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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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

Vol. LXIX

No. 15

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2001

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

New construction at central square threatens Kyivan archeological treasure

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Unless urgent action is taken, portions of an archaeological treasure beneath Independence Square will be dug up and carted away along with the tons of earth already being moved to make way for a two-tiered subterranean shopping center planned beneath the plaza.

A noted Ukrainian archaeologist who directed the project 20 years ago that first unearthed the remains of the 11th century Liadski Gates – one of three main entrances into Kyiv during the height of the Kyivan Rus' empire – said on April 6 that city architects and planners have failed to take adequate measures to ensure that the remains of the buried archaeological treasure are not destroyed.

"We were invited to participate in the project only a week ago," explained Mykhailo Zahaiduk, a member of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, "and have already been told by some that the project is proceeding and there will be no major changes to the plans."

Mr. Zahaiduk, who discovered the gates and an adjoining wall during the last reconstruction of the city's main square in 1981, tried to sound an optimistic note because top officials finally had acknowledged the previous evening that the historic gates needed to be saved and had assured him and his colleagues that at least part of the historic record would be preserved.

However, he expressed chagrin over the fact that municipal authorities had from the outset ignored the fact that the area is registered as a culturally significant site, which means that archaeologists should have been involved in construction planning from the beginning.

"We have the legal foundation to be there and to participate," explained Mr. Zahaiduk. "We are trying to influence construction, to be able to at least glimpse what has not been destroyed to be able to guide the project."

He also said he wanted archaeologists to be able to take an active part in discus-

sions on what the new square will finally look like "with drawing board tools in hand."

"The area of preservation and the method of preservation must be settled upon," explained Mr. Zahaiduk.

However, at least one archaeologist close to the matter said he and his colleagues would not get access to the site or to the plans. The archaeologist, who wished to remain anonymous, explained that the city would continue to pay lip service to the experts, but privately had decided unilaterally on a compromise to resolve the issue. He said architects had developed a plan to preserve only the main section of the gates and enclose it in glass, which would become a prime exhibit in the underground mall. Other features of the gates, as well as an accompanying wall and peripheral artifacts would be dug up and hauled away.

Mr. Zahaiduk explained that anything other than a full-scale archaeological investigation would not allow "for a full historical picture" of the site.

Ruslan Kukharenko, Kyiv's director for preservation of architectural monuments, who is responsible for protecting archaeological finds in the city, repeatedly refused to speak with The Weekly on the matter.

One of several obstacles that Mr. Zahaiduk and the interested archaeologists face in their battle to save the Liadski Gates is in dealing with commercial interests that already have purchased the rights to parcels of the subterranean mall on which the archaeological site is found. Another issue they confront is a construction deadline of August, when Independence Square will serve as the focal point for nationwide celebrations of Ukraine's 10th anniversary of independence.

Mr. Zahaiduk explained that experts calling for a full-scale archaeological dig today confront the same problem they did in 1981 when city planners, hurrying to prepare the city for the 26th

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PACE monitor's recommendation may result in Ukraine's suspension from Council of Europe

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The Council of Europe (CE) could suspend Ukraine's membership in late April because of an unexpected recommendation by a monitoring committee of its Parliamentary Assembly.

If the CE committee of ministers supports the recommendation, Ukraine could become the first member-state in the 51-year history of the human rights assembly of European parliamentarians to have its membership suspended. Only Russia, which was threatened with similar action two years ago over its role in Chechnya, has come this close to a formal sanction.

On April 5 the committee voted for the recommendation based on a report by Hanne Severinsen, a rapporteur charged with reviewing the situation in Ukraine to determine whether the country has fulfilled obligations it undertook when it became a member in 1995.

Ms. Severinsen said the monitoring committee's decision is based on information about civil rights infractions documented during meetings with Ukrainian officials and citizens during her visit to Kyiv at the end of March.

"It concerns misuse of authority, particularly oppression of freedom of speech and oppression of the opposition," explained Ms. Severinsen in an interview with Radio Liberty, according to Interfax-Ukraine. She said the monitoring committee resolution is particularly critical of the Ukrainian president.

Her report includes a lengthy list of complaints against Ukrainian authorities, including possible complicity in murder, harassment and violence against journalists, the unacceptably long delay in the Gongadze investigation and serious questions on the impartiality of the investigation.

Ms. Severinsen explained that, in examining how Ukraine is proceeding with its obligations, she took into consideration legislation Ukraine is developing to bring its laws into line with Western standards, but that her report encompasses a wider breadth of issues.

"For some reason there is an opinion in

Ukraine that we are concerned about the laws only," said Ms. Severinsen.

Indeed, Ukraine's lawmakers and even President Leonid Kuchma put the emphasis on matters other than human and civil rights in explaining the PACE monitoring committee recommendation.

Mr. Kuchma told reporters on April 10 in Odesa, where he was on a working trip, that the matter is an inter-parliamentary issue and questions should be directed to Ukrainian lawmakers. Nonetheless, he called the action by the PACE monitoring committee "pressure from certain

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Verkhovna Rada OKs new Criminal Code

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's Parliament took another decisive legislative step towards Europe and the West on April 5 when it approved a long-awaited new Criminal Code for the country to replace the Soviet laws still on the books. Legislators also moved to a final vote on new legislation to revamp criminal procedure and the relations between law enforcement officials and the court system.

Ironically, the parliamentary actions came the same day the monitoring committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) made an unexpected decision to propose to PACE's full membership that Ukraine should be ejected for failing to fulfill certain obligations it undertook when it joined in 1995, including new criminal, civil and associated procedural codes. (See story above.)

The new Criminal Code, overwhelmingly approved by a vote of 379-3, formalizes a February 2000 Verkhovna Rada decision to ban the death penalty and is the culmination of a two-year effort to write a comprehensive set of criminal statutes for

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INTERVIEW

President Kuchma speaks with RFE/RL correspondent

President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine spoke on the telephone in a live evening program of RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service on April 3. Below is the first part of a translation of his interview, which was transcribed and published by RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service on its website <http://www.radiosvoboda.org>. RFE/RL plans to release part 2 of the interview in next week's issue.

Leonid Danylovyh, I'm very glad that you've found time to talk to us. You are speaking with Oleksa Boyarko, an employee of RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service. I have a lot of questions for you.

You're welcome, I'm ready to openly answer them.

I'll start with a general question. You know, if one listens to Ukrainian politicians today, one cannot immediately grasp what kind of a country Ukraine is. Extreme rightists say it is a bandit, totalitarian regime; extreme leftists also say it is a bandit regime.

If we classify [Socialist Party leader Oleksander] Moroz as an extreme leftist, then it is he who says so.

And some say it is an autocratic regime right now. You often mention that you want to build a democratic Ukraine. In your opinion, what democratic characteristics does Ukraine already possess, and what characteristics are you going to develop in the future?

In the first place, there is Ukraine's Constitution, which envisions exactly this [democratic] development pattern for society and the country as a whole. Therefore, all of us should proceed from the constitution in our actions.

As regards those characteristics, they can be seen, as people say, with a naked eye. In the first place, the fact that [Ukraine's] power system is divided into three branches – legislative, executive and judicial – is a trait of the democratic community. And the fact that the Constitution guarantees human rights and freedoms. True, they are not always observed – to begin with living standards – but [the Constitution] is our orientation point.

Furthermore, regardless of what people say in Ukraine or elsewhere, there is freedom of expression in Ukraine, there are independent media. ... It is unambiguous that there are media that are independent from the state, the government, the authorities.

Therefore, our values are European ones, we want to stick to them. You see, other countries were pursuing [those values] for 100 or 200 years, or even longer, while we [are expected] to transform one system into another within 10 years. I think it is senseless to make the same demands on the [Ukrainian] society as on Germany or France.

Your opponents often say that it is necessary to limit the presidential powers in the future. You have had a lot of experience in the post of president. What is your opinion about the proposal to transform Ukraine into a parliamentary republic with a ceremonial president in the future?

[My opinion is] absolutely negative. It is 100 or even 200 percent negative. [The proposal] spells a failure for all of Ukraine. It is a threat to the existence of Ukraine as a

state. Let us suppose that we have a parliamentary republic – what would happen in Ukraine?

We need not look for examples in remote parts. Under pressure from some structures, including European ones, Moldova is a parliamentary republic. What has happened there is evident to everybody. If anybody wants to make an experiment in Ukraine. ... Ukraine is not Moldova, and consequences will be much more disastrous, not only for Ukraine but also for Europe. Therefore, there is no need to play a game that is not needed. Today, in the transition period, a strong executive branch is necessary.

Is it non-existent, Mr. President?

Today? It is non-existent because of a simple reason: You have helped ruin the results of the [constitutional] referendum, prevent their implementation. (Ed. note: it is not clear whether Kuchma has RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service, or someone else in mind). What the referendum envisioned was the creation of a workable state power system, a European model, in which parliamentary elections lead to the creation of a coalition that assumes responsibility, including for the formation of a government. And there is mutual responsibility.

As of today, the Parliament is not responsible for anything, is it? Not responsible for anything. The parliament is not structured, and the majority that was created under the influence of some factors – including the referendum – has now been ruined by some forces. Tell me, please, is it possible for a country to achieve successes if the government has no support in the Parliament?

Therefore, I would like to warn everybody against pushing Ukraine into this fatal path. For some reason nobody doubts the necessity of a strong government in France. Perhaps you will extend your wish to install a totally parliamentary republic to the United States as well, won't you?

Let us look at Europe. In every country the president is able to disband the Parliament if it is not operational, while the president in Ukraine does not have such a possibility.

There is a lot of talk now about a dialogue between the presidential authority and its opponents. With which forces or groups, or with which persons are you not going to conduct any dialogue?

I will not conduct any dialogue with those forces that do not support this strategic course of Ukraine's development, that do not want Ukraine to be an independent country.

Could you name any specific people?

Well, what for? Let's not touch upon specifics. If there's a need, I can tell you about specific people. [I will have no dialogue] with those forces that do not want to work within the legal framework, within the framework of the Constitution, which I should sacredly observe as the president, as the guarantor of the Constitution. [And] with those forces that demand the dismissal of the president or the transformation of Ukraine into a parliamentary republic.

I defend the Constitution and will not sit down to negotiate with those forces that want transformations according to the pattern "somebody wants something." Otherwise, I'm open for dialogue with all forces: from the left wing and the right

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NEWSBRIEFS

Rally in Kyiv demands Kuchma's ouster...

KYIV – A rally in Kyiv on April 10 demanded the dismissal of President Leonid Kuchma and a "power system change" in Ukraine, Interfax reported. According to the opposition, the demonstration was attended by 10,000 people, while police set the number at 2,000. The demonstration, which was organized by the Forum for National Salvation under the slogan "For Ukraine Without Kuchma and Oligarchs," adopted a statement calling "to stop hounding Prime Minister [Viktor] Yushenko and making attempts to remove him from the post of Cabinet head." The statement also urges an objective investigation into the disappearance of journalist Heorhii Gongadze and the immediate dismissal of Procurator General Mykhailo Potebenko, Tax Administration Chairman Mykola Azarov, and National Security and Defense Council Secretary Yevhen Marchuk. (RFE/RL Newsline)

... while Odesa residents side with Kuchma

ODESA – Some 10,000-15,000 people participated in a rally in Odesa on April 10 to mark the anniversary of the city's liberation from the Nazi occupation, Interfax reported. Demonstrators held placards reading: "Our future is in unity of the president and the people," "Odesa residents are grateful to President Kuchma for his care and assistance" and "Odesa is our city, Kuchma is our president." President Leonid Kuchma spoke at the rally. Later the same day, Mr. Kuchma told journalists that a no-confidence referendum on the president, which has been proposed by the opposition, would not be legally binding. The president also criticized as "pressure" the proposal by the Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe to exclude Ukraine from the Council of Europe over human rights violations. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushenko may face no-confidence vote

KYIV – The Communist Party parliamentary caucus has announced that it has collected the 150 signatures required to apply for placing a no-confidence vote in Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko's Cabinet on the parliamentary agenda, the Internet newsletter Ukrainka Pravda reported on April 10. Interfax reported that signatures to support the same initiative were also collected by four groups from the parliamentary majority: the Social Democratic Party (United), the Democratic Union, Yabluko and Labor Ukraine. At least 226 votes are necessary to introduce an issue on the parliamentary agenda. The above-mentioned five legislative groups control 236 votes in the Verkhovna Rada. Mr. Yushenko is

expected to report to the Parliament on April 17 on his government's performance during the past year. Vice Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov commented that a no-confidence vote in the government may be delayed until the end of the current session in order to keep the Yushenko Cabinet in "a state of suspension." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tymoshenko ready to run for president

KYIV – Former Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko told the Moscow-based Kommersant-Daily on April 11 that she is ready to seek the post of Ukraine's president. She noted, however, that she is also ready to back another presidential candidate if he turns out to be "a real leader who is ready to give his life for the country." She added that, as of now, she does not see such a leader. She said she would assert Ukraine's position in the world and limit the country's dependence on Russian energy resources if she came to power. "I know that if I sooner or later come to power, I will very quickly build a gas pipeline bypassing Russia," Ms. Tymoshenko pledged. (RFE/RL Newsline)

1,000 students demonstrate in Kyiv

KYIV – Some 1,000 students held a rally on April 9 in front of the presidential administration building in Kyiv, demanding that President Leonid Kuchma swear on the Constitution of Ukraine that he did not give orders to kill journalist Heorhii Gongadze or Rukh leader Vyacheslav Chornovil, as well as other politicians and journalists, Interfax reported. Mr. Kuchma commented later the same day that he has already sworn on the Constitution and is not going to do so again. "That would be a farce, and the president will not participate in a farce," Mr. Kuchma added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

A referendum on Kuchma's ouster?

KYIV – The Forum for National Salvation (FNS), a loose association of anti-presidential groups, decided on April 7 to start preparations for a no-confidence referendum in President Leonid Kuchma, Interfax reported. According to Ukraine's Constitution, a referendum can be held if the opposition collects at least 3 million signatures of support in at least two-thirds of the country's 25 regions. It is not clear, however, if such a plebiscite could force President Kuchma to step down. Former Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko told an FNS meeting on April 7 that a referendum is the only way to depose Mr. Kuchma, adding that Ukrainian legislation does not define the procedure for impeaching the president. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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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: \$55; for UNA members — \$45.

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

The Weekly: UNA:
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510 Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

Postmaster, send address changes to: Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
The Ukrainian Weekly Editors: Roman Woronowycz (Kyiv)
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280 Ika Koznarska Casanova
Parsippany, NJ 07054

The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, April 15, 2001, No. 15, Vol. LXIX

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UCC officers and foreign minister discuss Canada-Ukraine relations

by Lydia Shawarsky

OTTAWA – Ukrainian Canadian Congress President Eugene Czolij and Canada-Ukraine Relations Committee Chair Myroslava Pidhirnyj met on March 24 with John Manley, Canada's minister of foreign affairs, to discuss Canada-Ukraine relations and the situation in Ukraine.

"As the first Western country to recognize the independence of Ukraine in 1991, Canada needs to reaffirm its special relationship with Ukraine and to continue supporting those programs and projects which develop and foster the principles of a dem-

ocratic society," Mr. Czolij said.

He added that Canada must work closely and actively with Ukraine in ensuring that human rights and fundamental freedoms of a democratic society are always fully respected in Ukraine.

The UCC advised Minister Manley that Canada should expand its high-level contacts to reassure the people of Ukraine that a stable and democratic country will continue to garner support from Canada and other Western nations.

Nearly 10 years after the break-up of the Soviet Union, Ukraine sits precariously between integration with Europe or Russia. It is in Canada's best interests to play a leading role in ensuring that Ukraine integrates further with Western democracies. Consequently, it is highly important that Canada resist taking that which would have the potential of isolating Ukraine and thereby reverting to a bipolar world, the UCC representatives underscored.

The UCC also called upon the government of Canada to provide humanitarian assistance to the victims of the recent severe floods in the Zakarpattia region of Ukraine.

The UCC expressed its appreciation to Minister Manley for the opportunity to share with him the views of the Ukrainian Canadian community on these important issues. "We look forward to meeting with the minister on a regular basis to continue strengthening Canada-Ukraine relations," said Mr. Czolij.

The March 24 meeting had added significance because it preceded the visit to Canada by Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko.

New construction...

(Continued from page 1)

Communist Party Congress, refused to permit delays to properly excavate and preserve the site. He said that at that time, after he and co-workers had succeeded in locating the archaeological treasure and obtaining agreement to dig out their find, they returned to the site one day to see a major portion of the fortification wall gone. City officials had authorized the action without informing the archaeologists.

The Liadski Gates were one of three entrances into the capital city of the medieval empire of Grand Prince Yaroslav the Wise. The more famous main entryway, the Golden Gates, was restored long ago and today is a prime tourist attraction.

While the western facing Zhydivskyi (Lviv) Gates led out of the city onto the road to the West, the Liadski Gates were the southern egress point and led to the Pechersk district, where the Monastery of the Caves was located, and to the main road to the Black Sea. In 1240 Mongol invaders led by Batu Khan destroyed some of the southern wall as they laid ruin to the city.

In current reconstruction plans for Independence Square, the ancient remains of the Liadski Gates, enclosed in a glass structure rising from the floor of the square, would dominate a portion of the new Independence Square at about where the Grand Fountain earlier stood. Aside it, steps will lead to the subterranean shopping center, which will occupy two floors beneath the surface. Before the entryway to the mall and closer to the Khreschatyk, an arching fountain will be found. The St. Michael the Archangel monument, which will stand at its present site at the forefront of the northern side of the plaza, will be the only recognizable feature remaining of the Independence Square of the last two decades.

Plans for the southern side of the square call for a pantheon of Ukrainian historical figures to be located in the rear, nearer to the Hotel Moskva. A historical museum dedicated to Ukrainian independence will rise in front of the hotel. A female-inspired figure representing Ukrainian independence mounted on a 40-meter column will dominate that side of the square and much of the city center.

Quotable notes

"I am worried about the fact that Russian capital is vigorously penetrating Ukraine's economy, and that this [situation] leads to increasing Ukraine's economic dependence on Russia. We have already been permanently dependent on Russian gas supplies, and now we have signed an agreement on connecting Ukraine's electricity grid to that of Russia. They say this step was caused by the need to stabilize [our electricity grid] at the frequency of 50 kHz, and now the system has started to work. But the point is that we are going to consume Russian electricity. We are not paying for gas, so now we will also not be paying for electricity. At the same time, our own power plants are not being utilized to their full capacities. Deepening economic dependence means strengthening political dependence. This is an axiom."

– Rukh leader Hennadii Udoenko in an interview with the Moscow-based *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* on March 30.

U.S. ambassador to Ukraine confers with members of Congress



WASHINGTON – U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual met on March 29 on Capitol Hill with several members of Congress. Participants in the meeting were: Reps. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), David Bonior (D-Mich), Bill Pascrell (D-N.J.), Bob Schaffer (R-Colo.), Louise McIntosh Slaughter (D-N.Y.), Elliot Engel (D-N.Y.), Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) and Corrine Brown (D-Fla.). As co-chairs of the Ukrainian Caucus, Ms. Kaptur and Mr. Schaffer invited members to participate in a unique event to discuss the future of U.S.-Ukraine relations. Rep. Kaptur congratulated the ambassador on his continuing appointment. Members discussed issues ranging from the current political situation in Ukraine to the recently signed Congress-Rada agreement. Rep. Kaptur said she was pleased to meet with the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine and to continue an open and promising dialogue. The ambassador was responsive to the questions posed by the members of Congress and was open to suggestions about how the United States and Ukraine can strengthen their strategic partnership. Seen in the photo above are House Minority Whip Bonior (left) and Ambassador Pascual.

Verkhovna Rada...

(Continued from page 1)

post-Soviet Ukraine.

The code replaces capital punishment with life imprisonment as the severest penalty the courts can mete out to those who commit heinous crimes, but bars such sentences for juveniles, the elderly and pregnant women.

National Deputy Yurii Karmazyn, the chairman of the parliamentary Committee on Corruption and Organized Crime, who staunchly supported the bill, called some of its aspects revolutionary for a post-Soviet country, including a change in the Soviet practice of appropriating the property of a person convicted of a serious criminal offense.

"The new code will improve how society lives in Ukraine," said Mr. Karmazyn.

Another change is express juridical recognition that an accused is to be considered innocent until proven guilty by a court of law. The code also delineates limited responsibility for individuals proven to be unable to fully realize the consequences of their actions or who are found to be insane.

Another novel concept for Ukraine introduced by the new code is community

service as a form of criminal punishment. A person convicted of lesser crime that qualifies for this form of punishment may serve his time during off-hours from work or during an unpaid leave of absence. The new code states that municipal administrative bodies are responsible for determining the sentences to be handed down for community service, which are to range from terms of 60 to 240 hours, but no more than four hours a day. For minors the range is from 30 to 120 hours and no more than two hours a day.

Oleksander Zadorozhnyi, another national deputy lauding the positive changes in the new law, which the president is expected to sign, said the law codifies economic crimes that did not exist in the Soviet Union, while eliminating Communist "crimes" such as "economic speculation," which the Soviets considered major violations of law.

The document also moves slander from a criminal to a civil offense and makes it illegal for government employees to hold a second job. These two changes will directly affect lawmakers in their work.

The same day it passed the monumental legislation on the Criminal Code, the Verkhovna Rada took a giant stride in changing archaic criminal procedure laws and modernizing the court system. The lawmakers approved a draft bill for a final reading, which will take all authorizations for search and seizures, including eavesdropping warrants, out of the hands of law enforcement bodies and put them within the authority of the courts. It will also address the rights of the arrested, another basic building block of a democratic society. The final version of the bill, incorporating approved amendments, will now be prepared for an as-yet-unscheduled final reading.

Although speculation has run rampant among politicians that President Leonid Kuchma, who expressed his dissatisfaction

with some passages in the current bill, might eventually veto it, Ukraine's Supreme Court Chief Justice Vitalii Boiko said on April 11 that such a move would be dangerous because it could leave the court system outside the Constitution.

"We must be careful that the judicial system in place does not become illegal," said Judge Boiko.

When the Constitution of Ukraine was approved in June 1996, among the various stipulations within it delineating mandatory changes in the country's legislative base was one that demanded that within five years the Parliament must bring the criminal and civil procedure codes into line with the requirements of the country's fundamental law. That deadline is now just over two months away.

Surprisingly, even law enforcement officials sounded happy with the law as it currently looks when they spoke during a press conference that brought together representatives of all the leading law enforcement agencies and the court system.

"This is a very progressive statute that is much needed," said Volodymyr Melnyk, vice minister of internal affairs.

Lawmakers gave their approval for the legislation as the PACE monitoring committee agreed to move to an April vote to cancel Ukraine's membership for not fulfilling obligations. Although Ukraine has taken a lot of time in moving towards criminal, tort and procedural reform – changes PACE has pressed for years – most political experts in Ukraine believe the decision taken by the PACE monitoring committee on April 5 was simply a pressure tactic in response to complaints about the delays and problems associated with the investigation of the Gongadze affair and the associated tape scandal.

National Deputy Zadorozhnyi said he believes that Ukraine will have a new Civil Code by mid-May and new civil and criminal procedure laws by the end of June.

FOR THE RECORD: UCCLA letter to Ambassador Shcherbak

On behalf of the Ukrainian Canadian community, the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association's Director of Research Dr Lubomyr Luciuk met with Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada Dr Yuri Shcherbak on March 1, and presented him with a three-point memorandum. The full text of the memorandum follows.

* * *

Your Excellency:

On behalf of the Ukrainian Canadian community, the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA) requests your consideration of the following proposals:

1. That you grant permission for the UCCLA to unveil a trilingual plaque to the memory of all victims of Nazi and Soviet tyranny on the grounds of the Embassy of Ukraine to Canada in Ottawa, this event to take place on Saturday, November 24, 2001, involving a consecration ceremony and formal reception for survivors of the politically engineered Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Soviet Ukraine, victims of the Nazi and Soviet gulag concentration camps, and representatives of those organizations which, throughout the 20th century, struggled to secure Ukraine's independence. The UCCLA would cover all of the costs involved in the design, preparation and installation of the memorial plaque while the Embassy of Ukraine would accept the

responsibility for hosting the reception.

2. That, through your good offices, you convey to the government of Ukraine the UCCLA's expression of support for the establishment of a Commission of Inquiry into Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes in Ukraine during the 20th century and that you request that the UCCLA, which has taken a leading role in representing the interests of the Ukrainian diaspora in this field, be formally involved in the planning, work and drafting of any recommendations put forward by the commission.

3. That you convey to the government of Ukraine our recommendations that funds be dedicated immediately for the compilation of a Ukrainian Book of the Dead, listing all Ukrainians who perished as a result of Soviet and Nazi tyranny, and for the development in Kyiv of a National Ukrainian Museum of Memory, whose goal would be to recall all of the millions of Ukrainians enslaved, driven into exile, or murdered by the Soviet and Nazi regimes. It is our belief that a country that does not hallow the memory of what its sons and daughters suffered in order to secure national freedom will not long endure.

Respectfully submitted for the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association by Prof. Lubomyr Luciuk, March 1, 2001, Ottawa.

UCCA executive board discusses events in Ukraine and United States

by Tamara Gallo

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

NEW YORK – The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America executive board held its regularly scheduled meeting on Saturday, March 24, at the UCCA headquarters in Manhattan.

Presiding at the meeting were Michael Sawkiw Jr., president; Laryssa Kyj, executive vice-president; and Marie Duplak, executive secretary. After the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting, the UCCA president focused the board's attention on four crucial areas: the Third World Forum of Ukrainians and the 10th anniversary celebration of Ukrainian Independence Day; fund-raising; policy issues in the United States as well as in Ukraine; and the recent floods in western Ukraine.

Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC), who attended an organizational planning meeting in Kyiv several weeks earlier, informed the gathering about the forthcoming Third World Forum of Ukrainians. He noted that the forum will be held August 18-20 in Kyiv under the theme "World Ukrainians Unite in Cooperative Efforts." Mr. Lozynskyj described the panel discussions, which will be held on three principal topics: youth, the Ukrainian language and the world community of Ukrainians. The forum is expected to attract 600 delegates split evenly between Ukraine and the diaspora. Of the 300 delegates designated for the diaspora, 150 will be from the Western diaspora, while the other half of 150 will be from the Eastern diaspora, those areas of the former Soviet Union where Ukrainians reside. Furthermore, it is estimated that the United States will have a delegation of 30 to 35 people representing the two central body organizations – the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council.

Following the official ceremonies of the Third World Forum of Ukrainians, participants will also witness the official ceremonies for the 10th anniversary of Ukrainian independence. A special session of the Ukrainian Parliament will be held on August 23 at the Ukraina Palace, while the next day's program will feature official parades and a majestic concert of Ukrainian cultural ensembles from throughout the entire world. The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus was nominated by the UCCA and the UACC to officially represent the United States during the concert festivities in Kyiv.

Other aspects of the 10th anniversary

celebration for the Ukrainian American community included an appeal for all organizations to have a joint commemoration in Washington, during the month of September (when Congress returns to session). Local celebrations should be coordinated with the major event in Washington, so as not to conflict with it and attract as many Ukrainians as possible to the U.S. capital. Press kits, including white papers on Ukraine's independence are to be prepared and distributed to UCCA branches in May/June in preparation for the 10th anniversary celebration in August.

The next topic of discussion centered on the UCCA's relations with the new Bush administration and an analysis of the current situation in Ukraine. UCCA President Sawkiw informed the board members that he sent a greeting to President George Bush on behalf of the UCCA wishing him a fruitful four years. The letter also contained a request for a meeting with officials of the new administration including the president, Vice-President Dick Cheney, National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, and Secretary of State Colin Powell.

The remaining discussion focused on events currently transpiring in Ukraine, the latest congressional delegation to Ukraine, as well as a congressional resolution that focuses on recent developments in Ukraine.

UCCA Treasurer Michael Spontak outlined the bottom-line figure for the first quarter of 2001, whereas the president focused attention on fund-raising activities for the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS). Such fund-raisers are to be held throughout the country in various Ukrainian communities; the first of them will be in Chicago on April 24. The focus of the benefits is to raise awareness of the only full-time public office representing the Ukrainian American community in Washington, and thus to attract the attention of the so-called "yuppie" generation as potential contributors.

The devastating floods in western Ukraine also were a topic on the agenda. John Burtyk, head of the UCCA's Council on Aid to Ukrainians (CAU), described the actions already taken to help victims in the Zakarpattia region. An appeal was sent to Ukrainian American newspapers, as well as reproduced on the UCCA website, seeking donations of clothes, medical supplies, dry food and money for the flood victims. Each UCCA branch also received an appeal from the UCCA president requesting that solicitations for donations be made within local Ukrainian communities.

How to reach Sputnik Telecom

The toll-free number published in last week's issue in the article headlined "Sputnik helps The Ukrainian Weekly" is the number to the customer service department of TouchTone Communications, with which Sputnik is affiliated as an authorized independent agent. New clients of Sputnik

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Send new releases and information (where publication may be purchased, cost, etc.) to: The Editor, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

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Appears May 6 in The Ukrainian Weekly

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Cleveland district to fund NUKMA scholarship

by Taras Szmagala Jr.

CLEVELAND – The Cleveland District of the Ukrainian National Association voted at its March 10 meeting to establish an annual scholarship to benefit students at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NUKMA).

The scholarship, which will be given on behalf of the Cleveland UNA District, will be earmarked to benefit a student from rural Ukraine who otherwise would not be able to attend the university. The Cleveland District intends to generate additional funding for the scholarship through a fund-raising drive coordinated by longtime UNA activist and community leader Wasyl Liscynsky, Cleveland-area doctor Taras Mahlay and District Chair Taras Szmagala Jr.

In other business, UNA Treasurer Stefan Kaczaraj addressed the district, discussing the current financial status of the UNA, as well as a number of the issues facing the association. The district also decided to sponsor an area-wide social event in the fall, as well as explore the possibilities of holding a financial seminar to attract new UNA members from the area's Ukrainian community.

Attending the Cleveland meeting were branch secretaries and UNA activists Bohdan Semkiw, Nancy Fedak Cunningham, Alice Olenchuk, Vera Napora, Nicholas and Mary Bobeczko, Taras Szmagala Sr., Taras Szmagala Jr., Luba Mudri, Wasyl Liscynsky, Wasyl Samokicszyn, Evhen Bachynsky and Wlademer Wladyka.

Young UNA'ers



Angela Sikora, daughter of Steven Sikora and Vera Szwczuk, is a new member of UNA Branch 360 in Buffalo, N.Y. Angela was enrolled by her mother.



Martin Andrew Flanagan, son of Anita Welych-Flanagan and Michael Flanagan, is a new member of UNA Branch 39 in Syracuse, N.Y. Martin was enrolled by his grandmother Lilia Welych.



Lillian J. Melnyk, daughter of Lisa and Ihor Melnyk, is a new member of UNA Branch 166 in Cincinnati. She was enrolled by her grandparents Zinowij and Oksana Melnyk. The entire family belongs to Branch 166.



Natalie Maria Jacewicz, daughter of Anya and Stefan Jacewicz, is a new member of UNA Branch 70 in Jersey City. She was enrolled by her grandparents Marijka and Aleksander Haluszczak. Mrs. Haluszczak is a branch representative employed at the UNA Home Office, as well as secretary of Branch 70.

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Insure and be sure. Join the UNA!

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

"... every man shall turn from his evil way ..."

In lieu of an editorial, this week we publish "An appeal to the faithful, representatives of political parties and citizens' groups of Ukraine" issued by the leaders of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church. (Translated by The Ukrainian Weekly).

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The Great Fast has an important meaning in the life of every person and for society as a whole because it cleanses the soul, renews spiritual life and unites the people with God – the source of life and peace, truth and understanding. The Great Fast is a time when each and every person once again gains faith and life in the divine sense. During this period, as history has shown, wars and conflicts ceased. Forgiveness became the unifying factor of all faithful. It consolidated society. A spiritually renewed individual approached the radiant Resurrection of Christ with a feeling of profound responsibility for his deeds and his fate.

We, leaders of Ukrainian Churches, appeal to you at this important time in the life of every Christian and at this critical time for the existence of the Ukrainian state with deep concern for its future. It is with pain in our hearts that we receive news that conflict in our society has reached a dangerous boundary. The consternation of millions of faithful caused by recent clashes in the streets and the festering political conflict compel us to find answers to complex, vital questions.

Without assuming the functions of jurists or politicians, we know full well that, throughout human history, violence and passion on the part of authorities always originated from sin and led to new, even more brutal eruptions of violence.

God, through His prophet, calls on us: "... every man shall turn from his evil way and from the violence he has in hand" (Jona 3:8). We are certain that every person who took upon himself the task of leading others is obligated, first of all, to stem the spread of aggression and to use all efforts to restore justice, peace and well-being for the entire nation, as well as for each and every person individually.

We consider it important to underscore that the only alternative to regulating today's political climate is a negative one – that is, anarchy and chaos, which will lead to the destruction of sovereign Ukraine.

What is dangerous is that a portion of society has become used to thinking that it is possible to attain something through the use of force, by raising a hand against the symbols of the state and their bearers, and the dignity and life of our fellow citizens.

We do not have the right to allow the power of might, which is produced by destructive elements, to rule in Ukraine instead of the power of truth, the Constitution and legality, which are implemented by the authorities.

On the eve of the radiant Resurrection of Christ, placing our hopes in God, we call on you, dear brothers and sisters, to pray for dialogue, affirmation of political stability, restoration of peaceful means to resolve the existing disputes and the realization that civic peace, responsibility, prudence and tolerance are inviolable.

"... may the Lord bless His people with peace" (Psalms, 28:11).

Filaret, Patriarch of Kyiv and all Rus'-Ukraine
Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate

Cardinal Lubomyr (Husar)
Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

Mefodii, Metropolitan of Ternopil and Podillia
Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church

April
16
2000

Turning the pages back...

"The trend toward state-controlled media and the erosion of the most fundamental right of citizens in a democracy – freedom of speech – in a number of countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union is perilous for our neighbors

in Europe," said Commission Chairman Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-N.J.) at the April 4, 2000, hearing on "The Deteriorating Freedom of Media and Speech in OSCE Countries" held by the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission).

Speaking at the hearing, Thomas A. Dine, president, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, warned, "The possibility of the emergence of a free media in the post-Communist countries is threatened by a combination of three factors: government efforts to restrict or even suppress media freedom; survival of Communist-era attitudes about the press among officials, the population, and even journalists; and some unintended and unexpected consequences of the transition period itself. Both the extent of each and the mix of all three of these factors, of course, vary widely ... I believe it is most useful here to consider them as a syndrome affecting almost all of them, rather than to examine each of the many countries of this region individually."

Marilyn Greene, executive director of the World Press Freedom Committee, commented, "Our primary focus is on the ways in which international institutions – such as the OSCE, the United Nations, UNESCO, Council of Europe and the European Union – influence press freedom in the world. ... These institutions wield great power, often merely through the moral authority of their resolutions or statements. These words can be forces for freedom and democracy – or they can provide cover for authoritarians seeking justification for restrictions on the free flow of information. I wish I could say that freedom of expression and of the press is thriving in the 55 nations participating in the OSCE. Sadly, I cannot."

Source: "Helsinki Commission hearing airs concerns about press freedoms" by Chadwick R. Gore, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, April 16, 2000, Vol. LXVIII, No. 16.

EASTER PASTORAL LETTERS

Let us be those people who preach the word of truth

Paschal archpastoral letter of the Permanent Conference of Ukrainian Orthodox Bishops beyond the Borders of Ukraine.

To the beloved clergy, monastic and faithful of the Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church beyond Ukraine:

May the peace and grace of the risen Savior be with all of you!

Christ is risen!

God has blessed us in the first year of the new century and the new millennium. We, who have been called to archpastoral service, welcome, in unity with you and with a sense of profound spiritual joy and exaltation, "this feast of feasts and solemnity of solemnities" – Pascha, the radiant day of our Lord Jesus Christ's resurrection.

Once again we hear stykhyry, troparia and kondakia – hymns of faith, especially the works of our father among the saints, John of Damascus, hymns that remind us that the Passover of the Lord is the central event of our Orthodox Ukrainian Christian life, an event that gave to all people access to heaven and sanctified the faithful of every age and generation.

The bells of our parish temples in lands of the Ukrainian Orthodox diaspora and in God-liberated-Ukraine announce Christ's victory over death, sin, injustice and slavery to all people. They also serve to announce our readiness to be those people who, by their daily life, a life full of joyous and sad experience, give witness at home, at work, every hour and every day, whether convenient or inconvenient, to the fact that Christ is the Lord, our Way, Truth and Life. He invites each person who acknowledges Him and builds his or her life on the principles of the Gospel of Life, to be a sanctifying agent in a society that

seeks needed renewal and sanctification.

As believers, we Orthodox Ukrainians declare before the contemporary world, a world which has closed its eyes and ears to Christ, that by His resurrection our Savior completed, after his voluntary suffering, crucifixion and death, His work of salvation out of love for all people and sealed His work of salvation with His greatest miracle and established upon it His Church and made of us a new people of God. All of this is capsulized in the first Irmos of the Pasha, "from death to life and from earth to heaven has He led us."

Upon this foundation – the Resurrection of Christ – the Apostles built their preaching so that our faith might be unambiguous, firm and unswerving. Upon this same foundation our ancestors established Orthodox Christian life in Ukraine. We err not when we affirm that the faith in the risen Lord so nourished and strengthened them that they remained faithful to Christ despite the threats levied against them. We err not when we say that contemporary Ukraine enjoys freedom and statehood thanks to its God-pleasing sons and daughters who remained faithful to the Gospel of Life.

This Pascha, the first of the new century and millennium, challenges us Orthodox Christians to be steadfast in our profession of the faith, which we embraced at Holy Baptism. It challenges us to be a people who proclaim the good news concerning the fundamental truth of Orthodox Christianity – that Christ, the Son of God, voluntarily ascended the wood of the Cross and by His suffering, death and resurrection gained eternal life for all who believe in Him and keep His command-

(Continued on page 22)

We are blessed with the presence of the Risen

Easter message of the Ukrainian Catholic hierarchy in the United States of America to the reverend clergy, religious, seminarians and faithful.

Dearly Beloved in Christ:

Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!

Try and put yourself in the shoes of the Apostles, especially during the difficult events of Holy Week and Easter. All of us might feel at home among them. You'll remember that Jesus invited 12 Apostles to a special intimacy with Him, and Jesus spent the greater part of His public life of three years preparing them for complete change of mind and heart. The Apostles had their own ideas of what would make them happy. Their hopes involved largely material things and power. They had their own understanding of the beatitudes which did not include loving their enemies, giving away their possessions or turning the other cheek.

During most of the three years Jesus spent with His Apostles, He was constantly laying out before them a master vision, with a completely different set of values from theirs. Jesus kept on insisting that in His kingdom, all authority must be a role of service. The only acceptable motive is love. The only real force in His world is the power of love. Like Jesus, the Apostles were called to love and to serve. It was a very difficult lesson for them to learn. The Apostle Peter had a particularly difficult time. You'll recall how he protested when Jesus wanted to wash his feet. But, fortunately for Peter, and for all of us like him, the patient Lord understood and never gave up on His reluctant Apostle.

Just imagine, as Jesus hung on the cross dying, His eyes must have searched the jeering crowd below for the faces of His beloved Apostles. Jesus had given His truth and love to these men. He was now giving His very life for them. Yet, while the arms of Jesus were stretched out as if to embrace the whole sinful world in the act of His dying, the Apostles were hiding in the upper room, with the doors bolted and barred. The Apostles had been very visible public figures on Palm Sunday but they faded into a safe obscurity on Good Friday.

On Easter morning Jesus appeared to the Apostles to share with them His triumph over death. Jesus tried to put the Apostles at ease with kindness patience. "Peace be with you" is the greeting Jesus Christ gave them. The Apostles were frightened! They thought that they were seeing a ghost. So, Jesus ate with them; Jesus patiently let them touch Him to reassure them.

The Apostles were deeply moved by this act of love on the part of Jesus. They had abandoned Him, and now, He is among them. And this is when we see the vision of the Apostles really begin to change.

Why were the Apostles slow to respond? Why are we, who are so much like the Apostles, so reluctant to give up our old way of seeing things in order to take on the vision of Jesus? Perhaps we are not sure what would happen to us if we were to give up an old vision. Where would Jesus lead us? What would He ask of us? Perhaps deep down inside, we are not ready to believe that living a life of

(Continued on page 22)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Embrace the future

by Taras Szmagala Jr.

During the past few months, a number of articles and letters have appeared in The Ukrainian Weekly commenting on the proposed changes to the UNA by-laws.

By now, I am sure readers are familiar with the benefits of adopting these changes: an improved system for selecting full-time management, increased ability to attract and retain that management, and, most importantly, increased accountability of that management to the UNA membership at large.

Yet, during the past few weeks, a number of articles and letters have been written which question whether these by-laws changes are a good idea. I welcome those questions – they are fairly raised, and deserve thoughtful, thorough responses.

Below, I have restated some of the questions most frequently raised by opponents of the changes, and I have then set forth the thoughts of those supporting the changes. It is my hope that, via this format, UNA delegates and our membership at large will gain a better understanding of the issues at hand.

1. Won't these changes destroy our fraternal status?

This is a frequent question, and the most easily answered. The Ukrainian National Association is, and always will be, a fraternal organization. Period. Changing the way we pick our full-time executives does not change the fact that we are a fraternal. Convention delegates will remain responsible for selecting the policy-makers of the organization – the trustees – and will also pick the chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Ironically, the proposed by-laws changes give branches more power than they have under our current system. After all, under our current format, delegates from branches meet once every four years to select our full-time executive employees. Then, following that convention, branch delegates are completely powerless for four years, regardless of whether those executives are doing a good job. Under the new system, however, our executive employees are directly accountable to the trustees elected by branches' delegates. Thus, far from decreasing the power of branches, the proposed by-laws changes enhance their power to hold our executives accountable.

2. But I'm concerned about concentrated authority. Won't this new Board of Trustees be too powerful?

This is a good question, and in order to answer it fully, it is important to understand what our current by-laws provide. Under New Jersey law, the UNA already has a board of trustees. In fact, all of the power of a board of trustees is vested in six persons: the Executive Committee. Read Sections 36 and 37 of the UNA By-Laws, which provide that all of the power granted to "directors" under New Jersey law resides in the Executive Committee.)

Under the proposed by-laws, this group of six will be expanded to a group of 11. Rather than concentrating power in the hands of a few (as we currently do), the new by-laws would spread authority over a greater number of individuals.

3. But what about the General Assembly? How can you say you are spreading authority when, in fact, you are

doing away with the 25-person General Assembly in favor of an 11-person Board of Trustees?

The answer is simple: the General Assembly has very little power. It has almost no authority to compel any actions by the Executive Committee or other management. As a practical matter, all of the power in the UNA is exercised by the Executive Committee. To compare the General Assembly to the proposed Board of Trustees is simply comparing apples to oranges.

To illustrate this point, let's suppose that, under our current system, a particular full-time (elected) employee is not performing to his fullest capabilities. Can the General Assembly fire this employee? No. Can the General Assembly discipline this employee? No. Can the General Assembly take any practical action whatsoever? No! Why not? Because that employee owes his job to the Convention, and thus is completely unaccountable to the General Assembly.

The bottom line is this: the proposed Board of Trustees would replace the power of the six-person Executive Committee, and not the powerless General Assembly.

4. Okay, so let's say we vote for this board. Where are they going to find a new CEO?

That is a good question. But this question is equally good regardless of whether we hire a CEO (through a Board of Trustees) or elect a CEO at a convention.

There can be no doubt that the UNA needs to attract new, energetic and qualified leadership. There also can be no doubt that this will be a difficult task. But these two facts are reasons to adopt the changes rather than oppose them. After all, if it will be hard to find someone to fill the role of CEO, why would we want to also limit our pool of potential candidates only to those who attend the convention and hand out cute buttons and slick flyers? Why would we want to limit our CEO choices only to those who are on the "inside" or who have popular family names?

The proposed changes expand the pool of possible CEOs. While the CEO still must be a UNA member, he or she will be selected through an interview process and an evaluation process similarly to the way companies hire top executives. It's just good business.

5. Aha! You mentioned the word "business." But the UNA isn't just a business, it is a fraternal. Why talk about business?

Yes, the UNA is a fraternal. But it is also a business – and quite a large one at that. In today's world, even a fraternal organization needs to be run efficiently and professionally – like our Ukrainian credit unions are run.

Of course, the UNA is not just a business. If it were, I wouldn't care to write this article, and you wouldn't care to read it. Indeed, the paper in which it is published would not exist. But we cannot ignore the fact that the UNA engages in a business to fund its fraternal operations. And if the UNA cannot generate a profit through its core revenue generating operation – selling life insurance – all the fraternalism in the world will not save it. Yes, we need fraternal benefits. But we also need to run a healthy business.

6. But why make these changes now? Why not wait until the next convention?

The proposed changes have been under discussion for approximately 10

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas

**CEO "churning" and UNA: reflections on corporate change**

Today the Ukrainian National Association (UNA) is at a crossroads.

Under consideration by delegates to the last UNA convention are new by-laws which would significantly change the time-honored structure of our 107-year-old organization. If approved, the UNA would be transformed into a corporation with a chief executive officer (CEO) chosen by an 11-member board of directors. The board of directors would be elected by convention delegates.

Despite opposition from some delegates, a motion was passed at the last convention to vote on the measure – perhaps the most significant change in the history of the UNA – not in an open forum, but by mail. This resolution is being honored. The recommended changes have been printed in The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda, and ballots have been mailed to all 1998 UNA delegates.

The proposed revisions in our by-laws were fully discussed by the UNA General Assembly last December. A vote to have the assembly formally endorse the new by-laws failed to win approval.

There are many reasons to oppose the measure. I believe the proposed corporate structure will weaken our fraternal status. Branches, branch secretaries and district committees, already dangerously weak, will become even less viable in the new scheme of things.

The proposed 11-member board will never be as representative of the diversity within the UNA as our present 25-member assembly. Six members of the new board could easily control the entire organization. Conceivably, the board could change every four years. Six new members could vote to fire all the executives hired by the previous board. This actually happened in one ethnic fraternal organization.

Question: Which collection of individuals is more likely to provide abundantly better ideas, more wisdom as it were, 25 people or 11?

An experienced and talented chief executive officer of high caliber and Ukrainian heritage will be difficult (if not impossible) to entice into our ranks. Any self-respecting and productive CEO will hesitate taking over an organization with our current problems without some assurances the he/she can succeed. In all probability he/she will demand a salary of at least \$100,000 and a three-year contract. Once hired, a dynamic, non-sentimental CEO will most certainly look for ways to cut expenses. This is what CEOs do best. That means that Soyuzivka, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly will be on the chopping block.

And what if our CEO doesn't work out? If we fire him/her, we will have to honor the remaining years of the contract. The UNA once signed a salesperson to a 10-year contract. When he didn't produce, we had to honor our agreement. He was paid \$150,000 to leave early.

Supporters of the new by-laws have provided not a scintilla of hard data to demonstrate that cooperate changes are in the UNA's best interests. They speak of the need to "move forward," to be in touch with "the 21st century" and so on. Nice phrases. Little evidence. There is information available today to suggest that the CEO approach that once captured the imagination of the American business world might have been more romance than reality.

According to a recent article by Warren Bennis and James O'Toole in the Harvard

Business Review (reviewed in the March 17 issue of The Economist), CEOs are coming and going at an unprecedented rate. Defined by the authors as "CEO churning," the process appears to be building steam. Last February, for example, 119 CEOs left their jobs with significant American companies.

The reasons for churning are varied. Poor performance, mega-mergers, corporate re-structuring, CEO burnout, the economic slowdown and the increased stresses of a global economy are just some of the factors that force high-flying executives out of their jobs.

The most important reason for the failure of CEOs, however, appears to be the way boards of directors select their CEOs. According to Prof. Bennis, boards "typically go into a kind of collective trance, rhapsodizing about 'leadership' and the big need for it without ever taking even the first steps to define what they mean by the term." They generally rely on paper qualifications (résumés and letters of recommendations) or breadth of experience, elements which are often misleading. Have UNA supporters of change taken the time to define what we are looking for in a leader? What if we make the changes and discover that there is no consensus regarding this crucial point?

Leadership has always been difficult to define. A proven leader in one company may be a disaster in another. Jim Collins' article in the January issue of the Harvard Business Review summarizes his study of successful corporate leaders in 11 companies. All of them, surprisingly, possessed "a paradoxical mixture of personal humility and professional will." They were "timid and ferocious; shy and fearless." Significantly, almost all of them were appointed from within their respective organizations.

Has the UNA ever had any shy but fiercely determined leaders over the years? You bet. Nicholas Murashko, president from 1929 to 1949, guided the UNA through the worst economic times in American history. During his stewardship our membership almost doubled. The Ukrainian Weekly was born and UNA sports teams were organized for our youth. During Dmytro Halychyn's tenure (1950-1961) our membership increased by some 30,000 members with a program geared towards the inclusion of our third wave of immigrants. So successful was this drive that by 1978 UNA membership peaked at 87,655.

There is no necessity for the UNA to change to a corporate structure. We should preserve the fraternal tradition that has served us well for 107 years. I believe the UNA can find a patriotic leader with focused vision and commitment from within our ranks. We can ill-afford an outside hired gun who will "churn" out at the first opportunity.

On May 16, 1970, The Ukrainian Weekly published an editorial which included the following caution: "To change for the sake of changing is as bad as clinging to the past. To build new vistas on the time-tested foundations is the key to future success. And that spirit is best reflected in the UNA's jubilee motto: 'In Tribute to Pioneers – With Eyes Toward Youth.'" Wise words then. Wise words today!

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

Taras Szmagala Jr. is a UNA advisor and chairman of the UNA By-Laws Committee.

(Continued on page 25)

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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

Leaders comment on anti-Kuchma vote

KYIV – National Deputy Taras Chornovil, an activist of the Forum for National Salvation (FNS), said on April 9 that the FNS proposal to initiate a no-confidence referendum on President Leonid Kuchma is premature, Interfax reported. “If we now begin the [referendum] action, which is doomed to fail, we will in this way begin someone’s election campaign or give a trump card to the president,” Mr. Chornovil noted. Verkhovna Rada First Vice-Chairman Viktor Medvedchuk said the referendum idea is legally invalid, adding that a law on referendums adopted in March bars no-confidence plebiscites. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainian PM in Moscow for talks

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko came to Moscow on April 10 to meet with his Russian counterpart, Mikhail Kasianov, for talks about Russian plans to restrict the import of Ukrainian steel pipes, Interfax reported. Meanwhile, Gazprom head Rem Viakhirev said in St. Petersburg that the Russian-Ukrainian gas agreement did not work well during its first three months of operation, Interfax-ANI reported. “There have not been any successes,” Mr. Viakhirev said, “only more debts.” (RFE/RL Newsline)

Parliamentary majority non-existent?

KYIV – The Labor Ukraine parliamentary group (46 deputies) said it has halted its participation in the parliamentary majority Coordinating Council, Interfax reported on April 6. Labor Ukraine explained its decision as being the result of last week’s refusal by some majority participants – including the Fatherland Party, Rukh and Reforms-Congress groups – to vote in line with the rest of the majority. Citing the same reason, the Social Democratic Party (United) caucus said it will not sign a political accord between the majority and the government. Verkhovna Rada First Vice-Chairman Viktor Medvedchuk said on April 9 that, in his opinion, the majority – which is currently being re-registered – will include the same groups that formed it a year ago, except, perhaps, for the Fatherland Party caucus. Meanwhile, Rukh leader Yurii Kostenko said Labor Ukraine’s decision signals that “oligarchs” are set to break up the parliamentary majority and oust Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko’s Cabinet. Mr. Yushenko was quoted by Interfax as stating: “I’m convinced that after the re-registration the majority will become less numerous, and I fear it may become so small that it will lose its majority status.” (RFE/RL Newsline)

Pascual urges restoration of consensus

KYIV – U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual on April 7 urged the Ukrainian president, the government and the Verkhovna Rada to restore their former consensus for the implementation of reforms in the country, Interfax reported. According to Mr. Pascual, the first step toward such consensus could be taken during Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko’s report to the Parliament on April 17 and in a vote on that report two days later. The U.S. ambassador also said he believes that the authorities should take a number of measures in order to improve the country’s image: restore a parliamentary majority, provide specific results in the investigation of the Gongadze case, demonstrate their respect for the freedom of the press, launch a dialogue with the opposition, and restore cooperation with the International Monetary Fund. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma criticizes dependence on IMF

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on April 5 said Ukraine has to learn how to live without the International Monetary Fund, Interfax reported. He added, however, that as of now Ukraine should not reject cooperation with the IMF because the presence of such cooperation is a signal to all countries that they can work with Kyiv. (RFE/RL Newsline)

New Criminal Code has no death penalty

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on 5 April 5 voted 379-3, with two abstentions, to pass a liberalized Criminal Code that replaces the death penalty with life imprisonment, Interfax reported. The Constitutional Court ruled in 1999 that the death penalty is illegal and ordered the legislature to annul corresponding articles in the Criminal Code. Under the new code, people under age 18 or older than 65 may not be imprisoned for life. The bill also limits punishments for mentally incapacitated criminals. It introduces new penalty methods, including unpaid community service, and reclassifies slander as a civil offense instead of a criminal one. The bill also outlines new types of crime, including copyright violations and illegally holding more than one professional post (an offense often committed by legislators). National Deputy Yurii Karmazin commented that the liberalized code will improve the country’s overall social situation. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Parliament OKs law on political parties ...

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada adopted a new version of the March 2000 law on political parties, which was vetoed by President Leonid Kuchma. Lawmakers rejected seven presidential amendments to the law, accepted five fully and seven partially, Interfax reported. The adoption of this law, like that of the Criminal Code, is one of Ukraine’s obligations to the Council of Europe. (RFE/RL Newsline)

... but not bill on parliamentary majority

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada failed to endorse in the first reading a bill on the parliamentary majority and the opposition. Out of the 394 deputies registered in the session hall, 172 supported the bill while 128 were against it. The parliamentary caucuses of the Communist Party, the Fatherland Party, Rukh (Kostenko), Reforms-Congress and some legislators from the Socialist Party refused to participate in the voting. The rejected bill stipulated that a parliamentary majority is a voluntary association of no less than 226 deputies who are headed by the parliament’s chairman. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Parliamentary majority takes a head count

KYIV – The leadership of the pro-government parliamentary majority has decided to re-register its members, Interfax reported on April 4. According to Oleksander Volkov, leader of the Revival of Regions parliamentary group, the re-registered majority will consist of the same parliamentary groups that formed it in January 2000, except for the Fatherland Party caucus. If Mr. Volkov’s expectation proves true, the majority in the 449-strong legislature will number 282 lawmakers from the Rukh (Udovenko), Greens, National Democratic Party, Social Democratic Party (United), Reforms-Congress, Rukh (Kostenko), Yabluko, Revival of the Regions, Labor Ukraine, Solidarnist and Ukraine’s Regions parliamentary groups. President Leonid Kuchma on April 3 demanded that the parliamentary majority be counted anew, commenting sarcastically that “half the current majority walks the streets with placards ‘Down with the president!’ ” (RFE/RL Newsline)

CIUS program explores facets of the Ukrainian Canadian past

EDMONTON – Under the auspices of the Ukrainian Canadian Program of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, several successful initiatives have been undertaken in recent months in the field of Ukrainian Canadian studies.

In October 2000, the co-coordinators of the program, Jars Balan and Andrij Makuch, gave well-attended talks at St. Vladimir's Institute as part of commemorations marking the centennial of Ukrainian settlement in Toronto. Whereas Mr. Balan spoke on the rich Ukrainian theatrical legacy of the city, Mr. Makuch gave a fascinating overview of some of the highlights of a century of Ukrainian life on the shores of Lake Ontario.

More recently, Mr. Balan kicked off the 2001 Edmonton CIUS seminar series with a presentation titled "California Dreaming: Ahapii Honcharenko's Role in the Formation of a Pioneer Ukrainian Canadian Intelligentsia." His talk examined a short-lived commune established in 1902 on the Rev. Honcharenko's ranch in Hayward, Calif., by activists who figured prominently in the subsequent development of the pioneer era of the Ukrainian Canadian community.

Initiated by the immigration agent Cyril Genik, the experiment in communal living lasted only a few months before philosophical differences and personality conflicts led to its sudden demise. Among those who participated in the failed venture were Taras D. Ferley and Myroslaw Stechishin, who went on to play key roles in the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church of Canada, and Ivan Danylczuk, an author who became a Protestant minister. The brief episode contributed to the political maturation of several future leaders of Ukrainian Canadian society.

The Rev. Honcharenko is celebrated in early American Ukrainian history for having published the newspaper *Alaska Herald/Svoboda* from 1867 to 1872. An Orthodox priest from a proud Kozak family in central Ukraine, the Rev. Honcharenko – whose real name was Andrii Humnytsky – was a social revolutionary in the Christian anarchist mold and a fierce critic of Russian autocracy. Although dismissed by some as an eccentric, his singular achievements and larger-than-life character have earned him a lasting place in the mythology of Ukrainians on the North American continent.

Mr. Balan is currently focusing his efforts on preparing a detailed chronology of Ukrainian theatrical performances in Canada during the interwar years. A paper which he recently completed on the connection between Vasyl Stefanyk's classic short story "The Stone Cross" and an immigrant who homesteaded in 1898 near Chipman, Alberta, is soon to be published in an upcoming issue of the *Journal of Ukrainian Studies*. An article by Mr. Balan, on the Ukrainian churches of Western Canada, appeared in the January-February issue of the New York-based *Catholic Near East* magazine.

In addition to these activities, the Ukrainian Canadian Program has commissioned research toward the writing of the second installment of the three-volume CIUS history of Ukrainians in Canada.

At the same time, a conference in honor of the 25th anniversary of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies is being planned for this spring. It will focus on Ukrainian cultural and organizational life in Canada from the 1920s to the 1940s.

Shevchenko Scientific Society holds scholarly conference in honor of patron

by Dr. Orest Popovych

NEW YORK – On March 10 the Shevchenko Scientific Society of America hosted the 21st annual scholarly conference dedicated to Taras Shevchenko, Ukraine's national bard and the society's patron.

The conference, held at the society's headquarters in New York City, was co-hosted by the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S. (UVAN), the Ukrainian Research Institute of Harvard University and the Harriman Institute of Columbia University. It was organized and chaired by Dr. Anna Procyk, a vice-president of the Shevchenko Society.

The program was opened by Dr. Albert Kipa, a vice-president of UVAN. Dr. Procyk then introduced the first speaker, a guest from Kyiv, Dr. Pavlo Hrytsenko of the Institute of Ukrainian Language at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

In his lecture titled "The Language of Shevchenko in the Light of Dialectology," Prof. Hrytsenko, who is a leading authority on Ukrainian dialects, shared with the audience his scholarly findings about the influence of dialects in Shevchenko's works. Far from being confined to the lexicon of central Ukraine, Shevchenko's language drew upon the riches of many Ukrainian dialects, including some from far-flung regions, such as the Carpathian area.

Dr. Hrytsenko has already published two volumes of a unique atlas of the Ukrainian language, which displays on maps the distribution of the usage of words from various dialects as well as

the literary language throughout the territory of Ukraine and the contiguous areas beyond its borders. A third volume is ready for publication, pending acquisition of the necessary funds.

The second speaker was Dr. Volodymyr Karpynych of UVAN, who lectured on "Shevchenko and Goethe." Prof. Karpynych has discovered some remarkable parallels between the poetry of Shevchenko and that of the great German poet and philosopher Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. These were illustrated by quotations in the original languages and in translation.

A third scheduled invited speaker, Prof. George Grabowicz of Harvard University, unexpectedly, was unable to attend.

Dr. Larissa Zaleska Onyshkevych, the president of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in America, closed the conference with some insightful remarks about the reasons Shevchenko has remained relevant to Ukrainians of all generations no matter where they happen to live. For Ukrainians, the genius of Shevchenko transcends time and space because each of us perceives a "different Shevchenko," thus deriving sustenance from his words in a manner that nourishes our particular needs and aspirations, she observed.

Prior to the lectures, the officers of the society held a business meeting. After the lectures, there was a social hour at which Olha Kuzmowycz, the society's recording secretary and an editor of *Svoboda*, was presented a certificate of appreciation from the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Lviv for the gift of her family home to the society.

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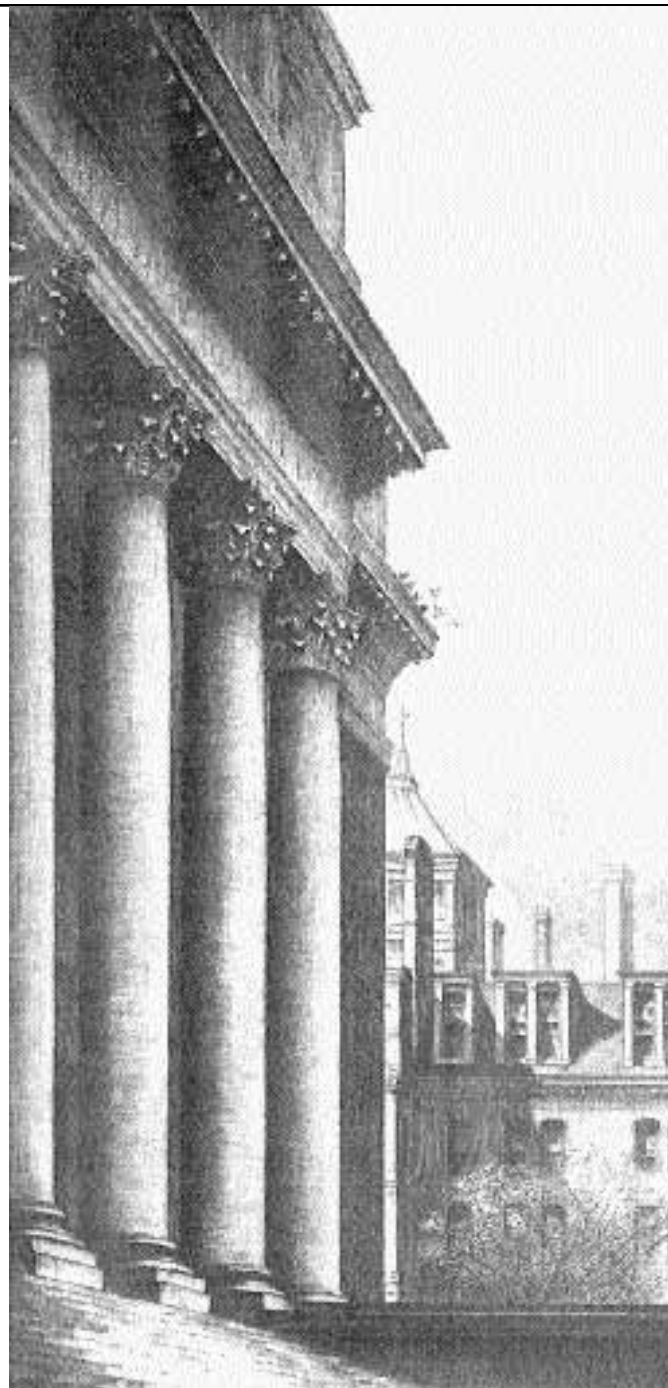
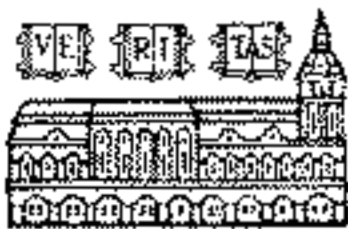
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Chicago museum hosts Cultural Connections program



Dr. Myron Kuropas delivers a presentation on Ukrainian immigration to Chicago.

by Orest A. Hrynewych

CHICAGO – The Ukrainian National Museum of Chicago (UNM) on March 10 hosted a program of Cultural Connections, a series of seven programs sponsored by the Field Museum of Chicago with ethnic and cultural centers throughout the Chicago area. This was the second time the UNM participated in this annual event.

The Cultural Connections program provides a unique way for the public to learn about the rich cultural diversity of Chicago. The program explores the reasons for cultural differences and uncovers the connection between different segments of the city's population. The event, which takes place in ethnic museums and in cultural centers, exposes participants to different cultures through artifacts, presentations, participant-observation and ethnic foods.

The Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago is uniquely fortunate in being able to rely on the resources of the Ukrainian American community in hosting the event. The Ukrainian Cultural Center provided the traditional Ukrainian food; the event committee, composed of Orest Hrynewych, Kalyna Drohomirecky, Irene Jarymowych, Daria Hankewych and Irene Antonovych, organized and executed the event. A screening was arranged of a video made by Michael Hoff Production about the Ukrainian community in Chicago. Titled "Ties That Bind," this video is a part of a series on communities in America aired on the Civilization Digital Discovery Channel this year.

The event was a resounding success, attracting 58 participants. The audience

was composed of teachers, students and individuals interested in learning about the Ukrainian immigration in Chicago.

There were 13 UNM staff and support personnel who engaged the guests in dialogue during the meal. Jaroslaw Hankewych, president of the Ukrainian National Museum, opened the program and introduced Rosa Cabrera of the Field Museum who explained the purpose of the program

Dr. Myron Kuropas, presented a summary of the four waves of the immigrants to the Chicago area. He explained that over 10,000 Ukrainians live in and around the 28-square-block area of the Ukrainian Village. This central area has been the focus of Ukrainian life since the first immigration began in the 1880s and ended in 1914 at the start of World War I. The second wave of immigrants came after the first world war and the third wave after World War II. Dr. Kuropas also explained the present reality of the fourth wave of immigrants who started to arrive in large numbers after the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1991. He described the problems associated with their integration into the existing Ukrainian community and the challenges they face.

The presentation was enlivened by the bandura music of Myroslava Kuka, a fourth-wave immigrant who had been in the United States only two weeks. A video of the photo montage of the four waves of Chicago's Ukrainian immigrants was provided by Ms. Antonovych from her exhibit and book "Generations: A Documentary of Ukrainians in Chicago."

During the event, Channel 21, the local ethnic network, videotaped the session for a broadcast later that month.



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New Kyiv play, "Povorot," recalls the life and execution of Mykhailo and Olena Teliha



Yaroslav Hranko and Svitlana Vatamaniuk in a scene from "Povorot."

by Jerry Kindrachuk

KYIV – "This wasn't so," is the opening line of "Povorot," (The Return) a romantic tragedy about the brief poetic life and execution at Babyn Yar of Mykhailo and Olena Teliha. For the next two hours the audience is transfixed by the emotion and heroism of this couple that gave their lives for the cause of Ukrainian independence.

The play is based on the poetry and letters written during the early courtship, marriage, self-imposed exile in Prague, and subsequent return to a certain death in Ukraine. The audiences' emotions are craftily drawn from the romance in Olena's love letters, to the tragedy in her passionate, and painful, battle for her cause.

The acting by Svitlana Vatamaniuk and Yaroslav Hranko is superb.

The set is simple, yet very effective. Throughout the play, as Mykhailo's and Olena's lives unfold, small mementos are draped casually over a series of frames bound together in a Mondrian-like fashion, and, by the end of the play, they form a collage of the couple's life together.

Although, this is a two-person play, a solo violinist, Victor Krysko, wanders unobtrusively among them. The music is well-chosen to add to the drama of the moment.

Ms. Vatamaniuk, originally of Ivan-Frankivsk, is an actress with the

Molodizhnyi Theater in Kyiv. A graduate of the Kyiv Theater Institute, she has appeared in numerous plays and movies, and is familiar to U.S. audiences for her 1995 portrayal of Lesia Ukrainka, and her role with Bohdan Stupka in a two-person play by Bernard Shaw.

Mr. Hranko, also a graduate of the Kyiv Theater Institute, has appeared in a range of roles throughout Ukraine and Europe. He is the deputy director of the Molodyi Theater in Kyiv.

Mr. Krysko is a graduate of the Kyiv Conservatory whose credits include performances with the national symphony, numerous compositions for TV and film, leadership of the Ars Viva string quartet, and solos with the RJ Orchestra. He is currently music director of the television station ISTV.

This production of "Povorot" was largely financed and sponsored by the Self Reliance (NY) Federal Credit Union, which by this worthy contribution, has again exhibited its commitment to depositors and the Ukrainian community at large. An effort is underway to bring this performance to the United States and Canada.



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THE ART SCENE: Roadblocks en route to the Venice Biennale

by Oksana Zakydalsky

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – I arrived in Kyiv on March 20, expecting two and a half months of absorbing and focused work on the catalogue for Ukraine's Venice Biennale presentation. Instead, I walked straight into a press conference titled "Sabotage of the Ukrainian Exhibition at the 49th Venice Biennale," which had been organized by the Biennale working group.

To summarize what I had already written about the Ukrainian preparations for the Venice Biennale (*The Ukrainian Weekly*, December 31, 2000): in May 2000, Yuri Onuch, director of the Center for Contemporary Art in Kyiv, wrote to Minister of Culture and Arts, Bohdan Stupka, and Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Mykola Zhulynskyi, suggesting that Ukraine take part in the 49th Venice Biennale scheduled for June – November 2001. The ministry agreed to back this initiative and in August appointed Evhen Karas, an advisor to Minister Stupka, as the commissioner for the Biennale. In September, the ministry accepted Mr. Karas's choice of Mr. Onuch as the curator.

On October 20, Messrs. Karas and Onuch took part in a working session for commissioners and curators in Venice. Intimations of troubles came when artist Valentyn Rayevsky and Olha Malantii (Mazayeva) arrived at the working session with a letter of support from the parliamentary committee on culture and spiritual affairs also claiming official status. After being informed by Minister Stupka that it had no authority in the matter, the committee revoked its support for Mr. Rayevsky. In December 2000 the artists – the Masoch Fund – were selected by Mr. Onuch to be the Biennale participants. That's where I left off my previous narrative.

By March of this year, in spite of the fact that the working group organized by Mr. Onuch had already put in seven months in the preparation of the presentation – a detailed budget had been submitted to the ministry, premises found and hotel rooms booked, sponsors for additional funding to cover production and transportation costs found – other players had appeared on the scene.

On February 15, an open letter to the minister of culture and arts from the Artists' Union was printed on the front page of *Literaturna Ukraina*. It called for the dismissal of the officially appointed commissioner, Mr.



Yuri Onuch

Karas and the appointment of Oleksander Fedoruk, head of the state agency for the control of the transfer of cultural treasures outside the borders of Ukraine, as commissioner. (*Literaturna Ukraina*, February 15, 2001). The letter also called for Mr. Onuch's dismissal; it referred to his status as a non-citizen of Ukraine and questioned the suitability of such a person being responsible for Ukraine's presentation. The letter was signed by the heads of 24 regional branches of the Artists' Union, plus five national office-holders – the full Union nomenklatura.

On the same day that the Artists' Union letter appeared, an open letter from the "remnants of the young Ukrainian intelligentsia" expressing no confidence in President Kuchma was published and Mr. Onuch's signature was one of 40 that were published at the time (the number has since grown to over 1,700).



Valentyn Rayevsky

After this publication, Mr. Onuch said:

"I was called to the offices of Minister Stupka and, in the presence of several ministry officials, told to rethink my support of the anti-Kuchma forces. I refused to withdraw my signature. A few days later, the ministry council discussed the Biennale project; ministry officials proposed that other projects, in addition to that of the Masoch Fund, be added to the presentation. I stated my position that there would be no change of the original conception of the presentation. Minister Stupka did not express his opinion.

"Mr. Fedoruk met with me later and tried to convince me to widen the presentation and include other artists, but I resisted ... I have been told that on March 13 a meeting was held between the Artists' Union leadership, Mr. Rayevsky and Ms. Malantii, Minister Stupka and Vice Prime Minister Zhulynskyi to which the Union leaders brought a copy of the letter I had signed, as well as a copy of the article written by George Soros on March 1 in *The Financial Times* criticizing the policies of President Kuchma."

March 15 was the deadline for submitting materials to the Biennale catalogue and for the confirmation of the participants of the national presentations. Materials from the Masoch Fund were sent to Venice. On the same day, representatives from the Artists' Union and the Academy of Arts met to choose artists for the Biennale presentation. Commissioner Karas was informed of this meeting two hours prior to its starting time; Mr. Onuch was not informed at all. Valentyn Rayevsky's and Mr. Sydorenko's projects were selected.

Although no official announcements of any change in the personnel for Venice was announced, it was known that changes had been made. This led to the March 21 press conference after which the Biennale story received a lot of press and much air time. The papers and broadcasts speculated on the causes of what most of them termed the "Biennale scandal." Some assigned the blame to money: "Nobody had any claims until it became known that the Ministry of Culture had designated \$130,000 for the Venice Biennale project ... then a war of accusations began." (Khreshchatyk, March 30). Many papers attributed the cause to "the old methods at play."

The fact that the initiative to take part in the Biennale was taken by a non-citizen of Ukraine was seen as an issue, although whether it was the cause of the "scandal" or merely a weapon used in it is hard to say. But people did not hesitate to use it: the Artists' Union letter referred to Mr. Onuch being a foreigner and, in a published interview, Mr. Rayevsky said: "How come our borders are so unguarded that we don't even know who is working on our territories and with what aim?" (*Ukrainske Slovo*, March 22).

A press communiqué from the Cabinet of Ministers was published on March 22:

"For the first time, Ukraine is taking part in the 49th Venice Biennale. As directed by the Cabinet of

(Continued on page 16)

Who benefits? Sabotage of the Ukrainian presentation

by Yuri Onuch

Ten years of independence have rid Ukraine neither of Soviet style institutions nor Soviet style behavior. The latest victim may well be Ukraine's first appearance as an independent country at the Venice Biennale – an event due to open in three months.

In October 2000, I was appointed curator of the Ukrainian presentation by Evhen Karas, officially designated commissioner for the Biennale by the Ministry of Arts and Culture. Today, (March 22) I learned, through a news item in a Kyiv newspaper, which quotes a press communiqué of the Cabinet of Ministers dated March 20, that on March 15 the Cabinet appointed a new commissioner, that a new curator has been designated and a new art project chosen to represent Ukraine at the Biennale. Neither was I notified that my appointment was being reconsidered nor have the artists I chose for the Biennale been told to stop work on their project.

This latest development in what has been termed "the Biennale scandal" follows the publication, on February 15, of an open letter to the Minister of Arts and Culture from the Artists' Union, published in *Literaturna Ukraina*, the official paper of the Writers' Union. The letter called on the minister and the vice prime minister to dismiss the official commissioner and me – the official curator of the Biennale presentation. Issue was made of my non-Ukrainian status (I hold both Canadian and Polish citizenship, but have been working in Kyiv since 1997).

The letter does not mention that it was I who initi-

Yuri Onuch is curator of Ukraine's presentation at the Venice Biennale. This article was written in Kyiv on March 22.

ated the idea for Ukraine's participation in the 49th Venice Biennale and convinced both Minister of Arts and Culture Bohdan Stupka and Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Mykola Zhulynskyi to make an official submission to the Biennale.

In September 2000, the Ministry of Arts and Culture announced its decision to participate in the Biennale and appointed Evhen Karas, an advisor to the minister, as the commissioner; Mr. Karas chose me as the curator – a choice approved by the minister. Work on preparing the presentation began immediately – a working group of six persons was organized and the artists – Ihor Podolchak and Ihor Dyurych of the Masoch Fund – were chosen. The organization of the Ukrainian presentation was thoroughly open and public; press releases were issued and press conferences organized to announce each step of the Venice initiative. The process received widespread media attention.

But problems were brewing in the background. Not everyone accepted the rules of the Biennale. Attempts to put forward a so-called alternative presentation were made by Valentyn Rayevsky and his friends, backed by support of the Parliamentary Committee on Culture and Spiritual Affairs. When informed by the Ministry of Arts and Culture that it had no authority in this matter, the committee backed off.

When most of the preparatory work for the Biennale presentation had been done, the Artists' Union moved in with its open letter and usurped the project, insisting that it was the only body with the exclusive right to make decisions about who is to represent Ukrainian art at international festivals. The interests of an organization set up under Stalin's regime to control artistic activities in the USSR

(Continued on page 16)

"Three Generations of Cholodny Artists" at The Ukrainian Museum

by Marta Baczynsky

NEW YORK – The exhibition titled "Three Generations of Cholodny Artists" will open at The Ukrainian Museum on Saturday, April 28. Featured will be paintings and icons of Petro Cholodny the elder (1876-1930), those of his son, Petro Cholodny the younger (1902-1990), and of Andrew Charyna (born 1951), grandson of Petro Cholodny the younger. The opening reception is scheduled for 6 p.m.

The body of work presented in this exhibition has been compiled from loans from private collections. In this continuing series of exhibits, which the museum initiated several years ago, the importance of the role of the private collectors in the formation of significant collections is once again being recognized. To date, in the several exhibits presented in this category, rarely seen art works were shared with the public through the generosity and understanding of private collectors.

A well-known precept states that "art must be made available to be appreciated." The museum has extended its gratitude to the individuals who have made available paintings and drawings from their private collections that have enriched this exhibition, providing for the enjoyment of all who appreciate art.

Works are on loan from the collections of: Ralph and Olha della Cava, Lev and Taras Chaban, Jaroslawa Kinal, Dr. Nadia T. Kmeta, Sviatoslav N. Kocybala, Olga Kowal, Olha Kuzmowycz, Dr. Yar and Irena Mociuk, Oksana Radysh, Roman and Motria Sloniewsky, Dr. Alexander and Dada Sloniewsky, Bohdanna Tytla, Markian and Natalia Tytla, Borys and Dzwinka Zacharczuk and the Ukrainian Museum and Library of Stamford. Orest J. Dutka has lent from his extensive art collection several important works by Petro Cholodny the younger.

Nineteen works by Petro Cholodny the elder are on loan for the exhibition from Dr. Swaitoslaw Trofimenko and his



"Mother of God with Jesus" by Andrew Charyna, 1989, acrylic on masonite (from the collection of the artist).

wife Martha B. Trofimenko. These paintings collected by Dr. Trofimenko's father, artist and collector Clement Trofimenko, were among the few possessions that he treasured most and chose to take with him on the arduous immigration trail when he left Ukraine during World War II. This collection of works by Cholodny the elder is probably the only one of its size outside the borders of Ukraine.

It is fascinating and challenging to study the body of work of a group of artists produced by one family, who are in close genealogical order. It is interesting to discover what is common to them, what diverse directions they have followed and how the talent stemming from mutual familial roots is manifested in each individual. Art historian Dr. Daria Darewych has researched the creative journeys of the three Cholodny artists and shares the result of her findings in an essay in the bilingual, illustrated exhibition catalogue.

The work of the three artists differ in many ways. Each artist is uniquely talented, and expresses his talent in an individual manner and style. But in one aspect of their art they share a common bond – painting the Ukrainian icon in the Ukrainian Neo-Byzantine tradition. Nevertheless, in this art expression also, their individual concerns and preferences are greatly apparent.

Petro Cholodny the elder was born in 1876 in Pereiaslav, Poltava region of Ukraine. Although he studied chemistry and physics, he nurtured his love for art by taking evening classes at the Murashko Drawing School. Cholodny began to exhibit his work in 1910. Active in the Ukrainian art community, Cholodny co-founded the Organization of Ukrainian Visual Artists (Orhanizatsia Ukrainskykh Pliastykiv) in 1911 and participated in their exhibitions.

In the years marking the struggle for Ukraine's independence, Cholodny the elder worked in the Ministry of Education of the Ukrainian Central Rada as deputy minister. He is credited with initiating many reforms in the educational system. After resettling in Lviv, he emerged as a prominent spokesman for the arts, and in 1922 was one of the founders of the Group of Activists of Ukrainian Art (Hurtok Diachiv Ukrainskoho Mystetsva). Cholodny the elder was an individual whose work as an artist, a scholar, a political activist and a pedagogue made an impact on Ukrainian cultural development of the early 20th century. He died in 1930.

In the exhibition catalogue Dr. Darewych writes that the revival of the icon tradition in western Ukraine is attributed in part to the work of Petro Cholodny the elder and such fellow artists as Modest Sosenko and Mykhailo Boichuk. Cholodny the elder painted many icons and created numerous stained glass windows for churches. Dr. Darewych says that the iconostasis of the chapel of the Theological Seminary and the icons and stained glass windows of the Church of the Dormition of the Mother of God in Lviv are recognized as his greatest achievement, "representing a synthesis of western Ukrainian iconography, folk art and Art Nouveau."

Petro Cholodny the younger was born in Kyiv in 1902. He studied art at the Ukrainian Studio of Plastic Arts in Prague and at the Warsaw Art Academy, where he subsequently taught drawing and tempera painting. Active in Ukrainian art circles, he became a member of the Association of Independent Ukrainian Artists (Asotsiatsia Nezaleznykh Ukrainskykh Myststiv – ANUM) in the 1930s.



"Master Guilder" by Petro Cholodny the elder, 1921, oil on board (from the collection of Dr. Swiatoslaw and Martha Trofimenko; originally from the holdings of the late artist collector Clement Trofimenko).

Following World War II the Cholodny family immigrated to the United States, where he continued to work at his craft. He died in 1990.

Cholodny the younger is credited with being one of the leading artists to revive the Ukrainian-Byzantine art traditions in the United States. There are numerous churches for which the artist created iconostases, mosaics and stained glass windows, among them St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York City, Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of St. Volodimir in New York City, St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Memorial Church in South Bound Brook, N.J., St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N.J., and St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Hunter, N.Y., to mention a few. He also created the iconostasis for the church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Lourdes, France.

Dr. Darewych states in the catalogue essay that "a limited palette of harmoniously contrasted sophisticated hues" characterizes the iconography of Cholodny the younger. Although in some of his better known works such as "Annunciation" (1980) and "Nativity" (1985) he "followed prototypes in composition and color symbolism," it is in privately commissioned icons that the influences of contemporary art trends are evident. V. Popyvych calls Cholodny the younger an "exceptional poet of color, who is capable of releasing a variety of moods through his use of color."

Andrew Charyna, grandson of Petro Cholodny the younger, was born in Germany in 1951. His family immigrated to the United States, where they lived for several years, eventually moving to Toronto. He studied art at the Ontario College of Art. He exhibited his work in New York with his grandfather and participated in many exhibits in Toronto. His paintings "The Crow's Song" won best of show award at the 1994 annual Artsfest in Toronto, as did the work "Umbrella" in 1999.

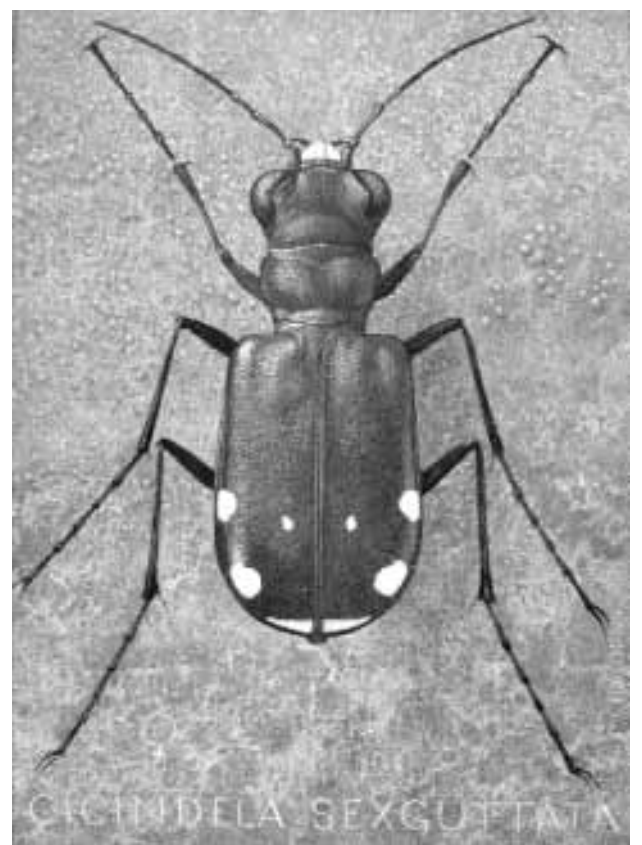
Mr. Charyna's icons, according to Dr. Darewych, reflect his grandfather's "sensitive

palette" although they show his very individual "explorations and innovations in composition, form and color." She goes on to say that in evaluating Mr. Charyna's icons, the "overall emphasis is on harmony and spirituality." Mr. Charyna has painted only individual icons.

The unique creative journey of each of these artists is evident mostly in their secular art. In the 1920s Cholodny the elder was known for his large canvases that portrayed his interest in Ukrainian history and culture. According to art historian Sviatoslav Hordynsky, the work "Rye in the Fields," which depicts the death of a Kozak, "was not only the best painting by Cholodny the elder, but also one of the outstanding paintings in Ukrainian art." The influences of the contemporary Western art movements, such as Impressionism and Post-Impressionism were apparent in the many landscapes, portraits and still life compositions of Cholodny the elder.

The paintings of Cholodny the younger show the influences of a variety of art styles – from realism to partial abstract reflected in landscapes and still life compositions. A very unique feature of his work is his range of paintings of insects, specifically beetles, which are hugely mag-

(Continued on page 27)



"Cincindela Sexguttata," 1974, tempera on canvas panel by Petro Cholodny the younger (from the collection of Olga Kowal).

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Roadblocks en route...

(Continued from page 14)

Ministers, the Artists' Union and the Academy of Art formed a committee to consider projects which are being proposed for the presentation of Ukraine at the Venice Biennale. The project chosen is the one presented by the group of artists which includes Valentyn Rayevsky, Arsen Savadov, Oleh Tistol, Olha Melentiy and others. On the advice of the commission and the commissioner of the Venice Biennale - Academician and Doctor of Art History Oleksander Fedoruk - Valentyn Rayevsky is appointed curator of the project.

The communiqué was dated March 15, and it was the first time the changes had been made public. Neither Mr. Karas nor Mr. Onuch were notified by the Cabinet of Ministers.

An open letter to Minister Stupka and Vice Prime Minister Zhulynskyi, which protested the manner in which the issue of Ukraine's participation had been handled by the government and deplored the manipulation of choice and imposition of control by decree was posted on the Internet. By April 3 it received 151 signatures of support. Comments included the following: (from a correspondent, The Art Newspaper, London) "a huge part of your problem is that you are a Canadian citizen and therefore not considered Ukrainian enough"; "What did you expect?"; "It all sounds familiar"; "Do bolin znayome." One person wrote from Toronto: "Having lived and worked in Ukraine, I know exactly what it means to be regarded as 'chuzhyi' in the land one has always cared about."

Two artists, Oleksander Roitburd and Victor Maruschenko, who will be taking part in the International Exhibition (separate from the national presentations) at the Venice Biennale, wrote to Minister Stupka: "We find unacceptable the way the Artists' Union is using artists and art events for its own objectives ... The actions of the Artists' Union and the Academy of Art nomenklatura qualify as a 'perevorot' (coup) whose aim is to replace a purely professional matter with nomenklatura interests." (Letter to Minister Stupka, March 20).

Although I was involved with the working group of the original national presentation, I decided to get the view on the whole matter from the other group. Mr. Rayevsky, the newly designated curator of the newly designated official national presentation, agreed to meet with me. I explained to him that I was working with Mr. Onuch, but promised to transcribe his views honestly. Mr. Rayevsky pointed out that the group of which he is the spokesman - the New Creative Association - is made up of artists who have good track records in exhibiting and representing Ukrainian contemporary art outside Ukraine. He wanted to start "at the beginning."

Mr. Rayevsky related: "We have been working on our project and the question of a national representation from Ukraine at the Biennale for three years. We first discussed our idea with the Ministry of Culture right after the 1999 Biennale, and received the support of the then Minister Ostapenko. But in the next one and a half years there were three ministers. In April of last year we had a meeting with Minister Stupka and, although the meeting concerned another project of ours, we told him that project was a prelude to our next step - the Venice Biennale. We arranged to continue the conversation about the Biennale a few days later so that Savadov could come from Moscow where he had an exhibit. He flew in especially for the meeting, but Stupka would not see us. We tried to

see the Minister two more times, but each time he refused to see us. Some things seemed to have taken place of which we were not aware. So Malantii and I obtained the support of Les Taniuk of the parliamentary committee and went to Venice to declare the existence of our project. We believe that the selection of the commissioner and the curator was not an open process, particularly for the professionals and for those who should represent the country."

"We have had obvious achievements in representing Ukraine in the context of world art - it is this group that has created that which can be called the face of Ukrainian art. Each of the artists involved has a good track record in Europe and an immense number of propositions. But we decided to devote ourselves to development here, to work in Ukraine. I spent a lot of time in Denmark, Norway and Germany and Savadov in the U.S. - but today we are here and we want to crown our careers with a serious event. This would be logical - we have devoted 15 years to contemporary art ... Why should we submit our achievements to a person who wants to calibrate our art according to some standard?"

I asked Mr. Rayevsky how such non-conformist artists as he were now allied with the Artists' Union. He answered, "I have never been a member of the Artists' Union, although Savadov and Tistol are members. I have never been in any alliance with the Union. But it is no longer the ideological structure it once was. You cannot imagine the changes that have taken place in the last 10 years. In 1995 our works and installations were torn down. ... We have excellent people involved in culture - the new commissioner is a truly distinguished figure - Doctor of Fine Arts and Academician Oleksander Fedoruk is an important figure in all respects. I know that the vast majority of the members of the union, cultural officials and academicians are buffoons, but I have no hesitation in saying that this person takes an active part

(Continued on page 17)

Who benefits?...

(Continued from page 14)

became more important than professionalism and competency.

It seems that the Artists' Union succeeded in pressuring Vice Prime Minister Zhulynskyi to have the Cabinet of Ministers appoint another commissioner. Oleksander Fedoruk, head of the State Agency for the Control of the Transfer of Cultural Treasures Outside Ukraine is to be the new commissioner, while the new curator is to be Mr. Rayevsky. Quoted in the above news item, Mr. Rayevsky smears me and questions my motives for being in Kyiv: "How is it that we have left our borders so unprotected that we don't know who is working on our territories and with what aim?" (Ukrainske Slovo, March 22).

In proposing Ukraine's presentation at the Venice Biennale, I wanted to show that Ukraine can take part in artistic discourse with the rest of the world. Unfortunately, I discovered that this society has many entrenched interests unwilling to give up their Soviet-type control and their perks.

In challenging the monopoly of institutions like the Union of Artists for the sake of the independence of art, I have been thrust onto the political stage to fight for Ukrainian art, for the freedom of expression and for an open society. I appeal to the art community to express solidarity with those who believe that art can only flourish in a society that values freedom and openness.

Conference to focus on Ukraine "from breadbasket to marketbasket"

by Ashley Ruch

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation has announced two upcoming conferences titled "Ukraine: From Breadbasket of Europe to Marketbasket for the World."

The first of these one-day events will be held in the U.S. Capitol on May 9, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in cooperation with the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus. The second event, on the same theme, will take place in Kyiv, on May 16.

The purpose of these roundtables will be to discuss a new and bold long-range vision regarding the development of the entire food system in Ukraine, from producer to consumer, from field to table. Participants will be representatives of the private and public sectors active in the development of the entire food system in Ukraine, with the aim of making an impact on U.S.-Ukraine economic development.

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation has

already invited a number of key players in the U.S.-Ukraine food systems sector, such as U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman, WestNIS Investment Fund President Natalie Jaresko, General Manager George Logush of Kraft Jacobs Suchard Ukraina, Dupont representative John Shmorhun, Coca-Cola Representative Sonya Soutus and AVK Confectionery's Chairman of the Board Volodymyr Avramenko.

These roundtables are part of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's 10th Anniversary Conference Series, which will also focus on strategic issues facing U.S.-Ukraine relations, such as community/local government development and energy.

For more information contact the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 733 15th St. NW, Suite 1026, Washington, DC 20005; telephone, (202) 347-4264; fax, (202) 347-4267; e-mail: usuf@usukraine.org; homepage, <http://www.usukraine.org>

Roadblocks en route...

(Continued from page 16)

in the field of art. I am very pleased that he was appointed."

Did he not think that the process to overturn the initial Ministry of Culture directives had been improper? Mr. Rayevsky answered, "We do have problems with our governing structures in matters dealing with art. Stupka could not make a decision. Therefore, Vice Prime Minister Zhulynskyi took on that responsibility, thank God ... My opinion and the last word on this affair is that what happened shouldn't have happened. A mistake was made, but it was corrected in time. And we still have a chance to present Ukrainian contemporary art in a worthy way with a group that has the full right to do so. There is no need to make a political conflict out of this. It does not exist. The conflict is between those who are involved in culture in Ukraine and a travelling salesman who wants to present himself as an intermediary."

I thought about what one person who had supported the open letter posted on the Internet had written: "I could never accept the deep-seated unwillingness to accept us as genuine, albeit different ('other') part of the Ukrainian nation ... too often the attitude would be that the given émigré was either 'stupid and naïve' (read 'loser') or had some ulterior motive (read 'is a spy, carpetbagger, scam artist,' etc)."

Was the "scandal" the result of political calculations, or personal ones? Someone went ahead and did something others felt was their entitlement. The Artists' Union, because it was not consulted, and Mr. Rayevsky and his artist friends, who had invested a lot of work into the contemporary art scene, felt unfairly excluded. But it was all "set right" at the end.

We give the last word to Vice Prime Minister Zhulynskyi, who said this on TV: "I asked the opinion of the head of the Artists' Union, the president of the Academy of Arts and Bohdan Sylvestrovych Stupka – I asked him and he answered: 'I was set up. I am to blame – but I was set up. I wanted to do the best I could, but it came out as usual.'"

One should not underestimate the significance of the event: reactions to the "scandal" came from Poland, Canada and the United States, but also Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark, United Kingdom, etc.

and showed that people were tracking events in Ukraine. Might one expect a visit from "artists without borders"?

* * *

The Masoch Fund

The Masoch Fund is an art group, founded in Lviv in 1991 by Ihor Podolchak, Ihor Diurych and Roman Viktiuk to undertake collective art projects. The name was inspired by the historic link between the artistic activity of its founders and the persona of Leopold von Sacher-Masoch (1836-1895) who was born in Lviv and who used the local context in some of his novels which depict masochism.

The fund has staged art projects not only in cities of Ukraine and other countries but also in outer space: in 1993 it took part in an exhibition aboard the space station "Mir." Mr. Podolchak has participated in more than 150 international exhibits where he has won over 30 prizes. The title of the Masoch Fund project for the Biennale is "The Best Artists of the 20th Century;" the "artists" chosen for it are names newly inscribed into the history of art: Hitler, Truman, Pol Pot, Khrushchev, etc.

New Creative Association

Headed by Valentyn Rayevsky, the association's most recent project was "Intervals – Cosmism in Ukrainian Art of the 20th Century" shown in Kyiv and Oslo in 2000. Selected members of the NCA include the following.

- Valentyn Rayevsky of Kyiv, born in 1956 in Kyiv, studied architecture and graphic arts in Kyiv; international experience: Cyprus, Norway, Moscow, Kyiv, Denmark; Poland.

- Arsen Savadov of Kyiv, born in 1962 in Kyiv; studied at the Kyiv Art Institute; international experience: the U.S.A., Russia, Paris, Sweden, Scotland, Germany, 1996 Manifesta at Dusseldorf. Included in curators' list of the 100 best artists of the world.

- Oleh Tistol of Kyiv, born in 1960 in Mykolaiv region; studied at the Lviv Institute of Art; international experience: Paris, Norway, Moscow, Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, Poland.

- Yuriy Solomko of Kyiv, born in 1962 in Crimea; studied at the Kyiv Art Institute; international experience: the U.S.A., Germany, Russia, Norway, Sweden.

- Olha Malantii (Mazayeva) of Kyiv, born in 1954 in Cherkasy; studied fashion design in Kyiv; international experience: the U.S.A., Canada, Denmark, Russia.

- Serhiy Panych of Kyiv, born in 1958 in Voroshylovhrad; studied at Kyiv Art Institute; international experience: Germany, Denmark.

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President Kuchma...

(Continued from page 2)

wing, and from the center, with anyone you like, provided they share the values I have mentioned.

This dialogue has begun. I requested the people who are respected in society [to handle] this issue. But it is not advantageous for some oppositionists. It is not advantageous to conduct a dialogue [for them], so they're making demands that cannot be met.

Moreover, who has given them the right to say that "we are the main oppositionists today"? (Ed. note: Mr. Kuchma apparently refers to the demand of the Forum for National Salvation that it be recognized as the main negotiation partner.) There is an opposition that I fought during the elections, the Communist part [of the opposition], which obtained more than 10 million votes. Is it an opposition or not? If they, too, put themselves within the same framework as the opposition mentioned before, with the same demands, then tell me, please, what will happen in Ukraine? [Progressive Socialist Party leader Natalia] Vitrenko is in the opposition, too.

I say it once again: The elections did take place, the people did make their choice, one does not need to make demands now but to work within the legislative framework, to win not with stones [during demonstrations] but in the presidential elections, which are scheduled for 2004. Let them show that they have support in society, among voters.

Mr. President, do you personally believe that you can find common language with your opponents at all?

If they don't want to find common language, I'll not find it either, because of the following reason: the language of ultimatums is not a language for speaking with

the authorities. I reject ultimatums. I'm not going to capitulate. I say I'm a president elected in a nationwide ballot. More than 16 million voters voted for me.

Let me interrupt you with the [following] question: Are you preparing a replacement for yourself? Of course, you don't have to mention names, and I will not insist on them, but do you see in your entourage those ...

I'm not [former Russian President] Yeltsin, I'm not going to resign, therefore the replacement is not the main concern for me today. The main concern [for me] is to make the system work as a whole, to make the government work [and to] cooperate with the parliamentary majority. [To ensure that the Parliament] adopts legislation that is needed by society, that it fully meet its commitments to the Council of Europe and so on. [To ensure] that we be perceived as a civilized country, not as a country where the fight for a mace is continuing. I hope you know what a mace is, you haven't forgotten, have you? (Ed. note: mace or bula-va in Ukrainian, is a symbol of authority of a hetman, a Kozak leader); Ukraine's newly elected president is presented with a mace during the inauguration.)

I know very well what a mace is. Mr. President, do you use your mace for practical purposes? People often say that you are a victim of various machinators who make their shady deals on your account. Is it so?

I reject this [allegation] absolutely, unambiguously as an outright lie. An absolute lie. You know that I'm a business-like man, I always say: Please talk facts, not suppositions, not rotten allegations that are often voiced from the side of my opponents.

It turns out that [people] have been given freedom [of expression], but social

mechanisms for using this freedom have not been created. It's the reason for this all.

Regarding some accounts somewhere, as you allege, I bestow these accounts upon you. I bestow them upon Radio Liberty, perhaps they will help you work normally, won't they?

I don't assert anything, I'm only asking.

And I'm answering you: I can give my

accounts to Radio Liberty.

You know, it is very important for history. You declare that you do not have any accounts abroad. Very well, history will record this for itself. We are off that, we only ask.

Indeed, history will record. History will put everything in its place: who is who, the role of people, including [your] radio station.



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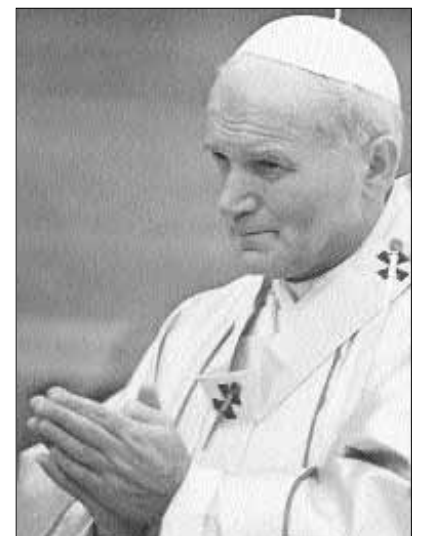
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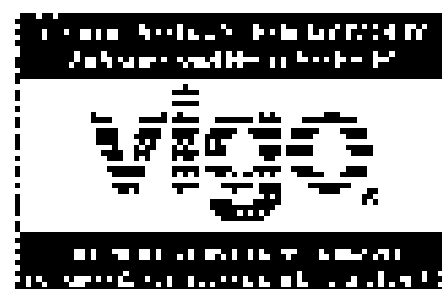
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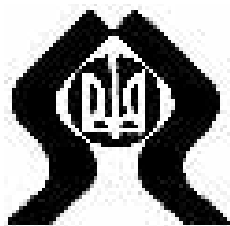
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Let us be those people...

(Continued from page 6)

ments. He made of us a new people – a new Israel that glorifies the Heavenly Father in spirit and truth.

Let us also remember that Christ's Resurrection is bound with His sufferings and death. Without death there would be no resurrection. The reality comes to us through our liturgical life, which has its genesis with the empty tomb of the Lord in the city of Jerusalem, the empty tomb from which the myrrh-bearing women and we learned of the good news, "He is not here, He is risen!"

We appeal to you to be those people who preach the word of the truth of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who sanctified and renewed us and invites us to a most intimate union with Him. We embrace you in the joy of this feast of new life – the Passover of the Lord – and our brethren in ancestral Ukraine on this 10th anniversary of independence. We lament the religious and economic difficulties that have befallen them, but since we know that a firm

spiritual foundation is the guarantee of a complete renaissance, we appeal to the risen Christ with this brief prayer: Savior of the world and King of the new creation, lift our minds and hearts to Your kingdom.

Bestowing upon all of you the blessing of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we assure you, the archpastors, pastors and our devout brethren in Ukraine, of our continual love and prayers, and request your prayers.

Your servants in the risen Lord:

† **Wasyly**, Metropolitan
† **Constantine**, Metropolitan
† **John**, Archbishop
† **Antony**, Archbishop
† **Vsevolod**, Archbishop
† **Ioan**, Archbishop
† **Yurij**, Bishop
† **Jeremiah**, Bishop

*Given in South Bound Brook, N.J.;
Winnipeg, Canada; London, England;
Canberra, Australia; and Curitiba, Brazil;
on the feast of Our Lord's resurrection,
April 15 in the 2001st year from the Nativity
of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ.*

We are blessed...

(Continued from page 6)

love will really make us happy. Perhaps we still prefer our own beatitudes to those of Jesus.

In the eighth chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus raises this very point with those opposed to His teachings. He tells them that they are not free, and they insist that Jesus is wrong. Jesus tells them they are not free because their real tyrants are not outside, rather inside them. They are enslaved by the attitudes that rule their feelings, relationships, actions and reactions. It is so difficult for us to give up our own plans, dreams and formulas for happiness. It takes a lot of faith to leave our comfort zones and journey into the unknown.

All along, Jesus had been telling the Apostles that God is love. But they had never experienced the kind of unconditional love that never quits, that never gives up. When the Risen Christ appeared to them and said, "Peace be with you!" the Apostles realized what love really means. And the Risen Christ comes after you today and every day with that same unconditional love.

We, your chief shepherds of our Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States, invite our clergy, religious and faithful to be Easter people; to be people of hope. We have been blessed as were the Apostles, with the peace and presence of the Risen Christ. We share in the command given to the Apostles to go out into the world to proclaim the Good News. Let us not be slow to respond! Let us not be reluctant to challenge our way of understanding and doing things. Let us be zealous in our prayer and worship. Let us be sincere in our love for the Risen Christ and for one another. Let us be empty in our love for our Church and be eager to serve.

Christ is risen! Indeed, He is risen, for He is among us!

† **Stephan**
Metropolitan-Archbishop

† **Basil**
Eparch of Stamford

† **Michael**
Apostolic Administrator of St.
Nicholas Eparchy

† **Robert**
Eparch of St. Josaphat's Diocese

CHICAGO, IL, DISTRICT COMMITTEE

of the

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

announces that its

ANNUAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2001, at 12:00 noon

**at the Ukrainian Cultural Center
2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, Ill.**

Obligated to attend the annual meeting as voting members are District Committee Officers, Convention Delegates and two delegates from the following Branches:

**17, 22, 114, 125, 131, 139, 157, 176, 220, 221, 259,
379, 399, 423, 452, 472**

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:

**Stefko Kuropas – UNA Vice-President
Stepan Kuropas, Dr. Myron Kuropas, Helen Olek-Scott
Honorary members of UNA General Assembly**

DISTRICT COMMITTEE

**Stefko Kuropas, District Chairman
Andrij Skyba, Secretary
Bohdan Kukuruza, Treasurer
Stepan Kuropas, Honorary District Chairman**

COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Hartford community center honors activist



HARTFORD, Conn. – Members of the board of directors of the Ukrainian National Home of Hartford are seen above with Antin Nakonecznyj, who was honored for 50 years of service to the community center. Some 150 persons attended the testimonial on Sunday, March 18.

Khrestonostsi celebrate 55th anniversary



NEW YORK – The New York branch of the Orden Khrestonostsiv Plast fraternity recently commemorated the fraternity's 55th anniversary at the New York City Plast headquarters. Members of the unit, whose patron is Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, are active as Plast counselors and leaders in the United States, Canada and Ukraine. At their March 17 meeting, fraternity members agreed to fund scholarships for Ukrainian students at the Lviv Theological Academy, whose rector, the Rev. Borys Gudziak, is a member of Orden Khrestonostsiv.



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Details:

- Please submit your application by May 1, 2001.
- Non-U.S. citizens must have a Green Card or Employment Authorization.
- Preference will be given to those who are able to come early in June and stay through Labor Day.
- You must be a UNA member in order to work at Soyuzivka. If you are not a member, please contact Mrs. Martha Lysko, UNA National Secretary, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.
- Knowledge of the Ukrainian language is preferred, but not required.
- Housing is provided if needed. Housing conditions are dorm-like. There is always someone to socialize with!
- It is highly recommended that you are at least 18 years old during time of employment. For those under 18 wanting to live on premises, we must have a signed release from parents or guardians.
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COMMITTEE TO HELP THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. NORBERT IN KRAKOW

Committee To Help Ukrainian Catholic Church of St. Norbert in Krakow wishes to express its gratitude to all donors who in the year 2000 generously contributed towards the restoration of Ukrainian Catholic Church of St. Norbert in Krakow: His Excellency Bishop Robert Moskal and the Diocese of St. Josaphat in Parma, OH, for a generous gift of \$4,184.75, and the individual donors:

Burbela K. Marion	\$100.00	Rev. Deac. Malachowskyj Jurij	\$100.00
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Kokorudz Melania	\$50.00	Ukr. Cand. Soc. Services	\$72.00*
Laba Olha	\$50.00	Wolczuk Roman	\$40.00
Dr. Lencyk Vasyl	\$100.00	Total for year 2000	\$9,141.75

On behalf of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of St. Norbert and its Parish we express our deep gratitude.

For the Committee To Help the Ukrainian Catholic Church of St. Norbert in Krakow

Dr. Vasyl Lencyk President	Lidia Szuchewycz Lencyk Secretary	Dr. Lev Dobrianskyj Treasurer
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* The donation of Ukrainian Social Service Branch of Thunder Bay was 100 Canadian dollars which was exchanged into \$72.00 (U.S.)

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PACE monitor's...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukrainian deputies."

He named National Deputy Serhii Holovaty, a leading member of the Ukrainian delegation to PACE as well as an organizer of the anti-Kuchma opposition in Ukraine, as the person responsible for convincing the monitoring committee to issue such a scathing recommendation. Mr. Holovaty declined to comment for this report.

President Kuchma called on national deputies to stop dragging their feet on approving a normative foundation for the country and approve the various legal codes. "This concerns Ukraine's prestige and its image abroad," said the president.

Ukrainian lawmakers expressed surprise that Ms. Severinsen would lead the monitoring committee to call for suspension on the same day the Verkhovna Rada was passing a monumental new Criminal Code and preparing for a final reading of new codes on criminal and civil procedure.

Viktor Medvedchuk, the first vice-chair-

man of the Verkhovna Rada, called the action "radical," but maintained that the Ukrainian Parliament would continue to strive to meet its obligations before PACE.

National Deputy Yurii Karmazyn, chairman of the parliamentary Committee on Corruption and Organized Crime, also took issue with the decision.

"Ukraine has just begun to enter the European jurisprudence system. It is a bit early to be preparing to expel it," he explained.

Meanwhile, the chief justice of Ukraine's Supreme Court, Vitalii Boiko, asserted that, "to a great extent we are fulfilling our obligations."

Ms. Severinsen, who compiled her report based on a three-day visit to Ukraine in the last days of March, which included a meeting with the recently jailed and now released former Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and people associated with the Gongadze affair and the tape scandal, said it is possible that the CE committee of ministers could reject the recommendation of her committee in favor of a strong admonishment.

Embrace...

(Continued from page 7)

years. During those years countless debates have taken place, articles have been written and ideas exchanged with regard to these by-laws. We cannot wait any longer.

By enacting the by-laws changes now, UNA branches can begin immediately to recruit local candidates to run for our new Board of Trustees. Thus, when we arrive at the convention in Chicago next May, we can be prepared with a group of well-qualified candidates who are willing to accept the responsibility of service. On the other hand, if we were to wait until the next convention to consider these changes, we would walk into that convention not knowing what offices were up for election. Not only would we not know who was running, we would not know what offices they would be running for. Clearly, then, we'd need to wait four additional years for the changes to take effect. And we can't afford that wait.

7. Didn't the General Assembly vote down these changes?

No, they did not. At our last General Assembly meeting, we discussed whether to recommend to the UNA Delegates to vote for the changes. We decided to remain neutral on the issue - to let the delegates make up their own mind. (For the record, I disagreed with this decision.)

The important point here is that the General Assembly did not vote on the merits of the proposed changes. They only voted to remain neutral. In fact, no one - not even Dr. Myron Kuropas - spoke against the changes at that General Assembly meeting. (Dr. Kuropas said he

was "undecided" at the time.)

Our new By-Laws have the support of President Ulana Diachuk, Secretary Martha Lysko, and a large number of auditors and advisors. It is my opinion that, if a vote were taken within the General Assembly on the merits of the changes, the changes would pass.

8. Enough already. Why are we going through all this trouble?

We are going through this trouble because our current system, while it has served us well in the past, cannot carry us into the future.

Before voting against the proposed changes, consider the alternative. This should be easy to do, because the alternative was glaringly apparent at the 1998 UNA Convention in Toronto. At that convention, delegates did not even know who was running for president until the voting actually started. A delegate from the floor had to demand that candidates declare themselves for various offices, and only then were individuals forced to tip their hand with respect to the office for which they wished to run. Then the games really began - flyers, lists, deals and the like. Great fun, perhaps for some. And perhaps it's the only way to pick boards and assemblies. But it certainly is no way to pick a full-time executive team. And it certainly is not in the fraternal spirit.

In sum, it is time to embrace reform. It is time to embrace change - for change will be upon us, whether we like it or not. The Ukrainian National Association enjoys an illustrious history, a history that is worthy of deep respect. In my opinion, the most effective way to demonstrate our respect for the UNA's past is to prepare it for the future. This is why I again ask you to support the proposed changes to our by-laws.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 28)

parking is available in the rear of the building off Arlington Ridge Road. Performance begins at 7 p.m. For more information contact Chrystia Sonevtsky, (707) 241-1817.

Friday, April 27

NEW YORK: The Mayana Gallery invites the public to "Sacred Spring," an exhibit featuring original artwork and reproductions that reflect themes from the Ukrainian rite of spring. The Ukrainian Art and Literary Club opens the exhibit with an evening titled "Polissia - Land of the Ancient Dreviany," dedicated to the 15th anniversary of the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl. Dr. Raisa Zakharchuk-Chuhai, art historian, Ukrainian National Academy of Sciences, will report on "Historico-Ethnographic Expeditions in the Chernobyl Area (1994-1999)." Mariana Sadovska, actress and singer from Ukraine, currently Yara artist-in-residence, will give a performance of folk songs from Polissia. Donation: \$7. The event will take place at 7 p.m. at the Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave., fourth floor. For more information call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144. Website: www.brama.com/mayana; e-mail: ukrartlitclub@aol.com.

Saturday, April 28

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America Metro chapter will hold its general meeting at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. (corner of Fifth Avenue) at 5 p.m. Agenda will include election of officers and review of proposed chapter activities. Refreshments will follow. For further information call Dr. Lesia Kushnir, (860) 567-0490, or e-mail tadsend@attglobal.net.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Saturday, May 5

CLEVELAND: The Ukrainian Bandurist

Chorus (UBC), conducted by Oleh Mahlay, will present a "Concert of Sacred Music" at Holy Family Catholic Church of Parma, Ohio, at 8 p.m. (Holy Family is located at 7367 York Road, near Pleasant Valley). The concert, part of a sacred music series, will feature the mystical sounds of Eastern Europe's finest church music, including works by Berezovsky, Dyletsky and Bortniansky, along with the sounds of the bandura. Admission: free-will offering. For more information call (440) 915-4127 or visit the website: www.bandura.org.

Sunday, May 6

HAMDEN, Conn.: The Hamden Arts Commission presents a celebration of Slavic choral music with a concert featuring the Yevshan Ukrainian Vocal Ensemble, Alexander Kuzma, music director, and the Yale Womens' Slavic Chorus in performance at Thornton Wilder Hall, Miller Cultural Complex, 2901 Dixwell Ave., at 2 p.m. Admission: \$5; \$4, seniors/children. For additional information call Mimsi Coleman, (203) 287-2546.

Wednesday-Sunday, June 20-24

PHOENIX, Ariz.: The 36th Scientific Convention and the 29th Assembly of Delegates of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) will take place at the Arizona Biltmore Resort and Spa in Phoenix. A continuing medical education course will be presented for physicians, with Category I credit applied for attendance. The hotel, dubbed the "Jewel of the Desert," is characterized as having Frank Lloyd Wright-influenced design; it offers many activities for both adventuresome and sedate travelers. All interested medical professionals and their families are invited to attend. Deadline: May 1. For more information, call 1-888-RX-UMANA.

"Three Generations..."

(Continued from page 15)

nified and painted with precise scientific detail. Dr. Darewych explains that these insect renderings "represent a synthesis of icon traditions, scientific observation and contemporary pictorial concerns." She believes that they are Cholodny the younger's greatest achievement and "inventive contribution to art generally and to Ukrainian art specifically."

The art of Mr. Charyna has evolved through various stages, during which he identified with realism, cubism and the abstract. He paints figures and still life compositions, as well as portraits. There is much psychological content in his work, and personal speculations about

life. His paintings propose an element of disquiet; they are enigmatic and mysterious. They are also powerfully enticing.

"To follow in the footsteps of a famous parent such as Petro Cholodny the elder is never easy," writes Dr. Darewych. "To find your own artistic path is even harder. Nonetheless, there can be no doubt that Petro Cholodny the younger succeeded, and that Andrew Charyna also has found his own creative identity."

This exhibition will be on view through September. The Ukrainian Museum is located at 203 Second Ave. in New York City. Telephone (212) 228-0110; fax, (212) 228-1947; e-mail, info@ukrainianmuseum.org; webpage: www.ukrainianmuseum.org. Visiting hours: 1-5 p.m.

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TO THE DELEGATES OF THE 34th UNA CONVENTION AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

In March you received a ballot regarding the UNA By-Laws changes. Please be reminded that all ballots must be returned by May 1, 2001, in order to be counted.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, April 20

NEW YORK: A Ukrainian literary evening – “A Hundred Years of Youth: A Celebration of Ukrainian Poetry and Literature in Translation,” will be held at the Harriman Institute at Columbia University, Room 1219, International Affairs Building, at 4 p.m. Taking part in the reading will be Ukrainian poets and writers and their translators to celebrate the Ukrainian word in English translation and especially the appearance of the anthology “A Hundred Years of Youth: A Bilingual Anthology of 20th Century Ukrainian Poetry.” Master of ceremonies for the event will be Prof. Vitaly Chernetsky, Harriman Institute, one of the translators in the anthology. A partial list of participants includes: Prof. Michael Naydan (co-editor of the anthology), Ukrainian poet and prose writer Yuri Andrukhovych, translators Viriana Tkacz and Wanda Phipps, poet and translator Bohdan Boychuk, Ukrainian poet Vasyl Makhno, translators James Brasfield and Larissa Onyshkevych, and actor and reader Michael Bernosky who will also perform a few of his popular scenes from Mr. Andrukhovych’s novel “Perverzion.” Several other poets and writers are expected to attend. The event is free and open to the general public.

Saturday, April 21

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society will hold a presentation of two books by Prof. Taras Hunczak of the history department at Rutgers University: “On the Horns of a Dilemma: The Story of the Ukrainian Division Halychyna” and “Russian Imperialism from Ivan the Great to the Revolution.” Participating in the program will be Prof. Wolodymyr Stojko, editor, The Ukrainian Quarterly. The presentation will be held at the society’s building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets), at 5 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

Monday, April 23

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) will present a lecture by Dr. Roman Szporluk professor of history and director, HURI, titled “Nineteenth Century Ukraine: Regional Diversity and Periodization.” The lecture will be held in the institute seminar room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m. For more information call the institute, (617) 495-4053.

ARLINGTON, Va.: The Washington Group Cultural Fund, in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine, presents New York City Opera diva Oksana Krovvyska, soprano, and Volodymyr Vynnytsky, pianist, at the Rosslyn Spectrum Theater in the last benefit concert of a series to raise funds for Lviv Conservatory musical instruments. The program includes works by Barvinsky, Puccini and Verdi. Suggested donation: \$15. The theater is located at 1611 N. Kent St. (two blocks from Rosslyn Metro Station). Free garage

(Continued on page 27)

REMINDER REGARDING REQUIREMENTS:

There is a **\$10 charge per submission** for listings in Preview of Events. The listing plus payment must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. There is also the option of prepayment for a series of listings.

Listings of **no more than 100 words** (written in Preview format) plus payment should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Information sent by fax should include a copy of a check, in the amount of \$10 per listing, made out to The Ukrainian Weekly. The Weekly’s fax number is (973) 644-9510.

10 ПОКИВ НЕЗАЛЕЖНОСТІ

TOUR I
Aug. 10 - 25

LVIV (3)
Lv. FRANKIVSK/Vaporska (3)
KHORNYK/Karjanets Protsky (1)
ODESA (1)
KHARZON (1)
SYMFEROPOL/Bakhtchisaray (1)
YALTA (2)
KYIV (5)

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TOUR II
Aug. 20 - Sept. 4

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Lviv (1)
Lv. Frankivsk/Vaporska (1)
KHORNYK/Karjanets Protsky (1)
ODESA (1)
Kherson (1)
SYMFEROPOL/Bakhtchisaray (1)
YALTA (2)

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GROUP B
KYIV/KANIV (3)
POLTAVA (2)
CHERKASY/Chyhyryn (2)
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