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## Husar blesses cornerstone for patriarchal sobor in Kyiv

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — On a blustery, Sunday autumn afternoon, with more than 300 faithful in attendance at the future site of the religious center of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, Cardinal Lubomyr Husar marked the beginning of construction of the UGCC patriarchal sobor as he blessed the building's cornerstone.

Nearly a dozen UGCC bishops and priests joined Cardinal Husar, in the cere-

mony, which included encasing a commemorative plaque within the cornerstone as a time capsule. The text engraved on the black marble slab documented for posterity the date that construction on the patriarchal sobor began, and identified the religious leaders of both the ecumenical Catholic Church and the UGCC, as well as the political leaders of both Ukraine and Kyiv, the architect and the builder.

The UGCC primate thanked city officials who gave the land for the cathedral site and the many faithful who have staunchly supported the project during short remarks at the site. Bishop Vasylyi Medvit of the Kyiv-Vyshhorod Eparchy said it was a historical moment for the UGCC.

"This church, this building is being built for the ages," explained Bishop Vasylyi, who added a moment later that, "when that day finally arrives when our various Churches are united into one all-Ukrainian Church, this house of worship will then belong to it."

The cathedral, which should be the largest in Kyiv when completed and able to hold more than 1,000 people, will be located just off the Dnipro River on a two-

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## NATO downgrades meeting with Ukraine, Kuchma not wanted at Prague summit

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The North Atlantic Council of NATO told Ukraine on October 30 that none of the leaders of its 19 member-states would meet with President Leonid Kuchma during the upcoming NATO-Ukraine Summit, which they announced had been downgraded to a meeting of foreign ministers.

The long-planned conference — which was to decide future relations between the North Atlantic Alliance and Ukraine, and to agree on a new action plan to replace the one that has been completed — was originally scheduled as an agenda-topper for the second day of the larger NATO Summit, which will take place in Prague on November 21-22. The agreement, which NATO still hopes to see, would replace the action plan that was part of the original Charter on Special Partnership signed by NATO and Ukraine in 1997.

On October 31, NATO Secretary General George Robertson told the Ukrainian Service of the BBC that the determination to keep the meeting with Ukraine at a lower level was the direct

result of the Kolchuha scandal.

"We had a feeling that under conditions of the recent discussion of the accusations of possible Kolchuha early warning systems supplies to Iraq it would be better for the interests of Ukraine and NATO if the Ukraine-NATO commission meets in Prague at the level of foreign ministers," explained Mr. Robertson.

The NATO decision, which in effect banishes the Ukrainian leader from the summit, came after word was leaked that a report U.S. and British experts would soon produce on the role of President Kuchma in the sale of Kolchuha anti-aircraft radar defense systems to Iraq will do little to clear his name.

The U.S. accused Mr. Kuchma of complicity in the affair on September 24, when it also halted financial aid to the central government of Ukraine. Washington asserted at the time that it had authenticated audio recordings in which the president of Ukraine approved the sale of a Kolchuha system to Baghdad through a Jordanian intermediary.

Ukraine replied quickly and decisively

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## Kyiv approves diaspora's memorial to Great Famine

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Kyiv's City Council and the Office of the Mayor gave the go-ahead on October 30 for the erection of a diaspora-funded memorial in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the 1932-1933 Great Famine.

Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian World Congress of Ukrainians, the leading umbrella organization of the Ukrainian diaspora, told The Weekly that by the end of the week he was to receive three site options from which to choose.

"They agreed to help in any way they can," explained Mr. Lozynskyj. "They will propose three locations, and based on this we will submit drawings."

The monument will be constructed by a leading Ukrainian sculptor from the diaspora who has yet to be chosen, explained Mr. Lozynskyj, and is expected to cost between \$150,000 and \$250,000 (U.S.). The diaspora will absorb the cost of the monument, while Kyivan workers will be responsible for erecting it at the Kyiv site.

A plaque at the site will note that the monument is a gift from the Ukrainian diaspora on the 70th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide.

The tragic events of 1932-1933, when much of eastern and central Ukraine was starved by Stalin's orders, is increasingly recognized by the West as a crime against humanity after being hidden by the Soviet regime and ignored by the West for decades.

Currently there is only one monument in Kyiv to the victims of the Great Famine, a relatively small memorial located before St. Michael's Golden-Domed Sobor erected in 1993. Mr. Lozynskyj said he expected the new monument to be ready for unveiling in August 2003 during the Seventh World Congress of Ukrainians, which will take place in Kyiv.

## RENAISSANCE OF KYIV: One of Europe's most vibrant cities

by Natalia A. Feduschak

KYIV — Tucked in a corner, near the central altar of St. Sophia's Cathedral, is one of Kyiv's great treasures.

"It's there," says Nadia Nikitenko, a historian at the ancient cathedral whose golden domes, silhouetted against a blue sky, stand like a bulwark against time. "It is Volodymyr's signature."

Prince, statesman, defender of a nation, Volodymyr Mohomakh, like many of his brethren of the time, broke Church law and risked hellfire and damnation to leave an eternal imprint on the walls of St. Sophia, the most religious of temples.

Nearly a millennium after the illicit practice of scratching into the cathedral's frescoed walls began, the powerful attraction of the over 300 etchings still holds. Documenting everything from prayers for good health to contracts for land sales and visits by dignitaries to St. Sophia, the graffiti, however blasphemous, says as much about the people who carved them as they do about the tenacity of a nation.

"St. Sophia was the visiting card of Christianity," says Ms. Nikitenko, who has spent more than two decades studying the cathedral and its history. "The Christian government couldn't imagine itself without St. Sophia. All roads from Europe led through here."

More than 1,500 years after it was founded and following decades of decline under Soviet rule, roads are again leading to Kyiv. Since resuming its role as the capital of an independent Ukraine 11 years ago, Kyiv is fast establishing itself as one of Europe's most vibrant cities. Crumbling monuments are being restored while others that were completely destroyed are being resurrected altogether. Banks, apartment buildings and shopping centers are going up at an unprecedented pace. With much

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Yuriy Borodin

The Golden Gates, now restored, used to be the historic entrance to the city. Legend says that visitors used to have to pay in gold in order to enter a city that was said to have over 1,000 golden domes because of its many churches.

## ANALYSIS

**Is Ukraine arming Georgia against Russia?**by **Taras Kuzio***RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report*

Since August, Ukraine and Georgia have sent out contradictory signals over the sale of anti-aircraft defense systems by Ukraine to Georgia. This became urgent for Georgia after planes – Georgia has claimed they were Russian – bombed Georgian territory in August, killing innocent civilians. The raid was allegedly targeted at Chechen guerrillas and their Muslim supporters in the Pankisi Gorge near the Georgian-Russian border.

In August-September, Russia threatened to launch ground and air assaults on the Pankisi Gorge to root out the Chechens who were allegedly using it as a safe haven before re-entering Chechnya. Russia pressured the United States for a deal whereby Washington would agree to Russian military intervention in Georgia in return for Russia dropping its opposition to likely U.S. military action against Iraq. In the meantime, Georgian forces took back the lawless Pankisi Gorge in October and reported the presence of no Chechen guerrillas.

Ukraine and Georgia have cooperated in the military field since 1996 when they signed an accord on the creation of the Intergovernmental Commission for Economic Cooperation. Ukraine has trained 200 Georgian officers since then at its well-developed military academies, and such training remains a priority in Georgian-Ukrainian military cooperation. Georgia has established military-coopera-

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

tion programs also with the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany and Turkey. Washington provides \$64 million in military assistance each year and is training elite Georgian forces.

Georgia and Ukraine are also linked through the regional group GUUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Moldova). As Ukraine has progressively realigned its multilateral foreign policy from a pro-Western to a pro-Russian neutrality since the “Kuchmagate” crisis began in November 2000, the strategic importance of the GUUAM group has declined for Ukraine. Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma visited Armenia, long suspicious of GUUAM, in October and signed military and technical cooperation agreements.

With Ukraine more closely aligned with Russia, Kyiv has become increasingly wary of publicizing its military links with Georgia, whose president, Eduard Shevardnadze, is widely disliked in Russia. A Russian Public-Opinion Foundation poll conducted in October found that Mr. Shevardnadze was the CIS leader most disliked by Russians. Forty-four percent had a negative view of him while only 2 percent thought of him positively. This is coupled with the total lack of transparency that surrounds arms sales in Ukraine in particular and in the Commonwealth of Independent States in general.

Unlike Ukraine, Georgia has an interest in publicizing the acquisition of military technology that would increase its ability to defend its sovereignty. On September 17, Georgian National Security Council

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**More water in the pipeline for Lviv**by **Vera Rich***RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report*

The World Bank is to give Ukraine a \$24 million loan to upgrade Lviv's water supply. For decades, residents of Lviv have been supplied with water for, at most, two periods (morning and evening) of two to three hours every day. The loan is earmarked for modernizing and replacing the equipment used in the city's water-supply and sewerage systems.

Certainly, such work is long overdue. Ten years ago it was estimated that one-third of the city's water supply is lost due to leakages before it ever arrives at its destination. However, new pipes and pumps alone cannot solve all the city's water problems.

Lviv's water shortages are the result of a combination of geographical factors and the legacy of Soviet planning. The city stands on the main European watershed, which divides the rivers that eventually feed into the Baltic Sea from those flowing to the Black Sea. The area, therefore, is not abundant in water by nature.

Lviv, however, was supplied by deep artesian wells, giving the city an important strategic advantage in times of war, since an enemy would be unable to cut off its water supply. One of the first things the Soviets did once their possession of the city was confirmed was to destroy these wells. This was supposedly in the name of “progress” (wells were “reactionary” and “backward-looking” – pipelines were “progressive” and “socialist”), but almost certainly the planners were not unaware of the securi-

ty implications: should the inhabitants of Lviv rise against Soviet rule, without their wells they would be unable to resist a siege.

The Soviets then set out to effect demographic reform. Just as in Poland, where the “socialist” city of Nowa Huta was built adjacent to “Catholic” and “reactionary” Krakow, Lviv was to be turned from a cultured university city, the focus of the newly outlawed Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, into a hive of Soviet production. New industries were to be established and a new “proletarian” workforce imported. These directives seem to have given no thought to the question of where the water for the extra population and industrial activity was to be found. To compound the problem, the industrial development focused on aluminum processing, a notoriously water-greedy technology.

When the Soviet Union fell apart, the city authorities of Lviv swiftly turned their attention to the water problem. Various expert studies were made and published, but the complexity of the situation and the post-Soviet economy effectively blocked any swift solution. Drilling new artesian wells was ruled out – Soviet “water management” had drastically lowered the water table of the entire area. Pipe in water from elsewhere? Theoretically possible, but that would mean laying up to 100 kilometers of new pipelines from the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast. When surveyors went out to inspect possible routes and sources, they encountered vehement protests – and in

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**NEWSBRIEFS****Kuchma might skip NATO summit**

KYIV – Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma on October 29 said he will not attend the NATO summit in Prague next month unless suggestions that his country has breached United Nations sanctions by selling radar equipment to Iraq are retracted, Reuters reported. “If there remain any doubts, then I don't think it would make sense to hold the Ukraine-NATO summit [during the NATO meeting in Prague],” Mr. Kuchma told journalists during his two-day visit to Lithuania. A team of U.S. and British experts last week completed a fact-finding trip to Ukraine to assess whether Kyiv sold a Kolchuha early-warning system to Iraq but has yet to announce its findings. (RFE/RL Newsline)

**Lithuania vows to be Ukraine's advocate**

VILNIUS – After talks with visiting Ukrainian President Kuchma, Lithuanian President Valdas Adamkus told a press conference on 29 October 29, “Today we can tell our dear friends in Ukraine that we are poised to be their best advocate in their bid for EU.” The ELTA news service reported that he said Lithuania will follow the example of the assistance that Poland has been giving Vilnius in its efforts to join NATO. The two presidents signed a document establishing a joint presidential council to ensure regular top-level political dialogue on bilateral and regional cooperation. Mr. Kuchma then attended a business lunch hosted by Prime Minister Algirdas Brazauskas and held talks with Parliament Chairman Arturas Paulauskas. The Ukrainian president was scheduled to return home on October 30 after meeting with Foreign Minister Antanas Valionis and participating in the official opening of the Ukrainian Institute, founded by the International Relations and Political Science Institute of Vilnius University, the Taras Shevchenko Foundation and the European Integration Studies Center. (RFE/RL Newsline)

**Majority suggests four candidates for PM**

KYIV – Ukraine's fragile parliamentary majority has proposed four candidates for the post of prime minister and submitted their names to President Leonid Kuchma to select one for parliamentary approval, UNIAN reported on October 25. According to the news agency, the European Choice caucus proposed State Tax Administration chief Mykola Azarov, the Ukraine's Regions caucus proffered Donetsk Oblast Chairman Viktor Yanukovich, the People's Choice caucus put forward First Vice Prime Minister Oleh Dubyna, and the Labor Ukraine-Party of

Industrialists and Entrepreneurs caucus jointly with the Social Democratic Party-United caucus advanced current Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh. Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn told journalists on October 28 that “the fate of the government is to be decided” by November 19, when the Parliament resumes its session. (RFE/RL Newsline)

**News agency head reported missing**

KYIV – The news agency Ukrainski Novyny (Ukrainian News) on October 28 said its director, Mykhailo Kolomyets, has been missing since October 21, Ukrainian news media reported. “Reporters of the agency are very concerned over the fate of Kolomyets. They fear that the incident could be the result of the agency's policy of providing independent information,” Ukrainski Novyny said in a statement. The agency reportedly notified the police on October 25 of Mr. Kolomyets's disappearance. (RFE/RL Newsline)

**Parliament discusses political crisis...**

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on October 23 discussed the current political situation in the country, as demanded by the caucuses of Our Ukraine and the opposition Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, Socialist Party and Communist Party, UNIAN reported. Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko said Ukraine is closer to a “dictatorship and a clannish political-system model” than it has ever been, adding that lawmakers contribute to strengthening this model with their “helplessness and passivity” in the parliament. Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz said the opposition's main goal is to change the current political system into a parliamentary-presidential republic. Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko announced that his party will continue organizing street protests against what he called the “social genocide” perpetrated by the current authorities. Lawmakers from the pro-presidential caucuses that form a fragile parliamentary majority appealed to the opposition to stop leveling accusations against the authorities and return to normal legislative work. (RFE/RL Newsline)

**...prepares two draft resolutions**

KYIV – The parliamentary hearing on the political situation in Ukraine resulted in two draft resolutions on which the Verkhovna Rada was expected to vote on October 24, UNIAN reported. The resolution proposed by the opposition urges President Leonid Kuchma to step down and, in the event he refuses to do so, calls

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## Helsinki Commission urges close eye on Kuchma's financial dealings

WASHINGTON – Leaders of the U.S. Helsinki Commission have urged Secretary of State Colin Powell to keep a close eye on President Leonid Kuchma's financial dealings after recent revelations that the Ukrainian personally approved an arms deal with Iraq.

In their letter to Mr. Powell, the bipartisan commission leadership said Mr. Kuchma's "action makes a mockery of international efforts to isolate Saddam Hussein's outlaw regime while ... significantly increasing the risk to U.S. and U.K. military personnel who are currently policing the 'no-fly' zones and may be called upon to conduct additional operations against Iraq."

Helsinki Commission leaders signing the letter were Chairman Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.), Co-Chairman Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-N.J.), Ranking Member Senator Christopher J. Dodd (D-Conn.) and Ranking Member Rep. Steny H. Hoyer (D-Md.).

"We are deeply troubled by recently published information making it clear that Ukrainian President Leonid D. Kuchma gave his personal approval for the sale of sophisticated military equipment to Iraq," the leaders wrote in a letter to Powell.

"It is difficult to see Mr. Kuchma's approval of this sale as anything other than a hostile and reckless act," the leaders wrote. "Such criminal conduct by the leader of a country that has been a major beneficiary of U.S. political support and financial assistance is outrageous and demands a clear and firm response from the administration."

Strong action is warranted to demonstrate to President Kuchma, as well as to

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## Schaffer advises Bush: do not meet with Kuchma

WASHINGTON – U.S. Congressman Bob Schaffer (R-Colo.) on October 28 counseled President George W. Bush against meeting President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine at the November 21 NATO summit in Prague, where NATO members and partner countries will discuss key issues affecting Euro-Atlantic security and stability, terrorism and membership enlargement.

"President Kuchma's consent to the sale of the Kolchuha system, an aerial surveillance system manufactured in Ukraine, to Iraq is the epitome of reckless behavior," wrote Rep. Schaffer in a letter he tendered to the American president and submitted in the Congressional Record. According to Rep. Schaffer, President Kuchma's approval is a clear and direct violation of United Nations sanctions.

The Kolchuha system is a passive, aerial surveillance system, which tracks radio emissions of airplanes. The transfer of this technology to Iraq, according to Rep. Schaffer, "threatens U.S. forces patrolling the no-fly zone in Iraq and jeopardizes the security of the region. President Kuchma's approval of the Kolchuha sale, and the subsequent denials by him and his administration despite irrefutable evidence to the contrary, indicate he has no serious intention

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## Lviv boy who survived Sknyliv disaster among survivors of Moscow hostage drama

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Kyrylo Holovenko, 13, of Lviv survived the Sknyliv Air Show in July only to travel to Moscow two months later, where his mother, her sister and he decided to go to see the Russian musical, "Nord-Ost," on October 23. To their misfortune, it was the same day a group of Chechen extremists bent on suicide in order to further the cause of an independent Chechnya took siege of the theater and demanded that all Russian troops should leave Chechnya or else some 800 theater-goers would die.

Today, Kyrylo can say he escaped the Moscow tragedy, too – albeit barely. On Monday evening he awoke from a two-day coma in a Moscow hospital as his parents watched.

Others were not as lucky. Three Ukrainians were among the nearly 120 victims of the gassing of the Moscow theater that preceded the freeing of the hostages,

while another three Ukrainians still are not accounted for, reported Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on October 30. The Chechen guerrillas held 40 Ukrainians during the three days they had control of the Russian Palace of Culture in the Dubrovka section of southern Moscow.

The gas that was released into the building after the Chechens began shooting hostages in response to Russian failures to heed their demands, according to government officials, knocked out the 50 or so terrorists and their hundreds of hostages. Russian special forces troops then stormed the building, killing all but a few of the Chechen guerrillas.

While journalists and many Western officials questioned why it took the Russian government four days to reveal that the gaseous chemical they released into the theater was an opiate derivative called Fantonyl – a delay that cost dozens of lives because doctors did not know how to treat the victims – Ukrainian officials said they

fully understood the reason for maintaining secrecy and supported the manner in which the hostage-taking was ended.

"These are national secrets which may be of use in future actions," explained Yevhen Marchuk on Studio 1+1 Television's evening news program on October 28. "No country releases such information."

President Leonid Kuchma, who cut short a state visit to Croatia on October 24 and returned to Kyiv to monitor the hostage situation, also fully supported the operation. On October 28, his press secretary, Olha Hromnytska, said the Ukrainian president had thanked the Russian military special services for their professionalism, while also offering condolences to the families of the Russian and Ukrainian victims.

"Despite all the talk about the expediency of using the gas during the hostage-release operation, the Russian authorities did their best to save human lives," said Ms. Hromnytska.

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## Husar blesses...

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hectare stretch of city land that sits along Ukraine's main waterway. It will stand almost directly opposite Ukraine's holiest religious shrine, the Monastery of the Caves (Pecherska Lavra).

Construction of the church is the first phase of a plan that will eventually turn the site into the UGCC's new home and administrative headquarters. The initial stage also includes the building of the patriarchal residence and administrative office. Eventually a religious/cultural center and a school are envisioned for the complex on another two-hectare plot that the city has given UGCC officials an option to take.

Today, however, the territory is dominated by towering, dinosaur-like construction machinery and the bareness of the cleared territory. That will quickly change as work begins. The completion date is autumn 2004.

The decision to go with a location on the left bank of Kyiv, which was proposed by Kyiv city officials, did not come without controversy. Initially, the UGCC had hoped it would receive a sizable plot of land in the city center, located on the opposite bank of the Dnipro River. City officials, however, insisted that the left bank site would not only allow the UGCC to receive more land, but it would finally put a church on the other bank of the Dnipro. Eventually church leaders saw the benefits of the site and the symbolism of a location across from the Monastery of the Caves, and relented.

"It is a beautiful location on the left bank of Ukraine, which is symbolic because it is the left bank of this country that most particularly needs a new announcement of the Gospel," said the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, after the ceremony.

The several hundred faithful who were present at the blessing ceremony agreed, for the most part. Many noted the striking symbolism expressed by the sobor's location across from the Monastery of the Caves, a complex of caves and churches located on a hill on the right bank of the Dnipro River, which has been the spiritual center of the Rus'-Ukraine since the 11th century. Today the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate controls that complex.

"It is a beautiful location – on the banks of the river that extends to the Monastery of the Caves – which expresses our desire for unity," explained Iryna Kulchynska of Lviv.

Meanwhile, Mykhailyna Melnyk of Kyiv said that she most liked the bucolic setting. "It is nice, very calm. God's blessing will come unto this place," she said.



Roman Woronowycz

Cardinal Lubomyr Husar blesses the cornerstone for the patriarchal sobor in Kyiv.

Not all were pleased however. While young Mykhailo Chyrylo, 17, said "it would have been better if it had been located closer to the center," 76-year-old Vasyl Smerechanskyi bluntly stated, "It isn't such a great place."

"If it was the Moscow Patriarchate requesting a site, they would have received something right in the city center," commented Mr. Smerechanskyi.

The Moscow Patriarchate, when contacted by The Weekly for its stand on the construction of the cathedral, expressed reservations about a UGCC religious complex in Kyiv.

"Who needs a giant sobor that holds 5,000 people?" queried UOC-MP spokesman the Rev. Heorhii Kovalenko. "But it is clear from this that the Greek-Catholic Church has placed before itself the aim of filling the church with those christened in the Orthodox faith. In Church language, this is called proselytization."

The representative also noted that the UOC-MP has made little headway for its own episcopal center in Lviv.

Representatives of the other two Orthodox Churches, however, were more accommodating regarding a UGCC patriarchal center in Kyiv.

The Rev. Valerii Kopiika, head of the patriarchal chancery of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church said he did not believe the construction of a UGCC cathedral affected the UAOC.

"It does not interfere with our spiritual life," explained the Rev. Kopiika.

The Rev. Borys Tabachyk, administrative director of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, agreed that the building of a UGCC patriarchal center in Kyiv was basically an internal matter for that Church. Yet he went further and even proposed that it should be viewed as a positive event for Ukraine.

"They have the right to have their own church in which they can pray to the Lord," explained the Rev. Tabachyk. "And we have hope that the building of this church will stimulate cooperation between our Churches for the good of Ukraine and its spiritual development."

## OBITUARIES

### Bohdan Pevny, artist, writer and art critic, 71

KEW GARDENS, N.Y. – Bohdan Pevny, artist, arts writer and critic and co-editor of the journal *Suchasnist*, died on September 7 at the age of 71.

Born June 4, 1931, in Lutsk, in the Volyn region of Ukraine, the son of Petro and Zinaida née Mytz, Bohdan Pevny came from a family with a strong journalistic and arts tradition, areas of interest that he pursued as a life-long avocation.

As a war refugee and a displaced person, he attended the gymnasium in Dillingen, Germany, and in 1951 embarked on studies in journalism at the Ludwig Maximilian Universität in Munich. As a student he was keen on doing political cartoons for Ukrainian newspapers, e.g., *Ukrainskyi Samostiinyk*, that came out in Munich and *Ukrainets-Chas* of Paris, an activity which he later continued for émigré publications in the West (*Natsionalna Trybuna*, *America*, *Svoboda* and the humor magazine *Lys Mykyta*).

Upon emigrating to the United States in 1951, Mr. Pevny studied art at the School of Visual Arts, the National Academy of Design and the Art Students League in New York, as well as at Columbia and New York universities.

Concurrently, he continued his journalistic activity writing for Ukrainian student publications such as *Horyzonty* and *Feniks*, and as member of the editorial staff of *Studentske Slovo* (Student Word), a monthly supplement to the *Svoboda* daily based in Jersey City, N.J.

An active participant in the vibrant Ukrainian émigré arts scene in New York

of the post-war period, in 1955 he co-founded, and served as the first president, of the Society of Young Ukrainian Artists which worked closely with another newly created kindred grouping the New York Group of writers.

Among those who were part of the "Young Artists" were: Volodymyr Bachynsky, Irena Fedyshyn, Slava Gerulak, Zenowij Onyshkewych, Borys Pachovsky, Arcadia Petryshyn, Evhen Salamakha, Bohdan Tytla, Liubomyr Voronevych, Yaroslav Wyznyckyj and Zhenia Zhylekhivska. The group held four exhibits annually, with a first major exhibit held at Barbizon Plaza on 57th Street in New York. It is at these exhibits that Mr. Pevny's work was first exhibited.

Upon completion of his studies, he became a member of the Ukrainian Artists' Association in the United States, regularly took part in its exhibits and beginning in 1963 served in various posts of the organization.

Mr. Pevny was author of numerous articles on art which appeared in both émigré journals (*Suchasnist*, *Terem*, *Krylati*) as well as publications in Ukraine (*Kultura i Zhyttia*, *Ukraina*, *Dzvin*, *Pamiatky Ukrainy*, *Slovo i Chas*, *Starozhytnosti*, *Nasha Vira* and *Volynska Trybuna*) and arts editor of various publications, including the monograph "Mykola Nedilko," which came out as a publication of UVAN in 1983 and a book of ex-libris from the collection of Patriarch Mstyslav of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

After his first trip to Ukraine in 1970,



Bohdan Pevny in Kyiv in 2001.

Mr. Pevny was among the first cultural activists who established contact with his counterparts in Soviet Ukraine, at a time when such contacts elicited various responses both in the diaspora and in Ukraine.

Mr. Pevny was co-organizer of the exhibit "Contemporary Graphic Art of Ukraine" (1971), which was formed on the basis of loans from collections in the United States; he was also co-organizer, with Profs. Taras Hunczak and Roman Voronka, of the 1988 exhibit "13 Artists

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### Remembering a friend

*Below are excerpts of a personal statement by Taras Hunczak, professor of history at Rutgers University, former editor-in-chief of Suchasnist, and friend and colleague of Bohdan Pevny.*

The recent death of Bohdan Pevny, a great loss to the world of Ukrainian culture, is also a great loss to me on a personal level.

My acquaintance with Bohdan dates back to 1953, the year I moved from Buffalo to New York. We soon discovered that we had much in common. We were both students at the time. Bohdan, who was a year older than I, knew clearly what he wanted to do in life – he wanted to be an artist.

Bohdan's formal education was supplemented by informal meetings with the leading Ukrainian émigré artists and poets of the day of the previous generation. It was these meetings that brought us together. The meetings would usually take place on weekends at the *Lys Mykyta* in downtown New York, where such prominent figures as theater director and actor Josyf Himiak, poets and editors Yevhen Malaniuk and Bohdan Krawciw, artists Mychailo Moroz and Sviatoslav Hordynsky, and writer Ivan Kernytky, to cite a few, would gather for informal discussions over a glass of wine or beer. Bohdan and I referred to these gatherings as weekend seminars in Ukrainian culture.

Upon completion of our studies we pursued our respective careers. For his part, apart from painting, book design and illustration, Bohdan began to display, rather early in his career, a predilection for art writing and criticism. Indeed, those were the areas to which he made the greatest contribution in the field of Ukrainian culture. His essays and articles appeared in various journals and newspapers. Bohdan was also an art critic, performing a thankless, yet most important and necessary, function for artists and a community interested in art.

Bohdan's most popular, and best-known work in Ukraine, was a rendering of Taras Shevchenko with the admonishing subtext: "Do your children speak my language?" The Rukh Fund made 5,000 reproductions of the painting as posters, and Bohdan and I took them to Ukraine. Subsequently, I would come upon these posters at numerous public gatherings.

Bohdan was an active member of the Ukrainian Artists' Association, serving in various capacities of its governing body. As a member of UAA, he was instrumental in organizing the exhibit "Contemporary Graphic Art of Ukraine" that was held in New York in 1971, and, jointly with Roman Voronka and me, the "13 Artists from Ukraine" exhibit, which was held at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York in 1988.

When I became editor-in-chief of *Suchasnist* in 1984, I invited Bohdan to become the journal's arts editor. He worked in that capacity until 1996 when, together with Ivan Dzyuba, he became co-editor of *Suchasnist*. He worked tirelessly and with complete dedication to the journal, which he considered a major forum and vehicle for Ukrainian culture.

Working with Bohdan all these years was a pleasure and a rewarding experience. I shall miss him.

### Zenon Onufryk, community activist and leader, 66

WHIPPANY, N.J. – Zenon Onufryk, a well-known community activist in Morris County, N.J., died on September 24 after a long struggle with cancer. He was 66.

Mr. Onufryk was born on April 13, 1936, in Rohatyn, Ukraine. He arrived in the United States in 1950, settling with his parents in Rochester, N.Y., where he received a public high school education. He studied electrical engineering at the Rochester Institute of Technology and the State University of New York – College at Morrisville.

After completing his studies, Mr. Onufryk moved to New Jersey, where he worked as an engineer for AT&T – Bell Laboratories, today known as Lucent Technologies. He retired in 2001 after 42 years with the company.

In the Ukrainian community of Morris County, N.J., Mr. Onufryk was involved in myriad activities, from the school of Ukrainian studies, to the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, heading the local UCCA branch (first known as the Whippany Branch and later as the Morris County Branch) for several years.

As head of the Morris County UCCA, Mr. Onufryk was involved also in the work of the UCCA New Jersey Coordinating Council, most prominently in the realm of education, as he endeavored to have the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 included in the state's school curriculum. As well, he was involved in trying to correct inaccuracies regarding the Soviet Union and Russia that appeared in the textbooks used in the state's high schools, thus perpetuating misperceptions about that region of the world.

He played key roles in the annual commemorations of Ukrainian

Independence Day on January 22 and was the community's liaison to local, county and state officials. In addition, he organized various social functions for the area's Ukrainians, ranging from picnics to dances.

Mr. Onufryk was a human rights activist and defender of Ukrainian dissidents during the Cold War period. He organized demonstrations in support of Ukrainian human rights activists and other public events aimed at building awareness of Soviet violations of human, national and religious rights. He was especially active on ad hoc committees that organized visits to Morris County by released Ukrainian political prisoners Leonid Pliusch and Valentyn Moroz, which garnered much publicity for the Ukrainian cause in the local news media.

A strong proponent of Ukrainian Americans' involvement in the U.S. political system, he was active in local politics, establishing contacts with elected officials from the town and county up to the state and national levels. Among the politicians with whom Mr. Onufryk worked closely were the late Rep. Millicent Fenwick; the late Dean Gallo, a freeholder who later was elected to the U.S. Congress; and Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, the current congressman from New Jersey's 11th District, whom Mr. Onufryk supported first as a county freeholder, then as a state assemblyman.

Mr. Onufryk also was actively involved in committees supporting the unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko monument in Washington and later in local commemorations of the Millennium of Christianity in Rus'-Ukraine.

In the late 1970s Mr. Onufryk was a founder of the Media Action Coalition,

whose goal was to correct inaccuracies in the information and news media as they pertained to Ukraine and Ukrainians. One of the results of his work was a regularly published Media Action Coalition page in *The Ukrainian Weekly*, that included "Action Items" encouraging Ukrainian community response to erroneous or misleading reports published and broadcast in the media, inappropriate listings in news media stylebooks and other reference works, as well as useful information for readers such as how to contact the media and the importance of proper terminology. The MAC pages were published in *The Weekly* in the early 1980s.

He was active in the Rochester and later the Newark, N.J., branches of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization both as a youth counselor and in administrative capacities, and was among the leaders of many Plast camps for both "novaky" (age 6-11) and "yunaky" (age 11-18).

Mr. Onufryk was a member of the Chornomorsi fraternity of Plast and was one of the founders in 1955 of its Rochester-based crew (branch) called Viking. As a Chornomoret, he was an organizer of many sea scouting camps in the years 1955-1965, serving twice as the captain of such camps. His specialty in the fraternity was navigation and pilotage.

Mr. Onufryk also aided in the establishment of the Chornomorski Khvyli sorority of Plast, and subsequently in the creation of the Chornomorska Rada, a council encompassing Plast's sea scouting units. In 1965 he married a member of the Chornomorski Khvyli, Irena Omecinskyj.

(Continued on page 16)

# Ukrainian Orthodox Church's Metropolia Center marks 50th jubilee

by Hieromonk Daniel

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J. – Saturday, September 28, found Orthodox Christians from all over the world arriving at the Metropolia Center in South Bound Brook, N.J., to give thanks to Almighty God for the blessings and graces He has bestowed on the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A. – especially on the 50th anniversary of the Metropolia Center.

Continuing to recuperate from his recent surgery, the primate of the UOC-U.S.A., Metropolitan Constantine, could not be with the faithful for this glorious celebration. He was with them, however, in prayer and his words of greeting were read at the liturgy by the Protopresbyter Frank Estocin.

Archbishop Antony, ruling archbishop of the Eastern Eparchy and president of the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.; Archbishop Vsevelod, ruling bishop of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.; Archbishop Yuriy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada; Bishop Dimitrios of the Greek Orthodox Church of America; were greeted at the door to St. Andrew's Memorial Church.

Also concelebrating were 47 priests, including the Rt. Rev. Protopresbyter Wasyl Makarenko, president of the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, and three deacons.

Present for the liturgy was Bishop Basil Losten of the Stamford Eparchy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church. Responses to the liturgy were sung by the St. Andrew Memorial Church Choir of South Bound Brook, N.J., under the direction of Taras Pavlovsky.

Archbishop Vsevelod, who on September 27 had celebrated his 15th anniversary of ordination as a bishop, preached in Ukrainian during the liturgy. He extolled the vision and the dedication of the UOC's spiritual fathers, Metropolitan John and Patriarch Mstyslav for realizing the necessity of having a diocesan center, museum and cultural center as an anchor for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church here in America and in the Ukrainian diaspora. He praised the dedication and perseverance of the people in making this dream a reality.

Mentioning St. Andrew Memorial Church, Archbishop Vsevelod said:

"The Memorial Church – this is the combined monument over the graves of our forefathers – those related to us and most dear to us. The Memorial Church – this is the expression of our deep respect for the heroes and martyrs of our Ukrainian nation. The Memorial Church – this is the very humble cross over the graves of millions of victims of the genocidal famine ploughed over by the enemy.

"The Memorial Church – this is our feeble attempt to recreate the majesty of the Ukrainian Churches destroyed by the Moscow communists in just the 20th century. The Memorial Church – this is the creation of the free Ukrainian spirit, inseparably joined to the ancient Ukrainian style of Church construction.

"The Memorial Church – this is our humble contribution to the treasury of spiritual and cultural wealth of the United States of America. The Memorial Church – this is evidence that those who contributed in any way to her construction, lived not only for themselves, but for the future generations of our nation."

Following the liturgy, all the bishops, priests, deacons and faithful participated in the blessing of the Apostolic Prayer Trail. Fifteen icons were placed on wooden crosses along the path between the memorial church and the cemetery. The icons depict the 12 Apostles, St. Paul, St. Volodymyr the Great and St. Olha, and the icon of the Transfiguration.

Archbishop Antony explained that the path of holiness that the apostles and the Equal to the Apostles Ss. Volodymyr and Olha took ultimately led their lives to be transfigured by the grace of God. This is the path that all must walk in our daily lives to accept as Orthodox Christians God's transfiguring grace, he added.

As the bishops and faithful proceeded to the icon of the Transfiguration, the priests who concelebrated were assigned to walk to one of the icons of the holy apostles together with any parishioners from their respective parishes. After the hierarchs said the prayer of blessing, the memorial church bells rang, signaling the priests at the various monuments to bless their respective icons with holy water.

Hieromonk Daniel, director of the Office for Public Relations, and Natalia Honcharenko, Director of the Office of Cultural and Ethnic Affairs were the masters of ceremonies for the jubilee banquet later that day.

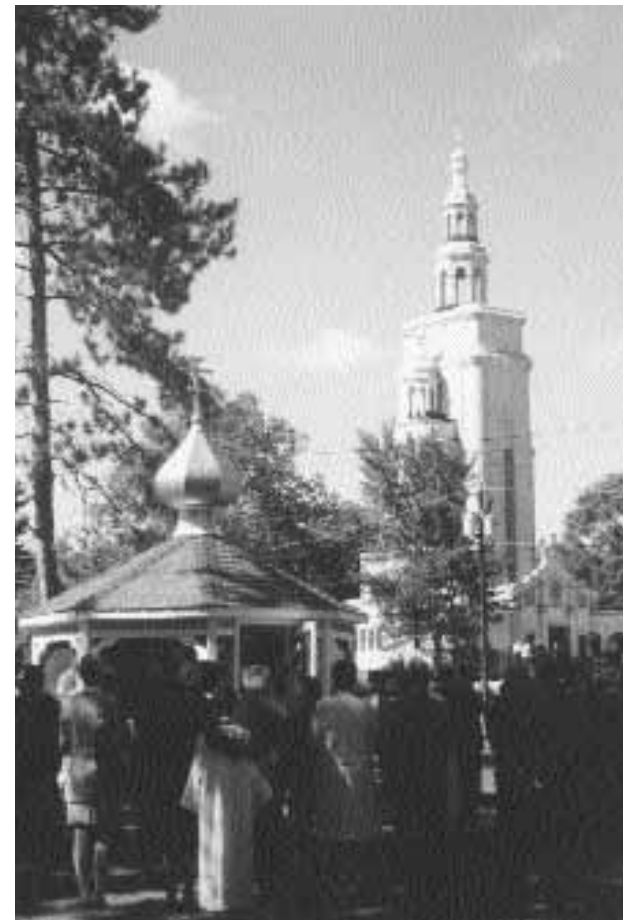
Present in addition to the hierarchs and clergy who were at the divine liturgy was Metropolitan Iziaslav of the Byelorussian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. Remarks at the banquet were delivered by Archbishop Antony,



Archbishop Antony receives a donation from Bohdan Kekish of Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union.

Archbishop Yuriy, Bishop Dimitrios (speaking on behalf of Archbishop Dimitrios) and a representative of the clergy of the Byelorussian Orthodox Church (speaking for Metropolitan Iziaslav).

Bishop Basil Losten gave greetings and spoke about the need to continue to support the spreading of God's word. Volodymyr Yatsenkivskyj of the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington and Markian Kulyk of Ukraine's Permanent Mission to the United Nations spoke of the accomplishments of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in America and



The faithful are gathered for the blessing of the Transfiguration Chapel on the Apostolic Prayer Trail.

especially over the past five years here at the Metropolia Center. They also thanked the UOC-U.S.A. Church for its ever-present help to the Church and faithful in Ukraine.

Father Michael Petlak gave a very moving talk on the history of the founding of the Metropolia Center. Daria Pishko, president of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the U.S.A., Nadiya Mirchuk, president of the United Ukrainian Orthodox Sisterhoods, Michael Heretz, president of the St. Andrew Society; and Dennis Quinlan, representative of

(Continued on page 18)

## Ukrainian leaders support Rendell for Pennsylvania governor



PHILADELPHIA – Ukrainian community leaders met with Ed Rendell, the former mayor of Philadelphia, on Wednesday, October 23, to show their support for his candidacy for governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The president of the Ukrainian Human Rights Committee, Ulana Mazurkevich, introduced the delegation (seen above, from left): Ihor Fedoriw (Ukrainian Medical Association of North America), Iryna Korchynsky (Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics), Myron Soltys (Ukrainian Congress Committee of America), Irene Skulsky (Ukrainian Human Rights Committee), Mr. Rendell, Ms. Mazurkevich, Andre Michniak (Ukrainian American Bar Association) and Ed Zetnick (Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center). Speaking on behalf of the delegation, Ms. Mazurkevich stated: "As mayor of the 'City of Brotherly Love,' you turned a city with a junk bond status and the largest deficit in its history, into a city with a surplus. You stopped job loss and created 20,000 new jobs in your first year alone. You cut the business and wage tax five years in a row. Mayor Rendell, you have proven yourself to be an experienced leader with a 'can-do' attitude – this is what Pennsylvania needs."

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Historic wrong must be righted

Between 1914 and 1920, 8,579 "enemy aliens" were interned by order of the Canadian government under the War Measures Act, their property and possessions confiscated, their civil rights revoked. Over 5,000 of them were Ukrainians – immigrants from the territories then under the control of the Austro-Hungarian empire. Another 80,000 – the vast majority of them Ukrainians – were required to register as enemy aliens and to report regularly to local authorities. The internees were used as labor to develop Canada's infrastructure: national parks, logging, mills, mines, railways and bridges. It was slave labor, pure and simple. All this occurred despite the fact that none of these people was shown to be disloyal to Canada.

In April of last year, Member of Parliament (MP) Inky Mark introduced a bill "to recognize the injustice that was done to persons of Ukrainian descent and other Europeans who were interned at the time of the first world war." What exactly does the bill seek? Plaques at all of the 24 sites of internment camps, a museum in Banff National Park to tell the story of the internment operations and educational materials to be used in schools. The Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, which for 15 years has been the leading organization lobbying for redress, and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the umbrella organization of Ukrainians in Canada, today speak with one voice in negotiating restitution for the internment operations. The two groups are negotiating a settlement with the government based on Mr. Mark's Bill C-331.

At the beginning of this month, as part of Project Roll Call, over 37,000 Canadian households will receive a postcard from UCCLA asking if they are descendants of those interned in 1914-1920. These thousands were chosen because their surnames matched or were similar to the names on the UCCLA's Roll Call list of internees; thus, they may be descendants or perhaps even survivors of the internment operation. Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, UCCLA's director of research, explained that part of the tragedy of the internment operations lies in the fact that those interned "rarely, if ever, mentioned what was done to them – they did not leave memoirs or documents, and the few who did to this day are often reluctant to share them with researchers like us." He added, "So there was fear – there may still be some fear out there." Nonetheless, the UCCLA is hopeful that it will find some survivors and more documentation, and that it will succeed in persuading them to join in the community's united effort to secure redress.

To be sure, Bill C-331 will have to be reintroduced, since the Parliament was prorogued in September, and Mr. Mark has indicated that he will do just that. The good news is that the bill was supported in the past by MP Jean Augustine, now secretary of state for multiculturalism, and that recent meetings with Ms. Augustine and Minister of Canadian Heritage Sheila Copps have shown that both are inclined to work with UCCLA/UCC negotiators on some kind of "reconciliation." In addition, just this week there were signals from Prime Minister Jean Chrétien that he will review the 1-million-strong Ukrainian Canadian community's calls for recognition of this historic injustice and reconciliation.

That, indeed, would be a positive and honorable legacy, much akin to that of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, who heeded Japanese Canadians' calls for justice regarding their internment during World War II and in 1988 rose in the House of Commons to issue an apology. Furthermore, if PM Chrétien were to act on the internment issue, he would keep the promise made in writing nine years ago during the election campaign.

The Ukrainian Canadian community has waited 82 years for justice. We hope that justice is at hand, and that a legacy of the Chrétien years will be that such a heinous episode in Canadian history is never, ever repeated.

Nov.  
5  
1932

### Turning the pages back...

To mark the 50th anniversary of one of history's most horrifying cases of genocide – the Great Famine of 1932-1933, in which some 7 million Ukrainians perished, this newspaper ran a column devoted to a chronology of reports about the man-made famine.

The column relied on news from Svoboda and, later, The Ukrainian Weekly (which began publication in October 1933). Following is an excerpt dealing with events of 70 years ago.

On November 5, 1932, Svoboda reported on a new book on Soviet agriculture that had appeared in Germany. Consisting of essays by 16 specialists, including journalists who had spent time in the USSR, it attempted to explain the agricultural situation in the USSR.

On November 10, 1932, Svoboda headlines read "The Famine in Ukraine Intensifies." Dated Kiev, the story read: "From all parts of Ukraine, the richest breadbasket of Europe, comes news of the growing famine. From all parts of Ukraine, cries of 'Bread, bread, bread' are heard, but there is none to be found."

Forced collectivization, reported Svoboda, resulted in the peasantry planting only enough grain for its own needs. However, the government collected grain from the people and continued to export the same amount of grain, if not more, than ever before. The population had eaten up its livestock during the previous winter, reported the newspaper. The government, reported Svoboda, had issued food cards to the peasants. Bread prices continued to be very high, and bread was scarce.

European newspapers also speculated as to the situation in the Soviet Union. On November 15, 1932, Svoboda also carried a commentary published in a Vienna daily, which described the Soviet Union as a country "covered by a veil of haze" from the rest of Europe. The paper reported that samples of bread had been smuggled out of the USSR and analyzed in a Munich lab. The bread was composed of ingredients that did not justify it being called bread. The lab report read: "It is not rich, it is of a dark gray-green color, looks unappetizing, does not taste like any other bread and leaves a bitter aftertaste." Another European newspaper reported that: "To obtain bread ... one must stand in long lines for long hours, both day and night, and even then one is not guaranteed the bread rations on food cards. There is no need to mention butter, eggs, meat, fat, sugar – none of this is available."

Source: "The Great Famine (Part XI, November 1932)," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, May 1, 1983, Vol. LI, No. 18.

## D.C. CONFERENCE ADDRESS

### Ukraine's image problem: complicated by the reality

Following is the text of remarks prepared by Roman Woronowycz of The Ukrainian Weekly's Kyiv Press Bureau for the third annual Washington roundtable on "Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood" held on October 8-9. The topic of this year's roundtable was *Ukraine and the Euro-Atlantic community*. The Weekly editor was one of the panelists during a working lunch featuring journalists active in Ukraine, including correspondents from Ukraine-based media and the Financial Times. Paul Goble, senior adviser to the director of Voice of America, served as moderator for the panel.

As most observers of Ukraine will agree, Ukraine has been and continues to be looked at through a rather distorted prism, in which, first Chornobyl and now Kolchuha air defense systems, as well as corruption, air catastrophes and the dire plight of the Donbas miners are most quickly associated with Ukraine.

This has left the country with a grave image problem that is beginning to border on stereotype. The Ukrainian spouse of a friend of mine, who had just completed graduate studies at Georgetown University, went looking for a job. One headhunter to whom he turned, ostensibly no expert on Ukraine, told him "Just don't remind them that you're Ukrainian."

So when we talk about how NATO and the West consider Ukraine, and whether enough has been done to promote knowledge about other aspects of Ukraine in the Euro-Atlantic community, we need to begin with these perceptions.

Leonid Kravchuk, the former president of Ukraine and now a leading member of its Parliament, who has initiated an effort to improve Ukraine's image abroad through a public relations effort has the right idea: Ukraine must begin to talk itself up, to show how far Westward it has come on the political radar screen.

Yet positive P.R. will go only as far as the truth can carry it. P.R. alone will not suffice for the simple reason that what the world has chosen to see are not simple misperceptions. To a disappointing degree, they reflect very real problems within Ukrainian society, the government and the body politic.

And, I must admit that as I speak these words I am besmirching Ukraine's image further. But, at the end of the day, the fact remains that adjusting negative perceptions is one thing and changing reality is another. Ukraine needs to clean up its image by changing the reality. They, and we, have heard this all before: Ukraine needs to become more transparent in commercial transactions, tax collection, judicial decision-making and corporate governance, and it has to start combating corruption.

Ukraine finally needs to reinforce the notion of the rule of law, and it needs to show it will guarantee freedom of the press before clan and political interests. Only then can public relations be used to polish and proclaim the truth about Ukraine, instead of trying to create a baseless spin – a fog through which the West easily sees.

While Ukraine needs to make political and economic changes, and to get the word out that it has done so, the West needs to begin to look at Ukraine differently. The Euro-Atlantic community must stop looking at Ukraine through the prism of Russia. Too many continue to view the country as a region of the empire that was

centered in Moscow for the past 300 years. In a world of commonwealths, economic unions and treaty organizations, too often states are grouped by geopolitical similarities and/or political ideologies. At times, this happens to simplify a complicated world, but ultimately it also maintains the status quo, and minimize risk, unpredictability and change.

Part of the problem for Ukraine lies in

**... positive P.R. will go only as far as the truth can carry it. ... Ukraine needs to clean up its image by changing the reality.**

the historical record, as well. The Soviet Union, and the Russian Empire before it, did a very good job of downplaying and extinguishing Ukrainian history. How many people here know that Pylyp Orlyk, the head of the Ukrainian Kozak State, developed the first Constitution in Europe? How is it that so many scholars still have difficulty accepting that Muscovy and Russia were not the successor states to the Kyivan Rus' grand duchy, which actually moved westward after the Mongolian onslaught, not eastward?

The historical record needs to be corrected and, more importantly, recognized. The problem confronting contemporary Ukrainian spinmasters is how to break deeply ingrained habits, patterns and perceptions, which Euro-Atlantic countries – particularly their politicians and academics, need to do to get a proper perception of Ukraine.

It is the failure to accept the most basic, and oftentimes banal matters that is most disconcerting and irritating to me when I see how the West continues to view Ukraine. In regards to the press, a fair first step towards a proper perspective on Ukraine would be for the giants of foreign journalism, especially the Associated Press and The New York Times, to stop spelling Ukraine's capital as K-i-e-v, and begin using the officially sanctioned K-y-i-v. If they could make the change from Peking to Beijing, then going from Kiev to Kyiv should be easy. Yet, after 10 years of Ukrainian independence, and with a new, state-sanctioned spelling in place since about 1993, leading international media still have not adopted the change.

Ukraine, which had received some attention from the United States in recent years because Washington needed a partner in the region at a time when its relationship with Moscow was lukewarm at best, has lost that aspect of its foreign relations since George W. Bush became president. In the political atmosphere of post-9/11, Washington's strategic ties to Ukraine have weakened further as the U.S. has moved closer to Russia, and the job before Kyiv for NATO entry has gotten that much tougher.

This has happened even as Ukraine has contributed much to the war on terrorism by allowing more than 4,000 fly-

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## FOR THE RECORD

## Union of Ukrainians in Poland statement on Akcja Wisla

*Following is a position paper released in Warsaw on October 12 by the board of the Union of Ukrainians in Poland concerning the elimination of the consequences Akcja Wisla.*

In 2002 the Ukrainian community in Poland commemorates the 55th anniversary of the Wisla operation which was carried in 1947. In its aftermath, Ukrainians were deported from their indigenous lands to northern and western regions of Poland. Members of the entire Ukrainian community were deprived of their civil rights in violation of the law. They were dispossessed of their property, including the property of social and religious organizations. Some Ukrainians were incarcerated without due process at the concentration camp in Jaworzno.

This coming anniversary of the deportation presents an opportunity for representatives of Ukrainian organizations, which promote respect for civil rights as well as national and cultural identity of Polish citizens of Ukrainian nationality, to review the policies pursued by the Polish state towards the Ukrainian minority, and especially the way it responds to the positions that the legal and material consequences of the Wisla operation should be eliminated. Having reviewed various spheres of social and political life, it is with regret that we conclude that what prevails in the attitude of the authorities to the above-mentioned issues is lack of good will and lack of willingness to take an integrated approach to the postulate of eliminating the consequences of Akcja Wisla that was put forward by the board of the Union of Ukrainians (ZUwP) in Poland and submitted in the form of a document to the Polish Parliament on November 19, 1992.

In our opinion, in the last decade both the Polish administration and political elites not only failed to commit themselves to the eradication of those consequences, but also to carry an unequivocal assessment of the causes and effects of the deportation, whose impact on the situation of Polish citizens of Ukrainian nationality is evident to the present day. This is best evidenced by the following facts.

### I. In the area of law:

There has been no final decision on the part of state bodies about the payment of compensations to 168 verified inmates incarcerated without any court trials at the Central Labor Camp at Jaworzno in 1947-1949. The Ukrainians who were persecuted, tortured and punished without due process of law during the Stalin era continue to be a community "of those rightly repressed."

The absence of an act on restitution of private property makes it difficult to address the positions voiced by the Ukrainian community about the return of the property that had been nationalized by the state in 1949. Failure to address this issue has resulted in such negative phenomena as sale of the property that once had been owned by Ukrainians (including cemeteries) by the Agency of Rural Property of the State Treasury and that there are groups of citizens who had been deported to work on state farms in 1947 who have not been paid any indemnity for the property they lost during Akcja Wisla. Presently, this group of Ukrainians lives in the areas of Poland which are affected by the highest unemployment (Western Pomerania and the Warmia and Mazury region) and is a victim of transformations for the second time in their lifetime.

In recent years there has been a notice-

able tendency not to commemorate tragic episodes of Ukrainian history and to slow down the reconstruction of Ukrainian memorials in Poland. Such state bodies as (the Board for the Protection of Monuments of Struggle and Martyrdom) have broken all substantive contacts with the board of the Union of Ukrainians in Poland, decisions about burials and commemoration of Ukrainian sites in Poland are not made in consultation with social organizations of Ukrainians. Sometimes it takes years for decisions on some issues raised by the Ukrainian community to be made (e.g., regarding the reconstruction of the monument in Lancut cemetery of the soldiers of the Ukrainian National Republic, completion of the reconstructed cemetery of UNR soldiers in Kalisz). In 2000, neither the families nor organizations representing the Ukrainian community were consulted when UPA soldiers, whose bodies had been exhumed from common graves at Bircza and Liszna, were buried, and the opening ceremony of the cemetery of UPA soldiers has not been held. To date, no permission has been granted to install new plaques to replace the ones that had been stolen.

### II. In the area of historical studies:

There is no information about the results of the investigation conducted by the Commission for Persecution of Crimes Against the Polish State regarding mass killings of Polish citizens of Ukrainian nationality, while at the same time, now and then, there are so-called "controlled leaks" to newspapers and electronic media about the results of investigations into crimes perpetrated on Poles by "Ukrainian nationalists in Volyn," or about the SS Galizien soldiers. Such information, when properly "served," creates a bad atmosphere in the debate about the future (see the publication in *Nasz Dziennik* of January 5-6, which is Christmas Eve across the eastern border, titled "Smert lachom smert," or biased news about the participation of Ukrainian soldiers in the thwarting of the Warsaw Uprising which was aired by TVN on January 7-8, 2001). This is accompanied by the lack of more comprehensive information (including access to that information) about the investigations into mass killings of Ukrainians at Terka, Zawadka Morochowska and many other locations. Due to such an approach, stereotypes about the Polish-Ukrainian conflict at the time of World War II are further reinforced: namely, that there were victims only on the Polish side and that only the Ukrainians are to blame. There was no response on the part of the commission to some issues (e.g., the use of coercion during deportations to the USSR in 1944-1946) raised by the Union of Ukrainians in Poland.

### III. In the area of public rights and present consequences of Akcja Wisla:

The consequences of Akcja Wisla pertain not only to the historical and material sphere, e.g., the dispersal of the Ukrainian community, but they continue to constrain the cultivation of the Ukrainian language and tradition, and prevent Polish citizens of Ukrainian nationality from being active in many walks of public life (including culture, education and public institutions). The constraints give rise to the following problems.

Owing to their dispersal, Ukrainians cannot enjoy the beneficial rights vested in election committees of national minorities by the Election Law. As a result, our com-

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## Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



## Soyuzivka ... then and now

Soyuzivka! What a wonderful sound. What memories for thousands of Ukrainians from the United States, Canada, Ukraine and, indeed, the world.

Dancing under the stars. Romance. Weddings. Miss Soyuzivka. Archipenko's Shevchenko. Concerts. Campfires. Steak nights. Children's camp. Mountains. Cultural courses. Hiking. Tennis camp. Swimming. Lounging by the pool. Friends. Home-cooked Ukrainian food. Danny. Kwas. Chemnyi. Who can ever forget any of that?

Soyuzivka. Nowhere else in the world could one find the same kind of ambience, spirit, splendor. This is where one met friends as well as one's future wife. This is where one got married. This is where one went to relax and enjoy the grandeur of the mountains of upstate New York. This is where one returned, year after year, to recapture the Soyuzivka mystique.

It all began at the 1950 UNA convention in Cleveland, where a recommendation was passed to purchase property for a UNA seniors' center within two years. Responding to the convention recommendation, the UNA Supreme Executive visited various sites in New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. In 1952 the Supreme Executive purchased a former sanitarium owned by the estate of Dr. Foord in the Catskill Mountain region, or more precisely the Shawangunks. Located near the town of Kerhonkson, N.Y., the property was purchased by the UNA for \$72,000. Later, the building today known as Kyiv was purchased for an additional \$25,000. According to Daniel Slobodian, a former manager and Soyuzivka historian, "all executives were impressed with the possibilities of this site, not only as a place for the aged to stay, but as a resort from which all UNA members could benefit." From the beginning, then, UNA executives were interested in providing a vacation retreat for members, as well as a refuge for the elderly.

Major renovations had to be made in order to transform the property into an attractive resort. A new kitchen and dining room were built, and steel beams and girders were installed in the Main House. New roads were constructed, new water lines installed, and a parking lot constructed. A grand opening ceremony in 1953 attracted thousands of UNA members to the new Ukrainian National Association estate, affectionately named "Soyuzivka."

Expansion and improvement continued. The home of Mrs. Foord was purchased soon after her death. Later, the property next door, which included a ranch-style house, was acquired for \$32,000. The home was transformed into a dormitory; a kitchen and swimming pool were added, and "Lviv" came into existence. The new facility was used as a children's camp during July and the site of Ukrainian cultural courses in August.

Under the initial management of Daniel Slobodian, an American-born Ukrainian and Walter Kwas, a new Ukrainian immigrant, Soyuzivka struggled to survive. The post-World War II immigrants were just establishing themselves in America and couldn't afford summer vacations at a resort; older immigrants were not accustomed to vacations far from home. It was the younger generation who came for the weekend who helped sustain Soyuzivka

during the early years.

Thanks to leadership provided by UNA executives such as Dmytro Halychyn, Joseph Lesawyer, Jaroslaw Padoch and Walter Sochan, who realized that Soyuzivka needed to be constantly upgraded to remain viable, the resort eventually turned the corner. A new, Olympic-sized pool was built, a dance hall was constructed and more tennis courts were added. By the middle of the 1960s, the UNA resort was so popular that reservations needed to be made a year in advance. To work at Soyuzivka during the summer months, young people had to be recommended by their UNA branch secretary as people of good character. There were always more applicants than vacant positions. The best way to become employed was to attend the cultural courses one year and apply for a position the next.

All during the 1970s and much of the 1980s, Soyuzivka was the mecca of the Ukrainian American community. The food was good, the management reliable, and the accommodations comfortable if not luxurious.

As the UNA adopted a business first, fraternalism second, approach in UNA affairs, things began to change. In time, the glamor queen that was once Soyuzivka began to look like a tired, dowdy, old lady. The grounds were neglected. Service was mediocre. Accommodations were substandard. Soyuzivka failed to compete, to move with the times. I was present when Soyuzivka management pleaded, nay, begged, for additional improvements only to be rebuffed by the UNA executive or General Assembly. The UNA just can't afford it became the mantra. It was a vicious circle. Improvements weren't initiated, guests didn't come. Fewer guests, less money.

This year we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of Soyuzivka. The new UNA executives seem to be truly interested in revitalizing the grand old lady. To do so requires additional money, lots of additional money. The penny-wise, dollar-foolish philosophy of the past has brought us to our present crisis and it will take a prodigious effort, a monumental commitment on the part of not just UNA members but the entire North American Ukrainian community to save Soyuzivka. Is Soyuzivka worth saving? Absolutely. With its demise will go a community treasure that can never be replicated.

Having worked at Soyuzivka; having met and married Lesia (Miss Soyuzivka, 1957) at Soyuzivka; knowing that Stefko met and married his Lesia at Soyuzivka; having attended many an annual session of the Supreme and General Assembly since 1962 at Soyuzivka, and blessed with memories of countless evenings in warm, convivial fellowship with Ukrainians from all over the world at Soyuzivka, her demise would be a personal tragedy for me.

I am elated that the newly constituted UNA executive is moving ahead with plans to keep Soyuzivka within the warm bosom of our community. Mnohaya Lita to a cultural institution that has earned and deserves the best that our community has to offer.

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## Renaissance of Kyiv...

(Continued from page 1)

of the country's political, religious and business elite centered in Kyiv, the city is once again becoming a regional seat of power.

"Kyiv has changed for the better," says Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko, the man largely credited with the city's renaissance. "Kyiv and Ukraine have had an image in the world that has not always been positive. We are ready for beautiful relations with the rest of the world."

Like the ancient graffiti in St. Sophia's, Kyiv remains an enigma to much of the world, a hidden treasure people

consciousness.

Nowhere is Kyiv's renaissance more evident than in the city's historic center. Comprising some 20 square miles, it is a virtual mosaic of Kyiv's long and often turbulent history. The center has traditionally been divided into three districts: Stariy Kyiv, Podil and Pechersk. Each has had its own distinct character and played a specific role in the life of the city.

Stariy Kyiv, or Old Kyiv, sits in the heart of Kyiv. Dating back to the 11th century, here one finds the Golden Gates, where according to legend, travelers had to pay in gold before they were allowed to enter the city. St. Sophia, Kyiv's oldest existing religious monument, is a short distance away; ancient kings and warriors paid their respects

Kuharenko is on a mission to rebuild the city's main architectural monuments that were destroyed during the Communist era. "The way of restoring national consciousness of Ukrainians ... is the restoration of these treasures," he says.

Down the hill from the monastery, on the banks of the Dnipro River, nestles Podil, long Kyiv's mercantile, artistic and educational district. The area was also home to the many nationalities that made up the ethnic quilt that was and is Kyiv – Jews, Poles, Greeks, Armenians, Tatars and Germans all lived here and enlivened the district with their folklore and traditions. Many of these communities are undergoing a rebirth. Jews, for instance, have resurrected a community that dates back to the 10th century; Podil's synagogue has become a center of Jewish life in Kyiv.

With a grand white rectangle-shaped building housing shopping arcades dominating its center, Kontraktova Ploscha, or Contract Square, was the gathering place for tradesmen who sold everything from sheep skins to silk. Today the visitor is more likely to find art boutiques and trendy restaurants than household wares here, but for decades the area was famous for its annual fair, which lured visitors and tradesmen from afar. In Kyiv's new search for tradition, there has been talk about renewing the fair.

Up the hill from Podil, along the road that gave birth to the city's first tram, is stately Pechersk. Historically its centerpiece was the Pecherska Lavra, or Monastery of the Caves, a sprawling complex of cathedrals and buildings built a top an underground network of caves where monks resided and prayed. Viewed from Kyiv's left, or eastern, bank of the Dnipro River, the Lavra's many golden domes from its numerous cathedrals offer a stunning vision of what the city may have looked like centuries ago.

Although Pechersk was a seat of power for religious leaders, today it is home to Ukraine's modern-day government. The country's impressive white marble Parliament building stands side by side with the Mariyivsky Palace, a Baroque-style palace originally built in the 18th century for Russian Tsarina Elizaveta Petrovna, who wanted a luxurious place to stay in Kyiv when she visited and prayed at the Lavra. Catherine II was the first monarch to actually visit the palace; today the blue-colored structure is used for ceremonial receptions and as a backdrop for newly married couples gaily dressed in lacey white gowns and spiffy tuxedos, posing for wedding photos.

As much as it strives to embrace tradition, however, Kyiv has also introduced new urban layouts to the city.

Perhaps the most striking and controversial recent change – because of the mix of architectural styles – has been the redesign of the city's most popular gathering place, the central plaza known as Independence Square.

Since the break-up of the Soviet Union, the square, like a puzzle, has been deconstructed and reassembled. Large fountains have given way to massive glass domes, covering what is now the country's largest underground shopping mall. An imposing statute of Lenin that once looked over the square – and countless Soviet-era parades – has been replaced by an even taller, feminine figure perched precariously atop a 150-foot-high Greek-style column and holding a sprig from a red berry bush. This entire assemblage has been placed on a marble temple that on most nights is a wash in a kaleidoscope of colors.

A huge television screen, which stands by a building where Soviet political prisoners used to be detained, broadcasts loudly out into the crowd a series of advertisements and programs from Ukrainian TV. Strategically placed throughout are monuments of men on horseback, men holding shields, and a statue of Archangel Michael, the protector of Kyiv. From here at Independence Square, the Khreshchatyk, Kyiv's main boulevard, leads visitors to other points of the ancient city.

The boulevard itself has been transformed from a dull gray strip whose main function in Soviet days seemed to be to play host to military parades, to a busy promenade where well-dressed shoppers can buy everything from McDonalds hamburgers to the latest wares for the home and designer apparel.

As they stroll along the broad, leafy Khreshchatyk, there's not even a hint that a millennium ago dense forests covered this area and that Kyiv princes unleashed their dogs to hunt for small game here. Today this is the heart of a city looking to restore its old-world charm and set itself firmly in 21st century Europe.

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Victor Pobedinsky/AP

A religious procession circles the recently reconstructed St. Michael's Golden-Domed Cathedral.

often stumble upon by accident rather than by choice. Before they arrive, travelers know little of the tree-lined city that in its religious heyday had so many cathedrals that together they comprised what must have seemed like a thousand golden domes, earning Kyiv the nickname "The New Jerusalem." They know nothing of the sprawling Dnipro River that luxuriates on a quiet summer day. And few are aware of the architecturally outstanding quarters that have prompted some to call Kyiv "The Paris of the East."

Experts predict that with the current pace of development, – which has already cost hundreds of millions of dollars – Kyiv in the coming years will regain much of its lost glory. That growth is likely to put the city solidly on the European map and firmly entrench it in the Western

to Kyiv's princes here. Centuries later, the sweeping plaza that stands in front of St. Sophia became a place of revolution, where bedraggled Bolsheviks gathered and called on the working class to revolt against the wealthy and Russian tsars.

Today, smartly dressed couples wander the plaza, which leads to the St. Michael's Gold-Domed Cathedral. Initially constructed in 1108, then destroyed in 1935 by Stalin – who in the 1930s demolished many of Kyiv's most important religious relics – the monastery complex was rebuilt several years ago.

"Destroying Kyiv's cathedrals was a way of destroying a nation," notes Ruslan Kuharenko, head of the department that preserves Kyiv's monuments of history, culture and historical surroundings. Along with the mayor, Mr.





## FOCUS ON PHILATELY

by Inger Kuzych

### The founding family of Kyivan Rus'

*This article is the second of three detailing the lives of the first "First Family" of medieval Kyivan Rus' – Ihor, Olha and Sviatoslav. The articles in this monarch series are illustrated, where possible, with related philatelic issues.*

#### St. Olha, queen of Ukraine

##### PART I

Although a great deal has been written about Princess Olha over the years, not all that much can be attributed to her with certainty. We don't even know when or exactly where she was born.

The Povist Vremennykh Lit or PVL (The Tale of Bygone Years), which chronicles some of Ukraine's earliest history, first mentions Olha under the year 6411. (i.e., 903)<sup>1</sup>; it states, "As Ihor grew up, he followed after Oleh [his kinsman], and obeyed his instructions. A wife, Olha by name, was brought to him [Ihor] from Pskov."<sup>2</sup> The PVL later goes on to record that Ihor was killed on a tax-collecting expedition in about 945, leaving behind Olha who assumed the regency in the name of their infant son, Prince Sviatoslav.

Even if Olha was very young when she married Ihor, perhaps 15, she would have had to have been the unlikely age of almost 60 when she bore her only son. We know from other sources that circa 945 is accurate for Ihor's death and that he was probably about 35 when he died. His wife at that time was likely 25 or 30, so we may assign her birth to about the year 920.

All we really know then of Olha's early life up to about the year 945 is that she was married to King Ihor, bore a son about the year 943 named Sviatoslav, and was likely of Scandinavian or Slavic-Scandinavian origin and a noblewoman.<sup>3</sup>

Regardless of her background, Olha was an extraordinary woman: determined, clever and courageous in establishing internal order, she was also a wise and skillful diplomat in her dealings with foreign states. The Varangian (Viking) retinue of her husband recognized her authority, and the Slavic tribes subjugated by Ihor largely submitted to her rule (Figure 1).

#### Revenge

According to the PVL, Olha spent the first two years of her reign exacting vengeance on the Derevlians, the Slavic tribe responsible for her husband's

death. Four different revenges, each of increasing severity, are detailed; they demonstrate not only her cunning but also her pagan background. The monk chroniclers who wrote the PVL may have deliberately exaggerated the bloodiness of these reprisals in order to emphasize the complete change in Olha's character after she adopted Christianity.

Olha's first revenge was carried out on the 20 envoys sent to Kyiv by the Derevlians to announce the death of Ihor and to suggest a possible marriage of alliance. The messengers explained that the Derevlians had slain her husband, "because he was like a wolf, crafty and ravening, but that their princes, who had thus preserved the land of Dereva, were good, and that Olha should come and marry their Prince Mal." Olha replied "Your proposal is pleasing to me; indeed, my husband cannot rise again from the dead. But I desire to honor you

tomorrow in the presence of my people."<sup>4</sup> The "honor" that was shown the envoys was death by burial alive in a boat, a Scandinavian practice of which the Derevlians were unaware.

Olha then sent messengers to the Derevlians that if they wished her to come, they should send their most distinguished men "so that she might go to their prince with due honor, for otherwise her people in Kyiv would not let her go." The Derevlians complied and "gathered together the best men who governed the land of Dereva, and sent them to her." When they arrived "Olha commanded that a bath should be made ready, and invited them to appear before her after they had bathed. The bathhouse was then heated, and the Derevlians entered in to bathe. Olha's men closed up the bathhouse behind them, and she gave orders to set it on fire from the doors, so that the Derevlians were all burned to death."<sup>5</sup>

Next Olha sent word to the Derevlians that she was coming to mourn at her husband's grave. "Upon her arrival at Ihor's tomb, she wept for her husband. She bade her followers pile up a great mound and when they had piled it up, she also gave command that a funeral feast should be held. Thereupon the Derevlians sat down to drink, and Olha bade her followers wait upon them. The

Derevlians inquired of Olha where the retinue was which they had sent to meet her. She replied that they were following with her husband's bodyguard. When the Derevlians were drunk, she bade her followers fall upon them, and went about herself egging on her retinue to the massacre of the Derevlians. So they cut down 5,000 of them; but Olha returned to Kyiv and prepared an army to attack the survivors."<sup>6</sup>

The following year (946) "Olha, together with her son Sviatoslav, gathered a large and valiant army, and proceeded to attack the land of the Derevlians. The latter came out to meet her troops, and when both forces were ready for combat, Sviatoslav cast his spear against the Derevlians. But the spear barely cleared the horse's ears and stuck against his leg, for the prince was but a child. Then Sveneld [the troop commander] and Asmund [the boy's tutor] said, "The prince has already begun battle; press on, vassals, after the prince" (Figure 2). Thus they conquered the Derevlians, with the result that the latter fled and shut themselves up in their cities. Olha hastened with her son to the city of Iskorosten, for it was there that her husband had been slain, and they laid siege to the city. The Derevlians barricaded themselves within the city, and fought valiantly from it."<sup>7</sup>

(Continued on page 18)



Figure 1. St. Olha has appeared on a number of postcards, including the series of monarch cards created by V. Diadyniuk and printed by Sviatozar in Munich in 1947.



Figure 2. A postcard with a rendering of St. Olha and her son Sviatoslav by V. Vereshchahyn.

<sup>1</sup>The English translation of the PVL consulted for this article is that of Samuel Hazzard Cross and Olgerd P. Sherbowitz-Wetzor, "The Russian Primary Chronicle, Laurentian Text" (Cambridge, Mass.: The Medieval Academy of America, 1953), hereafter PVL. This reference is from p. 64.

<sup>2</sup>Established by the Slovenians, a Slavic tribe, Pskov became an important center of trade and commerce during the eighth through the 10th centuries. Another tradition relates Olha to the nearby town of Izborsk. This difference is not necessarily a contradiction since Izborsk preceded Pskov as the economic and political center of the Slovenians. See Norman Golb and Omeljan Pritsak, "Khazarian Hebrew Documents of the Tenth Century" (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1982) p. 67.

<sup>3</sup>Because Olha was Prince Ihor's wife, and not his slave or concubine, she most likely came from one of the leading clans among the Slovenians. Izborsk, close by Pskov, was one of the three towns that invited Varangians to rule over them some time during the second half of the ninth century, and Norman influence over the Slavs continued to expand during the early decades of the 10th century. So, during the time of Olha's birth around 920, the ruling strata among the Slovenians – presumably including Olha's parents – if not purely Scandinavian, were at least partially of northern extraction. See Omeljan Pritsak, "The Invitation to the Varangians." Harvard Ukrainian Studies 1 (1977) pp. 7-22.

<sup>4</sup>PVL, trans. Cross, p. 79. If such a proposal was indeed ever put forth, it would suggest that Olha was still young and eligible for a dynastic marriage. An offer of this type would not likely have been made to a sexagenarian.

<sup>5</sup>PVL, pp. 79-80.

<sup>6</sup>PVL, p. 80.

<sup>7</sup>PVL, p. 80.



Figure 3. The first stamp in the "Famous Women of Ukraine" stamp series honored St. Olha. The official first day cover was issued on July 12, 1997.

## Mayana Gallery exhibit spotlights artists working in Lviv



**"Maestro Albertus and His Favorite Rhinocerus," etching by Oleh Denysenko.**

NEW YORK – ArtFira.com, in collaboration with Mayana Gallery, presents an exhibit of artworks by emerging Ukrainian artists, who are distinguished by their exceptional skills, strong academic backgrounds, personal styles and techniques.

Within the past decade, Ukraine, a country in transition, has been experiencing a difficult time, both in the economic and the social spheres. Despite all adversities, much has been happening on the Ukrainian cultural scene, especially in the field of visual arts. Most artists represented in this exhibition currently reside and work in Lviv, a town with old artistic traditions.

The featured artists have participated in a number of exhibitions, both group and solo in galleries of Ukraine, and Central and Western Europe. They have a cross-cultural appeal: the viewer perceives them unconditionally, unhindered by his or her cultural or ethnic background, esthetic standards or personal tastes.

The following artists are featured in the exhibit.

- Volodymyr Kostyrko, a graduate of the Lviv College of Applied Arts, holds an M.A. in art history from the Catholic University of Lublin, Poland. His often grotesque, figurative paintings (oil on canvas) are adaptations of historic figures and



**"Composition I," oil on canvas by Serhij Bratkovsky.**

settings to contemporary perception, utilizing the old masters' chiaroscuro technique.

- Oleh Denysenko is a graduate of the Lviv Academy of Printing. He finds inspiration for his etchings in the Northern Renaissance masters. Mr. Denysenko describes his work as "art-chemistry," which is an actualization of spiritual energy through the creative imagination and skills of the artist.

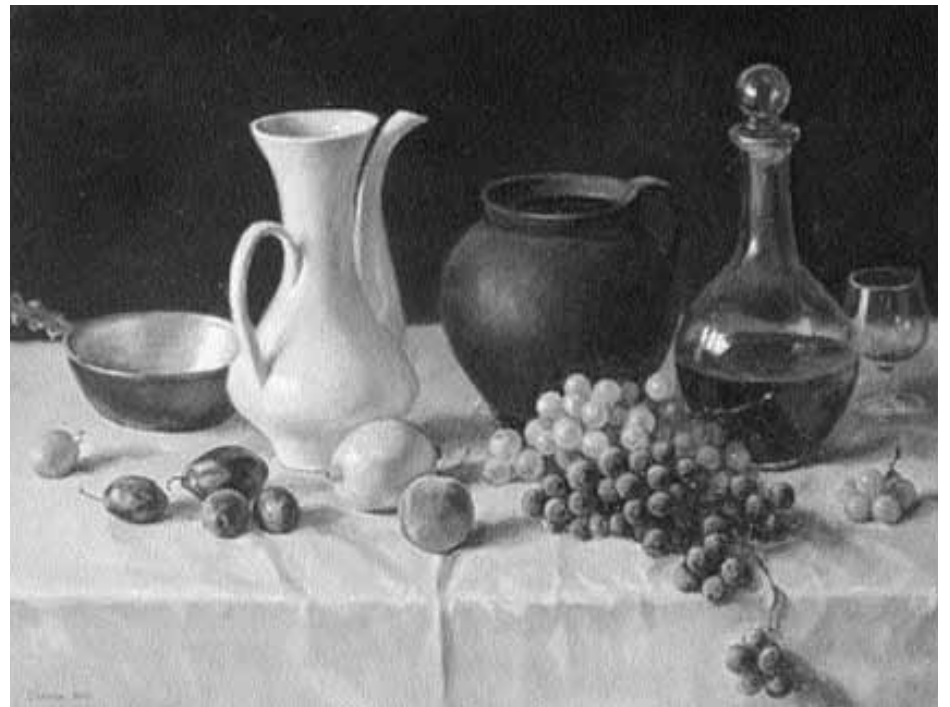
- Yuriy Lesiuk, a professor at the Lviv Academy of Art, is a representative of the older generation of Ukrainian painters. A graduate of the Odesa Grekov Art College and the Kyiv Academy of Art, Mr. Lesiuk's realistic landscapes (oil on linen) achieve a true representation of the countryside. His love of nature emerges from the Carpathian village of Kovaltsi, Kolomyia region, where the artist was born and spent the early years of his life.

- Nataliya Pukhinda is a graduate of the

Odesa Grekov Art College and the Lviv Academy of Art. In her "eclectic revivalist" paintings (gouache on paper), Ms. Pukhinda depicts romantic fragments of rural existence. Her paintings intend to beautify our illusion of reality.

- Serhij Bratkovsky graduated from the Lviv Polytechnic Institute, majoring in architecture. In his paintings (oil on canvas), Mr. Bratkovsky expresses the beauty of old buildings, streets, parks, squares and scenes of Lviv city life, through the geometric forms of "formal cubism" and a limited spectrum of colors.

An opening reception will be held Friday, November 8, at 7 p.m. at the Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave. (between Eighth and Ninth streets), fourth floor. For information call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144; or visit the websites [www.brama.com/mayana](http://www.brama.com/mayana) or [www.artfira.com](http://www.artfira.com).



**"Still Life I," oil on linen by Yuriy Lesiuk.**

## He's back: organist Koshuba begins U.S. tour

by Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON – Ukrainian concert organist Volodymyr Koshuba, whose almost annual appearances in the United States have coincided with the first frost in the Midwest, is once again performing on some of the better church organs of the region.

This year's four-week tour, which takes him through Wisconsin, Minnesota and South Dakota, and across the border to London, Ontario, began October 27 in the warmer climate of the nation's capital, where he gave a recital at the Cherrydale United Methodist Church in Arlington, Va. In addition to the works of Bach, Vivaldi, Guilment, Vierne and Mushell, Mr. Koshuba's program also included organ arrangements of the Concerto in D Major by Bortniansky and "The Great Gate of Kyiv" from Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition."

The well-traveled soloist from Kyiv arrived here directly from a concert tour of Italy, the last of four Western European countries where he performed so far this year, the others being France, Spain and

Yugoslavia. Two days after his recital here, Mr. Koshuba performed in Beloit and LaCrosse, Wis., on October 29 and November 2.

His remaining concerts will be on:

- November 10, at the Church of St. John the Evangelist in Rochester, Minn.;
- November 17, at the First Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, S.D.; and
- November 22, at St. Paul's Cathedral in London, Ontario.

This was Mr. Koshuba's fourth recital in Washington since 1994, when he first played at the National Cathedral. He performed there again last year. Mr. Koshuba is the chief organist at the National House of Organ and Chamber Music in Kyiv and teaches young organists at the conservatory there. In addition to his numerous tours abroad, he helps organize performances in Ukraine by his foreign organist colleagues. Last year, with the financial assistance of the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine and several private companies, he organized a festival featuring four leading American organists, which included performances in Kyiv, Kharkiv and Bila Tserkva.



**Volodymyr Koshuba at the organ keyboard of the Cherrydale United Methodist Church in Arlington, Va.**

## Helsinki Commission...

(Continued from page 3)

other foreign officials, that reckless and criminal behavior will have the most serious consequences, according to the leaders.

"As an initial step, we urge that the Department of State establish an inter-agency group to develop concrete measures focused on the Ukrainian leader, members of the presidential administration, and other state officials," the letter reads.

Among other things, the purpose of such an inter-agency group would be to closely examine any financial benefit Mr. Kuchma or his associates might have derived from this sale, as well as any other possible illegal activities, including

money laundering.

"We further urge that the United States initiate contacts with foreign governments in an attempt to identify the money trail from sales to Iraq or possible sales to other rogue regimes," the letter reads. "In addition, we believe official contacts with Mr. Kuchma should be kept to an absolute minimum and be conducted at the lowest possible levels."

"While we continue to endorse strong U.S. support for Ukraine and its people, given the evidence at hand it is hard to see how we might resume a normal relationship with Mr. Kuchma or place our faith in any assurances he might offer us," Helsinki Commission leaders wrote. "We believe that U.S. policy toward Ukraine must be crafted with these goals in mind."

## Schaffer advises Bush...

(Continued from page 3)

of rectifying the crisis he has created," the congressman from Colorado wrote. "His denial further threatens the security of the entire Euro-Atlantic community as well as subvert the national interests of his country and people."

"Under the circumstances," Mr. Schaffer advised President Bush, "isolation of the president and his associates, while improving relations with other Ukrainian officials, is the only logical diplomatic course for the United States. We must do all we can to avoid alienating the people of Ukraine or dampening their enthusiasm for a civil society and

democratic reform. As the strongest advocate for improved U.S.-Ukraine relations in the Congress, and as a long-time acquaintance of Kuchma's, I regretfully recommend Kuchma be denied state visits at Prague."

Rep. Schaffer suggested the U.S. government should further clarify its position by ending all foreign assistance funding to the central government of Ukraine, redirecting it toward grassroots democracy programs, small and medium enterprise development and health initiatives. "One only needs to meet an average Ukrainian to know the return on this type of foreign aid investment will be tremendous," Rep. Schaffer commented.

# VESILLIA: Ukrainian weddings in Manitoba over the last century

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

## CONCLUSION

In Ukraine, there were two receptions as part of the "vesillia" (wedding) – one in the bride's home, and later, after her formal departure from her parents' home, at the groom's. This is a remnant of clan (rid) life of Ukrainian prehistory and early history. An echo of this on the Canadian prairies is the strange, to some, practice of holding the wedding and reception in one location (one partner's city or town), and a week later holding another reception – in full wedding regalia – in the other partner's town. This is a most practical gesture towards guests who would otherwise have to travel great distances for the first reception.

Regard for guests and general Ukrainian hospitality are also reflected in the meal served, with food and drink plentiful to over abundance. I still remember the bewildered expression on my father's face when he returned from an American wedding reception where only sandwiches, cake and wine were served. He remarked: "We did not even sit down. This was a wedding?!" This was not the way to treat wedding guests, as far as my father was concerned. Music and ritual songs accompanied every stage of the wedding ceremonies. Whole volumes are devoted to vesilni pisoni (ritual wedding songs). It has been written many times that the vesillia is like a musical play, with the women's "choir" (svashky) singing songs particular to each stage of the wedding ritual. Folk musicians (usually playing the skrypka – fiddle, tsymbaly, sopilka – flute, and drums) led the wedding procession from the church to the bride's home and then on to the groom's. They also played at the vesillia and into the last day of the wedding.

This does not now occur in Manitoba (it still does in rural Ukraine), but a remnant of this custom is a folk band (usually three or four) playing special melodies at the door as guests enter the reception hall to be greeted by the wedding party. The music is so happy that the guests are already moving to the music as they wait in the reception line. The band also plays folk dance melodies during the presentation.

A combined greeting now happens at the beginning of the reception. Traditionally, the parents (and earlier, only the mothers) would greet the couple with a "kolach" (round braided bread), salt, and a shot of horilka or wine on a tray lined with a "rushnyk" (ritual cloth) as they arrived for the vesillia. Now, the bridal party and parents first greet all the wedding guests in a receiving line at the door of the reception hall. Then, after a break, the parents, with bread and salt, ceremoniously greet the couple reentering the hall. The table and hall decorations are important at weddings in Manitoba also. There is a Ukrainian theme throughout, with a variety of Ukrainian flowers, wheat, shawls and other motifs on the tables and walls of the hall. Centerpieces on the tables could be small kolachi with candles or flowers and wheat stalks in the center, or "embroidered" candles, or featuring some other Ukrainian-style motif. At a wedding of a fifth-generation Canadian couple (their ancestors were among the first pioneers), the reception was a glorious blast of Ukrainian shawls, flowers and wheat.

Now about that clinking of glasses – you either love it or hate it. There is a custom to tap a glass with a piece of cutlery as a signal that you want the bridal couple to stand up and kiss. One person starts the clinking, and soon the whole hall is ringing. Where this started, I do not know. Some say it is a Ukrainian custom, or an Italian one, or Polish, or ... I have not found any mention of this in Ukrainian sources.

Nowadays, to stop the clinking, it is announced by the master of ceremonies that if you sing a song, or recite a verse of some kind, then the couple will kiss, but not if glasses are clinked. The Ukrainian tradition to get the couple and other members of the wedding party to kiss is to call out "Hirko!" (it is bitter) or to sing verses indicating this. Since something is "bitter," kissing will sweeten it. Here in Manitoba, recent immigrants from Ukraine and Poland have continued this Ukrainian tradition, and now the locals of many generations have picked it up. What was a formal ritual of gifting – darovannia – of the bride and groom to each other, of the parents and couple reciprocally, and of the rest of the wedding party by the couple, has taken on a life of its own.

Originally, the "perepii" (drinking together, or drinking over) was combined with the darovannia, as each guest approached the table behind which the couple stood. The guest greeted the couple with beautifully versed wishes for a good life together and placed a gift into the bowl or "povnytsia" (literally, that which should be/is filled). The couple, in turn, expressed thanks and shared a drink with the guest. The wishes were primary, even though the gifts were also treasured and part of the ritual.

In Canada, in pioneer times, the presentation (the west-

ern Canadian term for this) was a necessity for the newlyweds to set up a household. Over the century, it has turned into quite a mercenary practice, with the word "presentation" even printed on the wedding invitation. Presentation means "give money, not gifts." The first time I saw this, I was shocked at the brazenness. But, "scho kray to obychai" (when in Manitoba, do as the Manitobans do). Perhaps I'm judging too harshly, because for many guests it is a convenience to know ahead of time what the couple prefers. This custom is now so popular, and so accepted, that non-Ukrainians, be they Filipino or Italian or English, also have presentations. The final presenters to the couple are members of the wedding party. The last presenter is the groom himself who, in jest, is usually picked up by his ushers and turned upside down. As his pockets empty, the contents are given to the bride. At one wedding, the bride was ceremoniously handed all his credit cards.



"Ukrainian Wedding Costumes: Bride and Groom from the Hutsul Region," by Slava Gerulak, courtesy of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America.

In addition to the presentation, the Ukrainian tradition of a full meal and a dance (for us, just a normal wedding) has been adopted by many other Canadians, who in their traditions did not have these as parts of their weddings. Of course, there is another spread awaiting the guests close to midnight, with buffet tables set out, and a whole banquet of glorious tortes arranged on long tables – each torte fancier than the other. These are brought by family and friends of the couple. No wonder my father thought the sandwich and piece of cake were an insult!

A new trend at some receptions is a staged performance on the dance floor by a Ukrainian dance group. Quite often this is a token gesture to show one's heritage, even though few of any other customs have been followed while, most times, it is just part of the rich program of the vesillia. More spontaneous and genuine are the folk dances by wedding guests themselves, many of whom belong to Ukrainian dance ensembles. They fly through the "kolomyika" and rock to everything else. Often, if the one or both of the couple are in a dance group, their friends perform for them as a gift, then change into evening attire for the rest of the reception.

Even though most ritual wedding songs have been forgotten, except by the old-timers, during orchestra breaks the guests gather in groups and sing folk songs. Instantly, you have a choir, because Ukrainians automatically sing in multi-part harmony.

One somewhat controversial revived ritual is "pochipchyn" – the ceremonial removal of the bride's veil, and its replacement with a traditional "khustyna" (patterned kerchief). Because a married woman did not leave the house with her head uncovered, the khustyna was symbolic of a married woman. To some brides this is another special old ritual, to others it is an insensitive symbol of the subjugation of women or something similar. Some brides want this ritual, others do not. In hindsight, if we looked into the origins of wedding traditions around the world, maybe we would find most traditional weddings to be politically incorrect.

Wedding attire has changed. The first pioneers wore their finest embroidery and full costumes, with the usual embel-

ishment for this occasion. Later, we see a blend of old country and new land, with some members of the wedding party in folk dress, others in formal attire. Still later, the bridal party looked like any other Canadian wedding party. Often you could tell the Ukrainian connection by the large boutonnieres worn by the groom and ushers – the flowers usually had long fancy ribbons attached.

Beginning in the mid-1960s through the present, couples show pride in their Ukrainian heritage not only by practicing the wedding customs, but also wearing special attire. Embroidered wedding gowns, traditional wreaths and other headcovering, embroidered shirts for the groom, and even full Ukrainian folk costumes for the whole wedding party became popular. The designs of the gowns are quite exquisite. For many decades now, wedding invitations have had a Ukrainian flavor, and are usually bilingual.

One custom thankfully discontinued long ago is the ancient one of the "komora," in which the couple spent their first night at the groom's parents' house. They were to consummate their marriage, and proof of the bride's virginity (blood on her nightshirt) was to be shown to the wedding guests. Even then the double standard existed, with no one wondering about the groom's virginity. Similar customs existed throughout traditional Europe. Great feasting, dancing and celebrating followed the display of the nightshirt.

The remnant of this final phase of the vesillia is the comfortable and hospitable "popravyny" (from the verb "popravty," "popravliaty," to make better, to improve). This is a reception held on the day after the wedding, usually at the home of the bride's or groom's parents. The members of the wedding party, close relatives, guests from out of town and others gather for food, drink, singing, and visiting. There is not much ceremony or formality. Usually the couple open their gifts and gift envelopes during the popravyny. For summer weddings, this party is held outside.

At first, the pioneers tried to hold on to as many customs as they could. Then, with pressure from the Anglo-Saxon majority to "talk white" and to assimilate, they adopted "Canadian" wedding customs and dress. But at home, in church and during the reception, it was still a Ukrainian atmosphere, with certain indispensable customs. The Church – both Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Orthodox – played an important role in preserving and practicing the rituals which centuries ago its hierarchy condemned as "heathen." Once Ukrainians joined other churches in western Canada, such as the Presbyterian or Methodist, they lost the rituals and practices that made them "practicing" Ukrainians.

The back-to-the-earth movement of the mid-1960s reinforced or reawakened the identity of the younger generation who did not have to search for long-forgotten rituals or invent new ones. In its own way, that generation took what had always been part of their Ukrainian heritage and proudly adapted it to the contemporary Canadian scene. Many non-Ukrainian guests at these weddings express their benevolent envy at the beauty and richness of the traditions. The Ukrainian wedding is one of the testaments of the riches of an ancient culture quite alive after thousands of years. Who knows what the new generations will come up with in the second century of the Ukrainian presence in Canada!

The following is excerpted from "O Canada, Whatever You Are: Desperately Seeking Identity" by Robert Nielsen of Hamilton, Ontario, in *The Globe and Mail*:

My family attended the wedding of the art director of my publishing firm. The ceremony was held in a small, ornately decorated church, and my daughter was favorably impressed by the bride and groom who wore beautiful golden crowns. At the reception afterwards, the guests lined up and gave gifts of money to the newlyweds, which seemed like a smart idea.

We sat down for a meal at long tables, along which were bottles of rye every six feet. There was no shortage of toasts. My art director gave a speech; I had known her for 10 years, and had never heard a word out of her that was not English. Suddenly she was in front of a happy throng speaking fluent Ukrainian – and almost everybody understood. Toward the end of the evening a group of old men spontaneously formed at the front of the hall and began to sing. They sang the most plangent songs I had ever heard, beneath which I could detect a terrible longing for their homeland. They sang song after song, and they all knew all the words.

I felt jealous. About the golden crowns, the money ceremony, the different language, the bottles of rye on the long tables. But most of all I felt jealous about the songs. If I were at a wedding reception for fellow Canadians in some distant land, what would I sing?...

I am a 50-something-year-old man who was born in Vancouver and has lived all but two of his years in Canada.

(Continued on page 15)

## DATELINE NEW YORK: The Kyiv-New York express

by Helen Smindak

The Ukrainian Institute of America is bringing the city of Kyiv – or at least several essential elements of it – to New York during the next year. In the process, the institute may wind up with its most exciting season since its founding in 1948.

During the season opener last month, when members and friends gathered for a reception at the historic Stuyvesant mansion on Fifth Avenue and 79th Street, UIA President Walter Nazarewicz announced that the board of directors had designated 2003 as the “Year of the Renaissance of Kyiv.” To this end, several important cultural and artistic events will be held at two-month intervals throughout the year, beginning with the institute’s “Man of the Year” award to the mayor of Kyiv, Oleksander Omelchenko. The award will be made at an elegant Plaza Hotel dinner on December 9.

Honoring the mayor as the chief architect of the new beauty of Ukraine’s capital, the presentation will be the first since the “Man of the Year” award was bestowed on philanthropist George Soros in 1997. Former recipients of the award, initiated in the 1980s, include actor Jack Palance, Maj. Gen. Bohdan Krawciw, Judge Bohdan Futey, historian Omeljan Prytsak, poet/artist Sviatoslav Hordynsky and actress/singer/director Lydia Krushelnytsky.

Ten businessmen from Kyiv, and several local politicians and dignitaries are expected to attend the dinner. World boxing champion Volodymyr Klychko has promised to fly in for the Plaza dinner following a December 7 fight on the West Coast, along with his brother, boxer Vitaliy Klychko.

A multi-media exhibition is being organized at the institute to spotlight the emergence of Kyiv as one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. Targeted specifically at a non-Ukrainian audience, it will run from December 6 until January 31, then move on to Chicago and Washington. A weeklong showing of Ukrainian fashions is planned to coincide with New York’s Fashion Week in spring 2003.

Speaking on behalf of UIA directors, Mr. Nazarewicz told this reporter: “We’re planning all these events, plus a noontime press conference on December 9, as well as a special journal, to publicize Ukraine’s wonderful history and culture – and to counter all the negative things we hear about Ukraine.”

Though the highly ambitious program involves intensive planning and work, the institute is continuing its excellent Music at the Institute (MATI) series and other cultural activities. Already under its belt for this season are two well-attended events: the celebration of Ukraine’s 11th independence anniversary and the welcoming of Ukraine’s Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko, who was in New York to attend the 57th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. Both events were held in collaboration with the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations and the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York.

The MATI series, held under the direction of renowned pianist Mykola Suk, opened in mid-October with an ensemble from the Netherlands, Musica Ad Rhenum, a group of musicians inspired by the power and virtuosity of Baroque music. Coming programs will feature the music of Eastern Europe (December 7), Brahms (January 26) and the Vienna Piano Trio from Austria (February 22).

In addition, jazz pianist John Stetch will introduce melodies from his latest CD “Ukrainianism” during a concert on November 15.

A recent evening of culture and cuisine, with proceeds earmarked for the UIA building fund, showcased “Ukrainian fusion” food prepared by Soyuzivka’s popular chef, Andriy Sonevsky, and a selection of Bulgarian, Crimean and Georgian wines, and assorted beers and vodka. “Fusion” delicacies included pumpkin pyrohy encased in Asian-type dough, stuffed cabbage rolls, apple and currant blintzes and kovbasa quesadillas. Guests were serenaded by a band of musicians – Slavko Halatyn, Oles Kuzyszyn, George Hrab Jr. and Mr. Sonevsky – while munching on fusion food and appraising an exhibit of recent work by artist Andriy Babytsch of Toronto.

Kathy Nalywajko, chairperson of the event, says the evening kicked off a new Friends of the Institute program beamed at new friends and supporters of the institute. “We’re offering people two events free of charge and a place on our mailing list, for just \$100 for the season, and I’m glad to say we had a most gratifying response from people during the evening.”

Mr. Babytsch, born in Ukraine, is a colorist who works in oils and pastels;



One of Andriy Babytsch’s paintings on exhibit at the Ukrainian Institute of America.

portraits and landscapes comprise his subject matter. Tones and shades of color relay his feelings in landscapes, while simplicity of detail and a well-defined spectrum of color mark his portraits. During the third convention of the International Artists Pastel Society in 1999, he was showcased in the magazine Pastel International as master pastelist of the world. A resident of Canada since 1948, he has been president of the Ukrainian Association of Visual Artists of Canada since 1994.

The institute building, which also serves as a home for the Ukrainian Research and Documentation Center, hums with other activities as well: social functions of the Ukrainian Engineers’ Society of America and the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, and a weekly pre-school music class directed by Marta Sawycky. It serves frequently as the locale for shoots of Hollywood movies, most recently the Kirk Douglas-Michael Douglas film “A Smack in the Face” (not yet released).

### Stage ensemble Kyiv-bound

While the mayor of Kyiv and several businessmen are getting set to travel from Kyiv to New York, the Ukrainian Stage Ensemble and director Lydia Krushelnytsky are preparing to fly to Ukraine’s capital city for a four-day competition of Ukrainian theatrical groups from the diaspora. The troupe will be competing with a dozen or so theater groups that will converge on Kyiv from Germany, Russia, Slovakia, Croatia and other countries during the week of November 11. The Stage Ensemble’s entry is “Zhinka Kriz Viky” (Woman Through Time), portraying women in Greek mythology. It’s a montage from the works of Lesia Ukrainka, which the ensemble has previously performed in New York, Philadelphia and Canada.

### Where are they now?

Virlana Tkacz, director of the dynamic Yara Arts Group, is in Kyiv this semester teaching on a Fulbright Fellowship (for a semester), and seems to be just as active there as here. During the October 19-20 weekend, Ms. Tkacz directed a concert version of “In the Beginning Was Song,” a dialogue of traditional songs from Ukrainian and Hebrew, performed by Mariana Sadovska of Ukraine and Poland, and Victoria Hanna from Jerusalem. The concert was staged for the Fulbright Conference and for a new music and poetry series “Kolo Nas,” inaugurated and run by Ms. Tkacz in Kyiv. Joining Ms. Tkacz soon will be

four actresses from the Yara Arts Group in New York – Marina Celander, Zabryna Guevara, Akiko Hiroshima and Jina Oh – who will rehearse the group’s Ivan Kupalo material with Ms. Sadovska for the Diaspora Festival (the same one in which the Ukrainian Stage Ensemble is participating.) After that, they plan to visit villages they’ve been to in past summers, to perform for the women who taught them Kupalo songs, and then begin work on creating a new Kupalo presentation show for 2003 that will be presented at the LaMama Theater on June 3-28.

Olga Talyn, the singer/actress who portrayed Mme. Giry in the phenomenal Broadway show “Phantom of the Opera,” is taking a break from the exhausting grind of show business. After spending several years on Broadway and time on the road with the national tours of “Phantom” and “Cabaret,” she is relaxing at her New Jersey home (she enjoys designing and stringing semi-precious stones into bead necklaces) before tackling another Broadway role.

Ms. Talyn (born Olga Bodnar) sang the Ukrainian national anthem and “God Bless America” during a special Ukrainian Independence Day observance at the New Jersey governor’s mansion, then did another community turn by singing the anthem at the Ukrainian Institute’s welcoming party for Mr. Zlenko.

New York City Opera diva Oksana Krovvtska, who sang the title role in “Madame Butterfly” with the Illinois Opera back in September, is now on the West Coast preparing for the San Francisco Opera’s November production of “Katya Kabanova,” a role she recently performed with the Miami and Montreal opera companies. She is scheduled to sing at the Opera Gala in Montreal on December 8.

Soprano Alexandra Hrabova and pianist Thomas Hrynkiw teamed up as soloist and accompanist during the Ukrainian Music Institute’s 50th anniversary celebration at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall last weekend. Ms. Hrabova, who recently appeared at Hungarian House in a concert focusing on Ukrainian and Hungarian music, will soon take part in a concert competition at Carnegie Hall and will sing the role of Nedda in Leoncavallo’s “Pagliacci” with the Di Capo Opera in February and March.

Mr. Hrynkiw can barely keep track of all his engagements; he figures he’s doing 60 concerts a year, including 24 at



Olga Talyn and the “Phantom,” Michael Crawford, at a closing performance party.

(Continued on page 16)

## Zenowij Onyshkewych's exhibit takes art lovers "From Here to There"

SOUTHPORT, CONN. – The exhibit "From Here to There," featuring the plein-air paintings of Zenowij Onyshkewych, opens at the Southport Harbor Gallery on Sunday, November 3, with an artist's reception to be held at 2-6 p.m. The exhibit will be on view through December 1.

Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.- 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-5 p.m.; or by appointment. For additional information call the gallery at (203) 259-2597 or visit the website southportharborgallery.com.

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Zenowij Onyshkewych is a plein-air painter, known for his works done on location in the United States, as well as during his extended stays abroad in Switzerland, France and Italy.

Mr. Onyshkewych's most recent major exhibit was the invitational retrospective held in Switzerland at Musée de Bagnes during the summer of 1999. On exhibit were 64 paintings of the Valais region of the Swiss Alps painted over the last 25 years.

\*\*\*

Mr. Onyshkewych was born in Lviv, and came to the United States as a post-war émigré in 1949. He studied at the Art Students' League of New York and having served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, continued his studies on two consecutive scholarships at the National Academy of Fine Arts. A graduate of Pratt Institute, Mr. Onyshkewych taught drawing and painting at Fairfield University in 1977-1978.

The artist is known for works done on location in Europe as well as in the United States. Among the landscapes he has painted are the Alps, the East Coast of North America, from Nova Scotia to the Florida Keys, and a series of Hudson River paintings.

Mr. Onyshkewych is also known for his work in the graphic arts, which includes illustrations and graphic work for The New York Times, Reader's Digest and American publishing houses.

Mr. Onyshkewych, who resides in Fairfield, Conn., is a lifetime member of The American Watercolor Society and has previously exhibited with the Salmagundi Club, the American Watercolor Society and the Invitational Commemorative National Arts Club, and in many one-man shows in the United States and abroad.

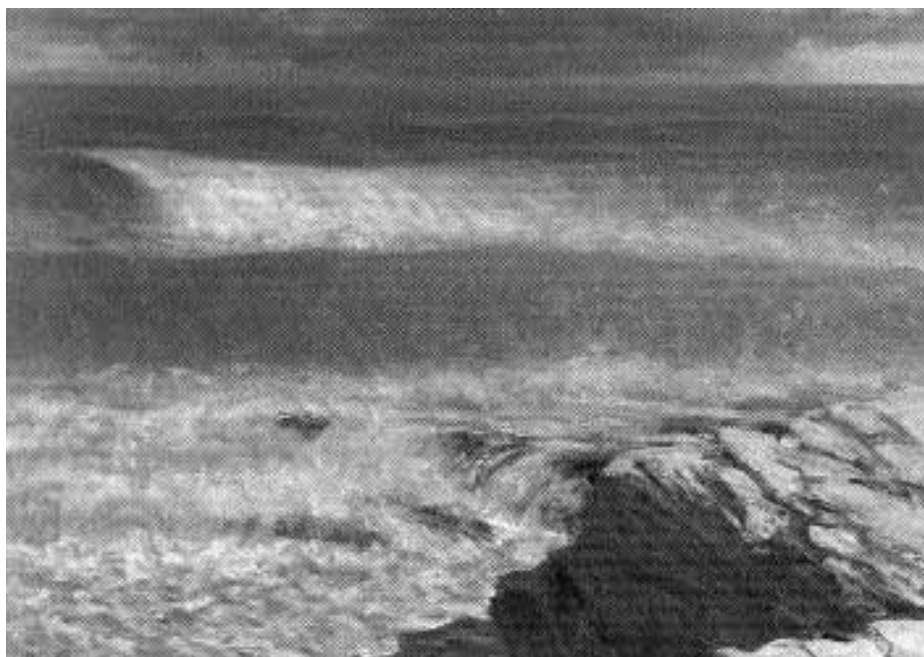
His work is included in prestigious national and international collections, including the Vatican.



Zenowij Onyshkewych



Invitation to the exhibit "From Here to There," featuring the plein-air paintings of Zenowij Onyshkewych, being held November 3-December 1 at the Southport Harbor Gallery in Connecticut. Pictured above: "Lake Genève-Cully," oil on canvas, 17 1/4 x 23 1/8 inches; bottom: "Swell," oil on canvas, 21 3/4 x 27 1/2 inches.



*"In my works, light is the most important factor. It makes the painting, creates the value contrast, warms or cools the colors and establishes the mood. Therefore, the sky is key. since it is my primary light source, it determines everything. This is of even greater importance when working on seascapes or where water is involved. The sky and water are like twins. They are different and at the same time very much alike. There is always some color unity between them."*

## ESSAY: Onyshkewych, "the omnivoyant traveler"

The following essay was penned by Philip Eliasoph, professor of art history at Fairfield University, on the occasion of the opening of the exhibit "From Here to There" at the Southport Harbor Gallery.

In his journeys between here and there, Zenowij (better known as Zenko) Onyshkewych is never a tourist but always the omnivoyant traveler. Still vibrant after 50 years of artistic production, he continues to confront the unsurpassed truths of nature. This exhibition presents ample evidence of an ongoing commitment to the 19th century's invention of painting en plein air. But we are not to obligingly expect the Impressionist's sparkling palette and flower beds of a midday in June in the 1880s. Tempered by a gutsy realism indelibly etched from his boyhood as an eyewitness to [World War II] Zenko eschews loveliness by opting for dramatic intensity.

Resisting frivolity or artifice, his paintings are attempts at gauging atmospheric turbulences of sky, sea and land. At his best, Zenko might even achieve Baudelaire's challenge to capture "the transitory, the fugitive, the contingent." Painterly but precise, freely gesturing with brush and wash while retaining our retinal gaze, the Barbizon mood resurfaces on Zenko's canvases. It was this pre-Impressionist generation of the 1840s-1860s which realized that nature could never be static or fixed. They painted the countryside and marine

scenes with a stubborn reliance upon a grainy chiaroscuro of light and weather conditions. The blinding, retinal dance of dissolved, scientifically charged color was to be the gift of Impressionism.

The next time you are in New York or Boston take a good look at those wonderful examples in the museum collections by Daubigny, Millet, Rousseau, Corot, or even the Dutchman, J.B. Jongkind. These are the best models informing our appreciation of Zenko's work. Manipulating his monochromatic grays and silver-tinted blues, he is more an apt interpreter of Boudin than a slavish mimic of Monet. Art history lessons can be instructive only to a certain point. I have stood beside so many friends and admirers whose instinctual responses to a Zenko canvas is: "Man, this guy really knows how to paint!"

I like to imagine Zenko as an archetypal weatherbeaten, old salt fighting a gale in a Homer painting. Foraging out into nature's primordial embrace, he opens his paint box atop icy perches in Switzerland, sets up his easel on rocky ledges along the mighty Hudson River, and putters around the Connecticut shoreline in a derelict, dented dory. Ready to sleep on straw beds in alpine huts, drive around in the most characteristically dilapidated vehicles still registered in Fairfield County, and his willingness to withstand any physical discomfort or indignity tells us much about his passion for painting. A relentless desire to find the right spot to paint transforms

his travels into Gandhi-like trials of self-denial.

We were conversing recently about a charming stretch of road in that earthly paradise of Tuscany, a hairpin set of turns along vine-clad hills and sweeping cypresses, between Volterra and San Gimignano. My sensorial memory of that summer day was enhanced by a sumptuously presented five-course luncheon my wife and I feasted on at a Michelin Guide recommended villa. Zenko's experience was far more modest. He is the only American I know who can still boast about the mythic "Europe on \$5 a day" of the 1950s. Remarkably, I know he manages to survive on a budget of less than \$25 daily, equivalent to what I normally pay for a bottle of Brunello during lunch. Miraculously this Social Security-aged recipient, still sleeps in drafty convents, packs picnic lunches of stale bread, hard cheese or sardine cans, and survives like a wandering hermit saint in the wilderness as a latter-day Sassetta painting.

This selection of paintings reflect an honesty, genuineness and joyous inspiration for life that defines Zenko. Within that aureole of morning rays on a snowy ridge in Switzerland or the last glint of sunset at Compo Beach, we discover the itinerant artist at his true home. Disenchanted or discomforted as I find myself, and I suspect other kindred spirits, with the current 'state of the art world,' we all can anticipate the newly rolled-up canvases and small studies Zenko promises to bring back from future travels.

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## Is Ukraine arming...

(Continued from page 2)

Secretary Tedo Djaparidze admitted that Georgia would soon possess a modern air-defense system that would prevent its territory from being bombed. This was a reference to Russia, which had first bombed Georgian forces in the Abkhaz conflict in the early 1990s and has done so sporadically since. The chief of Georgia's Gen. Staff, Lt. Gen. Djoni Pirtskhalaishvili, admitted that Ukrainian air-defense units consisting of surface-to-air missiles would be stationed on the Georgian-Russian border.

Mr. Djaparidze visited Ukraine recently, where successful negotiations were held on the purchase of an air-defense system for which the Georgian Parliament had allocated \$12 million. On September 28, Lt. Gen. Pirtskhalaishvili admitted that, "Georgia will soon receive anti-aircraft systems from Ukraine." He added that the training of Georgians to man these systems "has already begun."

On October 1, Georgia's ambassador to Ukraine, Grigol Katamadze, denied his country had signed a deal with Ukraine to deliver air-defense units. It seems highly unlikely that somebody in this position would be kept in the dark over such sales. But, on the same day, Georgian Foreign Minister Irakli Menagarishvili contradicted the ambassador and confirmed that negotiations were indeed taking place. He repeated the view of other Georgian officials that the air-defense units would be used against foreign planes "that strike at Georgian territory."

Although the Ukrainian air-defense units had not yet arrived in Georgia, the Georgians were possibly using their pending arrival to influence Russian military plans against Georgia, which became increasingly aggressive in tone in September-October. Mr. Menagarishvili stated that the air-defense units would "shoot down planes no matter who owns them, [whether they are from] Russia or alien planets." But, he added that he hoped their presence would discourage Russia from conducting another bombing raid on Georgia.

Ukrainian Defense Minister Volodymyr Shkidchenko planned to visit Georgia on October 7-9 to discuss arrangements for the delivery and installation of the air-defense units, but his visit was postponed. The unofficial reason for the postponement was the impending arrival of the U.S.-British team of experts in Ukraine to investigate the Kolchuga arms scandal that was first publicly raised by the United States in late September.

On October 10, Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh was the first Ukrainian official to admit publicly that Georgia and Ukraine were negotiating an arms deal, although he refused to disclose any details. By this time, Georgia had already paid Ukraine \$3.6 million in advance of the \$12 million total cost of the air-defense units. Georgians were also being trained in Ukraine to use the units, and Georgian officials had disclosed in September what their country was purchasing from Ukraine. Mr. Kinakh's circumspection, therefore, was surprising but fully in line with Ukraine's unwillingness to place arms sales within the new policy of transparency outlined in a presidential decree in August.

## Correction

The surname of the writer of a letter to the editor was misspelled last week. The name should have appeared as G. Myroslaw Burbelo, M.D.

## Ukraine's image...

(Continued from page 6)

overs of Western aircraft in the last year, in addition to providing its own transport carriers.

Now with the Kolchuha controversy added to the mix, Ukraine is in very real danger of completely losing credibility – and even becoming a pariah state. If it is proven that Ukraine sold a missile defense system to Iraq, Ukraine's path to NATO becomes a song title: it's either "the long and winding road," or perhaps "the endless journey."

Not helping is President Bush's attitude towards President Kuchma, which has led some Ukrainians to believe that the Kolchuha allegations are a political effort to further destabilize Ukraine and perhaps affect regime change in Kyiv as well as in Baghdad.

Prof. Michael McFaul, a Hoover Institute fellow at Stanford University and a colleague of Condoleezza Rice, pointed out during a press conference in Kyiv in June that President Bush is a straightforward person who quickly and instinctively, even reflexively, decides whether or not he likes a politician. While Mr. Bush has taken to Russian President Vladimir Putin, whom he considers to be as straightforward, he considers Mr. Kuchma deeply untrustworthy, mildly put.

And that's that. Ukraine has been left in the geopolitical dust as Russia has surged forward in relations with the U.S. One result is that Presidents Kuchma and Bush have not met a single time in the nearly two years of the Bush administration, and why they will not meet in Prague in November.

To change the current reality, Ukraine needs a real public relations effort backed by deeds and accomplishments. It has to stop making unrealistic declarations and cease using unbounded spin for spin's sake. It needs to prove that it follows through on its promises, as it did when it closed Chernobyl. That action, and the pomp with which it was carried out, raised Ukraine's standing in the West, even if only briefly.

Kyiv also needs to show that it is building democracy in very concrete ways. It must ensure the rule of law by completing judicial reform and resolving the Gongadze case and other unsolved high-publicity crimes. The Kuchma administration must also stop using heavy-handed tactics in suppressing public demonstrations. It must exercise patience and show tolerance for opposition movements. It must stop its blatant control and intimidation of the press.

Finally, it needs to pass corporate governance legislation and complete tax and administrative reform to bring in Western investors and their business partners. These people could become wonderful P.R. ambassadors for Ukraine. They would put out the good word that Ukraine is a truly European country.

In the end, however, nothing may help.

It simply may be too late. With a cloud of Kolchuhas hanging over its head, Ukraine may find it nearly impossible to create a positive atmosphere in time for the NATO summit in November. While both parties have expressed a desire for a new NATO-Ukraine agreement, that may not be a priority for Brussels after the latest events. Ukraine's place at the Prague summit could become a small stool in a dark corner.

That, however, is not the only problem. Even while NATO has repeatedly affirmed that it wants to be an all-inclusive defense alliance, there are some experts, including at least one at the Rand Corp. with whom I spoke, who believe that the West has not had much interest in Ukraine as a full NATO member for sometime, that today a good many NATO diplomats believe that with Ukraine free of nukes and with a NATO-Ukraine charter on a special partnership firmly in place and a second agreement on the way, relations between Kyiv and Brussels should remain as they are for now.

Unfortunately, this attitude supports in a basic way the improperly formulated supposition that Ukraine should remain part of Russia's sphere of influence. It brings us back to where we started, that the West must begin to look at Ukraine apart from Russia.

In the end, the decision on whether and how to proceed towards NATO remains Ukraine's to make. If it wants to go the road, it must prove beyond a microsmidgeon of doubt that it had nothing to do with illegal arms sales to Iraq. Its declarations of its readiness to allow complete inspections and calls for transparency and open cooperation on the matter were a good first step, both in the public relations realm and from a tactical point of view.

There are those who believe the Kolchuha crisis will pass quickly. One is Bruce Jackson, the president of the U.S. Committee on NATO, an NGO, who believes that Ukraine should gear up for beginning the process to full membership around 2006, with entry sometime around 2012.

Officially, NATO has not given up on Ukraine either. While Secretary General George Robertson said that Ukraine could have problems if it is proven it was complicit in arms sales, he also made it clear that, for the moment, the Atlantic Alliance stands by its desire to see Ukraine as a member, eventually. So, hope remains.

Another matter is whether the Kuchma administration is capable of the new attitude and the honest changes required. There is also concern about whether the administration realizes that the best perception to develop of Ukraine in the West is of a country with something to offer NATO, and not merely as another underdeveloped entity to be nurtured. With proper reforms and preparations, Ukraine could state its case strongly. At the moment, however, much still needs to be done.

cial said in 1992, "is to cut the population of the city by half!" But who would decide who was to be relocated and provide incentives for them to leave? And where could they go?

Ten years later, these questions remain largely unsolved. The World Bank loan will certainly go a long way toward resolving the purely financial side of the problem, but the root situation, a city too large for its readily available water supply, is not so easy to tackle.

## Vesillia...

(Continued from page 11)

I am angry because my country has not given me any songs to sing; it has not given me any costumes to wear; it has not given me any stories to tell. I feel culturally deprived; there is a kind of emptiness that is driven home in a myriad situations, including each time I hear an immigrant, or son or daughter thereof, speaking another language. I sense that it gives them a secret life, another level of existence that enriches them, and to which they can retreat at any time...

\*\*\*

For more information on Ukrainian weddings, check out:

- "Basic Elements of a Traditional Ukrainian Wedding" by Larysa Zaleska Onyshkevych, second edition. Princeton, N.J.: Pershi Stezhi, 1999. 50 pp. This is a most informative booklet on how to include Ukrainian traditions in a wedding in North America; text in Ukrainian and English. Order from Stefa Korol, 25 S. Duval, Grosse Pointe Shore, MI 48236. \$12 for orders in the U.S.A. (includes s/h), \$13 to Canada (in U.S. funds); also available from Montreal-based Yevshan, www.yevshan.com, 1-800-265-9858

- "Wedding" and "Wedding Songs" by M. Mushynka in Vol. 5, St-Z, of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993.

- Section on weddings in "Spiritual Culture of the People" by Z. Kuzeliain Vol. 1 of Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1963.

- An extensive description of wedding customs is given in Khvedir Vovk's "Studiya z Ukrainskoyi Etnohrafiyi ta Antropolohiyi." Prague: Ukrainskyi Hromadskyi Vydavnychiy fond, 1928. It was reprinted by Howerla (New York) in 1976. This work was reprinted also in Ukraine recently.

- "Vinkopletennia: An Original Folk

Musical of a Traditional Ukrainian Bridal Shower." Vancouver: Vinkopletennia Musical Committee, 1990.

This audiotape and booklet with all lyrics and music was released by The Voloshky Singers and friends, with Musical Director Ann Kvitka Kozak. It includes some of the loveliest singing you have ever heard, with songs most of us have never heard. Order from: Ann Kvitka Kozak, 2516 Bendale Road, North Vancouver, BC V7H 1G7 Canada. Price: \$15 in Canada; \$17 for U.S., (U.S. funds).

- "A Ukrainian Wedding," Vols. 1-2, featuring Ivan Sheremeta and his orchestra and guest vocalist Michael Boyko, is a set of two audiotapes that includes songs for the welcome and entrance, the dinner, the darovannia and the zabava. It is available from Yevshan.

- "Ukrainian Folk Wedding," recorded in Winnipeg in 1995, is a cassette that includes toasts to the couple, traditional wedding songs and instrumental music for a real down-home Ukrainian Canadian prairie wedding. It is available from Baba's Records, 275 Selkirk Ave., Winnipeg, MB R2W 5L5; (204) 586-8057 or 1-800-307-8507; sunrec@total.net; www.sunshinerecords.com/baba/. Price: \$19.50 for Canada; \$15 for U.S. (in U.S. funds)

- "Wedding FAQ – Tanya Stachniw and Koko Rakowsky's Wedding" by Koko Rakowsky on the Brama website, www.brama.com/art/tradition/html, is a delightful explanation of wedding traditions. On the same page, see "Wedding 1-4" (contemporary traditions from central Ukraine), information and photos by Dr. Natalie Kononenko, University of Virginia.

- "Rushnyky: Ukrainian Ritual Cloths" by Oksana Grabowicz and Lubow Wolynetz. New York: The Ukrainian Museum, 1977. 36 pp., illustrated. The booklet is available from The Ukrainian Museum Gift Shop, (212) 228-0110; www.ukrainianmuseum.org; shop@UkrainianMuseum.org.

## More water...

(Continued from page 2)

some instances threats – from farmers afraid of losing their own scanty supplies. Shut down water-greedy industry? Horrendous problems of unemployment would arise. Install new closed-cycle processing technologies, which recover and reuse their wastewater? Possible, but very expensive.

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## Dateline New York...

(Continued from page 12)

last summer's Newport Music Festival in Rhode Island. Adding to his busy schedule: teaching at the Ukrainian Music Institute in New York and Marywood University in Scranton, Pa., newspaper and radio interviews, and — a major achievement — completing 200 recordings for the Yamaha Disklavier, with hundreds still to be done.

### Around town

Irina Dvorovenko and Maxim Belotserkovsky, performing with American Ballet Theatre during its fall season at City Center, won words of praise from The New York Times' critic Jennifer Dunning. Ms. Dunning pointed to their performance in "Swan Lake Pas de Deux," remarking that, although there were no solos, just partnered dance, "that was enough, given Ms. Dvorovenko's flowing musical phrasing and Mr. Belotserkovsky's easy aristocratic bearing." The couple was recently pictured in Women's Wear Daily with fashion designer Calvin Klein at his Manhattan store during an ABT benefit.

Ukrainian-born Vadim Solomakha, a principal dancer with the San Francisco Ballet, caught reviewers' attention when the troupe came to town for a weeklong fling at City Center. Anna Kisselgoff of The New York Times said he "cuts a noble figure as cavalier" to ballerina Yuan Yuan Tan in "Paquita." A member of the Shevchenko National Opera and Ballet Theater and the Kyiv Classical Ballet Theater before joining San Francisco Ballet in 1995, Mr. Solomakha was promoted to principal dancer with the American troupe in 1998.

Film director Roman Boychuk (aka Paul Bojack) has informed "Dateline" that DVDs and videos of his first feature film "Glass, Necktie" are now available in Manhattan at TLA Video, 52 W. Eighth St., and The Movie Place at 237 W. 105th St. as well as at Kim's Video, St. Mark's Place, in the East Village. The film can be found at 1,000 stores across the country (e-mail [glassnecktie@netscape.net](mailto:glassnecktie@netscape.net) for the closest location).

Andrij Cybyk, dancer and assistant artistic director of the Syzokryli Ukrainian dancers, reports that Syzokryli and the New York girls' choir Prolisok performed in Warren, Mich., before a very large, enthusiastic audience at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Ukrainian Selfreliance Michigan Federal Credit Union. The dancers and director Roma Pryma Bohachevsky have a busy year ahead: their schedule includes Town Hall on January 31, followed by the Slavic Heritage Festival, a concert at Montclair State University and the annual Ukrainian Festival in the East Village in May.

Just back from an uplifting tour of Argentina with the AllNations Dance Company, Mr. Cybyk expects to go to China with the Michael Mao Dance company for most of December and January, join the Brighton Ballet Theater for an engagement in Miami, then return to China, this time for a tour with AllNations. His latest choreographic work is currently crossing the U.S. in the dance "Bereznianka" (Girl from Bereznia), a couples' dance set in the Carpathian Mountains that's part of the Duquesne University Tamburitzans' U.S. concert tour for 2002-2003.

*Helen Smindak's e-mail address is [haliasmindak@aol.com](mailto:haliasmindak@aol.com).*

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## Zenon Onufryk...

(Continued from page 4)

In addition, he served on the National Plast Command in the United States, first as the director of sea scouting (1958) and later as the national commander of male scouts (1963-1965).

In addition Mr. Onufryk was a member of the Ukrainian National Association, Branch 172.

Surviving are his wife, Irena; son, Peter with his wife, Lori; daughter, Christina; and granddaughter, Lauren; as

well as relatives in the United States, Canada and Ukraine.

The funeral liturgy was offered at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, N.J., on September 30. Burial followed at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

Donations in Mr. Onufryk's memory may be made to the Sea Scouting Development Fund; checks made payable to Plast Chornomortsi should be sent to: Wolodymyr Pylyshenko, 915 Winona Blvd., Rochester, NY 14617.

## Union of Ukrainians...

(Continued from page 7)

community enjoys practically no preferences and its representatives are very unlikely to be elected. Both at the parliamentary and local government levels it is difficult to ensure Ukrainian representation in the democratic process. This problem could be addressed by supplementing the Election Law with new provisions that would provide for the establishment of National Minority Electoral Groups and reserve six or seven parliamentary mandates for the representatives of such dispersed minorities as Ukrainians, Romany and Jews.

A request for the establishment of a Center of Ukrainian Culture was turned down. The Center was to coordinate and develop various forms of dissemination and promotion of culture among Ukrainians. At the same time, relations between Ukrainian social organizations and the Ministry of Culture have been deteriorating with each coming year. Procedures were changed and there were problems with the transfer of monies earmarked for the cultural activities of minorities in the ministry's budget, which made it impossible to launch valu-

able projects, plan more attractive cultural offerings or enlarge the range of dissemination activities.

Despite the fact that a negative stereotype of Ukrainians continues to persist in the Polish society, Ukrainian social organizations appealed to Polish authorities that nationalities be declared at the time of the national census. But the authorities failed to prepare the surveyors appropriately and, in effect, many irregularities were signalled (the Polish nationality was entered automatically, other than Polish nationality was frequently questioned, and the Ukrainian nationality was entered in pencil). Thus, the census will not be able to report a reliable number of Ukrainians in Poland.

Equally unsatisfactory is the Ukrainian community's access to public media. Despite a positive decision that the "Telenowyny" TV news prepared in the Ukrainian language will be broadcast twice a month, a significant group of Ukrainians (who live in such regions as Western Pomerania and the Carpathian lowlands), continue to be deprived of the possibility to watch the show due to the limited range of transmitters that broadcast TVP 3 (the regional television channel).

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

on lawmakers to launch an impeachment procedure against him and amend the constitution to make Ukraine a parliamentary-presidential republic. The resolution proposed by the nine caucuses that form the pro-Kuchma majority stresses that the subsequent elections of the president and the Verkhovna Rada should be held "according to democratic principles and within the terms determined by the Ukrainian Constitution," according to UNIAN. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Rada leaders mull political reform

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada speaker Volodymyr Lytvyn on October 29 held a meeting with parliamentary group leaders to discuss how to proceed with the political reform announced earlier this year by President Leonid Kuchma, the UNIAN news service reported. Mr. Lytvyn told journalists the Parliament will set up a special commission by November 12 to draft constitutional amendments aimed at making Ukraine a parliamentary-presidential republic. Earlier this month, the Constitutional Court ruled that a draft bill on introducing constitutional amendments drawn up by seven lawmakers (including Petro Symonenko and Oleksander Moroz) and signed by more than 170 deputies is largely in line with the Constitution of Ukraine and may be put on the parliamentary docket. In particular, the draft bill proposes reducing the number of votes required to override a presidential veto from 300 to 250 and granting the Verkhovna Rada the right not only to approve but also to dismiss the prime minister. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Lawmakers to discuss freedom of speech

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on October 24 decided to hold a hearing on December 4 on freedom of speech and charges of censorship in Ukraine, UNIAN reported. The motion was supported by 294 of the 428 deputies registered for the session. The parliamentary caucuses of Our Ukraine and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc did not participate in the voting, having announced that they will resume voting only after the Parliament passes a resolution prohibiting deputies from voting for absent colleagues. The opposition has formerly charged that majority deputies resort to such tricks to ensure the minimum 226 votes needed to pass bills and most resolutions in the Verkhovna Rada. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Rada rejects resolutions on crisis

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on October 24 failed to pass any resolution to sum up a debate the same day devoted to the current political situation, UNIAN reported. The opposition's draft resolution, proposed by Socialist Party Chairman Oleksander Moroz, was supported by 200 lawmakers, while the pro-presidential majority's draft received 222 votes. Two hundred and twenty-six votes were required for passage. Later the same day, lawmakers managed to pass several other bills, including one on the introduction of a 30 percent tax on exports of scrap ferrous metals from Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Polish institute seeks access to UPA files

KYIV – The National Remembrance Institute has requested that Ukrainian authorities grant access to documents of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) that may shed light on atrocities allegedly perpetrated by the UPA against Poles during World War II, primarily in the Volyn region of northwestern Ukraine in 1943-1944, the PAP news agency reported on

October 24. IPN Chairman Leon Kieres said the request concerns "the UPA's own documents" and the journals of UPA commanders that were seized by the KGB, as well as protocols of interrogations by the KGB of UPA commanders who were responsible, as Mr. Kieres put it, for "the atrocities in Volyn." Mr. Kieres noted that the IPN would like to publish these documents. "Please do not take these activities by the IPN in political categories; the point is just getting to know the whole truth," he commented. According to Polish historians, as many as 80,000 Poles may have been killed by the UPA during the war. The IPN has launched an investigation into what it called "the crimes of genocide perpetrated by Ukrainian nationalists on the territory of the Volyn Province of the Second [Polish] Republic in the years 1939-1945." (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Envoy denies Georgian missile purchase

KYIV – Georgia's ambassador to Ukraine, Grigol Katamadze, and an unnamed spokesman for Ukraine's arms-export company Ukrspetseksport told Interfax in separate conversations on September 30 that Georgian Chief of the General Staff Lt. Gen. Djoni Pirtskhalaishvili's September 28 statement that Tbilisi will soon acquire Ukrainian anti-aircraft missiles is "premature." Ambassador Katamadze said no contract to purchase such missiles has been signed but that the possibility might be discussed during an upcoming visit to Tbilisi by Ukrainian Defense Minister Volodymyr Shkvidchenko. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Journalists speak of official censorship

WASHINGTON – Four well-known Ukrainian journalists said during a briefing at RFE/RL's office in Washington on October 16 that the recently launched independent trade union of journalists in Ukraine was a response to the government-imposed censorship on journalistic work in the country. The four – Yulia Mostov, Yevhen Hlibovyt'skyi, Andrii Shevchenko, and Roman Skrypin – said that 300 reporters from throughout Ukraine have joined this new trade union because they believe they can no longer freely practice their profession. According to Mr. Hlibovyt'skyi, major media outlets are merely sideline businesses for a few oligarchs who are economically and politically dependent on President Leonid Kuchma, and thus subject to government interference on content issues. Mr. Skrypin observed that "censorship is a strangling snake," adding that managers simply order reporters not to run news items if they have received telephone calls from President Kuchma's office. Ms. Mostova described a basic government censorship technique, known as "temnyk," whereby reporters are issued written orders on how to treat, or ignore, political and business topics of the day. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Lukashenka congratulates Saddam

MIENSK – Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka congratulated Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein on the 100 percent support he officially received in an October 15 referendum on his rule, Belapan reported on October 24, quoting the presidential press service. Mr. Lukashenka reportedly said in his congratulatory message that the referendum "graphically demonstrated the desire of the Iraqi people to decide their fate on their own and to repel any attempts at interfering in their country's internal affairs." Mr. Lukashenka also reaffirmed Belarus's interest in strengthening political and economic ties with Iraq to the benefit of both countries. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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– INTERMISSION –

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART "O Isis und Osiris" from *The Magic Flute*  
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HENRY PURCELL "When I Am Laid in Earth" from *Dido and Aeneas*  
GIACOMO PUCCINI "Donde lieta" from *La Boheme*  
JULES MASSENET "Adieu, notre petite table" from *Manon*  
GIOACCHINO ROSSINI "Bel raggio lusinghier" from *Semiramide*

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## The founding family...

(Continued from page 9)

After a frustrating, lengthy siege, Olha sent a message to the townsfolk, saying that if they submitted to paying her tribute as all the other Derevlians had now agreed to do, she would leave them in peace. Since they were not able to pay with the usual commodities of honey or furs, she requested only that each household deliver three sparrows and three pigeons. The relieved inhabitants gladly assented to her request.

Olha distributed the birds among her soldiers and had them attach a piece of cloth-bound sulfur to each. These little bundles were then ignited and the birds, once free, returned to their nests or coops which quickly caught fire. "There was not a house that was not consumed, and it was impossible to extinguish the flames, because all the houses caught fire at once. The people fled from the city, and Olha ordered her soldiers to catch them. Thus she took the city and burned it, and captured the elders of the city. Some of the other captives she killed, while she gave others as slaves to her followers."<sup>8</sup> A remnant of the population was left alive to pay a heavy tribute: two-thirds of which went to the state, one-third into Olha's own coffers.

### Internal reform

By this time Olha was a very wealthy woman. Even before the death of her husband she owned a number of landed estates. The chronicles mention Vyshhorod<sup>9</sup> as "Olha's city"; she also owned Olzhychi in the Desna area and several villages in the Pskov and Novhorod regions. After Ihor's death, Olha must have become the largest landowner in Kyivan-Rus'.

Having effectively avenged herself on the Derevlians, Olha realized that the haphazard and arbitrary gathering of tribute that had led to Ihor's death would have to be abolished. Instead she divided the country into a number of clearly demarcated districts (pohosty) from which specified amounts of tribute would be collected at regular intervals by a princely agent or local board. These new practices amounted to a centralization of the financial and administrative structure of the country. What had been tributes exacted from autonomous tribes became uniform tithes paid by the entire population.<sup>10</sup>

Olha spent the next several years familiarizing herself with her vast domains.<sup>11</sup> She made numerous trips to all of the major towns setting up trading posts and seeing to it that her subjects were ensured the means of sustaining

themselves (and therefore in a position to pay future taxes). She also set aside for the princely treasury exclusive rights to certain rich fur-bearing areas, further ensuring a steady flow of income (Figure 3).

### Personal conversion

Sometime in the sixth decade of the ninth century, Princess Olha was baptized, the single act for which she is most famous. She thus became the first of the ruling family to be converted to Christianity. The exact date of Olha's conversion has been the subject of intense debate.<sup>12</sup> Years usually given range from 954 up to 960; the traditional date in the PVL is 955. The place of her baptism is generally assigned to Constantinople, the capital of Byzantium, on the occasion of Olha's state visit to that city.

The story related in the PVL is as follows: "Olha went to Greece and arrived at Tsarhorod (Constantinople). The reigning emperor was named Constantine, son of Leo.<sup>13</sup> Olha came before him, and when he saw that she was very fair of countenance<sup>14</sup> and wise as well, the emperor wondered at her intellect. He conversed with her and remarked that she was worthy to reign with him in his city. When Olha heard his words, she replied that she was still a pagan, and that if he desired to baptize her, he should perform this function himself; otherwise, she was unwilling to accept baptism. The emperor, with the assistance of the patriarch, accordingly baptized her ... At her baptism she was christened Helena, after the ancient empress, mother of Constantine the Great. The patriarch then blessed her and dismissed her."

"After her baptism, the emperor summoned Olha and made known to her that he wished her to become his wife. But she replied, "How can you marry me, after yourself baptizing me and calling me your daughter? For among Christians that is unlawful, as you yourself must know." Then the emperor said, "Olha, you have outwitted me. He gave her many gifts of gold, silver, silks and various vases, and dismissed her, still calling her his daughter ... she returned in peace to her own country and arrived in Kyiv."<sup>15</sup>

Olha's receptions are recorded by Emperor Constantine himself in his work *De Caerimoniis*. Because Kyivan Rus' was a rising power in the middle of the 10th century, it was so recognized by Byzantium. Olha, was treated in a "fitting manner" and was "fittingly honored"<sup>16</sup> during her stay at the imperial court. She was granted a very high title, probably that of *zoste patrikia* ("girdled

lady").<sup>17</sup> This title, which was never granted to pagans, allowed Olha to sit at the emperor's table with members of the imperial family.

Since Constantine places the official receptions of Olha and her entourage on Wednesday, September 9, and Sunday, October 18, the only possible year of Olha's visit could be 957.<sup>18</sup> The emperor, however, does not mention her baptism and since we know that the PVL can err at this time period by several years, some historians have speculated that she was converted either a few years before or after her visit to the Imperial Capital, possibly in Kyiv.

However, just because Constantine does not mention a baptism does not mean that one did not occur. Perhaps, as alluded to in the PVL, something of an embarrassing nature did occur between the emperor and Olha at her baptism that caused him not to record the event. Even though the departure of the princess and her retinue from Byzantium occurred amicably, something about the reception caused Olha to be piqued.<sup>19</sup>

The PVL goes on to say: "Thus Olha arrived in Kyiv, and the Greek emperor sent a message to her, saying, 'Inasmuch as I bestowed many gifts upon you, you promised me that on your return to Rus' you would send me many presents of slaves, wax and furs, and dispatch soldiery to aid me.' Olha made answer to the envoys that if the Emperor would spend as long a time with her in the Pochaina<sup>20</sup> as she had remained on the Bosphorus, she would grant his request. With these words, she dismissed the envoys."<sup>21</sup>

Although the highlight of Olha's visit, her conversion, is always commented upon by historians, there was undoubtedly another more practical reason for making the arduous 35- to 45-day trek<sup>22</sup> to the imperial city. Byzantium and Rus' had concluded treaties in 907 and 945; the latter was made by Ihor not long before he died. Olha's visit was likely also made in order to renew and strengthen commercial ties. Olha's retinue was considerably larger than her husband's delegation a dozen years earlier and included far more members of higher rank.<sup>23</sup> The visit lasted at least six weeks, much of the time between the first and second receptions was undoubtedly spent conducting negotiations. The inability to conclude a new treaty of commerce – if such was the alternate intention of this trip – may have been another reason for Olha's brusqueness with the Byzantine envoys.

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8PVL, p. 81. The incendiary bird motive appears in a variety of medieval manuscripts and was almost certainly brought to Ukraine via Scandinavia. All four revenges are likely embellished with legendary elements, but they certainly contain a kernel of truth. Olha undoubtedly vented her fury on the Derevlians for the death of her husband and may have been especially severe on the citizens of Iskorosten, the Derevlianian capital.

9A strategic fortress on the Dnipro River (some 15 kilometers north of Kyiv) that defended the northern approach to the city.

10George Vernadsky, "Kievan Russia" (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1948) p. 39.

11During Olha's reign and those of her successors over most of the next century and a half (up to the death of Volodymyr Monomakh in 1125) Kyivan-Rus' was the largest state in Europe.

12For more recent discussions see: Omeljan Pritsak, "When and Where was Olga Baptized?" *Harvard Ukrainian Studies* (HUS) No. 9 (June 1-2, 1985): pp. 5-21; Dimitri Obolensky, "Olga's Conversion: The Evidence Reconsidered," *HUS* 12/13 (1988-1989): pp. 145-158; Miroslav Labunka, "Religious Centers and Their Missions to Kievan-Rus: From Olga to Volodimer," *HUS* 12/13 (1988/1989): pp. 159-193; and Jeffrey Featherstone, "Olga's Visit to Constantinople," *HUS* No. 14 (December 3-4, 1990): pp. 293-312.

13Constantine Porphyrogenitus, who reigned from 912 to 959.

14At this time Olha may still have been in her mid-30s.

15PVL, pp. 82-83.

16Ioannis Skylitzae, *Synopsis Historiarum*, I. Thurn, ed. (Berlin, 1973). A court official of the 11th century with access to detailed sources, Skylitzae is considered very reliable.

17Featherstone, p. 309.

18Featherstone, p. 305.

19Some historians have speculated that Olha may have been perturbed at Constantine because he would not allow an autonomous or autocephalous church to be established in Kyiv. He may have insisted that new Rus' converts recognize the religious authority of the patriarch of Constantinople and, by extension, the political suzerainty of the emperor; see Vernadsky, p. 41.

20The Pochaina was a stream that flowed below the hills on which the older part of Kyiv was situated, it was separated from the Dnipro by a sandpit.

21PVL, p. 83.

22Pritsak, "Khazarian Hebrew Documents," p. 14.

23Ihor's envoys in 945 included 25 representatives (none members of princely families) and 30 merchants (PVL, p. 73), compared to Olha's 15 relations (including Ihor's nephew), 22 nobles and 44 merchants (*De Caerimoniis*, ed. Vogt).

## ARE YOU A WEEKLY BOOSTER?

Become one by enrolling a new subscriber during The Ukrainian Weekly's special subscription drive in October-November. (Please mark any new subscriptions sent in with the notation "Weekly Booster.")

All readers who enroll new subscribers during the campaign will have their names published on a special thank-you list of Weekly Boosters.

## Ukrainian Orthodox...

(Continued from page 5)

South Bound Brook City Council; also delivered greetings.

Bohdan Kekish, president of Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union, greeted the faithful and praised the Church and especially the Metropolia Center for being a beacon of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the Ukrainian heritage. He presented a gift from the credit union of \$25,000.

The entertainment portion of the jubilee began after the banquet. The St. Andrew Memorial Church Choir under the direction of Mr. Pavlovsky performed first. Melania Mostrovska, soloist from St. George Parish in Yardville, N.J., sang songs of Ukraine accompanied by Olga Holinko, pianist. The Sunday school students of St. Volodymyr Cathedral in New York, instructed by Nastia Antoniv and Ela

Romanyshyn, performed songs and recited poetry.

Also featured was bandurist Yuriy Fedynsky from New York. The Holy Trinity Parish Choir Ensemble performed under the direction of Sofia Shultz. In addition, Iryna and Michael Chaiykyvsky, and sisters Nadiya and Natalka Pavlyshyn with their father, Ihor, performed during the concert program.

Two dance ensembles, the Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Artistic Director Natalie Kapeluck) from Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Carnegie, Pa., and the Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Artistic Director Hryhoriy Momot) from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., Somerset, N.J., dazzled those in attendance. The day concluded with an informative slide presentation on the pictorial history of the Metropolia Center compiled by Natalia Honcharenko.

## NOTES ON PEOPLE

### Winnipeg author receives Queen's Medal



WINNIPEG – Nonagenarian Dr. Michael Ewanchuk (left), author of 12 books on Ukrainian pioneers in Canada, as well as a book on Ukrainian contract workers in Hawaii, was honored recently by being presented the Queen's Medal on the occasion of Queen Elizabeth's 50 years on the British throne. The medal was presented by Lieutenant Governor Peter Liba (right) of Manitoba. Dr. Ewanchuk is currently working on two more books about Ukrainian settlers and pioneers. He is a longtime member of the Ukrainian National Association from Branch 175.

### Photographer gets Fulbright grant

NEWTON, Mass. – Tania D'Avignon of Newton, Mass., a photographer, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to do research at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Kyiv during the 2002-2003 academic year, according to the United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board.

Her photo journalism project "Ukrainian Women in Transition" will depict the changing role of women in Ukraine at the turn of the millennium.

Ms. D'Avignon is one of approximately 800 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad to some 140 countries for the 2002-2003 academic year through the Fulbright Scholarship Program. Established

in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the program's purpose is to build mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries.

The Fulbright Program, America's flagship international educational exchange activity, is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Over its 56 years of existence, thousands of U.S. faculty and professionals have studied, taught or done research abroad, and thousands of their counterparts from other countries have engaged in similar activities in the U.S.

Recipients of Fulbright Scholar awards are elected on the basis of academic or professional achievement and demonstration of extraordinary leadership potential in their fields.

Ms. D'Avignon is a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 55.

*Notes on People is a feature geared toward reporting on the achievements of members of the Ukrainian National Association. All submissions should be concise due to space limitations and must include the person's UNA branch number. Items will be published as soon as possible after their receipt, when space permits.*

### Bohdan Pevny...

(Continued from page 4)

from Ukraine," which was shown at the New Jersey Institute of Technology and subsequently at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York. Mr. Pevny was also responsible for the organization of an exhibit in Ukraine of the graphic works of Jacques Hnizdovsky (1915-1985), held at the National Museum of Fine Arts in Kyiv and at the National Museum in Lviv in 1991. That same year he served as curator and author of the catalogue for a retrospective exhibit of the works of the sculptor Mykhailo Chereshnovsky (1911-1994) held at The Ukrainian Museum in New York.

Since 1984 Mr. Pevny had served as arts editor, and since July 1986 as editor, with literary critic and former dissident and minister of culture of Ukraine, Ivan Dzyuba, of Suchasnist. The journal, a

major forum for writers and artists, as well as cultural and political figures, with a special focus on political and social developments and intellectual life in Ukraine, had been published since 1961 in the West and since 1992 has been coming out in Kyiv.

Mr. Pevny was a full member of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the United States, a member of the Artists' and Writers' unions of Ukraine, and a member of the Association of Journalists of Ukraine.

Funeral services were held at St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in New York on September 12, followed by interment at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

Mr. Pevny is survived by his wife, Khrystyna née Kvasnytsia; daughters, Olenka and Laryssa; and son, Taras, with his wife, Charlotte.



## Why do you need to buy life insurance?

One of the most important purchases you can make for your family is that of life insurance on your life and/or that of your spouse. With the advent of September 11, many families became aware of the vital need to have life insurance. Unfortunately, too many people don't think about life insurance until it is too late.

Life insurance is for the living. After all, once we die, our families go on with their daily lives, paying the mortgage or rent, making car payments, (food and clothing expenses are just the very basics). If your family is financially dependent on you, they rely on you for your paycheck. Life insurance in its most elementary form will replace the income your family can lose through your premature death.

Consider what would happen to your family if they could not pay the rent or mortgage because you are no longer alive to support them? Will they be able to afford to pay the funeral expenses? Who will pay the medical bills? All your financial obligations must be met from the assets you leave behind. Life insurance can help protect your family from unnecessary financial hardships. If you haven't considered life insurance, maybe it's time to consider buying life insurance – not for your sake, but for your family's!

The most important factor in assessing your needs for life insurance is the number of dependents you have or will have – your immediate family, or maybe even your parents, who eventually might depend on you for their income either partially or fully supporting them. Here are a few considerations:

- If you should die, do you want your family to continue living in the same lifestyle?
- Will your spouse be able to support the entire family on his or her income?
- Will your spouse have to quit his/her job to raise the children or have to hire someone to help during working hours?
- If your spouse does not work outside the home, will finding a job be difficult and how long will it take? Will it pay enough to support the family? Who will provide the income in the meantime?
- Would you like to have the mortgage and/or car loan paid off, or pay off your credit card debts if you die?
- Does your family have any special needs, such as a handicapped child who will never be self-supporting?
- Who will pay for your children's college education?

Purchasing the right life insurance can help protect your family's future. The Ukrainian National Association is here to help by providing you and your family with a variety of insurance products. As long as your policy remains in force, your family will be protected. For information on all of the UNA's life insurance products and annuities, contact the Ukrainian National Association Home Office. We want to secure your future by securing your family's future! Call 800-253-9862.

**Christine E. Kozak**  
UNA National Secretary



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# 5K race in Connecticut raises funds for children of Chernobyl

by Alex Kuzma

DANBURY, Conn. – At a time when many Ukrainian churches are in despair over their declining membership and their waning community life, it may be worth taking a closer look at a tiny parish in Danbury, Conn., that has grown in stature and visibility. By setting ambitious goals and intensifying its charitable activities, the parish has experienced a remarkable renaissance that has inspired new confidence in its members and support from the surrounding community.

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, with just 40 families, is located across the street from Western Connecticut State University. In 1996, under the leadership of a young priest, the Rev. Luke Mihaly, and a dynamic parish committee, the parish held a retreat in Lenox, Mass., where the members resolved to “break out into the community” by defying their small numbers and hosting large-scale and highly visible public events.

In evaluating the most popular kind of activity in the Danbury area, the parishioners decided to stage a 5-kilometer road race beginning at the entrance of the church and winding its way through the picturesque streets aligning the WCSU campus.

Over the past six years, the Holy Trinity 5K Road Race has become a popular event in the late summer, drawing hundreds of avid runners from Danbury, Ridgefield and surrounding communities, and guests from as far away as Colorado and Georgia.

Holy Trinity Parish has raised thousands of dollars for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, not only through the road race, but also through benefit concerts, varenyky sales and other innovative projects.

“This has been a real winner for us,”



Some of the winners of the 2002 5K race sponsored by Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Danbury, Conn.

says the Rev. Mihaly. “It has absolutely sparked a lot of interest in our community and has also drawn us into the mainstream of community life here in the Danbury area.”

The ongoing six-year campaign for the Children of Chernobyl has mobilized hundreds of volunteers from various age groups and from many cultural backgrounds, including Irish, Brazilian, Puerto Rican, Greek and Italian. The campaign has also attracted extensive news coverage in the Danbury News-

Times, The Ukrainian Weekly, America and other publications.

The most recent race was held on Ukrainian Independence Day, August 24, with a field of 115 runners, as young as 12 and as old as 73. The organizing committee, led by Jim Zeleniak, secured corporate sponsorships from Wachovia Securities, Evian Water, the Colorado Brewery and Steak House, Joseph A. Bank Clothiers and The Ashford Group.

This year’s winner was Danbury resident Sergio Ribeiro, who finished the course in 15 minutes, 28 seconds, (roughly at the pace of 5-minute miles). Mr. Ribeiro was 30 seconds off his course record of 14:58 set in 1998, but he was suffering from an inflamed foot that required a cortisone shot earlier in the week. The overall winner in the women’s field was Kathy Kost who finished in 22:02.

Holy Trinity Parish has now become a part of the fabric of community life in Danbury. The church’s support for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund has re-energized its membership and the road

race has spawned a whole slew of new activities.

“We are averaging one major activity per month,” said the Rev. Mihaly, “and the visibility and good will that this has generated has led to generous contributions to the construction of our new church in the Danbury area.” He added “Each year, the entire parish takes part in a retreat to reassess its goals and strategy and to revitalize its spiritual life.”

Considering the size of this parish and how much it has accomplished in the past six years, the Holy Trinity Orthodox Church has begun to resemble the “Little Engine That Could” – a church community that could defy the odds by recognizing the potential of each of its members.

For more information on the Holy Trinity community campaign, please contact the Rev. Mihaly, (203) 748-0671. To make a tax-deductible contribution to the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, please write to CCRF, 272 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, NJ 07078, or call (973) 376-5140.

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Svoboda	December 13	December 2
The Weekly	December 29	December 2
Svoboda	December 27	December 2

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## Tryzubivka complex hosts annual fall tennis tournament

HORSHAM, Pa. The last Ukrainian tennis tournament of the 2002 season was held during the fall weekend of October 5-6 at Tryzubivka in Horsham, Pa. This event, USO Tryzub's 15th annual Fall Tennis Tournament, was played in the men's singles group only with a full feed-in competition.

Pavlo Rehulyk emerged as the tournament winner when, in the final round, he defeated George Sawchak by the score of 6-3, 6-2. Mr. Rehulyk advanced to the finals with score of 6-4, 1-0. Ihor Buhaj

had to withdraw from the semifinal due to an injury. Mr. Sawchak advanced to the finals with a 6-2, 6-2 win over Jerry Tymkiw. In the feed-in final Mr. Tymkiw defeated Walter Dziwak 6-3, 6-3, thus taking third place in the tournament. The complete tournament play consisted of 13 individual matches.

At the conclusion of the tournament, trophies were presented to winner, finalist and feed-in finalists by Mr. Sawchak, tournament director.



At Tryzub's 15th annual Fall Tennis Tournament (from left) are: Pavlo Rehulyk, Walter Dziwak, George Sawchak and Jerry Tymkiw with their trophies during the closing ceremonies.



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# NATO downgrades...

(Continued from page 1)

to the NATO decision when Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko put in doubt the presence of any sort of Ukrainian delegation at the Prague Summit. He said on October 31 that a review of Ukraine's involvement will take place before a decision was made.

"We withhold a decision on whether to attend the NATO Summit in order to determine the substance of the discussions and the documents to be signed. [The documents] must be such that they will give us assurance that our continued relations with NATO take on a new quality," explained Mr. Zlenko.

The Ukrainian foreign minister emphasized that Ukraine has no intention of changing its path toward European integration. He also underscored that Ukraine hoped for continued excellent relations with NATO once the current crisis passes.

Mr. Zlenko blamed the United States, and not NATO as a whole, for pulling back the invitation to President Kuchma and identified Washington's political motives as the single reason for Ukraine's current situation.

"We hope the misunderstanding between the U.S. and Ukraine has a temporary character," stated Mr. Zlenko. "We understand that this is the result of a short-sighted, misguided, unclear policy."

Earlier in the day, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine released a statement in which it said that Ukraine is an important European country that "cannot be the object of manipulation."

Political experts here increasingly

believe that there is a new Washington policy to politically isolate President Kuchma. That view gained considerable support after news was leaked to The Washington Post columnist Jim Hoagland of the upcoming move. Mr. Hoagland wrote in an October 27 article that "Leonid Kuchma is about to be dis-invited from a high-profile ceremony that was to be held on the edge of the Prague NATO summit," and that "[President George] Bush should call for a unified effort by NATO's 19 member-nations to single out Kuchma - evidently personally responsible for the illegal sale - for diplomatic isolation."

U.S. Congressman Bob Schaffer of Colorado, a co-chairman of the Ukrainian Caucus, followed a day later with a personal letter to President Bush in which he strongly suggested that, "Under the circumstance, isolation of the president and his associates, while improving relations with other Ukrainian officials, is the only logical diplomatic course for the United States."

The action by the North Atlantic Council came just after President Kuchma stated - as if he new what was coming - while on a visit to Lithuania, that he was not prepared to travel to the Prague summit to defend his own actions or Ukrainian policy. He suggested that if Ukraine was to be the focus of a political attack instead of constructive dialogue then it would be better that he stay home.

The president's comments came as a Ukraine-NATO organizational meeting in Yalta came to a close. The two sides had continued to plan and discuss the upcoming November meeting and the new agreements to be signed.

# Lviv boy...

(Continued from page 3)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs said during a news briefing that it did not believe the actions of the terrorists at the Moscow theater in anyway could be connected to the military struggle occurring in Chechnya.

"We differentiate the terrorist action from the demands and the desires of the Chechen people," explained State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Yuriy Sergeyev.

The number of Ukrainians believed taken hostage fluctuated throughout the three-day crisis, ranging from 32 to 42 persons. Evidently Ukraine's Embassy in Moscow initially determined some of the individuals to be Ukrainian although they had already taken Russian citizenship since arriving in the country. Another reason for the difficulty in assessing the number was that several Russian hostages hid their passports and claimed they were Ukrainians when contact was initially made with the hostages via their cell phones.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ukrainians and Western hostages were kept apart from the Russians in separate rooms, which is the reason mostly Russians died as a result of the gas attack.

The Ukrainian government did not allow journalists access to the hostages after their release and the return of some to Kyiv. Mr. Marchuk, who escorted the first four hostages on a flight from Moscow to Boryspil Airport, told waiting news reporters that the individuals had left the airport by another route.

"They need to be with their families, with their mothers and fathers. They do not need to be retelling and reliving the terror," explained Mr. Marchuk.

Several Ukrainian national deputies who have a close relationship with Chechen freedom fighters flew to Moscow on the second day of the crisis to attempt to free some of the hostages after Ukraine's

ambassador to Russia, Mykola Biloblotskyi received word that the terrorists might be ready to release Ukrainians. The three Ukrainian lawmakers, Taras Chornovil and Refat Chubarov of the Our Ukraine faction and Andrii Shkil of the Tymoshenko faction, ended up sitting on the sidelines after the terrorists decided they had already released enough hostages.

Ukraine has assigned psychiatrists to care for the 37 survivors who came out of the theater and has allocated each of them a \$500 stipend for new clothes and immediate needs, as well as a paid flight back to Ukraine. The Russian government also said it would compensate all the former hostages and the families of the deceased. That will include 13-year-old Kyrylo, either the unluckiest person alive, or, as most would agree, the luckiest.

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## THE SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

THE MATHEMATICS-PHYSICS-TECHNICAL SECTION  
will hold its meeting, open to the public, at 3:00 p.m.  
on November 9, 2002.

### Presentations:

3:00-3:30 – **Lyudmyla Barannyk** (New Jersey Institute of Technology)  
“The Effect of Surface Tension on Fully Nonlinear  
Capillary-Gravity Waves of Bounded two fluid systems”

3:30-4:00 – **Oleh Tretiak** (Drexel University) “Finding the True Law in  
Image Alignment”

4:00-4:30 – **Orest Popovych**, Brooklyn College (professor emeritus)  
“Impressions From the Conference on the Problems of Ukrainian  
Terminology “SlovoSvit 2002” Held in Lviv, September 24-26, 2002”  
\* \* \*

A NEW CENTER OF UKRAINIAN STUDIES AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
5:00 p.m. A Roundtable on the Establishment of a Center of Ukrainian Studies at Columbia  
University.

Participants: **Mark von Hagen** (Columbia University), Head of the International Association of  
Ukrainianists, **Larissa Onyshkevych**, President of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, **Anna Procyk**, Vice-  
President of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, and **Roman Procyk**, Head of the Ukrainian Studies Fund.

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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

### Saturday, November 2

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, New York Metropolitan Chapter, in cooperation with the Self Reliance Association of American Ukrainians, New York Branch will hold a community-based medical lecture at 2 p.m., with two featured speakers. Dr. Olha O'Quinn will address the topic “Treating Diabetes with Dietary Interventions” and Dr. Alex Latyshevsky will speak on “Urological Problems.” The event will take place at 98 Second Ave. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. For further information call Dr. Ihor Magun, (516) 766-5147.

### Monday, November 4

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass.:** The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will host a lecture by Igor Torbakov, consultant/analyst for Eurasianet, Open Society Institute, and Visiting Shklar Fellow at Harvard. His lecture, “Reflections of Russian Emigré Thinkers on Soviet National Policies in the 1920s-1930s,” will be presented at 4-6 p.m. in the Seminar Room at the institute. Directions to the institute can be found at the website <http://www.huri.harvard.edu>, or you may call (617) 495-4053 for further information.

### Friday, November 8

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Art and Literary Club invites the public to “Five Contemporary Artists from Ukraine,” an exhibit organized by ArtFire.com in collaboration with Mayana Gallery. Featured artists include Volodymyr Kostyrko, Oleh Denysenko, Yuriy Lesiuk, Nataliya Pukhinda and Serhiy Bratkovsky. The opening reception begins at 7 p.m. with introductory remarks by Mr. Bratkovsky. The exhibit will run through November 17. Mayana Gallery is located at 136 Second Avenue (between Eighth and Ninth streets), fourth floor. Gallery hours: Friday, 6-8 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 1-5 p.m. For more information call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144; visit the website [www.brama.com/mayana](http://www.brama.com/mayana); or e-mail [ukrartlitclub@aol.com](mailto:ukrartlitclub@aol.com).

### Saturday, November 9

**CHICAGO:** The Ukrainian Institute of

Modern Art presents an evening with poet Yuriy Tarnawsky, who will read from his collection of selected prose, “Ne Znayu” at 7 p.m. The institute is located at 2320 W. Chicago Ave. For more information call (773) 227-5522.

### Saturday, November 16

**EAST HANOVER, N.J.:** The parish community of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church of Whippany, N.J., invites all to a gala benefit banquet and dance at the Ramada Hotel, 130 Route 10 (westbound). The evening begins with cocktails (cash bar) at 6 p.m.; followed by dinner at 7 p.m., an official program at 8:30 p.m. and a dance to the music of the Luna Orchestra at 9:30 p.m. Donation is \$100 per person for the banquet and dance; student tickets for the dance only, \$25. All proceeds will benefit the new St. John Church and Cultural Center. Reservations are requested by no later than November 10; call Chris, (973) 983-0636, or Nadia, (973) 347-9922.

**PITTSBURGH:** The Ukrainian Technological Society invites the public to its 33rd annual dinner/dance at which the society will honor Bohdan Hryshchynshyn as its 2002 Ukrainian of the Year. The dinner/dance will be held at the University Club in the Oakland Section of Pittsburgh. For information and reservations, contact Ihor Havryluk, (412) 798-1391 or Debra Walenchok, (412) 276-4007.

### Saturday-Sunday, November 16-17

**NEW YORK:** The Hollywood Trident Foundation will continue its series of interviews with survivors of the 1933 Genocide in Ukraine at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. Anyone knowing survivors in the New York area is asked to contact UIA President Walter Nazarewicz, (212) 288-8660, to schedule an appointment to be interviewed. Interviews, in either Ukrainian or English, will be digitally video recorded. In view of ongoing efforts by historical revisionists to deny the occurrence of the Famine-Genocide, the foundation urges all survivors who are physically able to come and record their experiences as living witnesses to this most traumatic and horrific event in Ukrainian and human history.

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per listing) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community.

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long; longer submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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