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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

UNA's 35th Convention elects new leadership for 2002-2006

by Roman Woronowycz

CHICAGO – Meeting in the Windy City over the Memorial Day weekend at its first quadrennial convention of the new century, delegates of the Ukrainian National Association's membership elected Stefan Kaczaraj the new president of the 108-year-old fraternal organization. The 122 official representatives of UNA branches from across the U.S. and Canada, along with 22 members and four honorary members of the General Assembly, made several by-law changes and addressed key issues and concerns, which they believe will set the 108-year-old fraternal organization on strong footing.

Speaking after his election, which was by acclamation, Mr. Kaczaraj expressed optimism about the UNA's future. However, he said it would be necessary to revitalize and re-energize the UNA membership to assure a return to growth.

"I would like to see our membership more united, inspired by the idea of progress and full of the vitality needed for continued growth," said the new UNA president.

Mr. Kaczaraj, who has been UNA treasurer since 1997 and has been associated with the fraternal organization since 1993, was responsible – along with outgoing President Ulana Diachuk – for reducing the hemorrhaging of the UNA's surplus from an annual deficit of \$578,000 in 1998 to \$144,000 last year. He was also instrumental in reorganizing and downsizing the Home Office and making the new building in Parsippany, N.J., profitable.

The delegates also voted on the five other positions that make up the UNA executive committee, as well as three auditors and 11 advisors. They elected Martha Lysko, previously UNA national secretary, to first vice-president; former

(Continued on page 4)



Roma Hadzewycz

The newly elected Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association: (from left) Second Vice-President Eugene Iwanciw, Director for Canada Al Kachkowski, President Stefan Kaczaraj, First Vice-President Martha Lysko, Treasurer Roma Lisovich and National Secretary Christine Kozak.

Following years of neutrality, Ukraine declares bid to join NATO

by Maryna Makhnonos

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – After years of neutrality, Ukraine formally declared its intention to seek membership in NATO when Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko delivered a corresponding message in Brussels on May 29, eliciting both positive and negative reaction among neighboring states.

Mr. Zlenko conveyed President Leonid Kuchma's personal message to NATO Secretary General George Robertson during his two-day working visit to Belgium, according to the Interfax news agency.

The Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine, Yevhen Marchuk, first announced the NATO-directed step in Ukraine's foreign policy after a special meeting on May 23 chaired by President Kuchma.

The event came days after Mr. Kuchma met with Russian President Vladimir Putin in the Black Sea resort city of Sochi, where both officials touched on the NATO theme.

The announcement also came as U.S. President George W. Bush was starting his visit to Russia, where the presidents of both countries concluded historic agreements to cut their nuclear arsenals from 6,000 warheads to 1,700-2,200 deployed

warheads within 10 years and pledged to cooperate in a range of political, economic and strategic areas.

NATO developments continued on May 28 in Rome, where Mr. Putin and the alliance's 19 member-states declared each other partners, ending an era of Cold War antagonism and signing a limited partnership agreement.

The arrangement gave Russia a voice on counterterrorism; the spread of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, missile defense; arms control; peacekeeping; civil defense and search-and-rescue at sea. However, Russia has no veto in NATO's decision-making process.

Ukraine's message about its bid for entrance reached NATO officials before the date originally planned – Mr. Robertson's visit to Kyiv on July 9. Many experts believe the move was prompted by rapprochement between Russia and NATO. The decision to move up the official notification seemed to come in response to the creation of the NATO-Russia Council.

"This [the application's acceleration] is caused by Russia's actions," said the director of the Kyiv-based Institute of Societal Transformation, Oleh Soskin.

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Lytvyn elected to chair Verkhovna Rada

by Maryna Makhnonos

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada elected the former chief of President Leonid Kuchma's administration as its chairman on May 28, following two weeks of harsh debates, and prompting opposition criticism. Of the 309 lawmakers present at the meeting, 226 voted for Volodymyr Lytvyn, which was the minimum number necessary for his election. The remaining 83 deputies ignored the vote.

President Kuchma actively promoted Mr. Lytvyn's candidacy for his leadership of the pro-presidential For a United Ukraine bloc. Mr. Lytvyn, 46, is a professional historian and a career politician. Though the pro-presidential bloc won only about 12 percent of the popular vote, many lawmakers from independent single-mandate districts allied with it, creating the Parliament's largest faction. The Our Ukraine and Communist Party are the second and third largest factions, respectively.

The Kyiv-based International Institute for Humanitarian and Political Research said that the vote clarified the political situation in the parliament, making it "black and white" by splitting the lawmakers into pro-Kuchma and anti-Kuchma camps.

"There is the authorities' party and the Social-Democratic Party (United) on one side, and all the rest is opposition," said

the institute's director, Volodymyr Malenkov. "In principle, this is a temporary step backward for democracy."

The reformist Our Ukraine bloc, the Socialist and Communist parties, and the opposition bloc of ex-Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko left the parliamentary hall to protest Mr. Lytvyn's victory. The four factions had agreed to

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Yaro Bihun

Volodymyr Lytvyn

ANALYSIS

Ukrainian Parliament and public favor NATO accession efforts, as president wavers

by **Taras Kuzio**
RFE/RL Newswire

In the same year that NATO is expected to offer invitations to five to seven countries to join the defense alliance at its summit in Prague this November, Ukraine's foreign policy is hostage to President Leonid Kuchma's isolation in the West and his lack of clear policies and vision. Ukraine is not a member of the group of Baltic, and Central and Southeastern European countries that are openly seeking NATO membership.

Under Foreign Affairs Ministers Hennadii Udovenko and Borys Tarasiuk from 1994 to 2000, Ukraine's foreign policy was unambiguously in favor of integration into trans-Atlantic and European structures (i.e., NATO and the European Union). Messrs. Udovenko and Tarasiuk are, not surprisingly, members of former Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine bloc, the only political force in the Ukrainian Parliament that supports Ukraine applying now for membership of NATO. Other pro-presidential or oligarchic forces do not oppose NATO membership per se, but see it as a future possibility. Only the Communist Party of Ukraine (CPU) opposes NATO membership outright.

Since October 2000, Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko has dropped any reference to integration into "trans-Atlantic" structures. According to him, Ukraine's goal is only to become an associate member of the European Union, a task far harder than joining NATO. However, to join NATO would be easier for Ukraine's executive and oligarchs, as NATO membership does not require the degree of democratization the EU does.

Ukraine's foreign policy increasingly lacks any clear vision, and its continual vacillation between East and West means it is not taken seriously at a time of likely NATO and EU expansion to the East. According to the respected weekly Zerkalo Nedeli/Dzerkalo Tyzhnia, an unambiguous statement by Ukraine this year in support of membership of NATO would be therefore welcomed in Western Europe and the United States as a "bold move." If, as it seems likely, the executive blocks such a move, both Brussels and Washington will continue to be "skeptical about Ukrainian initiatives, as Kyiv cannot seem to make up its mind," the paper concluded.

Ukraine's foreign policy contradicts its stated goal of integration with Europe in four areas.

First, since the "Kuchmagate" scandal in the winter of 2000, the executive and its oligarchic allies have periodically launched anti-American and anti-Western campaigns. These have subsided since the parliamentary election campaign ended, but could be unleashed again at any time. One wonders how anti-American campaigns can be reconciled with the United States being a "strategic partner" of Ukraine? The Ukrainian elites have yet to understand that following September 11, 2001, Ukraine is no longer a central strategic element of U.S. policy in Europe.

Second, at a trilateral meeting of the Russian, Moldovan and Ukrainian presidents in Odesa in March, President Kuchma suggested that Ukraine might consider joining the Russian-led alternative to the European Union, the Eurasian Economic Community (EES). This has since been corrected by the Ukrainian

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Foreign Affairs Ministry, which ruled in favor of the European Union, not the EES, much to the chagrin of Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin, who is still under the mistaken impression that one should assume that President Kuchma always means and acts upon what he says. Mr. Kuchma has now decided that Ukraine will join the EES as an associate member.

Third, since 1999-2000 Ukraine's centrist oligarchs and executive have increasingly adopted the slogan "To Europe with Russia." Volodymyr Lytvyn, head of the presidential administration and the For a United Ukraine election bloc, said in February that, "For a United Ukraine in a united Europe, including Russia, is not only our electoral slogan – this is our deep conviction." The only problem is that since September 11, 2001, Russia is no longer waiting for Ukraine to catch up as it rushes ahead to Europe and NATO.

Ukraine's centrist oligarchs and executive have increasingly adopted the slogan "To Europe with Russia."

Fourth, Ukraine is not a signatory of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Collective Security Treaty, although it did join the CIS Antiterrorism Center and is an associate member of the CIS Air-Defense Agreement. In May, Ukraine attended CIS Collective Security Treaty military exercises only as an observer. Nevertheless, Ukrainian security forces did actually take part in the "South-Anti-Terror 2002" exercises of the CIS Collective Rapid-Response Forces under the aegis of the CIS Anti-Terrorism Center, which is based in Moscow and headed by Lt. Gen. Boris Mylnikov. The blurring of the exercises conducted by the members of the Collective Security Treaty and the Anti-Terrorism Center is a useful ploy by Russia to involve those states which are not signatories of the Collective Security Treaty, such as Ukraine, in military exercises within the CIS under its control.

British expert James Sherr noted that the Security Service and Internal Affairs Ministry, two institutions that were implicated in a variety of malpractices in the "Kuchmagate" scandal, are not oriented toward the West (unlike the Defense Ministry). Former Internal Affairs Minister head Yurii Kravchenko, who was sacked during "Kuchmagate," is the leading candidate to become the new head of the presidential administration.

At a NATO conference this month in Warsaw, former Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Tarasiuk called upon Ukraine to apply for NATO membership at this year's summit. This week, former President Leonid Kravchuk, a member of the oligarchic Social Democratic Party of Ukraine (United), also argued in favor of Ukraine applying. Instead, it will probably be content to merely upgrade its 1997 charter with NATO so that relations "will become even closer," Mr. Zlenko said. This disinterest in membership contradicts favorable interna-

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NEWSBRIEFS

Putin, Robertson hail NATO-Russia pact

BRUSSELS – Speaking at a joint press conference with NATO Secretary-General Lord George Robertson after the May 28 signing of a new Russia-NATO cooperation agreement, President Vladimir Putin stated that "since Russia is returning to the family of civilized countries, it only wants its interests taken into account and its voice heard." Mr. Putin also said that although Russia considers itself a part of Europe, its first priority is relations with the Commonwealth of Independent States and the East. He emphasized that Russia will conduct a balanced policy with both East and West. He then cited Winston Churchill, saying that "Russia was never so strong as it wants to be and never so weak as it is thought to be." Lord Robertson said that without Russia the alliance would be unable to cope with the problems of the new century and to respond to new challenges. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Ukraine's two Communist parties unite

KYIV – During a congress in Kyiv on May 26, the Communist Party of Ukraine, which was registered in July 1991 and headed by Stanislav Hurenko, merged with the Communist Party of Ukraine, which was registered in October 1993 and headed by Petro Symonenko, UNIAN reported. The Verkhovna Rada banned the activity of the Communist Party in August 1991, which prompted Ukraine's Communists to re-register in 1993 under the leadership of Mr. Symonenko. In the meantime, Mr. Hurenko's party continued its activity despite the ban. The Constitutional Court lifted the Verkhovna Rada's ban on the Communist Party in December 2001. The united Communists excluded President Leonid Kuchma, former President Leonid Kravchuk, and former Verkhovna Rada Chairman Ivan Pliusch from their ranks (the three politicians formally remained members of Mr. Hurenko's organization until May 26, 2002). (RFE/RL Newswire)

Bush, Putin define new relationship

MOSCOW – As expected, U.S. President George W. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a treaty on May 24 drastically reducing the strategic nuclear arsenals of each country, Russian and Western news agencies reported. The two presidents also signed a joint declaration on the principles of new strategic relations that states, in part: "We are achieving a new strategic relationship. The era in which the United States and Russia saw each other as an enemy or strategic threat has ended. We are partners and we will cooperate to advance stability, security and economic integration, and to jointly counter

global challenges and to help resolve regional conflicts." Both measures were widely hailed in Russia. "This treaty is a serious achievement of Russian diplomacy. A few months ago, the United States did not want to take on any legal obligations, and it appeared that the whole arms-control regime would disintegrate," Sergei Rogov, director of the Institute of the U.S.A. and Canada, said on ORT. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Ex-security chief denies role in arms deal

KYIV – Leonid Derkach, the former chief of the Security Service of Ukraine, denied on May 22 that he was involved in the illegal sale of radar systems to Iraq, the Associated Press reported. Former presidential bodyguard Mykola Melnychenko said at a briefing organized by RFE/RL in Washington on May 21 that he has audio recordings confirming that Mr. Derkach had contacts with the Iraqi and Iranian governments. Mr. Melnychenko also claimed that Mr. Derkach reported to President Leonid Kuchma about a successful sale of Kolchuha anti-aircraft systems to Iraq. Meanwhile, U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual said in Kharkiv on May 23 that Washington has no proof that "an illegal transfer of weapons from Ukraine to Iraq has taken place." UNIAN reported. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Senate refuses to lift Jackson-Vanik

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Senate on May 22 passed a non-binding resolution calling for permanent normal trade relations with Russia, but stopped short of lifting the Jackson-Vanik restrictions largely because of the lingering dispute over imports of U.S. poultry to Russia, Western and Russian news agencies reported. Sen. Joseph Biden, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who represents a major poultry-producing state, was quoted by Reuters as saying: "I can either be Russia's best friend or worst enemy. They keep fooling around like this, they're going to have me as their enemy." U.S. President George W. Bush had urged the Senate to exempt Russia from the restrictions prior to his summit with President Vladimir Putin this week. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Russia reacts bitterly to resolution

MOSCOW – Russian politicians expressed disappointment on May 23 in response to the U.S. Senate decision on Jackson-Vanik restrictions, Russian news agencies reported. "By citing the controversy over chicken legs, the Democrats have openly acknowledged that Jackson-Vanik does not protect Russian Jews, but

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Ukraine's president lashes out against Cabinet for gaps in Chernobyl financing

by Maryna Makhnonos

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – Following a discussion on the Chernobyl nuclear disaster's aftereffects, with European Commission Chairman Romano Prodi, President Leonid Kuchma lashed out against Ukrainian government officials for gaps in financing Chernobyl-related programs.

At a special meeting on May 16, Mr. Kuchma chastised his Cabinet members for allocating insufficient funds for Chernobyl expenses in the 2002 budget.

Projects at the nuclear power plant – site of the world's worst nuclear disaster – need 42 million hrv (\$8 million), but the budget calls for only 26 million hrv (\$5 million), Mr. Kuchma said.

The budget was approved by the previ-

ous Parliament and it cannot be modified without extraordinary measures.

"Who was thinking, and what they were guided by when they took such responsibility (to cut financing)?," President Kuchma said angrily at the meeting.

Following the 1986 accident at the Chernobyl plant, workers built a concrete-and-steel sarcophagus encasing the damaged fourth reactor. The plant was shut down for good on December 15, 2000. However, disassembly work remains. Experts warn that the nuclear fuel and wastes inside the sarcophagus are at risk of combustion if rain seeps in.

In January-March, Ukraine paid 200 million hrv (\$38 million) to compensate victims of the disaster, but still needs to pay them 300 million hrv (\$56 million), as

(Continued on page 14)

UOC of Moscow Patriarchate opposes UGCC center's move

Religious Information Service of Ukraine

LVIV – The announcement by the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) that it plans to move its center from Lviv to Kyiv has been met with opposition by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP).

The statements of Archbishop Auhustyn of Lviv and Halych (UOC-MP), Andrii Derkach, a national deputy in Ukraine's Parliament, and Kateryna Samoilyk, head of the Ukrainian branch of the International Fund for Unity Among the Orthodox People, were released on March 1 and 4.

"Moving the office of the head of the UGCC from Lviv to Kyiv and creating Catholic eparchies in Russia show that the masks have been finally thrown off. This means returning to the East, about which the Roman Catholics have always spoken" declared Archbishop Auhustyn. "They do not consider us true Christians and perceive the world as their canonical

territory."

The archbishop said the UGCC's plan "is real religious expansionism" and drew an analogy between the acts of Catholics in Ukraine and the behavior of the United States. "At first, the U.S. tried to gain our confidence by declaring that it fought against the Soviet threat, and now it introduces its own rules and establishes its own orders," said the Orthodox archbishop. "In such conditions," he continued, "the Orthodox Church must realize its role of a mother-Church in Ukraine and develop its own conception of service."

According to Archbishop Auhustyn, his parishioners are discriminated against by "Uniate pressure in western Ukraine." The archbishop called upon the general public to protest against the erection of Catholic churches in Kyiv.

National Deputy Derkach, who heads the association of national deputies called "Towards Europe Together with Russia,"

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Los Angeles trial begins for seven charged with smuggling Ukrainians

by Roman Kupchinsky

RFE/RL Crime and Corruption Report

The trial of seven Ukrainian nationals charged with smuggling hundreds of Ukrainians to Los Angeles via Mexico City and Baja Calif., began in Los Angeles on May 8. Some of these illegal aliens were young women who were then sold into prostitution.

"The immigrants paid an initial \$2,500 to get to Mexico City, where they were shuttled to hotels," and then they were told to pay more to enter the United States, the Associated Press reported on May 8. U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California John S. Gordon said a federal grand jury handed down a 22-count indictment on May 17, 2001. In it, 18 defendants are charged with involvement in an international smuggling ring that imported illegal aliens from Ukraine into the United States and sold several female aliens into prostitution, the agency said.

The indictment names Sergey Mezheritsky, 35, of Hollywood as the ringleader of the group's Los Angeles and Mexico operations. Tatiana

Komisaruk, 49, of North Hills was the alleged manager of the smuggling operation.

Six of the defendants are fugitives being sought by federal authorities. They include Valentyna Ivanivna Drozd, the owner of Svit tours in Ukraine, whose company allegedly helped coordinate the transport of aliens to Mexico.

Alleged recruiters for the operation in Ukraine include Yevgeniy Frolov, Elena Kravchenko, and Larisa Palomar.

Ten of the defendants are being charged on a separate count of conspiracy to import and harbor aliens for the purpose of prostitution.

According to the AP report, the investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the U.S. Border Patrol was triggered by a video camera that Border Patrol agents found on a dirt trail near the U.S.-Mexico border in 1999. The tape showed what appeared to be the journey of a family "through Hungary, Mexico City, and up to Tijuana." The defendants face up to 10 years in prison for each smuggled alien.

World Bank and IMF praise Ukraine's economic improvement, promise loans

by Maryna Makhnonos

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – Two missions from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, on working visits to Ukraine's capital this week, praised the Ukrainian economy for relative stability and gave hopes for loans worth \$800 million this year.

Speaking at a news conference on May 21, World Bank Vice-President Johannes Linn praised Ukraine's progress on reforms and exceptional financial growth during the last two years despite worldwide economic troubles.

"The fact that during a worldwide economic recession ... Ukraine has grown at the rates it has grown is extraordinarily encouraging and quite exceptional by world standards," Mr. Linn told journalists.

Ukraine's economic growth was 9 percent last year, and 4.1 percent in January-April compared to the same period of last year. The government forecasts that the GDP will reach 6 percent in the next two years.

World Bank experts predict further economic growth of 4 percent to 6 percent for 2002 due to improvements in agriculture and Ukrainian exports' access to world markets. The IMF has predicted growth of about 5 percent in 2002.

Mr. Linn praised Ukraine for "remarkable progress" in payments of pension and wage arrears, land reform, improvements in the business environment and more transparent privatization.

However, he expressed concern over Ukraine's poor fiscal performance, called for more effective tax collection, restructuring of the state savings bank, and further reforms in the energy sector.

"The World Bank doesn't give us impossible tasks," Economy Minister Oleksander Shlapak said on May 21. "It is about ability to tackle tax arrears."

Government spokesman Serhii Nahorniatskyi said on May 20 that the World Bank mission is expected to propose that the bank's board of directors release a loan to Ukraine in one \$250 million installment instead of dividing it

into separate tranches this fall.

"The mission's main conclusion is that Ukrainian economic improvements are stable and serious," Mr. Nahorniatskyi said after Mr. Linn's meeting with Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh.

Besides meetings with top government officials and President Leonid Kuchma, the World Bank team on May 21 unveiled the \$288,000 Dialogue for Reform project aimed at strengthening cooperation between the government and the public sector.

Before departing on May 22, Mr. Linn also visited the Khmelnytskyi region, 350 kilometers (215 miles) southeast of Kyiv, to review pilot social projects sponsored by the bank.

Meanwhile, the IMF mission said on May 22 that it may propose to the fund's managerial meeting in July that it provide Ukraine a \$550 million loan.

The loan decision may be positive if Ukraine reaches its budget targets and pays off value-added-tax arrears to companies.

The loan is the last disbursement of the IMF's 1998 lending program, which ends this year. Before the talks started, Mr. Kinakh said on May 16 that the loan is not the government's top priority, because the economy is stable. He said his government seeks a new relationship with the IMF that is not based on loans, but on equal partnership.

Relying on Ukrainian stable economic policy, the mission said that the IMF is going to continue cooperation with Ukraine regardless of its government team.

The IMF halted its \$ 2.6 billion lending program in 1999 due to slow reforms, but resumed lending late in 2000 after the reformist government of former central banker Viktor Yushchenko came to power. The World Bank, which coordinates its policy with the IMF, has loaned more than \$3 billion to Ukraine since 1992.

The parliament dismissed Mr. Yushchenko in 2001, criticizing his policies. Mr. Kinakh pledged to continue reforms, but despite economic improvements at a macro level, many Ukrainians continue to live below the poverty line with an average wage of a meager \$62 per month and lower pensions.

Quotable notes

"We're quite a distance away from starting Ukraine on the formal process toward [NATO] membership."

– U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell on May 26 in St. Petersburg, Russia, speaking in response to Kyiv's announcement to seek NATO membership.

U.S. State Department revises fees for consular services

U.S. Embassy

KYIV – The U.S. Department of State has revised fees for consular services provided by American Embassies and consulates overseas. The new fees will take effect June 1.

The visa application fee will increase to \$65 (from \$45.) The immigrant visa application fee will rise to \$335 (from \$325). Fees for various services to American citizens living overseas also will increase.

At the same time, fees for issuing visas in Ukraine will decrease. Beginning June 1 the issuance fee for a single-entry visa (tourist and business) will decrease to \$10 (from \$30). The double-entry visa fee will decrease to \$40 (from \$60). The

fee for a multiple-entry visa valid for three years will decrease to \$100 (from \$120). Thus, the overall cost of U.S. visas for Ukrainians will remain the same.

The State Department is required by U.S. regulations and law to recover the costs of most consular services through fees and periodically adjusts them to comply with the law. The last major revision of consular service fees was in 1998.

The new fees reflect the cost of providing consular services in 2002. They also are essential to maintaining and improving high-quality customer service while taking advantage of advances in information technology, and enhancing security features of services related to homeland security.

UNA's 35th Convention...

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Advisor Eugene Iwanciw, who headed the UNA's Washington Office before it was closed in 1995, as second vice-president; Roma Lisovych as treasurer; and Christine Kozak, an employee of the Home Office, as national secretary. All were chosen by acclamation as well.

During five days of sometimes strained deliberations, the delegates approved several key changes to the UNA's By-Laws, including reducing the number of General Assembly advisors from 14 to 11 and the Auditing Committee from five to three. In addition, they approved a proposal to move forward a plan to search for investors to develop and share the running of the Soyuzivka estate owned by the UNA and decided to create a standing committee to further evaluate and decide the fate of the UNA's current presence in Canada.

The convention opened on May 24 in the main ballroom of the Marriott O'Hare Hotel with greetings by outgoing President Ulana Diachuk in which she emphasized that the convention faced several critical issues and tough decisions.

"New times and new circumstances demand our action," explained Mrs. Diachuk. "Some of the decisions we will be asked to make will come to us only with a heavy heart, but, as in the past, they will be necessary for the future existence and growth of our society."

Mrs. Diachuk will retire with the end of her term after 12 years as president, which was preceded by an 18-year term as treasurer. She has been with the UNA's Home Office for a total of 52 years.

The chairman of the Chicago Convention Committee, a long-time UNA activist and former vice-president, Dr. Myron Kuropas, told the convention that the UNA must begin thinking in terms of "revival and not survival."

After the singing of three national anthems (American, Canadian and Ukrainian), invocations by Archbishop Vsevolod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and the Rev. Myron Panchuk, standing in for Ukrainian Catholic Bishop Michael Wiwchar, Ukraine's Consul General in Chicago Borys Bazylevsky read a greeting from President Leonid Kuchma. At 9:45 a.m. Mrs. Diachuk convened the proceedings.

Even before the credentials committee had a chance to certify the number of officially registered delegates on hand, a flurry of motions came quickly from the floor on the election of the convention presidium. That resolved, the process began, which resulted in the election of Nestor Olesnycky, a former UNA vice-president,



Roma Hadzewycz

UNA conventioners on the Chicago waterfront.

as chairman of the convention, and Mr. Iwanciw and Zenon Holubec as vice-chairmen. Next came the election of individuals to fill the seats on convention committees, specifically the elections, petitions, resolutions, press and secretaries committees.

Among the several guests that addressed the convention was the president and chief executive officer of the National Fraternal Congress of America, Frederick Grubbe. Mr. Grubbe said that while fraternal associations in the U.S. are currently experiencing hard times, they are confronted with much opportunity as well.

"Fraternal organizations are at a crossroads, I call it our renaissance," said Mr. Grubbe, who explained that difficult times are the moments when new ideas and strategies could be introduced and utilized.

Another guest, Robert E. Bruce of the actuarial firm Bruce and Bruce, told the delegates that the UNA's financial picture looks good and represents "a solid position." He noted that the UNA today has a \$7 million surplus on assets valued at \$63 million. Mr. Bruce explained that the UNA has a 112 percent solvency ratio, which indicates a \$12 surplus on each \$100 of liability, a figure much better than the 105 percent solvency ratio of commercial firms. He explained that he is bullish on the UNA's future, commenting, "You will continue to make a profit."

By-laws proposals

It was when the convention turned to

consideration of proposed by-laws changes, that the first of the difficult issues of which Mrs. Diachuk had spoken arose. The first by-laws change was a proposal to curtail the number of General Assembly positions. While a consensus existed that the number of auditors should be reduced from five to three, much debate developed on other aspects of the proposed change, chiefly on the need for a director for Canada and a second vice-president, and whether the number of advisors should be reduced from 14 to 7.

The issue of the Canadian director was connected to the larger question of whether the UNA presence in Canada should be liquidated, and it was decided that the two issues would be reviewed jointly later in the convention. The rest of the discussion centered on whether reducing the executive committee from six to four members would leave too much power concentrated in the hands of those officers who work in the Home Office and on whether cutting seven advisor posts out of the current 14 would not be too drastic a reduction of the UNA presence in the broader Ukrainian community. After some debate, a compromise proposal was suggested that reduced the number of advisors from 14 to 11, and made mandatory that only one of them be a Canadian, where previously two were required. In the end, that change and the reduction of auditors from five to three were the only parts of the proposal approved.

The delegates also approved a change that limited UNA employees to election to full-time paid executive positions (that is, they cannot simultaneously be employees and unpaid members of the General Assembly). In addition they agreed on a proposal that made it mandatory for the convention's By-Laws Committee to meet at least a day prior to the beginning of the convention and not a week, as had been required previously. The convention body agreed, as well, on a proposal that would obligate each advisor to organize members, stay in contact with branches and districts, and belong to at least one standing committee of the General Assembly. Finally, it overwhelmingly supported an amendment to the by-laws that removed section 37, which had allowed the executive committee to have the final say on which proposals are presented for consideration to conventions.

Soyuzivka's future

A portion of the second day was dedicated to discussing the precarious financial position of Soyuzivka, which this year marks its 50th anniversary. Currently the resort, located in the Catskill region of upstate New York, is losing more than \$500,000 annually and is in need of extensive renovation to bring it to current indus-

try standards.

Mr. Kaczaraj said the deficit was sufficiently serious to be a danger to the UNA's well-being and said that within a year an authoritative decision must be made on whether it would be viable to save Soyuzivka and how that would be done, or whether to seriously consider selling the property. A special standing committee established two years ago had worked with consultants to develop a proposal for saving the resort that was presented to delegates.

The project, prepared by The Management Consortium, DiGiuseppe Architects and Mark Daymon, C.P.A., envisions a multi-faceted reorganization of the estate, which would allow for investors to take an interest in the property with management and development rights and allow Soyuzivka to receive at least \$8 million for a facelift and modernization program.

"Soyuzivka must be redesigned, renovated, rejuvenated, reinvented, recharged and rediscovered," explained John A. Flis, Soyuzivka's manager. "It needs an infusion of capital, it must operate like a business, not like a mom-and-pop shop."

The project, which as presented would allow non-Ukrainians and non-UNA'ers to enjoy the resort, would give the resort extensive spa facilities. It would include the modernization of rooms and buildings and the expansion of the Main House, as well as development of conference rooms, additional facilities for the children's camp area, an updated kitchen, a larger dining room and a weatherproof dome over the tennis and volleyball courts.

Both the consultants and Mr. Flis emphasized that the Ukrainian culture and traditions could be retained because the resort's Ukrainian aspect would be a centerpiece of the marketing plan. As David Schwartz of The Management Consortium explained, the goal is "to minimize the subsidy by the UNA and to maximize the Ukrainian aspect."

After some debate, during which a consensus seemed to develop that the best alternative would be to find a Ukrainian partner to invest to keep the treasured asset entirely within the hands of the Ukrainian community, a decision was made that a new Soyuzivka Redevelopment Committee should continue to work for another year on other alternatives, after which it was to make a final recommendation to the Executive Committee.

UNA-UFA merger

An unexpected controversy arose on the convention's fourth day regarding the merger of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association with the UNA, an effort that has been under

(Continued on page 5)

The new General Assembly: a succinct profile of its members

Newcomers to the General Assembly: National Secretary Christine Kozak, Treasurer Roma Lisovich, Auditor Zenon Holubec, and Advisors Osyp Hawryluk, Myron Pylypiak, Paul Prinko and Michael Kuropas.

Returning after hiatus: Former Advisor Eugene Iwanciw as second vice-president and former Advisor Wasyl Liscynsky as advisor.

Returning in different capacities: National Secretary Martha Lysko as first vice-president, Treasurer Stefan Kaczaraj as president, Auditors Stefan Hawrysz and Myron Groch as advisors, and Advisor Al Kachkowski as director for Canada.

Remaining in the same positions: Auditors Alexander Serafyn and Yaroslav Zaviysky, and Advisors Vasyl Luchkiv, Eugene Oscislawski, Barbara Bachynsky and Andrij Skyba.

Not returning: President Ulana Diachuk, First Vice-President Stefko Kuropas, Second Vice-President Anya Dydyk-Petrenko, Director for Canada Rev. Myron Stasiw, Auditor William Pastuszek, and Advisors Taras Szmagala, Alex Chudolij, Tekla Moroz, Halyna Kolessa, Nick Diakiwsky, Wasyl Szeremeta, Stephanie Hawryluk, Andre Worobec and Roma Hadzewycz.

THE UNA GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR 2002-2006

Below are the complete results of both the primary elections and the final balloting for offices on the UNA General Assembly. The names of candidates for office appear in the first column; the results of the primary – conducted as a write-in poll – appear in the second column; the final vote tallies are given in the third column. After the results of the primary were announced, no more than three candidates could run for each seat (i.e., three persons could run for each of the executive officers' positions; 9 candidates could run for the three auditors' slots; 33 candidates could run for the 11 advisors' posts). The names of officers elected in the final balloting appear in bold. The name of the candidate elected to fulfill the UNA By-Laws requirements guaranteeing Canadian representation via one advisor is followed by an asterisk. Officers who ran unopposed in the final elections are considered to have won by acclamation.

OFFICE / CANDIDATE	PRIMARY	FINAL	OFFICE / CANDIDATE	PRIMARY	FINAL
PRESIDENT			Christine Kozak	5	
Stefan Kaczaraj	112	ACCLAMATION	Stefan Kaczaraj	3	
Roma Hadzewycz	34		Al Kachkowski	1	
Andrij Skyba	1		AUDITORS		
Roman Pyndus	1		Zenon Holubec	85	100
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT			Alexander Serafyn	74	98
Martha Lysko	97	ACCLAMATION	Yaroslav Zaviysky	70	95
Andrij Skyba	28		Wasył Szeremeta	56	82
Eugene Iwanciw	14		Michael Kuropas	42	
Anya Dydyk-Petrenko	3		Stefan Hawrysz	31	
Roma Hadzewycz	2		Michael Sawkiw	25	
Stefko Kuropas	1		Eugene Iwanciw	11	
Al Kachkowski	1		Myron Groch	3	
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT			Andre Worobec	1	
Anya Dydyk-Petrenko	47		Roman Kuropas	1	
Eugene Iwanciw	43	ACCLAMATION	Gloria Horbaty	1	
Andrij Skyba	13		William Pastuszek	1	
Martha Lysko	8		Nicholas Fil	1	
Christine Kozak	1		ADVISORS		
Myron Groch	1		Eugene Oscislawski	100	131
DIRECTOR FOR CANADA			Osyp Hawryluk	87	113
Al Kachkowski	94	ACCLAMATION	Vasyl Luchkiw	87	108
Christine Kozak	3		Barbara Bachynsky	80	88
Rev. Myron Stasiw	2		Nicholas Fil	75	78
Myron Groch	2		Myron Pylypiak	73	103
Roma Lisovich	1		Myron Groch*	71	74
Martha Lysko	1		Stefan Hawrysz	70	109
Maria Dolnycky	1		Wasył Liscytsky	57	88
NATIONAL SECRETARY			Oksana Trytjak	56	
Christine Kozak	130	ACCLAMATION	Tekla Moroz	56	
Roma Lisovich	6		Ihor Hayda	47	
Al Kachkowski	3		Alex Chudolij	42	
Martha Lysko	1		Andrij Skyba	41	86
TREASURER			Motria Milanytch	38	
Roma Lisovich	120	ACCLAMATION	Myron Luszczyk	32	56
			Paul Prinko	32	86
			Gloria Horbaty	32	82
			Michael Kuropas	32	84
			Wasył Szeremeta	28	
			Jane Jaremus	27	71
			Andre Worobec	26	
			Eugene Iwanciw	14	
			Anna Burij	11	
			Al Kachkowski	5	
			Stephania Hawryluk	5	
			Yaroslav Zaviysky	4	
			Taras Szmagala Jr.	3	
			Yuri Darmograj	3	
			Roman Kuropas	3	
			Nick Diakiwsky	3	
			Halyna Kolessa	3	

UNA's 35th Convention...

(Continued from page 4)

consideration for years and was close to a final agreement before being placed on the back burner over a disagreement on a name change demanded by the UFA. Things seemed to have changed in early April, when Mrs. Diachuk received a letter from UFA President Ivan Oleksyn in which he proposed that talks be resumed.

However, an unannounced visit by UFA Supreme Council Member Mykola Domashevsky confused matters, when what was presumed to be a simple greeting by him became an apparent policy statement. After extending greetings to the UNA Convention on behalf of the UFA, Mr. Domashevsky told the delegates that he sees no reason for a merger. He explained that he believes there are sufficient numbers of Fourth Wave immigrants and even earlier-generation Ukrainians in the U.S. who can be enrolled, allowing both fraternal organizations to thrive.

Presence in Canada

Another thorny issue addressed by the delegates was whether "Batko Soyuz" should retain a presence in Canada. And while the issue wasn't formally raised until the final day of the convention, it ran as an undercurrent throughout it, beginning on the first day when the continued need for the executive position of director for Canada was considered.

The UNA has been losing membership

in Canada since 1978 when membership reached 10,000. Since then it has fallen to 1,207 paid-up and 1,615 premium-paying members, a fact noted by National Secretary Martha Lysko during debate on the issue. She added that the Canadian business climate for U.S. fraternal societies and insurance companies had worsened, with Canadian insurance regulators putting pressure on them to either increase their percentage of Canadian business or consider leaving the market.

During the formal discussion later in the convention, Mrs. Diachuk explained that the pressure which has been felt for several years had abated after the UNA had reached preliminary agreement with the UFA on a merger and had informed Canadian regulators of the situation. With that move cancelled by the UFA, however, Canada is now asking the UNA for a five-year plan and growth projections in Canada.

"If we give them realistic five-year projections, it will not be very convincing," explained Mrs. Diachuk.

Mrs. Diachuk said Canada could eventually force the UNA out anyway and that viable alternatives must be developed for taking care of the membership still existing there, including: having the Canadian UNA membership incorporated into U.S. branches or the Home Office and have all memberships, new and old, turned into U.S. dollar value; selling UNA Canadian policies and completely leaving the country; or, submitting a five-year plan with the hope that it will be accepted by the regulators.

The new director for Canada, Al



The outgoing executive team from the Home Office: (from left) Martha Lysko, Stefan Kaczaraj and Ulana Diachuk.

Kachkowski, told the delegates that, in his view, making Canadians become U.S. members would lead to the end of the UNA in Canada.

"I believe that turning to U.S. dollars would result in a drastic cashing in of policies," he explained. He said he favored going ahead with a five-year plan and organizing a vigorous effort to develop growth in Canada.

The delegates eventually decided on a two-year moratorium on a decision, dur-

ing which time Mr. Kachkowski would attempt a membership drive and a standing committee of advisors would be formed to track the matter and develop a strategy.

General Assembly reports

While giving the president's report on the last four years of UNA activity, Mrs. Diachuk stated that the fraternal organization must diligently and carefully decide its

(Continued on page 21)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The UNA: renewal and rebirth

The Ukrainian National Association's 35th Regular Convention (that's to differentiate from the Extraordinary Conventions that, in accordance with the UNA By-Laws, can be convened when necessary) is now history. A total of 122 delegates, 22 members and four honorary members of the General Assembly participated in the convention, which is held every four years. This time – and only for the second time in the UNA's 108-year history – the convention was held in the beautiful and unique city of Chicago, home to a vibrant and growing Ukrainian community. Commendations go to the Chicago Convention Committee for seeing to it that all delegates had an opportunity to enjoy this wonderful city and become acquainted with its people.

It was a landmark convention to be sure. Not only was it the first convention of the new century and the new millennium, as outgoing President Ulana Diachuk noted in her opening address, but it was also the first time that anyone can recall that the entire Executive Committee was elected by acclamation. It was also a convention that radically changed the composition of the UNA General Assembly as the organization's executive officers now include two newcomers, three members who have moved up in the ranks, and one former advisor who has returned as a vice-president. It is a younger and more diverse Executive Committee that holds much promise for the future. There are changes also among the auditors and advisors – all of which one can consider a sign of renewal.

To be sure, there was some sadness in the fact that some General Assembly members are not on that body for 2002-2006 – most of them chose not to return for various reasons, and one was defeated in his campaign for higher office. President Diachuk rightfully received several standing ovations during the course of the convention for her 52 years of service to the organization – the last 12 of them as president and the 18 years before that as treasurer. Thanks should go also to the other 14 non-returnees, who devoted many years of volunteer – yes, volunteer – work for the UNA, as none of them were paid executives.

It is a plus that the five members of the newly created Soyuzivka Redevelopment Committee includes dedicated veterans who dealt with the issue when they served as members of the General Assembly's Standing Committee on Soyuzivka: Stefko Kuropas, Taras Szmagala, Anya Dydyk-Petrenko, Alex Chudolij and Al Kachkowski. The five were named to the new body despite the fact that four of them chose not to seek elective office for the 2002-2006 term. It is a sign of the UNA's maturity that delegates voted to choose the persons most suitable for the all-important task of saving the UNA resort, regardless of whether they were seeking re-election.

The convention enacted a number of by-laws changes, the most significant of which reduced the size of the UNA Auditing Committee from five members to three, and the number of UNA advisors from 14 to 11. A proposed reduction in the number of executive officers from six to four did not win the required number of votes (two-thirds of the registered delegates) to pass. As well, delegates approved a measure that prohibits UNA employees from simultaneously holding a job with the UNA and serving on the General Assembly, and adopted an amendment that more clearly specifies the duties of advisors, including the enrollment of members, keeping in touch with local branches and being active in regional district committees, and belonging to one of the standing committees of the General Assembly.

Much discussion was devoted to the "Fourth Wave" of immigrants from Ukraine, and, indeed, their influence was felt at the convention. There were a number of delegates from this newest group of immigrants, and that fact was reflected in the increased use of the Ukrainian language alongside English during convention deliberations. It is noteworthy also that two Fourth Wavers were elected as advisors, making them the first General Assembly members from that group. Myron Pylpyiak has been a very successful UNA organizer in the Seattle area, while Paul Prinko of the Philadelphia area is somewhat new to the UNA but comes equipped with new ideas about the public relations campaign that is absolutely essential for the expansion of the UNA. In addition, many speakers spoke in favor of reinstating a bilingual (English-Ukrainian) application form for UNA membership that would help organizers attract members whose English may not yet be up to par.

In many ways, then, the 35th Convention of the UNA brought renewal. May that renewal be a harbinger of the UNA's rebirth in the new millennium.

June
5
1994

Turning the pages back...

Eight years ago, on June 5, 1994, – several weeks after the conclusion of the 33rd Convention of the Ukrainian National Association – The Ukrainian Weekly published the full text of all resolutions and recommendations adopted at that conclave.

Among them were the following (which bear repeating today).

- The convention calls on the Executive Committee to create a marketing strategy for UNA publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, and to hire a business manager for these publications, whose main responsibility would be to increase circulation.
- The convention calls on the Executive Committee to insist that UNA members subscribe to the organization's publications. Members who read the Ukrainian language should receive Svoboda; the convention recommends that members whose primary language is English be obligated to subscribe to The Ukrainian Weekly.
- The convention recommends that the UNA organize a special conference to examine the Ukrainian community, including its demographics, socio-economic status, as well as the challenges facing the continued well-being of the UNA and the organized Ukrainian community.
- The convention calls on the Executive Committee to increase advertising of UNA insurance products via U.S. and Canadian radio and TV programs.

Source: "Greetings, resolutions and recommendations of the 33rd UNA Convention," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 5, 1994, Vol. LXII, No. 23.

35th UNA CONVENTION

Opening address at convention by President Ulana Diachuk

Following is the text of the English-language remarks delivered by Ukrainian National Association President Ulana Diachuk at the opening of the UNA Convention on Friday, May 24.

Dear Delegates, Members of the General Assembly, Guests and UNA Members:

On behalf of the General Assembly of the Ukrainian National Association and my own person, I extend a heartfelt welcome to all delegates and guests to this regular 35th Convention of our venerable organization. This convention takes place for the first time in this new millennium and new century.

It is only the second time in the 108-year history of the UNA that this gathering of all representatives of our membership takes place in Chicago, a city situated farthest west from the location of the majority of our membership.

The Ukrainian community of Chicago is one of the most active ones in the United States. The Ukrainian Village in Chicago, where Ukrainians had settled and still reside in great numbers, as well as the towns surrounding Chicago, are proud of their beautiful Ukrainian churches, cultural centers and successful financial institutions. Here there are active youth, civic and cultural institutions capable of satisfying the many spiritual needs of all Ukrainian Americans. What probably distinguishes the Ukrainians in Illinois from those in other states is their active participation in American political life, their substantial successes and their recognition.

UNA membership in Illinois consists of about 4,500 policyholders. They are

united in 17 branches and in the Chicago District Committee. At one time our Chicago branches were the center of all Ukrainian activities in the Ukrainian Village. They owned their club homes, where monthly meetings and many Ukrainian gatherings were held.

The success of every convention, no matter in which city it is held, depends to a great extent on the local Convention Committee consisting of all UNA activists of that area. Therefore, on behalf of the members of the General Assembly and you, the convention delegates, I extend to the chairman of the Chicago Convention Committee, Dr. Myron Kuropas, honorary member of the General Assembly, and to each and every committee member our sincere thanks for their many efforts, diligent work and devotion of their time and experience in order to make this convention a successful and memorable one.

Dear Delegates:

In the history of our association each convention has had the duty to introduce important changes necessary for the benefit of the organization. This convention also will be asked to review many important and urgent matters. New times and new circumstances demand our action. Some of the decisions we will be asked to make will come to us only with a heavy heart, but, as in the past, they will be necessary for the future existence and growth of our society. It is my firm conviction that if we review each important matter with the steadfast determination to make the best decision possible for the benefit of the UNA, the outcome of the deliberations will be positive and will bring only positive results in the future.

So help us, God.

Concluding address at conclave by President-Elect Stefan Kaczaraj

Below is a translation of the Ukrainian-language address delivered by President-Elect Stefan Kaczaraj at the conclusion of the Ukrainian National Association Convention on Tuesday, May 28.

Honored Convention Presidium, Respected Members of the General Assembly, Dear Delegates of the 35th Convention of the UNA, Esteemed Guests:

First of all, please allow me to sincerely thank you for the confidence you have expressed in me by electing me president of the 108-year-old Ukrainian National Association – the oldest and largest Ukrainian institution in the Western diaspora.

The Ukrainian National Association is an example of an effective institution of Ukrainians beyond the borders of Ukraine – one that has earned respect in the United States of America and Canada, and among Ukrainians worldwide.

The 35th Convention of the Ukrainian National Association is the third held since the rebirth of independent Ukraine, which has been granted us by God.

We live in a very complex time, when it is not easy to move forward, to transform calls to action into the actions that are so necessary for the growth of our organization.

From the experience I have gained in the last four years, I have noticed that the job of the president is difficult – the president not only gives direction to this institution but serves as its heart and

soul. This is the type of president that I aspire to be. A vision for our future is beginning to form in my imagination. And that vision will be effected in full cooperation and harmony.

I would like to see our membership more united, inspired by the idea of progress and full of the vitality needed for continued growth.

I am pleased that we have completely rented our beautiful headquarters building. But I am concerned about the insignificant growth of our membership in the United States, and especially in Canada. That is why I will devote special attention to this issue. We must not only work harder on this matter, but also focus our community's attention on the importance of membership to our organization.

It is good to note the progress of our press, the weekly newspapers Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, which have set foot on solid ground, thus significantly decreasing our expenses for their support. Soyuzivka remains a large problem. But we will endeavor to solve this problem to the benefit of the Ukrainian community.

I conclude my remarks by underscoring my deep faith in a better future.

I would also like to sincerely thank Mrs. Ulana Diachuk for her cooperation and from all of us here to express our gratitude for her many years of dedicated and creative efforts toward the welfare and growth of the Ukrainian National Association.

(Translated by The Ukrainian Weekly)

FOR THE RECORD

Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church seeks to return to its birthplace

Below is a translation of the Ukrainian address of Cardinal Lubomyr Husar announcing plans for a Ukrainian Catholic Church Center in Kyiv. The translation is republished from the Sower (April 7).

Most Venerable Metropolitans, Very Reverend Bishops, Members of the Clergy and Monastic Life, and our Dear Faithful of the particular Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in Ukraine and in the Diaspora:

Peace in the Lord.

The last decade of the 20th century brought great changes in the life of the Church and our people. And, after many centuries, Ukraine again became an independent nation, and the Church within her – free. Exactly at this same time, which they correctly call historic, I turn to you, beloved in Christ, regarding a matter that touches us all. In order to impress upon you the importance of this matter, I shall first recall some moments from the 1,000-year history of the Church.

In connection with the spreading of Christianity into Ukraine there comes to mind the legend that the Apostle Andrew traveled into our land and blessed the hills of Kyiv. A reliable proof of such an early spread of Christianity into our land is the well-known historical fact that already at the end of the first century, Pope Clement was taken to Crimea as into exile. There he performed hard labor, preached the Gospel and completed his difficult life.

As the official religion, Christianity was brought into Kyivan Rus' at the end of the 10th century. From Kyiv, which is actually the birthplace of our Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, Christianity began to spread to neighboring countries, present-day Russia, Belarus and others. Developing well until the Tatar invasion in the second half of the 13th century, Kyivan Christianity

kept its ties with the East, the Patriarch of Constantinople, and the West, Rome and other centers of the Latin Christian culture.

The next historical moment to which we turn our attention is the year 1439, when the Ecumenical Council of Florence took place, which had as its goal the renewal of the original unity among Christians. One of the most active participants was Kyivan Metropolitan Isidore. He announced the decisions of the council throughout Ukraine, and they were positively received by the people. Having heeded this for more than a 100-year period of our history, at the end of the 16th century, when the Ukrainian bishops, understanding the unbearable situation of Christians of the Byzantine rite, decided to solidify their union with the Apostolic See of Rome and with the successor of St. Peter.

Exactly at that time began the tragic separation of the Kyivan Church that continues even to this day. Two Churches took form in Ukraine: one, which was united with the successor of St. Peter; and the other, as a consequence of foreign influences, did not put into practice this unity. Except for this difference, the two parts of the Kyivan root practically do not differ at all.

Already from the first half of the 17th century there were various well-known attempts to unite the Church and to unite her with the particular Church, that is, with the patriarch. Unfortunately, for various reasons, this did not occur, and the pages of the history of the two branches of Christianity in Ukraine were of continual sensitivity and distance.

The process of the liquidation of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in the territory of Ukraine had taken effect very systematically, along with Ukraine's occupation by tsarist Russia, and later by the Soviet Union. Our church was preserved

only in the parts which were included in the governance by the former Austrian Empire, and afterwards for a 20-year period was under the occupation of Poland. The policy of the liquidation of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church took form in the western lands of Ukraine during the Soviet times. In Halychyna the Church's liquidation occurred in 1946: in Zakarpattia in 1949.

Nonetheless, the merciful Lord protected our Church with the intervention of people who were ready to sacrifice even their lives for the true faith. This was preserved through these martyrs. The beatification of many of our bishops, priests, monks, nuns and faithful occurred in June of last year.

After many years of remaining in the underground, our Church in Ukraine is already now free for more than 10 years. Growth in a free fatherland during the last decade gives us the opportunity, of which no one would absolutely have been able to dream, to return the center of our Church to Kyiv, the place of its birth, from where it was subject to horrific conditions.

This was an unusually important decision in the life of our Church. Some may see in it entirely political or social motives. However, it was done in order to unite all parts of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church where its faithful, by coercion of the Soviet regime, were scattered over all the territory of Ukraine, encompassing our present-day eparchies and exarchies. Except for this past unity, the center ought to favor us with better future ties in the capital, where all the other Churches and religious organizations have their centers.

In conjunction with this, the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, after a 200-year stay faraway from Kyiv, wishes to transfer the seat of its head to the capital of Ukraine and establish for him a personal church and a suitable residence.

It is known to all that the transfer of structures and the erection of buildings demand large financial burdens. Therefore,

I turn to you, dear sons and daughters of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in Ukraine and beyond its borders, with a reverent request for help in building a patriarchal church, along with accommodations for the head of our Church in Kyiv. Today, due to the division of the Church of Christ such centers in the capital are many. We hope that one day, with God's help, the head of a united Ukrainian Church will sit in the Cathedral of St. Sophia, the symbol of our unity.

I turn to all of you, my beloved, to those who live in Ukraine, even though I understand how difficult it is to defray the cost. Your generous offering, it does not matter whether it be a widow's mite or a sizable gift, will be that brick without which we would not be able to build this Church.

I turn to you, my beloved, who live in the diaspora. We must preserve the unity of the Church – so that we would not lose in this world that spiritual wealth that our grandparents and great-grandparents brought with them from the Ukrainian land and which gives us our identity; so that we would not lose ourselves in the environment in which we live; so that we might be productive and have something to share with our fellow citizens. This desire for unity shows itself in the person of the head of our Church and his seat, the church in Kyiv, which we are hoping to build with your help.

Once again I ask you all, in accord with your ability and from the generosity of your heart, to make the building of such a cathedral a reality. If you wish to make some offering, kindly send it through the office of your bishop in that eparchy in Ukraine, or outside Ukraine, where you live.

In advance I sincerely thank you for your generous offerings for the good of our Church and the Ukrainian people. I pray that God bestow upon you all His choicest blessings.

† Lubomyr

Cardinal Husar reiterates UGCC's position on St. Sophia Cathedral in Kyiv

Religious Information Service of Ukraine

LIVIV – Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC), reiterated the official position of the UGCC on the restitution of the Cathedral of St. Sophia in Kyiv. The statement was released on April 17.

After part 137 of the decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Conditions of Restitution of Religious Buildings and Monuments of Architecture to Religious Organizations" was publicized on February 14, fierce debates arose between the Orthodox churches in Ukraine over the Cathedral of St. Sophia in Kyiv.

The position of the UGCC on the issue was declared at the Metropolitan's Synod on January 3-4 and stated in a letter to Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma sent on January 11. Cardinal Husar, however, found it necessary to reiterate the UGCC's position, as it is often misinterpreted or distorted by the mass media.

An excerpt from the statement follows.

"The Cathedral of St. Sophia is a spiritual symbol of unity and a sacred place of special importance for the whole Ukrainian nation. It should be transferred to the patriarch of the Ukrainian Church when all Orthodox and Catholic faithful, whose roots reach

back to the baptism of Volodymyr, return to the original unity of the very beginnings of Christianity in Ukraine, and when they have a single patriarch. Therefore, the bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church believe that this sanctuary should remain the property of the Ukrainian government until that blessed moment.

"Taking into consideration the present circumstances, under which the Kyivan Church is divided into four denominations: the UOC-MP [Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate], the UGCC [Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church], the UOC-KP [Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate] and the UAOC [Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church], the hierarchy of the UGCC sees two possible ways of solving the problem of returning St. Sophia's Cathedral:

"1. Allow the Cathedral of St. Sophia to be used for religious services by the above-mentioned denominations on an equal basis. It should, however, be pointed out that such use will every time call forth a significant resonance in society.

"2. Refuse to transfer the Cathedral of St. Sophia in Kyiv to any of the denominations for permanent or temporary use for the time being, as long the ecclesial unity of the time of Volodymyr's baptism has not been renewed in Ukraine."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Church issues deserve public airing in Ukraine

Dear Editor:

First in the list of "issues" discussed by Askold Lozynskyj with Ukrainian parliamentary leaders ("Ukrainian World Congress president meets with bloc leaders in Ukraine," May 12) was "Ukrainian national Churches and their support by the government of Ukraine." I would hope that, in contrast to the indisputably worthy causes that follow it, this matter be treated as a genuinely debatable issue requiring careful consideration.

It is indisputable that Ukraine's traditional Churches are in poor financial condition. In a purely economic sense, it is difficult for them to compete with U.S.-based religious groups. Nonetheless, state support can lead to state control. As the experience of the Russian Orthodox Church demonstrates, this can result in corruption and serious moral compromise.

In the West popular participation in some state-supported national Churches, such as that of England, has dwindled. By contrast, religious institutions that have remained separate from – and sometimes at odds with – the state enjoy immense popular support. The strength of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, like that of the Roman Catholic Church in Poland, stems from its integrity in resisting a Communist regime. In the U.S., churches' independence of the

state has undoubtedly been a factor in the vitality of American religion.

It must not be assumed, of course, that the strict separation of Church and state practiced in the U.S. is an appropriate model for Ukraine. But the state can support religion without favoring any particular denomination – for example, through a church tax levelled on all citizens and accruing to the religious organization of their choice (as in Germany), or by promoting charitable donations. To single out "national" or "traditional" Churches for favorable treatment, however, would be to relegate them to the status of protected, and therefore weak and uncompetitive, wards of the state.

The future of Ukraine's Churches will depend not so much on their material resources as on their moral credibility. This, in turn, will depend on their ability to bear independent, critical Christian witness. There is a host of issues – from AIDS and abortion to corruption and the arms trade – on which any vigorous religious organization is bound, sooner or later, to confront the state. With every hryvnia received from the government, its ability to do so is weakened.

Before Ukraine's Churches, prompted by the diaspora, rush into the chilling embrace of the government, this matter should be given a full and open public discussion.

Andrew Sorokowski
Rockville, Md.



▶ 10-10-719

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Iowa community college observes "Year of Ukraine"

by Linda Hodges

DES MOINES, Iowa – The idea is simple. Choose a single country and focus on learning more about its history, culture, economy and politics during the entire academic year. At Des Moines Area Community College in central Iowa, faculty, administrators, staff and students took a close look at Ukraine during the 2001-2002 academic year. In a state with no historical Ukrainian immigration and where the only thing, if anything, about Ukraine that comes to most people's minds is pysanky, scores of people learned about life and culture in present-day Ukraine.



Cover of a program for the "Year of Ukraine" at Des Moines Area Community College in Iowa.

The "Year of Ukraine" marked the 18th consecutive year the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) observed International Year. Starting in 1985 with a focus on Japan, in recent years the program has recognized Ireland, Italy, and China. Of the college's six campuses, which stretch out approximately 117 miles, five participated in the Year of Ukraine.

"One of the unique qualities of community colleges is our ability to organize interdisciplinary yearlong events such as International Year," said Jim Stick, head of the humanities department on the Ankeny campus. "We have integrated global education into our curricula since 1985, and Ukraine Year has been most rewarding." Prof. Stick's Honors Seminar each spring semester is focused entirely on the country of the year.

"I circulated The Ukrainian Weekly each week to my Honors Seminar, and it was both useful and eye-opening to my students," said Prof. Stick.

"When the seminar began, most students had very little understanding of the richness and complexity of Ukrainian culture. By the time they researched a topic and presented their findings to the class, a transformation had taken place. Not only did the students and the faculty involved gain a considerable amount of knowledge, but they also acquired a growing appreciation for the culture, and most importantly, the people of Ukraine," Prof. Stick explained. "Again and again, students in the seminar admired the resilience and resourcefulness of the Ukrainian people."

A steering committee of some 20 college staff members and a couple of central Iowa residents with close ties to Ukraine met monthly for more than a year to plan activities. Students in a graphic design

class competed to come up with the most pleasing design for posters and T-shirts. After a couple of the final designs were eliminated because the church domes they depicted were Russian, the winning design was that of a simple tryzub against a map of Ukraine.

Book clubs were formed on the different campuses, with participants reading a book each month and meeting to discuss it. Among the books chosen were "Borderland: A Journey through the History of Ukraine" by Anna Reid; "Return to Ukraine" by Ania Savage; "The Sky Unwashed" by Irene Zabytko; and "Dead Souls" by Nikolai Gogol.

Members of the committee put up display cases on several campuses with Ukrainian crafts from their trips to Ukraine. Slava and Lavrentia Gerulak of the Ukrainian Art and Literary Club in New York City supplied photo exhibits of Ukraine, which were rotated among display cases on the various campuses. Photographer Yuri Lev also lent his "Images of Ukraine" exhibition for display.

It wasn't difficult to compile a list of potential speakers who could tell Iowa students about various aspects of Ukraine, from its history to current affairs. Some of the speakers were Iowans who had business or educational contact with Ukraine and others were recent arrivals from Ukraine who were studying or working in Iowa.

For example, the director of the Des Moines Water Works, L.D. McMullen, who had conducted a two-year water project with Cherkasy, Ukraine, spoke of the challenges the country faces in providing clean, safe water.

Mary Rose Anderson, a journalist and volunteer for Iowa Sister States who taught computer office programs at the Cherkasy Women's Center, spoke on women's issues, including trafficking, to classes on two different campuses. Mikhailo Dovgopol from Kharkiv State Polytechnic University, who was visiting DMACC in order to study career services provided to students, spoke to the Honors Seminar on the political situation in Ukraine.

Through existing programs between Iowa and Ukraine, a number of talented

Ukrainians were available to the DMACC program. Two Newton, Iowa, high school exchange students from Smila, Newton's sister city in the Cherkasy Oblast, opened the Year of Ukraine on four of the DMACC campuses. In full costume and accompanied by recorded Ukrainian folk songs, they presented bread and salt to college officials.

The official kick-off event on the main campus was a reception for watercolor artist and tapestry weaver Neonila

Nedosyeko, who came to Iowa under the sponsorship of Iowa Sister States (whose partner state is the Cherkasy oblast) for a month of exhibitions and workshops.

Through her interpreter, Olha Rakhubovska, also from Cherkasy, Ms. Nedosyeko spoke to two art appreciation classes. Using her "Kupalo Night" tapestry and other of her works as illustrations, she spoke of the rich Ukrainian heritage. The college hosted a luncheon

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Chefs Nadiya Kanarova and Valentyna Levytska prepare Ukrainian cuisine.



Artist Neonila Nedosyeko explains her work with tapestries.

Linda Hodges is co-author of "Language and Travel Guide to Ukraine" (Hippocrene Books Inc., third edition, 2000).

Borzemsky retrospective hosted by UNWLA in Washington

WASHINGTON – A retrospective exhibit of works by the well-known Ukrainian artist Bohdan Borzemsky took place in Washington on April 20-21, under the sponsorship of the Ukrainian Women's League of America Branch 78.



"Lilac in a Vase" (hand-colored paper-cut) by Bohdan Borzemsky.

The exhibit was opened by Branch President Marta Terlecky, who welcomed the artist and many guests. Christina Shepelavy introduced the artist and his work. On exhibit were oil and tempera paintings, woodcuts and "paper cut," a technique whereby the artist substitutes heavy card paper for wood. Most of the woodcuts and paper cuts were hand colored by the artist, using a palette of vibrant, clear colors.

Born in Kolomyia, Ukraine, Mr. Borzemsky was greatly influenced by the rich folk tradition of the indigenous people of the Carpathian Mountains. In his work he often portrays the Hutsuls and their way of life. Another source of inspiration in his work is nature, as represented in the exhibit by a veritable garden of flowers on canvas and paper.

Mr. Borzemsky's artistic credo is that "there are several factors that come into play for the successful completion of an art composition, among them inspiration, determination, inner peace, joy, and sensitivity to the beauty of nature and her Creator." The artist conceives of art "as a divine gift to humanity for fostering spiritual balance, clarity and brotherhood."

Over a 50-year period Mr. Borzemsky



"Hutsuls at Church Service" (oil) by Bohdan Borzemsky.

has exhibited widely in the United States and abroad. The New Jersey-based artist has won several prizes and his works are in numerous collections.

UNWLA Branch 78 is donating \$500 from the proceeds of sales from this most recent exhibit to The Ukrainian Museum in New York.

Kulynych premieres film about Ukraine's independence anniversary celebrations

NEW YORK – The videofilm "In Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of Ukrainian Independence" by the Yaroslav Kulynych Film Studio, featuring highlights of events held in Kyiv August 18-24, 2001, as part of the 10th anniversary independence celebrations, was shown at the Ukrainian National Home on February 10.

The film's main focus is the third World Forum of Ukrainians (WFU), which was attended by delegates from 42 countries. Among the highlights of the film are: the official opening of the forum on August 18 by President Leonid Kuchma and the offering of a benediction by Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, followed by footage of the Plenary

Session; Cultural Program and concert featuring speakers and artists from the Ukrainian diaspora which was held August 19 at the Ukraina Palace; passage of the WFU's Resolutions (August 20); gala concert, featuring leading artists from Ukraine (August 23); and the military parade and youth rally held in Kyiv's Independence Square on August 24.

Among featured speakers on the video are Askold S. Lozynsky, president of the Ukrainian World Congress, who in his speech underscored the important role played by the diaspora in contributing to the process that culminated in Ukraine's independence, and the status of the Ukrainian diaspora in the former republics of the Soviet Union, foremostly, in the Russian Federation and in Asia. Also captured on film are Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko; and former dissident and political prisoner and Verkhovna Rada National Deputy Lev Lukianenko.

Among other highlights of the video are President Kuchma's official visit to the United States, where he was received by President Bill Clinton at the White House.

The video screening was sponsored by the Ukrainian World Congress, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council.

Mr. Kulynych, who resides in Yonkers, N.Y., has been documenting major events, both civic and cultural, of the Ukrainian community in the United States and of Ukrainians around the world. During his several decades of indefatigable work he has amassed a comprehensive film archive.

Mr. Kulynych is the producer also of "Ukraine in Flames," a film that traces Ukraine's history from the princely era to modern times.



Filmmaker Yaroslav Kulynych

UCCA and Ukrainian partners to work on film about Sheptytsky

NEW YORK – The primate of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, has agreed to serve as the honorary patron of a new joint venture between the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and Oles Yanchuk from the Dovzhenko Film Studio.

The subject of the proposed full-length feature film is the late legendary metropolitan of Lviv, Andrey Sheptytsky.

Cardinal Husar met at the Metropolitan's Residence in Lviv on April 6 with Ukrainian World Congress President Askold S. Lozynskyj, serving as the UCCA's representative in this endeavor, as well as Mr. Yanchuk, the film's director. Terms were discussed as to the role of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the project in regard to moral

and artistic guidance, as well as financial support. The cardinal assured his guests of the Church's great interest in this project and unequivocal support.

Earlier that day, Messrs. Lozynskyj and Yanchuk met with the newly elected mayor of Lviv, Lubomyr Buniak, seeking the city's moral and logistical support for the project. Mr. Buniak was not only supportive but highly enthusiastic. The project is currently in the stage of screenplay preparation and seed funding solicitation.

Contributions may be sent to the UCCA, 203 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003 (please indicate on your check or money order "Film-Sheptytsky"). Donors of \$5,000 and more will be listed in the film's credits. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Ukrainian Parliament...

(Continued from page 2)

tional trends since September 11 that have reduced opposition to NATO expansion.

National Security and Defense Council Secretary Yevhen Marchuk warned in a recent interview in the Kyiv daily Den that after September 11 many West European and North American countries have revised their security policy strategies. "It is precisely for this reason that the 'Euro-Atlantic integration' formula has reappeared: the term has long existed in Ukraine, but Kyiv distanced itself from it then and has now returned to it again. So Ukraine has had to invigorate cooperation with NATO," Mr. Marchuk warned.

Support for NATO membership and ending Ukraine's self-declared, and internationally recognized, "non-bloc" status is higher in the current Parliament than in any previous legislature. Since September 11, the number of Ukrainians who see NATO as an aggressive alliance has declined and more people see it positively than negatively. There has also been a convergence in attitudes to NATO between eastern and western Ukraine. In a

February poll the Ukrainian Center for Economic and Political Studies found that 51 percent of Ukrainians support membership now or in the future while 30 percent oppose it. More Ukrainians support joining NATO than signing on to the Collective Security Treaty, which only the CPU in Parliament and 15 percent of Ukrainians support.

The international and domestic climate in the Ukrainian parliament, National Security and Defense Council, and the public at large are favorably inclined to Ukraine applying for NATO membership this year. Why then will Ukraine not apply? Because the executive is opposed to such a move, as President Kuchma believes that he would lose his only remaining international ally, Russian President Vladimir Putin.

In addition, Ukraine's foreign policy is reactive and not proactive in defense of its national interests. During President Kuchma's visit to Poland this April, he was asked if Ukraine would apply to join NATO this year. His answer was typical of his unwillingness to take the initiative: "Invite us in and we'll apply." President Kuchma is apparently unaware that it usually works the other way around.



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Religious freedom in Ukraine: obstacles and encouraging signs

by Myroslav Marynovych

Following is the text of a presentation delivered at the Catholic University of America in Washington on April 5.

This afternoon I want to discuss the conflict between religious identity and religious freedom. But since the case study for this discussion centers on Ukraine and the Slavic world, first I want to give you some background since you may not be familiar with the context.

Religious landscape in Ukraine

One of Ukraine's main features which forms its religious landscape is that this land is a crossroads for interests of three branches of Christianity; namely Orthodoxy, Catholicism and Protestantism. The competition (in the past – confrontation) between Orthodoxy and Catholicism is rather long-standing and burdened by the long history of rivalry for spheres of influence, or the so-called mission territories. The confrontation with Protestantism (at least with its modern waves) is rather new and came to the fore especially after the collapse of the Soviet Union when Ukraine opened itself to the influence of numerous Western, mostly American, Protestant missionaries.

The other feature of the Ukrainian religious context is the parallel existence of several religious historiographies according to which historical changes in religious affiliation are considered either positively or negatively. Let me give you some examples.

What is regarded by Catholic believers as a positive act of reunification with the Holy See, that is the Union of Brest of 1596, is a deplorable act of breaking-off with the Ecumenical Patriarchate and a shameful act of proselytism by the Roman Catholic Church in the opinion of the Orthodox faithful.

In 1930 and 1946, respectively, the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church was banned and the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church by the Stalin regime was forced into what was called "self-liquidation." What is regarded by Russian Orthodox believers as the overcoming of the Uniate and "nationalistic" schism is considered by the Greek Catholic believers not only as brutal violence by the state but also as an act of proselytism by the Moscow Patriarchate which took advantage of state violence to expand its influence and to deny religious freedom.

The legalization of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and revival of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church came in 1988. What is regarded by the faithful of these Churches as a manifestation of their religious rights and a restoration of historical justice is considered by the Moscow Patriarchate as an act of proselytism by the Roman Catholic Church and foreign branches of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church.

We may conclude, therefore, that, with competing historiographies, it is practically impossible – at least, it was so until now – to have a unified version of the earlier or modern religious history of Ukraine. This fact strongly influences the attitude of Ukrainians towards religious freedom.

Religious freedom and the legal system

We see the results of these historical tensions in the recent development of Ukrainian legislation on religious freedom. The laws adopted soon after independence in 1991 reflect the attempt of the Ukrainian Parliament to incorporate international standards. For example, the 1991 law on "Liberty of Conscience and

Religious Organizations in Ukraine" includes a "typical" package of freedoms (Article III, part 1):

Every citizen in Ukraine is guaranteed the right to liberty of conscience. This right includes the liberty to have, adopt or change religion or convictions according to one's choice and liberty to personally or in community with others profess any religion or none, exercise religious worship, openly express and extend one's religious or atheistic convictions.

However, the limitation clause (Article III, part 4) is in fact quite broad and subject to administrative abuse:

Liberty to profess religion or convictions is subject only to those restrictions which are necessary to maintain public order and safety, life, health and morals, as well as rights and liberties of other citizens. Restrictions must be set by law and meet the internal obligations and commitments of Ukraine.

This law includes also the following important clause, Article XXXII, which gives priority to international standards:

If the rules and regulations, set by international agreement in which Ukraine takes part, differ from those of legislation about liberty of conscience and religious organizations of Ukraine, the rules and regulations of international agreement have priority in application.

But this idealistic and model legislation soon met criticism in Ukrainian society. After the protests of the hierarchy of the main churches (sometimes even Protestant leaders), mass media and the population in general, caused by an incursion of foreign religious missionaries, the law was amended. The most important 1993 amendment is that to Article XXIV:

Clergymen, preachers of religion, instructors (teachers), and other representatives of foreign organizations who are foreign citizens temporarily staying in Ukraine may preach religious dogmas, perform religious rites and practice other canonical activities only in those religious organizations on whose invitations they came, and upon an official agreement with the state body which has registered the statute of the corresponding religious organization.

According to author Howard L. Biddulph in his book "Religious Liberty and the Ukrainian State: Nationalism Versus Equal Protection," this amendment "effectively bars entry of all foreign representatives of faiths that do not already exist as legal entities in Ukraine. ... This not only curtails the manifesting of religious beliefs by non-citizens in Ukraine, but also effectively prevents the access of Ukrainians to any totally new faith."

The amendment to Article XVI expands causes for termination of the activity of a religious community into a very extensive list including:

If [a religious community] humiliates national dignity or insults the feelings of citizens on the basis of their religious convictions, or if it causes harm to the health of citizens, licentiousness and other infringements upon personal dignity and rights of citizens under the pretext of performing religious rites and ceremonies.

According to the same scholar, "none of these grounds are described in careful legal language. Such an exceedingly detailed, yet vaguely worded, amendment would seem to provide almost endless possibilities for administrative officials to bring charges," according to Mr. Biddulph, based on their own personal prejudices.

Even in spite of such an amendment, the law is considered by many clergy, officials and believers to be too liberal.

The hierarchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church subordinated to the Moscow Patriarchate openly favors the Russian law on religious organizations, that is known for its discriminative nature, and wants it to be adopted in Ukraine. It is not so easy, however, in multi-religious and multi-confessional Ukraine. There are many religious and secular groups which are reluctant to, or openly oppose this idea.

So far, it is known that there exists a new draft of the law which is to be submitted to the Ukrainian Parliament for approval. The text, though not published yet, is still being discussed at the Council of the Churches which is a body initiated by the president of Ukraine.

Religious freedom: new trends

It is generally accepted that religious rights, are at the very center of the concept of human rights. This conception holds for countries of the former Soviet block. It was religious freedom that first weakened the Communist bastions. Therefore, it might be foreseen that some reluctance to espouse the idea of human rights, down to rejecting it in whole, will have a rather strong religious component as well. Samuel Huntington and John Witte, Jr., in retracing the correlation between democratization and religion, found three waves of democratization in human history which had been anticipated and accompanied by three waves of Christian democratic impulses. Nevertheless, only two branches of Western Christianity – the Protestant and the Roman Catholic – were involved in that process.

The third part of world Christianity – Eastern Orthodoxy – kept aloof. It is interesting to retrace the consequences of the third, "Catholic," wave illustrating them by the example of Orthodoxy in the former Soviet Union.

The third wave touched on the former Soviet Union. "New democracies" emerged in some parts of the former Soviet Union, arousing hope that human

rights would spread into hitherto impenetrable territories. A few years later in some places, however, democracy had to retreat. It can be said with high probability that the major cause for this retreat was the "silence" of Orthodoxy. The wave of democratization, according to John Witte's conception, was not accompanied by an Orthodox democratic impulse. The revival of the Church had anticipated, but not accompanied, the democratization. The Orthodox Church (and the Greek-Catholic Church as an Eastern Church) was not ready for democracy, a fact which became especially visible in Ukraine where the religious dimensions of the primary claim for freedom were very strong. At least four reasons for the Church's reluctance to support the human rights movement may be mentioned here.

First, the drive of religious people towards democracy seemed to be non-democratic in nature. Again, it was an attempt to reestablish the Church with the help of human rights. However, when democracy had extended to rival churches the same right to exist, sympathy for democracy partly evaporated and a need of some "confessional patriots" to defend the Church from human rights appeared.

Second, acceptance of democracy meant modernization of the Church. However, it was exactly this old Church, victimized by the Communists, that appeared to have an ultimate value for elderly people. To change this Church meant to sacrifice it again.

Third, it was this old Church that seemed to have won the battle with communism. How is it possible to modernize the victor just in order to "please the Western world" whose churches have lost their battle with secularism?

Fourth, Orthodoxy was not theologically ready for democracy. Mainstream Protestant theology, with its key idea of freedom of choice, has sacrificed its feeling of being the sole repository of truth in favor of religious pluralism and, later,

(Continued on page 20)

Marynovych welcomed in Philadelphia



Iko Labunka

PHILADELPHIA – The Ukrainian Human Rights Committee of Philadelphia, in conjunction with the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, hosted an evening with former dissident and prisoner of conscience Prof. Myroslav Marynovych on April 3 here at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center. Prof. Marynovych, who is the vice-rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, provided an in-depth analysis of human rights and the role of dissidents in contemporary Ukraine. Prof. Marynovych was on a speaking tour of the East Coast. Seen above (from left) are members of the committee with the guest speaker: Tamara Stadnychenko, Olha Jakubowska, Prof. Marynovych, Ulana Mazurkevych, Chrystyna Senyk and Orysia Hewka.

Harvard lecture sheds new light on 16th-17th century Ukraine

by Yuri Shevchuk

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – The view that 16th-17th century Ukraine was the venue of irreconcilable antagonisms between Orthodox and Catholics is not borne out by historical reality, argued Dr. Natalia Yakovenko in her presentation at Harvard University for the annual Vasyl and Maria Petryshyn Memorial Lecture, sponsored by the university's Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI).

Dr. Yakovenko, principal research associate at the Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and leading authority in Ukrainian history, is well-known among peers as the author of such influential books as "Ukrainian Nobility from the End of the 14th to the Mid-17th Centuries" (1993) and "History of Ukraine to the End of the 18th Century," published in Ukrainian (1997) and Polish (2000).

Her lecture at Harvard on April 22 – titled "Orthodox, Catholics, Protestants: Religious Co-Existence in Ukraine in the 16th-17th Centuries" – was based on her most recent book "Parallel World: Research of Notions and Stereotypes in the 16th and 17th Century Ukraine," published this year by Krytyka.

In 1991, a lecture fund was established through a major gift donated by the estate of the late Vasyl and Maria Petryshyn, with additional funds provided by their son, Dr. Wolodymyr Petryshyn, and other family members. From its very inception the Petryshyn Lecture Series has enjoyed great popularity and has traditionally attracted those interested in Ukrainian scholarship in the Greater Boston area.

In attendance for this year's lecture were leading specialists in Slavic studies, university professors, students and simply those who wanted to keep abreast with the very latest in Ukrainian scholarship.

At the beginning of her presentation, Dr. Yakovenko reminded the audience that it became an axiom dating back to classical Russian, Polish and Ukrainian historiography of the past and still dominant today that 16th-17th century Ukraine was an area of antagonisms among people of various Christian faiths, especially so between Orthodox and Catholics.

Deconstructing this theory, she addressed three principal issues: 1) the reliability of the extant evidence of religious conflicts during the period; 2) the substantiation of the evidence by the facts and practices of everyday life; and 3) the social and ideological determinants of the religious situation in Ukraine.

The argument supporting the contention for religious antagonism, Dr. Yakovenko pointed out, comes from the vivid works of Church polemicists of the period. Each Church competed with its rivals for the souls of Ukrainian Christians in a fierce ideological struggle. In Ukrainian lands, as well as throughout the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Catholics were challenged by Protestants, and Orthodox by Roman Catholics, Protestants and Uniates. Eventually, "educational" exempla – a staple of the rhetorical communication of the period – acquired the status of a bona fide testimony and were widely used by historians for some far-fetched conclusions.

Dr. Yakovenko invited her audience to turn from the Church polemical writings and to examine the everyday relations between people of different religions. Outside the ideological debates, one is hard-pressed to find evidence of an equally dramatic stand-off. Rather, various sources document numerous

instances of peaceful religious co-existence in families, within the sphere of social life, and even in services and functions performed by the rival Churches.

Dr. Yakovenko's own research of marriage statistics of the period shows that starting with the middle of the 16th century denominationally mixed marriages, among Orthodox, Catholics and Protestants – something unheard of before – became the norm for the Volhynian aristocracy and nobility, which are generally characterized as being close-knit, conservative and consistently Orthodox. The marital strategies among members of the nobility were all too often predicated, not so much by lofty goals of perpetuating their "own" faith, but by mundane and calculated "family politics," as well as the desire to strengthen their position in society, or at court, as was the case with the Radziwills and the Ostrozsksys.

Another valuable source of information about the life of mixed-faith families is the genre of funeral panegyrics. For example, the funeral panegyric written by Jesuit Martin Gincza (1636) tells about a Catholic, Anna Kostczatka who throughout her marriage displayed an exemplary humility, and together with her husband, Prince Oleksander Ostrozsky, regularly attended Orthodox services.

Dr. Yakovenko also observed that attending another church's services was not an unusual practice at the time. Traditionally, every Diet (the Congress of the Commonwealth nobility representing different confessions) was opened by the Catholic liturgy. Likewise, every nobleman's retinue had to follow him in attending the church service of his denomination. On the territory of Ukraine, the regional Diets (seimyky) took place both in Catholic and Orthodox churches.

With the beginning of the 17th century joint Uniate and Catholic Church services became the norm; Polish royals often attended Uniate services, especially on grand or commemorative occasions. One example is the Holy Liturgy of John the Chrysostomus (i.e. "the Greek Canon") at the Holy Trinity Church in Wilno to celebrate the beatification of Josaphat Kuntsevych on January 29, 1643, with the king, the queen and the whole court in attendance.

In extreme cases, the religious affiliation of the priest or the church did not matter. Records of the Lutsk court (1634, 1649) mention the wedding ceremonies of two Catholic couples performed by an Orthodox priest. Both cases were tried in court, not because of the theological "irregularities," but simply because the first marriage was taken without the parents' consent, and the second involved the kidnapping of the bride who had already been engaged to another man. Contrary to accepted views, records of the military campaigns of 1609, 1634, 1649 and 1663, as well as soldiers' diaries typically show that the denominational affiliation of a church and a priest was of little importance.

The same attitude is evident when it came to sacred objects of "other faiths." Instances of Catholics worshipping Ruthenian (Orthodox) icons were recorded as early as the 14th-15th centuries. In her presentation, Dr. Yakovenko described a particularly striking and little-known example: during the Berestechko campaign of 1651, the miracle-working Orthodox icon of the Virgin Mary was taken to the Catholic king's headquarters where the troops prayed to it before the battle of Berestechko and then again immediately following their victory over the Kozaks.

Historical evidence demonstrates that members of the Orthodox Church displayed the same tendencies as those of their Catholic counterparts. A direct influence of Catholicism and Protestantism could be found in Kyivan homilies, in the structure of church administration, in education, in polemical writings, architecture, icon painting and church singing.

Many historians of the political culture of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth are of the opinion that the religious indifference of nobility was a natural by-product of its ideology of "golden freedoms," of equality and the "brotherhood" of nobility that belonged to different religions. This ideology promoted the "unity" of the upper classes of the multi-confessional state; it was meant to be a substitute for the law, the custom, and, it also created an atmosphere of tolerance, which allowed a nobleman to preserve his faith while pursuing a career in the military, the law or in noble pursuits.

Such religious tolerance was based not only on rational explanations (as "the birth right" of every nobleman to practice his own faith) but also on mystical ones – every faith was viewed as an unfathomable gift from God who alone could judge which faith was "the true one."

Later on, with the ongoing Catholic reform and the accompanying "Orthodox Counter-Reformation," co-existence

between various faiths in Ukraine came under ever increasing pressure, and was finally undermined by the military turmoil of the middle and second half of the 17th century. Dr. Yakovenko noted that, still, it appears that even then, at the grassroots level, religious tolerance was widely practiced in the Commonwealth.

At the same time, the secular literature of that period quickly picked up the ardor and uncompromising fervor heretofore characteristic of church polemics. Catholic-Orthodox antagonism took the form of a militant "nationalization" of churches. From that time on, each side was inclined to perceive the other not as a community of a different, and certainly "erroneous," faith but as its mortal enemy – the Catholic Poles on the one side of the chasm and the Orthodox Ruthenians on the other. To use a popular metaphor of the period, "the war of nations" thus became "the war of faiths."

Emblematic of these attitudes is the record made in 1654 by a Polish author who wrote: "The Voivode of Kyiv schismatic Kisiel died in the city of Brest. Right before his death, the Jesuit priests, who were by his side asked him if he was dying in good faith. In response to their question, he shook the fathers' hands. The bells of both Catholic and Orthodox Churches tolled for him because both faiths left the final judgment to Our Lord."



HURI Director Prof. Roman Szporluk introduces Dr. Natalia Yakovenko.



Dr. Serhii Plokyh, University of Alberta, the Petro Jacyk Distinguished Fellow at HURI, comments on the presentation.



FOCUS ON PHILATELY

by Ingerit Kuzych

Celebrating a decade of Ukrainian stamps

Ukraine re-entered the mainstream of stamp-issuing countries on Sunday, March 1, 1992, with the release of a pair of colorful 15-kopiyka stamps. These two new issues were the first regular stamps released by a Ukrainian government in almost seven decades (since 1923). In addition, they were Ukraine's first-ever commemorative stamps.

On March 1 of this year (i.e., 10 years to the day), Ukraine released an elaborate, oversized 40-kopiyka postage stamp commemorating the 10th Anniversary of Modern Ukrainian Stamp Issuance. Depicted on this new stamp was a reproduction of the first of those two 1992 postage stamps that celebrated the 500th Anniversary of Ukrainian Kozakdom (Kozatstvo). The reproduced stamp is surrounded by a beautiful golden baroque border (Figure 1).

Since that exciting day in 1992 and through February 28 of this year, Ukraine has issued exactly 428 postage stamps (including 37 souvenir sheets). Although this philatelic output of 428 stamps does provide collectors with quite a bit of material to try and assemble, the total is not excessive and is pretty much in line with that of other European countries. In comparison, the United States has recently been issuing increasing numbers of stamps. Well over 100 stamps are released annually and a total of 400+ could easily be reached in just three years.

Unveiling Ukraine's first stamps

The Ukrainian Weekly correspondent Marta Kolomayets was there on February 27, 1992, when Ukraine's first stamps were unveiled at a Kyiv press conference. Present at the gathering were Larysa Khorolets, minister of culture; Volodymyr Chornyi, chairman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Information Center; and Vasyly Boyarchuk, deputy chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee on Communications. The pair of debut stamps marked two historic eras in Ukraine's glorious and often turbulent past. As mentioned, the first issue celebrated 500 Years of Kozakdom (1490-1990); the second honored the Centennial of Ukrainian Emigration to Canada (1891-1991).

Kyiv artist Oleksander Ivakhnenko, who designed both stamps, described the event as "a holiday for all of us," as he spoke at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Center.



Figure 1. Two stamps issued exactly 10 years apart: Ukraine's first from 1992 recalls "500 Years of Ukrainian Kozakdom"; the second, from earlier this year, honors "10 Years of Modern Ukrainian Stamps."

According to Mr. Boyarchuk, a contest had been held the previous year to choose designs for new Ukrainian stamps. An artists' council was subsequently formed to prepare designs for future postal issues. Mr. Boyarchuk emphasized that "the issuance of our own stamps is yet another affirmation of Ukraine's statehood."

The first stamps were printed by the Goznak State Printing House in Moscow. Mr. Boyarchuk assured the press, however, that future stamps would be printed in other countries until Ukraine could establish its own facilities. Indeed, Ukraine's early stamps were produced in a number of countries, including Austria, Canada, Hungary, and Russia. Ukraine began printing its own stamps in 1994.

Description of the Kozak stamp and first day cover

Depicted on modern Ukraine's first stamp are three Kozaks standing in front of the emblem of the Zaporozhian Sich. The central figure is based on a traditional portrait of Hetman Dmytro Vyhnevetsky (Figure 2), the founder of the Zaporozhian Sich and the historical counterpart of the legendary "Kozak Baida." This portrayal is further enhanced by the Kozak on the left holding a bunchuk (part of a hetman's regalia), and by the Kozak on the right playing a kobza (a stringed instrument, forerunner to Ukraine's national instrument, the bandura). Kozak Baida is the subject of many Ukrainian folk songs and dmy, or historical ballads.

The Kozak emblem is flanked by the dates "1490-1990"; the entire design is surrounded by the Ukrainian text, "500 Years of Ukrainian Kozakdom." Underneath are the words "Poshta Ukrainy" (Ukraine Post), the numerals of value, and the year of printing, 1991.

A special first day of issue envelope was created for Ukraine's unique first stamp. The envelope cachet depicts a mounted Kozak hetman followed by a kobza player and standard bearer. Stamps affixed to this envelope to create first-day souvenir covers received an attractive circular postmark featuring a mounted Kozak with a rifle (Figure 3).

Designing Ukraine's first stamp

Artist Oleksander Ivakhnenko pretty much knew what elements he wanted to include in his historic stamp design. How to arrange everything, though, was the



Figure 2. Dmytro Vyhnevetsky-Baida (hetman, 1550-1563).

tricky part. Figure 4 shows one of his early stamp designs that prominently displayed the same three figures and the background emblem. The inscription wording, however, was far too small in addition to being composed of a rather jumbled font.

Figure 5 shows the approved stamp design. Note how the image was somewhat reduced to allow room for the text, year of printing and stamp value, all without appearing to crowd the overall design. Since the stamp was printed in Moscow, the approval text is in Russian. It reads: "We approve the issuance of this commemorative stamp '500 Years of Ukrainian Kozakdom.' We confirm the authenticity of the depiction and explanatory text. Deputy Chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee on Communications, V.F. Boyarchuk, 9 November 1991." The bottom right also has a line with the words "Artist - Ivakhnenko O.A."



Figure 3. Official first day of issue cover of Ukraine's first modern-day stamp.

Some numbers

A total of 2.5 million copies of Ukraine's first stamp were printed, but not all that many ever entered circulation. One half of the quantity produced was designated for sale abroad to collectors. In addition, the 15-kopiyka value quickly went out of favor domestically as inflation and continually rising postal rates rendered the stamp obsolete. This issue is still easy to obtain and is relatively inexpensive. By contrast, some 1 million of the 10th Anniversary stamp were prepared and the cost of this lovely new issue is also quite low (only about a quarter).

As a matter of fact, Ukrainian stamps in general are not costly at all. The entire 10-year output of modern Ukrainian stamp issues may be obtained in mint (unused) condition for just a little over

\$200 (U.S.). Purchasing the last 10 years of U.S. stamps would cost a collector three or four times this amount.

While fairly inexpensive to get now, Ukrainian stamps, in my opinion, are likely to appreciate in value over time (unlike the modern stamps of many other countries). The reason is that Marka Ukrainy, Ukraine's stamp production firm, has consistently kept stamp quanti-

(Continued on page 15)



Figure 4. A rejected early design for Ukraine's first stamp.



Figure 5. The historic final approved design of Ukraine's first stamp.

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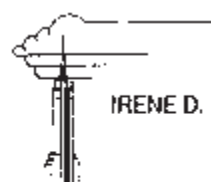
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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

American farmers," said Mikhail Margelov, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Federation Council, according to strana.ru. Vice-Chairman of the State Duma Vladimir Zhirinovskiy said that the decision "testifies to the weakness of [President George W. Bush's] position at home," the website reported. Margelov on May 22 presented to President Vladimir Putin a report prepared by his committee entitled "U.S. Legislation and Russian Interests," which argues that trade relations between the two countries are "unstable" primarily because of "discriminatory norms in American legislation," ITAR-TASS reported. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Ukraine's president...

(Continued from page 3)

well as the wage arrears to Chornobyl staff that increased by five percent this year, Mr. Kuchma said.

"These debts don't make us look good," he said. The total budget allocated for Chornobyl accident relief over past years has amounted to \$5 billion as of 2000.

Mr. Kuchma's criticism came a day after his informal meeting with Mr. Prodi in Brussels. Earlier this year, Mr. Kuchma had criticized Ukraine's Western partners for what he said was the groundless delay of aid to complete two atomic reactors that would compensate for the power and jobs lost at the Chornobyl plant.

The Brussels meeting seemed to prompt the president to review the internal administration of finances that have already been granted by the international community.

Mr. Kuchma was especially critical about the way \$710 million of international funds have been spent for the shelter project, or sarcophagus, saying that 8 million hryv (\$1.5 million) was found to be spent inappropriately.

The Chornobyl issue will be on the agenda of a meeting of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's top officials later in June. The EBRD is expected to assess whether to provide Ukraine assistance in the nuclear sector.

UOC of Moscow...

(Continued from page 3)

said he believes that moving the residence of the UGCC head to Kyiv will introduce more tension into the religious sphere. "Most Greek-Catholic Ukrainians live in western Ukraine, so it is logical that the center of the UGCC is in Lviv. This transfer to Kyiv de facto means proselytism among the Orthodox population in central, eastern and southern Ukraine."

"We shouldn't forget that Ukraine has traditionally been an Orthodox country and canonical Orthodoxy has always been its religion, largely contributing to state formation," he said. According to Mr. Derkach, missionary activities conducted by the UGCC in eastern Ukraine will infringe upon the rights of the Orthodox.

Ms. Samoilyk assessed the move of the Greek-Catholic religious center from Lviv to the capital as, "an open challenge to canonical Orthodoxy." According to Ms. Samoilyk, not only Ukraine but Orthodoxy on the whole will be affected by this move. "If the state authorities, in particular the State Committee on Religious Affairs, do consider Ukraine an Orthodox state, then they should take a definitive stand concerning the latest acts of the Uniates," she stated.

Celebrating...

(Continued from page 13)

ties low. In general, only a few hundred thousand copies of each commemorative stamp are produced (the total of 1 million for the 10th Anniversary issue is actually quite unusual). As more collectors worldwide become aware of the beauty and subject content of Ukrainian stamps, interest is bound to increase. Additionally, once Ukraine's citizens become more prosperous, many will have the leisure and wherewithal to begin to collect. Increased demand will undoubtedly force prices upward.

So, if you've toyed with the idea of get-

ting into Ukrainian philately, there's no better time than the present.

Queries continue to arrive as to where Ukrainian stamps may be obtained. The best and most complete source is Lemberg Stamps and Covers, P.O. Box 4054, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 4S8, Canada. Additional sources of Ukrainian stamps may be found on the website of the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society: www.upns.org. The "Related Links" section at this site provides addresses of many dealers worldwide.

Ingert Kuzych may be reached at P.O. Box 3, Springfield, VA 22150 or by e-mail at: ingert@starpower.net.

Following years...

(Continued from page 1)

"Ukraine's previous indefinite position and our support of the multi-vector policy could lay the road to NATO through Russian doors," he added.

With Kyiv's quicker actions, Ukraine "can leapfrog the process between Russia and NATO," Mr. Soskin said.

Official Russian reaction to Ukraine's declaration was surprisingly mute, however. Many Moscow lawmakers denounced it, expressing concerns about NATO's eastward expansion even as Russia itself is pursuing closer relations with the alliance. The formerly Soviet-dominated republics Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia have also irked Russia with their firm intentions to join NATO.

"It was announced just like in classic intrigues, when the U.S. president's plane was making its final approach to the Russian capital," said Andrei Nikolayev, head of the Defense Committee in the State Duma, the lower house of the Russian Parliament.

Russia's concerns derive from its perception of NATO's expansion as a potential military threat, and many officials reject the explanation that the alliance is primarily a security institution. Russians especially protested the NATO-led bombing campaign against Yugoslavia three years ago.

Nonetheless, it was Russia that prompted Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council to take a decisive step toward NATO by demonstrating stronger ties with the alliance after the September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States.

Another neighbor of Ukraine, anti-Western Belarus, approved Ukraine's choice as a sovereign gesture. Belarusian President Aleksandr Lukashenka expressed fears on May 29 that the new Russian-NATO relationship will affect ties among former Soviet republics, but supported Ukraine's bid as a step that

may "promote stabilization in this region and strengthen peace and security."

Mr. Lukashenka spoke after meeting with Mr. Kuchma in the northern Ukrainian city of Chernihiv, a halfway point between the Belarusian capital of Minsk and Kyiv.

Asked how Belarus would react to being surrounded by NATO partners, Mr. Lukashenka said: "We'll live, and we'll see." He added, "We are studying Ukraine's move very attentively ... to make corresponding conclusions and, maybe, a corresponding move. Don't think that we don't have any dialogue with the North Atlantic structures at all."

Mr. Lukashenka did not express any intention of joining NATO, saying only that Belarus' closer cooperation depends on the NATO's assistance concerning problems caused by the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. Belarus severely suffered from the nuclear accident at the Ukrainian atomic power plant in 1986. Mr. Lukashenka said that NATO officials have replied to his proposal and have scheduled a joint Chernobyl relief effort this fall.

In remarks about NATO's remarkable progress in relations with post-Soviet states, President Kuchma said that Ukraine has taken a "serious step" and praised the NATO-Russia Council for bringing "stability to the European continent."

Ukraine gave up its nuclear arsenal after declaring independence from the Soviet Union in 1991 and proclaiming its neutrality. However, it has participated in numerous NATO-led exercises and its peacekeeping mission in Kosovo.

According to the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Ukrainian officials expect to discuss the terms of Ukraine's entrance into the alliance at the NATO summit in Prague. However, the outlook remains dim because the Ukrainian economy, as well as Ukraine's performance in terms of democracy and rights issues, are far from NATO standards.

Lytvyn elected...

(Continued from page 1)

vote jointly for their own candidates, which included Communist Adam Martyniuk as chairman, and Our Ukraine's Roman Bezsmertnyi and Mrs. Tymoshenko's ally, Oleksander Turchynov as vice-chairman.

However, their proposal did not come up for a vote, because deputies managed to elect United Ukraine's candidates first.

Minutes after the vote, the leader of the Our Ukraine faction and former Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko kicked out seven members who supported Mr. Lytvyn. Among Communists, who were not expected to support United Ukraine's leader, former Procurator General Mykhailo Potebenko voted for him. After the vote, Potebenko declared to give up his deputy's mandate, Communist leader Petro Symonenko said on May 30, according to the Interfax news agency.

Mr. Yushchenko said last week he would actively oppose the United Ukraine faction (as the For a United Ukraine election bloc renamed itself) if it won the chairman's post.

Mr. Yushchenko's ally and the leader of the National Rukh movement, Yuriy Kostenko, said on May 28 that the outcome may lead to political confrontation in the Parliament, which could include efforts to unseat Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh.

Repeating previous claims that lawmakers unaligned with United Ukraine were coerced to support a pro-Kuchma candidate for the parliamentary leader-

ship, Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz said that some lawmakers were forced to vote for Mr. Lytvyn under threat of government authorities.

The 450-seat Verkhovna Rada elected also Hennadii Vasyliiev, former procurator of the eastern Donetsk region and United Ukraine member, as Mr. Lytvyn's vice-chairman. Oleksander Zinchenko, leader of the SDPU, is the second vice-chairman.

Soon after the Verkhovna Rada was sworn in May 14, lawmakers launched into tense debates to elect its leadership but had failed to come to any conclusion until the vote this week.

Their disputes increased further, when the Rada started to divide parliamentary committees. The Our Ukraine faction and Communists insist that the committees should be shared on a proportional basis, according to the outcome of the parliamentary elections.

Some opposition lawmakers started an initiative to cancel the current parliament's leadership on May 30, but received poor support from Mr. Yushchenko's faction, which considered the idea inefficient. Our Ukraine said it would refrain from any negotiations until it produces a new political strategy to fit the current power division in the Parliament.

Mr. Malenkov commented that Mr. Lytvyn's victory is positive for Mr. Yushchenko in the long term, because his faction and other opposition movements now have the opportunity to take an aggressive position and win the presidential election in two years.



In Loving Memory Of

EUGENE BALANDA

who passed away on Saturday, May 11, 2002

Loving husband of Sophie, beloved father of Jean, Paul and predeceased by John, adored grandfather and great-grandfather. Eugene was born in Rozdil, Ukraine, on October 15, 1912. He was a member of UNA Branch 393.

Excerpt from eulogy delivered by grand-daughter Elaine Maffucci: "... Although grandpa came to America at the age of 15, he always retained his love of his homeland. He was always emphatic about our heritage and made sure his children and grand-children knew it. We were not Polish, Russian or other Slavic nationalities. We were Ukrainian! One of his happiest days was when Ukraine was free. He was thrilled to see the blue-and-yellow flag fly free."

A funeral liturgy was held on Tuesday, May 14, 2002, at Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church, Astoria, N.Y., with interment at Calvary Cemetery.

To The Weekly Contributors:

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

- ✦ News stories should be sent in **not later than 10 days** after the occurrence of a given event.
- ✦ All materials must be typed (or legibly hand-printed) and double-spaced.
- ✦ Photographs (originals only, **no photocopies or computer printouts**) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- ✦ Full names (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- ✦ Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- ✦ Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- ✦ Persons who submit any materials must **provide a daytime phone number** where they may be reached if any additional information is required.
- ✦ Unsolicited materials submitted for publication will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

to be published in The Ukrainian Weekly – in the Ukrainian or English language – are accepted by mail, courier, fax, phone or e-mail.

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Manor College signs dual admissions agreements with area colleges

JENKINTOWN, Pa. – Manor College President Sister Mary Cecilia Jurasinski, OSBM, and Holy Family College President Sister Francesca Onley, CSFN, Ph.D., recently added their signatures to a new Dual Admissions Agreement between the two educational institutions.

The Holy Family signing marks the latest in a series of similar agreements Manor College has entered into this year with area four-year colleges and universities, including Cabrini College, Chestnut Hill College, Gwynedd-Mercy College, Immaculate College, LaSalle University and Rosemont College.

With the agreements, Manor College students completing a designated associate degree are granted admission to the four-year institutions, where they can receive a bachelor's degree in two years, without losing time or credits.

"We have always been closely aligned with Holy Family," said Sally Mydlowec, executive vice-president and dean of academic affairs. "Transferring to Holy Family will be a great opportunity for our education and our business majors in particular," she added.

With many of the agreements, Manor students will enjoy a core-to-core advantage, whereby the core course requirements at the four-year institution are fulfilled by Manor's core courses. By recognizing that the core requirements are embedded in Manor's associate degree program, Manor students avoid the need to take core courses at the four-year college or university.

Other benefits to Manor students include the fact that the application fees are waived under the agreements, transfer scholarships are available to students maintaining a certain GPA, and Manor students will have the opportunity to



Manor College President Sister Mary Cecilia Jurasinski, OSBM, and Holy Family College President Sister Francesca Onley, CSFN, Ph.D., add their signatures to a new Dual Admissions Agreement between the two educational institutions. Standing (from left) are: Lauren McDermott, associate director for admissions, Holy Family; Dr. Antoinette Schiavo, assistant vice-president for academic affairs and dean of graduate studies, Holy Family; Dr. David Rice, vice-president and dean for academic affairs, Holy Family; Marialice Stanzeski, director of development, Manor College; Sally Mydlowec, executive vice-president and dean of academic affairs, Manor; I. Jerry Czenstuch, dean of admissions, Manor; Chris Whaumbush, director, part-time admissions and professional development, Manor.

meet with staff members from the four-year institutions on Manor's campus to obtain assistance and information.

Manor students must meet certain requirements under the agreement as well. A Dual Admissions Intent Form must be

signed before completing 30 credits at Manor, and a minimum GPA must be maintained, which varies according to the bachelor's degree program, to be eligible for transfer. Students must earn at least a "C" in all major courses being transferred into the bachelor's degree major.

The four-year institutions benefit from the agreements because they are getting a proven product. By accepting Manor students who are transferring in after meet-

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Tymkiw wins spring tennis tournament at Tryzub sports center near Philadelphia

HORSHAM, Pa. – Jerry Tymkiw of USO Tryzub, was often a contender at Tryzub's 32 tennis tournaments, but never a champion. He broke this string by winning this year's Tryzub Spring Tournament held the weekend of May 4-5 at the Tryzubivka center.

The win did not come easily. In the finals Mr. Tymkiw defeated past champion Pavlo Rehulyk in a three plus hour marathon by a score of 6-2, 6-7, 6-3, the second set lasting one and a half hours. In the semis he won against Alex Olync, 6-3, 6-0, advanced by default in the second round and, in the first round, prevailed over super senior Alex Mychaluk, 6-0, 6-1.

Top-seeded Mr. Rehulyk reached the finals with a semifinal win over Ihor Buhaj, 6-1, 6-3, a second round win over Walter Dziwak, 6-1, 6-1, and a bye in the first round.

Third place in the tournament went automatically to Alex Olync when the feed-in tournament could not be finished due to injuries incurred during previous matches to Boris Tatunchak and Bohdan Krawtchuk, and some defaulted matches.

Presenting the trophies to the winners was George Sawchak, tournament director. The next USCAK tennis tournament will be held at Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, N.Y., during the July 6-7 weekend.



At Tryzub's spring tennis tournament (from left) are: Pavlo Rehulyk, finalist, Jerry Tymkiw, champion, and Alex Olync, third-place winner.



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Ukrainian Graduates of Detroit/Windsor support Ukrainian Heritage Room

WARREN, Mich. – The Ukrainian Graduates of Detroit and Windsor held a luncheon and silent auction at the Ukrainian Cultural Center on Sunday, April 21, for the purpose of raising funds for the restoration of the Ukrainian Heritage Room at Wayne State University.

With approximately 150 people in attendance, the program began with introductory remarks by master of ceremonies Stephen Wichar. Col. Oleh Cieply gave a slide presentation of the various national heritage rooms in Manoogian Hall, ending with the Ukrainian room as it appears today, with one wall decorated by a beautiful and unique relief map of Ukraine and complementary figures originally created by Edward, George and Jerome Kozak, and recently restored by Jerome.

After lunch, the program continued with the introduction of Volodymyr Mayorchak, a young Ukrainian artist who has been commissioned by the Ukrainian Graduates to complete the restoration project. Mr. Mayorchak brought sketches of his renderings for the remaining walls of the room.

One wall will be covered with a large mural depicting key figures from Ukrainian history and culture, while the next wall will contain decorative wooden carvings using Ukrainian motifs, a display cabinet for Ukrainian art objects, and carved wooden benches. The remaining wall contains the blackboard, which will be encircled with the same decorative carvings. Finally, Mr. Mayorchak spoke about the entry door, which will be covered with a carved "Ukraine" sign, a carved tryzub, and a relief of St. George and a serpent, representing the battle between good and evil in which the Ukrainian nation has been



Members of the Ukrainian Heritage Room Committee at a fund-raiser in Warren, Mich.

involved throughout its history.

Mr. Mayorchak thanked the Ukrainian Graduates for giving him the opportunity to work on this extensive project, and he expressed his hope that the entire local Ukrainian community will be able to see it after completion.

Following the presentations, questions were raised regarding the projected date for the completion of the restoration, as well as the estimated costs. Mr. Wichar stated that the original costs had been figured at approximately \$60,000, but that the final figure may be a little less. The Graduates have been working very dili-

gently on fund-raising for nearly two years, and it is hoped that the project can be completed by next spring.

Monetary pledges are always welcome, and all donations are tax-deductible. Persons donating \$1,000 or more will have their names permanently cast in bronze on a plaque which will be mounted in the Heritage Room.

A musical interlude by the Soyuzianky Singers, who were accompanied on the piano by Olga Solovey, concluded the official program. These six attractive young women presented a repertoire of Ukrainian folk melodies and one modern

American song, "Angels Among Us," underscoring the theme of support for a worthwhile cause.

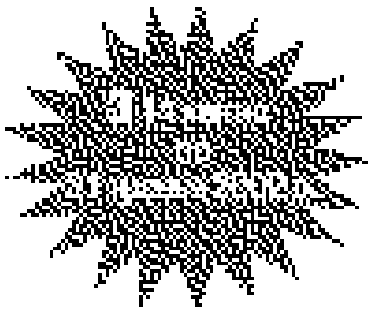
Throughout the afternoon, those present had the opportunity to bid at the extensive silent auction, with a variety of art and decorative objects, books, small appliances, gift certificates and even a week's stay at an oceanfront condominium in Florida. The auction was pronounced a great success, with all but a few items sold before the closing.

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Saturday, July 13	Zabava	Vechirka 10 PM
Saturday, July 20	Zabava	Chemney Day Chornozem 10 PM
Saturday, July 27	Concert Zabava	Dumka 8:30 PM Svitanok 10 PM
Saturday, August 3	Exhibit Concert Zabava	Kozak Family - Paintings Caberet – celebrating the 50th anniversary 8:30 PM Vorony 10 PM
Sunday, August 4		UNWLA Day
Saturday, August 10	Exhibit Concert Zabava Crowning	Dycia Hanushevsky - Ceramics Lvivyany 8:30 PM Tempo 10 PM Miss Soyuzivka 11:45 PM
Saturday, August 17	Recital Zabava	Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky Dance Camp Fata Morgana 10 PM
Saturday, August 24		Music in the Trembita Lounge
Friday, August 30	Zabava	Luna – 10 PM
Saturday, August 31	Concert Zabava	Syzokryli 8:30 PM Tempo 10 PM
Sunday, September 1	Zabava	Montage 10 PM

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The Ukrainian Weekly announces a special section

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The Ukrainian Weekly's special section – Congratulations, Graduates! – offers readers of The Ukrainian Weekly the opportunity to place a note congratulating family members and dear friends on their recent achievements. This annual section will be published on July 7, 2002.

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Religious freedom...

(Continued from page 11)

of religious tolerance. Post-Conciliar Roman Catholic theology, with its core idea of legal and institutional order, has sacrificed the same feeling in favor of human rights as an indispensable condition of social order. Will Orthodox theology, with its central task to preserve religious tradition, be the third?

The mainstream Protestant and the Roman Catholic Churches have accepted the idea of religious freedom. As a result, Orthodoxy is facing two strong modernized forms of Christianity, yet it is now incapable of making changes (or, at least, of making them easily) in its ultimate value – tradition. It creates a considerable "developmental gap" between them, placing strong pressure to modernize onto Orthodoxy, which is rather archaic. Both Protestant and Roman Catholic missionaries, therefore, appear to have more competitive capacity in comparison with indigenous Orthodoxy. No wonder that isolationist tendencies prevail in Orthodoxy. In such a situation, religious freedom and human rights, with their strong capability to break up boundaries, are often seen as acting in favor of "foreign" churches, thereby leaving the indigenous tradition unprotected.

The present reluctance of Orthodoxy to adopt the idea of human rights will likely not last long. Orthodox Churches are in the process of a search for their own reply to the challenge of human rights and modernity. It looks as though Huntington's list of waves of democratization will grow.

An attempt at prognosis

According to the present turn of minds, a confessional pluralism is the most important guarantor of religious freedom and, at the same time, a serious concern of the faithful (mostly Orthodox) which consider such a pluralism a consequence of a discord among traditional Orthodox believers and a weakness of the state. The confessional pluralism is a reason for dissatisfaction of both state officials and the hierarchy of the main Orthodox churches but none of them can change the situation. Thus, the future of Christianity in Ukraine mostly depends on the development of a tolerant, non-destructive and pluralistic model of religious identity. If it fails, the attempts to re-unite existing Eastern churches into one "strong Orthodoxy" may lead to curtailment of religious freedom already achieved. I would like to express, however, my personal cautious optimism. It should be noticed that till now, in spite of numerous political and national reasons, nobody succeeded in the unification of Ukrainian Orthodoxy mostly because tolerance is not assumed as a basis for such a unification.

The status of Christianity in Ukraine strongly depends on the influence of Moscow, Rome and partly Constantinople, as well as Western, mostly American, centers of Protestantism. This makes Ukrainian Christianity especially vulnerable. Until now, Ukraine was a field of rivalry of those Christian centers and, consequently, a "stumbling block of ecumenism." For too long Ukrainian representatives of the world confessions were obliged to manifest loyalty to their church centers rather than manifest Christian love in relations between themselves within Ukraine. It is a responsibility of these centers also, side by side with that of Ukrainian Christians, to transform the land into a field of tolerance, reconciliation and the building-up of confidence.

The Christian experience of the Slavonic East, artificially hidden for such a long time, seems to be unincorporated by the modern world. The isolationistic attitude of Eastern Christians is, to a considerable extent, a reaction to the conviction of the Western missionaries in the early

1990s that a post-communist space is a blank page which is fated to be filled by Western churches. The situation was burdened by an obvious rivalry between Western missionaries themselves. The logic of competition was too strong to notice a spiritual and cultural trauma endured by the people, in general. I am afraid the logic of protection, in its turn, will be too strong to reckon with a principle of religious freedom.

The problem of correlation between the religious freedom of individuals and religious identities of communities, being still unsolved, is becoming increasingly important. Religious freedom is protected (at least, theoretically) by the international standards of human rights. In other words, religious freedom is a subject of legal regulation. A right of a certain religious community to preserve its tradition is considerably less protected. Anyway, an obligation not to traumatize a certain historical tradition is only a moral obligation of other communities. The difference between legal and moral obligations, however, is too subtle in our imperfect world.

Taking into account that some Western missionaries fell short of their Christian obligations, an impression has been developed in the mass conscience of Slavs that religious freedom is more profitable for the Western churches and is invented in order to suppress Slavonic Christianity spiritually and culturally. Western mentality is prone to neglect such a reaction perceiving a lack of education in it. Of course, lack of education is a problem. Nevertheless, it is rather dangerous when a question of protection of religious traditions is raised and advocated only by local traditionalists and isolationists. Then it appears that the West is becoming an advocate of an uncontrolled "free market of religions" while the East is moving in the opposite direction and advocating the protection of its religious identity even at the expense of religious freedom.

It is clear, however, that both extremes in the debate of religious freedom vs. religious identity are incorrect. In a society which is properly balanced, religious freedom is a precondition for the free exercise of its identity, and, respectfully, confidence in one's identity makes freedom an indispensable attribute of religious life. The present tension is, therefore, a challenge not only for the East to respect religious freedom unconditionally but also for the West to find an adequate protection of the manifestations of a human spirit which become too vulnerable under the circumstances of an uncontrolled free market of religions and confessions.

Speaking about ways of implementation of the principle of religious freedom in Ukraine, national history, cultural peculiarities and ethno-psychology should be taken into consideration. As Harold Berman writes in his book, "Religious Rights in Russia at a Time of Tumultuous Transition: A History Theory": "Religious human rights, like all human rights, must find their source and sanction simultaneously in morality, history, and politics." This aim cannot be achieved by a single judicial act. It will be a long process of development, the first signs of which are quite visible in Ukraine nowadays.

At present, certain Orthodox leaders and Orthodox-oriented members of the Ukrainian Parliament are trying to find legal formulas to recognize the predominantly Orthodox (Eastern) nature of Christianity in Ukraine. So far, such formulas have been seen as instruments in interchurch struggle for influence and, consequently, may lead to a certain kind of discrimination. It is the homework of Ukrainians, for the future decades, to find a golden mean between appreciation of Ukrainian history and religious tradition, on the one hand, and safeguarding the internationally accepted standards of religious freedom and human rights, on the other.

UNA's 35th Convention...

(Continued from page 5)

future in Canada.

In her assessment of the general state of the UNA, the outgoing president said she believed the financial drain that the UNA has suffered since 1988 has been stemmed, but added that membership growth must take place.

She pointed out the need for the UNA to strengthen its branches and develop more effective branch secretaries. She also stated that a method must be found to reach out and attract the Fourth Wave of immigration that has entered the U.S. since the late 1980s, a call made by many convention participants throughout the five days.

"We must somehow find the path to the newest immigration," she explained. "They have grown into the American fabric to a certain extent and are better off financially today." Ms. Diachuk also called for a serious effort to retain the memberships of children and grandchildren of UNA members and to get them involved in the fraternal organization's work.

Stefko Kuropas, outgoing UNA first vice-president, told the delegates that over the last four years UNA Christmas card sales had resulted in \$75,000 for Soyuzivka, the UNA and its publications. He called on the UNA to reach out to the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) in talks on re-entering the umbrella organization. He also had criticism for the way in which the Home Office executives had developed certain policy decisions over the last four years.

Another outgoing officer, Director for Canada Rev. Myron Stasiw, criticized the UNA for considering a move out of the country. He attributed much of the organizing problems in the large Toronto community to the hiring of a non-Ukrainian Canadian as the head of the UNA's Toronto Office several years ago. He said the appointment was a public relations disaster.

National Secretary Lysko, who will become first vice-president on the new Executive Committee, noted that huge changes had taken place in the UNA over the last four years and that more were coming, including a new mortality table that will go up to age 120. She suggested that thought had to be given to enlivening the districts and branches and doing some reshuffling of membership among the branches to get people who are geographically close into appropriate branches.

Mr. Kaczaraj, the outgoing treasurer and president-elect, said that for two years in a row the UNA has had an operating profit, with a \$308,000 net gain in 2001 and a \$134,000 net gain the year before that, which came after a 10-year downturn that had cost the UNA \$20.3 million – an average of \$1.8 million annually.

He said the improved financial picture was the result of the restructuring of operations, manpower reductions, the change of the Svoboda newspaper from a daily to a weekly, as well as significant reductions in operating expenditures, a new direct billing system and increase in occupancy of the new UNA building.

Resolutions and recommendations

After four days of intense and at times heated debate and deliberations, the delegates used a portion of the final day to approve a set of resolutions and recommendations.

First, they called on the General Assembly to do all in its power to keep Soyuzivka either wholly owned by the UNA or in partnership with a Ukrainian investor. They also resolved that the UNA Executive Committee may conduct a mail ballot on the merger of the UFA with the UNA, as long as there is no change of the UNA name.

They suggested that the convention be shortened to three or four days and resolved that all candidates for UNA leadership posi-

tions should announce their candidacies two months prior to the convention as well as have their platforms and qualifications printed in the UNA's publications.

Furthermore, they called on the UNA leadership to consider rejoining with the UCCA; to have the General Assembly develop a strategic action plan to increase membership and to prepare public relations and marketing plans; and to have all reports, speeches and discussions of the next convention translated into both English and Ukrainian. Finally, they resolved that a bust of the late Patriarch Mystyslav of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church be erected at Soyuzivka and recommended that future UNA conventions be held at the UNA resort.

For all their attention to the work of the convention, the delegates and guests also had time to visit the Ukrainian Village area of Chicago, take a tour of the beautiful city, as well as attend a concert and a banquet.

The gala banquet featured addresses by Ukrainian community and U.S. political leaders, including U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur of Ohio, Ukrainian World Congress President Askold Lozynskyj and Dr. Kuropas, UNA historian and former UNA vice-president.

In the Ukrainian Village, the delegates attended divine liturgy at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, presided over by Bishop Innocent Lotocky, which was followed by an ecumenical moleben service with both Bishop Lotocky and Archbishop Vsevolod concelebrating.

The relaxing Sunday continued with a visit to the new premises of the Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union, where UNA'ers were feted at a reception, followed by a tour of downtown Chicago.



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Iowa community...

(Continued from page 9)

and reception in her honor. On a several-day visit to Iowa during his American tour, producer and director Oles Yanchuk showed his acclaimed film, "The Undefeated," on two campuses to staff, students and the general public and visited classes on three campuses. Later in the year, members of the sister city organization in Newton showed the classic "Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors" and the contemporary "Friend of the Deceased" for a contrasting look at how Ukrainians deal with obstacles and loss.

The highlight of Ukraine year was a multi-course dinner of Ukrainian specialties. In conjunction with the Newton sister city organization, the International Year committee invited Cherkasy chefs, Nadiya Kanarova, director of the restaurant in the Palace of Culture, and Valentyna Levytska, head chef of the restaurant Stare Misto.

Through an interpreter who accompanied them from Cherkasy, the Ukrainian chefs demonstrated typical Ukrainian recipes to the culinary arts students. The future Iowa chefs learned the proper way to seal varenyky; how to make holubtsi of uniform size; and to roast rather than boil beets for borsch.

In question and answer periods during the class demonstrations, the students learned about food and life in Ukraine. They asked where chefs buy their ingredients, and how well-equipped their professional kitchens are. One Iowan observed that Ukrainians really must like beets since they were used in two of the recipes they brought, while he might eat beets "no more often than once every three months."

Unlike some of the college's previous exchange chefs, the Ukrainians were neither fussy nor demanding but very accommodating and fun to work with, said Robert Anderson, the director of DMACC's hospitality career program.

After several days of training, the Iowa students were prepared to cook a four-course meal for some 60 people, who each paid \$75. The dinner started with several salads: "Cherkasy Salad" was a mixture of beets, walnuts, prunes, and mayonnaise; "Ukrayinskyi Salat" combined fresh cucumbers, tomatoes, carrots and cabbage; and "Khreschatyk Salad" contained tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, ham, cheese and olives dressed in mayonnaise. The "zakusky" (appetizers) were followed by borsch with pampushky, the small garlic rolls served in central and eastern Ukraine, and three entrees: holubtsi; fried white fish with horseradish cream sauce; and pork baked with mushrooms.

Dessert was varenyky with cherries and honey sauce. In addition to the wines usually served at the DMACC gourmet dinners, assorted horilka and port from Crimea were provided for making toasts. The dinner was repeated at a second campus a week later.

Larysa Hontarenko, a violinist of the Chamber Orchestra in Cherkasy, entertained the diners with Ukrainian folk songs and some classical music. The abundant talent of Ukrainians became evident when the 20-year-old Cherkasy music student recruited to interpret for the musicians was put onstage herself after one of the musicians backed out of

making the trip to America following the terrorist attacks. Yuliana Matasova, a professional pop singer, won first prize in the 1998 all-Ukrainian singing festival "Rain of Stars" and a special prize in the Third International Festival of modern Ukrainian pop songs. In 2001 Ms. Matasova took third place in the Chervona Ruta competition and later sang at major pop concerts in Kyiv.

At the Ukrainian dinner, Ms. Matasova, clad in red leather, entertained with her own compositions based on a mix of Slavic folk and Western modern music.

Serendipity brought another young Cherkasy student to the "Year of Ukraine." Having participated in a high school exchange with Iowa several years earlier, Natasha Boychenko enrolled at DMACC. She was surprised to learn that the college was honoring her country and participated in a number of activities. Dressed in traditional costume at the gourmet dinner, Ms. Boychenko presented the bread baked by the visiting chefs and salt to the new president of DMACC. She also sang Ukrainian songs at the winter and spring concerts and spoke to classes about Ukraine and its music. In an interview with the student newspaper, The Chronicle, Ms. Boychenko said, "a majority of Ukrainians are very excited about the new governmental election system that is taking place. We believe that these new steps will bring great outcome for our country's future."

Year of Ukraine head Nancy Noth, executive dean of the Newton Campus, said: "I think it was a very successful year. Each campus participated in some of the activities, and the two-week visit with the chefs and musicians was exciting. Friendships were established between our Ukrainian guests and some of our faculty - and they continue to correspond with each other."

And as for pysanky-writing, finding a local resident to demonstrate was not difficult. Sherry Pogranichniy, an Iowa native who married a Ukrainian she met on an agricultural exchange program, conducted pysanky-making workshops on two different campuses.

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The next issue of The Ukrainian Weekly's

Wedding Announcements

will appear in the July 14th issue.

For a wedding announcement to be included in that issue, all information must be received in our offices by June 25.

Along with wedding announcements, we will include greetings from friends, family members, bridesmaids and ushers – from all those who wish to share in the excitement of a new marriage.

We hope you will announce your wedding in The Ukrainian Weekly, or send a greeting to your favorite newlyweds.

Rates for announcements and greetings:

- One-column wedding announcement: \$100
- Two-column wedding announcement: \$200
- Wedding greeting: \$75

For further information or to request a brochure, please call (973) 292-9800, ext. 3040 (Maria).

Visit www.ukrweekly.com to view a wedding announcement sample page.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Thursday, June 6

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Art and Literary Club and the New York Bandura Ensemble invite the public to "Once Upon a Time in Ukraine," an evening featuring kobzar-lirnyk Vasyl Nechepa from Chernihiv, a representative of the traditional Chernihiv kobzar school. The program will include ancient folk songs collected in the Chernihiv region from his one-man recital – "Songs from the Riverbank of the Enchanted Desna," as well as contemporary songs about Ukraine from the "Why is the Guelder-Rose in Tears?" collection. Donation: \$10. Currently on view in the gallery is the Valeriy Hnatenko Commemorative Exhibit. The concert will take place at 7 p.m. at the Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave. (between Eighth and Ninth streets), fourth floor. For more information call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144; Website, www.brama.com/mayana; e-mail, ukrartlitclub@aol.com.

Saturday, June 8

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society is sponsoring a lecture by Dr. Svitlana Kocherha, director, Lesia Ukrainka Museum in Yalta, Crimea, on the topic "Ukrainian Belles-Lettres and Crimea." The lecture will be held at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For more information call (212) 254-5130.

Sunday, June 9

MISSISSAUGA, Ontario: The Arkan Dance Company presents "A Journey Through Ukraine," a concert of Ukrainian and modern dance featuring the choreography of guest choreographer National Artist of Ukraine Rafayil Malynovsky. The concert will be held at 7 p.m. at the Hammerson Hall, Living Arts Center, 4141 Living Arts Center Drive (Burnhamthorpe and Hurontario). Tickets, at \$25, \$23 and \$20,

are available by calling the Living Arts Center Box Office, (905) 306-6000.

Saturday-Sunday, June 15-16

NEW YORK: Yara Arts Group presents "Midsummer Night Songs" workshops in Ukrainian folk singing with Mariana Sadovska, who for the last 11 summers traveled through villages in Ukraine collecting songs and documenting rituals. Discover the folk voice in you. Learn ancient songs for Kupalo, the pagan midsummer night ritual. You do not have to be able to read Ukrainian or music to participate. Time: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; fee: \$20 per session. Pre-registration required. Call if you want to participate in our Kupalo events, (212) 475-6474, or e-mail yara@prodigy.net. For more information and updates to www.brama.com/yara.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Saturday-Sunday, June 22-29

NEW YORK: The Yara Arts Group presents "Kupalo in the Garden: Midsummer Night Ritual Songs, Art and Anarchy," featuring Mariana Sadovska with the Yara Arts Group, Experimental Bandura Trio, the Budmo Music Ensemble, Kolo Project and many others assembled by Virlana Tkacz. Time: 8 p.m. Place: La Plaza Cultural Community Garden SW (corner of East Ninth Street and Avenue C). The event is free. For more information and updates go to www.brama.com/yara.

Wednesday, June 26

NEW YORK: The Yara Arts Group presents "Mariana Sadovska in concert," a concert celebrating Ukrainian folk music and a presentation of the new CD "Song Tree: Village Singers from Polissia and Poltava." The concert will be held at 8 p.m. at the Club at La MaMa 74 E. Fourth St. (between Second and Third avenues). Tickets: \$15. For more information, call (212) 475-7710; for updates go to www.brama.com/yara.

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.

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Arkan Dance Company to present 'Journey through Ukraine'

MISSISSAUGA, Ontario – The Arkan Dance Company, which has performed as cultural ambassadors of Canada and of Ukraine at international festivals throughout the world, presents "A Journey Through Ukraine," a concert of Ukrainian and modern dance featuring the work of guest choreographer National Artist of Ukraine Rafayil Malynovsky. The concert will be held Sunday, June 9, at Hammerson Hall at the Living Arts Center at 7 p.m.

Maestro Malynovsky has had a distinguished career as choreographer of various leading ensembles and dance companies throughout Ukraine and Russia, among them Lionok, Rodoslav, Veriovka, Kalyna, the Kubanskyi Ensemble and Sonechko. During the past season, he has worked for seven months with the Arkan Dance Company and with selected classes of The Ukrainian Academy of Dance during which time he has created an entirely new repertoire of interesting and energetic choreography. His stay has been funded in part by the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko.

Among the works featured at the concert will be Mr. Malynovsky's Polissian Suite of dances to the accompaniment of Ukrainian

folk instruments, as well as comedy and character dances, a spring welcoming dance and Hutsul and Transcarpathian dances.

Also featured will be the modern dance "Scythian Gold" choreographed by Arkan's artistic director, Danovia Stechishin, who was commissioned last year by the Royal Ontario Museum to create an interpretive dance about the Scythia culture that flourished on what is now Ukraine 2,000 years ago. The project was funded in part by the Toronto Arts Council.

Tickets for the concert, at \$25, \$23 and \$20, are available by calling the Living Arts Center Box Office at (905) 306-6000.

The Arkan Dance Company has performed at numerous international festivals among them, in Florida (1995), Taiwan (1996), Brazil (1997), Manitoba (1998), China (1999), Nova Scotia (2001), and Drummondville, Quebec (2001). The dance company was chosen as a semi-finalist in the Canada-wide YTV achievement awards in 2000 and was chosen that same year to perform at Madison Square Garden for the United Nations summit in New York. Arkan is currently preparing for a tour of Ukraine in 2003.