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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukraine prepares to mark its 12th Independence Day

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Tens of thousands of people, including most of Ukraine's top leadership, will gather on August 24 to watch 5,000 members of the country's Armed Forces parade down the country's main thoroughfare, the Khreschatyk, as it celebrates its 12th anniversary of independence.

That evening, more than 300,000 are expected to celebrate on Kyiv's famous main boulevard and to listen to pop concerts at two venues on European Square and Independence Square, which will be followed by a lavish city-sponsored fireworks display.

Across the country, many of the nation's 48 million citizens will fly the blue-yellow-Ukrainian standard and raise toasts in their homes and on their dachas to the country's future well-being and prosperity.

But 32,000 people, among them 10,000 incarcerated criminals, will perhaps give the biggest cheer. By decree of President Leonid Kuchma, they will receive conditional amnesties that will give those in jail their freedom and clear those who are serving terms of probation and other types of sentences.

Volodymyr Liovochkyn, director of the State Department of Sentence Enforcement, said this is not Ukraine's first amnesty. Mr. Liovochkyn noted that such amnesties are common in many European countries, including Germany, which frees prisoners every Christmas. He explained that Ukraine would like to make its amnesty program an annual tradition as well.

In an effort to quell concerns over more crime, he added that there is no reason to expect an upsurge in criminal activity.

"Our experience has shown that amnesties do not lead to an increase in crime," explained Mr. Liovochkyn. "This can be seen from the 2001 amnesty (given in conjunction with the first decade of Ukrainian independence), when only 1 percent of the more than 29,000 people who had been freed committed new crimes."

In this year's amnesty, 20,000 or so persons who had been found guilty of various non-violent crimes and are now on probation or serving in work programs will be released from their sentences within three months. Another 10,000 who are currently in work camps, prisons and detention centers will obtain their freedom, also within a three-month period. Imprisoned criminals are eligible

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Ukrainian World Congress meets in Kyiv

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Under the banner, "Where Ukrainians Live, There Lives Ukraine," the Ukrainian World Congress re-elected Askold Lozynskyj as its president on August 21 in the culmination of its eighth congress – the first one held in the capital of Ukraine.

The vote by the more than 350 delegates from 20 countries to retain their chosen leader for a second five-year term came on the fourth and last day of the meeting. The convention was unexpectedly moved to the Teacher's Building after the original convention hall revoked the agreement weeks before the scheduled start date.

"When I say that this congress is a turning point, I will not be exaggerating," explained Mr. Lozynskyj. "I call it a turning point because whereas we had one delegate from the Eastern diaspora at the Toronto convention [in 1998], this time there are more than 100."

The UWC serves as the highest umbrella organization for Ukrainians living in the diaspora. It consists of more than 100 organizations in 25 countries, whose combined memberships, the UWC says, total close to 20 million people. The UWC does not offer membership to political organizations.

Mr. Lozynskyj explained that the convention motto alludes to the similarities Ukrainians retain even though they are scattered across the globe. He said he had observed that phenomenon first hand as he traveled to 26 countries in the last five years while representing the UWC.

"Whether we live in the U.S., Canada, Omsk or Tomsk, we tend to differ from the surrounding communities and to have



Volodymyr Honchar

Ukrainian World Congress leaders and dignitaries on the dais during the opening ceremonies of the organization's first conclave in Kyiv.

specific similarities to one another," explained Mr. Lozynskyj.

The first UWC convention in Ukraine got off to a bad start when, two weeks prior to its onset, organizing committee leaders were told that the Ukrainian Home Exposition Hall, which the UWC had originally booked for its gathering, would be undergoing remodeling. Things got worse after the Ukrainian Home, which is owned by the presidential administration, did not return the down payment.

While the UWC leadership tried at first to play down any political root to the unexpected problems and change of venue, Mr. Lozynskyj started to sound like he was preparing for more verbal sparring with the Ukrainian government.

At an initial press conference on

August 15, three days before the convention opened, the New York attorney told The Weekly, "We do not want to make a big deal about this." By Wednesday, however, the UWC president was telling some news agencies he was ready to go to court to get back the UWC's, deposit which amounted to 37,000 hrv. (about \$7,000).

UWC Vice-President Maria Shkambara said that organizing the Kyiv congress was the most difficult of the three with which she had been involved. She explained that she was informed by Ukrainian Home officials of the decision to nullify the contract after she returned to Canada from Kyiv.

"I can't comprehend how the manager could have taken the money from me, if

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Lynda Mark

At the unveiling of a new statue of Ukrainian Canadian internees, at the Selo Ukraina Memorial Park, in Dauphin, Manitoba, is the group of activists responsible for seeing the project to completion: (from left) sculptor John Bostel, Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, MP Inky Mark, Peter Bilash and Borys Sydoruk.

Internees remembered at Dauphin Festival

DAUPHIN, Manitoba – A crowd of hundreds of visitors attending Dauphin's National Ukrainian Festival during the first weekend of August witnessed the unveiling of a sculpture hallowing the memory of the thousands of Ukrainians and other Europeans unjustly imprisoned as "enemy aliens" during Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920.

Created by Kingston area sculptor, John Bostel, the three figures portray the profound emotions experienced by those caught up during this tragic episode in Canadian history. While the central figure shows defiance, he is flanked by another man whose despair at the indignity of his needless confinement is por-

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ANALYSIS

Attitudes to Soviet past reflect nostalgia, pragmatism

by **Taras Kuzio**
RFE/RL Newline

The past year has witnessed the emergence of three distinct trends in approaches both in Russia and some other CIS states to their shared Soviet legacy. One such trend is nostalgia for the relative security of the era of Joseph Stalin. Second, certain anniversaries of former republican or Soviet leaders are commemorated, while others are ignored. Third, in the ongoing process of state-building, both Belarus and Russia are reintroducing Soviet symbols, either together with tsarist ones (in the case of Russia), or in an adapted form (Belarus).

In March outpourings of nostalgia were seen across Russia on the 50th anniversary of Stalin's death. The Public Opinion Foundation found that 36 percent of Russians viewed Stalin in a positive light, compared to the 29 percent who viewed him negatively. The Russian State Archives, and those of the Federal Security Service (FSB) and Federal Protection Service, prepared an exhibition on the Stalin era, including some personal effects and letters from Soviet citizens written on his death.

Volodymyr Malynkovich, a Russophile Russian-speaking liberal based in Kyiv, is alarmed by this high level of nostalgia for Stalin. In his opinion, Russian television now shows more Stalinist films than it did during the Leonid Brezhnev era, when Mr. Malynkovich was briefly arrested as a member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group and then expelled from the USSR.

Meanwhile, the leaderships of CIS states are selectively commemorating the anniversaries of certain Soviet leaders. In January, Moldovan President and Communist Party leader Vladimir Voronin bestowed the Order of the Republic on former Moldovan Communist leader Ivan Bodiul on his 85th birthday. Mr. Bodiul was first secretary of the Communist Party of Moldavia from 1961-80. In March the Russian State Duma voted to commemorate the centenary of the birth of the former chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Nikolai Kosygin. Mr. Kosygin headed that body in 1964-1980. And in February, Ukraine celebrated at the official level for the first time the 85th anniversary of the birth of Volodymyr Scherbytsky, who headed the Communist Party of Ukraine from 1972 to 1989. Messrs. Bodiul and Scherbytsky resolutely opposed Romanian and Ukrainian nationalism, respectively.

The commemoration of Scherbytsky's anniversary was nonetheless surprising because his period in office is associated with Russification, the wide-scale arrest of Ukrainian dissidents and the Brezhnev "era of stagnation." In addition, Scherbytsky went ahead with the May Day parade in 1986 just days after the Chernobyl nuclear accident.

By contrast, the 95th anniversary of the birth of Petro Shelest, Scherbytsky's predecessor as first secretary of the Communist Party of Ukraine, which also fell in February, was ignored. Shelest is often compared favorably to Scherbytsky because he supported the Ukrainian language and culture and is believed to be closer in spirit to the Ukrainian National Communists of the 1920s.

Such contrasts between Mr. Shelest and Scherbytsky are artificial, however. Writing in the May issue of the Kyiv monthly Krytyka, leading historian Yuriy Shapoval

says it is absurd to claim Mr. Shelest was a "liberal" and Scherbytsky an "orthodox communist." What differentiates them the most, Dr. Shapoval believes, is that Scherbytsky knew how to hold on to power for 17 years with support from Moscow. This is the reason Ukraine's contemporary centrist elites admire Scherbytsky so much.

Leonid Kravchuk and the "sovereign Communists" within the Communist Party of Ukraine were also seen as "national Communists" in 1990-1994 both in Ukraine and abroad when Mr. Kravchuk was Parliament chairman and then president. But Ukraine's "sovereign Communists" evolved into centrists, and it is those centrists who are today commemorating Scherbytsky's anniversary, but not Mr. Shelest's, even though it would have been more logical for them to take Mr. Shelest, who was removed in 1971 after being accused of "national deviationism," as their role model rather than Scherbytsky. On Shelest's anniversary no newspaper articles or books were published or flowers placed on his grave.

Belarus and Russia, meanwhile, are selectively resurrecting Soviet symbols. President Alyaksandr Lukashenka of Belarus is the quintessential Soviet Belarusian patriot who presides over a regime steeped in Soviet nostalgia. In 2002 Belarus adopted a new anthem that, in fact, is the Soviet Belarussian anthem ("My Belarusts," composed in 1955) with references to Soviet leader Vladimir Lenin removed. In Russia, President Putin and his party of power are seeking to incorporate both tsarist and Soviet symbols in a new Eurasianist ideology.

Russia under former President Boris Yeltsin had difficulties introducing new national symbols. In April 1997 the Communist Party moved in the Duma an amendment to restore the Soviet flag and anthem. The proposal obtained 239 votes, with only 90 against, but fell short of the 300 votes necessary for constitutional amendments. In a January 1998 vote, only a quarter of the Duma deputies backed the new (non-Soviet) flag, coat of arms and anthem favored by Mr. Yeltsin. The majority voted to preserve the Soviet anthem.

As late as 2000 only 11 percent of Russians knew the lyrics of the Russian national anthem, whereas 79 percent could sing the Soviet one. Russian President Vladimir Putin overcame Mr. Yeltsin's inability to resolve which national symbols Russia should adopt by reviving the Soviet-era anthem with new lyrics. In a State Duma vote in December 2000, only nine months after Mr. Putin came to power, 378 deputies voted to reinstate the Soviet anthem. Only 53 deputies from the SPS and Yabloko factions were opposed to the move.

In Russia, the tricolor flag and tsarist coat of arms have been restored alongside the revamped Soviet anthem. The Russian military has similarly reinstated Soviet Red Army insignia. Russia's national symbols, therefore, reflect a fusion of tsarist and Soviet symbols that make up Russia's emerging Eurasianist identity. Recent moves to bolster this new Russian identity appear to be rooted more in pragmatism than nostalgia. Faced with a dwindling pool of manpower to draw on, Moscow has invited all CIS citizens regardless of ethnicity to serve in the Russian armed forces. And the Russian Foreign Ministry is currently preparing a campaign to have Russian declared an official working language throughout the Commonwealth of Independent States.

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

NEWSBRIEFS

Ukrainian World Congress convenes

KYIV – More than 300 delegates and 200 guests from some 20 countries on August 18 opened the three-day conclave of the Ukrainian World Congress in Kyiv, Interfax and RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported. The forum, which is taking place in Ukraine for the first time, was expected to discuss the role of the Ukrainian diaspora in political and other processes in the country. "The tragedy of the current situation is that the authorities [in Ukraine] have not Ukrainianized themselves, [and] they have become even more indifferent [to Ukrainian problems]," former Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko, the leading democratic contender in next year's presidential elections, told the gathering. "Poverty and unemployment have killed faith in the Ukrainian state for many." The UWC was founded in 1967 in New York as the World Congress of Free Ukrainians. It includes more than 100 organizations of the Ukrainian diaspora. (RFE/RL Newline)

Deputy requests protection for witnesses

KYIV – Hryhorii Omelchenko, head of an ad hoc parliamentary committee to investigate the 2000 murder of journalist Hryhorii Gongadze, has asked the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) to guarantee the safety of individuals who come forward with information about the case, Interfax reported, quoting the Ukrainian media watchdog Mass Information Institute (IMI). National Deputy Omelchenko specifically asked that the SBU provide protection to SBU officers who reportedly helped former police officer Ihor Honcharov collect material on the Gongadze murder. Mr. Honcharov, who is regarded as a key suspect in the Gongadze case, died in police custody on August 1. Mr. Honcharov reportedly managed to give the IMI a 17-page handwritten document in which he claimed to possess information about Mr. Gongadze's killers, including audio recordings and a confession that he said he wanted to reveal to investigators in the presence of independent witnesses. (RFE/RL Newline)

Marchuk receives Polish order of merit

WARSAW – Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski decorated Ukrainian Defense Minister Yevhen Marchuk with the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Polish Republic in Warsaw on August 14, PAP reported. "In Ukraine, we have not only good politicians but also real friends," Mr. Kwasniewski said during the ceremony, stressing that Mr. Marchuk is "one of the advocates and architects of Polish-Ukrainian reconciliation."

Earlier the same day, Mr. Marchuk met with his Polish counterpart, Jerzy Szmajdzinski, and discussed the joint mission of Polish and Ukrainian soldiers in the Polish-led stabilization sector in Iraq. Interfax reported that Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma on August 12 awarded Polish National Security Bureau head Marek Siwiec the Order of Yaroslav the Wise of the third class for Mr. Siwiec's "valuable personal contribution to the development of Ukrainian-Polish relations." (RFE/RL Newline)

Ukraine seeks answers in Protsyuk case

KYIV – A spokesman for the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Ukraine on August 14 released a statement that called the U.S. military inquiry's report on the killing of news cameraman Taras Protsyuk, a Ukrainian employed by the Reuters news service, incomplete. The Central Command on August 12 released a statement saying that the actions of U.S. troops which resulted in the deaths on April 8 of Mr. Protsyuk and Spanish cameraman Jose Couso were justified due to the fierce enemy resistance in the area at the time of the incident. Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry said that, while it understands "the argumentation about complex conditions and situations in which the U.S. military was functioning, Ukraine at the same time believes that the investigation should be continued with the aim of obtaining more concrete results." The statement added: "The conclusion of the U.S. side cannot be considered final as the issue is one of the moral and legal responsibility that should be borne by those guilty in the death of Taras Protsyuk." (Press Service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine)

Reuters seeks inquiry into killings

LONDON – The Reuters news agency is seeking a full public inquiry into the death of a Reuters cameraman fatally shot by U.S. soldiers in Iraq on August 10. Mazen Dana was the second Reuters cameraman to be killed by U.S. fire in Iraq since the beginning of the invasion. Taras Protsyuk of Ukraine was killed on April 8. "Coming so soon after the death of Taras Protsyuk, and also involving an American tank, this latest death is hard to bear," said Tom Glocer, chief executive of Reuters, in a statement released to the press. Mr. Glocer called "upon the highest levels of the U.S. government for a full and comprehensive investigation in to this terrible tragedy." (The New York Times)

Minister comments on food prices

KYIV – Agricultural Minister Serhii

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VOX POPULI: Ukrainians throughout North America reflect on 12th anniversary of Ukraine's independence

The 12th anniversary of Ukraine's independence is upon us and *The Ukrainian Weekly* wanted to know what people throughout the United States and Canada will be doing to celebrate the occasion. Recent statistics have shown that diaspora Ukrainians are slowly moving out of traditional Ukrainian neighborhoods, such as those found in Toronto, Chicago and New York. More and more, they are opting instead to live in states such as California, Oregon, Georgia, North and South Carolina, to name a few.

With this in mind *The Ukrainian Weekly* contacted Ukrainians living throughout the United States and Canada to ask: How are you and the people in your community celebrating this anniversary? Is this year different in any way from past Independence Day celebrations? What is the most significant aspect of either independence or Independence Day celebrations?

Ukrainians living throughout the United States and Canada responded to our questions with an interesting array of answers. Below is a sampling of what people had to say about Ukraine's 12th anniversary and how their communities would be celebrating the milestone. The responses were compiled by Roxolana Woloszyn, Peter Steciuk and Andrew Nynka.

Eugene Kuchta, 46, Houston, chemical engineer:

The Ukrainian American Cultural Club has asked me to be master of ceremonies for this year's Ukrainian Independence Day celebrations. There will be a program at the parish hall of the Protection of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church. Usually, two keynote speeches are delivered by members of the Houston community, one in Ukrainian and one in English. In the past, Ukrainians, along with professors and non-Ukrainians with an interest in Ukraine, have given these speeches. Proclamations from the mayor or the governor will also be read. A community meal will follow the ceremonies.

I remember the fifth anniversary being crucial because people wondered if Ukraine could maintain its independence. Then the 10th anniversary came along and people saw that Ukraine was surviving as an entity in and of itself. A lot needs to be done, but every year that the country remains independent means it is making progress.

Orest Lechnowsky, 36, Omaha, engineer:

Our active Ukrainian community in Omaha, Neb., which is composed of some 50 people, celebrated Ukraine's independence with a dinner on August 17. There were no speeches or musical performances, just a dinner together to commemorate the 12th independence. In past years we have had programs with speeches, musical performances and films.

Independence was something that Ukrainians hoped for and people strived for for so long. It almost seems unreal for many people now that it has come. Things still aren't as they should be, but there's a lot of hope – and, at the same time, a lot of pessimism.

Orest Baranyk, 58, Chicago, architect:

Chicago will have a threefold ceremony celebrating Ukrainian Independence Day. On August 21, at a reception for Ukrainian Americans at the Chicago Cultural Center, Mayor Rich Daly will present a resolution marking Ukrainian Independence Day. Awards for various accomplishments are also given at the reception.

On August 22, a flag measuring 30 by 20 feet will be raised during a ceremony at Daly Plaza, which is in what you would call the center of town. A short program with dancing and singing will follow the ceremony. On August 23-24 a Ukrainian Fest will be happening. At 1:30 p.m. on Saturday the festival will begin with a formal program, at which Pat Quinn and other Chicago officials will make speeches, some in English and some in Ukrainian.

After the euphoria of the first few Independence Day celebrations things were not quite as they should be. There were no Ukrainian patriots in the government, just people after their own interests. I was disappointed but optimistic. Hopefully, the right people are in the government now and are setting Ukraine on the right road to democracy.

Oleg Pynda, 40, Kent, Wash., executive director of the Ukrainian Community Center in Washington:

The Ukrainian community in the Seattle area will celebrate Ukraine's independence with a festival on Saturday night, August 23. There will be various performances, signers and music. We're expecting between 3,000 and 4,000 people to attend.

This year's celebrations will be a little different from what was done last year because a year ago we did a celebration during the day and we also had food. This year we're not planning on having food there.

The mayor of Kent will give a speech and we believe the mayor of Seattle will also come to give a speech,

although the mayor has not confirmed yet.

Lubomyr Hewko, 74, Detroit, retired from General Motors Research Laboratories:

Ukrainian Independence Day is sponsored by the Ukrainian community. There is a picnic at the Ukrainian Catholic Church of St. Josaphat. I had been waiting for Ukrainian Independence Day most of my life. I was very excited when Ukraine became independent.

Independence Day is memorable because I am active in the Rotary Club. I was involved in the Rotary Club when it appeared for the first time in Kyiv in 1992. Now there are 36 all over Ukraine, with three in Kyiv and in Lviv. We have a good relationship with the Rotary in Ukraine. We send greetings to each other and visit each other regularly. We also furnish medical supplies for the Rotaries in Ukraine. The 10th anniversary of the Rotary Club was last year, and there was a big celebration.



A scene on the Khreschatyk as people in the capital of Ukraine celebrated the country's 10th anniversary in 2001.

Stephen Hallick, 58, Duluth, Ga., retired from the military:

I just got back from Ukraine. I don't appreciate swastikas and graffiti on the walls in Lviv. "USA equals Nazis" was also written all over Lviv. I had no water in my room for 21 days. It was really worse in Ukraine compared to the nine other years I've been there. The streets in Lviv are filthy. There's a lot more coldness, a lot more frustration.

I don't celebrate Ukrainian Independence Day on August 24, I celebrate on January 22.

Albert Kachkowski, 62, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, UNA Director for Canada:

I am celebrating mainly through my strong involvement in Summer Fest, which takes place outdoors on the beautiful riverbank, which is good for the community. Summer Fest is a one-day event celebrating Ukrainian Independence Day, which traditionally takes place on the Saturday closest to August 24. The Ukrainian community is using the publicity gained through Tourism Saskatoon and its publications.

Saskatoon is a fairly established community, but not everybody feels close to Ukraine because some people are first, second, third or even fourth generation. However, the 10th anniversary seemed to be a springboard [for popularizing Ukrainian Independence Day]. I take great pleasure in helping to organize the [annual] event.

Chrystia Losianovich, 21, Salt Lake City, student at the University of Utah:

There are no Ukrainians here in Salt Lake City – none that I know of at least. So we've never really celebrated Ukraine's independence. When my mom moved here several years ago she actually opened up the phone book and started looking for Ukrainian names. But there weren't any.

I think it's important that Ukraine has gained its independence, but there's still so much that needs to be

done. I go to Ukraine often, and Lviv only gets water during certain parts of the day. Even then, the water's cold. We actually have to bottle as much as we can when the water comes on so that we have some for later. It's really very sad.

Yeah, it's nice that the country is independent but there is such a dramatic difference between the people who have money – they're rich – and the people who don't – they're unbelievably poor.

Michael Ewanchuk, 95, Winnipeg, retired educator, author:

I plan to celebrate Ukrainian Independence Day by taking a friend out to dinner. I'm glad to see that Ukraine is independent. 1990 was the last and only time I was in Ukraine, although I enjoyed the country very much. I'm still in contact with my Ukrainian relatives. We write to each other.

Michael Celuch, 48, North Haledon, N.J., CEO of Self Reliance (N.J.) Federal Credit Union:

Basically, our community – Passaic and Clifton – is having a presentation in front of Clifton City Hall on Monday, August 25. The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America is coordinating it. Usually, the mayor, councilmen and state representatives attend the ceremony. The mayor says a few words, there are proclamations made by local politicians and there are singing groups. Also, the Ukrainian flag is raised in front of city hall, where it flies for the day.

This year, however, I will be in Wildwood, N.J., for Independence Day. There is always a large gathering of Ukrainians in Wildwood, and there is typically some sort of public acknowledgment of independence.

This Ukrainian Independence Day is different in that Ukraine is coming up to a presidential election. It is important that people note that Ukraine is independent. They have the right to vote and to pick the right leadership for the country. Independence Day serves as a reminder of those rights.

Luba Keske, 50s, Woodland Hills, Calif., executive with MGM Studios:

Every year in Los Angeles there is a big program at the Ukrainian Cultural Center. There are dancers, music groups and singers, including both local and imported talent. There are also speakers and choirs. The event is very uplifting and thoroughly enjoyable. Before the program we go to church where the priest usually speaks about independence and we sing "Mnohaya Lita." We usually go from there to the Ukrainian Cultural Center.

On a community level, the celebration has gotten bigger. There are more people participating. Also, new émigrés are participating, which is good for the community. On a personal level, we have family in Ukraine and love Ukraine. It's wonderful that it has been 12 years and

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Harvard's Grabowicz speaks about education reform in Ukraine

by Lesya Holovata

LVIV – On June 5 Prof. George Grabowicz presented an expanded edition of his book “Do Istorii Ukrainskoi Literatry” (Towards a History of Ukrainian Literature) at a conference on “The History of Reading in Ukraine” held at the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) in Lviv. That same day, he gave an interview to UCU journalist Lesya Holovata.

Dr. Grabowicz is the Dmytro Cyzevskij Professor of Ukrainian Literature at Harvard University, former director of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, and founder and editor-in-chief of the journal Krytyka.

Though you work at Harvard, you are at the same time included in the Ukrainian educational context, and so are in a position to compare principles of training young scholars.

Unfortunately, there are very few scholarly institutions in Ukraine that are implementing reforms. I can single out from among all the universities only the Ukrainian Catholic University and the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NUKMA), and, to a great extent, Ivan Franko National University in Lviv is different from the mass. On the whole, the work style of educational institutions has not been reformed yet. I constantly stress a great anomaly: the number of young specialists is growing, there is even a middle generation, but, with the few exceptions mentioned above, they do not have access to the levers of institutional power.

Therefore, the anomaly remains: in the West people can become students at the age of 55-60 (definitely not a young age), and in Ukraine even at that age people cannot gain real power in the educational system, in particular in Ukrainian academic studies. This is the direct result of Stalinism in Ukrainian learning.

Young scholars must be stimulated to continue searching for fundamental values: high scholarly standards, a comparative approach to working with sources, emphasizing the study of sources, and constant comparison of the Ukrainian context to the international one, in order to avoid big gaps.

You don't see any progress?

Do you see any? Has there been any reform of personnel policy at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine? None. Have there been any systemic changes in the method of self-government of the institutes of the Academy of Sciences – independence of the institutions from central forces, being able to make cuts in staff and selection of work, liberation of departments and their projects? No.

I know that when a project is approved at the



Prof. George Grabowicz speaks at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv.

Institute of Literature, it becomes a joint “collective farm” matter. Nobody can overstep its limits or have their own position. This is nonsense! I can understand that when people work on some big plan, like, for example, the creation of the atomic bomb during World War II in America, then nobody has the right to be distracted from the cause. And if somebody has doubts about the goal of the project, that person is not included in the team. But that's an extreme example.

The thing is, I would be eager to hear objections, counterarguments, statements opposing mine from representatives of Ukrainian academic learning, in particular, the humanities field. However, I have been writing for 12 years now, and no one has even attempted to answer my challenge.

Do you have in mind representatives of academia?

Yes, starting from Yevhen Paton, who has been the head of the National Academy of Sciences for over half a century, from Stalin's time to today. This is a disgrace!

This couldn't happen anywhere else in the world. I ask at every forum if it is going to continue like this for long. But people just shrug: “We can't do anything.” There's no other reaction.

Realistically, what changes can be made now in the system of education? If representatives from the administrations of all the important institutions of higher education in Ukraine gathered together, would they be able to create an alternative to the official program “Education XXI”?

No, they can't, because the people who are in charge of these matters were chosen according to a different method in the first place and cannot reform themselves. It's a vicious circle.

Is there a solution?

I don't see any. Either we're going to have new political leadership: a new president, a new Parliament, who are going to see the current absolute crisis of this sector of Ukrainian social life and will make fundamental changes, which I do not expect, or we have to look for alternative means in order to extend this activity, as is done at UCU and NUKMA.

On the one hand, we are making alternative, high-quality attempts to reform education. On the other hand, the establishment protects itself with a vacuum. Scholars are instructed to write articles according to its requirements and publish them in its journals, otherwise, they will not be counted. VAK [the Higher Attestation/Certifying Commission; Vyscha Attestatsina Komysia] does not consider Krytyka or Harvard Ukrainian Studies to be scholarly publications.

We are here dealing with the heirs of the Soviet system, Brezhnev, Khrushchev, Andropov and Stalin. I have no other words to describe it. There are no mechanisms for dismantling it. I emphasize again: it is absolutely necessary to spread reforming thoughts in order for them to eventually reach political leaders.

Would it have to be a complex program or a stage-by-stage phenomenon: first, personnel policy, then, restructuring of the educational process and implementation of new methods?

Everything at the same time. It is necessary to do everything legally possible. It would be good to start with personnel policy. This is very difficult to implement, for no mechanical means have been worked out.

I, for one, thought for a long time that it was necessary to pass a strict law according to which persons over 40 would retire. But this would not solve the problem, either. For many 30-year-olds are already clones of 70-year-olds. They have managed to clone themselves already! To make sure this is so, one just has to look through a few books and see in what manner they're written. It is an exclusively mechanical method of updating, which does not guarantee success.

I also suggested another method: only a person who speaks English, French and German could be in charge of any humanities department.

What a reform that would be! But would there be enough qualified personnel to fill the gigantic vacancies?

All right, at least they should be fluent in English. For those Soviet mastodons don't speak and have never even tried to learn any other language except Ukrainian and Russian. Which of them have had their works published in the West? The same is true not only of humanities, but also of natural sciences, medicine, politics.

I'm not the only one talking about this. Once I was even called “the terminator” for saying things which sounded too radical. This was written about in Krytyka. Articles under a pseudonym periodically appear in the *Dzerkalo Tyzhnia*. A year ago someone gave a very accurate description of this: Ukrainian learning includes genuine scholars and singers. By “singers” was meant Poplavskiy, president of a so-called university (the establishment is also called “Kuliok” [Russian for plastic bag]).

Poplavskiy can be called a singer only theoretically, because he has not become either a pop star, welcomed by anybody in the West, or a singer performing at La Scala in Milan. He is a singer only in the Ukrainian context, where he can have a monopoly. Similar patterns are true of many Ukrainian so-called “scholars.” It is a fact. Despite anything I may say, this man and this institution will continue to exist, as they have backing and an established system.

The condition of academic learning looks rather pessimistic in your interpretation: problems exist, solutions don't.

(Continued on page 16)

Dominique Arel named to Chair of Ukrainian Studies in Ottawa

OTTAWA – As of July of this year the first chairholder was appointed to the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa. Dr. Dominique Arel will hold this teaching position as associate professor in the department of political science, and a research appointment for five years, after which he may renew his chair position.

Dr. Arel adds this new appointment to a position which he has held since 2001 as co-chair of the Title VIII-funded ongoing workshop “Multicultural Legacies in Russia and Ukraine” at the Kennan Institute in Washington.

According to the University of Ottawa Bulletin, the Chair of Ukrainian Studies was formally established on February 3, 1993, and launched on November 17, 1995, with Ramon J. Hnatyshyn, former Governor General of Canada, as honorary patron.

Because the University of Ottawa is one of the few officially bilingual institutions, the chair has three official languages: English, French and Ukrainian. The chair's academic activities are directed by the Advisory Executive Committee (AEC), while the Executive Subcommittee of the AEC handles all of the chair's programs and activities.

Dr. Arel, who received his Ph.D. in political science in 1993 from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, specializes in contemporary Ukrainian studies. While Dr. Arel is chairholder he will help further the goals of the chair and its holder, and continue to publish the informative bulletin for academics called the Ukraine List.

Dr. Arel will also retain an active research affiliation, which began in 1996, with the Watson Institute at Brown University in Providence, R.I., as adjunct

associate professor in order to continue his multi-year census project on Ukraine and Russia.

Through his studies of modern Ukraine, the Bulletin noted, Dr. Arel “has played a central role in stimulating the growth of social science research on contemporary Ukraine, and in the study of national identity and nationalism in the former Soviet Union.”

Since 1998 to this day Dr. Arel has been instrumental in turning the annual convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) into the premier scholarly gathering worldwide on nationalities issues, as well as the most significant annual event in Ukrainian studies. He helped organize ASN conferences in Paris and Bologna (2001, 2002), two conferences on contemporary Ukraine at Yale University (1999, 2000) and a symposium on the Ukrainian census at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (2003).

Aside from being a professor at the University of Ottawa, Dr. Arel also taught at McGill, Wesleyan, Brown and Yale. He has been given research grants by the Carnegie Corp. of New York, the Mellon Foundation, the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research (NCEEER) and the U.S. Institute of Peace.

The Russian Research Center at Harvard University and Columbia University's Harriman Institute awarded Dr. Arel post-doctoral fellowships, while Dr. Arel received a pre-doctoral fellowship from Duke University (East-West Center). Dr. Arel has written several journal articles and book chapters, and is completing a manuscript on the language question in Ukraine.

INTERVIEW: Peace Corps' country director for Ukraine

by Oksana Piaseckyj

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

MIAMI – Karl Beck, director of the Peace Corps in Ukraine, consented to an interview here after a fund-raising event for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, where he was a featured speaker.

Mr. Beck charms with his sensitive and analytic interpretations of events in Ukraine. Entertaining and informative anecdotes from his years of diplomatic journeys and assignments flowed effortlessly during our interview. When the subject came to Ukraine and its people, it was evident that Mr. Beck is truly dedicated and takes a very optimistic view of its future.

As the director of the Peace Corps program in Ukraine, Mr. Beck today oversees 235 volunteers. With so many volunteers, Peace Corps Ukraine is the largest of all the Peace Corps programs in 80 countries. Over the next 18 months Peace Corps Ukraine plans further growth – up to 300 volunteers.

I believe volunteers' most important successes are those that promote the development of individual Ukrainians and help them realize their full potential.

Mr. Beck arrived in Kyiv to take up his assignment as Peace Corps country director in October 2000. In the past he was a Peace Corps volunteer teacher trainer in Africa in the 1960s; he went on to be a U.S. diplomat, university professor and international civil servant over the next 30 years.

Peace Corps was born on October 14, 1960, when President John F. Kennedy inspired the American nation in a speech at the University of Michigan, asking how many would be willing to serve developing countries for the good of the United States. He envisioned a "decent way of life which is the foundation of freedom and a condition of peace."

From that vision a new public service called Peace Corps began. Since 1961, 168,000 Americans have used their diverse skills to improve conditions in more than 135 countries.

Would you give the readers of *The Ukrainian Weekly* the background of how the Peace Corps came into Ukraine and how it operates.

In 1992, Peace Corps' Ukraine program was the first to set up operations in a successor state of the former Soviet Union. To date 1,000 Americans of all demographic groups have performed teaching, consulting and advisory services in Ukrainian schools, universities, business centers, nature and environmental centers, local government offices and non-governmental organizations.

In addition to their primary job responsibilities as English and management teachers, business advisors and environmental activists, volunteers work as change agents in Ukrainian towns and villages, carrying out community projects that address youth leadership training, HIV/AIDS education and awareness-building, teacher training, gender issues, curriculum and textbook development, Internet and computer training, and civil society development through non-governmental organizations that provide aid to the poor, promote environmental clean-ups, discourage young women from accepting risky foreign employment propositions, encourage networking among youth leaders, upgrade schools, organize summer camps and tackle many other community needs.

Because they live and work in

Ukrainian communities without the special advantages that foreign development experts normally have, volunteers succeed in directly representing the United States and its people and culture to Ukrainian people of all walks of life. At the close of 27 months of service, each Volunteer brings back to the United States knowledge and understanding of Ukrainians that usually cause them to continue to be active in U.S.-Ukrainian relations for many years.

How did you find yourself in this position?

It was something I had wanted to do for a long time. I was a Peace Corps volunteer just after I finished college and then worked on the country staffs of three Peace Corps programs in Africa in the early '70s. I liked the work and especially the contacts with the people who join Peace Corps and their host country counterparts. I always looked forward to returning to Peace Corps. Of course in the '60s and '70s, I never would have imagined

one day I would work for Peace Corps east of what was then the Iron Curtain.

What is the structure of your organization in Ukraine?

Our structure mirrors our responsibilities to volunteers and Ukrainians. We have a training office that provides pre-service and in-service training to volunteers and their Ukrainian counterparts. This training equips the American volunteer to communicate in the language commonly used at his/her site and to operate in the Ukrainian context. We also have a Programming Section that finds job assignments for volunteers and supports them in the professional and personal adjustment areas and a Medical Section that works to keep volunteers healthy. Of course there is also a Financial and Administrative Section that supports all the other sections and makes sure volunteers receive their monthly liv-

ing allowances and all other financial support they are entitled to.

What is the size of Peace Corps and its distribution across Ukraine?

At present we have 235 volunteers distributed more or less evenly throughout Ukraine's 24 oblasts and Crimea. Of course this distribution is influenced by Ukrainian population densities and by the various levels of progressive development that are occurring in the different parts of the country. We especially seek opportunities to place volunteers in disadvantaged areas where extreme poverty and other problems make it hard for people to hope for a better future.

What types of projects are currently pursued?

Peace Corps Ukraine carries out three categories of projects. Approximately 100 volunteers work in English language education. This includes teaching at the secondary school and university levels, and several types and levels of teacher training for Ukrainian teachers of English.

An equal number of volunteers work as management educators in a great variety of assignments that include business consulting and advisory services, teaching business in high schools and universities and working on the staffs of non-governmental organizations that target community needs.

In addition we have a small Environment Project in which volunteers mostly help community organizations and nature centers educate youth about the need to protect the environment and the methods of doing so.

How is help received? What are the attitudes toward volunteers?

There is a lot of interest on the part of Ukrainians in working with Americans, but often neither side understands in the beginning what this entails. Often the Ukrainian partners want to change old attitudes and methods but have given little thought to the difficult challenges that change will present to them. On the American side, the volunteer wants "to get things done."

When there is sufficient good will on both sides, Ukrainians and Americans almost always find a way to cooperate and learn from each other. But usually the initial six months of a volunteer's service are a difficult and frustrating time when the volunteer sees little progress and the



Karl Beck

Ukrainian counterpart feels the American should have more patience.

What are some of your success stories?

There are many. They range from the achievements of a grandmother from Bowling Green, Ohio, who revamped and strengthened the management of Donetsk's largest and most effective public charity to the success of a young woman from southern California who taught a whole class of second graders in a Ternopil Oblast village to speak English so fluently that the kids could grill me in English for more than an hour with questions and opinions when I visited the school.

Peace Corps Ukraine volunteers' successes also include the work of another grandmother from Atlanta who wrote state-of-the-art textbooks for five years of university-level English teacher training, the creation by a retired architect from Princeton, N.J., of green parks throughout a western Ukrainian town, the training by a young Cornell University business graduate of dozens of dairy farmers in the Lviv Oblast about how to manage the business aspects of farming, the refurbishment of a Kirovohrad orphanage by a young man from Connecticut, the launching of a nationwide campaign against the spread of HIV/Aids by a young woman from New

(Continued on page 9)

Peace Corps director visits Ukraine

U.S. Embassy

KYIV – Peace Corps Director Gaddi Vasquez visited Ukraine on August 7-10 to meet with Peace Corps staff, Peace Corps volunteers and Ukrainian officials. He met with volunteers at their project sites to see first-hand the work they are doing.

"Through these country visits, we can check the progress and recognize the important work being done by volunteers in their host communities," stated Mr. Vasquez.

With 233 volunteers currently serving in the country, Ukraine is the largest Peace Corps post worldwide. Since 1992, Peace Corps Ukraine volunteers have worked in the areas of business development, English education and environmental protection in communities as diverse as Burshtyn, Chyhyryn, Drohobych, Yenakievo, Horlivka, Izmail, Dzhanke, Nemyriv and Okhtyrka, among others.

Director Vasquez's trip to Ukraine followed a visit to Romania, where he

met with President Ion Iliescu and secretaries of state, and participated in sessions at the annual meeting of Peace Corps country directors from Europe, the Mediterranean and Asia.

Mr. Vasquez's 22-year public service career includes service at the city, county, state and federal levels of government. He began his service as a police officer in the city of Orange, Calif., was on the board of supervisors for Orange County and was division vice-president of Southern California Edison Co. Mr. Vasquez was named six times by *Hispanic Business* magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential Hispanics in the United States.

During his 2002 State of the Union address, President George W. Bush called on all Americans to devote 400 hours or two years over a lifetime to volunteer service, either domestically or abroad. Since that announcement, Peace Corps has seen an increase in applications of approximately 15 percent.

The men and women who serve as

Peace Corps volunteers are selected to reflect the rich diversity of the United States and represent some of the finest characteristics of the American people. Volunteers have a strong work ethic, a generosity of spirit, a commitment to service, and an approach to problems that is both optimistic and pragmatic. They speak the local language and adopt the cultures and customs of the people they serve. In the process, volunteers share and represent the culture and values of the American people, earning respect for their country among people who may never meet another American.

Since 1961 more than 170,000 volunteers have served in the Peace Corps, working in such diverse fields as education, health, HIV/AIDS awareness and education, information technology, business development, the environment and agriculture. Peace Corps volunteers must be U.S. citizens and at least 18 years of age. Peace Corps service is a two-year commitment.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Ukraine's 12th

People who said back in the halcyon days of 1991, after Ukraine declared independence and threw off Moscow's heavy hand, that a democratic, free market European Ukraine would exist within a dozen years, were wrong. That's obvious today. Ukraine is still not anything like France, or even Poland for that matter, although it is moving in that direction ever so slowly.

Those who said it would take a generation may be on the mark, for while change is taking place, its progress is excruciatingly slow. It is not only that the power elites in Kyiv do not know how to or simply have no compunction to bring about dynamic change, but that too many individuals at all levels of society simply do not know how to change.

There remains a deep belief – a remnant of Soviet conditioning, which worked astonishingly well – that change must take place at the top. Couple this with the residual fear of authority instilled by the same system and you have paralysis. Sure, people will attend roundtables and seminars on grassroots organizing, civic society and activism. They will nod their heads in full agreement with what is said, but nonetheless they will not change.

With the presidential election season beginning in September, it is this Ukrainian passivity that must be shucked off. Ukrainians must stop doing things reflexively or with uncertainty and trepidation. They need to understand that prosperity and free will are not beyond their ability. They must learn to take the initiative, to elect the best person to lead this country.

Nonetheless, there is reason for hope because pessimism is in decline. People today are more ready to admit that things have improved, to acknowledge that reforms are beginning to work, the economy is growing and they have more money.

They must now understand that their destiny to a large degree is in their hands and that democracy is not simply the act of checking a box on a ballot at a polling station. It is about demanding accountability and transparency from elected officials, along with moral decency and honesty.

Today people talk openly of being betrayed by their lawmakers. In a recent poll only 28 percent of Ukrainians said they approved of the officials they elected in the last parliamentary election. To some degree, electors can only blame themselves for making poor or forced decisions.

And because we are in the Independence Day season, we'll cite another poll, which shows just how far Ukraine still has to go to reach full democratic maturity. A survey by the UNIAN news agency determined that more than 53 percent of Kyivans believe that less than half of all Ukrainians are patriotic. More than a quarter of them explained that they did not consider August 24 a holiday at all and do not celebrate.

Those of us who felt some 12 years ago that it would take more than a dozen years for Ukraine to look like Europe still have hope. A lot of work lies ahead, but it is doable.



The Ukrainian National Association,
on the 12th anniversary of Ukraine's independence,
greet the government of independent Ukraine and its people,
and wishes them peace, prosperity and continuous success
in maintaining a democratic and just state.

МНОГАЯ ТА БЛАГАЯ ЛІТА!

Stefan Kaczaraj, President
Christine E. Kozak, National Secretary
Roma Lisovich, Treasurer

UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY MESSAGE

May our common prayers hasten the formation of a new Ukraine

The Permanent Conference of Ukrainian Orthodox Bishops Beyond the Borders of Ukraine released the following archpastoral letter on the 12th anniversary of Ukrainian independence.

“God will help her day after day.” (Psalm 46)

Venerable and beloved clergy and faithful:
Christ is in our midst!

We pause to render heartfelt thanksgiving to the Giver of every good and perfect gift on the auspicious occasion of the 12th anniversary of Ukraine's exodus from the darkness of tyranny and death to the brightness of the newness of life.

We pause and we remember with great affection and esteem those religious and secular pillars of Kyivan Rus'-Ukraine – men and women of faith and commitment – who worked with fervor for the Lord throughout the centuries, utilizing the talents given them to cultivate the garden of life – the land of Ukraine, which the Lord of the vineyard entrusted to their stewardship. Their faith and deeds are worthy of being imitated by all.

There are many who are impatient with Ukraine's growth and development in the ecclesiastical and secular spheres, perhaps expecting fast-track or emotion-laden solutions to be utilized in resolving all the problems of contemporary Ukraine. It might be beneficial to remember that, not unlike the people of the Old Testament Exodus, many in present Ukraine, clerics and laity alike, find it difficult to dispose of the pseudo-religious and secular trappings of the pharaohs from which they were delivered by the grace of God 12 years ago. Many remain who have not the slightest desire to rid themselves of those trappings.

As a result, there are many who may not see or even have a vision within of the promised land – a new Ukraine – the reality proclaimed by the Psalmist David and which a true believer, Prince Yaroslav the Wise, had inscribed in Greek around the Oranta of St. Sophia in Kyiv: “God is in her midst and she shall not be moved. God will help her day after day.” It is an inscription that remains to this day, continuing to remind us of our spiritual roots and proclaiming a sure future for a believing people – for our brethren and for us – the Divine Presence and Omnipotence in the face of ecclesiastical and political machinations.

On this, the 12th anniversary of the great gift of freedom given to us by God, we assure the government and all the people of Ukraine, of our prayers and continued support for those policies and projects that uphold the dignity and holiness of life for every citizen of Ukraine.

We continue to pray for and support the cause of a united and independent Church for an independent nation. Disunity and discord serve only the agenda of those who despise an independent nation and are a blatant affront to the memories of the saints of Ukraine, whose relics repose in the holy city of Kyiv and in other holy shrines throughout the land consecrated by Andrew, the first-called apostle and evangelizer of Ukraine.

May our common prayers – the prayers of brothers and sisters committed to the totality of the Gospel, which the holy apostle Andrew preached and served – hasten that day when the new Ukraine, stripped of the trappings of the 20th century “Soviet” pharaohs, will be that center from which the Light of Christ once again enlightens and permeates all the East.

Commending you and our brothers and sisters in Ukraine to the all-embracing love of Christ, we remain, your servants in the Lord.

† Wasyly, Metropolitan
† John, Archbishop
† Vsevolod, Archbishop
† Yuriy, Archbishop

† Constantine, Metropolitan
† Antony, Archbishop
† Ioan, Archbishop
† Jeremiah, Bishop

August
24
2002

Turning the pages back...

Last year's celebration of Ukrainian Independence Day in Kyiv was a relatively subdued event, according to our correspondent on the scene, Roman Woronowycz, even though the size and excitement of the crowds on the Khreschatyk mirrored

those of years past. Following are excerpts of our Kyiv Press Bureau chief's report.

In part, the toned-down atmosphere was in response to several tragedies that the country had suffered in the last two months, including an air disaster and several coal mine explosions, which had resulted in hundreds of deaths. Also, organizers could not have hoped to exceed the hoopla of the 10th anniversary celebrations of the previous year and the awe at the site of military hardware. ...

Perhaps the most notable moment of this year's traditional Khreschatyk military parade came at the onset, when Minister of Defense Volodymyr Shkidchenko, a general of the army, during the annual address to the citizens, troops and state leaders gathered on Ukraine's most renowned thoroughfare, apologized for the Ukrainian military's involvement in several accidents over the course of the last years, notably the airshow disaster at the Sknyliv Aerodrome in Lviv on July 27.

“We ask forgiveness for the several tragedies of the last years that the armed forces failed to prevent,” said Gen. Shkidchenko, speaking from the main reviewing stand with President Leonid Kuchma standing at his side, and the 60-meter-high column of independence with lady liberty perched atop it looming in the background alongside a huge blue-and-yellow trident.

“All will be done in the next years to return the faith that had been accorded the armed forces of Ukraine and to quicken the pace of military reforms,” added the head of Ukraine's military.

After his address, 3,500 soldiers, cadets and plebes from the country's military installations, academies and lyceums marched up the Khreschatyk and past Independence Square where a banner proclaimed the official slogan of this year's celebrations: “Ukraine Has Happened – Today and Forever.”

As the high-stepping soldiers walked off down the street, marching bands filled the area before the main review stand – 29 in all, comprising more than 1,000 military musicians – and gave a 30-minute concert of classical and marching music, with President Kuchma, Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh and other state and government leaders appreciatively clapping.

Afterwards, the president presented national awards at his official residence, the Mariinskyi Palace, which was followed by the annual 10-kilometer run down the Khreschatyk. In the evening, crowds gathered once again in the city center to listen to Ukraine's most popular musical acts perform live on stages erected on European Square and Independence Square, before oohing and aahing at one of Kyiv's traditionally spec-

(Continued on page 16)

NEWS AND VIEWS

The current Russo-Chechen war: anti-terrorist campaign or colonial war?

by Bohdan Klid

On August 1, a suicide bomber destroyed a Russian military hospital in Mozdok, the headquarters of Russian forces fighting in Chechnya, killing more than 50 people. This latest bombing – in a string of suicide attacks that have killed about 200 people in Russia – represents an escalation in the level of violence in an already exceedingly brutal war, which in September will enter its fifth year.

A previous Russo-Chechen war of 1994-1996, also exceptionally violent, ended in stalemate and Russia's de facto recognition of Chechnya as an independent state. Russian troops were sent into Chechnya in 1994 by then president Boris Yeltsin to quash Chechen independence, declared in 1991.

It may be difficult to understand the nature of these last two wars without recognizing the deep colonial roots of the Russian-Chechen relationship – imperial rule that has featured ethnic cleansing and colonization, and horrific bouts of brutality and violent retributions in periods when Chechens have resisted or sought to throw off Russian rule.

Russia first attempted to conquer the north Caucasus in the late 18th century. In 1846, at the height of a 30-year campaign to subdue the Chechens, the Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko penned "The Caucasus," condemning in sarcastic verse Russia's imperial conquest of the Caucasus region, which he described as "cloaked in blood." This bloody tradition continues to this day.

In these last two conflicts Russian forces have suffered over 15,000 killed – more than the USSR lost in Afghanistan in the 1980s. Suicide attacks and terrorist bombings attributable to or blamed on Chechen extremists have added Russian civilian deaths, even in Moscow.

In comparison, Chechen losses have been staggering – over 200,000, mostly civilians, of a pre-war population of about 1 million. Over 200,000 have been displaced, while material losses in some areas are near total: Chechnya's capital, Grozny, for instance, has been reduced to rubble. Proportionately, the Chechens have suffered greater material and human losses than either the Bosnians or Kosovar Albanians during the recent break-up of Yugoslavia.

Within Russia, criticism of the Yeltsin government's use of force to deny Chechen independence in the first war was widespread. In contrast, Russia's current president, Vladimir Putin, whose rise to power was closely linked to the outbreak of the second war in Chechnya in 1999, has remained popular among most Russians to this day, despite the heavy price being paid in blood and treasure.

Dr. Bohdan Klid is research scholar and assistant director at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, Edmonton.

This shift can be explained by a rise in nationalist and even racist sentiment among Russians in recent years, the silencing of independent media critical of the Chechen war by the Putin government, as well as its relative success in portraying the elected Chechen government of Aslan Maskhadov as linked to Islamic terrorism and criminal elements.

Outside Russia, while world leaders were sharply critical of Russia's excessive use of force in the first war, they have largely ignored the Chechens' plight in the second. After the September 11 attacks, President Putin's alacrity in supporting President George W. Bush's war on terrorism has seemingly endeared him to the American president. Tony Blair recently feted Russia's leader.

It is a fact that a minority of Chechnya's fighters are led by proponents of Islamic fundamentalism, and that Arab volunteers have fought in Chechen ranks. It is also true that Chechen criminal gangs have committed horrific and grisly crimes, including kidnappings and decapitations of foreigners, and that some of the suicide attacks have targeted or resulted in the deaths of Russian civilians.

However, this does not mean that the current war is an anti-terrorist campaign, as propagandized by Russia's government, or that the Chechens do not retain the internationally recognized right to self-determination, and even independence as a remedy to unjust and brutal colonial rule.

In this latest war, most casualties on the Russian side, by far, have been military; on the Chechen side, civilian. Moreover, credible human rights organizations, while recognizing Chechen abuses, have stressed in their reports the tremendous number and range of abuses and war crimes committed by Russian forces against Chechen civilians, including mass killings, summary executions, torture and kidnappings. The Russian military have also indiscriminately shelled and bombed Chechen villages and urban areas, and have used banned weapons.

While Chechnya's elected president has consistently stated his willingness to sit down at the bargaining table with Russia's leaders, Mr. Putin has followed an uncompromisingly confrontational policy toward the Maskhadov government and its armed forces. In a throw-back to the Communist era, Russia's president has appointed an interim Chechen leader, held a rigged referendum that affirmed the desire of Chechens to be forever united with Mother Russia and has scheduled an election for a new Chechen president for October.

With some reservations, world leaders seem to have countenanced this Soviet-style farce. With their understanding, President Putin may finally succeed in solving Russia's centuries-long Chechen problem, and destroy the viability of the Chechens as a nation in the process.

PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



Empires – faded and fading

"Osterreich war gross, damals" – Austria was great, back then. I heard that phrase a lot in 1967 at the University of Innsbruck, as older Austrian citizens, nostalgic for the Hapsburg Empire, would wistfully remind themselves of the glory that was once theirs. Indeed, the country's myriad palaces, cathedrals, opera houses, boulevards and monuments speak eloquently to Austria's greatness, back then.

Memories of these sentiments come to mind as I try to make sense of the deepening tragedy in Chechnya, where another empire desperately clings to an eroding sense of glory, sowing suffering and death, and reaping an equivalent harvest of tears. As I write this in the first week of August, clean-up crews in Mozdok in the mountainous region of North Ossetia pick through the wreckage of a Russian military hospital where 50 soldiers, nurses and other hospital workers died in a suicide bombing, the latest in a series of at least half a dozen since May.

Many of these attacks have been carried out by women, so-called "Black Widows," named both for the black hijabs that cover their faces and for their status as widows, orphans or mothers of slain Chechen guerrillas. In July at a rock concert in Moscow, for example, two Chechen women – one only 20 years old – blew themselves up 15-minutes apart at the concert entrance, killing 15 people and wounding 53. An attack on a military bus in May also involved a female suicide bomber; 17 people died.

Last October, in a spectacular assault in a Moscow theater, 41 terrorists (or if you prefer, freedom fighters) – half of them women – took almost 800 people hostage, demanding the end of the war on Chechnya. After a standoff of several days, Russian authorities flooded the building with lethal gas, killing both terrorists and hostages.

Why are such dreadful things happening? As you would expect, there are deep-seated causes. Chechens are citizens of the Russian Federation, but they're not Russian. In 1816 Gen. Alexey Ermolov invaded Chechnya, then a wild frontier region in the Caucasus. There he built Fort Grozny (Fort Terror), along with other military outposts. Resisting these incursions, the native population fought fiercely, much to Gen. Ermolov's dismay. Chechens, he observed, had "an excessive love of independence." It cost tens of thousands of soldiers' lives – many more to disease than to combat – but ultimately Russia prevailed and in 1859 Chechnya was annexed by the Empire.

Among those who sympathized with the Chechen struggle was Ukraine's Taras Shevchenko. In his 1845 poem "The Caucasus," he compared the people there to Prometheus, shackled to a cliff on Mount Elbrus where, according to myth, an eagle rips his guts each day for defying the gods and every day, he is reborn in an eternal cycle of punishment and defiance. Excerpts from the poem are chiselled into the pedestal of the Shevchenko statue in Washington, in a way making it a monument to Chechnya's independence struggle, as well as Ukraine's.

In 1919, after the demise of the Russian Empire, the Chechens declared independence, only to be pulled into the Soviet Union by force of arms. In the 1930s, still

defiant and still suffering from an "excessive love of independence," Chechens endured mass arrests and executions. Less than a decade later, Stalin accused them of collaborating with the Nazis and ordered the deportation of the entire nation – nearly half a million people. A third to a half are estimated to have died within the year. Only in 1957 were Chechens allowed to return from exile. Small wonder that they again declared their independence when another Russian Empire, the Soviet Union, was dissolving in 1991.

Tragically, Moscow refused to recognize Chechnya, and late in 1994 President Boris Yeltsin launched a full-scale invasion. The capital city, Grozny, was carpet-bombed, killing tens of thousands of civilians and driving hundreds of thousands into exile. When Russian troops took the city early in 1995, it was utterly destroyed. A puppet government was installed and Russian troops were stationed in the area, where they remain to this day – demoralized and undisciplined, routinely committing atrocities and routinely subjected to suicide bombings, sniper attacks and booby traps. There's no end in sight to the horror.

Looking at the Chechens' tragic history, it's easy to understand their hatred, their desperation and, while condemning their methods, to sympathize with their cause. On the other hand, it's impossible to sympathize with Russia or to accept their brutal tactics. To be sure, a major oil pipeline runs through Chechnya, carrying oil from fields in Baku on the Caspian Sea and Chechnya toward the West with a major Chechen oil refinery along this route. But Russia with its vast oil industry could easily secure economic benefits from this conduit through normal commercial transactions that would far outweigh what she loses in this shameful, pitiless struggle. Sadly, however, it's not about money. It's worse – it's about saving face.

Russia is not a single nation. Instead, it's a pastiche of 21 republics (including Chechnya), 49 oblasts, 10 autonomous okrugs, six krais, two federal cities and one autonomous oblast – hence the designation, Russian Federation. "Way back then," Russia also included Ukraine ("Little Russia"), the Baltic states, several Central Asian Republics and half a dozen "satellite" countries like Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Losing all this was a heavy blow to Russia's collective ego and self-esteem. And now the Chechens want out, but Russia, with all its palaces, parade grounds and imperial memories, clings to Chechnya at all costs, fearing that whatever is left of its flimsy imperial garment will unravel if they allow the Chechens to secede. So the bloodshed, bombing and heartbreak continue to no avail.

Until recently, Ukrainians asked the world to speak out against the outrage that Moscow was perpetrating against them. Now, the Soviet Union is gone, but pockets of Russian colonialism remain. Today, what's happening with Chechnya is just as wrong as it was when Shevchenko wrote his poem 160 years ago. It's time we spoke out. I've never personally peered into Vladimir Putin's soul to see how good it might be, but from where I sit what he's doing to the Chechens is evil and the U.S. should not be afraid to say so.

"Back then," Austria truly was great, but having lived there more recently, I can tell you that now as a republic, it's a wonderful place. Russia could be too.

Andrew Fedynsky's e-mail address is: fedynsky@stratos.net.

A GENTLE REMINDER

If you have not yet sent in your remittance for "Ukraine Lives!" please do so as soon as possible.

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COMMENTARY

The inevitable independence

by Eugene Melnitchenko
and Helena Lysyj Melnitchenko

Mikhail Gorbachev and other Russian leaders were shocked when Ukraine proclaimed independence 12 years ago this month – almost immediately after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Margaret Thatcher, the former prime minister of Great Britain, reacted by saying that the British relationship with Ukraine “can only be the same as those with California or Quebec” and the first President George Bush cautioned Ukraine against “suicidal nationalism.”

Even now, with Ukrainian independence in its second decade, their surprise continues to be echoed by the media as if that proclamation was unjustified and that Ukrainian independence may not survive. Unfortunately, we all have been so conditioned by this misguided perception of Ukraine that a brief reminder of its history may be helpful in understanding the forces that led to its independence.

Ukraine is one of the oldest inhabited lands in Europe. Homo Sapiens appeared on this ancient land some 30,000 to 40,000 years ago when it was still covered with ice. Its inhabitants are credited with numerous technological innovations, such as various tools, fishhooks, harpoons and weapons. Much later, the Trypillian culture, one of the earliest agricultural societies in Europe, lasted for more than 2,000 years from 6,000 to the beginning of 3,000 BC. Among its accomplishments was the development of the plow and the drill. The decorations on Trypillian pottery and statuettes, which continue to be excavated into the 21st century, show many rituals and indicate an advanced spiritual life.

Ukraine, the “borderland,” lies on the threshold of Asia. Because of its unusually fertile soil and lack of natural borders, the country was a center of nomadic cultures for several centuries before Christ. As horseback riding was mastered during 1,500-1,000 BC, Ukraine was frequently invaded by nomads, among them the Cimmerians and the Scythians. Homer mentions the Cimmerians in his “Odyssey,” while the Old Testament portrays the Scythians as ruthless warriors. As seen from the Scythian Gold exhibit that recently toured the world, it appears that Scythians who resided on the territory of present-day Ukraine had a highly developed culture that was well-respected by the Greeks and other Mediterranean civilizations.

The current Slavs invaded Ukraine from the Carpathian Mountains during the sixth century and assimilated the previous invaders and local inhabitants. Some of them settled along the Dnipro River and formed the basis of what became known as Kyivan Rus’. They, in turn, were invaded by Norwegian tribes who accepted the local language and customs and founded Kyiv, the “mother city” of Rus’.

One of the reasons behind Russian leaders’ reaction to the declaration of Ukrainian independence is the Russian claim to this part of Ukrainian history. So entrenched is this claim, that The Encyclopedia Americana devotes 11 paragraphs under the heading of Kyivan Rus’ to describe Russian history and only one to Ukrainian, despite the fact that Kyivan Rus’ was on Ukrainian, not Russian, soil. More recently, the History Channel in its program “The Land of the Tsars” bought into that claim with its portrayal of Prince Volodymyr as a precursor of Russian tsars. Volodymyr (980-1015 AD) united Rus’ when he

Christianized his realm in 988.

The high point of Kyivan Rus’ was reached during the rule of Yaroslav the Wise (1036-1054). He was married to a Swedish princess and married off his three daughters to the kings of France, Norway and Hungary, and his three sons to the princesses of England and Germany. He was known as “the father-in-law of Europe” and his daughter Anna of Kyiv ruled France as a regent after her husband, Henry I, died. It was she who adapted the symbol of the Golden Gate of Kyiv to serve as the French national symbol – the ubiquitous fleur-de-lis. She is buried in the medieval town of Senlis, a short train ride from Paris.

Yaroslav further strengthened the notion of his territory as a nation by codifying and modifying its customary laws, which became known as Ruska Pravda (Rus’ Justice). Under his rule Ukraine became one of the most sophisticated kingdoms in Europe.

The subsequent fragmentation of Ukraine occurred after Prince Volodymyr Monomakh’s death in 1132. It came partly from princely competition for the rule of Kyiv and partly from Mongol invasions during the 12th century under Ghenghis Khan and his grandson Batu, who came from the northwestern borders of China in search of pasture land.

For the next few centuries Ukraine was dominated by the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and by the rapidly rising kingdom of Moscow. However, Ukraine’s quest for independence continued in numerous regional uprisings against their stronger conquerors, despite the frequent raids into the country and the plundering of its population by the Tatars. The fight for independence was particularly severe in western Ukraine (Halychyna and Volyn) against the Poles.

Ukraine was again united under Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky and the Kozaks during the 17th century. This was before the modern concept of national sovereignty had evolved after the French Revolution of 1789. Khmelnytsky’s early victories against the Poles, first on the Right Bank and then the Left, encouraged numerous regional leaders to join him in his fight against the “szlachta,” or the landed gentry, which infringed on the Kozaks’ and the peasants’ rights.

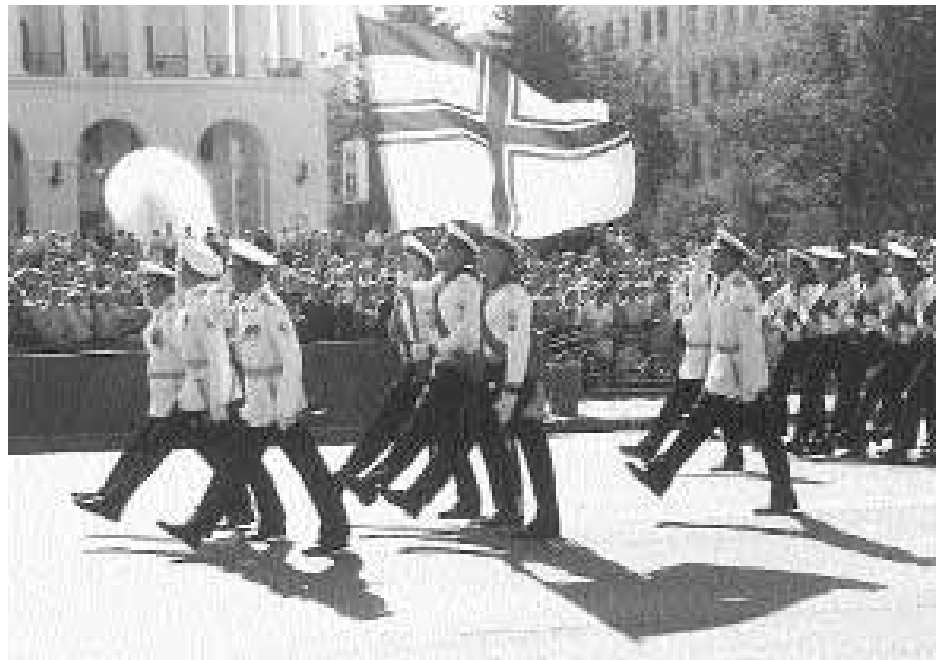
Through several wars and many bloody battles that exhausted both sides, Khmelnytsky, in effect, achieved Ukrainian autonomy. The famous Polish writer Henryk Sienkiewicz describes this part of Ukrainian-Polish history in his “With Fire and Sword” (1884) with a grudging admiration for the colorful hetman.

Khmelnytsky signed the Pereiaslav agreement with Moscow in 1654, which the Russians unfairly took as carte blanche for ruling Ukraine. A period of extreme unrest and anarchy followed. In 1659 Tsar Aleksei sent a huge army to Konotop, in northeastern Ukraine, where the Kozak-Tatar-Polish army defeated the Russians on July 8.

Unfortunately, the power struggle among Khmelnytsky’s successors again fragmented Ukraine into two parts, the Right Bank ruled by Poland and the Left by Moscow. Hetman Ivan Mazepa (1687-1709) once more tried to wrest Ukraine from Moscow, but was defeated at the Battle of Poltava in June 1709.

Under the long Russian imperial rule, Ukrainians came to be known as “Malorosy” (Little Russians). But the several major bloody regional uprisings that followed and the secret societies seeking independence indicate that the quest for sovereignty remained alive in Ukraine.

That quest was strengthened and reinforced by the Ukrainian intelligentsia dur-



In Kyiv, Ukrainians celebrated the 10th anniversary of their country’s independence in 2001 by attending the Ukrainian Independence Day parade ...

ing the 19th century. Influenced by western Romanticism and the rise of nationalism, they sought to revive its ethnic history, language, folklore and literature, and paved the way for Ukrainian national identity. The burning need for sovereignty came to a climax in the powerful poetry of Taras Shevchenko.

Ukrainians once more tried to regain their independence during the Communist revolution under the leadership of Mykhailo Hrushevsky, Symon Petliura, Yevhen Konovalets and others. The poorly trained and ill-equipped Ukrainian armies could not withstand the onslaught of Bolshevik forces. Western Ukraine formed its own Ukrainian Galician Army, but was defeated by the Poles.

Stalin tried to destroy the independent Ukrainian spirit with the artificially created famine of 1932-1933, but his efforts backfired and only strengthened the Ukrainian quest for sovereignty. Ukraine also tried to gain independence during World War II, by fighting both the Nazis during the German occupation and the Soviets.

At the Kyiv headquarters of the Vasyl Stus Memorial Society there is an exhibition titled “Not to be Forgotten” that documents the brutal exploitation of Ukrainians during the 70 years of Communist rule under the Soviet Union. It shows – via archival documents, arrest orders, photographs of excavated mass graves and lists of the executed – that Ukrainian independence was won through the martyrdom of millions of Ukrainians

who were tortured, starved and executed.

Over the centuries, Ukraine has developed a unique history, its own culture, folklore, art and literature. Its history is painted with blood in its quest for freedom and independence. During the Kyivan Rus’ period, it had a highly developed society and culture. Many of its churches and some of its art date back to that period. The country’s customs, traditions, music and literature are rich and inspiring to this day.

During its domination by Poland and Russia, Ukraine produced numerous great artists, musicians and writers, most of whom were claimed by the occupiers. Among them are the painter Ilya Repin, the composer Dmytro Bortniansky and the writer Nikolai Gogol (Mykola Hohol), to name just a few.

Throughout centuries, Ukrainian history and sense of continuity kept alive the hope that the country’s occupation was temporary. And, when the chance arrived after the collapse of the Soviet Union, Ukraine reached for freedom without firing a shot. Over 90 percent of its population voted for independence.

Through its long and determined struggle, Ukraine has earned the right to be independent. Of course, the road to complete freedom is bumpy, slow and full of detours. However, given a chance to recover from its long oppression, Ukraine can move in the proper direction.

The world should accept the fact that Ukraine’s independence is based on solid historical grounds and that it is real.



... and in Canada, young dancers of the Vesnianka troupe performed during Saskatoon’s Ukrainian Independence Day concert that same year.

Manoly Lupul, former director of CIUS, named to the Order of Canada

EDMONTON – Dr. Manoly R. Lupul has been named to the Order of Canada, the country's highest honor for lifetime achievement.

The announcement of new appointments, released by Governor-General Adrienne Clarkson on August 5 of this year, stated that "Manoly Lupul has worked to preserve and enhance Ukrainian culture and language within Canada's multicultural mosaic."

A highly respected teacher, scholar, educational innovator and administrator, Dr. Lupul played an important role in the development of multicultural policy in Canada in its formative and early stages, culminating in its enshrinement in Section 27 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

A native of Willingdon, Alberta, Dr. Lupul was educated at the universities of Alberta (B.A., 1950, and B. Ed., 1951), Minnesota (M.A., 1955), and Harvard (Ph.D., 1963). Dr. Lupul joined the staff of Faculty of Education at the University of Alberta in 1958, retiring in 1990.

He is the author of "The Roman Catholic Church and the North-West School Question," a pioneering study that remains the definitive work on the topic. Over the course of his distinguished academic career, he also edited several books and published numerous articles on a wide range of topics that included education in western Canada, church-state relations, minority education, the politics of language and culture in Canada, multiculturalism and the history of Ukrainians in Canada.

At the same time, Dr. Lupul showed exceptional leadership and organizational skills within the university community. It was largely through his efforts that native studies courses were introduced at the University of Alberta in the 1960s. He played a key role in establishing the first native studies course in the Faculty of Education – A History of Native Education in Canada – well before courses of this kind were introduced in other university departments.

Dr. Lupul was also a founder of the Canadian



Dr. Manoly Lupul

Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta. Under his leadership as its first director (1976-1986) the CIUS emerged as an internationally recognized center of Ukrainian studies. One of the institute's major accomplishments, initiated under his leadership, was the publication of the six-volume

Encyclopedia of Ukraine. This ambitious scholarly endeavor has often been compared to the Canadian Encyclopedia in terms of its magnitude and scope.

Dr. Lupul's signal contribution has been the promotion and defense of multiculturalism in Canada. In his writings, such as "Multiculturalism and Canadian National Identity," "Canada's Options in a Time of Political Crisis and Their Implications for Multiculturalism," and "Multiculturalism as State Policy," Dr. Lupul elaborated on some of the philosophical and moral principles that justified the adoption of multicultural policies at the federal and provincial levels of government.

Dr. Lupul also pointed out the need for government support for second-language education, addressed in such essays as "Bilingual Education and the Ukrainian in Western Canada: Possibilities and Problems" and "Ukrainian-Language Education in Canada's Public Schools."

He followed up with practical work by helping to support educational programs in the newly established Ukrainian-English bilingual school program in Alberta. This was done largely through research and publication programs at the CIUS, which under his leadership developed educational materials for teachers and students.

Dr. Lupul promoted understanding of Canada's multicultural diversity not only in his writings, but also in practice. He supported, organized and participated in seminars and conferences on Ukrainian relations with Jews, Russians, Germans and Poles. His commitment to these endeavors reflected his firm belief that in a democratic and multicultural society it is crucial for ethnic groups, often historically antagonistic, to discuss past and current issues openly in a scholarly context.

In 2002 Dr. Lupul was honored by his alma mater, receiving the Alumni Honor Award. He will receive the Order of Canada in a ceremony in Ottawa at a later date. A passionate Canadian who is equally proud of his Ukrainian roots, Dr. Lupul now makes his home in Calgary.

Peace Corps'...

(Continued from page 5)

York City, the establishment of women's business centers in Crimean Tatar villages by a woman from Dallas who before retirement had been one of Kodak's top managers, and the list goes on and on.

I believe volunteers' most important successes are those that promote the development of individual Ukrainians and help them realize their full potential.

Once when I was talking with the young man who manages the Ukraine branch of the Gillette Co., I asked him if he knew anything about Peace Corps. He replied that a Peace Corps volunteer changed his life one day. When he was a 16-year-old high school student in an eastern Ukrainian village, he went along with a friend to a Saturday meeting for students who wanted to learn how to become businessmen. At the meeting an old man named Ralph who said he was a Peace Corps volunteer told the kids if they wanted to succeed they should try being different.

The Gillette manager recalled that this advice shocked him profoundly because his entire upbringing had taught him to be the same as everyone else. After a few days' reflection he took Ralph's advice and started on a course that led him to an MBA from Clark University in Massachusetts and a senior position with an American company.

This process of human development is the essential value of Peace Corps' work. The other day in Ivano-Frankivsk, the director of a business center was praising the contributions of his young Ukrainian American volunteer from Chicago. The center director shook his head in amazement as he said, "Mark keeps coming up with ideas we never would have dreamed of."

What are some problems you encountered?

When I first arrived in Ukraine, I made the same mistake most Americans make. I tried to appeal to the intellectual side of the

people I was working with. It took me a while to understand how important the emotional side also is. It has been one of my goals to make the Peace Corps office and our operations in Ukraine a reflection of the modern management techniques and principles that our volunteers teach in Ukrainian schools and business centers.

At first this posed some very heavy issues for my Ukrainian colleagues in our office. For the most part they were used to top down management and to a work culture that discouraged information-sharing and the assumption of personal responsibility.

I found, however, that if I succeeded in clearly explaining the purposes of the changes we were trying to implement and if the Ukrainian colleagues could perceive the benefits the changes eventually would bring, the pace of successful change became very fast. At this time I am quite satisfied that we now have an office and an operation that is second to almost no others in Ukraine in efficiency, effectiveness and client service.

What are the requirements for becoming a Peace Corps volunteer?

The applicant should be a U.S. citizen and at least 18 years old. He/she also should be in sufficiently good health to be able to live and work in the country of assignment, and there should be a demonstrable desire to serve and contribute to the development of people.

Are there other organizations similar to yours in Ukraine? If so, what are they and how are they organized?

I am not aware of any.

How is a Peace Corps volunteer prepared for his/her job in Ukraine?

For three months after arrival, the new volunteers live in groups of four in small towns and villages where each volunteer lives with a Ukrainian host family. During these home stays, the volunteers receive lessons in culture and language from Ukrainian teachers, and design and carry out practical work in schools or organizations that are like the sites where they eventually will go for their two

years of service.

In addition, to promote continued language and cross-cultural learning, for three months after the new volunteers arrive at their sites they also live with Ukrainian host families. Volunteers can continue to receive language and professional skills training for the entire two years they are working in Ukraine.

What do volunteers find most memorable after their stint in Ukraine?

I have a lengthy conversation with every volunteer at the end of service. From the views volunteers have expressed in these conversations, I would guess that the most frequently felt sentiment that they carry home has to do with the "heartfelt" nature of Ukrainian friendship. Almost all volunteers stay in touch with the Ukrainian friends they have made during their service. Many former volunteers return again and again to Ukraine to visit their friends and to experience the special feeling of being part of Ukrainian society.

I suspect also that almost everyone goes home with an embroidered dress or shirt and a favorite recipe for borsch.

What do they find most objectionable?

The winter weather and lack of heat and water would be high on their lists. But I think all of them would agree that the most difficult thing about working in Ukraine is the pessimism of so many Ukrainian people. This pessimism is understandable given the ancient and more recent history of the Ukrainian nation.

And it is not every volunteer who succeeds in causing his/her site supervisor to express something as appreciative as one in Lviv did about a volunteer business advisor from San Diego. The volunteer's supervisor wrote: "Where we see only problems, she always sees opportunities."

What is President Leonid Kuchma's attitude toward the Peace Corps?

Peace Corps operates at the grassroots; so we don't have any real contact with President Kuchma. When we have need-

ed the help of the presidential administration, it has always been offered promptly and effectively. Ministers who work for the president and prime minister are more frequently in touch with us, and we collaborate with them and their subordinates without any hitches. This would lead me to conclude that President Kuchma and his administration are positive in their views of the work of volunteers in Ukraine.

Is the Peace Corps viewed as an extension of American security forces?

I see no evidence of this. I believe Ukrainians accept the essentially non-political nature of Peace Corps and our volunteers.

You have been there for three years. What changes have you observed, and what do you envision for the future?

Over the three years I have visited every oblast and Crimea several times. With each visit everywhere, I see definite physical signs of repairs of old buildings, openings of new businesses and construction of new single-family homes. More important, however, is the great proliferation of start-ups of non-governmental organizations that are working without government support on every conceivable community problem.

The private sector and civil society are expanding rapidly in all parts of Ukraine. It often seems to me that large numbers of Ukrainian people have awakened from a long sleep of despair and helplessness. Now they are reaching out to grab a future that is not yet knowable in its entirety, but which certainly will be greatly influenced by strongly held notions of individualism and self-help.

The Peace Corps especially encourages Ukrainian Americans and other people with fluent Ukrainian and other Slavic language skills to contact Peace Corps via the website <http://www.peacecorps.gov> or by calling the toll-free number (800) 424-8580 to find opportunities in Ukraine.

Ukrainian World...

(Continued from page 1)

the renovations were to start so soon," Shkambara commented.

The last time Mr. Lozynskyj and Ukraine's leadership butted heads was prior to and during the Third World Forum of Ukrainians, and the leader of the UWC seemed to come out on top in that one. It began with President Leonid Kuchma making an off-the-cuff rhetorical observation that the diaspora had not contributed anything to the development of the Ukrainian nation. At the World Forum, Mr. Lozynskyj used his presentation as an opportunity to retort and presented a list of the diaspora's contributions and achievements in that sphere to huge applause.

A suitable, albeit cramped, site for the UWC conclave was quickly found at the Teacher's Building, which is owned by the city of Kyiv. Leading Ukrainian political and cultural leaders attended the gala opening on August 18, including National Deputies Viktor Yushchenko, Borys Tarasyuk and Ivan Drach, singer and National Deputy Oksana Bilozir, Ukrainian World Coordinating Council President Mykhailo Horyn and political activist Ivan Hel. The Ukrainian government was represented by Vice Prime Minister of Humanitarian Affairs Dmytro Tabachnyk.

President Kuchma, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn received invitations but did not find the time to attend.

The delegates and 200 guests then spent four days deliberating pertinent issues, such as the development of the Eastern diaspora, the emigration from Ukraine and the large numbers of dislocated new immigrants scattered around



A view of the opening ceremony of the Ukrainian World Congress.

the world; the role of the Ukrainian language in communities outside of Ukraine; and the participation and role of diaspora youth in community life.

On August 20 more than 1,000 delegates, guests and Kyivans dedicated an evening to commemorating the victims of the Great Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933. Under threatening clouds they took part in a solemn procession along historic Volodymyrska Street from the Teacher's Building past St. Sophia Sobor and the Golden Gates to St. Michael's Golden-

Domed Sobor, at the foot of which stands a small monument to the victims – the only such memorial in Kyiv.

There, under a steady drizzle, the leader of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic

Church, Archbishop Major and Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, and Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate officiated at a panakhyda (requiem service).

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Viktor Yushchenko reacts at the Ukrainian World Congress to receiving the St. Volodymyr the Great Medal.

U.S. visas in Kyiv to be delivered by FedEx

U.S. Embassy

KYIV – The Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy here has begun providing FedEx delivery service to return passports and visas to those people who are issued U.S. visas. This new service is being implemented for the convenience of applicants and to assist in more efficiently managing workflow operations within the Consular Section.

According to the contract between the Consular Section and FedEx, delivery for passports will be within 24 to 48 hours to most parts of Ukraine. Applicants will be required to pay a fee of \$8 (U.S.) to cover the cost of delivery and insurance. This service will be optional for visa recipients through August 29.

Beginning September 2, use of this service will be required for all recipients of U.S. visas. Successful visa applicants no longer will be able to pick up their passport with visas at the end of the day. Successful applicants should be prepared

to pay the \$8 fee at the time of their interviews, and should also keep in mind the anticipated time of delivery of their passports and visas when making travel plans to the United States.

Over the past year the Consular Section found that additional processing requirements have increased the time it takes to produce a visa. As a result, successful applicants have often experienced longer than expected waiting times when picking up their visas. A new service delivering passports with issued visas to applicants' home addresses will give the Consular Section the flexibility to complete all current and future processing requirements without forcing applicants to wait unnecessarily or to return to the section a second day.

After being informed of their visa issuance by a visa officer, applicants will be instructed to proceed to the FedEx representative located in the Consulate to arrange for the delivery of their passport and pay the required delivery fee.

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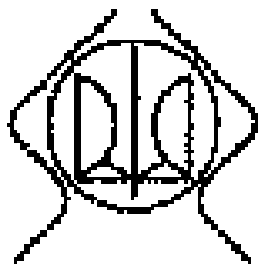
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In honor of Ukraine's 12th year of independence, the Cehelsky Clan would like to share the following from Chapter 77 of the newly reprinted "From Legends to Facts: Remembering the events in Ukraine surrounding November 1st, 1918" by Dr. Lonhyn Cehelsky. / Prologue by Professor Yaroslav Dashkewych, Doctor of Historical Studies.- Lviv: Svichado, 2003.- 336 pgs.

I bid farewell to my father, Dr. George Cehelsky (1906-2001), who showed such happiness in having lived long enough to see Ukraine, realize the once ephemeral dream of Dr. Lonhyn Cehelsky, his father before him:

AN INDEPENDENT UKRAINE!

Happiness notwithstanding, my father understood the unpredictable flow of history. So despite his advanced age, he not only followed the achievements of Ukraine's political leaders, but also their limitations and their mistakes. He did that even on his deathbed, so in his last will he requested that his father's memoirs be remembered and reprinted.

He said, "The reprinting of 'From Legends to Facts' is already behind schedule, and by ten years. (Over ten years Ukraine has been Independent).

The book depicts a very brief period of history, when the Western Ukrainian Republic was independent. But from within the pages of this book our Ukrainian politicians can learn something about the state building state of mind.

And this is what makes the book so valuable, that it has tremendous politically didactic significance."

(From audio tape 8/IV/2001, a month before Dr. George Cehelsky's death.)

This farewell to her father, authored by Dr. Olga Maria Cehelska, can be found verbatim in Chapter 77, an added chapter as requested by her father. It was researched and written in order to return to Ukrainian history the long lost consequences of the meeting of French General, Francois Barthelemy, with Ukraine's Deputy of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Lonhyn Cehelsky.

To order a copy of this second printing (in Ukrainian) of "From Legends to Facts" by Dr. Lonhyn Cehelsky, please contact: Dr. Olga M. Cehelska, 2313 Beach Haven Dr., Virginia Beach, VA, 23451, or simply call (757) 496-3560 and leave a message.



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Harvard's Grabowicz...

(Continued from page 4)

Learning is developing, but not as quickly as it could be. I don't want to be seen by the reader as some kind of Cassandra, who blackens everything. It is just the opposite, I stress: there are new people, interesting events, books, organizations, actions. However, there is a lack of institutional backing. It is sporadic.

Fortunately, we have UCU and NUKMA. This is already an achievement. But it is a minimal share in the vast sector of education and learning.

What kind of crisis are we in if the book of Veles is mentioned in all school textbooks of literature as the first Ukrainian classic, despite the fact it's a fake? Why is this so? Because the Collegium of the Institute of Literature and Kyiv National University wrote it into the school curriculum with the subtle description of a "hypothetical" monument. But the majority of teachers of third to fifth grade most probably don't know the meaning of this word. Anyway, it is either a monument or not. There is no other way. That is the hybrid nature of our scholarship.

If you say this so openly to our readers, why don't you offer your cooperation to the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and Ministry of Education?

There has been no reaction to any of my statements. Semi-official organs have a tendency to behave according to the principle of throwing stones in the opponent's garden: somebody may hint at something somewhere in the lobby, but there are neither direct debates nor discussions. This illustrates the sickness of the situation.

Neither Mykola Zhulynskyi, nor Vasyl Kremen, nor Yevhen Paton ever said: "We read Grabowicz's report and, in our opinion, his arguments are not correct." That would be a recognition of the existence of an opposition. Currently, everything is done in the Soviet manner of not ever recognizing the existence of an opposite vision.

(Translated from Ukrainian by Oleh Shved.)

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

tacular fireworks displays.

While Kyiv was the center of Ukrainian Independence Day celebrations, festivities took place all around the country.

In Lviv, scouts of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Association ended a two-week international jamboree in the hills outside of the city by re-burying the remains of their founder, Oleksander Tysovsky, at the city's historic Lychakiv Cemetery, where scores of Ukrainian heroes are interred. The late founder of Plast originally had been laid to rest in Vienna, Austria.

In Sevastopol, the Ukrainian navy held a street parade and then a ceremony aboard its flagship, the Hetman Sahaidachny. Molebens were conducted in the city's churches in memory of its dead warriors.

Donetsk held its annual Troyanda Donetsk city festival, while Chernihiv marked the beginning of the Korovai 2002 Baking Festival.

In Odesa, the "City Of Monuments" as it likes to call itself, residents celebrated by unveiling another statue, this one a memorial bust to Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky, placed in a square at the top of a street also renamed in honor of the founder of the Kozak state. ...

Source: "Ukraine marks 11th anniversary of independence," by Roman Woronowycz, Kyiv Press Bureau, The Ukrainian Weekly, September 1, 2002, Vol. LXX, No. 35.

German scholar discusses world order's future during ceremony at the Ukrainian Free University

MUNICH – The hectic pace of course work during the summer semester at the Ukrainian Free University of Munich was briefly interrupted by a solemn academic ceremony. On July 1, the UFU honored a renowned German scholar of international law and jurisprudence, Prof. Dieter Blumenwitz (University of Wrzburg) with an honorary doctorate in jurisprudence.

According to Prof. Richard Brunner of the UFU, who read the citation, Prof. Blumenwitz is not only a theoretical specialist on international law, whose works are read the world over, but also a famed

trial lawyer, who has successfully prosecuted many cases of national and international import.

According to ancient academic tradition, the official ceremony was opened by the Dean of the Faculty of Government and Political Economy, Dr. Ivan Myhul after which UFU Rector Leonid Rudnytzky awarded Prof. Blumenwitz the honorary degree.

Visibly moved by the solemnity and splendor of the ceremony, Prof. Blumenwitz expressed his gratitude to the faculty and administration of the

(Continued on page 20)



At the Ukrainian Free University (from left) are: Profs. Richard Brunner, Dieter Blumenwitz and Leonid Rudnytzky.

UFU to enter the record books

MUNICH – According to German sources, the next entry in the “Guinness Book of World Records” will pertain to Ukraine and the Ukrainian Free University. Inspired by a recent shortage of school satchels in Ukraine, an organization of Bavarian altar boys came up with a novel idea for a world record: they started a collection of schoolbags to help Ukrainian children.

The result of the collection was a giant schoolbag snake – the longest event and thus a world record.

The exhibit traveled through several Bavarian cities, including Munich, where during a two-hour ceremony held in front of the city hall, the altar boys built the bag snake which consisted of over 6,000 satchels. The featured speaker of the ceremony was Dr. Leonid Rudnytzky, the rector of the UFU.

In a brief talk Dr. Rudnytzky stressed the real and the symbolic value of the event and thanked the altar boys

and their sponsor, the organization Churches for the East, for their action on behalf of Ukrainian schoolchildren.

The event, which attracted considerable media attention, concluded with music and a prayer led by the Rev. Volodymyr Vitovych, a Ukrainian priest stationed in Munich.

Churches for the East and its affiliate international humanitarian association Triumph of Heart are known for their activities in Ukraine, where they help restore old wooden churches by teaching the art of woodwork to children and young adults. They also make regular deliveries of various goods to over 500 Ukrainian charitable organizations.

Using the services of the UFU, their project director, Thoma Bernhard, has frequently worked in the past with such Ukrainian leaders as Mykola Zhulynsky and Dmytro Pavlychko, and representatives of various religious denominations in Ukraine.

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(1907 – 2003)

Dr. Shandor was born on October 12, 1907, in Baranintsi, near the Carpatho-Ukrainian capital of Uzhhorod.

He received his Doctorate in Jurisprudence from Charles University in Prague and served as head of the Carpatho-Ukrainian Representation to the Czechoslovak Federal government from 1938 through 1939.

After emigrating to the United States in 1947, he further distinguished himself with his work in the Pan-American Ukrainian Conference, the General Secretariat of the United Nations and the United States Treasury Department.

He was a frequent contributor to many Ukrainian- and English-language newspapers and publications, and authored four books, including “Carpatho-Ukraine in the Twentieth Century – a Political and Legal History,” which was published by the Harvard University Ukrainian Research Institute in 1997, on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

He was a lifelong supporter and friend of the Ukrainian Institute of America.

Vichna Yomu Pamiat!

The Ukrainian Institute of America has established a Fund in Memory of Dr. Vincent Shandor, contributions to which will be shared equally by the Ukrainian Institute of America and “Prosvita” in Uzhhorod, which provides humanitarian assistance in the Carpathian region of Ukraine.

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SPORTS: Krylati Sports Club reports on 2002-2003 season

YONKERS, N.Y. – The Krylati Sports Club of Yonkers, N.Y., which operates under the auspices of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) reported another successfully completed sports season. This past year – fall 2002 through summer 2003 – the club sponsored a men's soccer team, three youth soccer teams, and a recreational volleyball program.

Through sports, Krylati is working to help fulfill the objective of SUM, as stated in its mission, "to offer Ukrainian youth opportunities for social interpersonal contact and mutual support and to stimulate their spiritual, intellectual, social, cultural, educational and physical development." The Krylati Sports Club also serves as a vehicle to unite and strengthen the local Ukrainian community in Yonkers.

MEN'S SOCCER

The men's soccer team enjoyed continued success this past year, winning the 1st Division of the Eastern District Soccer League for the second time in three years with a record of 12 wins, two ties and two losses. They also fared very well in the various Ukrainian soccer tournaments and exhibition matches that they took part in during the year, posting the following results:

- 2002 Sitch Verkhovyna Tournament Champions (July 2002, Glen Spey, N.Y.)
- 2002 SUM Zdvyh Soccer Match Champions (Labor Day 2002, Ellenville, N.Y.)
- 2003 Great Lakes Cup Champions (Memorial Day 2003, Cleveland)
- 2003 Lemko Vatra Soccer Match Champions (June 27, Ellenville, N.Y.)
- 2003 East Coast Cup Second Place (July 26-27, Ellenville, N.Y.)

The team has had great success attracting recent immigrants from Ukraine to the team and, as a result, boasts a predominantly Ukrainian squad. The Krylati men's team is a prime example of how sport can be used to integrate more established Ukrainian immigrants with the newer so-called "Fourth Wave."

Upcoming matches include an exhibition match at Philadelphia Tryzub on August 24 and the USCAK championship game against Newark Sitch in Ellenville, N.Y., on Labor Day weekend. Also, the men's first team will be hosting a 6v6 mini tournament during the



The Krylati Men's Soccer Team after winning the 2003 Great Lakes Cup in Cleveland.

Tibbetts Brook Park Ukrainian Festival in Yonkers, on Sunday, September 14.

The men's soccer team was coached by Roman Gryniv and Zenon Pavlyshak during the 2002-2003 season and managed by Mark Howansky. The team's assistant managers were Steven Howansky, Theodore Hoshko and Wolodymyr Uzdeychuk. The team practices at the Ukrainian Youth Center on 301 Palisade Ave. in Yonkers during the warm-weather months and participates in the Sports Underdome indoor league in Mount Vernon, N.Y., during the winter.

The 2002-2003 Krylati men's team roster includes:

James Beer, London, England; Volodya Bryk, Ternopil, Ukraine; Valerij Chykhun, Kherson; Yuriy Gagarin, Lviv; Iouri Greb, Lviv; Roman Gryniv, Drohobych; Roman Herin, Drohobych; Mark Howansky, Yonkers, N.Y.; Ruslan Hudyma, Lviv; Ilya

Ivanov, Klaipeda, Latvia; Valerij Katok, Grodno, Belarus; Sergei Kazakov, St. Petersburg, Russia; Volodya Kruglyy, Ivano-Frankivsk; Viktor Leshchak, Drohobych; Bohdan Lonevsky, Drohobych; Mykhaylo Lutsiv, Zhedachiv; Tom Marcotullio, White Plains, N.Y.; Ivan Martyniuk, Lviv; Mekola Nodjanosh, Uzhhorod; Zenon Pavlyshak, Drohobych; Mykhaylo Prokiv, Ivano-Frankivsk; Sergei Rayko, Drohobych; Edmund Schrobach, Yonkers, N.Y.; Kevin Silva, New York, N.Y.; Jared Sposito, Yonkers, N.Y.; Taras Struminsky, Ivano-Frankivsk.

YOUTH SOCCER

The Krylati Youth Soccer Program was run by Steve Schur during the 2002-2003 season and fielded three teams: 11-12-year-olds, 9-10-year-olds, and 6-8-year-

(Continued on page 19)



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Krylati Sports Club...

(Continued from page 18)

olds. Mr. Schur is dedicated to rebuilding the youth program and returning it to its former glory. He is a USSF licensed coach and is continually looking for ways to improve the quality of the Krylati coaching staff. This past year he managed to orchestrate private meetings with U.S. National Team Assistant Coach Dave Sarachan and MetroStars Head Coach Bill Bradley to that end.

One of the fruits of Mr. Schur's collaboration with the NY/NJ MetroStars professional soccer team was the private training event he organized. On April 12 he led a group of 50 people to watch the MetroStars play their opening day match at Giants Stadium. Then on May 21, MetroStars player Steve Jolley and Developmental Coordinator-Trainer Armen Simonians conducted a private training session for about 20 delighted Krylati youth players at Washington Irving Middle School in Tarrytown, N.Y. The Krylati Sports Club hopes to build off this program and offer more professional training for young soccer players this upcoming year.

The 11-12 team was coached by Mike Hlushko and Myron Perich and finished in first place in the Yonkers Soccer Federation League, posting only one loss. Furthermore, the team entered and won the Thanksgiving Day Tournament in Brewster, N.Y.

The 2002-2003 Krylati 11-12-year-old team roster includes: Andrew Bundziak, Andrew Bybel, Thomas Gurba, Julie Horbachevsky, Andrew Kapitula, Roman Kozicky, Andrew Kuzmiak, Dennis Mamrosh, Alex Marecki, Gregory Marecki, Marko Mikolaiski, Milo, Roman Palylyk, Nicholas Perich, Alex Puszka, Senori and Bohdan Wowchuk.

The 9-10-year-old team was coached by Mr. Schur and Peter Teniuch and finished in second place in the Yonkers Soccer Federation League. They also entered the Bryn Mawr Thanksgiving Day Tournament in Yonkers, where they finished in second place, despite playing a rigorous schedule with a depleted squad.

The 2002-2003 Krylati 9-10-year-old team roster includes: Nicholas Balko, Michael Bojko, Ustym Ciaputa, Taras Koshyk, Stefan Kowalyk, Michael Kozicky, Mark Kramarczuk, Roman Kukil, Christopher Medina, Steven Medina, Christian Morales, Slavik Pidvysotski, Michael Schur, Paul Senica, Gregory

Smith, Adrian Teniuch and Valentina Yasinsky.

The 6-8 year old team was coached by Darek Tezhbyr and Pete Duda and finished in second place in the Yonkers Soccer Federation League. The coaches did an excellent job introducing these young athletes to the sport of soccer, many of whom were kicking the ball for the very first time.

The 2002-2003 Krylati 6-8-year-old team roster encompasses: Dmytro Bilanycz, Laryssa Bundziak, Mykola Duda, Andrew Dzwonczyk, Lida Dzwonczyk, Oksana Klimko, Ostap Klimko, Daniel Kuzemczak, Roman Kuzmiak, Alexandra Mamrosh, Anna Marecki, Carlos Neder, Nina Schur, Mathew Skalsky, Andrew Smith, Alexandra Teniuch and Stefan Voronchak.

VOLLEYBALL

The volleyball program conducted weekly practice

sessions throughout the year, in an effort to prepare the teams who participated in various Ukrainian volleyball tournaments, including the SUM Zlet (Memorial Day weekend), Zdvyh (Labor Day weekend), and SUM Quads (late July).

Traditionally, practices are held on Monday nights in various school gyms in Yonkers. The Krylati volleyball program was run this past year by Slavko Kiciuk and Ivan Mamrosh.

* * *

Other Krylati Sports Club officers include secretary Peter Teniuch and treasurer Myron Daszko. For more information about any aspect of the Krylati Sports Club, please contact the club president, Mark Howansky, at (201) 864-5751.



The Krylati Youth Soccer Team of 9- to 10-year-olds.

THE WASHINGTON GROUP

President's Annual Report 2002 - 2003

The Washington Group had a very busy and interesting year sponsoring Cultural Fund, headed by Ms. Laryssa Courtney. The Cultural Fund, under the patronage of the Embassy of Ukraine, in its 2002-2003 Music Series, sponsored and presented a number of world class musicians, singers, and musical groups such as violinist Wasył Papadiuk, singer Ihor Bohdan, Leontovych String Quartet, opera singer Stefan Szkafarowsky, pianist Lydia Artymiw, and the folk ensemble Harmonia. The Cultural Fund and the Embassy of Ukraine, in cooperation with The Washington Group and other Ukrainian organizations, presented "Because Life is Beautiful," a benefit fashion show and reception, at the Ukrainian Embassy. All the proceeds from this event were donated to the breast cancer awareness project of the Ukrainian Women's Fund. More detailed information about all of the above mentioned events can be found in the Annual Report prepared by the Cultural Fund.

The Washington Group, as it has done in the past, sponsored a number of political, educational, and musical events. All of the events were very well attended. The events, to mention a few, included: a presentation by Hon. Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, Ambassador of Ukraine, on the topic of "United States - Ukraine Relations," at The Army and Navy Club; a presentation on the National University of Ostroh Academy by Rector Dr. Ihor Pasichnyk; a "Meet Muskie Fellows From Ukraine" at the Marriott Wardman Park Washington DC Hotel, where TWG members were able to meet and socialize with over 40 Muskie Fellows from all parts of Ukraine; a joint presentation with the Shevchenko Scientific Society of Dr. Taras Kuzio, an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto, who spoke on the topic of "Ukraine: Quo Vadis after Kuchma"; and a presentation by Ihor O.E. Kotlarchuk, Esq., a former federal prosecutor with the US Department of Justice in Washington, DC, on the topic of espionage, titled "To Catch a Spy," at The Army and Navy Club. The presentation concerned itself with the legal aspects of investigating and prosecuting espionage cases. Additionally, The Washington Group presented an "Evening of Jazz" with Ukrainian Canadian jazz pianist John Stetch at the noted night club "Blues Alley" in Georgetown, and a very enjoyable evening "Potomac River Dinner Dance Cruise on the Dandy" (attended not only by TWG members, but also by Ukrainian diplomats from the Embassy of Ukraine).

The TWG Fellowship Fund, headed by Mr. Michael Drabyk, has also been very active. It received some 20 applications from capable and talented individuals applying for the 2003 TWG Fellowship Fund Embassy Internship. The names of the applicants, with appropriate recommendations from the TWG Fellowship Fund, were forwarded to the Ukrainian Embassy for final selection. The activities of the fund are detailed and explained in its Annual Report for the year. TWG socials continue to be popular and offer our prospective members and members an opportunity to meet on a regular basis where they can socialize and network. The socials are usually held on the first Friday of each month.


This year we are presenting Achievement Awards, approved unanimously by the Board of Directors of The Washington Group, to two very deserving long time members and officers of The Washington Group for their outstanding contributions to our organization. The organization has been extremely fortunate to have such dedicated and talented individuals as Mr. Roman C. Stelmach, who served as the organization's Treasurer for almost ten years, and Ms. Laryssa Courtney, who has also served for almost a decade and continues to serve as the Director of The Washington Group Cultural Fund.

The Washington Group, as an organization, has something to offer every member of the Ukrainian community and, therefore, continues to attract many dedicated and talented Ukrainian American professionals to its ranks. We all need to support its activities throughout the year so that our organization can remain vibrant and relevant.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the board of directors and its officers for their cooperation and hard work during the year. I would also like to thank all of the members for the trust, confidence and the generous support you have given me and the Board. I hope that you will continue to support TWG and its various activities in future years. Thank you.

Ihor O.E. Kotlarchuk
President

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Internees...

(Continued from page 1)

trayed by how he hides his face in shame. To his right stands an internee who, in contrast, has somehow endured the wartime hysteria and racism that precipitated the internment operations and now stands proudly confident of his future. The statue, called "Behind Canadian Barbed Wire," was unveiled on August 2.

Speaking at the unveiling ceremony, UCCLA's Director of Research Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk thanked those whose efforts had gone into making the event possible, in particular Dauphin's own Peter Bilash, head of the Ukrainian Centennial Memorial Committee, and Member of Parliament Inky Mark (whose riding is Dauphin-Swan River), remarking that the latter "is the best friend the Ukrainian Canadian community has today in the Parliament of Canada, for he has consistently supported our efforts to see justice done."

Dr. Luciuk also told those attending that, over the past several months, Minister of Canadian Heritage Sheila Copps, has initiated a series of high-level meetings aimed at crafting a reconciliation settlement acceptable to the commu-

nity, an effort for which she should be thanked, even if negotiations are still in progress.

Concluding, UCCLA's representative stated, "We must not only remember what our ancestors accomplished in Canada, but also what they needlessly suffered during this country's first national internment operations. As well, it is critical that we, as a community, rally around the just cause of securing official recognition of what happened and appropriate commemorative and educational programs by way of redress. We have not done so to date in part because we as a community, out of fear, ignorance or indifference, have ourselves largely forgotten what happened to the men, women and children who were interned."

"We must also accept some measure of responsibility for the fact that many other Canadians still do not know what the internees suffered," Dr. Luciuk continued. "Now is the time for us to come together to see this issue settled, regardless of where we live, when we or our predecessors came to Canada or what church or organization they belonged to. In unity is our strength."

Ukraine prepares...

(Continued from page 1)

only if serving prison sentences of less than 10 years for non-violent crimes.

Mr. Liovochkyn stressed that all those who will be released are people who do not pose a threat to society. Many of them have acknowledged their guilt and have served more than two-thirds of their time as model prisoners. He emphasized also, that any person released under the amnesty program and later found guilty of another crime will have to complete the unserved portion of his current sentence in addition to any new term meted out.

The 2003 amnesty was signed by President Kuchma on August 9, his 65th birthday, and is to go into effect on August 24.

German scholar...

(Continued from page 17)

UFU and presented his paper – a cogent analysis of the Iraq war from the standpoint of international law. The paper will be published in the UFU "Varia" series in the near future.

The ceremony was attended by UFU faculty professors and students, as well as by those from neighboring German universities, representatives of the diplomatic corps, the press and the religious community of Munich. The Ukrainian Church was represented by Bishop Petro Kryk and the Rev. Jevhen Nebesniak.

The official part of the ceremony ended with the singing of the academic hymn "Gaudeamus Igitur," and was followed by a reception in honor of Prof. Blumenwitz.

Attention

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UOC's All Saints Camp marks 25th anniversary

by Hieromonk Daniel Zelinsky

EMLENTON, Pa. – All Saints Camp of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. celebrated its patron's feast day and the 25th anniversary of the camp's spiritual ministry among the youth of the Church on Sunday, July 22. Several buses and hundreds of people arrived in Emlenton, Pa., the site of the camp, to share in the mutual celebration and memories that formed and continue to form generations of faithful of the Church.

All Saints Camp, dedicated in 1978, is a family facility of 95 acres nestled along the banks of the Allegheny River in the scenic hills of Western Pennsylvania. Preparation for the anniversary celebration began long before the festivities. Sunday's events brought much spiritual joy and reunited generations of participants of many past encampments, who were able to compare their experiences and moments of joy with youth.

Metropolitan Constantine, Archbishop Antony and the clergy from the western Pennsylvania, Penn-Ohio and New York deaneries of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. celebrated divine liturgy.

In his remarks, Metropolitan Constantine, the ruling hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., journeyed back 25 years to when he blessed the camp property and reflected upon the importance of the spiritual, social and national achievements of the campers and their counselors over these 25 years.

The choir of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish of Youngstown, Ohio, sang the responses. Altar servers/campers represented the youth from several parishes of the Church. As soon as the liturgy came to conclusion the joyful sounds of the Ukrainian folk music and traditional Ukrainian cuisine was offered to the participants of the celebration. While the adults shared their memories and hopes, the youth found joy in the attractions that were offered for the children.

The camp officially opened its gates to the first Church encampment of 2003 – Church School Camp, which is followed later in the summer by Teenage Conference and Mommy/Daddy and Me Encampments that are offered together with the Consistory Office of Youth Ministry.

One of the directors of the Church School Camp, Debra



Participants of the Teenage Conference at the Ukrainian Orthodox Church's All Saints Camp.



The Mommy/Daddy and Me encampment held at the campgrounds in Emlenton, Pa.

(Continued on page 22)

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Ukrainians throughout...

(Continued from page 3)

Ukraine is still going strong. We pray that it will continue. It has been a long and hard road, but America wasn't built overnight either. We have lots of hope.

Mark Howansky, 31, Union City, N.J., engineer:

On Sunday, I will be going to an exhibition soccer game between my Yonkers Krylati sports club and the Philadelphia sports club Tryzub at their festival. There will also be a cultural program, including food and bands.

For me, it's a reminder that Ukraine has made progress but still has more to do. Ukraine needs to take further steps toward inclusion into the Western community. It has to follow in the footsteps of other Eastern European countries that have taken big strides. Ukraine is still a long way off from true democracy and capitalism.

Anna Chopek, 91, Los Alamos, N.M., retired judge:

I'm not celebrating Ukrainian Independence Day [in any special way]. There are only a handful of Ukrainians, maybe six or seven, in the New Mexico community. I remember when Ukrainian

gained its independence. It's nice to see that it is still independent - I have been signing "Ukraine has not yet perished" (Shche ne Vmerla Ukraina) for so long.

Ihor Chyzowych, 69, Rydal, Pa., CEO of Self Reliance Federal Credit Union:

I and a large part of the Philadelphia Ukrainian American community will spend time celebrating in the following form. On August 23 there will be a large program at the Ukrainian Cultural Center at 7 p.m. There will be speakers, music groups, soloists and a male choir. On August 24 there will be a program outdoors at the Tryzub Ukrainian sports center in Horsham, Pa. It will start at noon, with singers, dance groups such as Yunist, bands such as Karpaty and even the Ukrainian Baptist Male Choir. At 4 p.m. there will be an exhibition soccer game between Tryzub and Krylati (of the Ukrainian American Youth Association). Food will be available and the bar will be open. I will be celebrating there with my family.

The significance of this Independence Day is twofold. First, it reminds Ukraine of the diaspora. It shows them that there are Ukrainians outside of the borders of Ukraine. It reminds the Ukrainian government and people that we support an independent Ukraine.

Second, it shows our children and grandchildren that this needs to be done. People worked very hard to bring about this freedom. It is a legacy that needs to be continued.

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UOC's All Saints...

(Continued from page 21)

Burgan said: "The season has started. As always first days are going to be hectic; however, when the last days of the encampment come closer it becomes difficult to get ready for good-byes until the next year! We are home here, we are one family in Christ!"

An older lady sitting in the shade said: "I come here every year. I feel younger here. I learn, I pray and make new friends!"

Speaking about friends - for the last several years, the camp officially hosts a number of children/youth of the workers of the Ukrainian Embassy and Consulates in the United States. It is so wonderful to see the children born here in the United States and those that were born in Ukraine share their common heritage, learning from each other and most of all offering prayers on behalf of their families and the blessed future of America and Ukraine.

The facilities become more beautiful each year through the ongoing dedication of work of the director of the camp, Stephen Sheptak, and his staff of dedicated volunteers like Bohdan Hryshchyn and Walter Zebel, who have dedicated much of their lives to the camp's mission since its inception. Of course, the generous financial and physical contributions of many others have made the camp so successful.

Ukrainian American Veterans to meet at 56th convention

PALATINE, Ill. – The Ukrainian American Veterans (UAV) Post 35 in Palatine, Ill., will host the next national convention September 26-28 at the Doubletree Club Hotel in Palatine.

This is the 56th UAV national convention and the eighth annual conference of the Ukrainian American Military Association (UAMA). Bohdan Pyskir is this year's convention chairman.

The UAV unites veterans who are Ukrainian Americans and have proudly served in the U.S. military. The UAMA consists of UAV members who are on active duty or on reserve status and are available to provide interpreters for missions to Ukraine.

UAV Post 35 in Palatine was established in 2001. According to the post commander, Roman Golash, the post has

accomplished a great deal in a short time. Active participation in the community is the key element, he added. The post has set as one of its goals to spur Ukraine to recognize the valiant efforts of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) during World War II.

On Friday, September 26, the UAV will conduct meetings and briefings. There will be a networking social on Friday evening. The convention's meetings continue on Saturday, and the conclave will culminate that evening with a banquet at the hotel.

The organizing task force has invited Gen. David Grange (ret.) to be the keynote speaker. Gen. Grange has had a distinguished military career and is currently a frequent commentator on CNN news. The festivities will begin at 6 p.m.

Members of the community are invited to attend; reservations may be made by contacting the banquet coordinator, Michael Kuropas via e-mail at kuropas@msn.com. Tickets are \$45 per person.

On Sunday, UAV Post 35 has invited Yuri Shukhevych to be a special speaker in Chicago at the Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church Cultural Center at 1 p.m.

Any questions on membership in the Ukrainian American Veterans or the organization's convention may be directed to Mr. Golash at romangolash@cs.com or (847) 910-3532.



The Journal Committee for the UAV 56th national convention (from left): Andriy Karasejczuk, Roman Golash and Bohdan Chalus.

The next issue of The Ukrainian Weekly's

Wedding Announcements

will appear on September 14, 2003.

For a wedding announcement to be included in that issue, all information must be received in our offices by September 5, 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

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UTS presents annual scholarships

PITTSBURGH – The Ukrainian Technological Society of Pittsburgh presented its annual scholarship awards at a Scholarship Awards Social on Sunday, August 3, in the auditorium of the Henry Clay Frick Fine Arts Building on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh.

Students, parents, UTS members, donors and friends were welcomed by Debra A. Walenchok, president. Then, Scholarship Committee Chairman Nickolas C. Kotow discussed the scholarship application review criteria and some of the characteristics of the better applications. Scholarships of \$500 each were presented as follows.

Eric Senedak of Austintown, Ohio, received the Chester Manasterski Memorial Scholarship sponsored by Olga Manasterski and sons, Myron and Gregory; Gretchen Anne Reinhart of Carnegie, Pa., received the Ukrainian Selfreliance of Western Pennsylvania Federal Credit Union Scholarship; and Alexandra Lynn Sawchuk of South Park, Pa., was presented the Pavlo Havryluk Memorial Scholarship sponsored by Ihor Havryluk and Mrs. Havryluk.

Receiving Akim and Tatiana Kutsenkow Memorial Scholarships, sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. Michael Kutsenkow, were Ryan Patrick Baessler of Carnegie, Pa.; Alexander Begey of Baden, Pa.; and Paul Filenko and Andrea Germansky, both of Pittsburgh.

The society presented its own scholar-

ships to Susan Alstad of Gibsonia, Pa.; Timothy Hancher of Youngstown, Ohio; Andrea Metil of Pittsburgh; Michael Polnyj of North Huntingdon, Pa.; and Jeffrey Ronosky of Georgetown, Pa.

A special outreach scholarship was presented by the UTS to Oleksandr Svyryd of Hadyach, Poltava Oblast, Ukraine, who will be attending Oxford University in England to study European and comparative law.

A scholarship in honor of the Very Rev. Canon Wasył Dzydzora, former pastor of St. George's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Pittsburgh, was presented to Nicholas J. Bodak of Youngstown after the ceremonies.

Concluding the program, Mrs. Walenchok thanked all the donors to the UTS Scholarship Fund; Kateryna Dowbenko of the Pitt Slavic Languages and Literatures Department for making reservations for use of the facilities, and Michael Komichak, host of the Ukrainian Radio Program for over 53 years, for making publicity announcements. The guests were then invited to enjoy light refreshments and conversation in the courtyard.

In 32 years of its Scholarship Program, the Ukrainian Technological Society has made 296 awards totalling \$120,500 to 215 students, predominantly from the tri-state area comprising Western Pennsylvania west of Altoona, the West Virginia panhandle and neighboring areas of Ohio.



Recipients of scholarships presented by the Ukrainian Technological Society: (front row, from left) Ryan Baessler, Gretchen A. Reinhart, Eric Senedak, Alexandra Sawchuk; (back) Andrea Metil, Andrea Germansky, Alexander Begey, Susan Alstad, Michael Polnyj, Jeffrey Ronosky and Timothy Hancher.



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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Ryzhuk said on Ukrainian Television on August 17 that Ukraine will import 2 million to 2.5 million tons of grain this year because of an anticipated poor harvest. Mr. Ryzhuk predicted that Ukrainian farms will harvest some 20 million to 25 million tons of grain this year, compared with 39 million tons in 2002. According to Mr. Ryzhuk, the unexpected hikes in food prices in June can be blamed not only on bad weather and persistent rumors of the poor harvest in 2003, but also on excessive liberalization of the domestic grain market. "One of the reasons is that our liberalization of the grain market in particular was too fast during the transition period," Mr. Ryzhuk said. "[We] were somewhat euphoric, believing that the problem of grain was solved once and for all, [trusting in] market economy, private owners and so on. But, as it has turned out, the state has to play a rather active role even in these conditions. More than this, there has to be rigid regulation." (RFE/RL Newline)

Three journalists attacked in Donetsk

DONETSK – Three Ukrainian journalists were beaten and robbed by unidentified assailants in Donetsk, eastern Ukraine, over three consecutive days on August 13-15, Hromadske Radio reported. Vasyi Vasiutyn, Serhii Kuzin and Eduard Malynovsky were attacked on August, 15, 14 and 13, respectively. Messrs. Vasiutyn and Kuzin have been hospitalized. Oleksander Mischenko, editor-in-chief of the Donetsk-based magazine Zoloty Skif that employs Mr. Vasiutyn, told Hromadske Radio that the attacks were connected with their profes-

sional activities. Police reportedly think otherwise, claiming the assaults were ordinary robberies. (RFE/RL Newline)

Three arrested for illegal flight to Ukraine

KYIV – Ukrainian police on August 18 arrested three German senior citizens for flying a private airplane to Dnipropetrovsk, eastern Ukraine, without permission, DPA and Interfax reported. The pilot of the plane is 74 years old, while the other two men are both 64. One of trio reportedly is a World War II veteran who wanted to visit the site of a battle in which he had fought. (RFE/RL Newline)

Tanker crew involved in smuggling

KYIV – Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Markian Lubkivskyi said on August 19 that the captain and 20 crew members of the Navstar-1 tanker apprehended in the Persian Gulf by a British Navy ship on August 9 are Ukrainian citizens, Interfax reported. The Navstar-1 reportedly was caught with an illegal cargo of some 1,000 tons of Iraqi diesel fuel and taken to the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr. Mr. Lubkivskyi added that two lawyers have been hired to represent the Ukrainian crew. (RFE/RL Newline)

Addendum: Trimpolis book

Those interested in ordering a copy of Peter Trimpolis' book "My Rocky Road of Life" (see The Weekly, August 3), may do so by sending a check or money order for \$25 to: Peter Trimpolis, 3 Leeds Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 3X1. Please specify whether you wish to order the English or Ukrainian version of the book. For information call (204) 269-1614.

ESSAY CONTEST

In celebration of the upcoming Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly Anniversaries

The Ukrainian National Association initiates a project to celebrate both publications' upcoming anniversaries.

Svoboda, 110th Anniversary, September 2003

The Ukrainian Weekly, 70th Anniversary, October 2003

This project invites high school seniors and college students from all our communities to participate. We feel it is important to encourage the younger sector of our community to share their feelings regarding the impact the press had, has and will have on their generation. We encourage parents and teachers to actively encourage the students to participate.

The title of the essay is:

"What Role Does The Ukrainian Press Have For The Future In Our Community"

- **First Prize** – \$250 Essay in the Ukrainian language.
\$250 Essay in the English language.
- **Second Prize** – Weekend at Soyuzivka.

Rules and regulations to participate:

- ✓ 300-500 typed words on 8 X 11 sheets
- ✓ Ukrainian or English language
- ✓ Each entry must be identified on the reverse side with:
 - Typed name, address, and telephone/e-mail
 - Name of school and grade level student attends
 - Age of student
- ✓ All entries must be postmarked no later than August 31, 2003, and mailed to:

Ukrainian National Association
Attention: Oksana Trytjak
2200 Route 10, P. O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054
- ✓ 3 judges will participate, judges' decision will be final.
- ✓ Top essays will be printed in Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly

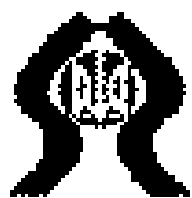
For more information please call Oksana Trytjak, UNA Special Projects Coordinator: 973 292-9800 X 3071

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

August 23, Saturday, 8 p.m.
Ukrainian Independence Day
Celebration – Roma Pryma
Bohachevsky's Dance Camp
Recital

August 24, Sunday, 2 p.m.
Summer Heritage Concert No. 5
featuring RHAPSODY Folk
Ensemble from Ukraine

August 25- September 1
Labor Day Week

August 30- 31
Labor Day Weekend – Zabavas
with FATA MORGANA and
TEMPO

Summer Heritage Concert with
UKRAINA Dance Ensemble
from Canada

September 8-11
Regensburg Reunion

September 12-14
KLK Weekend and Annual Meeting
Bayreuth Gymnasium Reunion

September 18-21
Reunion of Salzburg Gymnasium

September 26-28
Conference of Spartanky
Plast Sorority

September 28-30
Reunion of Mittenwald Schools

October 17-19
Plast-KPS Convention

October 31 - November 2
Halloween Weekend
costume party for youth and
costume zabava for all

November 7-9
Plast Orlykiada

November 15-16
UACC

November 21-23
UNA General Assembly



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, August 30

JEWETT, N.Y.: "Music at the Grazhda" will feature a presentation based on Myroslav Skoryk's opera "Moisei" (Moses), with Maestro Skoryk and baritone Oleh Chmyr. The opera, which premiered at the Solomiya Krushelnytska Opera and Ballet State Academic Theater in Lviv in June 2001, was recently staged at the National Opera Theater in Warsaw to critical acclaim. An integral part of the Ukrainian cultural complex built around St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, the Grazhda is located in the Catskill Mountains on Route 23A, five miles west of the town of Hunter and two miles east of Lexington. The concert, which is presented as part of the Music and Art Center of Greene County summer concert series, begins at 8 p.m., with tickets available at the door (\$15 for general admission; \$12 for members). Performance schedules as well as detailed directions are available online at musicandartgc.brama.com. Information is also available by calling (518) 263-4335.

Saturday-Sunday, August 30-31

ELLENVILLE, N.Y.: Ukrainian American Veterans will have a table set up during the weekend festivities at the resort of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) for sales of merchandise and UAV registration. Also available at the UAV table will be any general information on the organization. For further information contact UAV National Quartermaster Stephen J. Kostecki, (508) 746-7164 or log on to www.uavets.org.

Sunday, August 31

JEWETT, N.Y.: "Music at the Grazhda" presents the Forte String Quartet – Mihail Kuchuk, violin; Oleksander Abayev, violin; Roumi Petrova, viola; Kalin Ivanov, cello – with Natalia Khoma, cello; Yuri Kharenko, violin; and Volodymyr Vynnytsky, piano; in the final concert of the Music and Art Center of Greene County classical music series. The program will feature works by Schubert and Chausson. An integral part of the Ukrainian cultural complex built around St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, the Grazhda is located in the Catskill Mountains on Route 23A, five miles west of the town of Hunter and two miles east of Lexington. The concert, which is presented as part of the Music and Art Center of Greene County summer concert series, begins at 8 p.m., with tickets available at the door (\$15 for general admission; \$12 for members). Performance schedules as well as detailed directions are available online at musicandartgc.brama.com. Information is also available by calling (518) 263-4335.

Sunday, September 7

STAMFORD, Conn.: The 36th Ukrainian Day Festival sponsored by the Connecticut State Ukrainian Day Committee will be held at St. Basil's Seminary on Glenbrook Road beginning with an 11 a.m. liturgy celebrated by Bishop Basil H. Losten. Immediately afterwards, Ukrainian food, picnic food and refreshments will be available. At 2:45 p.m. a lively program will include: the Zoloty Promin Dance Ensemble of Greater Hartford, Conn., and the Yunist Dance Ensemble of Yonkers, N.Y., the folk instrument group Hutsuska Rhapsodiia from Ivano-Frankivsk and the band Sviatkovi Chasy from Ternopil. Emcees for the program will be Andriana Rudyk and Robert Odomirok of New York. Over 15 vendors provide a kaleidoscope of Ukrainian souvenirs for sale. Admission for visitors age 12 and over: \$3 per person in advance, or \$5 at the gate. Free parking is available. For more information call (203) 269-5909.

Sunday, September 15

NEW YORK: A gala concert celebrating Ukrainian Independence Day will be held at the Fashion Institute of Technology, Seventh Avenue and 27th Street in Manhattan beginning at 2:30 p.m. This "cultural event of the year" is co-sponsored by the United Ukrainian Americans Organizations of Greater New York and the newly formed Ukrainian Studio of Drama in New York. The director of the program, National Artist of Ukraine Ivan Bernatsky, promises an inspiring and atypical event. Performers include the Dumka Chorus directed by Vasyl Hrechinsky; Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky's exciting Syzkroly Dance Ensemble; renowned pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky; singers Lyubov Shchypchyk, Anna Bachynska and Roman Tymbala; violinist Adrian Bryttan; and artists of the Ukrainian Studio of Drama, Volodymyr Kurylo and Lyudmila Hrabovska.

Thursday, September 18

TORONTO: The Shevchenko Scientific Society (Canada) and the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies invite all to attend a lecture (in Ukrainian) by Archbishop Ihor (Isichenko), archbishop of Kharkiv, administrator of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church and docent of Kharkiv University. The speaker will address the question: "Does the Development of Church Institutions in Ukraine Reflect the Growth of Our Nation? Trends and Problems of the Contemporary Orthodox Community in Ukraine." The lecture will be followed by a launch of the new CIUS Press book, "Religion and Nation in Modern Ukraine," by Serhii Plokyh and Frank E. Sysyn. The event gets under way at 7:30 p.m. at the Canadian Ukrainian Art Foundation, 2118-A Bloor St. W.



KLK Fall Weekend

Friday evening, September 12
Sunday, September 14, 2003
at Soyuzivka

KLK cordially invites all our members, family and friends
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We will conclude our weekend with our annual meeting.

For more information and to register for the tennis tournament
please call Vira Popel at (732) 297-0786 or e-mail virapopel@aol.com.
Please call Soyuzivka at (845) 626-5641 for room reservations.
Hope to see you soon!