankiw, IBM fellow and head of the Center for Electrochemical Technology and Microfabrication (CETAM) at IBM's Thomas J. Watson Research Center, in Yorktown Heights, N.Y., was born and received his early education in Ukraine. He earned a B.Sc. in chemical engineering from the University of Alberta in Edmonton in 1955, and the M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in metallurgy and materials from MIT in 1962.

Dr. Romankiw has 47 patents and 130 published inventions, and has written four book chapters and more than 130 scientific

papers. He organized six major symposia and was lead editor of six proceeding volumes covering electrochemical technology in electronics and magnetics. One of his major technology applications is the reader head that makes it possible to store and access vast quantities of information on any computer hard drive.

In addition, as a member of the Ukrainian community, Dr. Romankiw was elevated to the position of chief scout of Plast, the highest honor bestowed by this Ukrainian youth organization. Dr. Romankiw fostered participation of Plast in the World Organization of the Scout Movement based in Geneva, and devoted serious efforts for the recognition of Plast within the international scouting community. He has assiduously worked towards the growth of Plast in Ukraine with a view toward its contribution in forming new generations of Ukrainian youth.

Dr. Romankiw is a member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (where he has served on the executive board since 1989) and of the Ukrainian Engineering Society. In 1995-1998 he was a member of the board of directors of the Environmental Education Technology Transfer Program, which he helped organize between the University of Connecticut and Ukraine. The program was funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

The Ukrainian of the Year dinner-dance will be held on November 28 at the University Club, 123 University Place, in Oakland. Festivities begin at 6 p.m. with a reception, followed by dinner, the award presentation, presentation of debutantes and dancing. Attire will be formal and tickets are \$50 per person. There will be a cash bar.

For information call Charles Kostecki of the UTS at (412) 621-7450.

UCC inaugurates...

(Continued from page 5)

Leadership Conference as a delegate, and assisted in organizing of a Ukrainian week at his campus.

Mr. Pilipowicz said that the UCC itself is to be congratulated for having established a youth prize. "It's awards like this that ensure the UCC's diversity and ensure its future," the honoree said.

Ms. Skavinski reflected that "times have changed, and while some are content with Ukrainian dancing and choirs, there are few individuals willing to tackle the organizational aspect of community life." The award winner said the UCC should continue to play a mentoring role for youth.

Mr. Holowka's sister, who accepted the award on her brother's behalf, said he could not attend the congress because his dance band was playing at Soyuzivka.

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Ambassador...

(Continued from page 3)

misunderstandings and heard justified complaints, as well as constructive proposals.

We strove to turn the Embassy not into a closed and somber diplomatic institution, an impregnable fortress, as sometimes happens, but into an intellectual center, where we could meet and hold cultural and academic events. We held roundtable discussions and conferences - more than 80 such events over the four years. Maybe there were some small mistakes made, but we benefited greatly from them, in our understanding of each other's problems.

I had countless meetings with the Ukrainian community, both here in the Washington area and everywhere I traveled. I think it is important that today, after four years of these meetings, we now understand better the life and thinking of the Ukrainian American community, and we expect that they, in turn, understand Ukraine more clearly.

We strove to present objective information, while trying not to embellish anything. And we tried to explain - because it's easy to notice that almost everyone speaks Russian in Kyiv, but difficult to fully comprehend what brought it about.

The role of the diaspora with respect to Ukraine has changed over the course of its more than 100-year history. In your opinion, what will, or should be its role in the future?

First of all, I think, the diaspora has played and will continue to play an important role in the preservation of certain cultural, political and spiritual values, especially through the times of totalitarianism at home, when everything linked to Ukrainian history, the history of its independence struggles, was being destroyed. This is the great accomplishment of the diaspora, that it preserved for us a very important part of our history.

With the proclamation of Ukraine's independence and the development of an independent Ukrainian state, the role of the diaspora is changing. It should and will continue to play an active role, but it should be constructive and creative, not destructive. It was necessary to destroy the walls of that concentration camp or prison in which we all found ourselves. And now, when we stand on the ruins of that empire and are building a nation, we continue to need the diaspora and its constructive assistance.

This does not mean that one has to agree with everything. Some activists seem to feel that they cannot support the country because one or another representative of the country is not to their liking. To my mind, this is a wrong approach. Not all representatives of my government are to my liking either. I have my own political opinions, likes and dislikes, but I know that, above all, the nation should be built. And it's an important function of the diaspora to support our country here, in its relations with the administration and Congress.

We respect the Ukrainian community, because during the past four years we have worked together well. The diaspora, for example, helped us very much in the "certification" process. Nor could the Embassy have brought into being the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus; it was the diaspora's efforts that did it.

These are important efforts, and I feel that they should continue for a long time to come. Ukraine will change as new generations come and go, but the need for support for Ukraine in certain areas will remain.

For the past six years - two as ambassador to Israel and the last four

in your current assignment - you have observed and helped the development of Ukraine's fledgling diplomatic corps. How is it progressing, and were there any special problems in the changeover from the old Soviet diplomatic system and personnel?

Today, in fact, we turned a new page in the development of new diplomatic cadres here - we received a young diplomat who was among the first graduates of Ukraine's new diplomatic academy. This signals the beginning of a normal process of forming Ukraine's diplomatic corps.

What did we have six or seven years ago? Only a handful of so-called career or professional Soviet-style diplomats. One must give them credit, however - a majority of them were patriots who supported an independent Ukraine and served it well.

But we couldn't establish an entire diplomatic corps - which now has more than 1,000 diplomats - only with them. I remember how Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko sought potential ambassadors. He approached me and tried to convince me by saying that I've already been a Cabinet minister (of environmental protection), a physician and writer, so why not try something new for Ukraine? The situation was analogous to that of other post-colonial states that gained their independence.

Did you have any time left over for any personal enjoyment during your assignment here?

Of course, there were happy moments of a personal nature - relaxation, meetings with wonderful new friends and traveling across this interesting country. But maybe I'm outgrowing my youthful excitability as I age: I felt most satisfied and fortunate in knowing that I had done something positive for U.S.-Ukraine relations, to have been a part of this historical process.

What can you tell us about your next assignment?

Personally, I find it difficult to dwell on new positions or assignments. Whether I get another position or not does not matter.

I want to use all of my abilities for Ukraine - my numerous good contacts, my understanding of developments, my experience. If there is a position that will give me an opportunity to more effectively influence the development of our foreign policy or foreign relations, that would be wonderful. But if not, it doesn't matter. I'll always remain who I am.

If, for example, today I were to put an end to the insanely active life I've been leading over the past four years, and instead would write a meaningful book of my reflections, who knows, maybe this would be more important than getting another position in the administration.

As I stated at the church [during a farewell banquet honoring the ambassador November 24], one cannot retire one's love for Ukraine.

And in conclusion, not a question, but simply an open microphone for whatever else you may want to say as you depart the United States.

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to all for the warmth and good will I always felt in my meetings with Ukrainians and Americans in this wonderful country - to all my friends and acquaintances for their support not only for me personally, but, above all, for Ukraine. This was an expression of faith and love for Ukraine on their part. Ukraine is worthy of this. Ukraine is independent, but it still needs the good will of others. And I am thankful to all who believe in its future.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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New Yorkers bid a fond farewell...

(Continued from page 3)

Ambassador Shcherbak's role as founder and leader of the Green World environmental association, which was later transformed into the Green Party of Ukraine, and his work documenting the Chornobyl catastrophe, as well as speaking out on behalf of the disaster's victims and for the well-being of the population of Ukraine in the aftermath of the world's worst nuclear accident.

Mr. Baranetsky also pointed out that Ambassador Shcherbak served as Ukraine's envoy to the United States during a particularly critical period that saw a sea change in relations between the U.S. and Ukraine and the establishment of a strategic partnership between the two states.

Speaking on behalf of the UCCA was its executive vice-president, Eugene Ivashkiv. "The Ukrainian community is bidding you farewell with sadness, as we have become well-acquainted with you," he stated. Mr. Ivashkiv also thanked the ambassador for his support and cooperation with the UCCA and its Washington office, the Ukrainian National Information Service.

Ulana Diachuk, president of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, began her address by commenting "it is easier to welcome someone than to bid farewell ... and it is difficult to say farewell since the future of contacts is unknown."

She went on to describe Ambassador Shcherbak as a true statesman and to underline his contributions toward the establishment of a strategic partnership between Ukraine and the United States.

She also noted the regular meetings with community leaders that the ambassador had convened to promote "a two-way exchange of ideas," and his participation in Ukrainian American community life. "We firmly believe that, in the future, history will value your contributions to Ukraine," she concluded.

Farewell remarks were offered also by Anna Krawczuk, president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, and Dr. Stepan Woroch, head of the Foundation in Support of Diplomatic Missions of Ukraine.

A special presentation was made by Walter Nazarewicz, president of the Ukrainian Institute of America, who explained that, as a reminder of this country, the UIA had decided to give Ambassador and Mrs. Shcherbak a gift of antique American glassware.

Last to speak was the visibly moved ambassador, who acknowledged that "it is difficult to say farewell, and it is sad."

"I would like to convey sincere words of thanks to



Roma Hadzewycz

Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak with officers of the Ukrainian Institute of America, the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America at the farewell reception sponsored by the three organizations in his honor at the Ukrainian Institute of America. From left are: Joseph Lesawyer, Jaroslav Kryshchalsky, Walter Baranetsky, Walter Nazarewicz, Maria Shcherbak, Dr. Shcherbak, Iryna Kurowycky, Ulana Diachuk and Eugene Ivashkiv.

everyone here," he said, adding "I look out and see friends seated here in each row."

"I had an opportunity to meet with you, to learn about your opinions and to see Ukraine through your eyes: the eyes of UPA [Ukrainian Insurgent Army] veterans, displaced persons, émigrés," he continued.

Noting "the unrelenting passage of time," Dr. Shcherbak said, "so much has happened in four years, politically and economically. It was a difficult four years of brutal change, of daily political battle to shape what Ukraine will be like."

He went on to note, "I have had the great fortune to have worked in full agreement with my moral principles," and he characterized the past four years as "a period especially active in the foreign affairs realm, during which Ukraine's geopolitical importance was confirmed."

After reviewing some of the accomplishments of the past four years and providing statistics on the numbers of meetings and conferences he attended, bilateral agreements signed and delegations from Ukraine hosted by the Embassy during his tenure, Ambassador Shcherbak quoted a staffer of the Embassy of Ukraine who recently completed his tour of duty in the U.S. Second Secretary Vasyl Zorya,

he recalled, said "We are returning to Ukraine as different people, changed by the experiences we had here." Indeed, that is true, the ambassador emphasized, adding, "we felt your [the Ukrainian community's] support."

Dr. Shcherbak told his audience, "I deeply respect the fact that we engaged in a dialogue - this exchange was very useful. I would like to share with you my dream of what the diaspora could do for Ukraine. We need a symbol of our unity: a museum of Ukrainian national achievements, a magnificent building on the banks of the Dnipro River, where our nation could proudly display what it has created."

After thanking his colleagues at the Embassy of Ukraine and Ukraine's other diplomatic missions in the U.S., the outgoing ambassador vowed to continue serving Ukraine "as long as my heart beats."

"I am leaving a portion of my heart here, but I am taking with me your good will and your warmth," Ambassador Shcherbak concluded.

That feeling appeared to be mutual, as many well-wishers lined up to say their last good-byes to independent Ukraine's second ambassador to the United States following a toast and a resounding "Mnohaya Lita."

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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

Lithuania's president meets with Kuchma

KYIV – Visiting Lithuanian President Valdas Adamkus told his Ukrainian counterpart, Leonid Kuchma, on November 5 that Lithuania and Ukraine should join forces to counteract the economic and financial crisis in the region, the DPA news agency reported. Both countries agreed to speed up negotiations on a free trade agreement and to develop projects related to the Baltic-Black Sea transport routes. President Adamkus said the two countries should also work together to gain admission to European structures, Reuters reported. The European Union considers the slow pace of market reform in Ukraine a hindrance to that country's candidacy for EU membership, while the European Commission said earlier this week that Lithuania's hope for fast-track negotiations on EU membership is premature (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tymoshenko urges alternative budget

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko, chairwoman of the Verkhovna Rada's Budget Committee, said on November 9 that the committee has decided to work out its own 1999 draft budget as an alternative to the government's, ITAR-TASS reported. Ms. Tymoshenko argued that the government draft "has nothing to do with the reality." She said Ukraine will need some 8 billion hryvni (\$2.3 billion) to service its domestic debt next year, while the government draft budget sets revenues at 32 billion hryvni and leaves only 3.9 billion hryvni to service that debt. Ms. Tymoshenko said she believes the government needs to change the tax system to increase budget revenues. The budget committee proposes abolishing current corporate taxes next year and replacing them with a single sales tax on manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers. (RFE/RL Newsline)

New party: For a Beautiful Ukraine

KYIV – Ukraine's newest political party, For a Beautiful Ukraine, held its first congress on October 30. After the closed-door meeting, party leader Gennadii Balashov said the party supported the program of tax reform in the country that the Verkhovna Rada proposed in late September. The program called for introducing a 10 percent income tax in Ukraine, which the party leader believes would guarantee a minimum monthly wage of \$500 (U.S.) and a minimum pension of \$200 (U.S.). Mr. Balashov stated that the party's main goal today is to promote the idea of making Ukraine beautiful. (Eastern Economist)

U.S. ambassador visits Odesa

ODESA – Issues concerning economic development in Odesa were discussed at a meeting between Odesa Mayor Ruslan Bodelan and U.S. Ambassador Steven Pifer who was visiting that southern Ukrainian port city. Mr. Pifer said American entrepreneurs are ready to invest in a large number of enterprises in Odesa, which should increase employment in the region. The ambassador's wife, Marilyn, and the chief physician of Odesa regional hospital, Dr.

Vasyl Gogulenko, opened the Mriya women's regional health care center. It will be able to diagnose 30,000 patients for breast cancer, gynecological problems and will give family planning advice. Mriya is part of the Comarc program, which is a result of the efforts of U.S. Agency for International Development and the Odesa regional administration, which donated \$250,000 and \$100,000 respectively. Treatment will be free for patients in the first three months, thanks to the USAID. (Eastern Economist)

EBRD aids Zaporizhia water project

KYIV – The board of directors of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development has approved an investment project to purify and supply water to Zaporizhia. The project's cost is \$48.4 million (U.S.). Of this, the EBRD will provide \$30 million in credits to the state-owned Zaporizhia water company. The project will introduce new biological and settler technologies while employing new pumping equipment for 60 kilometers of water pipelines. The project will also introduce energy-saving technologies, reduce water loss, improve water quality and improve the environment in the Dnipro River and Black Sea basins. (Eastern Economist)

Shevchenko Medals...

(Continued from page 5)

Shevchenko Medal recipients

Listed alphabetically, beginning with three posthumous recipients: the late Dr. Anatol Bedryi, the late Rev. Mychaylo Blazenko, the late Justice Sopinka; Petro Boykiw, Petro Bubela, Yaroslav Czolij, Mykola Dutchak, Dr. Roma Franko, Isidore Goresky, Andrew Gregorovich, Teodor Humeniuk, George Karmanin, the Rev. Serhij Kiciuk, Jurij Klufas, Zynowy Knys, Bohdan Kulchyckyj, Dr. David Marples, Zenon Pohorecky, Dr. Petro Potichny, Walentina Rodak, Olya Savaryn, Maria Szkambara, Ariadna Sumovsky-Stebelskyj, Julia Stashuk, Alexander Surasky, Natalia Talanchuk, the Rev. Volodymyr Tarnawsky, Ukrainian Youth Organization – Plast, Ukrainian Youth Association – SUM, Theodosy Woloshyn, Luba Zaraska and Olha Zaverucha-Swyntuch.

Shevchenko Diploma of Merit recipients

Listed alphabetically, beginning with three posthumous recipients: the late Wasyl Andriashyn, the late Petro Kindrachuk, the late Ivan and Halia Kobulnyk; Sonja Bejzyk, the Rev. Petro Blazuk, Myroslaw Bugera, Anna Burtnick, Maria Ciona, Bill Diachuk, Natalka Faryna-Kit, Volodymyr Haluk, Lucy Hirniak, Mykola Kocijowsky, Andriy Komorowsky, the Rt. Rev. Meroslaw Kryschuk, Nadia Kryschuk, Ivan Lahola, Josie Lakoduk, Jane Luchak, Ivan Melnyk, Volodymyr Molodecky, Nell Nakoneczny, Katryna Norris, Paul Ortynsky, Mykola Petrykiw, Dr. Nadiya Popil, Hryhoriy Prockiwi, Bogdan Radesch, Anastasia Shemeluk-Radomsky, Sofia Skrypnyk, Jaroslav Stachynsky, Mychajilo Swenarchuk, Jaroslav Sywanyk, Pawlyna Zahrebelna and Anna Zwozdecky.



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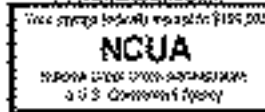
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, November 21

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society is holding a lecture by Dr. Mykola Zhulynsky, director, Taras Shevchenko Institute of Literature, Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, Kyiv, who will speak on the topic "Ukrainian Culture: Overcoming a Marginality Complex." The lecture will be held at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave., at 5 p.m.

NEW YORK: "Music at the Institute" presents the John Stetch Trio - with Mr. Stetch, piano; Mark Turner, saxophone; and Johannes Weidenmueller, bass - in the program "Jazz at the Institute." The trio will be performing two sets of music: one devoted to standard American jazz repertoire and the second to Ukrainian folk music arranged by Mr. Stetch. Currently residing in New York City, Mr. Stetch recently received the prestigious honor of being added to the roster of Steinway Artists and is the first-place winner of the 1998 Prix de Jazz du Maurier awarded at the Montele International Jazz Festival for the best Canadian ensemble. Mr. Stetch celebrates this concert in conjunction with his recent CD release "Kolomeyka Fantasy" - an album of Ukrainian folk songs interpreted through his own jazz piano stylings. The concert will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 8 p.m.

WASHINGTON: Composer Myroslav Skoryk's 60th Anniversary Concert, featuring the Leontovych String Quartet and pianists Myroslav Skoryk and Volodymyr Vynnytsky, will be held in Georgetown at the Dumbarton United Methodist Church, 3133 Dumbarton St. NW, at 7:30 p.m. A reception will follow the performance. Admission is free; donations are welcomed. The concert is presented by The Washington Group Cultural Fund. For more information call (202) 363-3964.

EAST HANOVER, N.J.: Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 75 invites the community to attend the celebration of its 25th anniversary by joining members for a dance - "Night of the Gypsies." Music will be by Tempo. The dance will be held at the Ramada Inn, Route 10, at 9 p.m. Donation: \$25, includes show and Viennese Table; \$30, at the door. For reservations call Slawka, (973) 376-7956.

NEW YORK: The Mayana Gallery invites the public to an exhibition titled "Contemporary Folk Art of Ukraine" which includes glass, ceramics, textiles, embroidery, and woodcarving. The exhibit is curated by Zenovia Krakovetska of Lviv. The exhibit opens on Sunday, November 22, at 1 p.m. and runs through December 6. Gallery hours: Friday, 6-8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The Mayana Gallery is located at 136 Second Ave., fourth floor. For more information, call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144. Website: <http://www.brama.com/mayana/>

BROOKLYN, N.Y.: The Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic School, 152 N. Fifth St., invites the public to its Holiday Fair and Flea Market to be held at 10 a.m.-5 p.m. There will be holiday merchandise, crafts, new and used items, as well as delicious food for sale. For general and vendor information call (718) 782-0664 (8:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m.).

NEWARK, N.J.: St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School will be holding a kindergarten orientation for all pre-school-age children and their families at 11 a.m. in the back room of St. John's Church hall, located at 719 Sandford Ave. Parents will be able to learn about the kindergarten curriculum and meet with the teacher. For more information, call Sister Chrysostom Lukiw, principal, (973) 373-9359.

Monday, November 23

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, as part of its seminar series, presents Geoff Dubrow, consultant, World Bank, who will speak on "Implementing Anti-Corruption Reform in Ukraine: Progress and Obstacles." The presentation will be held in the HURI Seminar Room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m.

For more information call the institute, (617) 495-4053; e-mail, huri@fas.harvard.edu

Wednesdays, November 25, December 9

TORONTO: St. Vladimir Institute presents a two-part lecture series titled "Chest of Theater Recollections," providing insight into the evolution of the Ukrainian theater. Maryna Krysa of the State Theater Museum in Kyiv and head of the Help Us Help the Children Fund-Ukraine, will be the featured presenter. Fee: \$5. The lectures will be held at the institute, 620 Spadina Ave., at 7 p.m. For additional information call (416) 923-3318.

Monday, November 30

CHICAGO: Friends of Radiology in Ukraine Inc. will hold its annual conference in Room E257, Lakeside Center (formerly known as the East Building) Level 2 of McCormick Place at 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. during the 84th annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA '98). Invited faculty to include Prof. Yakiv Babiy, M.D., president, Association of Radiologists in Ukraine, Kyiv, and Prof. Mykola Pylypenko, M.D., editor, Ukrainian Journal of Radiology, Kharkiv, who will speak on the ongoing integration of Ukrainian radiology with Europe and North America and on the future prospects for Ukrainian medical publishing and education during the present economic crisis. Collaborative efforts between Ukrainian and North American radiologists to advance radiology education in Ukraine will be discussed. Paul Capp, M.D., director, American Board of Radiology, will preside. The conference is open to all RSNA attendees. For more information: e-mail baranetsky@pol.net or visit <http://www.rsna.org/rsna98/reunionsandmtgs/ukraine98.html>

ADVANCE NOTICE

Wednesday-Sunday, December 2-6

TORONTO: The VII Ukrainian World Congress will be held at the Westin Harbour Castle. The official opening will be held December 2 at 7 p.m. Guest speakers at the congress will be Saskatchewan Prime Minister Roy Romanow (December 3), and Ontario Prime Minister Michael Harris (December 4). The congress will conclude with a concert on December 6 in the Convocation Hall at the University of Toronto at 2 p.m. Tickets for the banquet, which will be held December 5, are available at Arka Queen and Arka West bookstores, as well as the UWC headquarters, by calling (416) 762-1108, and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, (416) 762-9427.

Saturday, December 5

NUTLEY, N.J.: In the European tradition of the classical musical salon, OLCO international presents a special "Windmill Pond Salon Concert" dedicated to the prominent contemporary Ukrainian composer Myroslav Skoryk in celebration of his 60th birthday. The concert will feature Maestro Skoryk, with Oleh Chmyr, baritone and Volodymyr Vynnytsky, piano. The concert will be held at the home of Soriana and Wolodymyr Mohuchy, 184 Vreeland Ave., starting at 7:30 p.m., and will be followed by a reception. Tickets: \$25. For ticket reservations call Ola Basaraba, (973) 993-8090 (limited seating, advanced tickets only).

Saturday, December 5

WASHINGTON: Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 80 invites the public to its annual Christmas party. This year's theme will take guests back to the early 60s - an era of lounge music and swinging sophistication. The party will take place in Crystal House I, Party Room (top floor), 1900 S. Eads St., Arlington, Va. (in Crystal City), 7 p.m.-midnight. Easy access from Crystal City Metro stop on yellow/blue lines. Admission: \$10, includes buffet and cash bar. For additional information call Marijka, (703) 271-9672, or Sofika, (301)854-2062, or e-mail mvlischak@hotmail.com.