



**ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ! CHRIST IS BORN!**

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## Ukrainian Church leaders release Christmas messages

*Religious Information Service of Ukraine*

LIVIV – Hierarchs of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate (UOC-KP), the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC), the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church (UAOC) and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP) have released their Christmas addresses for 2002-2003 to the faithful.

Patriarch Filaret (Denysenko) of the UOC-KP stated that Christmas is not only a folkloric tradition connected with carols or merely a historical event, but an event of tremendous importance. In his Christmas address, Patriarch Filaret stressed the significance of the spiritual birth of a person in the holy sacrament of baptism, for which one needs faith.

“The lack of faith in God leads people to stop trusting each other, both in their families and in society. Hence, there are various divisions and confrontations ... As a result of mistrust and egoism, numerous instances of social and economic evil begin to manifest themselves, from which the Ukrainian people and state suffer. Peace and accord haven't been achieved even between Churches. Instead of living in Christian love, quite a few Christians sow the seeds of hatred and feud. Because of this, for 10 years now we have failed to establish a single national Orthodox Church in Ukraine. There are many reasons for the instability and various other problems in our country, but the major ones are the lack of spirituality and neglected democracy,” reads the statement of Patriarch Filaret.

Cardinal Lubomyr Husar of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church emphasized that everything the Lord does has one single basis and reason: love. “The Christmas season should become an opportunity for us to understand this truth and to make the conclusion that all our thoughts, decisions, actions, beginning from the conception of a new life, the birth and upbringing of a child, and concluding in various events of our adult life – all this should have the very same basis. In all spheres of human activity, education, culture, politics, economics, love, the desire for the good of our neighbor should become the dominant element.”

“People who turn their gaze only on earthly goods and focus on their own comfort laugh at such thoughts. They consider them childish, immature, unrealistic. This is why such petty concerns rule in our world,” reads the statement of Cardinal Husar.

The cardinal also mentioned another important period that begins with this holy feast: the Year of the Family, announced by the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and the international organization UNESCO.

“The theme of family life has been relevant from the beginning of the existence of the human race, and in our time it needs particular attention. The Intereparchial Commission on Family Issues has prepared

a great program, a part of which will be conducted this year. Other points of the plan will be continued in future years,” he stated.

“The goal of this program is to deepen our awareness of the holiness and majesty of family life, to support everything that is good and healthy, and to help overcome whatever harms normal family relations. It is important that these activities, in particular the appropriate preparation for married life, care for young families, and the teaching about the Christian family, become part of the life of our Church and our people for many years to come,” noted Cardinal Husar.

UAOC Archbishop Ihor Isichenko of Kharkiv and Poltava pointed out that only when people discover the presence of Jesus in their lives, which are full of misery and sorrow, can they understand the three wise men who noticed the light from the Bethlehem star amidst the gloom of night.

“This year, Christmas festivities in Ukraine are marred by a deep social crisis. Forlorn hopes, heinous conflicts and disturbing anticipations discourage and depress the Ukrainian people. Millions of Ukrainians abandon their native land, because they can see no bright prospects for their future at home. General apathy governs among those who stay,” reads the statement of Archbishop Ihor.

Archbishop Isichenko urged the faithful: “So, let us prepare our souls for the advent of Jesus Christ. Having endured the disgrace of servile dependence on human power, let us pray for the gift of freedom. Having experienced the grave consequences of a weak spirit and apathy, let us prepare ourselves to serve Jesus Christ all around the world through the implementation of the evangelical ideal in our daily lives.

“Let us protect the purity of Christ's Church from the dirtiness of human drawbacks, as well as from the takeover by cynical criminals. Let us prepare to follow our Savior bravely to the promised kingdom of God, where evangelical love will govern,” he stated.

Metropolitan Volodymyr (Sabodan) of the UOC-MP called Christmas “the beginning of a new communication between God and human beings.”

“Every person should create a spiritual world in his heart and soul,” he said. “But in our secularized world the Old Testament law ‘an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth’ remains valid.”

According to Metropolitan Volodymyr, the Christian calling is to break the fetters of sin. “Celebrating Christmas, we should be filled with the peace of Jesus Christ. If love governs our hearts, the peace of Jesus Christ will govern our families, society and the whole world. We should explain this to our children and youth,” reads the statement of the UOC-MP metropolitan.

“Today, we are looking into the future

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## Rada adopts money-monitoring provisions in hopes of avoiding international sanctions

by Yarema A. Bachynsky

*Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – In a move that is likely to keep Ukraine's economic fat away from the fire of potentially tough economic sanctions, Parliament on December 24 adopted a series of amendments to the recently passed anti-money laundering law that had been deemed substandard by the Financial Action Task Force, the international body charged by its 30 member-countries with battling the worldwide movement of funds obtained from illegal activities such as narcotics trafficking, arms smuggling, as well as those destined for terrorists.

With 396 “ayes,” the vote represented record approval for substantive legislation of this kind, according to the Parliament newspaper *Holos Ukrainy* (Voice of Ukraine).

The decision to comply with FATF requirements was made after that organization announced on December 20 that it was recommending its members adopt tough controls on transactions with Ukrainian banks – measures that could include the closure of correspondent bank accounts in FATF countries as well as warnings to potential investors about alleged additional risks of doing business with Ukraine.

President Leonid Kuchma praised the Rada's action at a press conference on December 25, although he added that the national deputies were, in his opinion, too slow adopting what he called crucial changes, and that, as a result Ukrainian enterprises might nonetheless feel the pinch of sanctions from some FATF member-countries.

The amendments adopted require banking institutions to monitor “questionable” transactions, which include international wire transfers in amounts of \$50,000 or more. Banks will also be required to notify a central financial monitoring body, as well as other law enforcement organizations, on demand, of such questionable and other transactions.

Such measures had been vehemently opposed by many opposition deputies, who claimed that their adoption would give the government additional mechanisms to meddle with the legitimate business activities of enterprises whose owners are supportive of such political forces as Our Ukraine, led by Viktor Yushchenko, former prime minister and likely 2004 presidential contender.

On December 19, the day before the FATF announced its sanction recommendation, Mr. Yushchenko had said his caucus would not support the proposed changes because of the potential for abuse by state authorities. During debate on the draft amendments, Our Ukraine Deputy Serhii Teriokhin, in voicing his opposition to the bill, said he thought the likelihood the United States and other FATF members would actually impose sanctions should Parliament fail to adopt the measures was

minute.

However, other Our Ukraine deputies, including banker Viktor Kapustin of the Finance and Banking Committee, had implored their colleagues for weeks on end to adopt the FATF-required measures. Pro-presidential deputies were generally in favor of the proposed provisions all along during the debate, which was at one point frozen for several days as the nine majority factions and the opposition four dueled for control of committee chairmanships and over the fate of Volodymyr Stelmakh, now ex-chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine and a Yushchenko ally.

Local analysts generally agreed that the likelihood of actual enactment of specific sanctions by FATF member-countries would have, at worst, a limited effect on the Ukrainian economy, insofar as that body is likely to review the sanction issue at its upcoming meeting in February. How the enacted amendments work as a matter of practice will become apparent quickly as well, and their enforcement is sure to be monitored closely by interested parties, both international and local.

### Ukraine's population: 48,416,000

KYIV – According to preliminary data from the 2001 nationwide census in Ukraine, as published in *Uriadovyi Kurier*, the official newspaper of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the population of Ukraine as of December 5, 2001, numbered 48,416,000 people.

The size of Ukraine's urban population as of one year ago was 32,538,000, while the population of rural regions totaled 15,878,000. Thus, urban dwellers made up 67 percent and rural dwellers, 33 percent of the total population.

The population of Ukraine was composed of 25,941,000 women, or 54 percent of the total population, and 22,475,000 men or 46 percent.

The total number of cities in Ukraine on the day of the census was 454. Of these, 37 had populations ranging from 100,000 to 500,000 people, nine cities numbered more than half a million residents, and five of the latter had more than 1 million residents. The population of the city of Kyiv was recorded as 2.6 million.

Detailed data from the 2001 nationwide census for Ukraine as a whole and for each administrative-territorial unit – i.e., the distribution of population by sex, age, ethnic origin, language, education, family status, size of household, standard of living, and other indicators specified in the program for elaborating the census results – were to be released in December 2002.



## ANALYSIS

## Ukrainian lawmakers release findings on crime and corruption

by Roman Kupchinsky

RFE/RL Crime and Corruption Watch

On December 2, 2002, the head of the parliamentary committee on Combating Organized Crime and Corruption, Volodymyr Stretovich, released a report on the state of criminality and corruption in Ukraine. The report was reprinted, with minor deletions, in the newspaper *Ukrayina Moloda* on December 5, 2002.

The paper noted that, traditionally, this committee has been headed by a member of the opposition. Now, however, the pro-presidential majority in the Verkhovna Rada has decided to change the committee leadership. As a result, Oleksander Bandurko of the Democratic Initiatives party is slated to become the new chairman.

The report notes that the committee in its present composition was able to work for less than six months. From the very start, the report states, most of the letters it received were from citizens asking that they be protected from state law-enforcement agencies. It is those agencies, in the view of the committee, that are among the most corrupt entities in Ukraine. They, along with the Department for Combating Organized Crime (DCOC), are the root of the problem, the report concludes. Not one case of organized criminal activity initiated by the DCOC in recent years has gone to court, it notes.

Citing fact-finding trips to various

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regions of Ukraine, the report found that criminal organizations were able to operate in the open in every region of the country. The reason for this, the report states, is that law-enforcement agencies do not hamper their activities – and in fact are often in league with the criminals.

The report cites a case in the city of Kryvyi Rih, where a police investigator was forced to turn to the committee for help in trying to solve the murder of his son because police colleagues refused to work on the case. The report also mentions the case of Ihor Aleksandrov, a television journalist from the Luhansk Oblast who was murdered after exposing widespread corruption within the local DCOC. Mr. Aleksandrov's killers still have not been found.

In the past year, not one organized criminal group with ties to local corrupt officials has been uncovered in 12 regions of Ukraine. In nine regions, fewer than three cases were discovered. The vast majority of "organized-crime" organizations uncovered by police consist of small groups of two to three people engaged in burglary and petty crime.

Yet, the report continues, the statistics provided by Ukraine's Interior Affairs Ministry distort the situation. For instance: "In the past year, 627 organized criminal groups were uncovered" is a meaningless piece of information without further explanation of their structures. Court statistics cited in the report

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## Ukraine's virtual struggle against corruption, organized crime

by Taras Kuzio

RFE/RL Crime and Corruption Watch

Ukraine's paradox is that it has a record of committees and legislation, decrees and resolutions that have all ostensibly dealt with corruption and organized crime. If legislation and committees are in place then why is there little or no progress in combating corruption and organized crime in post-Soviet Ukraine?

Nearly a decade of experience under such measures suggests that only small-time offenders and politically disloyal individuals have been targeted.

Vasyl Onopenko and Serhii Holovatyi understood the gap between official declarations and the lack of official commitment to the struggle against corruption and organized crime. Both resigned as minister of justice, a post they occupied, respectively, between November 1991 and August 1995 and September 1995 and August 1997. Both were subsequently elected to the current Parliament as members of the radical, anti-presidential Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

An uncompromising struggle against corruption and organized crime was first announced by then Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma in December 1992. With little privatization under President

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Leonid Kravchuk (1991-1994), the main avenues for corruption and organized crime lay in Soviet asset-stripping and large profits on the gap between low domestic and high international prices for raw materials and energy.

In November 1993 the Coordinating Committee to Struggle Against Corruption and Organized Crime was established and chaired by President Kravchuk. That coordinating committee has been in place ever since, although its effectiveness leaves much to be desired. The first legislation to deal with corruption and organized crime was adopted on October 5, 1995. In April 1997 the categories that were classified as liable to corruption charges were expanded to include parliamentary deputies and local officials.

During the 1994 presidential campaign, Mr. Kuchma promised to struggle against corruption and reduce the size of the shadow economy, which already represented about 50 percent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP). Eight years later and as the end of President Kuchma's second term in office approaches, the size of the shadow economy remains the same, according to Minister of Internal Affairs Yuriy Smirnov and Tax Administration chief Mykola Azarov. A presidential decree based on a January 25, 2001, National Security and Defense Council resolution was adopted to "eliminate" the shadow economy.

A large shadow economy means that a

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Judge protests cancellation of probe

KYIV – Kyiv Court of Appeals judge Yuriy Vasylenko told journalists on December 28 that a Supreme Court ruling canceling his decision to open criminal investigations against President Leonid Kuchma violates the Constitution and criminal-procedure legislation in the country, the *Ukrainska Pravda* website reported on December 28. "Basically, it was impossible in any way to cancel the probes ordered by me because current legislation does not provide for a legal possibility of their cancellation, and all really qualified and impartial lawyers have come to this conclusion," Judge Vasylenko said. In October, the judge opened a criminal case against President Kuchma in connection with charges by opposition lawmakers that he violated 11 articles of the Criminal Code. The illegal activity included Mr. Kuchma's alleged involvement in the sale of military technology to Iraq and the murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze. (RFE/RL Newline)

### Probe into Iran air crash ordered

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has called for an investigation into the crash of a Ukrainian Antonov-140 in Iran on December 23 that killed 44 people on board, most of them engineers and executives from Ukraine's Kharkiv aircraft plant, the *Financial Times* reported on December 27. The aircraft crashed into a mountainside while approaching Isfahan airport. The Ukrainian aviation specialists were expected to attend the maiden flight of the Iran-140, a version of the Antonov-140, built under license in Iran. (RFE/RL Newline)

### Kuchma signs money laundering bill

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on December 27 signed a bill aimed at helping to fight money laundering, UNIAN and the Associated Press reported. A week earlier the Verkhovna Rada had passed amendments to a previously approved law to combat dirty money,

introducing stricter requirements on identifying account holders and giving government agencies broader rights to monitor suspicious accounts. The Parliament's action followed a decision by the Paris-based Financial Action Task Force to impose sanctions against Ukraine. Legislators also gave tentative approval to a bill introducing fines and prison terms of up to 15 years for those convicted of money laundering. (RFE/RL Newline)

### Opposition to appeal protesters' sentences

KYIV – The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc in the Ukrainian Parliament is collecting signatures for an appeal against a verdict handed down on December 25 to members of the Ukrainian National Assembly-Ukrainian National Self-Defense (UNA-UNSO) who were accused of provoking riots during an anti-presidential protest in Kyiv in March 2001, the UNIAN news service reported on December 27. A district court in Kyiv sentenced 14 UNA-UNSO members to prison terms of between two and five years, while four others received two-year suspended sentences. Ms. Tymoshenko said her caucus demands that a probe be launched into the "brutal behavior of the court," which, she added, made its ruling under an obsolete Criminal Code. (RFE/RL Newline)

### Parliament passes 2003 budget

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on December 26 voted 348 to 37, with three abstentions, to adopt a deficit budget for 2003, UNIAN and the Associated Press reported. The bill sets revenues at 50.02 billion hrv (\$9.38 billion) and expenditures at 52 billion hrv, representing nearly a 4 percent deficit. The budget assumes that Ukraine's foreign debt will not exceed \$8.59 billion by the end of 2003. Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich has described the budget as "socially oriented." The Communist Party caucus boycotted the vote, saying the budget's social outlays are insufficient. (RFE/RL Newline)

## Newspaper attacks U.S. ambassador

KYIV – The Kyiv-based Russian-language newspaper 2000 published an article attacking the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, Carlos Pascual, for interfering in Ukraine's internal affairs. The BBC Monitoring Service reported that the article, written in reaction to the ambassador's December 12 address to university students in Kyiv (see page 3 for Part I

of the speech's text), cited Ambassador Pascual's "insensitive" remarks on Ukrainian politics and his attempt to capitalize on "unsubstantiated" accusations of illegal arms trade against Ukraine.

In the December 20 article in the pro-Kuchma weekly newspaper, Oleksander Holychev wrote: "His inspired Latino

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## FOR THE RECORD: Ambassador Pascual's address at European University

Following is the text of an address by Ambassador Carlos Pascual to representatives of non-state educational institutions, rectors of Kyiv universities and faculty and students of the European University delivered on December 12.

### PART I

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. I am pleased to join this gathering of people dedicated to helping the young people of Ukraine prepare for their futures, and for the future of their country. In the audience there are rectors, professors, professors and other staff members from both state and non-state educational institutions.

Some of you represent institutions with long and proud histories. Others are from brand new institutions that came into being after independence to fill the demand for new educational opportunities. You have the most important job in your nation – preparing your next generation for the enormous challenges ahead. The future of Ukraine literally depends on you. I want you to know that the United States has been and always will be Ukraine's friend as you strive to realize the dream of a democratic, prosperous, sovereign and secure Ukraine, fully integrated into the Euro-Atlantic community.

Since Ukraine regained its independence in 1991, the United States has worked with the government and people of Ukraine to help you make the changes needed for Ukraine to move forward, in its economy, its political system and its civil society. We are ready to be Ukraine's partner. But no external support can substitute for the actions Ukraine takes internally to define its future.

The standards for Euro-Atlantic integration are clear. Virtually all of Ukraine's neighbors are rising to these standards. Only Ukraine can decide whether to follow a similar course. Indeed, the choices made by Ukraine will fundamentally determine Ukraine's relationships with the United States, its European neighbors and NATO. It is in this context that I would like to review relations between the United States and Ukraine.

### Eleven years of friendship

The United States was one of the first countries to begin diplomatic relations, open an embassy and offer needed economic and humanitarian assistance after Ukraine's independence in 1991. Ukraine mattered – not only because more than one million Americans trace their roots to Ukraine – but because of Ukraine's size, economic potential and strategic location in Europe. Knowing Ukraine's tragic history, we strongly believed that Ukraine deserved as much support as possible from the world community now that it had achieved its cherished independence. I remember how, in 1991, millions of Ukrainians joined hands across your country, symbolizing your commitment to freedom. Your civic action made world history.

It is important to recall some facts about the U.S.-Ukrainian relationship. The United States is the largest bilateral donor in Ukraine. American companies are the largest foreign investors. Our support for grassroots dialogue between Ukrainians and Americans is unprecedented: the United States has sponsored academic and professional exchange programs that have enabled over 25,000 Ukrainians to study or have professional visits in the United States, and these programs continue at the rate of more than 2,000 per year.

The United States is the strongest supporter of small business development in Ukraine, as well as the largest and most active donor in the agricultural sector. We are intensely involved in energy issues, such as helping Ukraine make the Odesa-Brody pipeline a commercial reality. We have close and active military-to-military ties; indeed, Ukraine's bilateral military cooperation with the United States is more extensive than with any other country. Our support is focused on helping Ukraine become more secure, more prosperous and more democratic. It is completely consistent with the stated goals of the Ukrainian state.

As many of you know first-hand, Americans and Ukrainians are working together to help build civil society, strengthen education, develop the capaci-

***The dividing lines of the past are being relegated to history. Yet sadly, at this historic moment, the gap between Ukraine and its Euro-Atlantic aspirations has only grown larger.***

ty of local self-government, and to try to solve such difficult problems as the spread of HIV/AIDS and the illegal trafficking of persons. Let me say a few words about illegal trafficking in persons and the threat of HIV/AIDS, since young people, the people who are in your care, are particularly vulnerable. Secretary of State Colin Powell has highlighted these issues as national security issues for the world; by destroying the lives of our cherished young people they put our own future at risk. I hope you will use your leadership positions to educate and protect your students from such horrors. They deserve the opportunities before them.

Indeed, Ukrainians and Americans now have unprecedented opportunities to know each other better. Today there are ties that would have been unimaginable only a decade ago: sister cities, university partnerships, community partnerships, school partnerships, as well as thousands of professional and personal relationships between individuals.

### Another historic choice

It is in the context of opportunity that Ukraine faces another historic choice: integration with the Euro-Atlantic community. European security after World War II was characterized by dividing lines that framed five decades of global politics. Our challenge today is to tear down those dividing lines, and one-by-one nations are stepping up to this challenge.

On November 21, NATO invited seven nations to become new members. The European Union is opening its door to 10 new members. Europe is expanding. The dividing lines of the past are being relegated to history. Yet sadly, at this historic moment, the gap between Ukraine and its Euro-Atlantic aspirations has only grown larger.

To be sure, on May 23 Ukraine declared that it sought eventual full membership with the Euro-Atlantic community. But as Ukraine's neighbors to the West aggressively tackled political and economic reforms, at best Ukraine has stood still.

Some would argue Ukraine has moved backwards. Some of the reasons for the growing gap between Ukraine and its neighbors are understandable. For the first three months of this year, Ukraine

prepared for parliamentary elections. It took almost another two months to select the Rada's leadership. Even now in December, the strength of the majority remains to be tested. All year, the government worked under a cloud of uncertainty. Now a new government must define and advance its agenda.

But in a broader European context, the result has been clear. As Ukraine's neighbors vied to demonstrate their adherence to the Euro-Atlantic community's political, economic and security standards, policy reform in Ukraine lost a full year to internal politics.

The economic policy agenda facing Ukraine is well-known to the Ukrainian government and the Parliament. In many ways, the credibility of the next generation of political leaders is at stake. In

domestic concern. We agree. The right of a people to speak out through a free press is a hallmark of a democratic society. If Ukrainian officials do not abide by this standard, their calls for Euro-Atlantic integration will ring hollow – a facade of words devoid of meaning.

Ukrainians themselves share this concern. According to a recent poll by the Razumkov Center, nearly three-quarters of all Ukrainians think there is political censorship in Ukraine. Three-quarters of Ukrainians believe that media are not able to air or print critical stories about criminal clans, while more than 70 percent think stories critical of the presidential administration will have negative consequences for media outlets.

Some in Ukraine argue that censorship cannot exist if one can see criticism of Ukrainian authorities in the media. This is not the standard for press freedom embodied by the Council of Europe and the OSCE, nor is it the standard that Ukraine has adopted as its own. Article 34 of the Ukrainian Constitution states that: "Everyone is guaranteed the right to freedom of thought and speech, and to the free expression of his or her views and beliefs." The Council of Europe's Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, which Ukraine ratified in 1997, similarly states in Article 10 that: "Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers..."

To be clear: the standard adopted by Ukraine is non-interference, not whether the authorities are criticized in the press.

To be sure, the murders of high-profile journalists such as Heorhii Gongadze and Ihor Alexandrov have cast a pall over the media sector. But, as the Rada hearings on free speech on December 4 made clear, the constraints on the media are even broader and more current. Let me cite some examples. So-called "temnyky," acknowledged by all and admitted to by none, told media what to cover and what not to cover prior to demonstrations in September. Broadcast stations have been told not to show specific news clips because they contained the wrong message. Centrally sponsored videotapes are regularly sent to national and regional

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## Newspaper attacks...

(Continued from page 2)

eyes resembled ripe olives. He was not just speaking, he was preaching like the best Protestant missionaries do. He was persuading the audience by emotions rather than logic. The speaker did not doubt that the audience should accept his every word as if it were a message from heaven. As usual, there could be no denying what he said. He was speaking as not just 'a participant of the domestic political process,' but as if he were one of its key elements determining the whole future development of the Ukrainian state."

Noting that the U.S. envoy touched upon such issues as political and economic reform, the writer went on to state:

"According to every diplomatic regulation, starting from the Vienna convention of 1815, he should not have said this. The change of cabinet or tax issues are beyond his competence. His remit is to represent the interests of his and only his own country in a foreign state, not to preach on us about ways of development

of our economy.

"But one can look at this also from a different angle. Maybe by doing so he defended the interests of his country, which is drowning in excess manufacture and capital and which, according to Karl Marx (the bearded classic of Communism was a rather smart economist), needs to expand its markets through diplomatic pressure or even through direct aggression."

Referring to the ambassador's mention "for an umpteenth time" of the Kolchuha issue, Mr. Holychev wrote: "Unfortunately, in his speech Pascual failed to substantiate the U.S. accusations against Ukraine (not for the first time!). The only argument was the notorious major's [Mykola Melnychenko's] recordings ..."

The article went on to criticize Ambassador Pascual's references to civil society and freedom of the press, and to mock America's purported superiority in those realms.

Finally, the author of the article suggested that "it is time for the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry to consider at least a protest note."



## Sister Miriam Claire, former president of Manor College, honored on her 50th jubilee

FOX CHASE MANOR, Pa. – Pope John Paul II once commented that “a sense of mission is at the very heart of every form of consecrated life.” For some, that mission is modest and unidirectional. For others it is a series of large and small goals within the larger framework of a life dedicated to serving God through multi-faceted service to community.

One individual who has truly embodied this broader sense of mission is Sister Miriam Claire Kowal. In a very moving 50th jubilee celebration held on Saturday, November 16, 2002, at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great, tribute was paid to this indefatigable member of their community, recalling and extolling the optimism and enthusiasm that has enabled sister to extend Christ’s presence into the world and make it a better place.

Born in Auburn, N.Y., in 1935 to Michael and Justine Orysyk Kowal, Sister Miriam Claire entered religious life at the age of 17. The multiple focus of her life’s mission began to evolve within the long-established educational tradition of the Order of St. Basil the Great. She earned a B.A. and a master’s in Education from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and spent several years as a teacher at St. George School in New York City. In 1995 sister’s mission took her to Canada, where she earned a Certificate of University Studies in Theology, with a specialty in Eastern Christian Studies, from St. Paul University in Ottawa.

From 1962 to 1972 she served as director of admissions and registrar at Manor

Junior College; from 1972 to 1976 she served as the school’s Academic Dean. Always eager to do more than fulfill the minimum requirements of any task assigned to her, Sister Miriam Claire excelled in her work, inspiring those around her to reach for greater goals and dream greater visions.

As president of Manor College (1976-1985), she prompted several new initiatives to make the college better known and more competitive with other institutions of higher learning in the Philadelphia area. While at Fox Chase she sought and achieved new goals to augment and enhance her sense of mission. Among these was a desire to promote, preserve, and perpetuate Ukrainian culture, values and traditions, and to this end, she worked with Dr. Ivan Skalchuk, Dr. Stefania Pushkar and Sister Dia M. Stasiuk to establish the Ukrainian Heritage Studies Center. The center has grown and flourished over the years, and bears further witness to Sister Miriam Claire’s vision for a mission that encompasses many different themes.

While busy with manifold administrative duties, sister participated fully in the life of the community of the Province of Jesus, Lover of Humanity. She served on many chapter committees, both in the province and in Rome, and in 1985 was elected provincial superior. It was during her 10-year tenure as provincial superior that her life’s mission was directed once more into new horizons. It was Sister Miriam Claire who envisioned the need for the Holy Trinity Chapel that is the center-

piece of the Order’s Spirituality Center and who re-established ties with the Sisters of St. Basil the Great in Ukraine soon after the country proclaimed its independence in 1991. She also responded to the need for more living space for the sisters in Fox Chase by having the motherhouse renovated.

Currently, Sister Miriam Claire resides in Parma, Ohio, where she has been the driving force as principal of St. Josaphat’s School. Always willing to participate in the

decision-making process that is to shape the destiny of the Basilian Order, she continues to serve as a member of the Provincial Council.

In honor of sister’s 50th jubilee, a divine liturgy of Thanksgiving was celebrated by Bishop Robert Moskal of the Parma Eparchy. Concelebrants were the Rev. Msgr. Thomas Sayuk and the Rev. Robert Hitchens, the Basilian Sisters’ chaplain. A festive dinner followed in the sister’s dining room for family, friends and sisters.



At a event honoring Sister Miriam Claire Kowal, (from left) are: Msgr. Thomas Sayuk, Sisters Paula Jacynyk, Mary Cecilia Jurasinski and Dorothy Ann Busowski, Bishop Robert Moskal, Sister Miriam Claire, the Rev. Robert Hitchens and Sister Laura Palka.

## Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Children’s Hospital gets help from abroad

SHORT HILLS, N.J. – The picturesque and historic region of Ivano-Frankivsk in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains has long been a favorite of tourists, hikers and collectors of folk art. Unfortunately, for many years, the pastoral scenery of the region has concealed a silent public health tragedy. For a variety of reasons, Ivano-Frankivsk continues to suffer from the highest rate of infant mortality in all of Ukraine. The abject poverty of the region may be the most likely cause, but many environmental factors are also suspected.

An unlikely shift of wind currents in 1986 deposited a significant amount of radiation from the Chernobyl disaster in the towns of Sniatyn and Bohorodchany. Soviet troops withdrawing from Ukraine in 1991

also left behind large stores of toxic wastes that have contaminated groundwater in several communities. A lack of access to medical services in many rural villages and the absence of appropriate technology have also hindered local doctors’ ability to save the lives of many newborns.

This fall, thanks to a generous grant from the Ukrainian National Home of New Haven, Conn., the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund (CCRF) has launched a new partnership with the Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Children’s Hospital to radically improve the chances of survival for newborns in the region.

In September, CCRF delivered the first installment of state-of-the-art neonatal equipment to help doctors at the IFRCH to

provide effective treatment for life-threatening complications and to prevent brain damage resulting from respiratory distress. The fund delivered a neonatal care station complete with respirator, infant warmer, pulse oxymeter and other essential components. The fund also provided photo-therapy lamps to help treat the many cases of jaundice in newborns.

At a press conference on September 26, Dr. Radyslav Koturbash, the chief doctor at the IFRCH, thanked CCRF co-founders Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky and Nadia Matkiwsky for their support. Dr. Koturbash also prepared a personal certificate of thanks to Paul Paluha, the president of the Ukrainian National Home of New Haven, and Paul Czerepacha, the association’s treasurer. Dr. Koturbash offered his gratitude on behalf of his staff and patients to all the members of the New Haven community who have supported CCRF. The UNH grant was made possible by the sale of two buildings that once housed the Ukrainian community center on Day Street. The New Haven Chapter remains one of the most active in the CCRF network. In recent years, the chapter has hosted a variety of successful fund-raising events, concerts and banquets to benefit CCRF, including an awards dinner featuring U.S. Sen. Joseph Lieberman.

Speaking at the press conference, Dr. Matkiwsky stressed that this was just the first phase in a series of aid projects that CCRF plans to implement at the Ivano-Frankivsk hospital. As quoted in the “Western Courier,” Dr. Matkiwsky expressed the fund’s deep concern about the steep drop in population in Ukraine. According to the U.N. Office of Population, Ukraine has already experienced a net drop of 2.5 million people, and could lose up to 40 percent of its population by the year 2040 unless current trends are reversed.

“Ivano-Frankivsk is a crucial front in the battle against infant mortality in Ukraine,” said Dr. Matkiwsky. This will be the eighth neonatal center that the fund has equipped

in Ukraine. Previously, the fund has enabled local doctors to improve infant survival rates by as much as 85 percent in Poltava, by 50 percent in Lutsk and by 46 percent in Dnipropetrovsk. CCRF’s chapter in Rochester, N.Y. has also contributed \$15,000 to support a second hospital in Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast.

On October 23, CCRF Executive Director Alexander Kuzma and Kyiv Office Director Olena Maslyukivska visited Ivano-Frankivsk to meet with hospital staff and to obtain their feedback on the quality and effectiveness of the equipment. According to Dr. Taras Melnyk and other doctors working with the neonatal unit, the new technology installed by CCRF has already had an impact in helping to save several newborn infants within the first month of operation.

Archbishop Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. also visited the neonatal unit at the Ivano-Frankivsk RCH, during a brief departure from his pilgrimage with 40 American Orthodox faithful across Ukraine. The Archbishop blessed the neonatal unit and each of the infants undergoing intensive care, and offered consolation to several parents concerned with the plight of their newborns. CCRF technical adviser Volodymyr Mitin of the Austrian-based firm NZ Techno provided training to hospital staff to ensure that they were well versed in all features of the new equipment.

“This equipment has already had a very positive effect on our efforts to save these babies’ lives,” said Dr. Melnyk. “It has also raised the spirits of our doctors, who finally have the tools they need to apply their skills to their greater potential.”

The Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund is currently seeking additional funds to buy infusion pumps and respirators for the Ivano-Frankivsk RCH to expand its life-saving capabilities. Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to: CCRF, 272 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, NJ 07078.



At the press conference announcing a new partnership between CCRF and the Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Children’s Hospital, Medical Director Dr. Radyslav Koturbash thanks CCRF directors for the delivery of neonatal equipment and a leading medical manual translated and published by CCRF in Ukraine. From left are: Olena Maslyukivska, in-country director of CCRF, Dr. Koturbash, and CCRF co-founders Nadia and Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky.



## The late governor general's coat of arms reflected his Ukrainian heritage

by Roman Zakaluzny

OTTAWA – The death of former Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn touched many in Canada. But it was especially poignant for Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk of Kingston.

The Royal Military College professor had a little-known but culturally significant connection with Mr. Hnatyshyn: he played a small role in designing the governor general's official coat of arms.

Designing a coat of arms is a privilege accorded to every Queen's representative in Canada. Often, a governor general incorporates designs that symbolize his or her roots.

Mr. Hnatyshyn, who was of Ukrainian descent, wanted to highlight this background and in so doing consulted with the Ukrainian Museum of Canada in his hometown of Saskatoon. Dr. Luciuk said he was in the museum at the precise moment in 1989 when Robert Watt, chief herald at Rideau Hall, called.

"I was doing research around the Prairies at the time," said Dr. Luciuk. "I happened to be in the museum when someone from the governor general's office called and spoke to [museum executive director] Dr. Jennie Zayachkowski. "We got to talking, and she told me who had called and what they were asking for."

Mr. Watt, who has been with Rideau Hall since the creation of heraldic symbols was patriated to Canada from England in 1988, said he made many inquiries while researching Ukrainian symbols that were to go into Governor General Hnatyshyn's design. "I had discussions with [Hnatyshyn] about his family and background, and about how those things could be brought



Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn's coat of arms.

together for a single design," he said from his office in Ottawa.

Dr. Luciuk suggested to Dr. Zayachkowski that she recommend to the governor general's office that they incorporate the tryzub, a trident symbol used by Ukraine and the Ukrainian people for more than 1,000 years. "I recommended that [Hnatyshyn] use the nation-

al emblem of Ukraine, the Tryzub, particularly because the use of that symbol was forbidden at the time in Soviet Ukraine," said Dr. Luciuk. "Ray Hnatyshyn wanted to emphasize his Ukrainian identity. He was proud of it, and he was committed to Ukraine's freedom."

Dr. Luciuk went back to browsing the displays. "Within an hour, she [Dr. Zayachkowski] confirmed that she had passed on my suggestion." In Mr. Hnatyshyn's coat of arms, the trident is visible on the collar of the bull to the right of the crest.

The bull itself is also a symbol of Mr. Hnatyshyn's ethnic background, representing Bukovyna, the province of Ukraine from which Mr. Hnatyshyn's grandparents emigrated. As well, the coat of arms' two main colors are blue on top and gold below, representing the blue skies and golden wheat fields of both Ukraine and his native Saskatchewan.

"Basically, I was the right guy, at the right place, at the right time," said Dr. Luciuk, who teaches political geography at Royal Military College. "The fact that [Hnatyshyn] chose to put a tryzub there, there's no ambiguity. It's unmistakable that Ukraine's existence was being reaffirmed at a time when, if a Ukrainian in Ukraine did the same thing, they would have been arrested."

Other governors general have similarly adorned their coats of arms with symbols harking back to times past. For example, current Governor General Adrienne Clarkson's coat of arms has a Chinese stylized phoenix rising from a fire. According to her website, the phoenix shows her family's rebirth in Canada after emigrating from Hong Kong.

## Canadian educators mark 10 years of cooperation with Ukraine

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – In 1992, a group of Canadian educators embarked on what is one of the longest running continuous cooperative projects between Canadian and Ukrainian partners. The focus and aim of the project was the introduction of contemporary educational philosophy and practices into the post-Soviet Ukrainian school through the professional development of teachers in Ukraine.

Pavlo Khobzei, the current Head of the Lviv School Board, speaking at this summer 2002 conference organized to mark the decade of cooperation, said:

"Ten years ago, our colleagues from Toronto showed us how to educate a free person, a person who possesses the following abilities: critical thinking, problem solving, communications and working in groups.

"They explained to us what it means to have one's own opinion, be able to defend it while at the same time be acceptable of the opinions of others," he continued.

"Even today this is not taught in all our schools but ten years ago, we were all in the stereotypical Soviet schools, which did not teach one to ask questions but taught the student to give answers and only those which were written in books."

The removal of stereotypes, the democratization of education and the introduction of child-centered learning have been main achievements of the project.

The project was initiated by educators in Toronto who set up the Institute of the Professional Development of Teachers under the auspices of the Ukrainian World Congress. Elementary school principal Nadia Luciuk took charge of the Canadian side, while the Ukrainian partnership was organized by Mykhailo Bregin, who headed the City of Lviv School Board in 1992 and currently heads the Lviv Oblast School Board.

In the past decade, 10 professional development sessions have been held during summertime with over a total of

2,000 educators taking part. All oblasts of Ukraine and Crimea have been represented, as well as Romania, Poland and Latvia. In addition, weekly classes over periods of three months, with a total of 572 participants to date, have been held during the year in Lviv, based on the methodology introduced by the Canadians. Monthly seminars for teachers of primary grades began in 1994-1995, while seminars for preschool teachers and for administrators were introduced in 1996-1997.

At the conference held on July 19, 2002, in Lviv, Ms. Luciuk explained, "We found educators who helped in the organization of professional development courses and together we developed and adapted these new teaching approaches to the needs of Ukraine. At the beginning there were serious doubts, objections and uncertainty – would our knowledge and experience be useful for Ukraine? Are Western systems of teaching realistic and needed for Ukraine?"

On that point, Mr. Khobzei had this to say: "Teacher professional development and child centered learning is the most successful project in the city of Lviv. It has resulted in the creation of several primary schools – grades 1 to 6 – which work with this methodology. The fact that Lviv is the leader in Ukraine in special needs education – the teaching of children with cerebral palsy, the setting up of a rehabilitation center – is due to our Canadian partners."

The first professional development summer session for teachers was held in Lviv with the Canadian lecturers presenting their own course materials. Six courses were included: teaching Ukrainian in Russian-language schools, teaching English, a principals' course, history teaching methodology, primary school language teaching and primary school science teaching methodologies. A total of 127 educators from Ukraine took part.

In 1995 psychology, economics, and individualization and integration in primary schools were added as subjects. Ukrainian educators joined their Canadian colleagues as assistants in

course development and progressively began to assume greater responsibility for teaching. By 1999 the Ukrainian lecturers were running the Canadian-authored courses by themselves with the Canadians acting as advisors.

The summertime professional development sessions were organized with various regional partnerships: the Volyn Oblast Institute of Post-Graduate Education in Lutsk (1996), Ternopil Institute of Postgraduate Education (1997), Khmelnytskyi Institute of Professional Development, and a special institute in Lviv for teachers from Crimea. By the summer of 2000 there were nine courses at the summer session, each with a lecturer and assistant lecturer from Ukraine with the Canadians acting as partners.

The project has been able to reach the 10-year mark for several reasons. There has been continuity in its leadership – Ms. Luciuk from the Institute of Professional Development of Teachers and Mr. Bregin from Lviv have headed the project since its inception. In addition, Dr. Oksana Wynnyckyj – who, besides being a professional educator is

also the Canadian consul in Lviv, lives there and has been able to facilitate project-related activities throughout the year.

A second positive aspect is the flexibility of the project. The Canadian partners have been willing to work with any educational institution in Ukraine that was able and willing to set up the sessions. To ensure that the programs developed during the sessions are then supported in the schools of the participants, the organizers have insisted that not only individual teachers but teams, including administrators and principals, take part in the professional development.

Over the years the project has developed and published its own materials: administration and management in schools (authors Bohdan Kolos and Nadia Luciuk), teaching history (Valentina Kuryliw), primary grades (Oksana Wynnyckyj, Mirka Onuch and Halyna Dytyniak), economics (Bohdan Kolos), Ukrainian language (Lida Lubynska), teaching preschool (Oksana Wynnyckyj).

At a conference this summer, future Ukrainian cooperation with the Institute

(Continued on page 17)



At a conference of Canadian educators marking a decade of cooperation with Ukraine (from left) are: Kateryna Horokhovska (regional superintendent), Mykhailo Bregin (head of the Lviv Oblast School Board), Nadia Luciuk (Institute of Professional Development of Teachers), Oksana Wynnyckyj (Canadian consul, Lviv) and Pavlo Khobzei (director of education for the City of Lviv)



## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### The people's governor general

The grandson of illiterate Ukrainians who settled in Saskatchewan near the turn of the last century, Ray Hnatyshyn enjoyed the type of life most immigrants and the generations that follow them dream about.

A university graduate who practiced and taught law, he became a popular politician and ended up becoming the country's top lawyer as attorney general before serving as Canada's de facto head of state.

Despite his enormous accomplishments, he always remained modest and accessible, which earned him huge admiration. And beyond the trappings of power and the vice-regal nature of his governor general's duties, he was always quick with a quip, often at his own expense, which earned him great affection.

For the million or so Canadians who trace their descent to Ukraine, he was a source of pride and inspiration, and, as Ukrainian Canadian Congress President Eugene Czolij suggested, embodied "the promise and the reality of Canadian multiculturalism."

Building on the tradition of his parents, John – Canada's first and so far only Ukrainian-born senator – and Helen, who were both active in Saskatchewan's Ukrainian community, Mr. Hnatyshyn was always available to lend his support to events and organizations within the community.

A year after becoming Canada's 24th governor general, he participated in the centennial celebrations of Ukrainian settlement in Canada in 1991 and, a year later, became the first Western leader to visit the then newly independent Ukraine with a much-celebrated stop at his father's birthplace in Bukovyna, western Ukraine.

In 1993 he became patron of the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa and remained active in that role until his untimely death on December 18.

For the community at large, a man of his stature and family background brought a certain Kennedy-esque star appeal – but without the distance and mystique that often comes with such celebrity.

And though we embraced him as one of ours, Ray Hnatyshyn was unquestionably a man of all people who brought great dignity to everything he did and everyone he met.

Though a Conservative federal politician for 14 years, Mr. Hnatyshyn put principle and people ahead of partisanship. In 1976, two years after first being elected a Member of Parliament from his hometown of Saskatoon, he broke ranks with the late John Diefenbaker, a former Tory prime minister and friend of the Hnatyshyn family, and voted with the Liberal government of the day to abolish the death penalty for civilians under the Canadian Criminal Code.

Eight years later, when the Conservatives won the federal election with a landslide majority, Mr. Hnatyshyn entered the Cabinet in arguably the most political of positions as government leader in the House of Commons. But he never let the serious affairs of state interfere with his personal relationships and remained "a guy everybody loved," according to Sheila Copps, who faced him as an opposition Liberal MP and now serves as minister of Canadian heritage.

Mr. Hnatyshyn carried his down-to-earth manner with him to Rideau Hall, the governor general's official residence in Ottawa, which he occupied from 1990 to 1995. Not long after being sworn into office on January 29, 1990, he opened the grounds of the 120-acre property, which had been closed to the public by his predecessor. Like any new kid on the block, Mr. Hnatyshyn also sought to build a good rapport with his neighbors and invited about 400 of them over for coffee, to share stories with them and give everyone present a taste of the hearty laughter of Queen Elizabeth II's representative in Canada.

His death, at the age of 68, came far too soon for someone of his eternally kind-hearted and affable manner, but his departure reflected the complex accomplishments of an essentially uncomplicated man.

Canadian flags stood at half-staff on federal government buildings across the country. An honor guard composed of members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, who protected him as governor general, and of the Canadian Armed Forces, for whom he served as commander-in-chief, paid tribute to him at his passing.

However, Mr. Hnatyshyn's state funeral at Ottawa's Anglican cathedral had more of a personal touch and followed the rites of his Ukrainian Orthodox faith.

Ramon (Ray) Hnatyshyn was a man for all seasons.

Jan.  
4  
1993

### Turning the pages back...

Ten years ago, President Leonid Kravchuk outlined his position regarding Ukraine's participation in the Commonwealth of Independent States during a consultative meeting with 26 leaders of the country's political parties and public organizations on

January 4, 1993.

President Kravchuk emphasized his opposition to the proposed new Charter of the CIS, characterizing the document as a means of recasting the commonwealth as a new union on territory once belonging to the USSR. His stand was supported by the overwhelming majority of leaders present at the meeting.

Opening the discussion, President Kravchuk noted that the Ukrainian people had expressed their opinions regarding the fate of the USSR by voting in the December 1, 1991, referendum on Ukraine's independence. Today, he continued, Ukraine is faced with the question of how to react to various processes of integration taking place within the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States. This question is particularly pressing when one examines the various suprastructures delineated in the proposed CIS Charter.

The heads of leading national-democratic parties and organizations – among them Mykhailo Horyn of the Ukrainian Republican Party, Ivan Drach of the Ukraina Society, Pavlo Movchan of the Prosvita Ukrainian Language Society, Dmytro Pavlychko and

(Continued on page 12)

## CHRISTMAS PASTORAL

### Join with us in being Christ's instruments of healing and justice

*Nativity Archpastoral Letter of the Council of Bishops of the Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.*

To the Venerable and Christ-loving clergy, monastics and devout brethren of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.:

May the peace of Christ be with you.

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

The above cited words of our traditional Nativity greeting, words taken from the Nativity canon, which flow from the spiritual genius of our father among the saints and in faith, Gregory the Theologian, words which we have echoed, beginning with the feast of the Entrance of the Mother of God – December 4. Like light from a spiritual star they have guided us to this celebration of "God with us" – the Nativity according to the flesh of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, in the year of grace 2002.

In his homily on the Birth of Christ, Gregory the Theologian reminds us, as he reminded the faithful of his time, that the true meaning of this annual observance is based upon our Heavenly Father's profound love for all humanity in sending to earth His Only-Begotten Son – for the life of the world and its salvation.

We remind you, the spiritual children of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, whom Almighty God in His love has entrusted to our archpastoral care, that our traditional celebration of the Nativity of Christ, conditioned by our preparations during Advent/Pylypivka, far surpasses the secular observance with its fleeting satisfaction and short-lived rewards. Our celebration – a Eucharistic one – is centered on the greatest gift, given to humanity, Christ the Only-Begotten Son of God.

Our Orthodox Christian Ukrainian liturgical observance of this eight-day period of joy and the traditional carols, which accompany the celebration of "God with us," make it extremely clear that, in the words of Gregory the Theologian, we, who descend from a spiritual lineage imprinted with the spirit of men and women of faith and spiritual

quality like the Venerable Volodymyr, the Blessed Olha, the sainted hierarchs Ilarion and Petro of Kyiv, among others, "keep the feast, not after the manner of the non-believer, but in a godly manner ... in a manner which is above the word; as a feast which is not ours but belonging to Him who is ours...a feast of healing and recreation."

We live in a century that continues to witness the daily machinations of the Evil One. We witness the slaughter of brethren by brethren. Rumors of anticipated "even more spectacular and crippling attacks" intensify the post 9/11 climate of tension and anxiety in the U.S.A. and many other countries. Brethren of Middle-Eastern features, many of them observant Orthodox and Oriental Christians, are readily suspect and viewed as a clear and present threat. The Church of our native Ukraine suffers under the yoke of division. The Christ of the Nativity event of which the Venerable Gregory the Theologian speaks invites Ukrainian Orthodox Christians to be instruments of recreation and healing, namely to put aside personal agendas and ambitions, which continue to divide, subdivide and weaken us and to seek after and labor for the cause of the Kingdom of God and His justice. Such justice is the inalienable right of all of His children – even those who call Him by a different name and worship Him in a different tradition.

As bishops who witness to the works and words of Our Lord and Savior, we invite you at this very crucial time in world history to join with us in being Christ's instruments of healing and justice so that all might benefit and be recreated in the mercy, compassion, love and justice exemplified by the Son of God, Who calls us to fraternity and sanctity.

Embracing all of you in the love of this, which St. John Chrysostom calls the beginning of all feasts, we beseech your prayers and assure you of our love and prayer.

Christ is born! Let us glorify Him with our entire being.

† Constantine, Metropolitan  
† Antony, Archbishop  
† Vsevolod, Archbishop



Reproduction of a Christmas card featuring a painting by Petro Andrusiw, published in the 1970s by the Ukrainian National Aid Association.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A memorial worthy of our capabilities

Dear Editor:

Regarding a monument to the victims of the Great Famine, it was with great interest and satisfaction that I read the editorial titled "A Proper Memorial" in the December 8, 2002, issue of The Ukrainian Weekly. Although the idea discussed belongs to Morgan Williams, a temporary resident of Kyiv, the diaspora should recognize The Ukrainian Weekly for bringing it for public discussion.

I wholeheartedly support the idea of establishing in Kyiv, a center of studies about the Great Famine and other types of holocausts perpetrated on Ukrainian people by the occupiers of Ukraine.

Stone or bronze statues are mute, they do not enlighten the uninformed, but the written word will speak forever. Taras Shevchenko wrote: "... Возвелечу малих отих рабів німих! І на сторожі коло їх поставлю Слово..."

If diaspora is to fund a monument to said victims, let it be worthy of our intellectual capabilities and emotional devotion to Ukraine.

Mykola Lawrin  
Sterling Heights, Mich.

### Commendations for a job well done

Dear Editor:

At a gathering at the Ukrainian Institute of America on Tuesday, December 10, I was speaking with someone and as frequently happens, the conversation turned to The Ukrainian Weekly. I commented to him that The Weekly has consistently improved in presentation and content.

The paper is certainly a representation of quality to the Ukrainian American community and others who read it. It provides a much-needed good impression of Ukrainians to combat the negatives facing us.

Then I realized that I have never shared my thoughts with you and so am sending this e-mail. Kudos to you. You are to be commended for a job well done.

George M. Kuzma  
Glen Rock, N.J.

**The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed (double-spaced) and signed; they must be originals, not photocopies.**

**The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes.**



## The things we do...

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

### A Canadian Christmas – on the prairies

"What do you mean they did that in Ukraine?! Ha, we did that in Manitoba 85 years ago!" the elegant, spry 90-something woman harrumphed as I spoke about Ukrainian Christmas traditions to the folks at the nursing home. I felt I was bringing coals to Newcastle, because these old-timers had practiced many more traditions over more years than I ever would. But this was another family fun evening at the home, this time with a Christmas theme. We spoke for a bit, and then sang.

How the faces lit up when we talked about waiting for the first star to appear before sitting down to the Sviata Vecheria (Holy Supper) on Christmas Eve, about the 12 different foods, some served only on this evening, all meatless and non-dairy, about the special sheaf of wheat, about the one empty place-setting at the table, and about the caroling.

Oh, the caroling!

The folks reminisced about going house-to-house, both here in the city and on the farms. In the old North Point Douglas of the 1920-1930s, you walked door-to-door because almost everyone living there was Ukrainian. In rural Manitoba where the pioneers had settled beginning in the 1890s, the carolers traveled by horse-drawn sleigh from farm to farm. Once you got to the farmhouse, you did not stand outside singing one koliada (carol) and then leave. You were invited in, you sang, recited verses of good wishes, were seated down for a meal and drinks, sang some more, received a donation for your charity, then went on to the next house. And this would not be two-three people, but groups of five, 10 or more, with one person carrying a lit-from-inside colored-paper star on a pole.

The caroling went on until early morning. One woman remembered that when she was a teenager her father was at the reins of the horse-drawn sleigh full of carolers. As he dozed off, a result of so many greetings and libations in each home, their horse found his own way home at dawn. When she spoke about this, the others nodded in recognition. After more reminiscences, the folks and I sang a few koliady, with some of those who can no longer speak smiling and singing, even remembering most of the verses.

You would think that after 111 years in Canada, Ukrainians would have just blended into the woodwork of "Canadian" traditions. But the discussion of just what is "Canadian" continues. Here on the prairies, Ukrainian traditions are Canadian traditions, just a bit younger than Canada itself. People who are fifth- and sixth-generation Canadians have been carrying on the Christmas, Easter, wedding and other traditions of their pioneer ancestors. Over the century, people have adapted, intermarried, and some have lost the language "once baba died," as some say.

A few aspects of the traditions have been forgotten, or were not practical for urban life, and others blended with the "regular" Christmas. The caroling continues. What remains is so much a part of the Canadian prairies that city Christmas lights stay on until after January 7, Gunn's Bakery sells kolach (special braided bread), and pearl wheat and poppy seeds for kutia (the special ritual

dish of this evening) are available at practically every supermarket – sometimes even as a package at the checkout.

Alycia's Restaurant holds special Christmas Eve dinners, with two or three seatings, all sold out. Marion Bodnarchuk Staff, the owner (whose father arrived in Canada as a young man in 1895, and whose mother was Canadian-born), has been doing this for 24 years, and does not even advertise. Whole extended families come, as do singles. In the store's deli, the foods for this special meal are available for take-out, but you'd better be there in the morning before they sell out. Other Ukrainian caterers in the city are just as swamped. And then there are all the women who do it all from scratch themselves.

What does all this mean? Why do people bother? Would it not be simpler to just have the turkey dinner on December 25, and maybe order take-out or a pizza on Christmas Eve? Why go through all this trouble carrying out strange rituals? Because, as Tevye sang, "Tradition!" No matter what the nationality, no matter how far removed from one's roots, people need and even create their own traditions. Where traditions have been practiced for generations, it may be that no one can explain why certain things are done, but "this has been in our family for years," or "we have always done this."

Ukrainian seasonal and family traditions go back to ancient, prehistoric times. It is impossible to physically link the mammoth hunters and the first farmers on the territory of Ukraine to the ancestors of modern Ukrainians. But in studying the oral literature, the rituals and the symbolism in folk art, ethnographers see the continuity of what was passed on through the millennia.

Ukrainian Christmas Eve marks the birth of Christ with rituals that originally celebrated the winter solstice, the celestial bodies, the lunar cycle (the 12 dishes). The family gathers to come together, and to honor the ancestors who for this night return to be with the rest of the family. From those earliest times, Ukrainians have believed that the family comprises the living, those who departed and those yet to be born. The empty place setting at the table is for the departed. The meal is meatless and non-dairy because the earliest rituals originated before agriculture, when animals were considered part of the extended family, and before the domestication of animals.

Christianity was accepted in Ukraine in 988, and took quite a few centuries before both the church authorities and the general population accepted each other. After all, the traditions had been around for so many thousands of years before this new faith. The blending, the layering of old and new, for example, can be heard in many carols, where pre-Christian verses about nature, creation, family life and medieval battles have a Christian, Christmas refrain.

The celebration of Christmas Eve is a reverent, special night for the family with no emphasis on the commercial, and does not revolve around shopping and presents under the tree. While gifts are exchanged throughout the season, traditionally St. Nicholas brings children their gifts during the night before December 19, leav-

(Continued on page 17)

## Thanks to "Weekly Booster"

Oksana Hubenko of Marlboro, N.J. became a Weekly Booster by enrolling a new subscriber during The Ukrainian Weekly's special subscription drive.

As a result, her daughter Alexandra Hubenko of San Diego will be receiving The Ukrainian Weekly.

Thanks go out to Oksana Hubenko from the editorial staff of The Ukrainian Weekly.

*Celebrate Ukraine's historic achievement: the rebirth of its independence*



## "Ukraine Lives!"

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## Ukrainian Knowledge Internet Portal is created

by Anna Biscoe

EDMONTON – The computer as a teaching tool is playing an increasingly greater role in today's classroom. Publishers, teachers, students, and parents must address this trend in education, in all facets of the teaching and learning process.

In response to this trend and to help meet some of the needs for computer-assisted learning in English-Ukrainian classrooms, six educational institutions signed an agreement on Thursday, November 14, to create the Ukrainian Knowledge Internet Portal (UKIP) Consortium.

Among its many objectives, the UKIP Consortium will be responsible for establishing and managing a new electronic education network, or portal, for Ukrainian language and culture education. A portal is defined as a web site that acts as a gateway to information, tools and services in specific areas. The power of a portal lies in its ability to organize, transfer and facilitate communication between users.

The UKIP Consortium will also be responsible for portal content and is now in the process of digitizing some existing Ukrainian bilingual program resources. The digitized learning objects will have sound, images, text and animation and will be interactive. UKIP will also be responsible for commissioning the creation of new learning objects for use in both bilingual program and community schools across Canada.

The strength of UKIP will be in its national membership with representation



At the signing of the agreement establishing the Ukrainian Knowledge Internet Portal are (from left): Dr. Roman Petryshyn, Anna Biscoe, Markian Hlynka, Tania Onyschuk, Dr. Zenon Kohut, Marusia Petryshyn and Garry Popowich.

from elementary to university levels of education.

Representing the six founding UKIP organizations at the signing ceremony were: Dr. Zenon Kohut, director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta (Edmonton); Marusia Petryshyn, director of the Ukrainian Language Education Center at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University Alberta (Edmonton); Tania Onyschuk, president of the Ukrainian Canadian School Board, Toronto Branch (Toronto); Dr. Roman

Petryshyn, director of the Ukrainian Resource and Development Center at Grant MacEwan College (Edmonton); Prof. Ostap Hawaleshka, president of the Canada Ukraine Foundation, was represented by Anna Biscoe (Duncan, British Columbia); and Markian Hlynka represented Dr. Denis Hlynka, acting director, Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies, University of Manitoba (Winnipeg).

For more information interested persons may contact Dr. Roman Petryshyn via e-mail, roman@urdc.net, telephone, (780) 497-4375; or fax, (780) 497-4377.

## Land is purchased for retired priests' home in Florida

PARMA, Ohio – Bishop Robert Moskal of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Parma, has purchased 10 acres of land in North Port, Fla., to be used for construction of a retirement home for priests.

The property is located on North Biscayne Drive, just northeast of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church. The property is paid for in full, as are architectural plans for the home, which could house between eight and 12 retired priests.

Bishop Robert appointed a board to undertake the task of fund-raising for future construction. The Rev. Canon Dr. John A. Ropke is board chair, Deacon Donald M. Billy, co-owner of Don-Ron Construction, is vice chair. Other board members are the Revs. Robert Hnatyshyn, the Rev. Xavier Elambassery, the Rev. Joseph Tamburro, Taras Szmagala Sr. and Taras Szmagala Jr. The board members will design a fund-raising campaign and visit all the parishes in the eparchy to distribute brochures on the home and ask for the financial support of the faithful.

The home will consist of individual one-bedroom apartments. Each will have a private living room and bath. There will be a community social room, dining room, center courtyard, kitchen and laun-

(Continued on page 19)

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## "Ukrainian Day" at United Nations features Christmas program



Vasyl Lopukh

UNITED NATIONS – As part of the celebration of the winter holidays, the United Nations hosted a Ukrainian Day on December 19, 2002. According to the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the U.N., this is the first time that a full day at the United Nations has been dedicated to Ukrainian culture. During the day, a group of children from Philadelphia performed a traditional Christmas "vertep" to the accompaniment of the women's quartet Holubka. In the evening, the Dumka choir from New York City performed a program that included carols and schedrivky in the main hall of the United Nations. Also part of the evening program were Alla Kutsevych, Halyna Tsihotska, and the duos of Lida and Gabriela Oros, Yulianna and Ivan-Yulian Slutsky, and Nadia and Natalia Pavlyshyn. Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, who had arrived the day before in New York for a private visit in the United States, was a surprise guest at the performance of the children's vertep. At the end of the program, he was invited onstage to be photographed (center) with the vertep performers.

## In dialogue with British dramaturgy: international conference held in Kyiv

by Olga Kirillova

KYIV – An international conference to spur the development of the modern Ukrainian theater took place in Kyiv on October 7-11, 2002. Led by several British playwrights, the four-day series of workshops and seminars titled, "Regeneration of Ukrainian Dramaturgy: Ukrainian Utopias vs. British Patterns," was the first of its kind to be held in the Ukrainian capital.

The British playwrights Steve Gooch, Tony Craze, Rebecca Prichard and Amy Rosenthal, all veterans of the London theater, hosted the several seminars and workshops. For Ukrainians it was a completely new experience as it was the first time Ukrainian playwrights interacted with colleagues from abroad.

"We came here not only to teach but also in search of new ideas – for inspiration," said Mr. Gooch.

In addition to being veteran playwrights, the group has extensive experience in teaching. Mr. Gooch is a famous writer and translator, whose best-known play, "Female Transport," has been presented in more than 400 productions around the world. As a teacher he has worked in Britain and the United States. He also founded the Masters in Arts Program in Playwriting at Goldsmith College, London.

Mr. Craze is a writer, a playwright and a former artistic director of the Soho Theater Company. In addition, he is a writing associate for London Arts. At present he is associated with the Chelsea

Theater and CityLit in London.

Ms. Prichard and Ms. Rosenthal are of the younger generation of British writers. Both have already had a number of productions and are currently writers-in-residence at different London theaters.

The idea for the conference came from Ukrainian playwright Irena Kowal, who discovered at drama workshops in London led by Mr. Craze that he and Mr. Gooch had previously participated in a dramaturgy conference in Krakow, Poland, with successful results. Ms. Kowal coordinated the arrangements for a visit by the group to Kyiv. She obtained financial backing from the British Council of Ukrainians, the Soros Foundation in Kyiv, as well as from Ihor Kowal.

The conference had two main aims: to teach playwriting skills and to introduce development technologies and initiatives as practiced in modern Britain. Correspondingly, it was divided into two main sections, which ran simultaneously.

A section on infrastructure development explained how successful interaction takes place between British playwrights and the theaters that stage their works – a mechanism that is essential for a playwright to have a play produced. Nevertheless, Ukrainian officials, producers and directors were in scarce attendance at those seminars.

The training section, however, was of special interest for many Ukrainian playwrights, as the education of dramatists remains below par in modern Ukraine.

Messrs. Gooch and Craze presented their original teaching methods on story development. Mr. Craze described his brainstorming method, which involves individual free exploration by playwrights of their child-like imaginations. Mr. Craze's methodology can be obtained on the Internet, while Mr. Gooch's book, "Writing a Play," is expected to be published in Ukrainian translation soon.

Despite widespread complaints about the complete absence of modern Ukrainian dramaturgy, there were many young writers present, hungry to start work – to learn and to reflect the contemporary reality of Ukraine on today's stages. Volodymyr Serdiuk, Neda Nezhdana, Oleh Goncharov and Serhiy Schuchenko represented the Ukrainian side from Kyiv, as well as playwrights from Lviv, Poltava and Rivne.

Members of the British contingent said they were encouraged by the willingness to learn that was expressed by the Ukrainian playwrights

"When I was taking part in a similar workshop done by the Royal Court Theater in Romania, it was very hard to work with the dramatists because they were resistant to outside influences, but Ukrainian dramatists are very open to new ideas and approaches, to creative collaboration," commented Ms. Prichard.

In preparing for the workshop, British dramatists read a number of plays by their Ukrainian counterparts and had much to say about what they learned.

"Ukrainian dramaturgy is highly intel-

lectual, and it is based on the literary and classical approach, which is unusual for us. In British plays action dominates," Mr. Craze explained.

"Fantastic, fascinating, but somewhat pessimistic," added Ms. Prichard in her assessment of the tone of Ukrainian dramaturgy.

While in Kyiv, the British group also attended several plays and commented on the quality of Ukrainian theater as well.

"Ukrainian productions are very colorful, visual, theatrical by their nature," said Mr. Gooch.

An aim of the playwriting conference was to expose the developmental gaps in Ukraine's theater infrastructure, as they exist between the writers and the theater, such as the need to develop innovative programs dealing with the writing of new drama; the lack of education of playwrights; the lack of information about Ukrainian plays being produced.

British playwrights attempted to discredit the general Soviet mindset of blaming others and waiting for others to fix problems and encouraged the Ukrainian playwrights to take the initiative.

"On the whole, if we want something to happen, we have to work hard at it," explained Ms. Rosenthal, one of the younger British playwrights on hand.

Her group seemed to convince the Ukrainian playwrights that in order to be an effective force they needed to cooperate to actively shape the modern Ukrainian theater themselves.



# "Starving for Color" photo exhibit spotlights life of orphans in Ukraine

by Maria Klymchak

CHICAGO – "Goodness." One will find this word in every dictionary, in every language, next to the words, "father," "mother," "child" and "love." Goodness walks hand in hand with love. This everlasting love transforms itself into awesome acts of desire – the desire to help, to help those that suffer more than you. Thus, a fleeting moment of luck can change one's life. Hopes and dreams can become a reality.

Guests at the photography exhibit "Starving for Color" saw gazing eyes. In front of them were children victimized by fate or parents. They have no awareness of who they are or where they are; much less who is this woman, the photographer, visiting them.

Dr. Roksolana Tymiak-Lonchyna photographs these children and tells their story as they live their innocent lives in cradles, on swings, in playpens and on the floors of the orphanages. An exhibit of her photos opened on October 15, 2002 and was veiwed for two weeks at the Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago.

The photographs reveal the almost adult expressions on infants' faces, the tears in the eyes of the orphans of buildings 1 and 2 in Lviv. The highly artistic black-and-white photos of childhood are a concrete expression of the feeling that these children are "Starving for Color."

The evening opened with over 200 in attendance. The Ukrainian community, American friends, colleagues, physicians and members from the Global Medical Foundation greeted Dr. Tymiak-Lonchyna.

Dr. Tymiak-Lonchyna maintains an active dental practice, her husband Dr. Vassyl Lonchyna is a cardiothoracic sur-

*Maria Klymchak is editor of the radio program "Ukrainska Khvyliia"*

geon. Both have travelled to Ukraine on several humanitarian missions, and private trips to family and friends allowed Dr. Tymiak-Lonchyna to visit with the orphans. On these visits she began taking their photos.

Hundreds of people visited the gallery between October 15 and November 2, 2002. No one left without being affected in some way.

The brightly lit gallery of the new wing of the Ukrainian National Museum featured a child's cradle, covered with a beautifully embroidered comforter created by Maria Tymiak, the mother of the dentist/photographer. On the entrance table was a symbolic oversized baby bottle (orphans do not recognize or know the smell of mother's milk). Those touched placed a donation into this bottle, all contributions will go to buy infant formula for newborns. The fund was created on Dr. Tymiak-Lonchyna's initiative at Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church in Chicago.

Dr. Maria Hrycelak, a pediatrician, delivered introductory remarks at the exhibit opening. She spoke on the nutritional status of infants in orphanages and explained the need for Western formula for these children. Even though these children are being fed, she noted, the nutritional value of Western baby formula is much higher and guarantees a better development of the growing infant.

Guests were informed that with a \$25 donation an infant is fed for one week, \$50 – two weeks, \$100 one month, \$500 – six months and a gift of \$1,000 will feed a child for one year.

As one became familiar with the artist's statement, one began to recognize the deep humanitarian subject matter of the exhibit. To demonstrate the importance of this cause, both Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union and the Heritage Foundation of



Cheslava, one of the orphans photographed for the exhibit "Starving for Color."

1st Security Federal Savings Bank added their support by presenting a check.

Dr. Tymiak-Lonchyna spent many days and nights in the darkroom, processing, enlarging, printing and watching images slowly emerge onto white paper. She saw the calling eyes of Cheslava; the soulful look of Innesa who was born without arms; the giggle of Ksenia with sour milk dripping on her face; and the comforting gaze of Oksana, a child found in the snow as a newborn. And then there was the tearful stare of Serhii, calling the photographer back to Ukraine. These children cannot be forgotten.

Dr. Tymiak-Lonchyna affirmed herself as a photographer-photojournalist with this exhibit. This was underscored at the opening by her instructors from the College of DuPage, where she has been studying photography. She looks through her lens objectively, yet loving life. Passing in front of each photo you cannot help but recognize the impeccable quality, attention to detail, study of composition and perspective. There is no triteness here. There are no weak photos. This affirms the author's strict demands on herself and the process of creating an exhibit for public viewing.

The black-and-white photos of the orphans slowly carry you through a door in the orphanage and into a color series; only here do we begin to understand why these children are "Starving for Color." In the color images we begin to understand what is necessary to build a future for Ukraine.

The photo exhibit at the Ukrainian National Museum was a success: \$10,800 was raised.

Commenting on the exhibit, Dr. Tymiak-Lonchyna said;

"Photography is very interesting – you not only begin to recognize the world and all that is around you from a completely different perspective, but it heightens your senses. I would hope that my photographs are not only artistically strong, but also could create an impact on the viewer whereby one leaves touched by an image in some way. With this exhibit I was thankful and glad to see that people were reacting and questioning how they can become part of these innocent lives.

"I was deeply touched by the outpouring of support I had in putting this exhibit together. Friends were calling to ask if they could help in any way. I would like to thank all my friends who partook in the success of this exhibit and the great evening we had together. Thank you to Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Parish for their immediate support, Ukrainian financial institutions, the Ukrainian National Museum, the 'Sribni Zirky' Plast troop for helping with the reception (it is important that our youth recognize how blessed they are and how little they need to do to help so much), and all who came to view the exhibit and those who could not make it yet had enough trust in the issue to contribute.

She added: "The success of my first photo exhibit is your success – it is the smile and the comforting look of a well-nourished infant in the orphanage... I am grateful for the constant support of my mother and the assistance of my husband Vasyi, and daughters Inna and Malanka."

So, what's next for this exhibit? After Chicago, New York, Toronto, Los Angeles and Kyiv should see this exhibit. It will stimulate viewers to consider what purpose we serve here on earth.

## Telnyuk sisters put Baltimore on the map, culturally speaking

by Oleh Voloshyn

BALTIMORE – Baltimore is back on the map of the Ukrainian cultural life in the United States. Thanks to a successful visit by the Telnyuk sisters duo from Ukraine on November 9-10, 2002.

The duo made two appearances here: one at a meeting with fans at Ze Mean Bean Café and another at a concert hosted by the parish of St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, located in the heart of the once-flourishing Ukrainian community in Baltimore.

The concert fetured a new program titled "Firebirds" that created a mystic atmosphere and spiritual connections between the performers and the viewers. The duo broke the barriers between styles and cultures, and brought a contemporary sound even to the classical poetry of Taras Shevchenko and Lesia Ukrainka. Their voices and the rich sounds of the bandura penetrated the souls of all listeners who appreciate art. The Telnyuk sisters' poetry selection was yet more proof that the Ukrainian language is among the most melodic and

lyrical in the world.

Many of their songs were sad, maybe as a reflection of the demise in Ukrainian culture so deeply felt today by artists, but the sisters' powerful voices, as well as the professional music by Lesya Telnyuk and Oleksij Batkovsky, give listeners reason to hope that Ukrainian culture still has its guardian angel and will blossom yet again.

Local organizations such as The Washington Group Cultural Fund, Selfreliance Baltimore Federal Credit Union, Ukrainian Association of the Greater Washington Metropolitan Area, Baltimore Ukrainian Festival Committee, Charchalis & Co P.A., and the Baltimore chapter of Ukrainian American Youth Association sponsored the advertising campaign for the Telnyuk sisters' visit.

Publicity in many ethnic communities in the Washington area helped broaden the audience for Ukrainian art, and brought many non-Ukrainians to the Ukrainian duo's concert.

The duet completed its three-month-long Canada-U.S. tour with concerts in California.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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Dr. Roksolana Tymiak-Lonchyna, photographer.



**FOCUS ON PHILATELY**  
by Ingert Kuzych

**Getting started**

It's a new year and the perfect opportunity to finally take up your resolve to get into Ukrainian philately. It's the perfect stress-buster hobby: once immersed in collecting, sorting and mounting of stamps, all your worries seem to melt away. It is also a medically sound course of action, since people who are actively engaged in hobbies tend to live longer.

Starting in philately can be very simple and inexpensive. You need only decide what interests you or what you like to collect. Should I collect only Ukraine or should I include some other country? Should I collect some topics? [e.g. folk art on stamps [including pysanky], religion [including Christmas], sports [including Olympics]. What about music, or space exploration, or how about Kozaks? The list of themes one can collect can be almost endless. One friend of mine has put together a fascinating assemblage of "hands on stamps" from around the world. My own collecting topic is "flags on stamps." (See Figures 1 and 2 for additional examples of themes on stamps: Taras Shevchenko and Ukrainian architecture.)

**General sources**

Where does one get stamps? The first place to start is right on your mail. Lots of interesting stamps grace the envelopes (we call a stamped envelope or postcard a "cover") that arrive at your home every day. They can easily be removed from the paper they are attached to by soaking in lukewarm water for about 10 minutes and then drying them on a paper towel. It helps to place a stiff piece of cardboard and a heavy weight (like a book) over semi-dry stamps to prevent them from curling up as they totally dry out. A bit of experimentation will soon reveal what soaking/drying technique works best for you. Alternately, you can save the entire envelope with the stamp attached. This is especially true for stamps postmarked on their first day of issue. Such an item is then referred to as a first-day cover.

Stamps may also be obtained from any of the dozens of stamp and coin stores found in most cities. These establishments all carry lots of (usually inexpensive) country packets or topical accumulations that can help you focus in on just what you want to collect. The dealers can also help you select what is called a stock book. These albums contain stiff mounting pages where your stamps can be stored. Decent-sized

stock books for holding and sorting hundreds of stamps need not be expensive and can usually be purchased for under \$20. Alternately, you may select a pre-printed album that depicts stamps of one country, or even the entire world (Figure 3). You may then choose to affix stamps by the use of clear mounts or stamp hinges, both of which are obtained at your dealer. I would also recommend a pair of tweezer-like tongs to help you pick up stamps without damaging them. With just these few items,

(Continued on page 13)



Figure 2. Ukrainian architecture displayed on a variety of stamps from Eastern Europe.



Figure 1. A sampling of stamps from around the world honoring Taras Shevchenko.

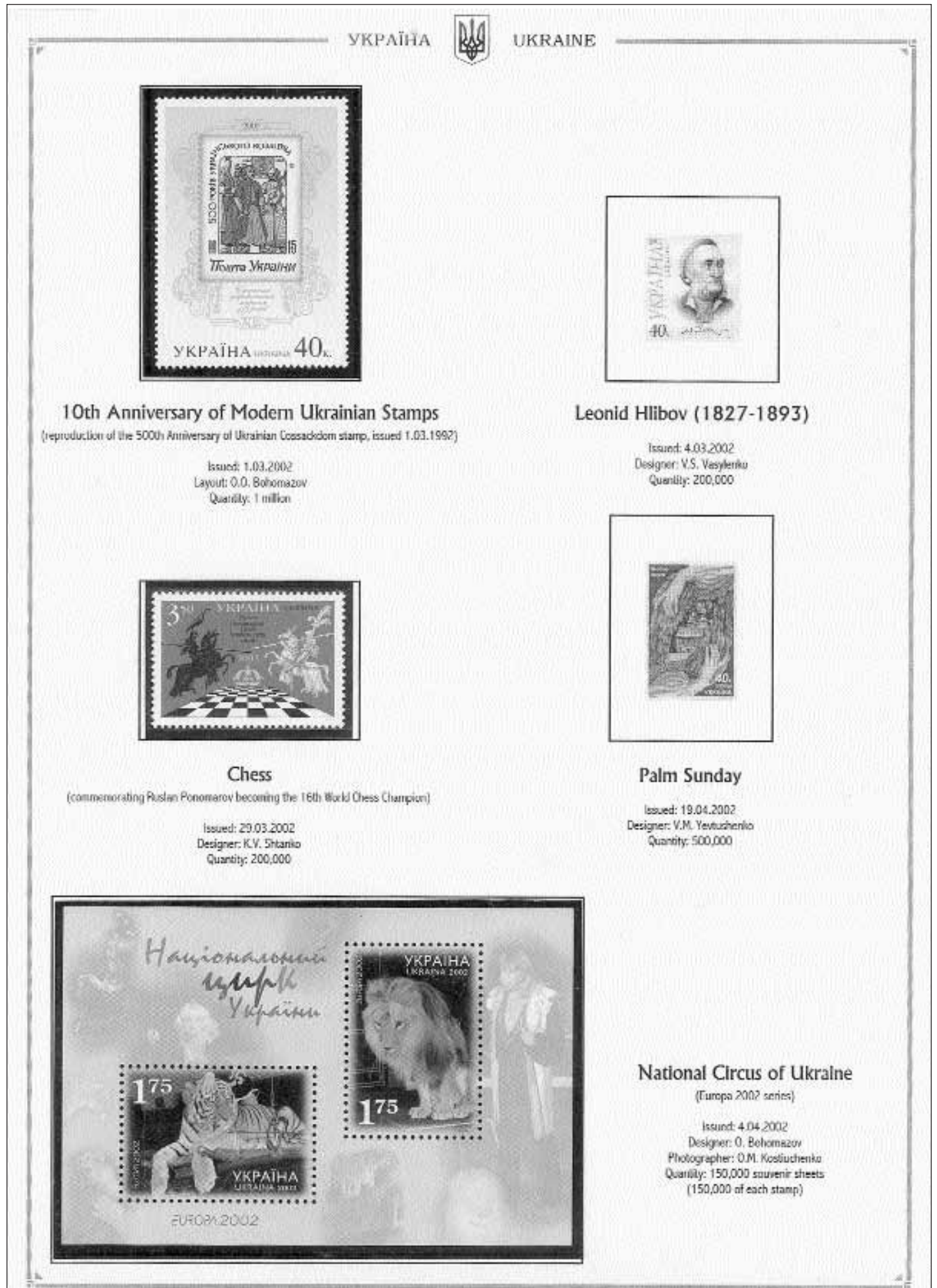


Figure 3. Beautiful album pages for mounting stamps are now available. This one, partially filled, is produced by Bandura Philatelic Services (bandura@ozemail.com.au).



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## Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

Volodymyr Yavorivsky of the Democratic Party of Ukraine, Vyacheslav Chornovil of Rukh and Stepan Khmara of the Ukrainian Conservative Republican Party – pointed out during the consultative meeting that the proposed charter is yet another attempt to preserve the USSR, albeit in a new form.

Many of the speakers described the new charter as a time bomb in attractive packaging that would, ultimately, lead to the demise of an independent Ukraine. It was pointed out that the document violates fundamental principles of the United Nations Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, and various agreements of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and that it undermines the status quo in Europe.

At the same time, however, many of the speakers acknowledged it was necessary to take into account existing socio-economic, national and political realities, including the fact that 52 percent of the people of Ukraine were sorry to see the break-up of the USSR (as reported by the Sociological Association of Ukraine). It was pointed out that various economic difficulties and the lack of a well-founded concept of foreign policy also cause many in Ukraine to question the idea of independent statehood, and thus are fertile ground for the chauvinistic and imperialistic ideas of certain political circles in the Russian Federation.

The leader of the Ukrainian Socialist (formerly Communist) Party, Oleksander Moroz observed that "Ukrainian statehood is hampered not by external, but by internal factors" and proceeded to harshly criticize the activity of Parliament and the government. Mr. Moroz continued by emphasizing that Ukraine could sign the CIS Charter only if it were accompanied by a package of documents that would outline the division of the debts and assets of the former USSR, and would safeguard human rights and the interests of ethnic minorities, refugees from hot spots in various CIS states, as well as invalids, pensioners and others. "But our advice is of little use to Leonid Makarovych [Kravchuk], as the charter will not be signed; there is no sense in wasting time discussing it," he said.

During his remarks, President Kravchuk underlined that Western countries fear both a "Yugoslavian scenario" on former Soviet territory and proliferation of nuclear arms, and that is why they support the creation of a centralized supranational structure. Russia supports the idea, he continued, because it always wished to be a superpower and the leading force in the CIS. He added that Ukraine could accede to the CIS Charter only if it is accompanied by numerous documents that clarify the CIS relationship.

"Kravchuk and political leaders agree on danger of CIS Charter for Ukraine," by Dmytro Filipchenko, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, January 10, 1993, Vol., LXI, No. 2.

## Ukrainian Church...

(Continued from page 1)

with hope and praying to God that He helps us to solve problems with which the Church is currently confronted. We are looking forward to a new law on Freedom of Conscience that would account for believers' interests, the implementation of the presidential decree on the restitution of property which was illegally confiscated from the Church, and, finally, the introduction of religious instruction in secondary schools and the establishment of pastoral activities in the Ukrainian armed forces. The strengthening of the moral and spiritual climate in our society depends on the timely solution of these problems," reads Metropolitan Volodymyr's statement.



## Getting started

(Continued from page 11)

you can be good to go!

Obviously, as you get more into the hobby, you will need more supplies (such as additional albums, pages and mounts) or will want more diverse sources for your stamps. Here a dealer can still be of help as he can let you know about forthcoming local stamp shows. These shows can be a gold mine for getting all sorts of more specialized items or specific stamps or covers you may be searching for. It's a great idea to get to know a lot of dealers at these shows and inform them about what you collect. Dealers generally are very good at tracking down esoteric materials their clients request. (After all, it's their livelihood.) I never cease to be amazed by some of the terrific items they find for me.

Another excellent philatelic source is the local stamp club. Fellow members will always freely share with you their interests, as well as information on the dealers with the best prices or where to find certain hard-to-get collectibles. Such clubs generally have their own sales or auctions where a wide variety of stamps and covers may be obtained for very reasonable prices. In addition, many clubs hold free biweekly or monthly talks covering a wide array of collecting specialties.

I have found, whether with dealers or club members, the important thing is to let people know what you collect and to find out in turn what they like to collect. Basically, what you do is get all those other folks looking for you and you reciprocate by keeping in mind what that other guy/gal also needs. So very often those other wandering eyes have spotted objects I needed. I, too, have been happy to locate special items that others badly wanted. In appreciation, they search even harder to find stuff for me. It's a win-win situation all around.

### Ucrainica sources

OK, you've decided not only to make the wise move to take up philately but, in addition, to also make the brilliant resolution to include Ukrainian philately in your collecting. How to get started?

One of the most common questions I get asked is: Where can I obtain Ukrainian stamps?

It is possible to order stamps directly from Ukraine, but the service is still not that reliable. It makes more sense to order from dealers in North America.

There are two North American dealers who specialize solely in modern Ukrainian stamps. Both deliver excellent service, but their areas differ somewhat. The most comprehensive stock of stamps and postal stationery is carried by: Lemberg Stamps and Covers, c/o John-Paul Himka, P.O. Box 4054, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 4S8 Canada: jphimka@yahoo.com.

Lemberg prepares periodic free catalogues of the materials it carries (Figure 4). In its latest issue (No. 30 of November 2002) it describes itself as "the premier dealer worldwide in the field of modern Ukraine." I have to agree, as even Marka Ukrainy (which produces Ukrainian stamps) does not have near the variety of stock in its Kyiv store as Lemberg is able to provide. Better yet, the prices at Lemberg are usually less than those of other American or Canadian dealers who handle some Ukrainian stamps but who do not specialize in Ukrainian issues. One can still obtain all of the stamps of Ukraine's first 10 years (1992-2001) at Lemberg for about \$240. That's 311 stamps, 33 souvenir sheets, and five miniature sheets!

The other dealer of modern Ukraine is: Roman Voronka, 30 Clinton Ave., Maplewood, NJ 07040-2129; rovorov@yahoo.com.

Dr. Voronka also carries all the commemorative Ukrainian stamps issued since independence, as well as many of the provi-

sional stamps issued locally in Ukraine from 1992 to 1995. These fascinating temporary issues (many now quite scarce) were produced (generally in low quantities) during the transition time when USSR stamps were no longer valid, but Ukraine Post had not yet geared up to produce sufficient stamps to serve the entire country. Dr. Voronka is happy to send out free pricelists of his stock to anyone interested.

Two other dealers specialize in classical Ukrainian stamps (those from Independent Ukraine 1918-1923, from Western Ukraine, and from Carpatho-Ukraine). They are: Tryzub Stamp Co., c/o Michael Shulewsky, P.O. Box 279, Kensington, CT 06037-0279; Tryzub@compuserve.com; and Val Zabijaka, P.O. Box 3711, Silver Spring, MD 20918-3711 bnm123@erols.com. Either of these dealers will be happy to provide lists of the materials they have for sale.

I know and have dealt with all four of the gentlemen mentioned above and can vouchsafe for their fine service and integrity.

Some other common questions I have received: Is there a Ukrainian stamp collectors society in North America, or are there some regional local clubs I could join?

Yes to both questions. The Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society (UPNS) is the largest Ukrainian collecting organization outside of Ukraine (strictly non-political, its enrollment exceeds 300). Although composed mostly of North American members, it also serves collectors from around the world, including philatelists in Europe, Asia, Australia and South America. An annual membership provides six bimonthly newsletters (with the latest on Ukraine's new stamp and coin issues), and two issues of the beautiful award-winning journal Ukrainian Philatelist (with more in-depth studies of Ukrainian philatelic and numismatic releases).

The UPNS holds an informal "zustrich" (meet) get-together every spring on the East Coast (open to everyone), where all sorts of collectibles may be obtained, either by purchase or trade. This year's will be at the Ukrainian Homestead in Lehighton, Pa., probably in early May (check "Preview of Events" in The Ukrainian Weekly in the spring for details). More formal UKRAINPEX conventions are frequently held in the fall and include exhibitions of rare Ukrainian materials, special talks on a variety of collecting topics and, of course, lots of buying and trading.

In addition, the UPNS provides an expertizing service where members may submit materials for authentication for a modest fee.

UPNS has eight local chapters where members get together. Three chapters are in the United States: Detroit, Mid-Atlantic (Maryland-Virginia) and Philadelphia, three in Canada: Calgary, Montreal, and Toronto; one in Kyiv, and one in Adelaide, Australia.

Interested persons may join by contacting: George Slusarczyk, P.O. Box 303, Southfields, NY 10975-0303. Annual membership is \$25, plus a one-time \$2 registration fee. A true bargain!

Another common query: Where can I find out more about Ukrainian philately?

A great place to start is the Internet and the site of the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society: [www.upns.org](http://www.upns.org). Although the site itself is loaded with information, its links page allows you to visit dozens of other related philatelic and numismatic websites.

A final frequently asked question: Can Ukrainian stamps be obtained by auction?

Yes, classic Ukrainian stamps and covers are available at several auction houses. The only one to specialize solely in Ukrainian classic materials is Zabijaka Auctions, which holds thrice yearly auctions (January, April, September). Listings of the hundreds of lots presented at each auction may be obtained by sending \$1 to: P.O. Box 3711, Silver Spring, MD 20918-3711. The auction also can be accessed on the Internet:

[www.collectormall.com/stamps](http://www.collectormall.com/stamps) and click on Zabijaka Auction. In addition, Mr. Zabijaka offers an open sale of items available to buyers on a first come, first served basis. No bidding is necessary.

Another auctioneer specializing in Eastern European philately is: Raritan Stamps Inc., P.O. Box 1539, Highland Park, NJ 08904; [info@raritanstamps.com](mailto:info@raritanstamps.com); [www.raritanstamps.com](http://www.raritanstamps.com)

Cherrystone Philatelic Auctioneers, 119 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019 frequently carries good Ukrainian items among the many countries that it covers. E-mail: [bids@cherrystoneauctions.com](mailto:bids@cherrystoneauctions.com); website: [www.cherrystoneauctions.com](http://www.cherrystoneauctions.com).

Ukrainian collectibles also appear on sites such as e-Bay. I would urge caution when bidding for these materials unless you are knowledgeable about the items presented. Much worthless material fetches ridiculously high prices from clueless bidders. Better to gain some knowledge first through membership in a reputable organization such as the UPNS.

\*\*\*

*A word of appreciation to Andrew O. Martyniuk, who assisted me in compiling many of the websites listed in this article.*

\*\*\*

*Inger Kuzych may be contacted at P.O. Box 3, Springfield VA 22150 or by e-mail at [ingert@starpower.net](mailto:ingert@starpower.net).*

## Philatelic resources on the Internet

If you have access to the Internet, either at home, or at your school or library, there are a number of websites dedicated solely to philately. These include:

Collecting Stamps FAQ <http://www.stampfaq.org/index.html>

American Philatelic Society (APS) <http://www.stamps.org>.

This site is a good general source of information about stamps and stamp collecting. The APS is very large and has an extensive research library that is accessible to members. It also offers its members the opportunity to receive sales booklets from which they may purchase stamps. The UPNS is an affiliate member of the APS.

American Topical Association  
<http://home.prcn.org/~pauld/ata/index.html>

Encyclopedia of Stamps and Philatelic Links  
<http://members.tripod.com/~ajward/stamps/>

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## Halyna Andreadis

It is with great sadness that we inform the Ukrainian community that on December 28, 2002, Halyna Andreadis passed away after a protracted illness. She was the beloved wife of Nicolas Kazanok-Andreadis, dearly loved mother of Nicolas and Alex, internationally acclaimed opera singer and lifelong advocate for the Ukrainian community.

Services were held at The Ukrainian National Monument Mausoleum at Cedar Hill Cemetery, 4111 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suitland, Maryland on January 2, 2003.

Mrs. Andreadis (born Alla Mynajew) is also survived by:

- Sisters Maria Tenzer and Raisa Blahove and their families
- Son Nicolas' family – wife Irene, children Larysa and Nicolas, Irene's mother Stefania Czorny-Dosinchuk and family
- Son Alex's family – wife Irene and mother Alevtina Iwasyszyn
- Other relatives in North America and Ukraine

*In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to: The Ukrainian Museum, In Memory of Halyna Andreadis, 203 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10003*

## DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Information should be addressed to the attention of the Advertising Department and sent to: The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280

(NB: please do not include post office box if sending via courier), Parsippany, N.J. 07054; fax, (973) 644-9510; telephone, (973) 292-9800, ext. 3040; e-mail, [staff@ukrweekly.com](mailto:staff@ukrweekly.com).





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## Ukrainian lawmakers...

(Continued from page 2)

show that, in the past six months, 253 individuals were sentenced for membership in organized-crime groupings, without a single individual who held a position above the raion level among them.

The report continues:

"Formal indicators in the fight against organized crime do not convince the world of the sincerity of our efforts to liquidate the mafia and do not dispel the skepticism prevalent among the broader masses of our own population. Mail received by the committee, as well as numerous individual meetings by members of the committee with citizens, show a total lack of confidence in the ability of law-enforcement agencies to protect the average person from criminal lawlessness acting in tandem with officialdom.

"But why talk about average citizens when even members of Parliament can be dragged out of their cars and thrown onto the pavement? We all know, but most of us prefer to remain silent, about the superdemocratic methods used to create the majority in the Parliament a half year ago. In the entire civilized world, of which we allegedly want to be part, the majority is created by voters. Here, it is created by an almighty 'someone.'

"It is sad and unfortunate that bribing and threatening an elected member of parliament does not surprise anyone in our country. Thus no one reacted to the official statement made by our colleague,

Oleksander Turchynov, when he presented examples of attempts to bribe parliamentarians prior to voting for the new prime minister. During this shameful episode, I [Stretovych] was approached by three members who told me of attempts to buy their votes for between \$300,000 and \$500,000. But they refused my request to file formal complaints."

According to the report, corruption in the Ukrainian court system also is widespread. Despite that reality, reports by neither the Internal Affairs Ministry nor the Security Service of Ukraine mention this fact. Another factor is that court-ordered fines are rarely if ever paid. In the Donetsk Oblast alone, more than 400 fines have not been acted upon – for a total lost sum of 2 billion hryv.

The report recommends that a special anti-corruption unit be formed in Ukraine based on the Hong Kong Anti-Corruption Committee. Such a unit would have to be independent of the executive branch of government and its actions transparent, according to the report.

Such a special unit is feasible, Mr. Stretovych states, adding that: "Even this would be not enough without broad openness and the inclusion of civic groups, as well as objective media in a discussion of this problem. The committee believes that organized crime in the country has reached such proportions that it constitutes a real danger to the constitutional basis of government in Ukraine. The present efforts of law enforcement and other government agencies are ineffective and inadequate."

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[www.alex@ukrfcu.com](mailto:www.alex@ukrfcu.com)

## Ukraine's virtual...

(Continued from page 2)

huge proportion of funds is diverted from the state to private hands, a process that, in turn, fuels criminality and corruption. Objective factors in the continued presence of such a large shadow economy remain in place. These include a large bureaucracy of 250,000 officials, many of whom also work "part-time" elsewhere; frequent changes to legislation; 100 state bodies that have a right to inspect a business; and high tax rates.

With the onset of privatization after 1994, the potential for corruption and organized crime expanded greatly. The formerly high-ranking Soviet Ukrainian nomenklatura transformed its Soviet-era political influence into economic power. This new economic power was institutionalized as political power and influence through control of private media (state television is controlled by the executive branch) and "pragmatic" centrist parties that first made their presence felt in the 1998-2002 parliament. These new centrist parties, or older genuine ones taken over by oligarchs, are largely based on regional clans.

The former Soviet Ukrainian elite, therefore, became the bedrock of the government's support through its control of business, the media, and access to state and budgetary funds. In return for political loyalty, officials turn a blind eye to corruption in what has been termed a "blackmail state." If these oligarchic allies go into opposition, politically motivated charges of "corruption" are leveled against them, as is the case those against Ms. Tymoshenko.

A lack of transparency between state actors, pro-regime businessmen, and their political parties bears all the characteristics of a corporate state. Last year, Yevhen Chervonenko, former chair of the State Reserve Committee, complained that state reserves "have been a source for many political campaigns" for oligarchic parties. The most sought-after government positions are those that distribute state funds (e.g., portfolios like

social policy, health, education, privatization, natural resources).

Aside from the previously noted coordinating committee, which is attached to the executive, the 1994-1998 Parliament created its own committee to "struggle against organized crime and corruption." According to its current head, Our Ukraine member Volodymyr Stretovych, this committee started its work in the newly elected Verkhovna Rada from scratch as it had not received any documents from its predecessor. Mr. Stretovych told Ukraine Moloda of August 1 that corruption is rampant in the presidential administration, government and Parliament.

On April 24, 1997, the coordinating committee established the National Bureau of Investigation, modeled on the FBI. The Verkhovna Rada never supported its creation, and it was shut down in December 1999. Ukraine already had departments to combat corruption and organized crime within the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVS) and the Security Service of Ukraine. But their usefulness has also proven to be minimal as they have themselves become involved in criminal activities.

The discrepancy between official and actual policies in the struggle against corruption and organized crime could be seen in the "Clean Hands" campaign launched in February 1998. "Clean Hands" was launched under Western pressure after widespread publicity surrounding the misdeeds that plagued the Lazarenko government (July 1996-July 1997). Not surprisingly, it was quietly forgotten.

On April 28, 1998, the executive adopted a far-reaching "Concept for the Struggle Against Corruption" that was to last until 2005, though the plan gave way to further government measures in July 2000 when its ineffectiveness was recognized. Such long-term Ukrainian programs, which have also been adopted in other fields, resemble Soviet-era five-year plans both in the way they are constructed and their lack of implementation because of their purely cosmetic character.



# Saskatchewan UCC holds eighth Nation Builders Awards luncheon

SASKATOON – The Ukrainian Canadian Congress Saskatchewan Provincial Council held its 2002 Nation Builders Awards luncheon here in the Regency Ballroom at Hotel Saskatchewan, Radisson Plaza, on Sunday, November 3.

Established as an official recognition event of the UCC-SPC, the Nation Builders Awards luncheons honor community activists for their contribution to Canadian society and to the Ukrainian community. The UCC-SPC has been sponsoring this annual event since 1995.

This year the Ukrainian Canadian community of Saskatchewan formally acknowledged the outstanding contributions of 11 of its members, three of whom were honored posthumously. The honorees represent a wide range of personal involvements and achievements. They included the following persons:

- The late Basil Baleshta spent a lifetime conducting Ukrainian choirs in Saskatchewan and concerts in major centres of Canada and the United States.
- The late Michael Baran spent his life promoting Ukrainian culture by serving on various organizations including the UCC.
- Stan Chepyha, a teacher for nearly four decades, has worked with choral groups for 40 years in and outside of the school system. He is a recipient of the Papal Medal.
- Mary Cherneskey was a professional educator, community leader, writer and administrator. She promoted multiculturalism in numerous ways, including formulating policies on multiculturalism.
- Taras Gabora is a world-renowned violinist and teacher who helped establish numerous musical groups and has adjudicated many international competitions.
- Marie Kishchuk has worked in heritage management and consulting, including as director and curator of the Ukrainian Museum of Canada, among many other boards.
- Myron Kowalsky taught school prior to being elected to the Saskatchewan Legislature and recently as the House speaker. He supports many Ukrainian organizations and causes.
- Dr. Michael Krochak, recently named Canada's family physician of the year, is an active supporter of his profession and his cultural heritage.
- Katherine Labiuk is a longtime teacher and worker



Ukrainian Canadians recognized as "Nation Builders" by the Saskatchewan Provincial Council of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

in various Ukrainian organizations, as well as museum of the plus custodian of the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada.

- Jayne Paluck, a longtime teacher, taught Ukrainian, co-produced theatrical productions, was very active in the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada and was president of Musée Ukraina.
- The late John Zenchyshyn supported the Ukrainian community through many organizations, public speaking, collecting archival material and the publication of a history book.

The attendance at this year's Nation Builders Awards

luncheon was one of the best ever. In addition, donations from Ukrainian community organizations, businesses and individuals in support of the project were at a record high. The UCC-SPC board, the awards selection committee and the Regina luncheon subcommittee expressed their sincerest gratitude to all who helped make the event the success it was – in particular to the honorees, their representatives and luncheon attendees.

The UCC-SPC is dedicated to promoting the development of the Ukrainian community in Saskatchewan and represents more than 125,000 individuals of Ukrainian background in Saskatchewan.



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## Parma Eparchy continues Deacon Training Program

ARNOLD, Pa. – St. Vladimir Institute opened its doors and started its fourth year of training men for the diaconate for the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma on September 20, 2002. The following day Bishop Robert Moskal ordained four men to the subdiaconate during the 5 p.m. divine liturgy at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church there. These men are the first to be ordained since the program began in 1999.

The men ordained subdeacons were Steve Aftanas from St. Vladimir's in Arnold, Pa., Jerry Ikalowych from Holy Trinity in Carnegie, Pa., Brother Gregory Madeya BHS from St. John's in McKeesport, Pa., and Richard Wilhelm from St. Mary's in Apopka, Fla. They will be ordained Deacons next spring after completion of the four-year course of study.

St. Vladimir Institute admits new students every two years. The second class started in 2001 and a new class will start in September of 2003. Men who are interested in studying for the diaconate

are welcome to contact the program director or talk with their pastor. The classes are held in Arnold the third weekend of the month from September to June each year. Both married and single men are welcome to apply.

The staff of the Deacon Training Program are all clergy and professionals of the Parma Eparchy and all volunteer their time to this program. The course of study includes canon law, homiletics, personality development, pastoral counseling, leadership training, catechesis, Old Testament, Synoptic Gospels, Gospel of John, Pauline Letters, Revelation, rubrics, liturgical music, liturgy, mysteries of initiation, eucharist, Byzantine theology, spirituality and ecclesiology, patristics, Holy Trinity, Church history, morality, Christology and Marian theology.

Those who request admission must be 35 years of age if married, 25 if single. They must have achieved a minimum of a high school diploma and have the ability to do advanced academic studies.

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Seven candidates studying for the diaconate pose with the Rev. Canon Dr. John Ropke, procurator/rector (front left), and Msgr. George Appleyard, director/dean (front right). From left in the second row are: Brother Joseph Wirag BHS; Jerry Ikalowych and John Gregory; top row: Steve Aftanas, Richard Wilhelm, Roman Turchyn and Brother Gregory Madeya BHS.



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## Ambassador Pascual's...

(Continued from page 3)

stations with "correct" political messages.

The Procurator General's Office denied accreditation to Ukrainska Pravda for the "tone" of its writing, although nothing official was provided in writing. On December 5, 10 journalists, including reporters of UT-1, 1+1, Inter, STB and Fakty, walked out of the press conference of the deputy prosecutor general and the Kyiv prosecutor in protest.

While the attack on media freedoms is of great concern, the spirited response by journalists all over Ukraine is a sign that civil society is consolidating in Ukraine. These individuals have understood that it is up to them to ensure media freedom in Ukraine, that it is up to them to protect this most important of liberties. Two years ago, I do not think that reporters would have risked losing their jobs, formed an independent trade union and played a leading role in parliamentary hearings that for the first time ever were carried live on national TV.

## Need a back issue?

If you'd like to obtain a back issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, send \$2 per copy (first-class postage included) to: Administration, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.



## Houston's Ukrainian community decorates tree for holiday display



HOUSTON – A Ukrainian Christmas tree is among the many featured during the holiday season at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. The theme of this year's display is "Cultured Pearls," and the Ukrainian tree picks up on that general theme to focus on "The Ukrainian Language: Pearl of Our Culture." The Ukrainian display was prepared by members of the Ukrainian American Cultural Club of Houston, under the leadership of Larisa Scates. Those who helped decorate the tree were Olia Dub, Joan and Phillip Brandt, Bill Palmer, Vasyl Dijk, Halia and Alex Filenko. On the tree are ornaments with Ukrainian letters on backgrounds of yellow or blue; yellow and blue banners are draped all over the tree with the well-known quotation from Taras Shevchenko's poem "My Friendly Epistle" in both Ukrainian and English: "Educate yourselves, my brethren – think and read. Learn about others, but do not forsake your own." In addition, the tree is decorated with white glass globes bearing red and black Ukrainian patterns on them and many strings of "pearls." Topping the tree is an embroidered "rushnyk," or ritual cloth.

## Canadian educators...

(Continued from page 5)

for the Professional Development of Teachers in Canada was discussed. The plans include the creation in Lviv of an alternative center of post-graduate education with the support of the institute; further development of the network of innovative education centers by course participants in the raion centers of the Lviv Oblast; publication of books and methodological guides for teachers; and resource centers of innovative educational tech-

nology on the basis of the six schools already working with the educational philosophy supported by the institute.

The institute will continue to hold professional development sessions for teachers during the summer, but will try to do this in other regions of Ukraine, particularly the east, although problems of local support will have to be resolved. They would also like to help Ukrainian schools in Poland, Slovakia and Russia, as well as organize courses for trainers who will then provide professional development sessions for teachers in various regions of Ukraine.

## A Canadian Christmas...

(Continued from page 7)

ing them under the pillow or near the bed. January 7 is often called "Ukrainian" Christmas, although that is not completely accurate. This is Christmas according to the old Julian calendar, the one replaced by the Gregorian one, in which Christmas falls on December 25. Many Eastern Christian Churches celebrate according to the old calendar, although a

majority of Ukrainian Catholic parishes in Manitoba voted to change to the new calendar a few decades ago. The time does not matter, because Ukrainians marking Christmas Eve on December 24 still celebrate the way they always have, with the Holy Supper.

Then, on Christmas Day, whether on December 25 or January 7, they'll have a traditional turkey dinner, with all the trimmings, including a side dish of holubtsi, of course. It is Manitoba, after all.

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**COMMUNITY CHRONICLE**

**St. Vladimir's Cathedral recognizes its library staff at special luncheon**

PARMA, Ohio – The library staff of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral were hosted on October 24, 2002, at an appreciation luncheon at a local Parma restaurant by the parish clergy.

The library, which was established in 1986 in honor of the Millennium of Christianity in Ukraine, is staffed by dedicated volunteers who serve the needs of the entire community of Greater Cleveland.

The library now houses over 3,000 books, videotapes, Ukrainian newspapers and periodicals from Ukraine, the United States and Canada. These materials are available to anyone in the community.

In 1993, to mark the 60th anniversary of the Great Famine in Ukraine, a second


room was added to the library. The Famine Room contains a photo display of the tragedy that killed millions in Ukraine.

Since the independence of Ukraine, the dedicated members of the library staff have undertaken a new project. In conjunction with the Saber Foundation, they have acquired, packed and sent over 2,000 books to libraries in Poltava, Kharkiv, Lviv, Donetsk, Sumy and Crimea.

Library hours at St. Vladimir's are 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings and from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturdays. These times have been scheduled during the parish's Ukrainian folk dancing school, Bandura School and Ukrainian School, as well as when English classes are held for new arrivals from Ukraine.



Clergy and library staff of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral during an appreciation dinner.



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**Land is purchased...**  
(Continued from page 8)

dry room. The staff will consist of a full-time cook and housekeeper, as well as a part time groundskeeper. Bishop Robert Moskal blessed the grounds for the home in December.

The board would like to construct the home with cash to allow the priests who reside in the home to pay the least amount of rent. The cost of construction is currently expected to be \$795,000. A special account has been established in Parma for future construction; at present there is about \$30,000 in the account.

For more information, or to help financially, please contact the Rev. Ropke, at 1601 Kenneth Ave. Arnold, PA 15068 or call (724) 339-9622. Checks may be made payable to Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma, Ohio.

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The next issue of The Ukrainian Weekly's

# Wedding Announcements

will appear on January 19, 2003.

**For a wedding announcement to be included in that issue, all information must be received in our offices by January 10, 2003.**

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

### Rates for announcements and greetings:

- One-column wedding announcement: \$100
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Visit [www.ukrweekly.com](http://www.ukrweekly.com) to view a wedding announcement sample page.

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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

**Saturday, January 25**

**CLIFTON, N.J.:** The parishioners of St. Mary Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Church invite the public to their second annual winter family dinner and the celebration of the feast day of St. Melania. The event will be held at the church hall, 81 Washington Ave., at 7 p.m. Tickets in advance of January 20, \$20 per person; \$25 thereafter and at the door; children, free admission, age 12 and under. BYOB. For information or tickets call the parish, (973) 546-2473, and leave name and contact number, and the call will be returned.

**Friday, January 17**

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Art and

Literary Club and The New York Bandura Ensemble present "Our Christian Land" as part of the "Archetypes of Ukrainian Culture" series. The program will feature bandurists Lavrentia Turkewicz and Yuriy Fedynsky who will perform a selection of Ukrainian historical and ritual songs reflecting the Turkish invasion of Ukraine. Commentary: Lavrentia Turkewicz. Donation: \$10 (students, \$5). Featured in the gallery is a Christmas exhibit (through January 27). The evening will be held at the Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave., fourth floor, at 7 p.m. For more information, call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144 or visit the website <http://www.brama.com/mayana>; or e-mail [ukrartlitclub@aol.com](mailto:ukrartlitclub@aol.com). The programs are partially funded by the New York State Council on the Arts.

## 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.

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