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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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

Vol. LXX

No. 32

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2002

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Rep. Sander Levin introduces bill to establish Famine memorial in D.C.

by Serhiy Zhykharev

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON — In preparation for the upcoming 75th anniversary commemoration of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, a bill has been introduced in the U.S. Congress to erect a memorial in Washington to the victims of the Famine.

At the initiative of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), Rep. Sander Levin (D-Mich.), co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, was approached with the idea of constructing this monument. Having a strong Ukrainian American constituency and being an ardent supporter of the community's concerns, Rep. Levin was also the main sponsor of the 1998 congressional resolution on the 65th anniversary of what is known as the Great Famine. The resolution had over 70 co-sponsors.

The Famine Memorial Bill, H.R. 5289, provides for a parcel of land in Washington for the construction of a memorial, which will be dedicated in 2008 in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Famine.

The bill now has nearly 40 co-sponsors, including all of the co-chairs of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus (Reps. Steve Horn, Marcy Kaptur, Bob Schaffer, Louise Slaughter and Curt Weldon).

The bill recognizes the horrific nature of the man-made famine in Ukraine, stating it was not brought about "by natural causes such as pestilence, drought, floods, or poor harvest, but as a consequence of a premeditated policy on the part of the Soviet government led by Joseph Stalin to

crush the nationally conscious Ukrainian people and destroy their national, political, cultural and religious rights."

In an interview, the sponsor of the Famine Memorial Bill, Rep. Levin, commented on the necessity of establishing a monument to the victims of the genocide in Ukraine in 1932-1933. "This memorial is important," stated Rep. Levin, "because it commemorates a horrific event that must not be relegated to a footnote in history books," he said. "By introducing this legislation, I seek to honor the memory of all those who perished, and hope to ensure that such a tragedy never happens again."

Commenting on the congressman's remarks, Michael Sawkiw Jr., president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, stated: "The entire Ukrainian American community is truly grateful for all of Rep. Sander Levin's efforts. His support of Ukrainian American issues in the past, and now the current legislation proposed by him to erect a monument to the victims of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide, shows the true depth of Rep. Levin's commitment to enhancing U.S.-Ukrainian relations, while also acknowledging Ukraine's history."

The bill has been referred to the Resources Committee of the House of Representatives, specifically to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation, and Public Lands.

On July 29, Rep. Levin issued a "Dear Colleague" letter to the House of Representatives seeking additional co-sponsors of H.R. 5289. In response to Rep.

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Another fatal accident claims 20 lives at Zasiadko coal mine

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — A disastrous month for Ukraine culminated on July 31 with one more deadly accident that may have been preventable, when 20 miners died as a result of an explosion at the infamous Zasiadko mine in Donetsk. It was the third such disaster in the last three years at the colliery, which is controlled by lawmaker and former Prime Minister Yukhym Zviatkovskiy.

Tragedy struck again at what is considered the country's most productive coal operation around 8 p.m., when a build-up of coal dust exploded at about a kilometer below the surface in an area where 21 miners were working. One worker survived, suffering non-critical injuries. The remains of 19 of the men were brought to the surface immediately, while the body of the last unaccounted-for miner was discovered the next day, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

Members of Ukraine's Ministry of Emergency Situations said the blast was caused by drilling and blasting operations taking place at the time, a common mining procedure for breaking up veins of coal. On August 3, which was declared a national day of mourning for the latest victims, Vice Prime Minister of Industrial Policy Oleh Dubyna confirmed the initial findings and said he had received preliminary reports that violation of safety regulations during drilling and blasting sparked the explo-

sion.

The Procurator General's Office on August 1 charged a deputy director and a blasting foreman with criminal culpability for "violation of safety rules in an area of high danger." Prosecutors were also investigating the managing director of the Zasiadko mine.

"Ukraine does not need coal at such a price," said President Leonid Kuchma in Sevastopol on August 1, referring to the deaths of more than 60 miners in Ukraine in three separate incidents in the last month, and 187 deaths in 13 separate incidents since the beginning of the year. The president told the government to establish a mine safety commission to enforce and develop additional safety procedures.

He also ordered all mines in Ukraine checked for their adherence to safety standards and the closing of those that did not meet minimum requirements, which resulted within two days in the shut down of 60 percent of the mines of the Donbas region for numerous violations.

Independent trade union members in Donetsk protested the decision and blamed the government and President Kuchma for insufficiently funding the mines, which they said has directly caused the degradation of conditions for miners.

"Miners expected the president and the government to give real financial support and further budgetary funds for the creation of safe labor conditions," read a statement issued by the protesters. "But all we have heard is 'do not expect further help, we will be closing mines.'"

Anatolii Kolomyiets, the leader of the Independent Trade Union of Coal Workers, laid direct blame for the third disaster in three years at the Zasiadko mine on National Deputy Zviatkovskiy, who chairs the mine's board of directors, for failing to enforce safety standards. He explained that in 1999, when the first of the three fatal mine explosions occurred, his union members expressed a vote of no confidence in Mr. Zviatkovskiy, which both the Verkhovna Rada and the president ignored, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

A total of 125 miners have died at the Zasiadko mine since 1999 — 50 as a result of a methane blast in May 1999, another 55 after another methane explosion in August 2001 and 20 more in this most recent incident.

Nonetheless, the Zasiadko mine continues to put out the most coal in Ukraine, regularly surpassing targets of 1 million tons annually. It also continues to attract the most miners because of the higher than average wages it offers. Currently there are waiting lists of workers ready to accept the higher risks of the Zasiadko mine in exchange for better pay.

Procurator General opens new criminal case against Tymoshenko

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The Procurator General's Office of Ukraine announced on August 2 that it had opened another criminal case against National Deputy Yulia Tymoshenko on charges of embezzlement of funds from the purchase of Russian natural gas, conspiracy to organize a fraud and abuse of office as a minister in government.

Ms. Tymoshenko quickly responded that the charges are political reprisal for an announced plan to organize mass demonstrations this fall demanding early presidential elections. The faction Mrs. Tymoshenko heads in the Verkhovna Rada, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc has spearheaded the action, which the Socialist, Communist and Our Ukraine factions have said they would support.

"These are old charges that have existed for several years now," explained Ms. Tymoshenko at a hastily called press conference at the offices of the Batkivschyna Party, to which she belongs. "The Sviatoslyn [Kyiv district] court ruled them

null and void," she added.

Ms. Tymoshenko said that she is certain that a vote will be organized in the Verkhovna Rada to remove the immunity from criminal prosecution she enjoys as a legislator, which, if successful, could lead to her arrest and trial.

"Whether I have immunity or not will not change my intentions [to strive for pre-term presidential elections]," Ms. Tymoshenko emphasized.

Recently appointed First Deputy Procurator General Viktor Shokin, who has been assigned the task of reviewing the several high-profile investigations that his agency has failed to close in the past several years, including the murders of journalists Heorhii Gongadze and Ihor Aleksandrov, rejected Ms. Tymoshenko's assertions and underscored that he is not dabbling in politics.

"The investigation is not a step by authorities to warn the opposition not to stage protest actions they have promised," explained Mr. Shokin. "The fact that the

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AP/Victor Pobedinsky

Yulia Tymoshenko

ANALYSIS

Ukraine's aspirations to 're-join Europe' still not taken seriously

by **Taras Kuzio**
RFE/RL Newsline

Ukraine and the European Union held a summit in Copenhagen on July 4 followed five days later by a visit by NATO Secretary General Lord George Robertson to Kyiv on the fifth anniversary of the NATO-Ukraine charter. The outcome of both events reflects the skepticism with which Ukraine's strategic foreign policy goal of "returning to Europe" through integration into trans-Atlantic and European structures is still met in Brussels.

In his annual address to Parliament in May, President Leonid Kuchma outlined a timetable for the creation of a free-trade area with the European Union by 2004, a customs union in 2005-2007, signing an associate agreement in 2007, and fulfilling all of the criteria laid out by the EU in order to join the union by 2011. On the eve of the Copenhagen summit, the Verkhovna Rada issued an appeal approved by 257 out of 450 deputies asking the summit to upgrade the 1994 Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA), which was ratified and put into effect only in 1998, "to a qualitatively new level of development" that would lead to EU membership.

But the joint EU-Ukraine summit statement reaffirmed that only the PCA would be the basis "for developing our relations further" (PCAs do not recognize aspirant membership status and were signed only with CIS members, while the EU signed association agreements with other post-Communist states). The EU also refused at the Copenhagen summit to grant Ukraine the status of a "market economy."

Why has Ukraine again failed to convince Europe of its right to join the European Union? Denmark, which took over the EU presidency in July, is the only EU member to have closed down its Embassy in Ukraine, itself a reflection of its lack of interest in that country. For the EU it is highly convenient that Ukraine's domestic policies simply reinforce the deeply held view in Brussels that Ukraine is not part of "Europe."

Bertel Haarder, Denmark's minister for refugees, immigration and integration, laughed off President Kuchma's plan to gradually move into the EU fold by 2011 as reminiscent of Soviet-era announcements that communism was on the verge of being achieved, but never actually was. "Instead of statements and expectations for clear signals, the Ukrainian authorities should switch to fulfilling arrangements and fulfilling their declarations," Mr. Haarder advised.

A major obstacle to "returning to Europe" is the deeply ingrained Soviet political culture that eastern Ukrainian leaders, such as Mr. Kuchma and his oligarchic allies, are seemingly incapable of shaking. The executive and its oligarchic allies fail to grasp that their unwillingness to resolve the murder of journalists such as Heorhii Gongadze undercuts their desire to switch from a PCA to an association agreement as the steppingstone to future EU membership.

Only nine days after the Copenhagen summit, Our Ukraine member and anti-Kuchma campaigner Oleksander Zhyr was removed, through a flagrant misuse of the legal system, from contesting repeat elections in Dnipropetrovsk he was set to win. His removal ensured a victory for the pro-Kuchma For a United Ukraine candidate.

The visit by NATO Secretary General Robertson to Ukraine was more productive

than that of the EU summit because the EU has a closed-door, while NATO has an open-door policy on membership. Whereas the EU rules out moving from a PCA to an association agreement, NATO is willing to upgrade Ukraine from a charter to a Membership Action Plan (MAP), which must be fulfilled for membership.

But Ukraine is still at least 10 years away from NATO membership. For the moment, NATO still doubts Kyiv's willingness to adopt the necessary all-around non-military reforms that make up four of out five MAP sections. Mr. Robertson warned that Kyiv would have to display "a sustained commitment to the implementation of political, economic and defense reforms," and uphold human rights, the rule of law and freedom of the media.

NATO also remains concerned that Soviet-era ties between CIS intelligence services could compromise shared intelligence between Ukraine and NATO. Ukraine's annual expenditure of \$590 million on the military is abysmal and would require a six- to sevenfold increase. Hungary, with armed forces only one-seventh the size of Ukraine's, spends twice as much annually on the military (\$1.09 billion), while Poland, with a population only slightly less than Ukraine's, spends \$3.58 billion annually. Ukraine spends only \$2,900 per serviceman per year, compared to \$9,700 by Romania, one of the poorest NATO aspirants, or Poland's \$18,000.

The newspaper Zerkalo Nedeli/Dzerkalo Tyzhnia pointed to a lack of enthusiasm in NATO for Ukraine's membership, and a Polish newspaper reported that only one-third of NATO members support Ukraine's membership. NATO is tempering its enthusiasm also so as not to damage its new strategic relationship with Russia.

The May 23 decision by Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) to seek NATO membership was transformed into a presidential decree during Mr. Robertson's visit. Nevertheless, NATO, like the EU, believes President Kuchma issues declarations that go unfulfilled. The government has not, for example, made any attempt to mobilize public support for NATO membership or to create a consolidated position on NATO among the Ukrainian leadership, which presidential administration head and oligarchic Social Democratic Party-United leader Viktor Medvedchuk opposes. A July poll by the Ukrainian Center for Economic and Political Studies found that the same proportion (32 percent) supported and opposed NATO membership, with 22 percent of Ukrainians undecided.

The EU continues to rule out Ukraine's membership and it would be forced to change this position only if someone it believed could implement Ukraine's "Europeanization," such as former Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko, were to be elected president in 2004. If, on the other hand, President Kuchma succeeds in engineering the election of a like-minded successor, Ukraine's aspirations for EU membership will be again thwarted for five to 10 years.

NATO's secretary general believes Ukraine's membership remains "hypothetical" and "long-term," and that "membership is not on the agenda right now." Nevertheless, at least NATO has not fully ruled out Ukraine's membership, as the EU has.

Dr. Taras Kuzio is a resident fellow at the Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Toronto.

NEWSBRIEFS

Belarusians seek asylum in Ukraine

KYIV – Three Belarusian citizens on August 6 applied for political asylum in Ukraine, claiming they were persecuted in Belarus for opposition views and activities, the Associated Press and UNIAN reported. Uladzimir Bukhanau, Svyataslau Shapavalau and Syarhey Korneu said in a statement to the media that Belarusian prosecutors frequently questioned them and that they were subject to police beatings and had friends who died under strange circumstances. They also said their opposition activities included the dissemination of anti-government leaflets. The Belarusian Embassy in Kyiv did not comment on the request, but noted that the men are not political or public leaders in Belarus and had previously been denied political asylum in Russia and Germany, the AP reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Opposition agrees on protest action

KYIV – Socialist Party lawmaker Yosyp Vynskyi told UNIAN on July 25 that the opposition has agreed to hold a nationwide protest action on September 16 to demand early presidential elections. According to Mr. Vynskyi, the protest will involve activists of the Socialist Party, the Communist Party, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and Our Ukraine. The action is scheduled to coincide with the second anniversary of the disappearance of journalist Heorhii Gongadze. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Communists list conditions for protests

KYIV – Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko has listed conditions for the participation of his comrades in the opposition protest actions planned for this fall, UNIAN reported on August 6. According to Mr. Symonenko, the protests should focus on forcing early presidential elections and forming a "democratic and efficient political system" in Ukraine. Mr. Symonenko stressed that the Communist Party has different "strategic goals" than the right-wing opposition and added that the Communists are not going to decide "at the present stage" on an opposition presidential candidate for a possible early ballot. The Communist leader said he is aware that Our Ukraine and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, as well as the Socialist Party will support Viktor Yushchenko for the post of Ukraine's president. According to Mr. Symonenko, the promotion of Mr. Yushchenko as a presidential candidate during the planned protest would run "counter not only the

needs of the leftist movement but, first and foremost, those of the Ukrainian people." Simultaneously, Mr. Symonenko warned opposition parties against attempts by "the ruling regime to use ideological differences between opposition groups [to pursue] its dirty and greedy interests." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tymoshenko Bloc concurs with CPU

KYIV – Responding to the August 6 statement by Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc said the same day that it agrees with many proposals by the Communist Party of Ukraine regarding the goals of the protest campaign planned for this fall, the UNIAN news service reported. In particular, the bloc stressed that the main goal of the planned protest campaign is to "form an efficient political system and a professional governing team" as well as to force an early presidential election in Ukraine. The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, like the Communist Party, believes that the issue of whom the opposition should support in a possible early presidential election should not be raised during the upcoming protest campaign. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Medvedchuk shrugs off threat of protest

KYIV – Presidential administration chief Viktor Medvedchuk told journalists on August 2 that some opposition leaders' recently announced plan to hold a protest action in September was motivated by their desire to achieve "political dividends," UNIAN reported. "It is likely that some political forces, taking into account their failure during recent political developments, have decided to compensate [this failure] and to call for a revolution," Mr. Medvedchuk said. He said that "there will be no revolution," adding that "our Ukrainian society is ready and able to give an adequate answer to those seeking to destabilize the situation in Ukraine." (RFE/RL Newsline)

UFO theory rejected as cause of crash

LVIV – The government commission investigating the tragic crash of a fighter jet at an air show in Lviv on July 27 flatly denied media reports that an unknown object in the air caused the disaster, the Associated Press reported on August 6. "The reasons are known. Military and civil organizers of the event caused the tragedy," 1+1 Television quoted commission Chairman Yevhen Marchuk as say-

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

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

Yearly subscription rate: \$55; for UNA members — \$45.

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

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

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

Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
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Roman Woronowycz (Kyiv)
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The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, August 11, 2002, No. 32, Vol. LXX

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Procurator General...

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investigation began immediately after the announcement by the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc leader about the planned autumn actions is a banal coincidence."

Mr. Shokin said he did not completely understand the outrage and surprise voiced by Ms. Tymoshenko and her supporters because the procurator's office had been conducting a well-publicized preliminary investigation for months, which was known even when the previous charges against Ms. Tymoshenko and her husband were dismissed by the Kyiv District Court this past spring.

On May 8 Ms. Tymoshenko had announced that the Sviatoshyn District Court had exonerated her of charges of bribing a government official, illegally importing contraband and attempting to carry large sums of money out of the country. At the time she said the court had also dismissed charges of theft of government resources in large amounts against her husband, Oleksander. The Procurator General's Office then announced that it did not accept Ms. Tymoshenko's version of what the decision meant and would continue to press its case against her along other avenues.

Ms. Tymoshenko, who founded and developed United Energy Systems, what was once Ukraine's largest oil and gas trading company, was a close associate of former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko, who has sat in United States detention for more than two years since attempting to enter the U.S. illegally and then requesting political asylum. Mr. Lazarenko is under investigation for money laundering.

Ms. Tymoshenko has been a fervent political opponent of President Leonid Kuchma since she and Mr. Lazarenko formed the Hromada Party and a shadow government after the latter was fired as prime minister. Lately she has spearheaded protest movements that attempted to highlight President Leonid Kuchma's alleged corruption and involvement in the death of Mr. Gongadze, and to have the president impeached on those allegations.

Ms. Tymoshenko vowed to continue the fight against the Kuchma administration after voters unexpectedly expressed strong support for her in the March 31 parliamentary elections, giving the political bloc she headed 7.24 percent of the general vote and 21 seats in the new Verkhovna Rada.

On July 26 the four parliamentary factions not aligned with President Kuchma – the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, Our Ukraine, the Socialists and the Communists – issued

a statement that they would officially announce on August 24, which is Ukrainian Independence Day, a movement to organize mass nationwide demonstrations in the fall to force authorities to hold early presidential elections.

While some Our Ukraine leaders have expressed their disapproval of the proposition, the heads of all four factions signed the statement. The decision to take such a radical political step, especially after the anti-presidential protests of spring 2000 ended in the bloody March 9 confrontation between demonstrators and militia before the Presidential Administration Building, is based on what the respected weekly newspaper, Dzerkalo Tyzhnia, called growing evidence that the pro-presidential forces were going to adopt on a broad basis the tactics used in the parliamentary elections of March 31.

The newspaper said there may even be an attempt by Mr. Kuchma to run for a third term, which would be done with an explanation that such a move is constitutionally legal because it would only be the president's second term in office since the new Constitution of Ukraine was approved in 1996. The 1996 document limits the Ukrainian president to two terms.

In its July 27 issue the newspaper quoted National Deputy Roman Bezsmertnyi, once Mr. Kuchma's former political operative in the Verkhovna Rada and today coordinator of the political work of the Our Ukraine faction headed by Viktor Yushchenko, saying there is little hope that the presidential elections of 2004 could be free and fair.

"Today the most effective dirty political strategies are being developed and polished, which could be used in the upcoming presidential elections: removal of candidates from registration lists, bribery, blackmail; "cloning" of candidates, officially overturning unfavorable election results," noted Mr. Bezsmertnyi.

The newspaper asserted that the appointment of Viktor Medvedchuk as Mr. Kuchma's new chief of staff would allow the presidential election team to make judicial appointments that would help it attain jurisprudential support for the results it wanted to attain.

Ms. Tymoshenko said she had already laid plans for the autumn demonstrations and had organized 23,000 "agitation brigades" throughout the oblasts of the country to coordinate the protests.

"Among other things, they will instruct people that they are not being mobilized for civil war, but to utilize their constitutional right to protest; that they must peacefully and constitutionally tell Kuchma, 'no,'" explained Ms. Tymoshenko.

- Maurice Hinchey (D-N.Y.)
- Joseph Hoeffel (D-Pa.)
- Rush Holt (D-N.J.)
- Steve Horn (R-Calif.)
- William Jefferson (D-La.)
- Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio)
- Dale Kildee (D-Mich.)
- Carolyn Kilpatrick (D-Mich.)
- Joseph Knollenberg (R-Mich.)
- David Kucinich (D-Ohio)
- James Langevin (D-R.I.)
- Tom Lantos (D-Calif.)
- William Lipinski (D-Ill.)
- Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.)
- Carolyn Maloney (D-N.Y.)
- Michael McNulty (D-N.Y.)
- Carrie Meek (D-Fla.)
- Robert Menendez (D-N.J.)
- Richard Neal (D-Mass.)
- John Olver (D-Mass.)
- Frank Pallone (D-N.J.)
- Donald Payne (D-N.J.)
- Jack Quinn (R-N.Y.)
- Bob Schaffer (R-Colo.)
- Brad Sherman (D-Calif.)
- Louise Slaughter (D-N.Y.)
- Chris Smith (R-N.J.)
- Diane Watson (D-Calif.)
- Anthony Weiner (D-N.Y.)
- Curt Weldon (R-Pa.)

Rep. Sander Levin...

(Continued from page 1)

Levin's appeal to fellow members of Congress, the Ukrainian National Information Service called on Ukrainian community members urging them to contact their congressional representatives to request their co-sponsorship of the bill.

UNIS is presently soliciting support for the introduction of similar legislation in the Senate.

Below are the names of sponsors and co-sponsors of the Famine Memorial Bill as of August 6:

- Sponsor:
- Sander Levin (D-Mich.);
- Co-Sponsors:
- Neil Abercrombie (D-Hawaii)
- Shelley Berkley (D-Nev.)
- Rod Blagojevich (D-Ill.)
- David Bonior (D-Mich.)
- Philip Crane (R-Ill.)
- Danny Davis (D-Ill.)
- Lloyd Doggett (D-Texas)
- Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.)
- Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.)
- Luis Gutierrez (D-Ill.)

DIASPORA RESPONDS TO AIRSHOW DISASTER

Ukrainian National Association

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Ukrainian National Association (UNA) is holding a funddrive to aid families of the victims of the airshow disaster in Lviv on July 27, in which an SU-27 fighter jet crashed into a crowd of spectators, killing 83, including 23 children. It was the worst air-show disaster in history.

All donations should be made payable to the Ukrainian National Foundation Inc., a

charitable arm of the UNA devoted to humanitarian causes. The Ukrainian National foundation Inc., established in 1992, exempt is from taxation under section 501(c) (3) of the IRS code. All donations made to the Foundation are tax-deductible.

Donations may be sent to: Ukrainian National Foundation Inc., c/o Ukrainian National Association, 2200 Route 10, P.o. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Ukrainian American Coordinating Council

WASHINGTON – The Ukrainian American Coordinating Committee Executive Board on behalf of all UACC members extends its heartfelt sympathy to all those who suffered in the recent air show tragedy that has befallen the people of Ukraine and especially to the victims' families in Lviv.

The board appeals to anyone wishing

to send material help to those in need to do so via the UACC constituent organization, the Ukrainian Gold Cross. Checks may be made out to "Ukrainian Gold Cross" and mailed to: Ukrainian Gold Cross, c/o Natalie Gawdiak, 5538 April Journey, Columbia, MD 21044. Donations may also be made via any local UGC or UACC chapter.

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

WASHINGTON – The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America is urging the Ukrainian American community to come to the aid of victims and families of two recent disasters in Ukraine.

On Saturday, July 27, during an air show dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the local airbase in Lviv, 83 people, including 23 children, were killed and more than 110 were injured when one of the military aircraft plunged into the crowd.

On July 8, in the Ukrayina mine in the Donbas region, 35 miners lost their lives

as a result of a methane explosion. A week later, a similar accident claimed the lives of six miners of the Yuvileina mine, while 14 were injured.

The UCCA encourages donations through the auspices of the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, the oldest Ukrainian humanitarian organization in the United States. Please make out checks to the UUARC with the notation "Lviv/Donbas Fund." Donations should be forwarded to: United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, 1206 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111.

Canada-Ukraine Foundation

WINNIPEG – The Winnipeg-based Canada-Ukraine Foundation has set up a special account for accepting aid to victims of the Lviv airshow tragedy of July 27.

According to CUF President Ostap Hawaleshka, donations may be sent to

the following account and address at the Ukrainian Canadian Committee headquarters: Lviv Air Tragedy – Canada-Ukraine Foundation, 456 Main St., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 1B6. (Canadian tax receipts will be issued)

UOC-U.S.A. bishops' statement on the Sknyliv air disaster

Mindful of the bonds of fraternity and sorority which bind all Ukrainian Americans to their brethren in Ukraine, the Council of Bishops, the clergy and the people of God of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. are profoundly saddened and offer fervent prayers for the repose of the 78 spectators who perished, the 115 who were gravely wounded, and all whose lives were profoundly altered as a result of the Saturday, July 27, disaster that befell the Air Show held at the Sknyliv Airport near Lviv in western Ukraine.

We assure our brethren of our love and prayers and beseech the Lord of mercy to look with favor upon our implorations and to embrace with His loving kindness those who perished in this, the greatest air disaster to occur in

Ukraine. We beg for consolation and healing for those who have been spiritually and physically wounded by this grievous tragedy, and for those who have perished we pray for eternal memory.

Commending them and each other to the love of Christ our Savior and Redeemer and Benefactor,

Constantine
Metropolitan of the UOC
of the U.S.A. and Diaspora

Antony
Archbishop
President of the Consistory

Vsevolod
Archbishop of the Western Eparchy

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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OBITUARY: Bohdan Yasinsky, 79, veteran, activist, librarian-bibliographer

by Jurij Dobczansky

WASHINGTON – Bohdan Yasinsky, of Silver Spring, Md., veteran, community activist and librarian-bibliographer, died Sunday, July 28, in Kyiv, while on an extended visit to Ukraine.

Mr. Yasinsky was born in Ivano-Frankivsk on January 1, 1923. Serving in the Ukrainian Galicia Division, he survived the Battle of Brody in 1944 to become a member of the 1st Division of the Ukrainian National Army. Following the war he studied at the Ukrainian Free University in Munich and received a B.A. from Georgetown University in Washington.

He spent most of his professional career at the Library of Congress. In 1959 he worked for the Aerospace Technology Division, where he prepared abstracts of Soviet scientific literature. In 1970 he became assistant preservation microfilming officer and was promoted to chief of the Preservation Microfilming Office in 1982.

From February 27, 1989, until his retirement in December 2001 he was the Ukrainian area specialist in the European Division. Responsible for developing the Ukrainian collections, he frequently hosted visitors from Ukraine and assisted readers in the European Reading Room. His frequent trips to Ukraine

made him well-known in library circles there.

He compiled a number of useful bibliographies and indexes, some of which are available online: "Independent Press in Ukraine 1988-1992" (www.loc.gov/rr/european/upress/upin.html), "Taras Shevchenko in the Library of Congress" co-authored with Valentyna Pashkova in 1998, (www.loc.gov/rr/european/shevchenko.html), "Mikhail Bulgakov in the Western World," co-authored with Katherine Konchakovska in 1998 (www.loc.gov/rr/european/bulgaklc.html).

In 2000, Mr. Yasinsky's project of many years, a 540-page index to the *Literaturno-Naukovyi Vistnyk* (1898-1932), was published by the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Kyiv.

The Ukrainian community of Washington will remember Mr. Yasinsky as a dedicated community leader. For many years he taught and served as director of the Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies and was a member of the Educational Council of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

He was president of both the Baltimore-Washington District Committee and Branch 15 of the Ukrainian National Association. He was an active member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, the



Bohdan Yasinsky (right) looking over materials about Taras Shevchenko with Rep. Frank Annunzio at the Library of Congress in 1989.

Society for the Promotion of the Patriarchal System in the Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Ukrainian Association of the Washington Metropolitan Area. A member of the executive board for many years, Mr. Yasinsky was president of the Ukrainian Library

Association of America in the 1980s.

Mr. Yasinsky was laid to rest in the family plot in Kniahynyn, Ivano-Frankivsk, according to his last will. He leaves behind his wife, Tetiana, and their children, Iryna, Roman and Marta, as well as three sisters in the United States.

Kobzar Society continues its mission to provide computers for Ukraine

LEHIGHTON, Pa. – Another shipment of computers was sent in late June to Ukraine by the Kobzar Society Ltd., of Lehigh, Pa. This time, 54 Pentium computers were shipped from Kobzar's Technical Center (located at and supported by Microapex Computer Systems in Allentown, Pa.) via the Meest Corp., destined to be provided at no cost to 30 educational institutions.

These institutions are situated in 11 oblasts and regions throughout Ukraine. Secondary schools, museums, libraries and academies of specialized learning, orphanages, seminaries and a university will reap the benefits of advancing their computer knowledge and skills. For the majority of these institutions, these will be their very first computers.

These significant gifts for Ukrainian youths were made possible through the

generosity of sponsors who donated \$200 per computer toward defraying the cost of collecting late model Pentium computers, as well as upgrading, testing, packing and shipping them. The sponsors also provided Kobzar Society with the names and addresses of the recipient institutions. Sponsors who donate funds are honored with plaques located in the rooms where the computers are installed.

The Kobzar Society is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation dedicated to providing modern educational technology to the children of Ukraine – and in doing so, connecting them to the free world. The society is working in concert with the Ukrainian government, which granted Kobzar tax and duty-free importation privileges for these computers.

The Kobzar Society is a cooperative

effort of many individuals of good will, who believe that computers in the hands of Ukrainian students can make a difference, however small, in transforming Ukraine into an informed democratic and stable country in the 21st century.

The society has also formed partnerships with charitable organizations such as Rotary International, Rotary Club of Lehigh and Northeastern Pennsylvania Rotary District 7410, the Rotary clubs of Ukraine and the Solidarnist Charitable Foundation of Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine from whom it receives assistance and support.

The many computers that have been shipped to Ukraine were securely delivered to the designated destinations. This past June, Orest J. and Christine J. Hanas, respectively president and a director of the Kobzar Society, spent three weeks traveling throughout

Ukraine, visiting some of the institutions to which the computers were delivered. They visited Kyiv, Yalta, Zboriv, Stryi Sambir, Pochayiv, Lviv and Ivano-Frankivsk. At each destination the computers were found to have been put to good use and in each case the teachers, curators and students were very grateful for having received such valued gifts. There were very many sincere and urgent requests for more computers.

Many specific requests have come into the Kobzar Society for more computers. To participate in this very worthy program through tax-deductible financial or computer donations, contact: Kobzar Society, P.O. Box 37, Lehigh, Pa. 18235; e-mail, ojhanas@ptd.net; website, www.kobzarsociety.org.



Dr. Mykola Plakhotniuk (right), curator of the Museum of the Shestidesiatnyky, proudly accepts a plaque recognizing sponsors Bohdan and Lana Siryj from Christine and Orest Hanas. The Kyiv museum is dedicated to collecting historical materials and keeping alive the memory of the dissidents who protested against the Soviet occupation of Ukraine in the 1960s and were severely punished for it.



Christine Dasho-Hanas examines a commemorative plaque in a secondary school in Stryi Sambir honoring her late father, the Rev. Stanislaw Dasho, in whose honor the school is named. The Ukrainian Catholic priest taught religion in that town in 1921-1944.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Meeting at 28th annual conference, UNA Seniors focus on saving Soyuzivka

by Anna Chopek

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Save our Soyuzivka. We are in danger of losing Soyuzivka. Let's not just talk about it, let's do something! That was the focus of the Ukrainian National Association Seniors at their 28th annual conference held at Soyuzivka on June 9-14.

The seniors spent a great deal of time discussing the fate of Soyuzivka, and they were pleased that the UNA's newly elected president, Stefan Kaczaraj, met with them at a session and shared with the UNA Seniors his goals for the future of the Ukrainian National Association and Soyuzivka.

A committee has been appointed by the UNA Executive Board to search for a solution to Soyuzivka's problems and to find a way to maintain the resort in the future. The conference participants believe that a UNA senior would be an asset to the committee and therefore voted that Eugene Woloshyn, former president of the seniors, and Ihor Hayda, member, as an alternate, represent the UNA Seniors on this committee if the UNA Executive Committee deems it advisable.

While the seniors were contemplating how to distribute the \$1,500 they had



UNA Seniors pose for their annual group photo on the Veselka terrace at Soyuzivka.

raised from an auction and raffle, voices were heard suggesting a fund called "Save our Soyuzivka." Then a motion was passed that the entire \$1,500 be set aside by the seniors' treasurer and sent to the UNA as soon as a fund is set up by the UNA for raising money to save

Ukrainian Club hosts scholarship dinner

by Christine Matiash

ALIQUIPPA, Pa. – The Aliquippa Ukrainian Club, St. Nicholas Branch 120 of the Ukrainian National Association, on July 21 hosted its second annual Scholarship Dinner, during which \$2,400 in scholarships was awarded.

Mark Komichak of the Ukrainian Radio Program presided over the event as the master of ceremonies. The keynote address was given by Dr. Jim Showrank, the director of government and community relations for Manchester-Bidwell Corp.

The recipients of the awards were Renee Campbell, majoring in business at the Community College of Beaver County; Christopher Holland, majoring in theater and design at the University of Kentucky; Jennifer Refice, majoring in business at Slippery Rock University; and Melissa Reft, majoring in business at the University of Pittsburgh. In order to be eligible for a scholarship, students

must have a parent or guardian who is an active member of the Ukrainian Club with a UNA insurance policy.

The executive board of the Ukrainian Club also honored John "Zeke" Fechushak, the oldest living member of the club, as well as the senior affiliate with over 50 years of service as a member, employee and officer. Mr. Fechushak was presented with a plaque honoring his dedication to the club.

Eli Matiash, club treasurer, was acknowledged as the recipient of the Beaver County Federation of Fraternal and Social Clubs Man of the Year for 2002. Mr. Matiash was presented with a plaque honoring his dedication to the Ukrainian Club and acknowledging his achievements.

Mark Szedny, club secretary, was reacknowledged with a certificate as the recipient of the Beaver County Federation of Fraternal and Social Clubs Man of the Year for 2000.



At the Aliquippa Ukrainian Club are: (from left) Eli Matiash, Michael Komichak, Mark Szedny and John Fechushak.



Outgoing UNA President Ulana Diachuk is presented flowers by UNA Seniors representative Olga Paproski.

Soyuzivka. They know that their contribution will be just a drop in the bucket. But they expressed hope that all the branches of the UNA, all those who participated in programs at Soyuzivka, those who were guests, were married there, and worked there, as well as

Ukrainian commercial enterprises, credit unions and professionals, will come to the aid of Soyuzivka in its hour of need.

On Sunday evening, as the seniors sat on Veselka deck, watching the setting sun, singing their favorite Ukrainian folk songs and kolomyiky, listening to Eugene Moroz singing operatic solos and other Ukrainian songs, they mused: how glad we are to be at Soyuzivka.

On Monday morning, members participated in a divine liturgy and panakhyda at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kerhonkson in memory of

(Continued on page 14)

Correction

In Young UNA'ers (July 28), the names of the parents of Zoryana Isabella Zura should have appeared as Peter Zura and Tanya Koslenko-Zura.

Wolodymyr (Walter) Zacerkowny

Born February 24, 1922, in Yaseniv, Ukraine

Died July 23, 2002, Sudbury, Ontario

The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regrets to announce to the members of the General Assembly, to members of Branch 439 in Sudbury, Ontario, and to the UNA membership at large that Wolodymyr (Walter) Zacerkowny, secretary of Branch 439, who served our organization for 46 years, died on Tuesday, July 23, at age 80.

Funeral services were held at St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Sudbury on Friday, July 26.

The Executive Committee and the UNA membership wish to express their sincerest sympathy to his wife of 50 years, Anne, his children and grandchildren. Mr. Zacerkowny will be remembered as a dedicated and hard-working member of the UNA.

Vichna Yomu Pamiat!

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

UPA's rehabilitation

Sixty years ago, in the spring of 1942, the first units of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (Ukrainska Povstanska Armia – UPA) were formed in western Ukraine to fight against the foreign occupiers of Ukraine. The authoritative Encyclopedia of Ukraine, published by the University of Toronto Press, notes of the UPA that “Its immediate purpose was to protect the Ukrainian population from German and Soviet repression and exploitation; its ultimate goal was an independent and unified Ukrainian state.”

The UPA, a determined and dedicated guerrilla force, also included soldiers of other nationalities – Azerbaijanis, Uzbeks, Georgians and Tatars, for example – who sought the liberation of their nations. In recognition of these national aspirations, the UPA in 1943 organized a Conference of the Oppressed Nations of Eastern Europe and Asia, which was attended by delegates of 13 nationalities who agreed to support each other's liberation struggles. Jewish doctors, the encyclopedia notes, “willingly joined the anti-Nazi resistance” through the ranks of the UPA.

Once World War II ended, with Ukrainian territories still under foreign domination, the UPA continued its struggle against Soviet and Polish authorities through 1949. Even after its formal deactivation on the orders of Commander-in-Chief Roman Shukhevych (nom de guerre: Taras Chuprynka), members of the UPA's underground network continued their armed struggle into the mid-1950s.

The UPA, we must underscore, was caught between the world's two most evil regimes: Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union. One of those regimes, of course, was defeated, but the other was a victor in World War II. And thus, the UPA and other nationalistic Ukrainian organizations were the objects of smear campaigns directed by the Soviet regime. For decades, Soviet sources and their sycophants abroad depicted Ukrainian nationalists as “junior partners of Hitler,” “servants of German fascism,” “zealous assistants and henchmen,” “criminals who pose as ‘democrats and fighters for ‘Ukrainian statehood,’” etc.”

To this day, there are those who label Ukrainian Insurgent Army members as fascists. Also to this day, UPA veterans do not have the privileges given to Soviet military veterans – even when those privileges today are extended by the government of independent Ukraine.

In March of this year Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh spoke out in favor of rehabilitating veterans of the UPA, which he said is “part of Ukraine's history.” Then in July a government committee headed by Vice Prime Minister Volodymyr Semynozhenko drafted a law acknowledging the Ukrainian Insurgent Army and the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (under whose ideological influence the UPA functioned). Though the text of the draft has yet to be released, an announcement indicated that the UPA would be honored as “fighters for freedom and the independence of Ukraine,” and that the activity of both the UPA and the OUN would be recognized as a “resistance movement.” In addition, in accordance with a recommendation by the Institute of History at the National Academy of Sciences, UPA and OUN veterans are to be recognized as having been subject to repression and thus would become eligible for social and other privileges accorded to Soviet veterans.

Certain groups inside and beyond Ukraine, to be sure, are vehemently against any recognition of the UPA or the OUN, among them the Communists and pro-Russian forces within Ukraine, as well as the Russian government, which continues to meddle in Ukraine's internal affairs. They continue to operate based on old Soviet-era stereotypes that have no place in today's Ukraine.

It's high time for the authorities of independent Ukraine to recognize the heroes of all the forces that fought for the country's independence. Ukraine must reclaim its rightful history and, finally, do away with Soviet-era judgments and depictions of its heroic sons and daughters. Their rehabilitation is long overdue.

Aug.
14
1983

Turning the pages back...

To mark the 50th anniversary of the Great Famine of 1932-1933, beginning on February 20, 1983, and continuing through February 26, 1984, The Ukrainian Weekly published a chronology of contemporaneous news reports about the Famine-Genocide as they appeared in Svoboda and, later, The Weekly, which began publication in October 1933. (These texts are available online on The Weekly's website, www.ukrweekly.com, in the section on the Great Famine under the heading “Chronology of the Famine Years.”)

Below is a brief excerpt from the column of August 14, 1983, which covered news reported in August 1933.

On August 19, Svoboda printed news from Lviv which stated that steps were being taken to organize aid for Ukrainians in Soviet-occupied territories. Efforts initiated in Lviv called on Ukrainians in western Ukraine, Europe and abroad to help their brothers in need. ... In Czechoslovakia, a Committee to Aid the Hungry in Ukraine, composed of representatives from 32 Ukrainian organizations, issued a communiqué to all Ukrainians.

News from Vienna also printed in Svoboda on August 19 stated that many foreign organizations were recruiting aid for Ukrainians living in the Soviet Union. An aid center, established in response to appeals by Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, was based in Vienna. Cardinal Theodore Innitzer was to head the committee; the Austrian Red Cross volunteered its help. ...

On August 24, the headline in Svoboda read: “Moscow Takes All Grain for Its Own Use.” Prof. Menda [whom Soviet academicians had invited to teach in Soviet Ukraine] added that all reports about the wealth of the Soviet Union which appeared in the Soviet press were lies. Typhoid and famine killed entire towns and villages, he told the press in Lviv. People, insane from hunger, cut up and ate their children, and it seemed that the people had lost all human emotion – they had turned into wild animals, he said. He added that along the streets one saw corpses that rotted away because there was no one to bury them. ...

Source: “The Great Famine,” August 14, 1983, *The Ukrainian Weekly*.

FOR THE RECORD

Shevchenko Scientific Societies comment on Pereiaslav decree

Below is the position of the American and Canadian Shevchenko Scientific Societies on the decree to mark the “Pereiaslav Agreement of 1654.” Though dated July 8, the statement was released to the press on July 24.

The American and Canadian Shevchenko Scientific Societies concur with the position articulated by the Council of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Ukraine (June 2002) with respect to the decree issued by the president of Ukraine on “The Marking of the 350th Anniversary of the Pereiaslav Kozak Council of 1654”: that this infamous act, as well as other ill-fated events in Ukrainian history which led to the enslavement of Ukrainians should be continuously analyzed and studied, rather than celebrated.

The Pereiaslav Agreement transformed Ukraine into a colony and brought enslavement to the Ukrainian people for several centuries. “Khmelnitsky has delivered all of us into the bonds of the Muscovite tsar ...” wrote the Chornobyl archpriest in a letter to the vice-governor of Chornobyl as early as January 27, 1654. The pain and tragedy, which by then had manifested itself for almost two centuries, was echoed in 1843 by Taras Shevchenko in his poem “The Plundered Grave” (Rozryta Mohyla).

It is the obligation of our contemporaries, as well as future generations, to investigate more thoroughly this dark date in Ukrainian history by examining what the consequences of the event of 1654 were for Ukraine over a period of nearly 338 years of subjugation; how the Pereiaslav Agreement resulted in a constant plundering of Ukraine's culture, scholarship, language and its most creative individuals; and how it led to the liquidation of its Churches, as well as the devastation of the Ukrainian population and the destruction of Ukraine's statehood.

In view of the above, the Shevchenko Scientific Society in America in April 2002 announced a competition for the writing of scholarly monographs on the consequences of the Pereiaslav Agreement, offering research grants to the top five authors. This demonstrates our readiness to make a contribution to the elucidation of the long-lasting effects of the 1654 event in the history of Ukraine.

Daria Darewych, Ph.D.

President
Shevchenko Scientific Society
of Canada

Larissa Zaleska Onyshkevych, Ph.D.

President
Shevchenko Scientific Society
in the U.S.A.

NEWS AND VIEWS

‘European Choice’: the illusion and the reality

by Ihor Lysyj

In his address to Ukraine's newly elected Parliament, President Leonid Kuchma inaugurated a pro-Western policy of “European choice.” The proposal received broad public and political support. This should not be a surprise. Given the choice of being a part of a prosperous family of European nations, or belonging to an impoverished coalition of bedraggled ex-Soviet republics under Russian management, the choice is obvious. The surprise is that it took so long for the Ukrainian political establishment to realize that fact. Every other country in post-Communist Eastern Europe knew this instinctively.

The new policy replaces the “multi-vector” strategy that had been a hallmark of President Kuchma's foreign policy. In essence, the multi-vector strategy was nothing more than constant opportunistic vacillation between the West and Russia. The end to this strategy came rather quickly when neither the West nor Russia took seriously any of Mr. Kuchma's pronouncements of political intentions.

The government of Ukraine reacted to this change in political landscape with remarkable dispatch. The initial reaction was from Yevhen Marchuk, secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine (NSDC). The secretary stated that the multi-vector foreign policy is no longer in the Ukrainian national interest, and that there is no future for non-aligned countries in the new political configuration of the world. After more than a decade of existence in the vacuum of non-alignment, the NSDC

proposed that Ukraine immediately apply for full membership in NATO. This desire became Ukraine's official policy on July 9 when President Kuchma signed a decree to that effect.

The reaction of political leaders of the European Union and NATO to Mr. Kuchma's “European Choice” was reserved and guarded at best. They pointed out that an applicant interested in joining Euro-Atlantic alliances must share European values. Such values include a democratic form of governance, supremacy of the rule of law, respect for human rights, and freedom of press and expression.

During his recent visit to Ukraine, NATO Secretary General George Robertson was blunt: “It is imperative that Ukraine continues to demonstrate a sustained commitment to the implementation of political, economic and defense reforms, for respect for human rights, the rule of law and full freedom for the press.” A similar message was repeated a few weeks later by the U.S. Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill during his visit to Ukraine.

The political establishment, or “vlasti,” in Ukraine responded to this challenge by intensifying efforts to polish their tarnished image abroad. A civic organization known as “Ukraine – Recognized Mission” was assigned to do the job. One of the first acts of this organization was to commission two Austrian companies to conduct a survey of Western political, business and media leadership regarding the international image of Ukraine. The survey was conducted in 19 countries, 15 of which are members of European Union. The other four were United States, Canada, Switzerland and Norway. In all, 1,500

Ihor Lysyj is a consulting environmental engineer and a free-lance writer who lives in Austin, Texas.

(Continued on page 13)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An explanation regarding UOC

Dear Editor:

In the letter to the editor titled "Religious matters: some observations" Oksana Bakum discusses a wide variety of religious subjects (June 30) most of which do not require any comments. But her attempt to equate a quoted letter by one member of the Metropolitan Council (MC) of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. (UOC-U.S.A.) as the expression of the policy of that Church is not based on the facts and it should be corrected.

Being a member of the Metropolitan Council and an active participant in the discussions on the policy of the UOC-U.S.A. toward the Orthodox Churches in Ukraine, I can present the facts as follows.

After the death of Patriarch Mstyslav, the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church in Ukraine split into two Churches: the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate (UOC-KP) headed by Patriarch Filaret and the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church (UAOC) headed by Patriarch Dymitrij. The UOC-U.S.A. at the beginning did not want to take sides in hope that these two Churches would soon unite. But time passed and the Churches in Ukraine, instead of uniting, have further drifted apart.

Some members of the Metropolitan Council were pressing for a revision of the UOC-U.S.A. policy toward the churches in Ukraine and, instead of being neutral to both Churches, proposed giving full support to the UOC of the Kyiv Patriarchate.

Letters by individual members expressing their own views were circulated among all members of the Metropolitan Council before a scheduled session of that body. The quotation given by Ms. Bakum was part of a letter by one council member who participated in that discussion. The author of that letter stated the reality that the Orthodox world consider the Church of Metropolitan Volodymyr (Sabodan), the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate the only canonical church in Ukraine at that time. This was never intended to be understood as the personal opinion of that council member, but merely as a statement of fact within the realm of world Orthodoxy. This opinion was never adopted as the policy of the UOC-U.S.A. by its Church Sobors, Sobors of Bishops or the Metropolitan Council.

At the next session of the Metropolitan Council that took place on January 16, 1998, in South Bound Brook, N.J., none of the circulating letters were considered. Instead the discussion was centered on the introduced motion which read as follows:

"The Metropolitan Council of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. after serious discussion about the present Church and religious situation in Ukraine, believes that during this critical time of striving for one Church the best way to resolve this is for all local Churches of Ukraine to unite under one Patriarchate of Kyiv and all Rus'-Ukraine. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. hereby declares its support to a Patriarchate of Kyiv and all Rus'-Ukraine in all her endeavors to confirm herself as the traditional, historic center of Ukrainian Orthodoxy."

After a heated discussion, the above motion was accepted unanimously. Voting in favor of this motion also was the author of the letter quoted by Ms. Bakum.

Patriarch Filaret was duly informed about this change of policy of the UOC-U.S.A. giving full support to the Church of Kyiv Patriarchate. Unfortunately the Holy Synod of the UOC on May 29, 1998, decided to accept parishes which were in the jurisdiction of the UOC-U.S.A. into the

jurisdiction of the Kyiv Patriarchate. This decision created friction between these two Ukrainian Orthodox Churches which exists to this day.

As to the Orthodox Church headed by the Metropolitan Volodymyr (Sabodan) the UOC-U.S.A. considers that Church since its creation in Kharkiv in 1992 and to this day to be an exarchate of the Russian Orthodox Church in Ukraine. That opinion is also shared by Ecumenical Patriarch and all Orthodox Churches not controlled by the Moscow Patriarchate.

Michael Heretz
Rutherford, N.J.

Why no response from Galicia vets?

Dear Editor:

As a longtime subscriber to your newspaper, I would like to express my appreciation for your thorough and professional publishing and editing of the best Ukrainian newspaper in North America. This is a fact and not a compliment.

This letter is in regard to my previous letter, defending the Ukrainian Galicia Division.

I was surprised and quite disappointed that my letter was the only letter to the editor on this matter. Don't the former members of our division realize that the fight with words is a continuation of our fight with guns against the enemies of free independent Ukraine? The slanderous statement of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles – which read in part, "those who volunteered to fight on the side of Germany and Hitler are the moral equivalent of Bin Laden and the terrorist cells of Al Qaeda" – is not only insulting to the members of our division but is a dangerous insinuation that the members of our division who live now in the United States and Canada are dangerous enemies of these two countries, which are most friendly toward Ukraine.

This "new" campaign against our division is only part of a much greater conspiracy-like attempt to discredit before the American and Canadian societies, and especially their media (newspapers, TV and radio), of everything Ukrainian and thus to facilitate the reconquering of newly independent Ukraine by its eternal enemy: the new "democratic" Russia, and its predecessors, the Soviet Union, tsarist Russia and Muscovy.

Thus, it is very puzzling to me that members of our division, who so valiantly fought the Soviet Red Army with guns, risking and very often sacrificing their young lives to protect the freedom of Ukraine, fell so silent now that the battle continues with words. Is it a case of being tired of the fight? Or is it (I hope not) the famous Ukrainian proverb: "Moya khata z krayu-ya nikoho ne znayu" (i.e. this does not concern me directly).

Whatever the reasons for the silence, it not only will encourage our enemies to continue their slanderous campaign against all Ukrainians before the U.S. and Canadian societies but also will lead to sorry affairs like the continuous, unjustified attacks on 81-year-old John Demjanjuk, attempts at expulsion from Canada of Wasyl Odynsky, etc. Remember: "United we stand, divided we fall," or our own Ukrainian saying: "Yakscho ne my – to khto? Yakscho ne teper – to koly?" (If not us, then who? If not now, then when?)

Since this letter is being typed by my wife who is all for brevity in letters to the editor (she says "nobody is going to read long letters") I will conclude on this point.

Eugene L. Kuz, M.D.
Savage, Minn.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Three decades, one generation

It hardly seems possible that a short 30 years ago Ukraine was still an integral part of the evil empire, still being exploited, still being denied basic freedoms, still suffering under the yoke of gangsters.

Since then a generation has grown up in North America, increasingly unaware of the horrors which were then happening and the enduring struggles which they precipitated.

Although hoodlums still rule in Ukraine, their future is limited. Pockets of independent endeavor are emerging, and Ukraine is slowly, painfully, but assuredly changing for the better.

To put Ukraine's current crisis into perspective, we need to look back to 1970 and recall what Ukraine was facing then and compare that to what is happening now. We need also to recall how our community was reacting and the people who were active in our preservation efforts here and abroad.

There's no better place to begin our sojourn into the past than Volume II of the recently released "The Ukrainian Weekly 2000," a compilation of the most significant news stories and commentaries published in the Ukrainian Weekly between 1970 and 1999.

In 1971, for example, a spokesman for the Compton Encyclopedia responded to a protest by Dr. Halyna I. Podiuk Klufas regarding the entry on "Russia" by stating that "Ukraine and Latvia are now governed by the Soviet Union and thus the people who live there are Russians ... Texas was once an independent republic, but is now a state in the United States. The same is true of Ukraine and Latvia in relationship to Russia."

This kind of thinking was typical of the way many journalists, academics, politicians and the general public viewed Ukraine and Ukrainians. Fortunately, protest letters by Weekly readers and others forced the Compton people to re-evaluate their entry.

Today, the situation has changed somewhat but not completely. In his 1999 book "The World of Words: An Illustrated History of Western Languages," Victor Stevenson classifies the Ukrainian language as "Little Russian," one of the "three Russians" which includes "Great Russian" and "Belarussian (White Russian)."

Other 1970 protests noted in Volume II were related to the Vatican's initial refusal to allow Cardinal Josyf Slipyj to visit Canada, the arrest of Ukrainian dissidents in Kyiv, the murder of composer Volodymyr Ivasiuk, the arrests of dissidents Vyacheslav Chornovil, Ivan Svitlychny and Ivan Dzyuba, and the trials of Mykola Rudenko and Oleksa Tykhy. One of the largest demonstrations on behalf of human rights in Ukraine occurred on September 25, 1977, when some 20,000 Ukrainian Americans from some 30 cities marched in Washington. The Ukrainian National Association was active in this event, as well in the successful lobbying efforts that led to the Soviet release of dissident Valentyn Moroz.

Another milestone was reached when the Vatican, responding to initiatives by Pope John Paul II, adopted a more obliging attitude towards Ukrainian Catholics, a posture that culminated in the first ever papal visit to Ukraine in 2001.

The 1980s began with a split within the Ukrainian Congress Committee as the UNA, the Ukrainian Fraternal Association and 19 other national organizations walked out of the organization. Two years later a competing umbrella organization, the

Ukrainian American Coordinating Council (UACC) was established and for the next 18 years the battle was joined. Today, the UACC is moribund.

The struggle for Ukrainian freedom intensified during the 1980s as did efforts to counter the growing defamation of the Ukrainian name in the United States. With full Soviet cooperation, the Office of Special Investigations of the U.S. Department of Justice initiated its witch hunts against Ukrainians and succeeded in incorporating Nazi hunting into the American cultural fabric, all, of course, at U.S. taxpayer expense.

A high point of the 1980s was the successful effort to bring the Ukraine Famine of 1932-1933 to the world's attention. Books were published, articles written, a major manifestation was held in Washington, hearings were held in the House and Senate, and Congress approved and funded the Ukraine Famine Commission. Although attempts to curb OSI abuses in the United States were largely unsuccessful, dissidents in Ukraine continued to pursue their national agenda with the establishment of the Popular Movement for Perebudova (Rukh), a development which formally ignited the spark that led to Ukrainian independence.

During the early 1990s Ukraine proclaimed its sovereignty with over 90 percent of the population later voting affirmatively for Ukrainian independence. John Demjanjuk was acquitted of war crimes by the Israeli Supreme Court in 1993; Oksana Baiul won a gold medal in the Winter Olympics in 1994, the Ukrainian Parliament adopted independent Ukraine's first-ever constitution, Ukrainian was adopted as the only official language, and the "the" disappeared from respectable publications writing about Ukraine.

For the first time in centuries, Ukraine's fortunes seemed to be improving.

Ukraine's enemies, however, were not idle. The once outlawed Communist Party of Ukraine made a remarkable comeback in Ukraine; Ukrainophobes produced "The Ugly Face of Freedom," a scurrilous diatribe of tainted journalism on "60 Minutes"; and Leonid Kuchma was elected president of Ukraine for a second time.

These are only some of the historic events reported in Volume II of "The Ukrainian Weekly 2000." Along with Volume I, which covers the years 1933 through the 1960s, readers will find a wealth of information about Ukraine and the Ukrainian community in North America.

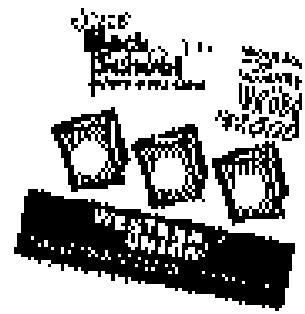
"It is our sincere hope," writes The Ukrainian Weekly Editor-in-chief Roma Hadzewycz, "that in some small way the publication of both volumes of 'The Ukrainian Weekly 2000' serves as both a tribute and a thank-you to all our devoted editors, as well as to all those who supported our work during the 20th century."

We all need to review our past from time to time. Knowing our past helps us understand our present. It is for this reason that I urge all readers to purchase both volumes, read them and share them with their children. Copies are available from The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, Box 280, Parsippany, NJ, 07054 for the low price of \$25 per set. All proceeds go to The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund. (Additional donations are welcomed.)

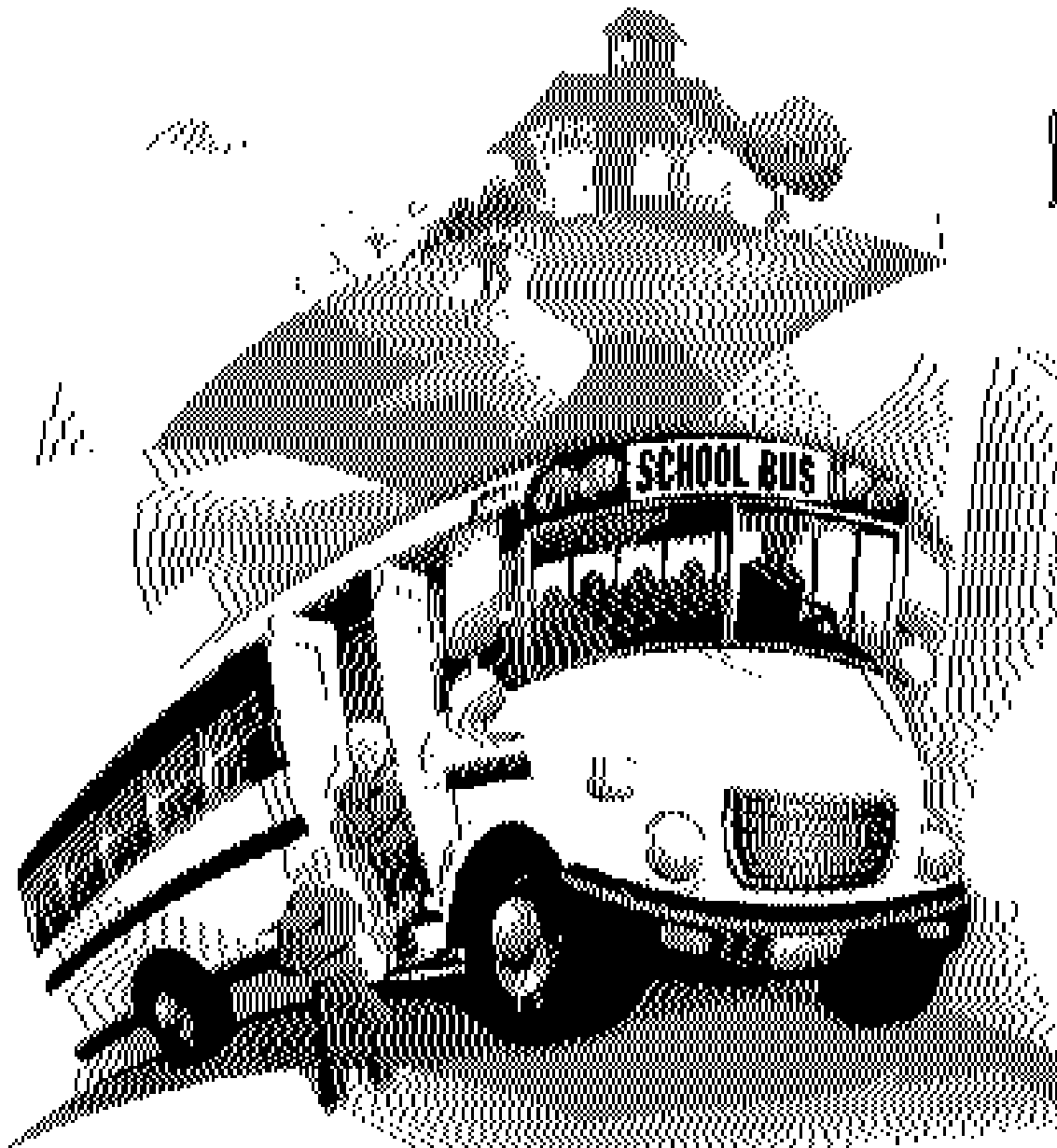
Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com.

Східної Європи

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WESTERN UNION... (Small print text, mostly illegible due to low resolution and high contrast.)

A history of the sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great

CONCLUSION

Today, the Basilian Sister, imbued with Eastern spirituality, is a woman of prayer, one who has been called by God to live in a supportive community where she is continually being emptied of self and filled with God's love. It is through God's love that the Basilian sister devotes her life to the service of others as a continuation of Christ's mission. She serves, primarily but not exclusively, the people of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, and her tasks are primarily, but not exclusively, in the fields of education, pastoral ministry, retreat ministry, and ecclesiastical arts. She is a living symbol of all that is promised in the great seal of St. Basil.

Community life in the province, so tenuous at the turn of the previous century, has matured and flourished. Where there were four, there are now 63. Jubilee celebrations for sisters who have served the order for 50 and more years are regularly and joyfully observed. Newly professed sisters share their dreams and vocation with elderly veterans, learn from them, and honor their experience and their wisdom.

One of these is a young woman from Ukraine, reprising the journey of Jeremiah Ewasiechko, the young postulant who accompanied Mother Helena Langewych from the Yavoriv community to Philadelphia in 1911. In many ways, her story is as remarkable as the story of her emigrant predecessor.

In 1991 Ukraine became an independent nation. After decades of active repression, personal and institutional spirituality began to experience a renaissance. The revitalization of religious practice and religious instruction was hampered by the scarcity of trained and qualified priests and nuns, by poverty and by isolation from the global religious community.

In 1994 the provincial administration initiated a program that would reconnect the sisters of the province with their ancestral homeland and would assist the sisters of the homeland to fulfill their mission in God's service.

The Ukraine Outreach program had several objectives: to staff religious training institutions in Ukraine, to provide medical and educational assistance to individual sisters in Ukraine and Eastern Europe and to invite young women from Ukraine to test their vocation in practice. It was determined that a trial period within the religious community located in Fox Chase, Pa., would allow these young women to discern their

readiness to become members of the Order of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great and their commitment to ministerial service within the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

After several years of intensive planning and preparation, six young women were invited from Ukraine. They arrived in the United States on September 27, 1997, and embarked on a course of spiritual training in the provincial community while taking classes at Manor College.

Although most of these young women eventually chose to return to Ukraine, one chose to stay. On September 30, 2001, in a ceremony held at the Holy Trinity Chapel of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great, Luba Beley, from Kalush, took her first vows, promising to observe the rules of the community and to serve humanity in Christ's name.

While the first years of the Ukraine Outreach program did not turn out entirely as expected, they were a positive learning experience. The program has since been redesigned to reflect a better understanding of the expectations of the Ukrainian girls and their American sisters.

Vocational promotion here in America is also an ongoing challenge, for while the sisters of the Province of Jesus, Lover of Humanity, are strong in spirit, they are too few in number to fully meet the growing demands of the Church and community they serve. In recent years, the sisters have regretfully had to turn down requests from bishops in Brazil, Canada, Ukraine and the United States, all in need of teachers, parish assistants and pastoral ministry staff.

The response to this crisis has been a concerted and unified effort to seek out, invite, and nurture women who may have a calling for the religious life. Each of the sisters has recognized that this is not one person's task and has willingly committed herself to fulfilling the responsibilities of vocational director. They work together, assembling and mailing vocational information to high school and college students. There is an informative and inviting website that addresses the questions of women who are tentatively examining their spiritual needs and addresses, as well, the needs of women who are actively seeking a way to enhance their relationship with God by joining a religious community. The sisters also host and sponsor numerous programs, making themselves and their ministry more visible to the community at large and more specifically to women who are seeking spiritual guidance and direction.

From the start, most of these efforts have been directed at reaching out to young women. But there was a lesson to be learned here about the mysterious ways in which God works to answer prayers. In seeking to open one door, the sisters were to discover that God often opens other doors, sometimes reviving traditions long ago abandoned as antiquated or obsolete.

In 1997 a woman named Barbara Terefenko entered the community. On April 21, 2001, Sister Barbara took her first vows

and accepted the veil. She was joyfully embraced by her sisters in Christ, and tearfully congratulated by her four children and her six grandchildren. A widowed grandmother had joined the community, reviving a tradition that, lost in the depths of history, may yet find new life in new times.

Labors of Love

Elections for the Province of Jesus, Lover of Humanity, were held in 2000 and those elected will serve the order and their



A Basilian sister teaches a religion class in 1956.

community until the year 2005. The current provincial is Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski, formerly a principal of St. Basil Academy. The assistant provincial is Sister Laura Palka. Sister Miriam Claire Kowal, Sister Mary Cecilia Jurasinski and Sister Paula Jacynyk have been chosen as Councilors to the community.

St. Basil Academy, which was established in 1931, is now a college preparatory school that provides an excellent learning environment and diverse curriculum for more than 350 students. The academy is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The current principal is Sister Carla Hernandez.

Manor College, which was established in an old farmhouse, expanded its facilities to include dormitories, a library, and in 1977

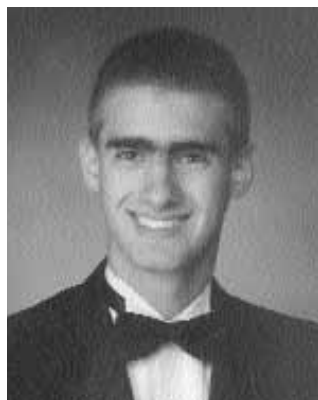
an on-campus Ukrainian Heritage Studies Center with the goal of fostering an awareness of Ukrainian heritage and culture. Now a co-educational college, Manor has an enrollment of 800 students with access to an extensive and varied curriculum. The current president of the college is Sister Mary Cecilia Jurasinski.

At both the college and the academy the tradition of teaching that began so many centuries ago continues. Both institutions reap the rewards of having alumnae whose post-graduate accomplishments pay tribute to the sisters who taught them how to reach for the best within themselves.

Operations at the orphanage on West Lindley Avenue were suspended in 1988 with the understanding that a functioning orphanage might be re-established if and

(Continued on page 17)

Congratulations, Graduates!



Congratulations, Steven, on a wonderful college career. We know you will have a great and successful future.

*With love and pride,
Mom, Brian and Nushi*

Steven Mychajlo Yevich received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Virginia at Charlottesville in three years. He was a recipient of the Special Operations Association. Scholastic Scholarship and Intermediate Honors, UVA. He is also a graduate of the Ukrainian School, Washington, DC. While at UVA, he volunteered as a paramedic with the Charlottesville Albermarle Rescue Squad and Blue Ridge Mountain Rescue Group. He is a registered EMT-Paramedic, and obtained an International Diploma in Humanitarian Assistance. For fun he skydives and scuba dives. He is a member of UNA Branch 15, receives The Ukrainian Weekly and enjoys reading it.



Dearest Taisa,

Congratulations on your graduation from Penn State University. We are very proud of all of your achievements. Follow your heart; work hard and your dreams will come true. We wish you all the very best!

*Love and kisses,
Mama, Tato & Olenka*

Taisa Natalka Welhasch received her Bachelor of Arts in Geography from Pennsylvania State University on May 11, 2002. She minored in Spanish and International Studies, and is a member of Phi Sigma Iota international foreign language society.

400 youths enjoy Plast camps at Vovcha Tropa site in New York state

by Taisa Welhasch



“Super-campers,” encircling a practical camping display, sing their camp song.



A band of roaring young Vikings takes the stage during “Den Plastuna” festivities. (Note their leader, Head Counselor Taras Ferencevych, in Viking headgear.)



The “novachky,” being led by the “orliata” (the oldest campers), proudly march with their camp quilt.



The “yunachky” (photo on left) and the “yunaky” (right) march during the annual ceremonies of “Den Plastuna” at the Vovcha Tropa campground.

EAST CHATHAM, N.Y. – Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization successfully hosted yet another summer camp season at its Vovcha Tropa campground, where nearly 400 campers ranging in age from 6 to 17 converged.

As in previous years, six camps, divided by age, gender and Plast rank resided on the picturesque property between July 6 and 27. The typical duration of the camps is three weeks, while the oldest campers stay two weeks and the youngest stay one week.

It is tradition for each camp to choose a name and theme, which is then tied the daily program of the camp. The “novachky,” girls 7-10 years old, were led on a journey by little “Minusinka,” or Thumbelina, who was in search of the greatest place in the world, the place where she would be happiest.

In order to record her fond memories of the journey she began to sew those images into a quilt. The novachky followed her example and sewed their own quilt full of the things that make them happy every day. Challenging the girls to search “V Svit Za Ochi” (as the camp was called) or “Beyond the Mind’s Eye,” to recognize their joys and moments of strength, was Head Counselor Lisa Milanytch’s intention.

The same age group of boys, the “novaky,” declared their campsite to be strictly Viking territory called “Valhalla.” The boisterous campers guarded the turf from their Viking ship at the entrance of camp. Head Counselor Taras Ferencevych led them in ritualistic Viking meditations to solidify their brotherhood, strength and bravery. The novaky, along with their counselors, often sported their Viking garb, complete with fur cloaks and horned headpieces.

Both camps went to Foxhill Lake for a relaxing field trip together during the second week of camp, but went on separate excursions during week three. The novachky hopped on a bus to the nearby Shaker Village, while the novaky went exploring in Howe Caverns.

The older Plast members, the “yunaky” and “yunachky” (age 11-17) also ventured outside of Vovcha Tropa for hiking trips in parks throughout the Northeast. The campers were split into beginner, intermediate and advanced groups and climbed Mount Greylock, Whiteface Mountain and Algonquin Peak, respectively.

The yunak named their camp “Zhertva Prometea” (The Sacrifice of Prometheus). The motive behind this theme, according to Head Counselor Danylo Liteplo, “was to inspire the campers to make sacrifices in their daily lives for the good of others.”

They did not necessarily have to sacrifice their lives in order for the rest of humanity to have the gift of fire, as did Prometheus, but philanthropy and consideration did prevail among the scouts. They helped organize a trip for Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) campers to visit the Plast campground and hoped to make this ambassadorial exchange an annual tradition.

Their female counterparts decided on a camp name and motto of “De Nas Viter Ponese” (Wherever the Wind Takes Us), which in their case was through the cycle of seasons. The yunachky learned that with each season comes changes within oneself and within relationships. A giant wooden windmill constructed by the campers served as their gated entrance and handmade

(Continued on page 13)

SUM Leaders' and Counselors' Training Camp concludes at Ellenville "oselia"



Campers and staff of SUM's Vyshkilnyi Tabir held in Ellenville, N.Y.

ELLENVILLE, N.Y. – For three weeks starting on June 30 and running through July 21, 60 future leaders and educators of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (known by its Ukrainian acronym, SUM) took part in this year's "Vyshkilnyi Tabir" (Leaders' and Counselors' Training Camp). SUM's Ellenville resort (oselia) hosted the campers from near and far, including attendees from Philadelphia, Goshen, and Yonkers, N.Y., New York City, Passaic, Irvington and Whippany, N.J., Hartford, Conn., Chicago, and even Montreal.

The staff of the three-week camp was led by Andriy Bihun during the first two weeks and Maria Kozicky in its final week. Directing the camp's educational program was Marta Matselioukh, who prepared a rigorous yet thoroughly enjoyable fortnight of leadership and counselor training courses, followed by a final week of team- and spirit-building events and activities.

The camp's leadership team consisted of a number of motivated and talented individuals and included Nykola Rudyk, Chrystia Sysak, Michelle Omodirok and Markian Harasymowych. The medical staff was directed by Slawko Dashawetz, and included Zoriana Kovbasniuk and Dr. Irena Stoliar.

The name of this year's camp was "Shliakhy Heroyiv" (The Paths of Heroes), and much of the camp's program focused on the heroes of Ukraine's past and present. The core of the Vyshkilnyi Tabir's training program was built around instructional seminars on a wide range of subjects, including topics such as leadership, educational techniques and child psychology (presented by Dania Nauholnyk-Lawro, Kristine Bihun, Mr. Kozicky, Anna Pokora), Ukrainian history (Ihor Mirchuk), language (Ludmilla Lantsiuta-Davis), song (Halyna Cechowska), religion (Sisters Zynovia and Elizabeth, SNDM), SUM organizational structure and ideals (Lesya Cebrij-Rago, Ivanka Zajac, Pawlo Figol, Lida Mykytyn) and more. Among this year's guest speakers were Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian World Congress; Yury Nakonechny, president of SUM's world executive; Ronia Stojko-Lozynskyj, Prof. Walter Zaryckij, Zenon Halkowycz and Ms. Kovbasniuk.



Campers perform several songs commemorating the heroes of Ukraine before a large Fourth of July audience at the Ellenville oselia.

In addition to training, campers relaxed and enjoyed bonfires, dances, barbecues and other fun activities, including traditional Ivan Kupalo rituals. Following ancient tradition, after a fire-side evening of song, girls braided wreaths of flowers and set them afloat on the local river's surface at night. The boys then waded into the water downstream to retrieve the floating wreaths, and were rewarded by the privilege of accompanying the owner of the wreath they caught in a traditional jump over the burning logs of the fire.

During the camp's third week, attendees enjoyed a hike up a local mountain to the well-known Bare Rock outlook over the Ellenville oselia. Those completing their third (and final) year of training partook in a separate field trip to Glen Spey's St. Volodymyr Church, followed by a whitewater rafting expedition on the Delaware River.

Unfortunately, all good things must eventually come to a close, and the campers who made new friends for life



Sixteen campers of the 3rd Kurin completed the final phase of SUM's three-year "vyshkil" program this year.

over these three weeks had to part ways to return home. They plan to keep in touch in many ways, including through SUM's official website (www.CYM.org),

at the upcoming National Gathering of "Starshe Yunatstvo" in the fall of 2002, at next year's Zlet and, of course, during SUM's many summer camps.

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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

ing. Mr. Marchuk's comments came after German RTL television showed video footage of an unidentified cylindrical object speeding under the plane just seconds before the crash. Calling for an end to "cheap sensationalism," Mr. Marchuk said investigators analyzed every possible cause and concluded that organizational failures and pilot error caused the crash. On August 7 Mr. Marchuk said the two pilots of the jet are primarily to blame for the tragedy. "The pilots failed to follow the flight plan and performed four difficult maneuvers that they had not done before," he said at a press conference announcing results of the investigation. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Oil flows into Odesa-Brody pipeline

ODESA – A tanker carrying 30,000 tons of Caspian oil arrived at the Southern (Pivdennyi) oil terminal in Odesa on August 4 and began unloading the following day, the UNIAN news service reported. This is the first oil received by the Southern terminal of the Odesa-Brody oil pipeline, which is part of Ukraine's ambitious Eurasian Oil-Transporting Corridor for supplying Caspian oil to Europe. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rep. Schaffer expresses condolences

FORT COLLINS, Colo. – U.S. Rep. Bob Schaffer (R-Colo.), a co-chairman of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, on July 30 issued a statement on the deaths of 83 people when a fighter jet crashed on July 27 into a crowd of spectators at a weekend air show outside of Lviv. "I am truly saddened by news of the tragic air crash at the Lviv airshow this past weekend in which 83 people – including 23 children – lost their lives and scores of others were injured. My prayers and deepest sympathies go out to the families touched by this terrible tragedy," he said. (Office of Congressman Bob Schaffer)

Poland sends aid to air crash victims

LVIV – A shipment of medicines and other medical material worth some 50,000 zlotys (\$12,000) sent from Poland's southeastern region reached Lviv hospitals on July 29, the PAP news service reported. Another shipment of aid prepared by local governments was sent to Lviv on July 30. The Caritas church-charity organization from the Rzeszow region has also joined the effort to collect donations. (RFE/RL Newsline)

U.S.: no evidence of arms sales to Iraq

WASHINGTON – There is no evidence that Ukraine has transferred military equipment to Iraq, but the United States remains "extraordinarily sensitive" to that issue, Reuters reported on August 1, quoting a senior official at the U.S. State Department. "The Ukrainians have incredible technology, especially missile technology, and we know that there are countries with less-than-good reputations who would love to have that technology," the official told a small group of reporters on condition of anonymity. He urged Ukraine to put more safeguards around its missile technology or risk having security concerns hurt its bid to join NATO, the Associated Press reported. "There's no evidence that there have been military transfers from Ukraine to Iraq," the official added. Media reports in April alleged that Ukraine may have sold four radar systems to Iraq in violation of United Nations sanctions. (RFE/RL Newsline)

400 youths...

(Continued from page 10)

wind chimes lined their outdoor kitchen.

Head Counselor Oresta Zobniw was particularly impressed with the leadership of her oldest campers. "The 'rozviduvachky' [the oldest girls] set good examples for the younger kids who appeared to be very responsive to their mentoring." This oldest group was also involved in planning the SUM exchange.

The veteran 16- and 17-year-old campers, or "super-campers" as they have been named in recent years, focused on combining their talents and available resources to be of service to the other camps. Their trademark was to perform good deeds while leaving no trace of their presence. Appropriately, their camp was named "Tam De Nas Nema" (Where We Haven't Been). This camp is unique because it offers rigorous outdoor activities such as rock climbing, canoeing, hik-

ing and oh yes, even pyrotechnic instruction, in addition to the practice of "leave no trace" camping. Training and gear is provided for the campers through to efforts of their generous and highly skilled counselors, led by Andriy Mykyta.

Finally, the youngest group of campers arrived at the end of the second week. This one-week camp is for children between the ages of 6 and 7. It's designed to be a preparatory camp easing the transition for the children, and perhaps even for the parents. The camp went by the name of "Pryrodna Zabava" (Nature's Party) and was directed by Darka Halaburda Patti.

A new addition to this year's program at Vovcha Tropa was the complementary inter-camp theme of Earth's five elements. The camps represented earth, wind, water, fire and heart. It seemed to be a reflection of the unity and cooperation that pervaded the spirit of Vovcha Tropa this during the summer of 2002.

'European Choice'...

(Continued from page 6)

prominent Western leaders were surveyed. The results of the survey were grim, with 79 percent of respondents considering Ukraine's international image to be negative, and 77 percent feeling that Ukraine does very little to improve its image.

The survey results prompted the head of the sponsoring organization, Leonid Kravchuk, to action. Addressing the second congress of Ukraine – Recognized Mission he proclaimed: "Ukraine has a negative image on the international scene and all bodies of power, non-government organizations and political forces should work to remedy the situation." (Ukrainska Pravda, July 8)

His call to arms was picked up by President Kuchma who called on the Ukrainian diaspora to help in promoting a positive Ukrainian image abroad in foreign lands. The presidential appeal was made during a meeting in Kyiv with the head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church Cardinal Lubomyr Husar and a worldwide group of hierarchs of that Church. The diaspora should be helping Ukraine, said Mr. Kuchma, rather than just talking about what is happening there – a strange statement, since one may reasonably assume that the best way of helping the country is to provide honest and true information about it.

The image-cleansing effort, in any case, was doomed to failure. In this day and age of instant communication it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to create a good image out of bad reality. The Soviet Union tried to do so for many years, without much success. And, chances of the Ukrainian political establishment doing so are not much better.

While trying to clean their image abroad, the authorities continued honing dirty "election technologies" in preparation for the presidential election of 2004. The test opportunities for such "technologies" were found in supplementary elections for national deputies in three contested electoral districts on July 14. The most notable test case was electoral district No. 35 in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast. It is from this oblast – still a preserve of the old Soviet order – that Mr. Kuchma rose to power. The leading candidate for re-election was Oleksander Zhyr, the former prominent national deputy from the same district – a vocal critic of President Kuchma, and a former head of the parliamentary commission charged with investigating the murder of Heorhii Gongadze. He was a leading candidate in the regular elections on March 31, but the results of that election were nullified as a result of numerous irregularities in ballot counting, causing officials to

order a repeat of elections.

Mr. Zhyr ran for re-election on the Our Ukraine bloc platform. During his second election campaign the vlasti managed to violate every election rule in the book in favor of their candidate, an official of the local police force. There is no need to repeat here the litany of all such violations. Suffice it to mention that in the end the authorities prohibited national deputies of the Our Ukraine bloc from campaigning in support of their party candidate. When it became apparent that the full and brutal use of "administrative resources" was not enough to stop the re-election of Mr. Zhyr, the election board of the district simply removed his name from the list of candidates on the ballot under made-up and unproved allegations. Yes, things like that are done in Ukraine, and they were done a few minutes before 5 p.m. on the eve of the election in order to preclude any possibility of appeal.

The new "election technology" of simply removing the name of leading candidate from the ballot on the eve of elections was proven to be successful, and a policeman was appointed by the vlasti to represent the district. This successful dirty "election technology" will be, no doubt, used in the forthcoming presidential election.

The political coordinator of the Our Ukraine bloc, Roman Bezsmertnyi, concluded that, as a result of such super-cynical falsification of the electoral results, the change of government by constitutional means is no longer possible in Ukraine. His pronouncements dispel any lingering illusions about democracy in Ukraine. The events of the past few weeks demonstrated that opposition forces, in spite of overwhelming popular support, are no match for the all-powerful vlasti.

The backsliding of Ukraine is not limited to the election processes, there is also a reality of abuse of human rights and freedom of the press. Take for example the case of investigative reporter Volodymyr Boiko. The reporter was investigating corruption and the lawlessness of the government tax agency in the Donbas region, and for his efforts was promptly arrested by the tax police. Next, he was incarcerated barefoot in an "isolator" cell infested by bedbugs. When he appeared three days later in court his legs were swollen from insect bites and lacerations. At least, unlike Heorhii Gongadze, he was still alive.

Violations of human rights, suppression of freedom of the press, disrespect for the rule of law, abuse of the electoral process, corruption and crime are not acceptable attributes of behavior in the framework of Euro-Atlantic alliances. And until fundamental reforms take place, the prospect for Ukraine's integration into the European community remains rather slim.



У смутку повідомляємо, що у вівторок, 2 липня 2002 р., проживши 77 років, відійшов у вічність у Сиракузах, Н.Й.

наш найдорожчий
БАТЬКО, БРАТ і ПРИЯТЕЛЬ

бл. п.

ГРИГОРІЙ ПІКОЛИЦЬКИЙ

нар. в м. Голодівка, Західня Україна,
вдівець по св. п. Анастазії, яка померла у 1973 р.



У віці 14 років, був вивезений до Німеччини на примусові роботи. Під час війни одружився, працював в кам'яновугільній копальні в Бельгії. У 1954 р. емігрував до Америки, спонзорований братом Стахом, який жив у Woodbine, NJ. У 1955 р. переселився до Сиракуз, Н.Й., де працював у Smith and Caffrey Steel Co., як водій. Його мрією було мати свою таверну. У 1963 р. купив Battle's Grill, а потім побудував Idle Hour Tavern. Разом з дружиною Анастазією працювали в ній 24 роки. Був активний в українській католицькій церкві св. Івана Хрестителя, в Українському Народному Домі, належав до 39 відділу Українського Народного Союзу в Сиракузах.

ПАНАХИДА відбулася 4 липня 2002 р., о год. 6-й веч. в Маско-Vassallo Funeral Home.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися в п'ятницю, 5 липня 2002 р. о год. 10-й ранку в українській католицькій церкві св. Івана Хрестителя. Похований на церковному цвинтарі.

У смутку залишилися:

син – д-р ЯРОСЛАВ ПІКОЛИЦЬКИЙ, LaJolla, CA
одна сестра і три брати в Україні
приятелька від 25 років – МАРІЯ МАЙКОВИЧ
та ближча і дальша родина в Америці і в Україні.

Вічна Йому пам'ять!



З великим жалем повідомляємо,
що 18 липня 2002 р. відійшов у вічність
наш найдорожчий БАТЬКО, ДІДО і СТРИЙКО

бл. п.

ВОЛОДИМИР БАЛКО

народжений 13 лютого 1913 р.
в Ямні Долішній, Україна.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися 27 липня 2002 р.
в церкві св. Михаїла в Гартфорді
і на цвинтарі св. Михаїла в Гластонбері, Коннектикат.

Залишені в глибокому смутку:

син – д-р ОЛЕКСАНДЕР БАЛКО з родиною
племінник – БОГДАН БАЛКО з родиною
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Cultural program - Akademia at 3:00 p.m.,

+++

Festival stage shows at 4:30 p.m.

"Syzokryll" Roma Pryma-Bohachevska dance group

singers Taras Petrynenko and Tetiana Horobetz,

Hryhorij Bobul, Anna Bachynska, Bohdan Sikora, Chereshenki duo

+++

Cocktails at 6:30 p.m., Banquet at 7:00 p.m.,

awards ceremony, guest speaker prof. Taras Hunczak

A. Bachynska, B. Sikora, T. Petrynenko, T. Horobetz, fireworks

banquet tickets \$40, RSVP (845) 856-2180, 856-4102

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Meeting at 28th annual...

(Continued from page 5)

deceased UNA seniors.

With 88 seniors registered, the conference was opened by UNA Seniors President Anna Chopek. The American and Ukrainian anthems were sung, the "Pledge of Allegiance" was recited, and the business session began.

"Mnohaya Lita" was sung for Dr. Roman Baranowskyj's 97th birthday and Sam Liteplo's 88th. Ms. Chopek was elected conference chairman and Mr. Hayda as Ukrainian secretary.

Appointments to committees were made: nominations - Eva Uzych and Dr. Mary Dycio; donations - Estelle Woloshyn, Myron Sederowicz and Anne Slobodian; auditing - Olga Shatynsky and Anne Turchyn, seating for the banquet - Mary Bobeczko and Alice Orlan.

The following officers were elected for the year 2002-2003: Ms. Chopek, president; Ms. Orlan, vice-president; Cornelia Yavarow, English secretary; Olga Paposki, treasurer.

Regional representatives are: Connecticut - Yaroslawa Kovach; Massachusetts - Eugene Moroz; New Jersey - Maria Mandzij; New York, Kerhonkson area - Dr. Stefania Baranowskyj; Rochester area - Chrystina Dziuba; New York City - Vera Shul; Ohio - Mary Bobeczko; Pennsylvania - Ms. Uzych; Philadelphia area - John R. Lopic; Rhode Island - Stefi Katamay and Helen Trenkler.

Social activities included a welcoming wine and canapé party held in the Main House lobby. Dr. Stefania Baranowskyj entertained with readings from the works of Edward Kozak. Honored guests for the evening were, UNA President-elect Stefan Kaczaraj and his wife. Mr. Kaczaraj mingled with the seniors, giving everyone an opportunity to talk with him individually.

One afternoon, Mr. Moroz showed slides of his trip to Cambodia, which were enjoyed by all. A bingo night was conducted by Nicholas and Mary Bobeczko and Mr. Liteplo. Videos showing celebrations of the 10th anniversary of Ukraine's independence were shown by Mr. Trenkler. An auction of Ukrainian-style artifacts brought by the seniors was conducted by Eugene Woloshyn and Mr. Moroz. A raffle was conducted by Marie Prucknicki, Ms. Yavarow and Ms. Uzych. The total collected from the auction, raffle and donations amounted to \$1,500.

An Odesa Night dinner was served one evening with various kinds of seafood, as well a meat course.

The serious side of the conference included the annual review of current events in Ukraine given by Dr. Roman Baranowskyj and in English by Dr. Roman Procyk, the executive director of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. The seniors learned that the most important event of the year was the papal visit to Ukraine and that, as a result, there was much media coverage and many dignitaries visiting from all over the world were present. The papal visit put Ukraine on the map, so to speak. Other events of

importance were the agreement with Russia regarding the pipeline from Russia across Ukraine to transport oil and gas, as well as the agreement with Russia regarding borders.

Dr. Procyk also spoke of the many books that have been published by HURI as a result of generous donations by many Ukrainians, especially of the large donation of \$200,000 given by the Sklar family. The Sklar donation, which will be available during the next 20 years, will make various new programs possible.

Dr. Hayda, who has spent many years on the study of allergies and nutrition, gave a very interesting talk. He spoke about the ordinary peanut and its products, which the airlines and public schools have stopped serving because of possible fatal consequences to those allergic to peanuts. The seniors were pleased to learn that among healthful foods are Ukrainian favorites such as garlic, beets and carrots.

Dr. Dycio gave a very informative talk on osteoporosis and what doctors have available to help those suffering from this disease. A bone density test is advisable, drugs such as Fosamax can be prescribed to strengthen bones, and medicines are available to alleviate pain. Regular exercise is important.

All the talks were followed by lively question and answer periods.

The conference ended with an elegant cocktail party and banquet. Seniors dressed in traditional Ukrainian blouses and shirts added to the atmosphere. The speaker was Dr. Osyp Moroz. He spoke of the difficulties Ukraine faces today because of its economic and management problems. Dr. Moroz has spent a great deal of time in Ukraine. He has been a consultant to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Parliament of Ukraine and has given lectures on the concepts of management at various universities in Ukraine. At the invitation of the Kyiv Polytechnical Institute, he worked on several projects on the American system of self-study at universities throughout Ukraine. In the United States he has served as assistant and as dean of administrative services in several state colleges. It was apparent from his talk that Ukraine has a long way to go to improve its economic status.

The seniors were honored by the presence of UNA President Ulana Diachuk and her husband, Volodymyr, at the banquet. Tributes were given to "Mrs. Diachuk" on behalf of the employees of Soyuzivka by Ms. Orlan and on behalf of the UNA Seniors by Ms. Chopek. A bouquet of flowers from the UNA Seniors was presented by Ms. Paposki.

The attendees listened to President Diachuk's warm words of thanks and were sad to think that after the many years she had spent with the seniors this was the last time she would greet them as president of the UNA. After the ceremonial cutting of a beautiful cake presented by the management of Soyuzivka, the conference was over.

The UNA Seniors left the resort with the hope that Soyuzivka, so dear to them, can be saved - and that the organization can meet here next year.



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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Kasian is inducted into soccer hall of fame

by Dr. Daria Nowakowska Lissy

PHILADELPHIA – Nicolaus Kasian was inducted on April 27 into the Hall of Fame of the Philadelphia Old Timers Soccer Association in recognition of his outstanding achievements and contributions in the sport of soccer. This honor was followed on May 1 by formal recognition of his 35 years of distinguished service by the Philadelphia Referees Association. These events marked the culmination of a career devoted to soccer.

Mr. Kasian was born in the village of Mykulyntsi near Sniatyn, Ukraine. In his boyhood he was smitten with a love for soccer. After playing soccer through high school, he was enrolled in an athletic training program in Kolomyia in 1942. Following World War II, he played in Germany as the goalkeeper for the sports clubs Orlyk in Berchtesgaden and Berkut in Ulm.

In the spring of 1948, refugees from the captive nations of the Soviet Union organized the Displaced Persons Olympics in Germany. Soccer teams were fielded by refugees from Ukraine, Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. The Ukrainian Olympic Committee selected Mr. Kasian as goalkeeper position on the Ukrainian team. After a successful preliminary round, Ukraine advanced to the finals and, after defeating Poland and Lithuania by identical scores of 5-1, won the gold medal.

After the DP Olympics Ms. Kasian played for the Sich Ukrainian soccer club in Regensburg. The club played matches in its league and friendly games against major German teams. Sich competed in the Bayerische Pokal and advanced to the quarterfinals, where it lost to Ingolstadt.

In the fall of 1949 Mr. Kasian immigrated to the United States, where he played several games for Ukrainian Sports Club of New York before moving to Chicago in 1950. There he joined the newly formed Ukrainian sports club Lions and played for them until his retirement in 1957. During his years with the club, the Lions won the



Nicholas Kasian

Peter J. Peel Cup in 1956, and several times were the champions of the Chicago Soccer League, champions among Ukrainian teams of North America and the Illinois State champions.

In 1952 Mr. Kasian was named to the Chicago All-Star team and played against FC Stuttgart of Germany. He also was selected for several tournaments – in Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Detroit and Toronto.

In 1958 he married Maria Zubryd and moved to Philadelphia in 1960. Shortly thereafter he passed the soccer referee examination and became a member of the Eastern Pennsylvania Soccer Referees Association. He has been refereeing ever since and has nearly 3,300 games to his credit.

In 1991, under the auspices of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada he was selected as a representative of the Ukrainian diaspora to referee soccer games in Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Nadvirna in Ukraine.

Mr. Kasian's soccer career is not over. Demonstrating his undying love of soccer, he continues to dispense athletic justice on the playing field as a referee. Throughout his career he has had the unflinching support of his wife, who showed boundless patience and understanding on so many Sundays and holidays. The Kasians have been blessed with a son and daughter, four grandsons and a granddaughter.

Mr. Kasian is a member of Branch 397 of the Ukrainian National Association.

Schumylowyches participate in art show

HAINES FALLS, N.Y. – Taras Schumylowych is exhibiting three tempera paintings, "USCG Light Station, Cape Henry," "USCG Lighthouse, Penfield Reef" and "Leach Lake in Tannersville, N.Y.," at the 55th annual group exhibition sponsored by the Twilight Park Artists.

The exhibition, which features the works of nearly 70 artists, is being held on Saturday, August 10, and Sunday, August 11, in the Twilight Park Clubhouse in Haines Falls, N.Y., where the first such exhibit was held in August 1947. Mr. Schumylowych has exhibited at this show

since 1968.

A children's art show also is included in this annual exhibition and will take place in the Clubhouse Tea Room. Three of Mr. Schumylowych's grandchildren, Xenia, Justin and Larissa, are displaying their new paintings. They are impatiently waiting to see them viewed by all who come and admire the works of potential future artists who one day as adults probably will submit their artwork to this traditional and beloved summer event in the Catskill Mountains.

The exhibit is open to the public with a wine reception on Saturday at 5-7 p.m. and continues Sunday at 1-5 p.m. An artist demonstration is planned for Sunday at 3-4 p.m.

The Schumylowyches are members of Ukrainian National Association Branch 86.



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Friday, August 30	Zabava	Luna – 10 PM
Saturday, August 31	Concert	Syzokryli 8:30 PM
	Zabava	Tempo 10 PM
	Zabava	Fata Morgana 10 PM
Sunday, September 1	Zabava	Montage 10 PM
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For more information and to request a Conference Registration Form please contact:

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A history...

(Continued from page 9)

when the need arose. The elementary school and printing press at the same location were closed in 1989, and the property was sold to neighboring La Salle University.

The sisters continue to staff St. Josaphat School in Philadelphia, St. George Elementary School and St. George Academy in New York, St. Nicholas School in Chicago, and St. Josaphat School in Parma, Ohio. They conduct religious education programs in the Stamford Diocese and provide pastoral ministry to the Ukrainian community in the Parma Eparchy. One of the sisters serves as personal secretary to the archbishop of Philadelphia; one serves at the Basilian Generalate in Rome.

In December 1996 the first group of Basilian associates was welcomed to the Order after a year-long preparatory program. The association offers men and women of varied circumstances the shared experience of coming together and engaging in the spirit and the mission of the Basilian Sisters. Being in the association helps them to deepen their spiritual relationship and personal spiritual growth.

In May 1998 another longstanding dream of the Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great was fulfilled. A pontifical divine liturgy celebrated by the Most Rev. Archbishop Stephen Sulyk was followed by a groundbreaking ceremony for the Holy Trinity Chapel and Basilian Spirituality Center.

In March 2000 the sisters witnessed the consecration of the chapel and the blessing of the completed center. The facilities include a large meeting room which seats 100 people, two smaller meeting rooms, common space for informal sharing and exhibits, a library and archival area, a dining area, and a small prayer room for individual and group reflection. Set in the beautiful natural environment of the 130-acre site purchased by Mother Josaphat in the 1920's the center provides a peaceful and nurturing atmosphere and attests to the manifold wonders of God's creation. The director of the center is Sister Marina Bochnewich.

The Basilian Spirituality Center is the culmination of a dream of many years a testament to the human spirit and the embodiment of the mission of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great. In all ways, it is the manifestation of community, heritage, love of God and love of humanity, love of learning, prayer, service and dedication. It is above all, a place to reflect, to pray, to learn and to be refreshed in body, soul and spirit. The programs and special events hosted at the Spirituality Center are designed to provide intellectual, psychological and spiritual enrichment. Recent events have included symposiums on iconography, retreats for students and faculty of St. Basil Academy and the archeparchial clergy conference. In keeping with the theme of health, healing and wholeness, the Spirituality Center sponsors tai chi classes, women's discussion groups, guided prayer weekends, and individual spiritual direction. The Spirituality Center also houses the province archives. Work has begun on establishing a permanent endowment fund for the Spirituality Center, and for the purpose of perpetuating the sisters' mission of serving the educational and spiritual needs of the community.

At the end of 2001 and the beginning of 2002, the Province of Jesus, Lover of Humanity is celebrating its 90th year of existence. Many commemorative activities have been planned, including an essay contest, a historical video-collage of sisters in the community, and a special pilgrimage. Holy card bookmarks will be distributed at parishes staffed by the province.

Three of the sisters have contributed

their God-given talents to honor Mother Helena. Sister Susanne Matwijiwi will paint a portrait. A poem, written by Sister Judith Piszyk, will be set to music by Sister Laura Palka. The community will celebrate both joyously and solemnly – a reflection of life's dual nature and a mirror of the history of the province and the order it serves.

As they prepare for the challenges that lie ahead, the sisters find strength and inspiration in their roots and in the community's new spiritual leader, Archbishop Stefan Soroka. The archbishop has expressed more than a passing interest in the sisters' work, and especially in their determination to improve and accelerate their vocational program.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the newly created Archdiocesan Vocation Committee, which has proposed, and means to implement, a series of proactive measures to heighten vocational awareness among the clergy, the religious and the laity. The committee has planned retreats, community outreach programs, motivational workshops and a rigorous media campaign aimed at seeking out those who have been called by God and are merely waiting for encouragement from the religious community to pursue that calling.

In these uncertain times, many have turned (or returned) to God as the source of comfort in a world torn apart by the heinous acts perpetrated by desperate and misguided human beings. In the last year alone, we have witnessed tragedy that defies reason and defiles God's creation in ways too horrific to fully comprehend. It is in the vortex of such horror that God truly shows his light and his mercy, calling upon men and women to special deeds and special sacrifices. Thus, it is not merely coincidence that the vocational aspirations of the province and of the archdiocese have coalesced at a time when religious vocation is so sorely needed as a palliative to evil, grief and the chaos bred of uncertainty. And it is surely no coincidence that God's instrument in this mission is a young archbishop with the passion and the energy to remobilize the forces of good by example and inspiration.

Time passes. The seal of St. Basil the Great, a waxen image created centuries ago in faraway Cappadocia, appears on the official provincial website of the order. Goals and dreams and ambitions, fulfilled and unfulfilled, have their day in the sun and pass on. God remains and sees what works have been done in His name, what acts have glorified Him, what challenges have been met in his honor. And the sisters pray and teach and wait to see where God will lead them next.

- Development Office, Sisters of St. Basil the Great

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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Illinois SUMivtsi visit U.S. Army base at Fort Knox

by Justyna Katarzyna Jerzewski

CHICAGO – The Chicago and Palatine, Ill., branches of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) visited Fort Knox Army Base in Kentucky on April 27-28. Early on a cool Saturday morning, a bus full of enthusiastic “SUMivtsi” boys and girls and their counselors started off on the six hour journey. The trip was sponsored by the Ukrainian American Veterans (UAV) branch in Palatine, and was organized by Lt. Col. Lawrence Verbiest of the U.S. Army, Bohdan Pyskir of the UAV, and Andrew Kosowsky of the Chicago branch of SUM. The purpose of the trip was to enlighten the youth about army life and military history.

Arriving at Fort Knox, we were met by Col. Verbiest and the men of the 2nd Battalion, 81st Armor Regiment. One group went to see how a tank operates and actually climbed inside a real tank. The other group got a lecture about Humvee personnel vehicles, then went on Humvee rides around the base. The boys had a real surprise when the lieutenant made them stand at attention and then com-



SUM youths of Illinois during their field trip to Fort Knox in Kentucky.

manded them to do push-ups. The lieutenant looked amazed at the strength our young men showed.

After that portion of the tour we headed to another part of the fort. There we were again divided into

groups, and each group got to see the living arrangements for the soldiers. Some of the girls admitted they could never be in the army because they could never fit their clothes in the small rooms the soldiers have.

We then met with a drill sergeant who explained the process of basic training and patiently answered the many questions posed to him. All the youth and counselors had a chance to practice shooting a rifle (under the supervision of a professional instructor) and found that it's not as easy as it looks on television.

After the long ride and exciting tours, the youths were ready to eat. As we headed single-file to the mess hall, the youths counselors and officers thankfully took their food and ate, while talking about the exciting things they had seen. After the meal we all headed to a bowling alley where everyone had a wonderful time, bowling and even dancing a little.

The next day we attended church with the soldiers, after which we learned about religion in the military from the head chaplain. Then we visited the Patton Museum, and learned about the various weapons and uniforms that were used in the different battles in which America fought. For lunch, we prepared and ate MREs (Meals Ready to Eat), just like soldiers would eat in the field.

The 12-hour ride to Fort Knox and back seemed never-ending to the youth and counselors, but was truly worth the wonderful experience we all had at Fort Knox.

Plast NYC's Troop 3 blesses new flag

by Iwan Kinal

NEW YORK – The Troop 3 from the New York City branch of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization blessed its new flag on June 8. The new flag replaces the original that has been serving the boys' troop (kurin) since 1953, and which was

already in quite bad condition from nearly 50 years of use.

After months of designing the new flag, and planning and preparing the blessing ceremony, the troop members finally have a wonderful new flag.

The blessing ceremony began shortly after the Plast branch's clos-

ing ceremony for the 2001-2002 academic year. Everyone from Troop 3 stayed for the ceremony, as did other members of Plast in New York. They were joined by former members of the troop, several Plast dignitaries and other guests.

After the ceremony was opened and the program read, the old flag was ceremoniously removed and hung on the wall. Then Father Mario Dacechen from St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York blessed the new flag. Next the flag-bearer swore his oath and then took the new flag into his hands. Afterwards all the kurin members swore their oath to the new flag.

With all of this completed, a short speech was delivered, several greetings from people who were unable to be present at the ceremony were read, and attendees signed the guest book and hammered special nails into a commemorative board.

Afterwards everyone enjoyed a quick snack and perused display of the history of Troop 3.



The new flag of Plast boys' Troop 3 of New York City.

Cleveland area Plast youths clean up Pysanyi Kamin campground

by **Katrusia Stecyk**

MIDDLEFIELD, Ohio – Plastyny and their friends in the greater Cleveland area have worked this spring and summer at the Plast campground Pysanyj Kamin in Middlefield, Ohio, in preparation for the camps that are currently taking place there. They have worked hard fixing and cleaning up buildings, building new structures, planting flowers and beautifying the grounds. Some specific projects completed include clearing the area for the new swimming pool (to be built in 2003), mulching the playground area, replacing wiring in the barracks, replacing kitchen equipment and building new fences and decks. In addition, Lanka Batkiv (the Plast parent support group) donated two paddleboats for campers' use on the lake, and donated money for replacing the chairs and tables in the dining area.

Roman ("Pan Moloko") Kwit has been organizing this project, which consists of cleanup crews working on weekends. This has been an ongoing project for three years, with over 3,800 labor hours donated by dedicated volunteers. During this year alone, over 100 people have worked more than 1,200 hours with more work time planned. Mr. Kwit has spent countless hours organizing the workforce and keeping workers informed by e-mail, even sending out a picture of himself as a Kozak riding on



Plast youths at the Pysanyi Kamin campgrounds in Ohio during their clean-up project.

horseback, leading his troops into battle!

Many people are helping with this project, such as the Chicago girls' Plast troop 6, who donated money to help fix up the volleyball courts. Also helping are Cleveland's Plast girls' Troop 28 and boys' Troop 17, who go to Pysanyi Kamin on weekends and work alongside the adults.

The work left Pysanyi Kamin clean and repaired for the guests from other cities for July's camp season and for the counselor camps (vyshkil) that took place in June.

This project has been an example of Ukrainians working together for a common goal, and has displayed the teamwork and cooperation of Cleveland's Plast community.

CHECK IT OUT: In the centerfold of this issue, read about the youth camps of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) held, respectively, in East Chatham N.Y., and Ellenville, N.Y.

Mishanyna

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It is now 11 years after that historic August 24 in 1991 in Kyiv, capital of Ukraine, when the Parliament of Ukraine, then still a part of the Soviet Union, adopted the Act of Declaration of Independence. Today Ukrainians around the world annually celebrate Ukrainian Independence Day as a joyous holiday. This month's Mishanyna contains the words below, which are related to Ukraine and its independence.

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| August | freedom | proclamation |
| blue and yellow | Glory to Ukraine | Slava Ukraini |
| capital | historic | Supreme Council |
| celebration | holiday | trident |
| eleven | independence | tryzub |
| emblem | Kyiv | twenty-fourth |

Youths remember Famine of 1932-1933



PARMA, Ohio – On Sunday, June 2, the annual commemoration of the man-made Famine in Ukraine took place at the Famine monument on the grounds of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral. Clergy of the cathedral served a memorial service for the victims. This was followed by the youth of the parish's Junior Chapter of the Ukrainian Orthodox League and Sunday School speaking on the tragic events of 1932-1933. They then placed a wreath and flowers at the base of the monument. The parish choir concluded the commemoration by singing "Bozhe Velykyi." Above, members of the Junior UOL speak on the Famine of 1932-1933 in front of the monument.

OUR NEXT ISSUE:

UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated September 8, please send in your materials by August 30.

Contact: **UKELODEON**, c/o The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, (973) 644-9510. Call us at (973) 292-9800; or send e-mail to staff@ukrweekly.com. (We ask all contributors to please include a daytime phone number.)



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Alexander Slobodyanik, pianist

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Ongoing through Sunday, September 15

DETROIT: The Ukrainian American Archives and Museum of Detroit invites the public to view the exhibit titled "The 'Tree of Life' Motif in Embroidered Ritual Cloths (Rushnyky) of Central Ukraine." The exhibition, which includes original antique ritual cloths from the Kyiv, Poltava and Chernihiv regions dating from the 19th and early 20th centuries, is on view at the Ukrainian American Archives and Museum, 11756 Charest St., Hamtramck, Mich., through Sunday, September 15. Exhibit hours: Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission: adults, \$3; students and seniors, \$2; children age 12-18, \$1; museum members, no charge. For more information call (313) 366-9764.

Saturday, August 17

CHICAGO: The Chicago Business and Professional Group is sponsoring a summer social to celebrate the organization's revival and official launch. The evening will feature a special performance of contemporary Ukrainian music by the 16-member jazz ensemble Nova Chvyla, a private viewing of the new wing of the Ukrainian National Museum of Chicago and a delectable assortment of wine and appetizers. Interested prospective members and former members are especially welcome. The evening will be held at the Ukrainian National Museum, 721 N. Oakley Blvd., at 7 p.m. Admission is \$20. For additional information call (847) 359-3676.

Saturday-Sunday, August 17-18

LEHIGHTON, Pa.: The Ukrainian Homestead will host its 10th annual Ukrainian Folk Festival at 1230 Beaver Run Drive. The artistic program includes performances by the Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble, Voloshky Performing Dance Academy, Novyi Den Music Ensemble, Holubka Trio, Ss. Cyril and Methodius Church Choir with special guest performances by Yunist Ukrainian Dance Ensemble. Serhiy Pohoreltzev, Ukraine's consul general in New York, will make a guest appearance. Saturday's program begins at noon and ends with a zabava at 9 p.m. Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka will celebrate a divine liturgy at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, and the festival will continue afterwards until 5 p.m. Vendors will sell Ukrainian crafts and food. Admission to the festival is \$5 per day or \$7 for a two-day pass. Children under 14 are admitted free. For more information call the Ukrainian Homestead, (610) 377-4621, or Ulana Prociuk, (215) 235-3709.

Friday, August 23

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.: The Central New Jersey Branch of the Committee for Aid to Ukraine will host a celebration of the 11th anniversary of Ukrainian independence at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 135 Davidson Ave., Somerset, N.J. The program will begin at 7 p.m. and will include a greeting from Ukraine's Consul General in New York Serhiy Pohoreltzev. Performances will feature soprano Lesia Hrabova, baritone Yaroslav Hnatiuk, pianist Svitlana Hnatiuk, actor Rostyslav Wasylenko, bandurist Halia Cechovska, actress Tamara Hajenko, and the Yunist and Barvinok dance ensembles. The entrance fee is a \$10 donation toward the betterment of education in Ukraine. For more

information call Michael Shulha, (908) 534-6683, or the Rev. John Lyszyk, (908) 253-0410.

Friday-Saturday, August 23-24

SACRAMENTO, Calif.: St. Andrew Ukrainian Catholic Church will hold a festival in celebration of Ukrainian independence on the church grounds at 7001 Florin Road. Friday's program will take place at 6-10 p.m., and will feature Ukrainian food, drinks and a dance party. On Saturday the festivities take place at 3-10 p.m. and consist of an artistic program, as well as dinner and dancing in the evening. Saturday's artistic program will include an art exhibit with paintings and souvenirs for sale, and a parade of national costumes. The musical entertainment will be provided by the Ukrainian String Quintet, accordion music by Yuriy Kokhany, the Sacramento Bandura Ensemble directed by Ola Herasymenko, the children's dance ensemble Sonechko and George and Irina Arabadji. Admission and parking are free. For more information call (916) 381-2529 or (916) 363-8143.

Saturday, August 24

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: The Philadelphia Committee to Commemorate the 11th anniversary of the Independence of Ukraine invites the public to attend a gala concert at 7 p.m. at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown. Featured performers will be the Prometheus male chorus of Philadelphia, Ridna Dusha vocal trio of Cleveland, soprano Lydia Bychkova and solo vocal artist Serhiji Petrynenko of Kyiv. Consul General of Ukraine in New York Serhiy Pohoreltzev will deliver the keynote address. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. For more information call (215) 663-1666.

Sunday, August 25

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Tryzub Ukrainian American sports center will celebrate Ukrainian independence with its 11th annual Ukrainian Folk Festival at the Tryzub Center on County Line and Lower State roads in Horsham. The festival will feature Ukrainian folk music and dance performances, including solo artist Ihor Bohdan, the Ridna Dusha trio, the Voloshky and Obrij dance ensembles, the Harmonia Orchestra and Ukraine's Oros Sisters. Vendors will sell traditional Ukrainian crafts and food. The festival begins at noon and concludes with a zabava at 4 p.m. As an alternative to dancing, guests are invited to watch the Ukrainian Nationals amateur adult soccer team in an exhibition match. Admission is \$10, children 13 or under are admitted free. For more information call (215) 343-5412.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Friday-Sunday, September 13-15

KERHONKSON, N.Y.: The Carpathian Ski Club, known by its Ukrainian acronym of KKK, will hold the KKK Fall Festival at Soyuzivka, the resort of the Ukrainian National Association. The event features entertainment and social events, including music by Lvivany. The event is open to all KKK members, families and friends. For further information call Vera Popel, (732) 297-0786. For reservations call Soyuzivka, (845) 626-5641.

At Soyuzivka: August 16-18

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Over the weekend of August 16-18, Soyuzivka will feature the terpsichorean talents of the Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky Dance Camp. Participants of this popular annual camp at the resort will perform a special recital on Saturday evening, August 17, beginning at 8:30 p.m.

The performance will be followed by more dancing, as guests enjoy the music of the Fata Morgana band beginning at

10 p.m.

To get the weekend off to a good start, Vidlunnia, Soyuzivka's house band, will play during the Friday night dance on August 16.

For information about events at Soyuzivka, the upstate New York resort owned by the Ukrainian National Association, or to make reservations for a getaway in the Catskill region, call (845) 626-5641.