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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Verkhovna Rada rejects calls for complete recount of elections

by Zenon Zawada  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada on April 4 rejected a recount of the parliamentary elections, ignoring protests from politicians and their supporters who alleged that millions of ballots weren't counted properly and that the elections were once again intentionally falsified.

None of the winning blocs and parties supported the recount, with the exception of the Communist Party of Ukraine.

Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, who spent more than \$6.5 million on an advertising campaign for his self-named political bloc that won only 2.4 percent of votes, said the elections were fair but the vote count was falsified through the use of new technologies.

"The world's practices truly don't perform recounts, but the world's practices don't know Ukrainian practices," Mr. Lytvyn said. His comment drew applause in the Rada.

Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko alleged that election commission members in the Kirovohrad Oblast had stolen votes from his party and counted them toward the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

"In every bag that is being opened today between 50 and 100 votes were taken from the Communists for the advantage of the Tymoshenko Bloc," Mr. Symonenko said.

The Communist Party won the Kirovohrad Oblast in the 2002 elections, but the Tymoshenko Bloc won it this year.

"I believe that we, today, should seriously discuss how capital has corrupted

the whole system and how it subjugated it today," Mr. Symonenko said.

Outside the Parliament, more than 300 protesters from all over Ukraine waved the flags of losing political parties and voiced their complaints over what they viewed as fraudulent elections.

Leading the protests were Inna Bohoslovka, leader of the Viche Party, and Volodymyr Marchenko, a leader of Natalia Vitrenko's People's Opposition Bloc.

"The Orangists promised democracy and honest elections, but everyone understands there were no honest elections!" shouted Mr. Marchenko, whose bloc had 2.93 percent of the vote, coming closest of those who failed to make it to the 3 percent barrier.

Valentyna Klusenko, 59, an election observer who arrived from Zhytomyr to join the protests, said she's convinced results were inflated and falsified. While observing the vote count, she noticed the ballots weren't being separated into piles, as required by procedure. Then, a group of six commission members surrounded the table "like a swarm of bees" and made a mess of the ballots.

Afterward she wanted to verify the ballots but the commission members denied her the chance. Later the commission also denied her the opportunity to examine its protocol report and verify whether it reflected the number of ballots counted, she said.

"I wanted to see transparent, honest elections which reflected the people's will," Ms. Klusenko said. "I didn't see that at my polling station."

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## Tymoshenko and Moroz say Our Ukraine is backing out of forming Orange coalition

by Zenon Zawada  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Orange Revolution leaders Yulia Tymoshenko and Oleksander Moroz accused Our Ukraine's leadership of trying to back out of forming an Orange coalition in the newly elected Verkhovna Rada.

Their accusations came after Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov and Our Ukraine Election Campaign Chief Roman Bezsmertnyi met with the two leaders at the start of the week, presenting them with a proposal.

The conditions didn't satisfy Mr. Moroz and Ms. Tymoshenko, who held a joint press conference on April 6, accusing Our Ukraine's leaders of trying to buy time as they negotiated with the Party of the Regions.

"It's absolutely incomprehensible why today, exactly the 10th day after elections were held, not a single real step has been made toward a coalition," Ms. Tymoshenko said.

Our Ukraine's proposal doesn't distinguish who gets which posts, including the prime ministership, a position that Ms. Tymoshenko said she must have if her bloc is willing to form a coalition. Most of Our Ukraine's leadership is against her candidacy for prime minister,

Ms. Tymoshenko added.

"I absolutely know that these boys, who did a lot toward ruining the hopes of the Orange Revolution, would rather eat their hands than sign a memorandum in which our political force has the right to form the government," Ms. Tymoshenko said.

Our Ukraine will not discuss distributing positions until it has worked out the coalition's by-laws, Mr. Bezsmertnyi said.

Much to Mr. Moroz's concern, the proposal also doesn't rule out attempts to cancel the constitutional reforms that went into effect January 1, which shifted the balance of power from the presidency to the prime ministership.

President Viktor Yushchenko had earlier pledged not to attempt to cancel the constitutional reforms.

Ukraine's Orange electorate is becoming jittery at the prospect of an Our Ukraine-Party of the Regions coalition.

Following Mr. Moroz's criticisms, President Viktor Yushchenko said the proposal presented to the leaders was merely "a beginning of discussions" and his bloc is trying to form an Orange coalition.

However, he then indicated that he's

(Continued on page 11)

## Analysts say parliamentary elections were a 'victory for the Orange Revolution'

by Matthew Dubas

NEW YORK — The Orange Circle, a coalition to further economic advancement and democracy in Ukraine, held a post-election briefing titled "Ukraine's 2006 Parliamentary Elections: Implications for Business and the International Community" at the Ukrainian Institute of America on Wednesday, March 29.

Adrian Karatnycky, the president of the Orange Circle, called the parliamentary elections a "victory for the Orange Revolution," citing the clear majority of votes received by Orange Revolution-affiliated parties.

Mr. Karatnycky's observations and remarks centered on the Orange unity in the recent elections. Two possible coalition scenarios were described, one between Our Ukraine and the Party of the Regions, and the other, a more likely one, uniting Our Ukraine and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc. The latter scenario was described as having a liberal economic policy, providing a business-friendly environment and likely to sway extremists to a more centrist

stance.

Mr. Karatnycky also provided a brief synopsis of the election results and introductions of the guest speakers: Alexander Motyl, professor of political science at Rutgers University, and Elehie Natalie Skoczylas, vice-president and director of research at QEV Analytics.

Ms. Skoczylas was first to speak, presenting the importance of the public opinion polls in regards to this election. She commented on the importance of exit polls and their rising popularity, citing four polls funded by various embassies and national associations, in these elections. Ms. Skoczylas said that 30 percent of the population make their decision in the three weeks prior to the election and noted that, during this time, public opinion polls are not allowed to be conducted in Ukraine. Ms. Skoczylas also commented on the effectiveness of Ms. Tymoshenko's campaign, with her use of town meetings to boost public opinion, her antipathy toward Viktor

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Viche Party leader Inna Bohoslovka leads an April 4 demonstration outside the Verkhovna Rada demanding a recount of the parliamentary elections.



## ANALYSIS

## Is there a gas war brewing between Russia and Belarus?

by Roman Kupchinsky

RFE/RL Newsline

At a meeting with Belarusian officials on March 30, Aleksei Miller, the CEO of Russia's state gas monopoly, Gazprom, announced that in 2007 Belarus will be charged European rates for Russian gas. That could mean the country paying up to five times as much – something that could seriously affect the Belarusian economy, which has long depended on cheap gas imports.

Things looked much rosier in December 2005. Russia and Belarus signed a one-year contract for 2006 gas deliveries at \$46.68 per 1,000 cubic meters. In return, Belarus agreed to complete on schedule its section of the Yamal-Europe pipeline, which will transport gas to Germany via Poland. Belarus also agreed to resolve problems regarding the leases for land on which Russian compressor stations are to be built.

Roman Kupchinsky is a contributor to RFE/RL Newsline. RFE/RL correspondent Valentinas Mite also contributed to this report.

Meeting with Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka in Sochi on December 15, 2005, Russian President Vladimir Putin backed Mr. Lukashenka in the forthcoming presidential election. Mr. Putin was optimistic about ties with Belarus.

But the spirit of bonhomie wasn't in existence on March 30 when Mr. Miller met with Belarusian Energy Minister Alyaksandr Ageyev and Dmitry Kazakov, the head of Beltransgaz, the Belarusian state company that owns and operates the country's gas-pipeline network. Mr. Miller gave them advance notice that in 2007 Belarus will be charged European rates for Russian gas deliveries. Western European buyers of Russian gas now pay approximately \$230 per 1,000 cubic meters.

The official reason for this was later explained by the Russian ambassador to Belarus, Aleksandr Surikov, who said that the price increase was needed in order for Russia to be accepted into the World Trade Organization, the Belapan news agency reported on March 31.

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## Ukraine is relearning democracy, says Ukraine's ambassador to U.S.

RFE/RL

WASHINGTON – Ukraine's new ambassador to the United States says that the difficulties Ukraine's government has experienced over the last year since the "Orange Revolution" should not be seen as a "year lost," but rather "a year to learn to govern."

Ambassador Shamshur, who presented his credentials to U.S. President George W. Bush on March 13, told an RFE/RL audience on March 16 that Ukraine's government and Ukrainians "relearned democracy" over the last year.

Dr. Shamshur said that the new government and Ukraine's democratic movement, which brought it to power, have made some avoidable mistakes during the past year, "but others were not avoidable" and are necessary in a society governed by democratic principles.

Among the accomplishments of the current Ukrainian government the ambassador listed its progress in building civil society, establishing democratic ground rules, guaranteeing freedom of the press, and "shatter[ing] the autocratic foundation of corruption" within Ukraine. Dr. Shamshur said that oli-

garchic power and the most dangerous elements of corruption have been undermined by the government's rigorous investigations and prosecutions.

The economy has also improved, Ambassador Shamshur said, with poverty diminishing as a result of a 20 percent increase in real income and a 12-fold increase in benefits for children. As the "corrupt schemes of the shadow economy" that were prevalent in 2004 have been exposed, Dr. Shamshur said that inflation has been successfully held to 10.3 percent and Ukraine enjoyed a 2.4 percent increase in its GDP in 2005.

The ambassador said that the government hopes to encourage "sound economic growth" by targeting investment in high tech industries such as aerospace, machine tools and transport infrastructure.

Ambassador Shamshur said the natural gas crisis of early 2006 has reinforced his government's commitment to restructure Ukraine's energy sector. The Cabinet recently adopted an energy strategy that calls for lower consumption, energy independence and securing a reliable supply

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## Quotable notes

"Freedom triumphed in Ukraine a week ago as citizens voted in elections that international poll monitors judged to be democratic and fair — not a given for a land that was once part of the Soviet Union. Regardless of the configuration of the next government, the result underscores that Ukraine's course of Euro-Atlantic integration remains on track.

"...This election completes Ukraine's post-Soviet transition. We begin a new chapter in parliamentary democracy and local self-government. Changes to our Constitution took effect three months ago, shifting some executive powers, such as nominating the prime minister, from the presidency to Parliament. The essence of these changes is political power-sharing, requiring closer interaction between citizens, parties and government. The new coalition government must be formed two months after the official results are confirmed."

— President Viktor Yushchenko in an op-ed article published by *The Wall Street Journal (Europe)* on April 3.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Rada has 61 percent new members

KYIV – As a result of the March 26 elections, the new Verkhovna Rada has 61 percent new members, according to the chairman of the experts' council of the Institute of Politics, Sergey Makeyev. The number of women will grow by 3 percent, as compared with the present composition and will reach 8 percent of the total of 450 deputies. Forty-nine percent of the Rada's members will be people over age 50, though there will be four 25-year old deputies (one of them Viktor Yanukovich Jr.). The oldest deputy, Gen. Ivan Gerasimov, 85, will represent the Communist Party of Ukraine. Five journalists have been elected under the party and bloc rolls. As many as 99 percent of deputies have completed higher education. The political expert noted that 78 percent of voters cast their ballots for parties and blocs that crossed the 3 percent barrier and entered the Parliament. (Ukrinform)

### Vitrenko demands recount

KYIV – The leader of the Natalia Vitrenko People's Opposition Bloc demanded a total recount of ballot papers, as "the state failed to organize the elections honestly and democratically," she said at an April 3 press conference. Ms. Vitrenko charged that violations of electoral legislation were registered nationwide. The bloc approached local courts, constituency election commissions, the Central Election Commission and the Procurator General's Office with complaints of falsifications, as "every thousand votes affects the situation in Ukraine significantly." The Vitrenko Bloc fell short by 0.07 percent of crossing the 3 percent barrier to enter Parliament. (Ukrinform)

### Parliament holds last session

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada of the fourth convocation (elected in March 2002) convened for its last session on April 4, Ukrainian media reported. The main issue on the agenda was the demand by some Ukrainian political forces that the Central Election Commission order a recount of the March 26 parliamentary elections. Representatives of some parties and blocs that failed to pass the 3 percent threshold

qualifying for parliamentary representation – including Volodymyr Lytvyn's People's Bloc, the Yurii Karmazin Bloc, the Viche Party, the People's Democratic Party and the Natalia Vitrenko People's Opposition Bloc – held a picket in front of the parliamentary building, demanding a recount. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### No recount of March 26 vote

KYIV – There will be no total vote recount of the March 26 elections to the Verkhovna Rada and local councils, as none of four bills submitted on the Parliament's agenda were supported by the necessary 226 votes. Representatives of the Viche Party, the Pora-Party of Reforms and Order Bloc, the Yuriy Karmazin Bloc and Volodymyr Lytvyn's People's Bloc, which failed to cross the 3 percent barrier, initiated calls for a recount, asserting that their votes were stolen. (Ukrinform)

### CPU does not intend to join coalition

KYIV – The Communist Party of Ukraine, which garnered 3.66 percent of the votes in the March 26 parliamentary elections, does not intend to join any of the coalitions that are presently being negotiated, CPU leader Petro Symonenko said in an interview with the Kievsky Telegraph newspaper. "We are not going to bargain for posts," he said. Mr. Symonenko said there are two variants of the CPU's participation in the Parliament's work. According to the first variant, the CPU will back proposals by any of the forces that are aimed at protecting the interests of Ukrainian citizens. Under the second variant, political forces aiming to attract the CPU into a coalition should draft a parcel of first-priority measures for overcoming crises in Ukraine. According to Mr. Symonenko, the first-priority tasks should contain legal settlement of unemployment, increasing salaries and introducing state mechanisms for price regulation. (Ukrinform)

### Akhmetov holds press conference

KYIV – Rynat Akhmetov, who participated in Ukraine's March 26 parliamentary

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# NEWS ANALYSIS: Whither the Orange coalition – and the Orange Revolution?

by Markian Bilynskij

More than probably any other participant in the Ukrainian parliamentary elections, Viktor Yanukovych's Party of the Regions is facing up to the truth of the saying that there are lies, damned lies and statistics. Having gained a plurality in the new Verkhovna Rada and initially declaring that they will therefore be the "epicenter" of any negotiations on the creation of a parliamentary majority, the Regions are now confronting the very real possibility of being in opposition.

Some of the pronouncements by leading representatives of the Party of the Regions betray a confusion regarding their predicament. Claiming to be prepared to compromise on key issues in order to be a part of a governing coalition, they have offered often contradictory statements on exactly which questions are core issues and which would be negotiable.

At present, the Regions are a frustrated force; a large fly trapped in a relatively small bottle of their electorate's making. Any realistic chance of the Regions playing a leading

role in the formation of a majority will depend not merely on some crumbs but a substantial dish falling into their lap from the table of negotiations being prepared by the Orange camp.

Thematically, it is possible to view the Verkhovna Rada elections as a fourth and final round of the 2004 presidential elections. The initial returns reveal that, compared with his haul during the first round of those elections, Mr. Yanukovych has lost around one-third of his support and his party has been confirmed as very much a regional power. The Regions have been unable to build upon the inroads made by Mr. Yanukovych as a presidential candidate beyond his native Donbas.

### A realignment of forces

The Orange camp, including the Socialists, has largely retained its share of the 2004 vote. However, within this broad picture there has occurred a kaleidoscopic realignment of forces between the Yulia Tymoshenko's Bloc (YTB) and President Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine.

Confident of receiving the blessing of the Orange electorate to dictate the terms for creating a Rada majority and new government, Our Ukraine has been humiliated by the strength of a protest vote that instead appears to have given the YTB a mandate for continuing to implement the more radical, socially

oriented vision of the Orange Revolution Prime Minister Tymoshenko was pursuing before her dismissal last autumn.

The arithmetic of the situation points to a straight Orange majority consisting of the YTB, Our Ukraine and the Socialist Party. Indeed, all three forces have publicly declared the inadmissibility of any other option. However, reaching agreement will depend on the erstwhile allies-in-opposition being able to overcome continuing deep personal animosities and suspicions, as well as substantial political and policy differences. The presence of these pitfalls and obstacles within the Orange camp multiplies the permutations and might yet produce an unexpected outcome.

The immediate political future can be divided into two interrelated, critical phases. The first involves the formation of a majority in the new Verkhovna Rada. The second involves this majority then agreeing on a coalition government. Failure to achieve these landmarks within a legislatively defined timeframe could see the president choose to exercise his newly acquired right to dismiss the Rada.

Agreeing in principle to the formation of an Orange majority is the relatively straightforward part. The Socialists and the YTB have already signed a draft agreement on cooperation. Our Ukraine, however, has declared it can only approve the document after a party leadership gathering scheduled for April 7.

While arguing the need strenuously to adhere to procedure when adopting significant decisions, Our Ukraine's position might just as reasonably be interpreted as buying time in order to develop an effective strategy for the more important phase of negotiating government

portfolios, including, obviously, the key post of prime minister.

Reduced to its essence, this tactic seems to reflect an increasing desperation – a stalling for time in the hope that a credible alternative might present itself to the looming specter of a Tymoshenko prime ministership – something quite unpalatable to many of Our Ukraine's key figures – including, by some accounts, President Yushchenko himself.

### Post of PM is key

Before the March 26 ballot, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and Our Ukraine (at the latter's initiative) had agreed that the pre-eminent Orange force would propose its candidate for prime minister. The Socialists have since accepted such a formulation.

Following the election results, the YTB has made it clear that this means Ms. Tymoshenko. This position is being presented as non-negotiable and is bolstered by the incontrovertible fact that the combined vote for the Socialists and Our Ukraine falls short of the YTB's total.

Our Ukraine's maneuverings, therefore, appear to be a backtracking bordering on a lack of good faith. The disorientation is understandable. Lacking contingency plans, Our Ukraine has almost been reduced to hoping a solution to its Tymoshenko problem will arise *deus ex machina*.

The YTB is continually placing Our Ukraine on the defensive, accusing it of prevaricating in order to strike a deal with the Party of the Regions. Our Ukraine has begun hinting at the possibility, albeit still very remote, of accommodation with the Regions under very specific con-

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## Parliamentary Election Results

as released by the Central Election Commission on March 30 at 19:48:36 Kyiv time with 100 percent of the ballots counted. (Official results have not yet been released.)

No.	Party (Bloc)	Percent of Votes	Votes
1	Party of the Regions	32.12	8,144,485
2	Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc	22.27	5,648,345
3	Our Ukraine Bloc	13.94	3,536,459
4	Socialist Party of Ukraine	5.67	1,439,624
5	Communist Party of Ukraine	3.66	928,501
6	Natalia Vitrenko People's Opposition Bloc	2.93	743,125
7	Lytvyn's People's Bloc	2.43	618,060
8	Ukrainian National Bloc of Kostenko and Pliushch	1.87	475,636
9	Viche Party	1.74	443,559
10	Pora-Party of Reforms and Order	1.47	372,931
11	"Ne Tak!" Opposition Bloc	1.01	256,836
12	Renaissance Party	0.96	244,862
13	Yuriy Karamazin Bloc	0.65	165,820
14	Green Party of Ukraine	0.54	137,845
15	National Democratic Party of Ukraine	0.49	126,741
16	Party of Environmental Protection	0.47	120,107
17	Green Planet Party	0.38	96,746
18	Freedom All-Ukrainian Union	0.37	94,747
19	Agrarian Party of Ukraine	0.32	81,397
20	Lazarenko Bloc	0.31	80,521
21	National-Economic Development of Ukraine Party	0.23	60,162
22	For Union Bloc	0.20	53,213
23	Pensioners of Ukraine Party	0.20	51,099
24	State-Labor Union Bloc	0.14	36,562
25	Third Power	0.13	35,196
26	National Movement of Ukraine for Unity	0.13	34,728
27	Party of Putin's Politics	0.12	32,079
28	People's Faith All-Ukrainian Party	0.12	30,445
29	Ukrainian Party of Honor, Combating Corruption and Organized Crime	0.11	28,898
30	Patriotic Forces of Ukraine Party	0.10	26,627
31	Conservative Party of Ukraine	0.10	25,574
32	Labor of Ukraine Party	0.09	25,094
33	People's Power Bloc	0.09	25,032
34	Social-Environmental Party "Union. Chornobyl. Ukraine"	0.09	24,033
35	Social-Christian Party	0.09	23,557
36	Borys Oliynyk and Mykhailo Syrota Bloc	0.08	22,126
37	Unity Bloc of Yevhen Marchuk	0.06	17,037
38	Ukrainian National Assembly	0.06	16,632
39	Social Protection Party	0.05	15,024
40	Sun Non-Partisan Bloc	0.05	13,009
41	New Power	0.05	12,820
42	Patriots of Ukraine Bloc	0.05	12,725
43	Liberal Party of Ukraine	0.04	12,104
44	European Capital Party	0.04	12,042
45	"Ahead, Ukraine" Political Party	0.02	6,970

Percent of voters who voted against all 1.77

## Quotable notes

"If the post-election period focuses exclusively on a game of musical chairs, where party leaders are more interested in ministerial portfolios and prized legislative committee chairmanships than reaching specific policy goals, then this election's success and the opportunity to move Ukraine forward risk being lost.

"Therefore, a parliamentary majority must outline its vision, the specific laws and government programs it wants to pursue, and, most importantly, find the professional staff to deliver results. Voters are expecting no less."

– President Viktor Yushchenko in an op-ed article published by The Wall Street Journal (Europe) on April 3.

"Right now a project is being put together to create a grand coalition [Our Ukraine and the Party of the Regions]. The people who came up with this project up their sleeve will get absolutely nothing in the end."

– Yulia Tymoshenko, leader of the eponymous bloc, speaking at a press conference on March 27, as cited by Ukrayinska Pravda.

"There are marriages of convenience ... in our case, there is no love but a marriage of convenience is possible. ... An agreement is when goals are clearly defined ... our main goal is to ensure economic growth."

– Rynat Akhmetov, No. 7 on the election list of the Party of the Regions, speaking of a possible coalition of his party with Our Ukraine, as quoted on April 2 by Agence France-Presse.

"We will not negotiate in terms of a banal division of posts. We must build a coalition which is based on encompassing national interests."

– Anatolii Kinakh, leader of the Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (which belongs to the Our Ukraine bloc), speaking after a meeting of the Our Ukraine political council on March 27, as quoted by Ukrayinska Pravda.



OBITUARY: Petro Odarchenko, literary scholar, linguist, 102

by Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON – Petro Odarchenko, a prominent scholar of Ukrainian literature and a linguist, died here on March 12. He was 102. All who knew him and his life’s work addressed him as Prof. Odarchenko even though the university lecture hall had not been the setting for his professional life for more than 60 years, and even then, in the terrible Soviet 1930s, repression, imprisonment and exile afforded him precious little time for that as well.

Today he is known and respected for the 12 books and some 650 articles he wrote for numerous Ukrainian periodicals in the West and in Ukraine. He did so by pursuing his life’s work after coming to the United States in 1950 – mostly in the evenings and on weekends, while employed professionally in other areas, and full-time after retiring in 1973.

He was a frequent contributor to the Ukrainian-language-usage feature “Mova pro movu” in Svoboda.

Prof. Odarchenko’s first book, on the norms and style of the Ukrainian language, was published in 1946 in Germany; his last, an autobiography, titled “I am 100,” was published in Ukraine in 2004.

In between, there were more books on the Ukrainian language, books about his two favorite writers, Lesia Ukrainka and Taras Shevchenko, literary criticism and a bibliography.

The book cited as his most important contribution to the study of Ukrainian literature was one he did not write but edited: “Lesia Ukrainka: Chronology of Life and Creative Work,” which was authored by the famous writer’s sister, Olha Kosach-Kryvynyuk (1877-1945). This 920-page definitive study of Lesia Ukrayinka was published in 1970 by the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the United States (UVAN).

Prof. Odarchenko was a member of UVAN and the Shevchenko Scientific Society, and he was a recipient of numerous awards for his scholarly work from these two institutions and the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, which presented him with an honorary doctorate in 2003.

Petro Vasyliovych Odarchenko was born in 1903 in Rymarivka, a village in the Poltava region of Ukraine. He received his secondary education in Hadiach, where he developed his interest in Ukrainian literature. There, he lived in a house once owned by the 19th century writer and political activist Mykhailo Drahomanov and got to know the writer Olena Pchilka, who also lived in that house.

He began his higher education in 1920 at the Poltava branch of Kharkiv University and finished his graduate work and wrote his thesis on Lesia Ukrainka at the Nizhyn Institute of History and Culture in 1928. There he began what would become a short-lived and intermittent career as a teacher and scholar.

He was arrested in 1929 for “belonging to a counter-revolutionary organization with the goal of bringing down Soviet rule and establishing an independent Ukraine.” After six months in prison, he was exiled for three years to Kazakhstan. A similar arrest-exile routine was repeated in 1933, after which, in 1937, he began moving from city to city, looking for, and sometimes



Petro Odarchenko

obtaining, teaching or research work.

Under German occupation, he returned to Kyiv, but in 1943 he left Ukraine forever by way of Warsaw, Vienna and post-war Germany, finally reaching the United States.

As was the case with many Ukrainian immigrants with professions not easily adaptable to comparable employment in this country, Prof. Odarchenko first found work in a button factory and later at a train station, on the midnight clean-up crew, which happened to also include the Ukrainian poet Todos Osmachka.

In 1952 Prof. Odarchenko came to Washington, where for two years he worked for the Library of Congress and afterward, until his retirement in 1973, as a writer and editor at the Voice of America.

Prof. Odarchenko died nine days after his wife of 75 years, Maria Derhacheva Odarchenko, passed away on March 3 at the age of 97. Both were buried at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

They are survived by two sons: Alexander Odarchenko of Kingston, N.Y., and Paul Odarchenko, with his wife, Lonny, and daughter Julie, of Potomac, Md.

IN MEMORIAM: Andrew Demus

by Bob N. Justus

CORNELIA, Ga. – I write as Andrew Demus, a dear friend, enters the final stage of cancer. As we stood by his bed, Kathleen, his wife, said, “Andy is tough.”

He had to be tough, beginning with his childhood on the steppes of Ukraine. There he faced starvation in 1933 when Communists removed food and animals, including his father’s barn, leaving just one cow. “Her milk saved our lives,” he said. Later, he survived under Hitler’s evil reign until liberated by American soldiers.

Andy’s joy in being an American citizen is contagious. He demonstrates his patriotism by flying the American and Ukrainian flags on his front lawn; the American flag is on the right.

“I am jumping with joy! Everything wonderful happens to me in May.” On Monday, May 2, 1966, Andrej (Andrew) Demus became a U.S. citizen. Earlier, in May 1962, a happy event occurred when he married Kathleen English. By then new citizens Andy and Kathy had two daughters, ages 3 and 2, and a son 8 weeks old. Their family grew to five children, three daughters and two sons, plus nine grandchildren.

Andy was born in Lubar, Ukraine, on December 15, 1926. In 1939 Nazi troops arrived. Within two weeks, killer bands of Nazis began rounding up Jews, who were forced to dig their own graves, then were shot. Wreaking violence and mass deaths, the Germans “...were like locusts. We had little, but they took all we had,” Andy recalled in a May 5, 1966, issue of the North Dade Journal (Florida). Before the German hordes caused starvation, Stalin’s Communist USSR had earlier put the Ukrainian people through two starvation periods, one during Andy’s childhood.

Andy at age 13 was hauled off in a freight car to Heidelberg, Germany, where, he said, “They took away your clothes, gave you a number, and you were no longer a person, just something mechanical.” The bombing by British and American planes (the former at night and the latter by day) gave Andy and other slaves hope. “Whenever the sirens blew, we lived. The more bombs dropped, the more joy we felt.” At least one bomb almost buried him alive.

In May 1945 Andy was liberated by advancing American soldiers. He and five other teenagers remained with the U.S. forces, working in the kitchen and supply room. A GI, Charles Stek, promised to sponsor Andy when he arrived in the U.S. He had no home left in Ukraine. Andy’s mother had been shot by a German soldier while stealing her chickens. His father, who had helped Jews find safety from the Nazis, was shot by the returning Soviet Communists for giving a German soldier food, although he was forced to do so.

After several years in England, in 1960 Andrew Demus came to New York. Not liking the cold winters of the north, Andy moved to Florida. He became self-employed there, repairing seawalls and doing carpentry work. He was happy being “Handy Andy.” Then he met Kathy, the girl next door who became the love of his life.

Years later, after visits to northeast Georgia, Andy and Kathy decided to settle in Cornelia. Here he became an enthusiastic community supporter and he fashioned many wooden objects as a master at the Ukrainian woodworking craft. He did not carve objects, but rather fashioned them from various woods pieced together.

“They don’t know what life is like under dictators,” Andy responded to my thought that many Americans didn’t seem to appreciate our precious heritage. “I couldn’t understand why Germans, so intelligent and industrious, fell for Hitler, but they did. America’s freedom was not won at a cheap price and must be defended at all costs.”

Andy is devoted to the nation and people that adopted him. Alone or with retired Brig. Gen. Russel Weiskircher (who helped liberate Dachau in 1945), he spoke to student groups about freedom and the need to be knowledgeable and vigilant in guarding that precious freedom.

“Wherever there is a dictator, there is holocaust,” he told one group. In a letter to Laura Bush, Andy wrote, “America taught me how to live free. I will always stand under that waving flag of freedom and that is what I give to the children of Georgia; love for that flag of freedom as I lecture on the holocaust.”

\*\*\*

Andrew Demus was liberated a final time – from cancer – at 2 p.m. on Friday, March 24. At a memorial service on Thursday, March 30, family and friends met at the Cornelia Depot to say “Godspeed” to Andy, a friend of mine and America as well.

Bob N. Justus is a regular contributor to The Northeast Georgian of Cornelia, Ga. This column appeared in the newspaper’s issue of Tuesday, April 4. It is reprinted here with the author’s permission.

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund: February

Amount	Name	City			
\$100.00	Ihor Szeremeta	Princeton, N.J.	\$15.00	Walter Bilynsky	Baldwinsville, N.Y.
\$55.00	Raymond Badynskyj	Phoenix, Ariz.		Helen Duda	Old Bridge, N.J.
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	and Joseph Lesawyer)			Wasył and Stanisława	Stratford, Conn.
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	Eugene B. and Natalia	Short Hills, N.J.			
	M. Zmyj				
\$20.00	Steve Ilkiw	Montreal, Quebec			
	Dorothy Korey	Oldsmar, Fla.			

TOTAL: \$1,432.00

Sincere thanks to all contributors to The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund.

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund is the only fund dedicated exclusively to supporting the work of this publication.





# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## CONVENTION PRIMER: General Assembly, the UNA's highest body between conventions

As the Ukrainian National Association, its officers and members prepare for the organization's 36th Regular Convention, which will convene on Friday, May 26, at the Soyuzivka estate in Kerhonkson, N.Y., *The Ukrainian Weekly* is publishing a new series titled "Convention Primer" that will explain the UNA's goals, structure and operations.

As noted in the previous installment of this series, conventions are the highest decision-making body of the Ukrainian National Association. But, they meet only once every four years. What body, then, is the UNA's top decision-making body between conventions?

Answer: the General Assembly of the UNA, which was known as the Supreme Assembly until 1994. The General Assembly meets annually, except during the year of a regular UNA convention. During convention years the General Assembly will often hold special sessions.

The General Assembly is elected at the UNA's regular conventions. It consists of the UNA Executive Committee, the Auditing Committee and the Board of Advisors.

The Executive Committee includes the president, first vice-president, second vice-president, director for Canada, national secretary and treasurer. Of these six posts,

only three – the president, national secretary and treasurer – are full-time paid positions at the UNA Home Office.

The Auditing Committee is composed of three members, one of whom is chairman. (The chairman, or a member of the committee designated by the chairman, may take part in meetings of the Executive Committee in an advisory capacity.)

The Board of Advisors comprises 11 members, at least one of whom, according to the UNA By-Laws, must be a Canadian member.

It should be noted that at the last UNA convention held in 2002, the size of the Auditing Committee was reduced from five to three members; and the number of advisors was reduced from 14 to 11. (The original proposal was to reduce the number of advisors to seven.) A proposal to reduce the size of the Executive Committee from four to six members – eliminating the positions of second vice-president and director for Canada – did not pass (that is, it did not receive the required two-thirds support of all the delegates at the convention).

Any UNA member in good standing who is age 21 or over and has been a member of the UNA for at least one year can be elected to the General Assembly.

In addition, the By-Laws stipulate that

(Continued on page 17)

### TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 94

As of April 1, 2006, the secretary's duties of Branch 94 were assumed by Mr. Nestor Tatarsky. We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance to the address listed below:

Mr. Nestor Tatarsky  
13249 De Mott Dr.  
Warren, MI 48092  
(586) 756-8229

### TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 345

As of April 1, 2006, the secretary's duties of Branch 345 were assumed by Mr. Alexander Poletz. We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance to the address listed below:

Mr. Alexander Poletz  
3520 Edwards St. N.E.  
St. Anthony, MN 55418  
(612) 781-8204

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## An expression of thanks in memory of Eugene Iwanciw

To everyone who attended the viewing or the funeral for Eugene Iwanciw thank you. To everyone who sent flowers, cards, or mass cards thank you. To everyone who said a prayer or had a sorrowful thought, thank you. To the staff at the UNA who helped put his obituary together at a time when we couldn't, thank you. To everyone who made contributions to The Ukrainian Museum or the UNA Scholarship Fund, thank you. Eugene's love of knowledge and culture will live on. To everyone who touched Eugene's life and helped comfort us during this time, thank you.

Eugene touched our lives in very individual ways. His heart was full of love for his family, his friends, his Ukrainian heritage, his country and his dog Duke. He had a special place in his heart for children, and by his most recent tutoring project, he fulfilled the dream of passing on his knowledge.

He also had a great love of books. His home was filled with books from

top to bottom. His knowledge came from those books; we will be donating them so that the knowledge will continue and come full circle.

If a friend or a family member needed a favor, Eugene didn't know the word "no." You might have gotten a lecture from him first, but he was always there to help in any way he could.

Eugene had a short life, but a very rich and rewarding one. He did more in his 53 years on this earth than most people do in a lifetime. Now, Eugene is with God and we must go on without him in our lives.

Eugene was a son, a brother, a brother-in-law and a friend. We'll miss him and, though our hearts are broken right now, the kindness that has been shown our family will help us begin the healing process.

Thank you.

The Iwanciw Family  
Irene and Michael Brennan



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## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### A grateful American

This week we learned of the passing of one of our readers, whom we were proud to call a friend though we'd never met him in person. Andrew Demus of Cornelia, Ga. (we can still hear his distinctive voice on the other end of the telephone line...) died on March 24 after a long, productive – and hard – life that spanned two continents.

An appreciation of his life by Bob Justus, who writes for The Northeast Georgian, appears under the heading "In Memoriam" on page 4. It was Mr. Justus who notified us that "Andy" had died, and he wanted to share with our readers the story of his dear friend, whom he described as, first and foremost, an American patriot.

Mr. Demus was extremely active in civic affairs in Cornelia and Habersham County, giving talks to school classes and various civic groups about the horrors of both Communism and Nazism. Mr. Demus, you see, had survived Stalin's genocide of the Ukrainian nation and Hitler's Holocaust. He was a slave laborer in Germany during the second world war and was eternally grateful to the American soldiers who liberated him.

The Weekly discovered Andrew Demus in 2003 (or was it that he discovered us?) when we received a news clipping about this master woodcarver who spoke so eloquently about the meaning of freedom. One of the highlights of his civic activism came in 2004 when he was invited, in recognition of his extensive contributions to his community, to participate in a ceremony in the state capital to commemorate the Holocaust.

From our first contact with Mr. Demus came many phone conversations and more articles, plus his recollection of the Famine-Genocide that we printed in our paper.

It was clear from what we learned about our new friend that he loved to make others happy. Mr. Demus was constantly fashioning little wooden marvels – airplanes, cars, lighthouses, etc. He'd present these as gifts to people from various walks of life whose paths crossed his. The Weekly, too, was a beneficiary of his generosity. One of his miniature lighthouses, constructed out of 110 pieces of various types of wood, with a working light, stands proudly in our office; one of our summer interns received a replica of an airplane.

In January we learned that Mr. Demus had fulfilled a long-held dream: he found the American soldier who'd befriended him in Bruck, Germany, 57 years ago, offering help when he needed it most. Unfortunately, Troyce Gilstrap had already passed on. But that did not stop Mr. Demus from expressing his appreciation. He found Mr. Gilstrap's grave in Alto, Ga., cleaned the tombstone and planted two American flags near it. It was fate, he said, that led him, a Ukrainian immigrant, to ultimately settle in Georgia, not far from where his old friend lived.

Now Andy, the most grateful of Americans, has joined Troyce in heaven. "Vichnaya pamiat" – may his memory be eternal.

April  
14  
2002

### Turning the pages back...

Four years ago, our issue dated April 14, 2002, carried an article on the parliamentary election results of that year. Volodymyr Lytvyn, who was chairman of Leonid Kuchma's For a United Ukraine bloc, suggested that his bloc would have 180 seats in the

Verkhovna Rada, causing him to search for the 46 additional votes necessary to form a majority. At that time, there was a 4 percent minimum in order to have membership in the Verkhovna Rada. Six political organizations succeeded: For a United Ukraine with 11.81 percent, Our Ukraine with 23.55 percent, the Communist Party with 20.01 percent, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc with 7.24 percent, the Socialist Party of Ukraine with 6.88 percent and the Social Democratic Party – United with 6.27 percent.

There were 145 national deputies elected in single-mandate districts who assured Mr. Lytvyn they would join For a United Ukraine. In addition to these seats, 35 had been won in by-party voting, giving the bloc 180 seats in the Rada. The formation of a majority would, according to Mr. Lytvyn, be based on three "axiomatic" positions: no majority could be formed without the participation of For a United Ukraine; the bloc should act as an initiator and coordinator of parliamentary coalition talks; and the majority must be formed on a platform of market-orientation, democratic reforms and European integration.

On April 10, members of Our Ukraine said that a coalition between their group and the For a United Ukraine bloc was impossible because of extensive antagonisms between leading personalities in each group and contradictions in their fundamental approach to government. However, President Kuchma said that he would actively support the formation of a permanent majority in Parliament that was centered on For a United Ukraine bloc. Political analysts said that a likely union between the Social Democratic Party – United and the Communist Party would join Mr. Lytvyn's bloc to give it the additional seats needed to attain 226 votes.

In response to the formation of this mega-bloc, leaders of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialist Party and Our Ukraine began talks to form a democratically based, oppositionist majority. A statement released by the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc on April 10 in response to Mr. Lytvyn's assertions, criticized the remarks as "a provocation against Ukrainian citizenry, human rights and freedoms," because the bloc "used administrative resources, repression and punitive measures to fight the opposition, forged election returns and manipulated public opinion."

Political analyst Volodymyr Polokhalo stated that, after the elections, President Kuchma met with groups of non-aligned, newly chosen candidates from single-mandate districts to convince them of the benefits of joining For a United Ukraine. Those who resisted were invited for one-on-one discussions with the president, according to Mr. Polokhalo. He went on to say that many national deputies would be forced to "discard their promises and their programs" and join Mr. Kuchma's mega-bloc – a "disturbing development" that would give the faction power way beyond that which the electorate voted it.

Source: "Pro-Kuchma bloc claims to have 180 seats in Rada" by Roman Woronowycz, Kyiv Press Bureau, The Ukrainian Weekly, April 14, 2002, Vol. LXX, No.15.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Papers must change with the times

Dear Editor:

The appeal "Your voice counts!" by the UNA's new director of publications is timely and very important. Times are changing and the newspaper publications undergo changes as well.

On the Internet, for example, one can find Berliner, which is a new format of newspaper – a miniature version of a broad sheet that was recently adopted by the Guardian in London and Le Monde in Paris.

The Ukrainian Weekly has a double responsibility: the diaspora as well as Ukraine.

One, the new American-born generation of young people rarely master the Ukrainian language, so that they can read Ukrainian-language newspapers. Two, The Ukrainian Weekly is probably the only English-language newspaper in the U.S. that provides information, articles, commentaries, etc. about politics, economic situation, history and the progress towards democracy in Ukraine in an unbiased way for the Americans who are either involved in Ukrainian affairs, such as students and politicians or even people in the U.S. government circles.

The Ukrainian Weekly, in order to maintain its readership, has to become less parochial, and more like other American or European major newspapers. It should include and concentrate on a wide range of topics, such as politics, economics, science, environment, medicine (here in the U.S. and in Ukraine), history, art, etc. in a concise, readable and informative style. The above would probably require the addition of new young journalists knowledgeable in special fields, for example, science, who would help us to under-

stand many scientific problems or challenges and lead to mental enrichment.

Also there should be less emphasis on printing long biographies, commemorations of birthday and eulogies of members of the diaspora, which are of interest only for the persons written about and their families.

G. Myroslav Burbelo, M.D.  
Westerly, R.I.

### Unidentified guest was Msgr. Gresko

Dear Editor:

For your information, the unidentified guest in the photo in the upper left side of page 12 in the March 12 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly is Msgr. Dmytro Gresko from the Cleveland area.

He was a priest at Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Church in Cleveland.

Luba Mudri  
Parma, Ohio

### We welcome your opinion

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries on a variety of topics of concern to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities. Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

Letters should be typed and signed (anonymous letters are not published). Letters are accepted also via e-mail at [staff@ukrweekly.com](mailto:staff@ukrweekly.com). The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes. Please note that a daytime phone number is essential in order for editors to contact letter-writers regarding clarifications or questions.

## Chornobyl's 20th anniversary: an appeal to all who care

On April 26, the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations is organizing at the United Nations Headquarters, the Chornobyl Charity Bazaar to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Chornobyl tragedy, the largest in scope and the gravest in consequences technological catastrophe of the 20th century.

The purpose of this endeavor is not only to mobilize additional funds to support medical institutions in Ukraine which provide treatment for children from the Chornobyl zone, but also to renew international attention to the problems of Chornobyl.

Participation of the Ukrainian community in this important event has already become a good tradition. We are very grateful to all our friends for their fruitful cooperation demonstrated in the past, and we hope that it will continue this year. Each of you can make individual contributions to the charity event in the form of various books, crafts, arts, gift items, food, beverages and other items which

will be for sale during the bazaar, as well as donation checks for any amount.

Those who wish to take part in the Chornobyl Charity Bazaar may send donations to: Permanent Mission of Ukraine, 220 E. 51st St., New York, NY, 10022. (If you send a check, please make it payable to the Permanent Mission of Ukraine and note that it is for the Chornobyl Bazaar.)

We would also invite donors to provide brief information about themselves, so that the list of benefactors is properly presented to all guests and participants of this event at the United Nations.

Please notify the Permanent Mission of Ukraine, 212-759-7003, ext. 100, about your intention to attend our joint event by April 21, so that appropriate arrangements for receiving a pass to the U.N. building can be made in a timely manner.

– Permanent Mission of Ukraine  
to the United Nations

### Notice to publishers and authors

It is The Ukrainian Weekly's policy to run news items and/or reviews of newly published books, booklets and reprints, as well as records and premiere issues of periodicals only after receipt by the editorial offices of a copy of the material in question.

Send new releases and information (where publication may be purchased, cost, etc.) to: Editorial Staff, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.



# “An unidentified guest,” and our family collections

by Yaro Bihun

## Part I

WASHINGTON – To most Ukrainian Weekly readers, he was the “unidentified guest” sitting next to Metropolitan Myroslav Ivan Lubachivsky in the 1979 photograph accompanying a “Community Profile” feature about Apopka, Fla., in the issue dated March 12.

For those who lived in the Cleveland area between the late 1940s and mid-1960s, however, there was no doubt whatsoever about his identity. He was Msgr. Dmytro Gresko, pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, then the largest Ukrainian parish in that part of the country. He oversaw its rapid expansion into what later became four parishes, one of which – St. Josaphat, in Parma – would become an eparchy for the region.

He also built a parish grade school in Parma – then named after the two apostles and now called St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral School – that has educated hundreds of its children, many now prominent in their professions and active in developing our communities in this country as well as in Ukraine.

As is the case with many old photographs containing “unidentified” guests, neighbors, colleagues, friends and even possible family members, there is always a good story or two behind those now-deceased and too-often forgotten faces. Seeing these two clerics sitting next to



The Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Grade School symphony orchestra in 1954. Standing behind the musicians, next to the percussion section on the left, are the Rev. Myroslav Lubachivsky and Msgr. Dmytro Gresko. On the other side of the nun teaching staff are the orchestra conductor, Mrs. Jane Keller, and the Rev. Andrew Ulicky.

well. Not Msgr. Gresko, of course, but his assistant, the Rev. Andrew Ulicky, taught a class, as did the new 36-year-old priest to join the parish, the Rev. Myroslav Lubachivsky.

Being the lowest-ranking of the three, Father Lubachivsky also seemed to get most of the early morning liturgy assignments, funerals and a good share of the Saturday weddings. He also got to drive the yellow school bus, although most of the immigrant children in the early 1950s were bussed in from the poorer Cleveland neighborhoods in rented city buses. And, to keep boredom at bay while teaching the seventh-graders, he would introduce us to some Greek, Latin and Hebrew in his lectures.

The grade school was unique in many



The eighth grade class of 1956, the second graduating class of the Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Grade School in Parma, Ohio. Seated in the first row are the Rev. Myroslav Lubachivsky, School Principal Sister Oresta, Msgr. Dmytro Gresko, an unidentified nun, and the Rev. Andrew Ulicky.



The Rev. Myroslav Lubachivsky performed many marriages while serving in Cleveland, among them that of Christine and Richard Gross. Looking on are the bride's mother, Mychajlyna Bihun, and the maid of honor, Arcadia Melnyk.

each other in this photo and being familiar with their relationship, I was reminded of that old Biblical dictum about “the last shall be first.”

Our family settled in Cleveland soon after the USS Gen. Harry Taylor brought us and a boatload of other lucky post-war refugees into New York harbor in 1950. After a couple of months on a farm near Colver, a coal mining town in central Pennsylvania near Johnstown where my father's sister Maria Fedorka had settled back in 1913, I was glad to enter Ss. Peter and Paul parish grade school in Parma. There, unlike the first few months trying to learn without knowing English at the school in Colver, the nuns and most of the other teachers could help me, my brother and other recent immigrant children along with a bit of Ukrainian.

The parish priests taught classes as

other ways as well. We did not have any team sports, but we had a symphony orchestra. Filling its 50 or so positions was no easy feat for Jane Keller, its first conductor, especially from a pool of new Ukrainian immigrant children who, for some reason, only learned to play either the piano or violin at home. Many a young pianist was forced to learn an additional “non-conventional” instrument to fill in the orchestra vacancies.

Msgr. Gresko retired in the mid-1960s, to Florida where he died in 1986. Father Ulicky later got his own parish and the rank of monsignor in Johnstown; he died in 1983. And most every Ukrainian knows what happened to Father Lubachivsky. The last became the first: he became a cardinal and the head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church worldwide, residing in Lviv, in newly independent Ukraine. He died in 2000.

Seeing the photo with “an unidentified” Msgr. Gresko in The Weekly reminded me, once again, of the movie “Everything Is Illuminated” I saw last October. It wasn't the best of the handful of movies I saw last year, I'll admit, but on a very personal level, it was the most memorable.

By that I mean that it keeps coming back to me – when I saw The Weekly photo, when my sister Marta Kowcz (married by Father Lubachivsky, as was my younger sister Christine Gross) mailed me a few more of Mama's 1930s photographs from Peremyshl (Przemysl)

over the holidays, and just about every time I go to the closet and, reaching up for my hat and gloves, I see one end of that old, finely decorated wooden box.

It's our family “tabernacle,” a portable sanctuary, like the one carried by the Jews during their wanderings from Egypt. It has sheltered the physical evidence of much of our history – its photographs, documents and other precious mementos – for more than 70 years, through a world war, occupations, incarcerations, dislocations, emigration, as

(Continued on page 24)



The Bihun family's “tabernacle,” which for more than 70 years has preserved the precious photographs, documents and other mementos. Framed in the cover is a photograph of Ukrainian political prisoners celebrating Christmas in the Polish prison at Wisnicz in 1929.



# International delegation visits The Ukrainian Museum

by Marianna Zajac

NEW YORK – The United Nations hosted the 50th session of the Commission on the Status of Women February 27-March 10. As a former president of the National Council of Women and as president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Iryna Kurowyckyj initiated an invitation of conference participants to a reception at The Ukrainian Museum.

The reception, boasting a wonderful international flavor, was held on the evening of February 28, co-hosted by UNWLA and the museum and sponsored by the Self Reliance New York Credit Union. The evening was a historic moment for the Ukrainian women of the metropolitan area as they welcomed representatives of the international women's movement into their midst.

The United Nations Commission on the Status of Women was established in 1946; its purpose is to promote the advancement of women throughout the world. The commission focuses on measures to protect the human rights of women as well as to raise awareness about the status and situation of women around the world. From its very inception it has attracted the support and participation of the growing international women's movement.

This year's commission, as always, provided a unique venue for the exchange of international experiences and for bringing the voices of the women's movement to the United Nations.

Jointly planned by the International Council of Women and the National Council of Women of the U.S.A. and sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations, the afternoon program at the United Nations on February 28 focused on "equal participation of women and men in decision-making processes at all levels."

The National Council of Women of the U.S. is the oldest non-sectarian women's voluntary coalition in America and consists of organizations dedicated to the realization of full participation by women in every aspect of society. For over 100 years the International Council of Women has brought together its affiliated national councils from all over the world and has enabled them to make themselves heard at the international level. The UNWLA is a member of the U.S. National Council and, therefore, of the International Council.

The newest member of the ICW/U.N.

team is Hanya Krill, who generously prepared the invitations for this afternoon's program, as well as for the evening event which took place. A key speaker of the afternoon program was Tetiana Izhevskaya, head of the Department for Cultural and Humanitarian Cooperation of Ukraine, who is the wife of the Ambassador of Ukraine to the U.S. Dr. Oleh Shamshur.

Although many receptions were slated for the conference participants for that specific evening, the reception at The Ukrainian Museum was well attended. Ms. Kurowyckyj warmly welcomed guests from New Zealand, Korea, Taiwan, Switzerland and Ethiopia, among other countries.

Also joining the diverse group of guests were Ukrainian dignitaries: Ambassador Valeriy Kuchinsky, the permanent representative of Ukraine to the United Nations, and his wife, Alla; Mykola Kyrychenko, Ukraine's consul general in New York, and his wife, Olena; Ms. Izhevskaya; and Larysa Polska, vice-president of the Ukrainian Women's Association Diya.

Dr. Anamah Tan of Singapore, the president of the International Council of Women, and Mary Singletary, president of the National Council of Women of the U.S.A., as well as representatives of national councils from other countries were also present.

Following her brief introduction, Mrs. Kurowyckyj introduced Maria Shust, the director of The Ukrainian Museum. The following assisted in the preparations for this unique event: Natalia Duma, Daria Genza, Maria Tomorug, Anastazia Hirniak, Jaroslawa Luchechko, Nadia Sawchuk, George and Maria Shtohryn, and Jaroslav Kurowyckyj.

Guests were invited for a guided tour of the museum's second inaugural exhibit "The Tree of Life, The Sun, The Goddess" provided by curator Luba Wolynech. The viewers' comments were both enthusiastic and complimentary of both the exhibit and of the new museum itself.

Before the 30th Session of the General Assembly of the International Council of Women held in Perth, Australia, Mrs. Kurowyckyj, the ICW main representative to the United Nations, proposed to the National Council of Women of Ukraine that they invite the ICW to hold its 31st General Assembly in 2006 in Kyiv. Mrs. Kurowyckyj was instrumental in lobbying the assembly to support this invitation. As a result, in September of this year, Ukraine's capital will host the



Iryna Kurowyckyj (left), UNWLA president, with Tetyana Izhevskaya (center), director of Department of Cultural and Humanitarian Cooperation, and Dr. Anamah Tan, president of the International Council of Women.

31st General Assembly of the International Council of Women.

February 28 was a gratifying day that witnessed an impressive international gathering at The Ukrainian Museum that

will long be remembered. Guests left with a better understanding and appreciation of the Ukrainian community and its culture, and received a glimpse of the world awaiting them in September 2006.

## State Department official visits Ukraine

*Embassy of the United States*

KYIV – U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs David Kramer visited Ukraine on March 12-14. Within the Department of State, Mr. Kramer is responsible for U.S. bilateral relations with the countries of Ukraine, Russia, Belarus and Moldova.

During meetings on March 13, Mr. Kramer discussed a wide range of bilateral issues with Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov, Presidential Chief of Staff Oleh Rybachuk, Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko and the director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Second Territorial Division Anatolii Ponomarenko. He also met with the leader of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

In addition, Mr. Kramer held a roundtable discussion with students from the graduate school of journalism at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy (NaUKMA). Mr. Kramer had requested meetings with Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn and former Prime Minister Yanukovich, but they were trav-

eling and unavailable.

In his meetings, Mr. Kramer noted the progress the Ukrainian government has made in the areas of free speech, human rights and political freedom. He stressed that free and fair parliamentary elections on March 26, and a transparent process for forming a new government – one that represents the will of the Ukrainian people – is critical to solidifying Ukraine's democratic credentials.

In his discussions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in addition to bilateral relations, Mr. Kramer expressed strong U.S. support for Ukraine's implementation of a trade and customs agreement with the Republic of Moldova. He said the measure helped to reinforce the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Moldova and was a positive step toward resolving the problem of the separatist region of Transdnister.

Mr. Kramer expressed dismay over the recent detentions of two Ukrainian journalists and a number of student activists in Minsk, Belarus, and noted this was the latest step backward by authorities in Minsk.

## Cooper Union publication lauds Archipenko exhibit

NEW YORK – The New York Times lauded the Alexander Archipenko exhibit as an "impressive exhibition ... splendidly installed by the Morris Sato Studio," reads the fall 2005 issue of *At Cooper*, in an article that focused on the accomplishments of two of Cooper Union's alums, Michael Morris and Yoshiko Sato.

It was Mr. Morris and Ms. Sato's mounting of Archipenko's most radical sculptures on translucent platforms illuminated from beneath and above that received the most praise from the university publication. The two artists said they felt honored to be chosen to design the exhibit of the Ukrainian's sculptures at the new Ukrainian Museum.

It was the commission to design The Ukrainian Museum's inaugural exhibition "Alexander Archipenko: Vision

and Continuity" that allowed Morris and Sato, whose studio is located on East 12th Street in Manhattan, "to give something back to the community."

The article notes that the exhibit was "well-attended by many people both new to and familiar with the life and work of this Ukrainian national hero," and that "the exhibition was recently visited by Ukraine's esteemed President Viktor Yushchenko."

The exhibition, which included 65 Archipenko sculptures, was displayed from April 3 to September 18, 2005, at The Ukrainian Museum at 222 E. Sixth St. in Manhattan – less than a block from Cooper Union. Another great accomplishment of the exhibit noted by *At Cooper* was the Morris Sato Studio's virtual recreation of Archipenko's lost 1912 masterpiece "Medrano I."

## Ambassador Herbst tapped for new position

*U.S. Department of State*

WASHINGTON – U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has appointed Ambassador John E. Herbst as coordinator for the Office of Reconstruction and Stabilization (S/CRS). Mr. Herbst, currently U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, will take up his new position in late spring.

The coordinator supports the secretary by leading U.S. planning efforts for countries and regions of concern, and coordinating the deployment of U.S. civilian resources to respond to conflict. In concert with other State Department bureaus and agencies, the coordinator builds strong civil-military partnerships, and promotes coordination with international and non-governmental colleagues on reconstruction and stabilization activities and prevention strategies.

Mr. Herbst is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, and holds the

rank of minister-counselor. Prior to his appointment to Ukraine he served as ambassador to Uzbekistan from 2000-2003. Mr. Herbst previously worked as the U.S. consul general in Jerusalem; principal deputy to the ambassador at large for the newly independent states; the director of the Office of Independent States and Commonwealth Affairs; and as the director of regional affairs in the Near East Bureau of the State Department.

Mr. Herbst's awards in government include the Presidential Distinguished Service Award and the State Department's Distinguished Honor Award. He received a B.S. in foreign service from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, Phi Beta Kappa, and a master's degree in law and diplomacy, with distinction, from the Fletcher School. He also attended the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, Bologna Center.



# Landmark memoir by Manoly Lupul is launched at University of Alberta

by Andrij Makuch

EDMONTON – The historic Rutherford House on the University of Alberta campus was the atmospheric setting of a book launch for Dr. Manoly Lupul’s “The Politics of Multiculturalism: A Ukrainian-Canadian Memoir.” The event took place in conjunction with the “Cossack

CIUS, serving from 1976 to 1986, and a key figure in promoting multiculturalism as a state policy in Canada. He also spearheaded the introduction of English-Ukrainian and other non-French bilingual programs in schools across the prairie provinces. His memoir, which was written in retirement over the span of several years, was issued by CIUS



Former CIUS director Dr. Manoly Lupul signs his memoirs for current CIUS Director Dr. Zenon Kohut.

Cowboys: The Ukrainian Experience in Alberta” conference, sponsored jointly by the Ukrainian Canadian Programme at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, the Canadian Centre for Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography, and the Ukrainian Pioneers’ Association of Alberta.

More than 60 scholars, graduate students and members of the general public took part in the Alberta gathering on November 17-19, 2005, that comprised lectures, book launches and video screenings – all of which were dedicated to the 100th anniversary of Canada’s westernmost prairies province.

Dr. Lupul was the founding director of

Press in November 2005.

The launch on November 18, 2005, was attended by approximately 65 people – a significant number of whom were mentioned in the book, adding an element of excited anticipation to the proceedings. The formal part of the evening began with the introduction of Dr. Lupul by Zenon Kohut, the present director of the CIUS. Dr. Kohut described Dr. Lupul as being “at the forefront” of the efforts to change Canada from a bicultural to a multicultural society and noted that the memoir offered “unrivalled first-person insight into the aspirations that

(Continued on page 18)

## BOOK NOTES

### Development of multiculturalism is focus of new political memoir

“The Politics of Multiculturalism: A Ukrainian-Canadian Memoir” by Manoly Lupul. Alberta: Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press, 2005. 508 pp., \$34.95 (paper) and \$69.95 (cloth).

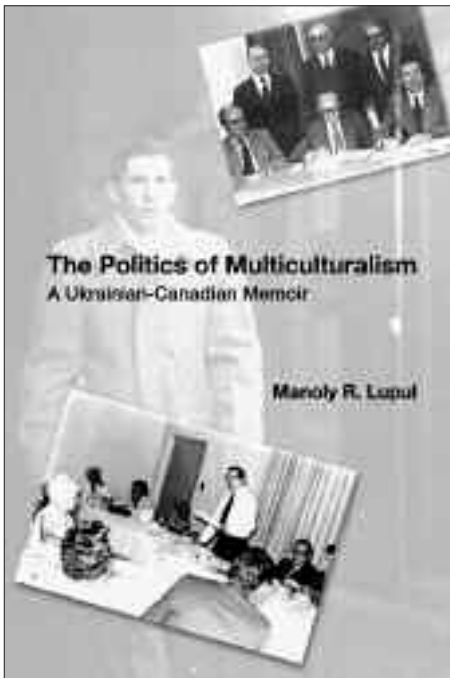
by Jars Balan

Canadian multiculturalism is the focus of an important new memoir authored by a major figure in the multicultural movement during its heyday in the 1970s and early 1980s. Published by CIUS Press in November 2005, “The Politics of Multiculturalism: A Ukrainian-Canadian Memoir,” by Manoly R. Lupul, provides a fascinating, well-documented, first-hand account of the author’s involvement in multicultural politics and the evolution of his thinking about ethnic minority rights from his childhood years through to his intellectual maturity.

Born and raised in a Ukrainian community in the heart of rural east Alberta, Dr. Lupul was educated at the universities of Alberta, Minnesota and Harvard before returning to the University of Alberta to pursue a successful academic career in the Faculty of Education. His appreciation of the value of cultural pluralism, and his concern for the development of minority and linguistic and cultural rights in Canada, was informed in part by his encounter with the Soviet policy of Russification during a trip to Ukraine in the late 1960s.

Dr. Lupul’s involvement in Canadian multiculturalism began with the drafting and passage of Alberta’s first school legislation for bilingual programs (1971); similar laws were subsequently enacted in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. He went on to serve as an executive member of the Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism and as a member of the Alberta Cultural Heritage Council.

In 1976 Dr. Lupul became the founding director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta, the first publicly funded institu-



tion of its kind outside Ukraine. It was in part through his efforts that the multiculturalism clause was included in the Canadian Constitution (1982).

Although Dr. Lupul’s political memoir draws on his personal writings and recollections, it also brings together much documentary information previously unavailable in print. In his frank account, Dr. Lupul offers unrivalled insight into the aspirations that gave rise to Canada’s policy of multiculturalism and the interplay of forces that shaped and blunted its development.

The book will appeal to readers interested in Canadian culture and politics and, more generally, in the problem of promoting minority-group rights in democratic societies.

(Continued on page 19)

# New book chronicling election observers’ experiences, raises funds for orphans

by Bohdana Matchak

LVIV – When Ukrainians who have lived their entire lives in America certify their love for Ukraine, not only with their hearts and thoughts but with their deeds, this act gives our nation a new hope. These Ukrainian Americans are more “Ukrainian” than residents of Ukraine who often do not act on behalf of our own causes, for our own people.

I refer here to those individuals who, during Ukraine’s most trying moment during the third round of elections for the president of Ukraine (December 26, 2004), left their jobs and traveled as election observers to Donetsk. The book “Poklyk Sumlinnia – Conscience Calls” which was presented at the Ethnographic Museum in Lviv, Ukraine, on Friday, January 11, at 4 p.m. is a product of this commitment.

Roksolana Tymiak-Lonchyna is a dentist from Chicago. Though born far from Ukraine, this woman was not indifferent to events in our country. She initiated the fund Starving for Color with her exhibit of black-and-white photos of orphaned and abandoned children of Lviv in October 2002 at the Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago. Under the auspices of Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Parish, an account was opened for the purchase of infant formula to nourish the little orphans.



Cover of “Conscience Calls.”

Since October of 2002 Dr. Tymiak-Lonchyna has traveled to Ukraine at her own expense and purchased this formula for the children in the orphanages. As a result of her trip to Donetsk as an election observer, an orphanage in that city has become a beneficiary of the Starving for Color fund.

Her book “Conscience Calls – Poklyk Sumlinnia,” which she insisted on publishing in Ukraine using a Ukrainian publisher, is another example of her and her husband, Vassyl Lonchyna’s, dedication to Ukraine. This book is a photojournalistic document of the two-week stay of the Lonchynas in Lviv, Kyiv and Donetsk. The text is in English and Ukrainian displayed in parallel columns for ease of translation.

A special feature of this book is that it portrays Ukraine, and especially Donetsk, in a very positive light. After reading this book you have a desire to see Ukraine for yourself and meet its people.

The book was introduced in Chicago on the anniversary of the Orange Revolution. A week later it was presented in New York City. In both cities all available copies of the books were sold.

“In this book I bring attention to the people, their feelings, modes, their daily lives, their surroundings during our two-week journey. I am not a politician or a historian, so you will not find any political or historical comments. I do bring attention to the role of the observer, obligations, preparations and responsibilities during the elections for the president of Ukraine,” said Dr. Tymiak-Lonchyna at the book presentation in Lviv.

The book also is a vehicle to help Ukrainian orphans. From the profits of this book, more infant formula will be bought to nourish the youngest children – age 5 days to 3 years – in the Lviv orphanages and an orphanage in Donetsk.

Dr. Myroslava Pawlyk, the head doctor of Lviv Orphanage No. 2, stated during the book presentation: “We have been working with Dr. Roksolana since 2002. As a result of her photo exhibit, funds collected for the Starving for Color fund were used to purchase infant formula. Our children, when they are born, are mostly unwanted children. In many cases they are malnourished and suffer from anemia due to poor nutrition. In order for these children to pull through this critical condition, besides medical treatment, proper nourishment is imperative. This nourishment, as we know, is expensive and prohibitive and Dr. Roksolana was able to assist us in this respect.”

Dr. Tymiak-Lonchyna called on participants: “Today I am appealing to the citizens of Ukraine, the inhabitants of Lviv to join this fund and help your children start with hope for a better and healthier life. A healthy body has a healthy soul, and the soul of a nation is all of our children.”



POLITICAL ANALYSIS: Typology of Ukrainian elections

by Roman Kupchinsky  
RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova Report

Now that Ukraine’s March 26 parliamentary elections are over, what has emerged is a country firmly split along regional and ideological lines? The website of the Ukrainian Central Election Commission (<http://www.cvk.gov.ua>) has posted a breakdown of votes cast in Ukraine’s 25 regions and the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol.

This data, along with the findings of the Fund for Democratic Initiatives and the Kyiv Institute of Sociology, shows some emerging trends in Ukrainian politics.

Regional preferences

The Party of the Regions, led by former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, won the majority of seats with 32.12 percent of the vote and will have 186 seats in the new parliament. The results show that it has remained a regional party, appealing almost exclusively to voters in the eastern and southern regions of Ukraine.

As expected, the Party of the Regions swept Donetsk with 73 percent, Luhansk with 74 percent, Crimea with almost 58 percent, Mykolayiv with 50 percent, and Kharkiv with 51 percent. Altogether, the party won nine regions and the city of Sevastopol with an average of 55 percent. Thus the line dividing Ukraine into east and west remained intact.

The most unexpected results were registered by the Yulia Tymoshenko bloc, which came in second behind the Party of the Regions with a total of 22.27 percent of the vote. Around 5.6 million voters cast their ballots for the Tymoshenko bloc, which will now have 129 seats in Parliament. The bloc’s popularity has grown phenomenally: in 2002, it man-

aged to garner only 1.9 million votes in parliamentary elections.

This time around, the bloc won the parliamentary race in 13 regions and in the city of Kyiv. Its support base includes four western Ukrainian regions (Volyn, 44 percent; Chernivtsi, 30 percent; Ternopil, 34.5 percent; and Khmelnytsky, 35.5 percent) along with most of central Ukraine. The bloc’s largest margin of support was in the Kyiv region (44.5 percent); the lowest was in the eastern Donetsk region, where only 2.5 percent voted for the bloc.

In the regions where the Tymoshenko bloc won, it did so by an average of 34 percent. Many of these votes could be seen as a protest against President Viktor Yushchenko’s removal of Ms. Tymoshenko as prime minister in the summer of 2005.

Our Ukraine, the pro-presidential bloc, suffered its greatest setback, coming in a distant third with 13.9 percent of the vote. The party is entitled to 82 seats in Parliament. It won a plurality in only three western Ukrainian regions: Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Zakarpattia. In each of these regions it faced a tough fight from the Tymoshenko camp.

Since 2002, it has seen a sharp decline in its support. The Ukrainian Weekly wrote on April 2 that “After winning 6.1 million votes in the 2002 election, Our Ukraine won 3.5 million votes this time around – a decline of 43 percent.”

Other parties to enter the parliament are the Socialist Party with 5.6 percent (33 deputies) and the Communist Party with 3.6 percent (and 21 seats.)

The Communists, who have traditionally had their support base in the eastern regions of Donetsk and Luhansk and in the Crimea, saw many of their supporters defect to the Party of the Regions. They

managed to pass the 3 percent parliamentary barrier with 4.4 percent of the vote in Luhansk, 3.1 in Donetsk, 4.5 in Crimea and 6 percent in Kirovohrad. It was the poorest showing ever for Ukraine’s Communist Party, and many analysts believe it is the last time Communists will be represented in the Parliament.

Oleksander Moroz’s Socialist Party has remained relatively stable over the past five years with its traditional base of voters in the central, mainly agricultural, regions of Ukraine.

Demographics

According to data from exit polls released by the Fund for Democratic Initiatives and the Kyiv Institute of Sociology, more women voted for the Party of the Regions than men. Overall, its supporters were older (60 and above), although the party held considerable appeal among younger voters (age 18-39). Their supporters also tended to have less formal education.

The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc’s base of support was equally distributed between men and women, most of whom were middle-aged (between 40 age 59). They tended to have the most formal education.

Our Ukraine’s supporters were also equally divided between men and women, mostly between the ages of 30 and 49 and had less formal education than the supporters of Ms. Tymoshenko’s bloc. Their educational level roughly equaled the education level registered by voters for Party of the Regions.

What does it all mean?

A preliminary conclusion is that Ukraine is headed toward becoming a

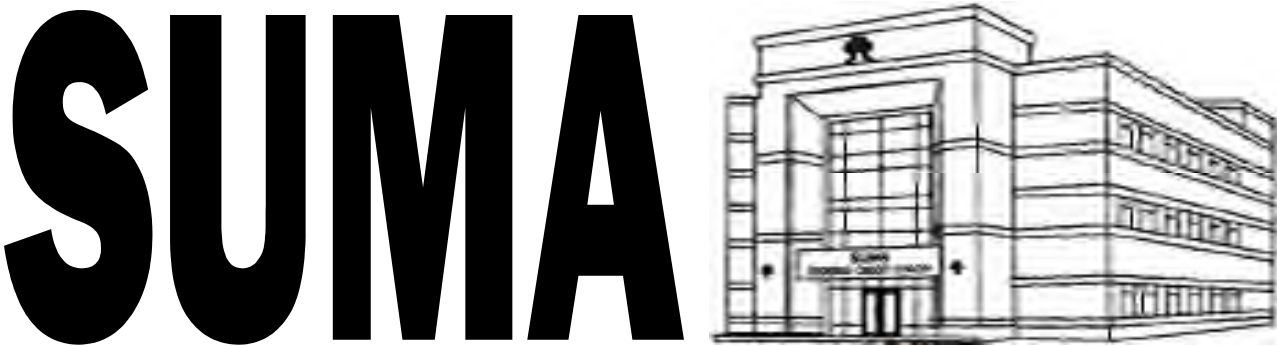
two- or three-party democracy with a conservative, possibly pro-Russian electorate, in the eastern and southern regions of the country, with more pro-Western liberal attitudes held by voters in the western and central regions.

In all likelihood, in the next major election, the Party of the Regions will face the combined forces of the Yulia Tymoshenko bloc, Our Ukraine and the Socialist Party (if these three manage to make peace).

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko noted during his radio address on April 2 that “the latest elections represent the first step toward the political structuring of society, when citizens will have to choose among three to four parties with clear ideologies, rather than among 100 parties,” Interfax reported.

The smaller parties in Ukraine are on the verge of extinction – the Communist Party, Natalia Vitrenko’s bloc, the Greens and even the Socialist Party might have seen their final days. Their supporters will be forced to make a choice between the emerging larger political parties in the country.

Regionalism will continue to play a significant role in future elections, and few voters are likely to cross geographical boundaries. Ideologically, the issues are expected to remain unchanged: the eastern electorate will remain distrustful of Ukrainian speakers who would like to see the country in the European Union and NATO; while western and central Ukrainians will continue to be suspicious of their eastern and southern countrymen who, at least in the popular mind, are predominantly Russian speakers and who orient themselves toward their bigger brother in the east.



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## Tymoshenko, Moroz...

(Continued from page 1)

not entirely sold on the idea. "We should be honest and acknowledge that, eight months ago, this coalition existed," Mr. Yushchenko said. "It fell apart and lessons were drawn."

Mr. Moroz's relations with Mr. Yushchenko deteriorated sharply on April 4 after the Socialists joined with the Party of the Regions in blocking the Verkhovna Rada's rostrum. They managed to cancel the session and prevent a vote to approve judges to Ukraine's Constitutional Court.

For months, Mr. Yushchenko has attempted to fill vacancies on the court in order to establish a quorum.

Mr. Moroz believes the president is trying to get the Constitutional Court to convene in order to cancel the constitutional reforms, thereby restoring the powers to the presidency that had existed up until January 1.

Among those powers was appointing the prime minister, which is now the prerogative of the Verkhovna Rada.

In a gesture that Mr. Moroz and Ms. Tymoshenko said they didn't consider genuine, the Our Ukraine People's Union (OUPU) voted on April 5 to support the formation of a coalition of democratic forces.

The party's political council, which has 186 members, voted to extend the proposal to the leaders of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialist Party of Ukraine, but not to the Party of the Regions or the Communist Party of Ukraine. The proposed coalition would have a total of 243 votes in the 450-seat Verkhovna Rada.

"Relying on the faith of the Ukrainian people and driven by the responsibility for Ukraine's future, we announce our intentions to create a coalition of democratic forces after forming factions in the Verkhovna Rada's fifth session," the document states.

Factions are the political groupings in Parliament, while parties are political organizations outside Parliament. Blocs form when political parties unite. Often, parliamentary factions directly reflect parties or blocs.

The OUPU is one of six parties that belong to the Our Ukraine bloc.

The OUPU proposal, which reportedly is similar to what was presented to Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Moroz, outlines five goals the coalition members would have to abide by that work toward realizing President Yushchenko's goals.

They are: ensuring stable, socio-economic growth oriented toward improving citizens' wealth; strengthening public society; ensuring people's freedom and rights; promoting free development of business and support for private initiatives; recognizing the irreversibility of the Euro-integration process.

Like the proposal presented by Mr. Yekhanurov, this one lacked any specifics, disappointing the Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialist Party.

"In this document there are no clear indicators of what concrete steps Our Ukraine will take in the future coalition



Depiction of the array of Ukraine's political forces. Source: [http://www.politikan.com.ua/images/14\\_0\\_0/2006/02/21/plakat1.jpg](http://www.politikan.com.ua/images/14_0_0/2006/02/21/plakat1.jpg).

and new government, and how to resolve social issues, problems related to the battle with corruption and so forth," said Mykola Tomenko, the assistant chair of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

The business wing of the Our Ukraine bloc prepared the proposal, "which is doing everything so that the Orange coalition will not form and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc declines it," Mr. Tomenko added.

The Our Ukraine political council didn't discuss creating a coalition with the Party of the Regions, Mr. Bezsmertnyi said. Some of the Regions' positions remain unacceptable, he said, including a federal system of governance for Ukraine, a shift in foreign policy vectors, official status for the Russian language and opposition to Ukraine's membership in NATO.

Most of Ukraine's political experts believe that an Orange coalition will form, but then will inevitably disintegrate within several months.

Some theorize that Our Ukraine plans to rotate coalitions, first with the Orange forces and then with the Party of the Regions.

In a somewhat surprising turn of events, Western leaders, businessmen and experts are examining the potential benefits of an Our Ukraine-Party of the Regions coalition, mostly out of concern about Ms. Tymoshenko's economic policies.

During her prime ministership, Ms. Tymoshenko roiled many Western business and political leaders when she advocated mass re-privatizations and applied government price controls on Ukraine's energy and agricultural markets.

"The widespread view of economists is that her policies decreased business confidence and slowed investment," Oleksander Valchyshyn, the head of research at ING Bank in Kyiv, told the Financial Times.

Ms. Tymoshenko said her enemies are baselessly labeling her a "populist" or "anti-market" to discredit her.

Following the elections, Ms. Tymoshenko said she favored radically cutting corporate tax rates, as well as stopping re-privatization.

When asked by The Weekly's Kyiv bureau at a February 20 press conference to point to evidence that she is committed to free markets, Ms. Tymoshenko rattled off seven accomplishments.

Kryvorizhstal was Ukraine's first transparent, honest and truly acceptable re-privatization, and Ms. Tymoshenko said she lobbied hard to ensure it wouldn't fall back into the hands of Viktor Pinchuk and Rynat Akhmetov, its former owners.

"I would want further auctions to be conducted absolutely in the same way in Ukraine, regarding the sale of our properties for privatization," Ms. Tymoshenko said.

Ms. Tymoshenko said her government canceled more than 5,000 laws that gave government officials extraordinary rights over business enterprises, creating a corrupt system of bribery. She wants to cancel more such laws, she said.

Free economic zones that became abused by local businesses were also canceled, Ms. Tymoshenko said.

"We created honest, equal – absolutely equal – conditions for the operation of any business in Ukraine," she said. "We

closed all benefits and all possible deviations, based on certain lobbied bills, as to the payment of taxes, creating equal conditions for everyone."

Import tariffs were restructured under her government, which reduced contraband imports to a third of what they were, she said.

"Other than that, I want to remind our critics who speak of the non-market nature of my government that the first and last WTO laws were passed under our government, and this was regardless of the make-up of the Parliament," Ms. Tymoshenko said.

She submitted for the Parliament's approval a law that would reduce the time it takes for agricultural land to become used for investment purposes from three years to practically half a year, Ms. Tymoshenko said, pointing out that the Verkhovna Rada didn't approve the measure. The bill came within five or six signatures for passage, she said.

Her government also re-worked a new strategic concept for Ukraine's energy independence and safety, Ms. Tymoshenko said. "It offers a solution for Ukraine to find a way out of its energy dependence without crises, but on a calm basis," she said.

## Correction

The "voter" pictured in the photo accompanying the article "UCCA's 'Voice Your Vote' program focuses on Ukrainian voters' concerns" (April 2) is in fact Alexander Balaban of New York, an international election observer.



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## Verkhovna Rada...

(Continued from page 1)

Borys Dziadevych, 60, a district election commission chair from Zhytomyr, said he was shocked that Volodymyr Lytvyn's People's Bloc didn't pass the 3 percent barrier. All the pre-election polls predicted the bloc would make it into the parliament.

"I can't accept that Lytvyn didn't make it," Mr. Dziadevych said. "It's some kind of technology!"

Ms. Bohoslovka alleged that millions of votes were falsified and added to the Party of the Regions and Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc counts. "This is absolutely a betrayal of democracy and honest elections in Ukraine," Ms. Bohoslovka said at a press conference later in the day.

In one district, she said between 200 and 300 members of her party cast votes that never appeared in the final protocol reports.

The Viche Party has submitted hundreds of complaints to election commis-

sions on the local, regional and the national levels, Ms. Bohoslovka said.

In the case of one Kharkiv district election commission, 2,000 voters were registered, but more than 6,000 votes were counted, said Ihor Yermeyev, a parliamentary candidate with Volodymyr Lytvyn's People's Bloc.

Various party leaders spent the week presenting such items at press conferences as proof the elections had egregious flaws.

Joining the parties alleging election falsification was the Pora-Reforms and Order bloc. "This vote, first of all, reflects the tendency of an unraveling of democratic processes in our country for the conservation of power," said Yevhen Zolotariov, a Pora leader who led the tent city during the Orange Revolution.

"This vote also serves as justification for holding doubts about the legitimacy of the newly elected Verkhovna Rada. It attests that old politicians with old practices are triumphing, always placing their narrow interests above those of society," Mr. Zolotariov criticized President Viktor Yushchenko for not exercising enough political will to hold the recount.

Mr. Yushchenko stated days earlier that he viewed the elections as democratic, but he was not satisfied with the vote count in several oblasts.

Offering evidence that the vote was indeed fair, Democratic Initiatives Fund President Ilko Kucheriv stressed that the results of his organization's exit poll closely reflected the election's final results.

In fact, the exit poll projected more votes for the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Party of the Regions – the two political forces that bore much criticism from many parties for having inflated results.

"The maximum discrepancy in results between the exit poll and Central Election Commission's results is 1.3 percent for the Tymoshenko Bloc and no

more than 0.5 percent for the other parties," Mr. Kucheriv said. "This testifies that significant falsifications during these elections didn't take place."

The exit poll, financed by four Western embassies, three Western international foundations and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, was conducted by the Democratic Initiatives Fund, the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology and the Razumkov Ukrainian Center for Economic and Political Research.

Voting was free and transparent, but the vote-counting process was long and disorganized, according to a report released on April 3 by the Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU).

The vote count violated procedural standards, the CVU reported, especially those that govern the transfer of documents to the regional and oblast commissions, as well as the verification of protocol reports.

"All this created conditions for abuse during the vote count, and offered justification for numerous complaints against the election's results," the report said.

However, there isn't enough evidence to prove that there were enough violations that influenced the election's results, the report said. Instead, the CVU recommended recounts at those district election commissions where violations are believed to have occurred.

"The revealed violations don't offer the justification to demand a full recount of the Verkhovna Rada vote," the report said. "For every solid complaint from an observer or commission member regarding violations during the vote count, a court can order the responsible district election commission to conduct a recount at that individual district."

Several territorial election commissions, or those at the oblast level, have already rejected the results for city elections, the report noted.

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## Ukrainian Debutante Balls

# Chervona Kalyna debutante ball marks its 50th anniversary

RUTHERFORD, N.J. – This year’s Chervona Kalyna Ball celebrated the 50th anniversary of the first, albeit informal, debut that took place in the Ukrainian National Home in 1956, when Ivan Wintoniak acted on a happy impulse to arrange an introduction for the youngest women at the dance in an impromptu and humor-laced “presentation,” calling them “the debutantes.”

The idea caught on, and three years later, in 1959, Mr. Wintoniak and Eustachia Hoydysh of the New York Plast organization prepared a group of girls for a real debut in white dresses – in the first of what is now a long history of such events that have become a rite of passage for youth in the Ukrainian American community.

This year’s ball, held on February 25, again took place at the Sheraton Meadowlands in Rutherford, N.J., with approximately 800 guests in attendance.

Eight debutantes and their escorts – Anna Chelak of Morristown, N.J., and Nick Kobryn of Pomona, N.Y.; Diana Dekajlo of East Meadow, N.Y., and Zenon Halatyn of Westford, Mass.; Anastasia Hrabovsky of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Mark Palcan of Park Ridge, Ill.; Tatiana Hryhorowych of Manhattan and Christopher Rizanow of Blue Bell, Pa.; Maria Kavatsiuk of Berkeley Heights, N.J., and Roman Kovbasniuk of Whippany, N.J.; Natalia Kiyashka and Olexa Makuch both of Forest Hills, N.Y.; Larissa Kobziar of Pelham, N.Y., and Markian Wirstiuk of Fort Washington, Pa.; Michelle Slota of Beacon Falls, Conn., and Yuriy Dobriansky of Manhattan – made their elegant entrance, performing a special “debutante quadrille” exquisitely choreographed by Anya Bohachevska-Lonkevych.



Wowk Photography

**At the Chervona Kalyna debutante ball are: (front row, from left) Anna Chelak, Diana Dekajlo, Larissa Kobziar, Anastasia Hrabovsky, Tatiana Hryhorowych, Maria Kavatsiuk, Natalia Kiyashka and Michelle Slota (back row) Nick Kobryn, Zenon Halatyn, Markian Wirstiuk, Mark Palcan, Orest and Marta Kebalo, Ihor Sochan, Anya Bohachevska-Lonkewycz, Olia and Dr. Yaroslav Stawnychy, Christopher Rizanow, Roman Kovbasniuk, Olexa Makuch and Yuriy Dobriansky.**

Most of this year’s debutantes, as well as the escorts, have been students of Ukrainian dance at the school of the late Roma Pryma-Bohachevska in New York or in New Jersey, and many of them, as well as their escorts, are current members of Ukrainian folk dance ensembles or have experience in ballet.

They were, in short, a delight to

watch, both during the formal presentation and during the traditional midnight “Hopak.” They seem to have had just as wonderful a time that evening as did all of the guests who packed the dance floor in response to the familiar, in turn romantic or rousing, melodies of the Tempo Orchestra and Oles Kuzyszyn’s Luna.

The ballroom was a vision of the

“kalyna,” symbol of the Ukrainian Sich Riflemen and of Ukraine. The kalyna’s verdant leaves and crimson berries were executed in gorgeous red roses both as table centerpieces and the debutantes’ bouquets, chosen by Olya Stawnychy, whose husband, Dr. Yaroslav Stawnychy,

(Continued on page 16)

# Eight debutantes introduced at Plast ball in New Jersey

WHIPPANY, N.J. – On Saturday, February 4, Plast-Pryiat of Newark, N.J., held its traditional Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization Debutante Ball here at the Hanover Marriott. The black-tie event began with a cocktail and hors d’oeuvre reception followed by the presentation ceremony in the hotel’s Grand Ballroom.

Following opening remarks, masters of ceremonies Lida Moczula and Lubodar Olesnycky had the pleasure of introducing the eight young ladies from the Plast troop (hurtok) “Mevy” into Ukrainian society.

As family, friends and guests anxiously awaited, a graceful promenade choreographed by Oksana Bauer began the pres-

entation. The debutantes and their escorts were welcomed by all, as each young lady was individually introduced, highlighting her achievements and interests in the Ukrainian and American communities.

The program included a warm and inspiring welcome from George Shypailo, the president of the Newark Plast branch, as well as a welcome from Liana Buniak, the Plast troop’s “hurtkova.” Miss Buniak fondly reflected over the girls’ years together and graciously thanked their parents and guardians who raised them to become successful young ladies.

A special thank you was extended to all the troop counselors who dedicated their time and helped raise the debutantes

in the true spirit of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

The eight debutantes were Miss Buniak, escorted by Matthew Liteplo; Myroslava Klapischak, escorted by Alexander Mandicz; Ivanna Martynetz, escorted by Georg Gusak; Katria Misilo, escorted by Andrew Antoniuk; Chrystyna Rakoczy, escorted by Adam Klymko; Larissa Smyk, escorted by Andrew Lasiy; Roksolana Smyk, escorted by Gregory Homick; and Ariana Semegen, escorted by Roman Chajkowsky.

Following an invocation by the Rev. Leonid Malkov and the Rev. Roman Mirchuk, pastors, respectively, of the Ukrainian parishes in Newark and

Whippany, N.J., the ball began. Over 350 guests enjoyed the dinner and several hundred additional guests arrived to dance to the music of Tempo. It was an elegant and magical evening for all the guests, especially the young ladies introduced to Ukrainian society.

As in the past, the committee members thanked the Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union of Newark for its continued support, including funding all printing and advertising costs for the event.

The 2006 Debutante Ball committee members included Irka Turynsky, Zenia Olesnycky, Laryssa Nahnybida, Ms. Moczula and Daria Semanyshyn.



The lovely Plast debutantes of 2006...



Picture of Love, NY, NY

... and their handsome escorts.



## Ukrainian Debutante Balls

### Detroit Engineers' Society holds 43rd annual Winter Ball



Debutantes and their escorts at the Winter Ball sponsored by the Detroit Chapter of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America.

DETROIT – The 43rd annual Winter Ball and presentation of debutantes, organized by the Detroit Chapter of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America (UESA), was held on February 11 at the Troy Marriott Hotel.

Eight debutantes were presented to Ukrainian society: Laura Natalie Blazinski, escorted by James Mueller; Natalie Chrystyna-Modesta Fedirko, escorted by Zenon Paul Kossak; Elizabeth Ann Kossak, escorted by Mark Thomson; Viktoria Lesya Krajnc, escorted by Antin Bohdan Durbak; Dimitra Stefania Leheta, escorted by Gregory Homick; Alexandra Christina Pichurko, escorted by Zorian Lasowsky; Kathryn Marika Pytiak, escorted by Thomas Haubenreich; and Natalie Irene

Taras, escorted by Jeffrey John LaPalme.

Natalia Lewickij, president of the Detroit Chapter of UESA, welcomed the guests and introduced the mistress of ceremonies, Dr. Ksenia Kozak, a biomedical engineer employed by Ford Motor Co.

Dr. Kozak began her opening remarks by highlighting the important role of debutante balls to the Ukrainian American community. The debutante balls, she stated, are an opportunity to bring the community together and to show our youth that we value their role within the Ukrainian community.

Over 200 guests gathered at the Troy Marriot Hotel were captivated as the debutantes were introduced and their achieve-

ments and talents were highlighted.

The evening's festivities began with the debutantes' first dance with their escorts. The elegant presentation, choreographed by Laryssa Kozak and Zina Kozak-Zachary, continued as the debutantes danced with their fathers. The mothers of the debutantes were each presented with a long-stemmed rose. The presentation concluded with a toast to the debutantes.

Dr. Kozak addressed the debutantes, stressing that membership in the Ukrainian society includes a responsibility to be involved in community life and to take on leadership roles. She emphasized that each debutante has the potential to play a significant role in Ukrainian society. The debutantes were then toasted

with a resounding "Mnohaya Lita!"

The festivities continued after dinner as guests danced to the music of the band Vorony. And, in the early hours of the morning, it became obvious how successful this year's Winter Ball was. When the band stopped playing, the debutantes, their escorts and friends just wouldn't leave. They kept dancing the night away as they sang Ukrainian folk songs.

The success of the event was due to the hard work of the Winter Ball Committee: Dianna Korduba Sawicky (chairperson), Natalie Lewickij, Ksenia Kozak, Laryssa Kozak, Zina Kozak-Zachary, Irene Senyk, Ihor Senyk, Gregory Woloszczuk and Oksana Woloszczuk.

### Ukrainian Association of Washington presents debutantes

by Chrystia Shashkewych-Oryshkevych

WASHINGTON – Seven elegant young women were presented on January 28 to the Washington Ukrainian community at the annual Washington Malanka Ball.

The event was held at the Georgetown University Conference Center Grand Ballroom, with over 300 guests in attendance. The Ukrainian Association of the Washington Metropolitan Area sponsored the annual gala affair.

After the cocktail reception, co-president Sophika Nakonechny-Smith welcomed the attendees and then introduced her co-president, Ulana Baczynskyj.

Mrs. Nakonechny-Smith then introduced the Ukrainian ambassador to the United States, Dr. Oleh Shamshur. The ambassador received the traditional welcome with bread and salt presented by youngsters Zenon Nakonechny Smith and a bouquet from Julianna Romaniuk.

Ambassador Shamshur wished all a successful New Year and congratulated the debutantes, their parents and escorts. Also in attendance and representing the Embassy of Ukraine was Cultural Attaché Natalia Holub.

Ms. Baczynskyj introduced the members of the board responsible for hosting this event: Ms. Nakonechny-Smith (co-president and "the spirit of Malanka who brings all of us together year after year"), John Kun (treasurer), Irene Kost (secretary), Chrystia Shashkewych-Oryshkevych



Paul Tremblay

Pictured at the Washington Malanka Ball are (seated, from left): Maria Elizabeth Chopivsky, Anna Koval, Yevdokiya Koroza, Daria Hoobchaak, Anastasia Rose Duzyj Whalen, Katherine Marie Romaniuk, Adrienne Longina Shmorhun; (standing) Yaromir Oryshkevych, Chrystia Shashkewych-Oryshkevych, Andrew Antoniuk, Daniel Deychakiwsky, Andrew Oryshkevych, Danylo Demidenko, Timothy Anderson, Roman Chajkowsky, Christopher Rizanow, Sophika Nakonechny-Smith and Ulana Baczynskyj.

and Yaromir Oryshkevych (debutante coordinators), and Oleh Voloshin.

Special thanks went to Bohdan and Lida Shevchik and Roman Goy for their technical assistance. Special appreciation went to Richard Smith for his marketing

skills in advertising and promoting this event, as well as creating and printing the attractive programs.

The masters of ceremonies, Ms. Shashkewych-Oryshkevych and Dr. Oryshkevych began the presentation by

first introducing the parents of each young lady. Each debutante then presented her mother with a rose of appreciation. The elegantly choreographed presenta-

(Continued on page 16)



## Ukrainian Debutante Balls

# California's debutante ball raises funds to assist Ukraine

by Anne Kokawa Prokopovych

MARINA DEL REY, Calif. – It was a balmy, starlit evening here for the elegance and high spirits of the 2006 California Association to Aid Ukraine (CAAU) Ball and Presentation of Debutantes, held at the Marina del Rey Marriott Hotel, about 25 miles from downtown Los Angeles.

The annual ball is a major fund-raising and community-building event for CAAU. About 300 guests were in attendance at this year's event, held on February 25, which spotlighted a new CAAU project, "Research Saves Lives: Support Biomedical Research in Ukraine."

Arching over the entry to the reception area was a festive "Vitayemo" (Welcome) sign leading to a Ukrainian flag on the opposite side, greeting guests as they arrived at the ball. The reception area was also filled with silent auction items, generating good-natured competition as guests bid for their favorite items. The Silent Auction has become an outstanding feature of the annual event, adding to the festivities while raising funds for worthy humanitarian aid projects. There were over 100 items on display, including hand-crafted pysanky and embroidery, designer jewelry and handbags, Hollywood memorabilia and tickets to the Magic Mountain theme park.

Following opening remarks by CAAU Chairperson Luba Keske, co-masters of ceremonies Dr. Paul Micevych and his daughter, Mary Micevych, introduced each of the five young ladies as they entered the ballroom for the presentation of debutantes. The group represents a distinguished array of accomplishments in art, academics, leadership and service.

Yulia Jakymyshyn is committed to community service, volunteering after school to tutor grade school children. Aaryn Kopinski Levy is an awardee of the Gold Seal Award, signed by the president of the United States, and has participated in leadership and volunteer projects in her school and community. Lisa Nesterova is a promising young artist and plans to pursue a career in architecture. Antonia Shcherban has already earned recognition for her photography, in addition to excelling in her school work. Andrea Swartzlander had already become an experienced leader in school, as well as a winner of multiple awards as a member of several dance and choir groups.

### CAAU founded in 1990

The CAAU began about 16 years ago as a grassroots Ukrainian American community response to democratic developments in Ukraine. It continues to channel local resources toward projects in Ukraine, allowing the local community to have direct and positive impact in the fields of health, education, ecology, economy, cultural development and national democratic processes. Specific projects are adapted to local priorities and the changing needs in Ukraine.

In 2005 the primary project for the CAAU was its Wheelchairs for Ukraine project. The CAAU has a long-standing collaboration with Wheelchairs for Humanity that has supplied hundreds of wheelchairs to needy people in Ukraine. Volunteers at the Wheelchairs for Humanity facility in North Hollywood, Calif., refurbish and customize used wheelchairs for individuals with special needs. In the fall of 2005, the CAAU completed its eighth delivery in Ukraine,

bringing over 170 wheelchairs, walkers, canes, commodes, other mobility aids and computers to Chernivtsi. The CAAU is committed to its long-term goal to deliver to each oblast in Ukraine, with the next delivery in 2006 tentatively scheduled for Poltava.

### "Research Saves Lives"

The 2006 Ball spotlights an exceptional new CAAU project, "Research Saves Lives: Support Biomedical Research in Ukraine." The CAAU is pleased to support the Special American Business Internship Training (SABIT) Program, which is co-sponsored by the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center Information Management and Technology Transfer (IMTT) program and the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The main goal of the SABIT program is to help the university administration and research community in Ukraine understand that they can bring more value to society by ensuring that the scientific advances made at the university are brought to the market and have a positive impact on the health and welfare of the world at large.

The SABIT program teaches research centers and their scientists: how to design scientific studies, how to write a grant proposal, how to find funding for studies (in Ukraine, the European Union and the USA), how to manage research discoveries, so as to help the greatest number of people, and how to protect research discoveries so that universities can profit financially from their research, as well as invest in future research.

Eight scientists were selected from prominent research facilities in Ukraine to participate in the six-week program. They were also honored guests at the CAAU Ball.

- Dmytro Hovorun, Ph.D., D.Sc., is deputy director, Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics (IMBG), National Academy of Sciences in Ukraine (NASU), Kyiv.

- Yuriy Kit, Ph.D., is affiliated with the Institute of Cell Biology, NASU, Lviv.

- Denis Kolybo, Ph.D., is affiliated with the Department of Molecular Immunology, Palladin Institute of Biochemistry, NASU, Kyiv.

- Roman Lesyk, M.S., Ph.D., D.Sc., is dean of the Pharmaceutical Faculty, Lviv National Medical University, Lviv.

- Halyna Lougovska, Ph.D., is affiliated with the Palladin Institute of Biochemistry, NASU, Kyiv.

- Lyubov Lukash, Ph.D., D.Sc., is head of the Department of Human Genetics, Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics, NASU, Kyiv.

- Oleksander Nadraha, Ph.D., M.D., is professor of pediatrics, and scientific secretary and general secretary of the University Council, Lviv National Medical University, Lviv.

- Rostislav Stoika, Ph.D., is head of the Department of Regulation of Cell Proliferation, Institute of Cell Biology, NASU, Lviv.

### Distinguished guests

In addition to the eight scientists, CAAU was honored to welcome several esteemed guests: Sandor G. Vari, M.D., director, International Research and Innovation Management Program, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles; Edward Prunchunas, senior vice-president of finance and chief financial officer, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, and his wife and daughter; James D. Laur, deputy general counsel,



Steve Kerekes

CAAU ball debutantes and escorts: (back row, from left) Ryan Wood, Alex Brikner, Christopher Zacharczuk, Adrian Haywas and John Kopinski with (front row) Andrea Swartzlander, Antonia Shcherban, Lisa Nesterova, Julia Jakymyshyn and Aaryn Kopinski Levy.

Department of Legal Affairs, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles; Oxana Tcherniantchouk, M.D., fellow in hematopathology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, who also volunteered her time to provide logistical support for the eight scientists during their stay; and James Conwell, Certified Rehabilitation Therapy Specialist, New York, who volunteered to travel to Chernivtsi with the Wheelchairs for Ukraine team in 2005 to assist with the fitting and delivery of wheelchairs. Mr. Conwell has already volunteered to assist with the next delivery in 2006.

### CAAU awards

CAAU accomplishments over the years have been made possible by fund-raising and countless hours of volunteer time and effort. The board of directors of CAAU awarded special recognition to two exceptional individuals for their outstanding achievements.

Roman Kulczycky received the CAAU Humanitarian Award. Since 1997, Dr. Kulczycky has devoted many thousands of hours to one of the most recognized and successful CAAU humanitarian aid projects, Wheelchairs for Ukraine. He has literally put his blood, sweat and tears into refurbishing and distributing wheelchairs to needy people in Ukraine and around the world.

Bohdan Malaniak was presented the CAAU Volunteer of the Year Award. In addition to tirelessly pursuing several professional and community pursuits, Mr. Malaniak has served on the board of directors and advisory committee of the CAAU for over 10 years, devoting incredible amounts of time and resources toward successful achievement of the CAAU mission. Whether fund-raising for a benefit event, or working on a project, he is a reliable and experienced resource who willingly volunteers his support, advice, time and efforts.

Mr. Malaniak has also been deeply

involved with the Wheelchairs for Ukraine program. Months in advance of each humanitarian aid shipment to Ukraine, he provides hundreds of hours of administrative support, coordinating documentation and communication with consignees in Ukraine, government officials and the Wheelchairs for Ukraine organization.

### Art exhibit

This year's CAAU Ball was the first to host an art exhibit showcasing talented Ukrainian artists. The exhibit was organized by Mrs. Keske, and included works by renowned actor Jack Palance, Ivan Bondar, Andrew Demus, Oksana Ivaniuk, Nestor Kyzenko, Victor Makogonenko, debutante Lisa Nesterova, Natalia Ostapenko, debutante Antonia Shcherban, Christine Verstein, Yuriy Viktiuk and Victor Zakrynychny.

Also on display was a selection of ceramics and embroidery generously loaned from the collection of Helen (Dzida) Kastaniuk.

### Collection for hospitals

In 2005 the Wheelchairs for Ukraine delivery team was impressed by the dedication and professionalism of medical staff, but shocked at the lack of bed linens in the hospitals. It is a common practice to require patients to bring their own bed linens if they are to have any.

It has become a tradition at the annual CAAU Ball to ask attendees to bring specific items for shipment to needy people in Ukraine. This year's direct appeal for bed sheets and pillowcases brought in over 300 items, which will be shipped to hospitals in Ukraine.

\*\*\*

CAAU is a non-profit 501(3)(c) corporation. Contributions and inquiries may be addressed to CAAU, c/o Roman Wasylyn, 4645 Noeline Ave., Encino, CA 91436, or by e-mail to caau\_info@earthlink.net.



## Ukrainian Debutante Balls

### Twenty debutantes introduced at SUM ball in Westchester



Debutantes and their escorts at the 2006 ball of the Ukrainian American Youth Association.

TARRYTOWN, N.Y. – As the much-touted blizzard of 2006 blew its fury into the Northeast, 20 “yunachky,” members of various osередky (branches) of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) were feverishly making last minute preparations for their much-awaited debut.

On the cold blustery night of February 11 over 600 guests had gathered at the Westchester Marriott to celebrate with these 20 young ladies – some from as far south as Georgia – as they were proudly presented by their parents at the traditional SUM Debutante Ball 2006.

The chairperson of the ball’s organizing committee, Genya Kuzmowycz-Blahy, delivered the opening remarks to welcome the assembled guests and introduced the evening’s masters of ceremonies, Marta Kolinsky Bojko and Pawlo Figol.

One could surely sense the joy and pleasure of her parents, family, friends and the entire extended SUM family as each young lady was individually introduced as she entered the ballroom full of youthful grace and self-assuredness. One by one they were met by their parents. Then, with their escorts, they took their first bow as their plans and dreams for

the future were shared publicly, probably for the very first time.

Andrea Popovech of New York read the traditional SUM Debutante Oath this year. After Bohdan Harhaj, president of the SUM national board, extended greetings, the debutantes and their escorts stepped out to dance their first waltz, choreographed by Hryhorii Momot. The young pairs whirled, twirled and dipped, the young ladies in their snow-white cotillion dresses and the young men in white ties and tails. The elegance, agility and grace were eye-catching.

What a night it was – great friends, good food, great non-stop music provided by Andriy Stasiw at the piano during the presentation and dinner, the music by the Zolota Bulava and Na Zdorovya bands throughout the evening. It was truly a fun and memorable evening for all. As the snow quickly accumulated to record levels outside, no one was in a

rush to go anywhere.

The debutantes and their escorts at the 2006 SUM Debutante Ball were: Christina Bzowycyk and Christopher Rizzo; Martha Danylyk and Yuriy Symchyk; Maria Diduch and Eric Habura; Kathrina Tataryn Gafycz and Myron Radowych; Maria Guida and Andrew Bybel; Cassandra Habura and Andrew Baran; Sylvia Hyra and Michael Bybel; Alexandra Kebalo and Michael Kapitula; Kathryn Lynn Kovac and Markian Frycz; Ksenia Kulynych and Eric Von Hoffen; Daria Laschuk and Roman Palylyk; Christina Pekhnyk and Danyan Shchur; Christine Platosz and Roman Kovbasniuk; Andrea Popovech and Michael Kanishchak; Jessica Szafran and Peter Kolinsky; Melania Tkach and Adrian Winyarskyj; Kristina Anna Wyrsta and Mykola Perich; Nadia Julia Wyrsta and Andrew Kuzemyak; Solomia Zhownirovych and Roman Keniuk and Justine Zozula and Peter Tsapar.

### Chervona Kalyna...

(Continued from page 13)

is the Chervona Kalyna Organizing Committee’s second in command. The theme also beautifully echoed in the design of the invitations, the work of Bohdan Tytla, and the program booklets produced by Yevshan of Montreal.

Several distinguished guests shared this joyous evening with the Ukrainian community: ambassador of the Ukrainian Mission to the United Nations, Valeriy Kuchinsky, and his wife, Alla; and the new General Consul in New York, Mykola Kyrychenko, and his wife, Olena, who last enjoyed the Chervona Kalyna in the early 1990s.

They shared a table with the head of the Chervona Kalyna Organizing Committee and “otaman” of the Chervona Kalyna Fraternity, Ihor Sochan, and his wife, Lilia, their daughter

Marichka Sochan-Tymyc, who prepared the program booklet and the tableau, and her husband, Bohdan Tymyc of Yevshan, and Marta and Orest Kebalo, who once again presented the debutantes this year – for their 22nd time.

In their greeting during the presentation of debutantes, Mr. and Mrs. Kebalo noted that this year, 2006, marks the somber 20th anniversary of the Chernobyl tragedy. But as sorrow and joy are often intertwined, by happy coincidence, among this year’s debutantes was an accomplished young woman, Maria Kavatsiuk, a dancer with the New Jersey Classical Ballet Professional Junior Company, who was just a baby when her family became the first to be rescued and brought to America by the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund.

Next year’s Chervona Kalyna will be held again at the Sheraton Meadowlands; the date: February 17, 2007.

### Ukrainian Association...

(Continued from page 14)

tion that followed included a brief summary of each young lady’s scholastic and extracurricular achievements. In addition, a special rose ceremony was included in memory of Oksana Belendiuk.

The debutantes were: Anna Koval, escorted by Daniel Deychakiwsky; Daria Hoobchaak, escorted by Danylo Demidenko; Yevdokiya Koroza, escorted by Andrew Oryshkevych; Adrienne Longina Shmorhun, escorted by Christopher Rizanow; Katherine Marie Romaniuk, escorted by Roman Chajkowsky; Maria Elizabeth Chopivsky, escorted by Andrew Antoniak; and Anastasia Rose Duzyj Whalen, escorted by Timothy Anderson.

Mrs. Shashkevych-Oryshkevych congratulated the seven young couples and expressed the hope that they will continue to cherish and promote their Ukrainian heritage.

When asked, the debutantes themselves described their evening as: “amaz-

ing,” “exciting,” “a fantasy,” “magical,” “absolutely unforgettable,” “awesome” and “fabulous.”

The Rev. Wasyl Charuk, spiritual director of St. Josaphat’s Seminary, gave the benediction and everyone joined in singing a Christmas carol. Then Miss Chopivsky and Miss Whalen thanked the debutante coordinators for preparing them for their special evening.

Everyone enjoyed the gourmet dinner, which was followed by dancing to the music of Montreal’s Zolota Bulava, who entertained the lively and energetic participants. The evening was heightened by the traditional “kolomyika” and all welcomed the New Year with a champagne toast.

It was a grand celebration for the seven young ladies as well as for their families and guests who came from near and far to witness a generations-long tradition to the benefit of our youth.

Malanka 2007 is scheduled for January 27 and young ladies interested in making their debut in Washington may inquire by e-mailing sophika1@msn.com.

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# Plaque recalling World War I internees is defaced in Banff National Park

TORONTO – A plaque recognizing World War I-era internees that was installed in Banff National Park has been defaced by unknown vandals, reported the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA).

The UCCLA unveiled the trilingual bronze plaque and installed a statue of an internee near the base of Castle Mountain, in Banff National Park, on August 12, 1995.

Titled "Why?" the statue, sculpted by John Boxtel, was intended to remind passers-by and visitors to Banff of a "dark chapter" in the nation's history: Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920, when thousands of Ukrainians and other Europeans were needlessly imprisoned as "enemy aliens," not because of anything they had done

but only because of who they were, where they came from.

Internees were held near Castle Mountain and at Cave and Basin, both within the national park, and forced to do heavy labor for the profit of their jailers between July 14, 1915, and July 15, 1917.

While the plaque and statue have become "must see" stopovers for park visitors, a report received on April 4 confirmed that the plaque attached to the base of the statue was defaced sometime in the last several weeks.

Commenting, the director of research for UCCLA, Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, said: "The statue we placed at the base of Castle Mountain bears a simple inscription, 'Why?' – for we are certain that many of those rounded up during Canada's first national internment opera-

tions must have repeatedly asked themselves exactly that. Why are we being held when we have done no wrong? Why are we forced to do heavy labor for the profit of others? Why were we separated from our families and communities?"

"Over the years we have seen many visitors to Banff stopping along the highway to remember these innocent internees, even to lay flowers at the base of the statue. That has been very heartening. Our efforts, in effect, recaptured an episode in our national history that had long been forgotten, perhaps even suppressed."

Dr. Luciuk continued: "Now we must ask ourselves: Why would anyone carve a vulgarity onto a memorial plaque? Why are there those in our society who are so ignorant, so primitive, that they indulge in such anti-Ukrainian prejudices? This is a blatant example of Ukrainophobia and racism. We condemn the perpetrators and invite other communities to do likewise. We are also asking Parks Canada officials in Banff to immediately repair the plaque and increase patrols in the area to prevent any similar outrages in the future."

## Analysts say...

(Continued from page 1)

Yanukovych and her emphasis on loyalty to the Orange Revolution.

From this, she drew a parallel between the collapse of Rukh in the 1990s and the splintering of the Orange bloc between Ms. Tymoshenko and Viktor Yushchenko. Ms. Skoczylas offered her observations on some of the likely outcomes of this election, including the formation of new alliances, a rise in national parties, better organized non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the appearance of fledgling groups that will pull votes away from the majority.

Next to speak was Dr. Motyl, who had just arrived from Ukraine shortly before he was to give his remarks. He commented that the election was "boring," but in a good way. He went on to say that, in democracies, elections are taken as a normal part of life and there is no interruption to the daily flow. Such was the case in Ukraine, according to Dr. Motyl, who said, "These are the signs that Ukraine is well on the way to a consolidated democracy."

He went on to talk about the implications of these events, suggesting that, according to the election results, the Communist Party is a "dead duck." Furthermore, he said the Communists are known for immature shenanigans and he cannot see them being taken seriously in the near future. The fact that Natalia Vitrenko and her opposition party did not win a single seat in Parliament further showed that extremists are on the wane.

To give some perspective, he noted that during the presidential election of 1999 won by Leonid Kuchma, Petro Symonenko, head of the Communist Party, won over 30 percent of the vote. Dr. Motyl attributed this drop in popularity to the fact that many Communists felt marginalized, which, in turn, will weaken the Party of the Regions.

In time, the political environment will be transformed with a radical diminution of the number of political parties, Dr. Motyl continued, with many being absorbed into larger centrist parties. The consensus between parties will be over political rather than programmatic differences. At this time, there is an overlapping of ideology that will foster a stable centrist view.

Dr. Motyl also commented on President Yushchenko's administration today in contrast to Ms. Tymoshenko's efforts. He said that Mr. Yushchenko's performance thus far is "okay," as evidenced by Ukraine's market economy status and likely membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO). However, he criticized Mr. Yushchenko

for failing to inspire the public to support him. Ms. Tymoshenko, on the other hand, inspires people to believe in the system, is a dynamic and charismatic leader with her anti-establishment position, and is the "outsider" who is the choice of people.

Commenting on Viktor Yanukovych as a shady political figure, Dr. Motyl described him as a "thug and a clod," a former convict who has recently become skeptical about the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and a leader who will likely bring instability.

Regarding economic growth in Ukraine, Dr. Motyl stated that it would build political stability with centrist political thought and will set Ukraine on a path similar to Poland's. From all of this evidence and his observations, Dr. Motyl said the chances have increased for Ukraine to be accepted and integrated into the European Union, it has become more of a certainty that Ukraine will become a member of the WTO, and Ukraine's membership in NATO is more likely.

The briefing was then summarized by Mr. Karatnycky and the floor was opened up to questions from the audience.

For more information on The Orange Circle, readers can log on to [www.orangecircle.org](http://www.orangecircle.org), phone (212) 388-0177, e-mail [oc@orangecircle.org](mailto:oc@orangecircle.org), or write to The Orange Circle, P.O. Box 20400, New York, NY 10009.

## General Assembly...

(Continued from page 5)

"no person shall be eligible to any office who believes in, advocates, teaches or practices, or is a member of any organization or group that believes in, advocates or teaches the overthrow by force or violence or subversion of the government of which he is a citizen."

As well, the by-laws state that the qualifications that are spelled out for convention delegates apply also to General Assembly members. Thus, "any member who at the time of the elections or at the time of his seating as such delegates is an officer of any other fraternal benefit life insurance organization or association or any branch thereof; or who solicits or sells life insurance for any insurance company; or who at any time, unjustifiably or maliciously institutes or causes to be instituted any suit, action or proceeding against the Ukrainian National Association either on his own behalf or on behalf of any other member, shall be ineligible."

The UNA General Assembly also has honorary members. These are members of the UNA who held office on the General Assembly for an aggregate of 20 years or more. Honorary members can take part in

discussions at annual meetings of the assembly; at conventions they have all the rights of delegates, which means they have a right to vote. However, they do not have the right to be elected as delegates to the convention or to held office in the UNA. Honorary membership, if accepted, is valid for life.

\*\*\*

It was in 1994 that the term "supreme" was eliminated from the UNA lexicon: thus, there was no longer a supreme president, or supreme auditors, or supreme advisors. The Supreme Assembly became the General Assembly.

Another amendment provided for the elimination of the post of supreme vice-presidentess (a title created in 1908 to ensure a seat for at least one woman on the UNA Executive Committee), creating instead the position of second vice-president; the position of supreme vice-president would henceforth be called first vice-president. These two changes, however, did not become effective until the elections at the 1998 convention.

Thus, Anya Dydik-Petrenko occupies an interesting place in UNA history as she was elected in 1994 to the position of supreme vice-presidentess and in 1998 to the position of second vice-president.



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## Is there a gas war...

(Continued from page 2)

Some analysts have suggested that Gazprom's announcement could be meant to lessen criticism of Russia's use of gas as a tool of foreign policy prior to the Group of Eight (G-8) industrialized countries' summit in July. The topic of energy security will top the agenda at the meeting. Russia, which is currently the chair of the G-8, could then say it is being even-handed in its gas-pricing policy and is selling to friend and foe alike at "European prices."

Syarhey Zvanko, head of the Department for Russia and the Union State in the Belarusian Foreign Ministry, reacted cautiously to the news that Gazprom might raise prices in 2007. He explained on March 31 that, according to a Belarusian-Russian agreement, "economic entities in both countries are to enjoy equal conditions and a price policy accord that entitles Belarus to gas deliveries at the rate charged for consumers in Russia's fifth price zone," Belapan reported.

Gazprom sells gas to its domestic customers on the basis of 11 regulated geographical price zones. The price for 1,000 cubic meters of gas in the fifth zone, including value-added tax, in March was \$46.72 for non-residential consumers and \$36.52 for residential users. Overall, prices in the zones vary from \$28.65 in the first zone to \$54.81 in the 11th. This unwieldy system was designed to prevent a "payments crisis," after Gazprom was faced with nonpayment of gas bills from domestic consumers in the early 1990s.

Does this mean the era of cheap gas for Belarus is now coming to an end? Valery Karbalevich, an analyst with the independent Miensk-based Strategy Center for Political Analysis, thinks probably not. He said the Belarusian authorities do not seem to be overly concerned as they know that the country offers Russia a transit route to its European markets and there is very little Gazprom can do to impose its will.

Mr. Karbalevich said if the price is pushed up, the Belarusian authorities could just take as much Russian gas as they need to satisfy the country's requirements, as Ukraine has done. "If Russia refuses to supply the gas, he [Lukashenko] will simply take the gas being transported to Europe and all the problems will be settled," Mr. Karbalevich said. He added that Russia has very few possibilities to pressure both Miensk and Kyiv until a pipeline under the Baltic Sea, which will bypass Belarus and Ukraine, is completed by the

end of this year.

Belarus's current gas contract with Russia was signed at the height of the Ukrainian-Russian "gas war." The low price for Belarus was used by Western critics as proof that Russia was raising gas prices for Ukraine as part of a policy to punish the new, pro-Western Ukrainian leadership, while subsidizing its friends in Belarus.

President Lukashenko then tried to counter Western critics who claimed that his country was getting cheap gas for political reasons. "Belarus gets Russian gas cheaply not for friendship's sake," Lukashenko told the Russian newspaper Rossiiskaya Gazeta. "We do not ask Russia to sell us gas for a song," he said.

Mr. Lukashenko added that the transit of Russian gas through Belarusian territory costs one-fifth to one-third less than that through Ukraine. Russia pays Belarus \$0.75 per 1,000 cubic meters per 100 kilometers for transporting gas via the Beltranshaz pipeline and \$0.46 per 1,000 cubic meters per 100 kilometers along the Yamal-Europe pipeline.

Another important factor is the ownership of the trunk pipelines running through Belarus. One pipeline was built in Soviet times and is owned by the Belarusian state. The second, the Yamal-Europe pipeline, will be completed by the end of this year and is currently running at reduced capacity. This pipeline belongs to Gazprom, but the land on which it is built belongs to the Belarusian state and is leased to Gazprom on a long-term basis.

Jan Maksymiuk, RFE/RL's Belarus and Ukraine analyst, said that Moscow has pushed Miensk to give up control of the Belarusian gas-pipeline network. "Moscow unambiguously indicated that it wants control over Beltranshaz, the state-run operator of Belarus's gas-pipeline network. Lukashenko, who promised in 2002 to set up a Belarusian-Russian venture to run Belarusian gas pipelines, backed down on his decision in 2004," Mr. Maksymiuk said. "That provoked an angry response from Gazprom, which even cut off Belarus's gas flow for one day."

Belarus owes Gazprom \$120 million for gas debts run up since the 1990s. A substantial price increase for 2007 gas deliveries could place Belarus in a difficult position and might force it to relinquish control over Beltranshaz to Russia in return for a cheaper gas price and the cancellation of the debt. This could further upset the already shaky foundations for a union between the two countries. It could also raise European concerns over reliable gas deliveries through the Yamal-Europe pipeline.

## Landmark memoir...

(Continued from page 9)

gave rise to Canada's policy of multiculturalism and the interplay of forces that shaped and blunted its development."

Taking over the podium in the Rutherford House Library, Dr. Lupul started by addressing the question of why he wrote his memoir. The answer, in short, was "for the record." The 1970s, observed the author, were a special time, particularly for Ukrainian Canadians who were seeking "to take ethnicity out of the closet and into the public realm" – in effect, "to make it a normal phenomenon."

He next dealt with what the book is not, explaining that it is not an autobiography. He added that he had tried to balance an account of his involvement with multiculturalism with his professional activities and his personal life. In respect to the latter, he focused in particular on matters that had some bearing on his sense of Ukrainian Canadian identity and his approach to the politics of cultural

pluralism, such as "growing up bicultural" in east central Alberta and the impact of a sabbatical leave in Eastern Europe.

The author then discussed in detail what the book was about, giving sketches of the themes and issues explored in the memoir. He concluded his presentation by reading a passage from the end of the book answering the question "Was all the political involvement worth it?"

The partisan crowd applauded the author warmly, and several longtime friends could be heard describing the talk and reading as being "vintage Lupul." A long queue quickly formed to purchase the volume, with some turning to the index even before checking out the table of contents. A second line then formed as people waited to have the author autograph his memoirs for them. Animated conversations continued over wine and hors d'oeuvres in the historic home, an especially appropriate venue for the celebration as Dr. Lupul had also been involved in saving the house from being demolished by the university.



## Whither the Orange...

(Continued from page 3)

ditions.

Betraying impatience, Ms. Tymoshenko has gone on record that if she does not become prime minister then Our Ukraine will have to come to terms with a Yanukovich prime ministership, thus implying that she is prepared to reach an accommodation with the Regions. Adding to the confusion, Ms. Tymoshenko has also said that if Mr. Yanukovich becomes prime minister, then the YTB will go into opposition.

Since March 26 the political landscape has been shrouded in a fog of threats, bluffs and posturing laid down by the YTB and Our Ukraine as they maneuver for advantage. (In contrast, and as if to underscore what's at stake at the national level, negotiations between the YTB, Our Ukraine and the Socialists following the March 26 local elections have already produced several coalition agreements on the oblast and city levels.) But personal animosities and political differences aside, there are also substantial policy differences on the path to creating a stable, cohesive coalition government.

The March 26 vote revealed that the populist message of the Socialists and the YTB is closer to the expectations of the Orange electorate than Our Ukraine's

more centrist post-September (i.e., post-Tymoshenko government) one. The Orange electorate wants the campaign against the vestiges of the old regime to continue.

Some commentators have argued that with the next elections four years away, Ms. Tymoshenko, as prime minister, will pursue more moderate policies than in her previous incarnation. Maybe. There are certainly lessons to be drawn from her previous time as head of government. Equally, however, she could seek to consolidate her own and her party's popularly sanctioned pre-eminence within the Orange camp by continuing from where she left off last September.

Such a turn of events would be acceptable to the Socialists. As part of the coalition negotiations they are demanding free medicine and education within five years, and an almost stifling regulation of land sales. (In addition – and, at the risk of speculating too deeply on interpersonal dynamics – pursuing a more populist line might also appeal to Ms. Tymoshenko for the very reason that it would be unpalatable for some leading figures in Our Ukraine. The rubbing of salt into political wounds is not an unknown practice.)

### A common ideology?

President Yushchenko is correct in observing that the debate on Cabinet

portfolios and policies must be subordinated to the search for a common ideology. History showed that relations within the Orange camp began to turn sour almost immediately over differing interpretations of how President Yushchenko's "Ten Steps Toward the People" program should look in practice. Thus, while consensus should be established over the desirability of an Orange majority, strains could again test the viability of the reconstituted Orange camp once the discussion turns to appointments and policy implementation.

Any Rada majority has essentially 30 days to form a government. Although the mechanism is still unclear, it seems likely that individual national deputies (rather than just the heads of the participating parties and blocs) will sign a document committing them to working as part of the majority. Moreover, a measure known as the "imperative mandate," which prevents deputies from migrating between factions, was introduced as a constitutional amendment in order to enforce party and faction discipline. However, there is no legal or political mechanism for preventing the emer-

gence of individual dissenters or "opposition" groups within blocs or parties or for expelling them once they arise.

Given the size of the Orange factions, given their simmering differences and internal tensions, it is not difficult to imagine individual deputies or groups of deputies being tempted to break ranks and vote against the general line either through conviction – or because of that bane of civilized parliamentary behavior, bribery.

Our Ukraine is clearly struggling to regain the initiative and is understandably trying to keep its options open. But there is an increasingly clear thread running through the process that was set in motion after March 26. For better or worse, whether through choice or through resignation, it will be Our Ukraine – and by extension, President Yushchenko – that will find itself in the position of having the final word on whether the Orange coalition survives, what the Orange Revolution will mean in terms of policy content and, indeed, whether the new Verkhovna Rada will be able to survive much beyond what promises to be a very painful birth.

## Development...

(Continued from page 9)

"The Politics of Multiculturalism: A Ukrainian-Canadian Memoir" (508 pages, illustrated with photos), can be purchased in a paper edition for \$34.95, or in cloth for \$69.95. Outside Canada,

prices are in U.S. dollars. Orders can be placed online via secure Internet connection at [www.utoronto.ca/cius](http://www.utoronto.ca/cius), by e-mail [cius@ualberta.ca](mailto:cius@ualberta.ca); by telephone, 780-492-2973 or fax, 780-492-4967; or by writing to CIUS Press, 450 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada T6G 2E8.



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Funeral services were held on Friday, April 7, at St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Catholic Church in Hempstead, NY, followed by interment at Holy Rood Cemetery in Westbury, NY.

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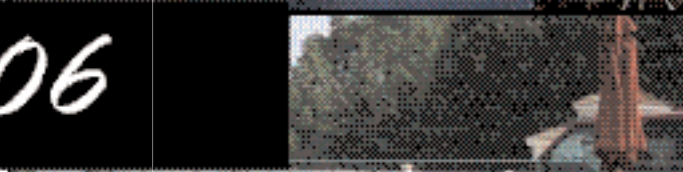
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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Ed Olczyk fired,

Therrien takes on Pens

New Pittsburgh Penguins coach Michel Therrien’s task is really quite simple. Take the best young player in the game, add an enigmatic blend of youth and newcomers, subtract a Hall of Fame superstar who is still his boss and coach them into the playoffs.

Therrien became the Penguins’ sixth coach in the last six seasons in mid-December when he replaced Ukrainian Eddie Olczyk, who was fired after a disastrous 8-17-6 start. Olczyk, 39, had been hired directly out of the broadcast booth to replace Rick Kehoe prior to the 2003-2004 campaign, even though Olczyk had no coaching experience at any level.

The new coach’s management style contrasts sharply with Olczyk’s. The 42-year-old Therrien was promoted from the Penguins’ club in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., where he had led his team to a franchise-record 21-1-2-1 start. Prior to the Wilkes-Barre gig, Therrien had notched a 77-77-13-13 won-lost record as coach of the Montreal Canadiens in 2000-2003.

With the AHL’s Baby Pens, Therrien was known for publicly criticizing his players and demanding they strictly adhere to his system. Those players who did not heed his demands saw a drastic reduction in ice time. His rigid approach and the Penguins’ notoriously loose culture predicted a turbulent transition and some potentially interesting chemistry, to say the least.

“He’s a no-nonsense guy, and it’s either his way or you don’t play,” said GM Craig Patrick in a conversation with The Pittsburgh Tribune Review’s Joe Starkey.

Olczyk spoke on a Pittsburgh radio station shortly after getting sacked and said, “I always took full responsibility for everything related to our play. I’m proud to say I never threw anyone under the bus. That’s not me.”

The pressure to show immediate results increased when the Penguins won the draft lottery and, therefore, the right to select Sidney Crosby, billed by many as the next “Great One.” Then the club went out and spent millions of dollars to sign stars like Sergei Gonchar, John LeClair, Mark Recchi and Ziggy Palffy.

“Edzo’s been a very good friend of mine for a long, long time,” Penguins owner and now retired center Mario Lemieux told Mr. Starkey. “It was tough to make the decision.”

Cleaning house in Carolina

Apparently the Carolina Hurricanes’ brain thrust didn’t love them enough, so they set them all free.

Over this past summer, the Hurricanes cut loose six fairly significant players in their minor league system, half of whom were of Ukrainian descent. Tomas Kurka, Brad DeFauw, Patrick DesRochers, Brett Lysak, Joey Tetarenko and Damian Surma were all permitted to leave as free agents after playing a combined 311 American Hockey League games in the prior season of 2003-2004.

That, added to the departure of popular players such as Ron Francis, Jeff O’Neill and Sean Hill, meant lots of new faces and a new direction in this year’s new NHL.

The Hurricanes came into 2005-2006 with the hope that a core of young forwards who successfully graduated the

major juniors and minor league circuits could generate enough offense to get the ‘Canes off the bottom of the standings. This list of forwards included youngsters Erik Cole, Justin Williams and Eric Staal.

Carolina rebuilt its defense in the off-season with an eye to the new rules. Incumbent defenders Glen Wesley, Bret Hedican and Frantisek Kaberle were thought to be the nucleus of the defense corps.

In need of a puck-carrying defenseman, the team brought back Ukrainian Oleg Tverdovsky from a lucrative two-year exile in Russia. It was hoped he would add increased mobility on the blueline, especially to assist a woeful power play.

Flashing forward to the second half of the current season, Tverdovsky has helped out the power play as expected and has been quite excellent offensively. He has also been quite erratic in his own zone. All of that was expected when the Hurricanes brought him back from Russia as a free agent.

And the house-cleaning Hurricanes in 2005-2006? Arguably the surprise team of the entire NHL, duking it out with Detroit for top team overall.

Meanwhile, Ukes Lysak, Tetarenko and Surma were fortunate to be picked up by other organizations and can still be found plying their trade on American Hockey League rinks.

This joke’s on you-ke!

Found on the pages of The Hockey News’ special edition periodical “The Lighter Side of Hockey” Ukrainian-wise:

• November 28, 1953: During the 1952-1953 season, Chicago fans were screaming for defenseman Fred Hucul’s return. “We Want Hucul” read the only banner during a game at the old Chicago stadium. So, Blackhawks management brought Hucul back from the Calgary Stampeders of the Western Hockey League. The biggest banner hanging the night of Hucul’s first game back in Chicago? It read, “Go Home Hucul.”

• October 13, 1989: As a younger brother of Wayne Gretzky, Brent Gretzky learned to deal with abuse from opponents. Sometimes he could give as good as he got. A rookie for the Belleville Bulls of the Ontario Hockey League, Gretzky found himself lined up against Peterborough star Mike Ricci.

“We’re mouthing off to each other like crazy,” Gretzky said. “Then he says to me, ‘Your name’s not going to get you anywhere in this league.’ So I asked him if it was his boyfriend who knocked out that front tooth.”

• November 6, 1998: Five games into the 1998-1999 season, care to guess who was leading the NHL in scoring? Try Dallas defenseman Darryl Sydor – or Syd-Orr, as he was starting to be called. Sydor, for his part, managed to keep an even keel.

“I don’t think he has anything to worry about,” Sydor deadpanned, referring to Orr’s legendary offensive records.

“This is the same thing that happened in Los Angeles, where people got caught up in point scoring and that’s when I started to have problems. I learned my lesson then.”

Fedoruk suspended for three games

Mighty Ducks of Anaheim forward Todd Fedoruk was suspended for three games, without pay, as a result of being assessed a match penalty during a game against the Phoenix Coyotes in late

November.

Under the terms of the collective bargaining agreement and based on his average annual salary, Fedoruk forfeited \$6,887.76 in pay. The money went to the Players Emergency Assistance Fund.

Fedoruk was assessed a match penalty at 5:21 of the third period for a hit on the Coyotes’ Petr Nedved. Fedoruk missed a game at Dallas and home tilts against Detroit and Chicago. He returned on November 30 in a rematch with Phoenix.

Speaking of the Ducks, early season injuries forced Anaheim to repeatedly juggle forward line combinations. One of the more productive results in the constant maneuvering included a top line of center Andy McDonald between sniper Teemu Selanne and the aforementioned Fedoruk. With Fedoruk providing a necessary physical presence, McDonald and

Selanne have been able to utilize their considerable offensive skills.

More woes for Gretzky

A most difficult month of January 2006 continued for Wayne Gretzky on the 7th with news of the death of his grandmother, Betty Hockin, just 19 days after his mother, Phyllis Gretzky, passed away. “It’s a sad day, a sad week, a sad month for the family,” he was quoted as saying in a brief chat with Jerry Brown of the Mesa Tribune.

A couple of days prior, the Great One’s 2002 Lincoln Navigator became not so great anymore. Gretzky was the victim of a robbery at his home in Scottsdale, Ariz. According to police, a thief walked into Gretzky’s unlocked home on January 3, grabbed the car keys and drove off in a black Lincoln. A digital camera and a cellphone also were taken.

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ROMA STECKIW LONG



NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

elections on the Party of Regions' candidates list, told a press conference in Kyiv on March 30 that he is not seeking to become prime minister, Interfax reported. The Party of the Regions won a plurality in the election and Mr. Akhmetov – the party's main financial backer and Ukraine's richest man – has frequently been named as a potential prime minister in the next government. Mr. Akhmetov also announced that his party wants to hold a national referendum on the

possibility of Ukraine joining NATO. "As for NATO, we advocate a democratic approach. As far as we know, 75 percent of the population of Ukraine is opposed to joining NATO," Mr. Akhmetov said. Commenting on the Party of the Regions' intention of giving Russian the status of an official language in Ukraine, Mr. Akhmetov said that "society needs the Russian language and the authorities have to take this into account." He also promised to learn Ukrainian. During his Kyiv press conference Mr. Akhmetov also denied allegations that he has a criminal past and described his business dealings as completely legal. He

owns a 90 percent stake in the Donetsk-based System Capital Management Corp. (SCM), which he founded in 2000. SCM controls more than 90 companies concentrated in the iron ore, coal, steel and energy-generation sectors, as well as interests in insurance and banking, food and beverage services, and hotels and hospitality. He said that recent rumors that he plans to sell his business to Russian, American, or Indian businessmen are not true. "We only acquire" he told journalists. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Winner of Kyiv race officially announced

KYIV – The Kyiv City Election Commission announced on April 4 that Leonid Chernovetskyi was elected Kyiv's mayor in the March 26 local elections with nearly 460,000 votes, UNIAN reported. Mr. Chernovetskyi, a deputy of the Our Ukraine caucus in the fourth Verkhovna Rada, beat famous Ukrainian boxer Vitalii Klitschko and incumbent Oleksander Omelchenko. Mr. Chernovetskyi received more than 450,000 votes; Messrs. Klitschko and Omelchenko received 341,000 and 305,000 votes, respectively. However, Kyiv prosecutors on April 3 had opened a criminal case against Mr. Chernovetskyi, following Mr. Omelchenko's complaint that Mr. Chernovetskyi bribed voters during the election campaign. Mr. Chernovetskyi denied the charges, accusing unspecified people of staging a provocation against him. "Less than a week before the voting day my election staff was informed that some people on my behalf were distributing low-quality products among Kyiv residents and openly calling on them to vote for Leonid Chernovetskyi," Interfax-Ukraine quoted him as saying on April 3. The next day, the Procurator General's Office announced that it had stopped legal proceedings against Mr. Chernovetskyi. (RFE/RL Newsline, Ukrinform)

Local deputies' immunity canceled

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on April 4 passed amendments to the law "On the status of the deputies of local radas" and canceled their immunity, with 296 national deputies voting for the measure. Criminal proceedings against a local rada deputy can be instituted by procurator general of Ukraine, deputy procurator general of Ukraine, the Crimean procurator, regional procurators, as well as the procurators of the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol. (Ukrinform)

Rada again fails to swear in judges

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on April 4 failed to swear in six Constitutional Court judges who were appointed to that body by the Congress of Judges and President Viktor Yushchenko last year, Ukrainian news agencies reported. The Party of the Regions caucus blocked the parliamentary rostrum, as well as the government's and the president's seats in the session hall during the debate on the issue. Mr. Yushchenko, who was expected to attend the planned swearing-in ceremony, did not appear in the Parliament. It was the third time that lawmakers torpedoed the procedure of establishing the judges in office and reactivating the Constitutional Court, which ground to a halt in October 2005. Some Ukrainian media reported that Constitutional Court Chairman Vasyl Maliarenko and four other Constitutional Court judges have tendered their resignations. Some political forces in Ukraine fear that President Yushchenko could use the Constitutional Court to cancel the 2004 constitutional reform, which limits his prerogatives in favor of the Parliament and the Cabinet of Ministers. In January President Yushchenko announced that he may seek a referendum on this reform. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yanukovych wants talks on coalition

KYIV – Party of the Regions leader

Viktor Yanukovych on April 4 called on all other parties that won representation in the March 26 parliamentary elections to immediately begin negotiations on the creation of a ruling coalition in Ukraine, Interfax-Ukraine reported. "We are ready to view and accept such principles for forming the coalition that focus not on the distribution of portfolios but on how to secure economic growth and stability in the country," Mr. Yanukovych said. "Stop dividing the country. The people have made their choice; please be good [enough] to take it into account. You cannot divide the parliamentary parties into democratic and undemocratic. By doing this you continue to increase the split in society." Mr. Yanukovych was apparently referring to the term "democratic coalition" that President Viktor Yushchenko and some other politicians have recently begun using in reference to a potential coalition of the Orange Revolution allies, that is, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, Our Ukraine and the Socialist Party. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Moroz: speed up coalition's formation

KYIV – According to the press service of the Socialist Party, party leader Oleksander Moroz addressed leaders of the Our Ukraine Bloc and the leader of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, insisting on speeding up the formation of a parliamentary coalition. Having analyzed the draft protocol of intent of participants in the coalition, Mr. Moroz said in a letter to likely participants in the coalition that the document is actually a regression from "previous agreements of the parties, which were reflected in the text of the memorandum on forming the coalition of democratic forces." Thus, Mr. Moroz believes the document cannot be adopted. The reference is to a protocol that was proposed on April 3 during a meeting between Ukraine's prime minister and the No. 1 candidate of the Our Ukraine People's Union, Yurii Yekhanurov, and SPU Chairman Moroz. (Ukrinform)

Regions faction leader comment

KYIV – Party of the Regions faction leader Raisa Bogatyreva told 1+1 Channel viewers on April 4 that, in a matter of days, the Party of the Regions will present its parliamentary coalition concept. The Regions Party has come to power in 10 out of Ukraine's 24 regional councils as a result of the March 26 elections. According to Ms. Bogatyreva, regional power now belongs to the Regions Party, and the party's faction will be the new Parliament's most numerous. She said the faction will be ready to form a new government to be led by Viktor Yanukovych on its own or in a coalition with other forces represented in the Parliament. Ms. Bogatyreva stated the Regions Party's intention not to cede ground on such key points as abandoning the idea of Ukraine's membership in NATO and proclaiming Russian as Ukraine's second state language. (Ukrinform)

Our Ukraine is winner in Australia

CANBERRA, Australia – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko's party, Our Ukraine, received overwhelming support from Ukrainian nationals residing in Australia who voted in Ukraine's parliamentary elections held on March 26. In Australia Mr. Yushchenko, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and other Orange Revolution parties received the support of the majority of voters: 46 percent supported Our Ukraine and 23 percent supported Ms. Tymoshenko's bloc. Viktor Yanukovych and his Party of the Regions received only 7 percent of the vote. "The message is loud and clear from Australia," said Stefan Romaniw, chairman of the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations. "If Ukraine is going to progress, the pro-Orange Revolution team must work togeth-

(Continued on page 23)

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 22)

er, set fixed agendas and live up to the expectation of the nation." Ukrainian nationals traveled from Sydney, Adelaide and Melbourne together with locals from Canberra-Queabeyan to vote at the polling station in Australia's capital. (Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations)

### **Yushchenko will respect voters' choice**

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko devoted his scheduled, Saturday, April 1, radio address to the nation to preliminary returns of the March 26 parliamentary elections. He underscored that the elections' participants, Ukrainian and international observers were virtually unanimous in appraising the election campaign and the elections as democratic. More importantly, he said, the people of Ukraine view the elections as fair. The president said he will respect the citizens' choice and will work with both the parliamentary majority and the opposition. The president aired his regret over the fact that democratic forces participated in the elections separately. This has taught them a good lesson as their leaders' personal or party ambitions and political short-sightedness have frustrated the hopes of many Ukrainians who wished the democrats victory, Mr. Yushchenko said. He also expressed his concern about foot-dragging on forming a democratic parliamentary majority. There is much talk about sharing portfolios, but too little is said about the principles of forming the coalition, he added. (Ukrinform)

### **Tymoshenko says choice of PM is clear**

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko, leader of the eponymous bloc, told Channel 5 viewers on April 1 that voters who supported her bloc on March 26 virtually elected a new prime minister. According to Ms. Tymoshenko, before the elections the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc was quite outspoken in stating its intention to nominate its leader for prime minister. Ms. Tymoshenko said she sees no alternative to her candidacy. She said she sees the post of prime minister as an instrument for implementing the policy the people of Ukraine supported with their ballots on March 26. (Ukrinform)

### **Moroz: coalition talks need transparency**

KYIV – According to the Socialist Party's press service, the party's leader, Oleksander Moroz, insists on the transparency and openness of coalition talks. He added that he does not rule out forming a broad coalition composed of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialists, Our Ukraine and the Party of the Regions. After meeting with the ambassadors of the United States, Russia and France, Mr. Moroz said he saw two likely scenarios of the Regions Party's involvement in the new authority, through either extending the coalition format to four parties or determining the Regions Party's quota of executive authority posts. (Ukrinform)

### **Regions could enter broad coalition**

KYIV – Yevgenii Kushnarev, chief of the Party of the Regions election campaign staff, told Channel 5 viewers that his party might enter a broad parliamentary coalition, if the leader of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc withdraws her claim to the prime ministership. According to Mr. Kushnarev, the Party of the Regions is engaged in bipartite negotiations with all the winners of the parliamentary elections. Viktor Yanukovich has met with Our Ukraine's No. 1 candidate, Yuri Yekhanurov, and was expected to meet with Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz and Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko. Mr. Kushnarev said the Regions Party intends to nominate Mr. Yanukovich for prime minister. (Ukrinform)

### **Pinchuk under investigation by PGO**

KYIV – Viktor Pinchuk, a son-in-law of former President Leonid Kuchma and one of Ukraine's richest men, is under investigation by the Procurator General's Office (PGO) for possible fraud related to the Nikopol Ferrous Alloy Works he owns, Kommersant Ukrayiny reported on March 31. The newspaper reported that prosecutors are looking into \$450 million that two companies Steelex and Travis – both alleged to be owned by Mr. Pinchuk – may have made from the sale of alloys produced by the Nikopol plant. In a related development, Ihor Kolomoyskyi, head of the Dnipropetrovsk-based Privat company, filed a suit in the U.S. state of Massachusetts against Mr. Pinchuk and his Nikopol partners Jerry Margolis, Viktor Vekselberg and Oleksander Abramov. Mr. Kolomoyskyi alleges in the suit that Mr. Pinchuk and his partners paid a bribe of \$50 million to unnamed Ukrainian officials to prevent the renationalization of Nikopol Ferrous Alloy Works, the Russian daily Vedomosti reported on March 31. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Pustovoitenko resigns party leadership**

KYIV – Valerii Pustovoitenko, leader of the People's Democratic Party, submitted his resignation as chairman, stating that he bears personal responsibility for the party's setback in the parliamentary elections. The PDP collected only 0.49 percent of the ballots – well below the 3 percent threshold. Mr. Pustovoitenko was Ukraine's prime minister in 1997-1999. The Greens Party leader, Vitalii Kononov, whose party collected 0.54 percent of the votes, was removed by party members. Mr. Kononov disagreed with the political council's March 29 decision to sack him, saying the session was illegitimate. (Ukrinform)

### **Putin pledges cooperation with Ukraine**

MOSCOW – Russian President Putin told his Ukrainian counterpart, Viktor Yushchenko, by telephone on March 29 that Moscow is ready to cooperate closely with Ukraine following the March 26 parliamentary elections, news agencies reported. Mr. Putin congratulated Mr. Yushchenko on the completion of the March 26 elections. He said the vote demonstrated the predominant aspirations of Ukrainian citizens to develop comprehensive relations with Russia. The two leaders also discussed the Russian president's visit to Ukraine later this year, for which a date has yet to be set. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Moscow says U.S. is stalling on WTO**

MOSCOW – President Vladimir Putin said on March 29 that the United States is stalling on Russia's admission to the World Trade Organization (WTO), which is a top policy goal of the Putin leadership, RIA Novosti reported. "We have received a list of questions from our American colleagues that require additional agreements that we thought had been settled long ago," Mr. Putin told a group of leading businessmen. "The negotiating process is being artificially set back. We are interested in joining [the WTO], but we will take this step [only] if it satisfies all participants in the process, and primarily Russia and the [Russian] economy," he added. Konstantin Kosachyov, who chairs the State Duma's Foreign Affairs Committee, said in Moscow on March 29 that the United States is stalling on Russia's admission to the WTO to enable Ukraine to join that body first, Interfax reported. He argued that Moscow has received unspecified promises on its membership from Washington but "nothing is happening because [Washington] has decided to prevent Russia from entering [the WTO] before Ukraine does. ... We have the impression that the [United States] is

playing a 'double game,' artificially dragging out Russia's accession, setting forth new conditions as far as issues already [dealt with] are concerned, [and] waiting for the moment when it can step aside and leave the dirty work – setting forth new terms – to be done by Ukrainian negotiators." (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Ukraine has new envoy to Russia**

KYIV – Russia gave its agreement on the appointment of Oleh Diomin as Ukraine's ambassador to Russia, Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin told journalists in Symferopol on March 16. Oleh Diomin, a native of the Tula region, Russia, graduated from the Kharkiv Institute of Radio Electronics and the High Party School under the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine. Between May 1994 and July 1996 he worked as deputy chairman of the Verkhovna Rada. Between July 1996 and October 2000 he chaired the Kharkiv Regional State Administration, then worked as first deputy chief of staff of the Presidential Administration (under Leonid Kuchma). The previous ambassador to Russia, Mykola Biloblotskyi, who was in office almost for six years, was relieved on December 6, 2005. (Ukrinform)

### **NATO to sign deal for Ruslan**

MOSCOW – The Russian-Ukrainian joint venture called Ruslan SALIS is slated to sign an agreement with NATO in Leipzig, under which the joint venture will provide large Antonov-124 (aka Ruslan) transport aircraft to 15 NATO member-countries and Sweden at short notice, lenta.ru reported. Under the terms of the agreement, Ruslan SALIS will provide two Antonovs capable of carrying troops and heavy equipment on three

days' notice. Within six to nine days, it will supply four additional Antonovs. The deal is aimed at alleviating a shortage of heavy-lift transport aircraft among European NATO members. The 15 NATO countries involved in the deal are: Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and the United Kingdom. Sweden has many years of experience in international peacekeeping missions and is a member of the European Union but not of the Atlantic alliance. Some 56 Antonov-124 aircraft have been built since 1986, of which 49 are still in service. The AN-124 is the only aircraft in the world that can carry a load of 150 tons with a diameter of 6.5 meters. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### **Turkmenistan, Ukraine agree on debt**

KYIV – A Ukrainian delegation headed by Naftohaz Ukrainy Commercial Director Anatolii Popadiuk has confirmed that Ukraine owes Turkmenistan \$169.6 million for 2003-2005 shipments of natural gas, turkmenistan.ru reported on March 26, citing a press release from the Turkmen Foreign Ministry. The ministry said that the two sides agreed that Ukraine owes Turkmenistan \$169.6 million, \$46.8 million in cash and \$122.8 million in commodities. The two sides signed an agreement that Ukraine will make a cash payment of \$60.6 million to cover its cash debt and an additional cash payment of \$27.7 million toward its commodity debt. Ukraine will also supply pipes to cover \$58.3 million of its commodity debt, with other goods shipments to cover the remainder of the commodity debt. The cash debt will be settled in the "near future," while the commodities will be shipped by August 10. (RFE/RL Newsline)



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# Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus holds biennial meeting, elects new officers

by Bohdan Pryjma

WARREN, Mich. – The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus elected and confirmed a new set of officers at its biennial meeting on February 18 at the Ukrainian Cultural Center. The meeting highlighted chorus projects over the past two years, which included the 2004 Spring Concert Series on the East Coast, a performance at the internationally renowned Stratford Summer Music Festival, a joint Christmas concert with Metropolitan Opera soloist Paul Plishka, and a tour of western Canada in November of 2005.

The meeting also celebrated the 10th anniversary of Oleh Mahlay's activity as artistic director and conductor. Over the course of 10 years, Maestro Mahlay has reinvigorated the ranks with new singers and young bandura players while challenging the entire membership with new repertoire and exciting artistic projects.

UBC President Anatoli W. Murha, and UBC Assistant Conductor Ihor Kuszniir, presented Maestro Mahlay with a framed portrait of "Hamalia" from the entire membership. The membership ardently agreed to retain Maestro Mahlay as artistic director and conductor, with Ihor

Kuszniir, Orest Sklierenko and George Metulynsky completing the Artistic Council.

Mr. Murha was re-elected president of the executive board for a third term. Mr. Murha, 28, a real estate agent, has been a member of the chorus since 1992, when he was only 14 years old. In addition to these duties, Mr. Murha is also the administrator of the summer music program Kobzarska Sich Bandura Camp.

The other newly elected members are as follows: First Vice-President John Kytasty, Second Vice-President Andrii Sklierenko, Secretary Bohdan Pryjma, Treasurer Volodymyr Murha, Archivist Mykola Newmerzycky; Chorus Elder Bohdan Sklierenko, Canadian Representative George Burtiak, Cleveland Representative Nicholas Schidowka, Detroit Representative Roman Skypakewych and East Coast Representative Ihor Kuszniir.

When one first steps into the UBC, they are granted the status as "candidate

for membership." For a period of two years, the candidate must meet artistic requirements set forth by the Artistic Council. Once that person has met those requirements, he can be elevated to active member by a majority vote of the active members. The UBC class of 2006 inducted the following: Volodymyr Brechun of Toronto, Teodor Bodnar of New Jersey, Petro Stoykiv and Lyubomyr Yakimiv of Cleveland, as well as Torontonians Stefan Rewa and his brother Kyrlo Rewa, and Bohdan Koshil.

At the end of the meeting, both Messrs. Mahlay and Murha addressed the membership, recalling their earliest memories of the UBC. They have worked together for six years and continue to facilitate new ideas and set high standards, while maintaining the traditions and legacy of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus.

For more information on the bandura and the UBC readers may visit the website at [www.bandura.org](http://www.bandura.org) or call 734-658-6452.

## Ukraine is relearning...

(Continued from page 2)

of energy by diversifying energy suppliers. Translated into specific programs, Dr. Shamshur said, the Ukrainian government is determined to develop "safe nuclear energy," retool its coal sector, diminish the consumption of natural gas, and integrate into the European energy network.

With parliamentary elections scheduled to take place 10 days after his talk, Ambassador Shamshur noted that the period after the election will be important, because the coalition that will come to power will have to "set new rules" for itself, but the tasks will remain the same.

Dr. Shamshur expressed his belief that, because the president of Ukraine retains

important powers in setting foreign policy, this policy dimension will remain important to the new government, which will have to demonstrate "the continuation of reform" and its commitment to "European and Trans-Atlantic integration."

\*\*\*

Archived audio of this briefing can be heard at [rtsp://realaudio.rferl.org/online/OL200306/Ukraine.rm](http://realaudio.rferl.org/online/OL200306/Ukraine.rm) (RealAudio) and [mms://realaudio.rferl.org/online/OL200306/Ukraine.wma](http://realaudio.rferl.org/online/OL200306/Ukraine.wma) (Windows Media).

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty is a private, international communications service to Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe; the Caucasus; and Central and Southwestern Asia funded by the U.S. Congress through the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

## "An unidentified..."

(Continued from page 7)

well as, thank God, a long period of peace and prosperity in America.

Those who have seen "Everything Is Illuminated" or have read the novel it is based on by Jonathan Safran Foer will understand why it comes to mind. The film tells the story of Jonathan, a young Jewish American who travels to Ukraine to find "an unidentified" woman standing next to his grandfather in an old photograph, who, he is told, saved his grandfather from the Holocaust.

We all have countless "unidentified"

old – and even not so old – photos in our family collections. Indeed, as the years go by, more and more of them pass into that category. And that's a shame, for this not only deprives us of our knowledge of some long-removed people and events; we lose a part of ourselves, of what made us what we are today and what our next generation will be tomorrow. We inherit more than just genes from our ancestors; what they did and endured is passed on and becomes a part of us as well.

And there are a lot of very good "unidentified" stories waiting to be discovered.

*Continued in the next issue of The Ukrainian Weekly.*

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# UKELODEON

## FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

### Plast kids help the cause: a new cultural center in New Jersey

by Yarema Belej

WHIPPANY, N.J. – For three consecutive Saturdays, children of the local branch of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization sold tickets for a benefit car raffle along Route 10.

Accompanied by their counselors and/or parents, they stood in front of the local Stop & Shop and Shop-Rite, as well as on the property of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church helping to sell tickets that offered buyers a chance to win a brand new Lexus car.

“The kids helped double the number of tickets being sold at those locations,” said Christine Bilanycz, member of the Women of Whippany (WOW) fund-raising committee.

Thanks to their charm and enthusiasm, people were more than happy to make donations to have a chance to drive away with the new car, she added.

These are some of the children who will benefit the most from the new Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (UACCNJ) in the next few decades. With big smiles, a lot of excitement and nice signs, Plast “novatsvo” and “yunatsvo” sold many more tickets than the stands did without them.

“These kids are the future of our church, and it was great that they helped all of us,” said Ms. Bilanycz. “I would like to thank each and every one of them.”

Plast is among the community organizations that will call the new cultural center home. The UACCNJ is being built on Jefferson Road, north of Route 10, in Whippany, N.J.



Some of the eager Plast youngsters who helped sell raffle tickets benefiting the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey.

### Mishanyna

Find the capitalized words in the Mishanyna grid.

It’s almost time for EASTER. And for Ukrainians that means it’s also time for pysanky. Painting or, more properly “writing” on EGGS (from the word ‘PYSATY,’ to write, from which the word “PYSANKA” is derived) is a time-honored form of DECORATIVE art in Ukraine. In fact, pysanky can be traced to the prehistoric TRYPILLIAN culture.

Each of the SYMBOLS that appears on a pysanka has a meaning. The COLORS on a pysanka also have specific meanings. (We suggest a good pysanka book to learn more about the importance of all of the pysanka’s elements.)

Pysanky symbolize the RENEWAL of life and the coming of SPRING. With the adoption of CHRISTIANITY, they came to also symbolize the RESURRECTION of Christ. Pysanky were also believed to have MAGICAL powers; they could shield its bearer from evil, cure illnesses and PROTECT homes.

So, when you make a pysanka as a GIFT for someone, you are nurturing a TRADITION that reaches back to a time long, long ago.

C	R	N	A	T	Y	H	R	E	N	E	W	A	L	C
O	C	O	L	O	T	O	R	Y	E	A	S	T	E	R
L	G	I	F	T	I	L	O	E	G	K	I	A	G	I
O	S	T	D	R	N	T	L	S	G	N	D	L	G	N
M	Y	C	I	A	A	T	O	O	A	A	E	E	S	G
A	M	E	S	D	I	C	C	I	R	S	V	A	T	E
G	B	R	L	I	T	O	L	E	V	Y	I	N	L	L
I	A	R	O	T	S	L	O	D	T	P	T	B	A	E
C	L	U	B	O	I	O	V	I	Y	O	A	E	G	M
A	S	S	M	P	R	R	E	S	T	U	R	E	N	E
L	A	E	Y	E	H	S	A	T	L	R	O	P	I	N
A	R	R	S	O	C	T	R	A	I	N	C	E	R	T
P	T	A	R	N	Y	S	V	A	L	U	E	A	P	E
O	L	T	R	A	D	I	T	I	O	N	D	R	S	D

### Students at St. Josaphat School celebrate Catholic Schools Week

by Taissa Zappernick

PARMA, Ohio – “Character, compassion, values.” These three simple words can mean so much to so many people. From paper chains to collages, students at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic School decorated the halls with their artistic interpretations of the theme of this year’s Catholic Schools Week.

On Sunday, January 29, Catholic Schools Week began with a community liturgy at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral.

The students, parents, faculty, parishioners and friends joined in praise and thanksgiving for the blessings bestowed upon St. Josaphat School. The students graciously thanked everyone for their contributions and for volunteering their time to our school.

After the liturgy, everyone enjoyed touring the school and browsing through the student projects that were on display at the open house. After admiring the projects, guests enjoyed a brunch.

On Monday, the real fun began! Teachers were each granted three wishes for things they would like to have for their students. Each home-room received games, puzzles and other fun things.

We also celebrated the 37th anniversary of the ordination of our pastor, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael Rewtiuk. Students enjoyed red, white and blue cupcakes handed out during lunch on Tuesday, while the teachers indulged in a brunch sponsored by the student council.

Wednesday held more fun. Students were permitted to come to school dressed in casual clothes, but it didn’t end there. The second half of the day was a “free day.” Grades K-3 enjoyed a funny movie, while the older grades, 4-8, played bingo and sang karaoke.

Thursday was a no homework day! Teachers did not assign any homework, which meant Friday became a no test day. The Student Council visited the pyrohy workers and thanked everyone for their dedication for such an important project.

Catholic Schools Week ended with a bang at St. Josaphat. We shared a pizza lunch sponsored by the PTU with our parents and grandparents. The students, grandparents, parents and faculty watched a movie of the prior days of Catholic Schools Week. We shared laughs and jokes of how we acted on tape. After the movie, we enjoyed a “Mad Science” assembly, where students learned a lot, but had fun, too.

In short, everyone enjoyed Catholic Schools Week.

Taissa Zappernick is a seventh grader at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral School in Parma, Ohio.



# Soyuzivka's Datebook

<b>April 16, 2006</b> Traditional Ukrainian Easter Day Brunch, doors open at 11:30 a.m.	<b>May 26-29, 2006</b> UNA Convention
<b>April 18-19, 2006</b> Mid-Hudson Migrant Education Program	<b>June 2-4, 2006</b> Ukrainian Language Immersion Weekend offered at SUNY New Paltz
<b>April 22, 2006</b> Alpha Kappa Sorority Formal Dinner Banquet	<b>June 3, 2006</b> Wedding
<b>April 23, 2006</b> Traditional Ukrainian Easter Day Brunch, doors open at 11:30 a.m.	<b>June 5-9, 2006</b> Eparchial Clergy Retreat
<b>April 28, 2006</b> Ellenville High School Junior Prom	<b>June 10, 2006</b> Wedding
<b>April 28-30, 2006</b> Spa Weekend organized by UNWLA Branch 95	<b>June 11-16, 2006</b> UNA Seniors' Conference
<b>April 29, 2006</b> Birthday Party Banquet TAPS New York Beer Festival at Hunter Mountain, round trip bus from Soyuzivka, \$20; special room rate - \$60/night	<b>June 16-18, 2006</b> 3rd Annual Adoption Weekend
<b>May 5-7, 2006</b> Ukrainian Language Immersion Weekend offered at SUNY New Paltz	<b>June 17, 2006</b> Wedding
<b>May 14, 2006</b> Mother's Day Brunch	<b>June 18, 2006</b> Father's Day Luncheon and Program
<b>May 20, 2006</b> Wedding	<b>June 23-24, 2006</b> Plast Kurin "Shostokryli" Rada
<b>May 21, 2006</b> Communion Luncheon Banquet	<b>June 24, 2006</b> Wedding
	<b>June 25-July 2, 2006</b> Tabir Ptashat Session #1
	<b>June 25-July 7, 2006</b> Tennis Camp
	<b>June 26-June 30, 2006</b> Exploration Day Camp

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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Monday, April 24

**TORONTO:** The Center for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies invites the public to attend the Danyliw Annual Lecture by Gerhard Simon, professor of East European history at the University of Cologne, titled "Ukraine's Orange Revolution and After: Visions and Realities." The event is sponsored by the Wolodymyr George Danyliw Foundation and will start at 6 p.m. at the Vivian and David Campbell Conference Facility, Munk Center for International Studies, 1 Devonshire Place. For information call 416-946-8113 or e-mail larysa.iarovenko@utoronto.ca.

Thursday, April 27

**TORONTO:** The Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine at the University of Toronto, in cooperation with the Ukrainian Film Club at Columbia University, is hosting "Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Ukrainian Cinema since Independence," a series of screenings and lectures on the current state of and challenges faced by

Ukrainian cinema. The final lecture by Yuri Shevchuk, director of Ukrainian Film Club and lecturer of Ukrainian language and culture at Columbia University, is titled "Contemporary Ukrainian Cinema and Identity Formation" and will be followed by film screenings and a discussion. The event will be held at 7-10 p.m. at the Innis Townhall, Innis College, University of Toronto, 2 Sussex Ave. Admission is free. All films are in Ukrainian with English subtitles. For more information phone 416-946-8113 or check the website at <http://www.utoronto.ca/jacyk/ukrcinema/index.html>.

**WASHINGTON:** Judge Bohdan Futey will speak on "The Rule of Law in Ukraine after the Parliamentary Elections" at the Embassy of Ukraine, 3550 M St. NW. The talk is sponsored by the Embassy and the Shevchenko Scientific Society, Washington, D.C., branch. Attendance is free, but reservations must be made, either by e-mail, [nholub@ukremb.com](mailto:nholub@ukremb.com), or by telephone, 202-524-1833 (weekdays) and 301-230-2149 (evenings and weekends).

### PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

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

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

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment of \$20 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Items may be e-mailed to [preview@ukrweekly.com](mailto:preview@ukrweekly.com).

## OUT AND ABOUT

Through May 14 Nepean, Ontario	Pysanka exhibit featuring egg designs by Oksana Yarosh, The Nepean Museum, 613-723-7936
April 11 Toronto	Roundtable discussion on Ukraine's parliamentary elections, University of Toronto, 416-947-8113
April 13 Ottawa	"Disaster at Chornobyl" film and lecture with Dr. Marko Horbatsch, LAC Auditorium 613-733-7000 or 613-738-1724
April 15 New York	Pysanka-making demonstration, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110
April 26 Ottawa	20th Anniversary of Chornobyl commemoration on Parliament Hill, 613-733-7000 or 613-738-1724
April 28-30 Kerhonkson, NY	Spa Weekend organized by UNWLA Branch 95 at Soyuzivka, 845-626-5641
May 6 Warren, MI	Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus auditions, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 734-658-6452
May 7 Farmington Hills, MI	Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus concert at Nardin Park United Church, 248-476-8860

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in The Ukrainian Weekly. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers; please send e-mail to [staff@ukrweekly.com](mailto:staff@ukrweekly.com). Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows; photos will be considered. Please note: items will be printed a maximum of two times each.

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Knowing how to cook is a talent. Knowing how to cook a delicious meal is the real art! Oleksander Ponomaryov offers his tips on how to cook in Ukrainian style.

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