



ХРИСТОС БОКРЕЄ! CHRIST IS RISEN!

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Ukraine in crisis after president's dismissal of Verkhovna Rada

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The Ukrainian government descended into chaos after President Viktor Yushchenko signed an April 2 presidential decree to dismiss Parliament, throwing the nation into its biggest crisis since the Orange Revolution and re-igniting the east-west divide.

In defending his act, Mr. Yushchenko said the parliamentary coalition was violating the Constitution of Ukraine in its drive to form a 300-vote constitutional majority – enough to override all presidential vetoes – by adding additional deputies to its already established coalition.

“The parliamentary government majority is no longer hiding its main goal: usurping power and concentrating its administration,” the president said in a national address. “Society is sick of watching the same thing: a fight for authority and complete neglect of the daily needs of Ukraine’s citizens.”

In response, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich said the president broke the law when dismissing the Verkhovna Rada, since the Constitution allows for such a move in only three specific instances, none of which were imminent at the time.

He accused the president of manipulating the Constitution, usurping power and destabilizing Ukraine. “For the first time in the years of Ukraine’s independence, the Constitution’s guarantor took a step that may have catastrophic consequences for the state and society,” Mr. Yanukovich said.

Panic in Parliament

The president’s decision to dismiss Parliament visibly shocked the coalition government leaders, who reacted in panic the night of April 2.

Directly thwarting the president’s authority, Verkhovna Rada Chair Oleksander Moroz presided over an extraordinary parliamentary session the night of the decree, immediately declaring the presidential decree an unconstitutional, criminal act in violation of democratic norms.

Hurriedly, the parliamentary coalition voted to dismiss the Central Election Commission (CEC) leadership, including Chairman Yaroslav Davydovych, and re-install Serhii Kivalov, his predecessor who was found responsible for aiding in the falsification of the 2004 presidential elections.

In another quickly passed resolution, the Parliament forbade the CEC from financing pre-term elections. It also sent a request to the Constitutional Court to review the validity of the decree.

The Ukrainian president issued his decree after spending several hours in negotiations with coalition leaders at the Presidential Secretariat to no avail.

When Communist Party of Ukraine Chair Petro Symonenko and Socialist Parliamentary Faction Chair Ivan Bokyj abandoned the talks at 5:30 p.m. without any results after two and a half hours of talks, it became apparent a compromise was unlikely.

When the Kremlin announced at 7:45 p.m. that the Ukrainian president had canceled a visit to Moscow scheduled for the next day, it was clear that Mr. Yushchenko was preparing to dismiss Parliament.

The president’s decree declared that the coalition government’s attempt to form a constitutional majority by gradually recruiting individual deputies violates Article 83 of the Ukrainian Constitution.

Only factions, not individuals, can form parliamentary coalitions, which must be based on agreed-upon political positions, the decree noted.

These factions can emerge only as a direct result of



UNIAN/Oleksander Lepetukha

President Viktor Yushchenko at the March 31 congress of the Our Ukraine People’s Union.

elections, the decree stated, thereby discrediting an attempt by deputies dismissed from their respective factions to form a new faction called Independent Ukraine.

(A faction is the parliamentary version of a political bloc or party that won enough votes to be elected to Parliament. Five factions emerged as a result of the 2006 elections, in which five blocs or parties earned more than 3 percent of the vote.)

In the view of Ivan Lozowy, a Kyiv political insider, Mr. Yushchenko is standing on fragile constitutional



UNIAN/Andrii Mosiyenko

Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich at a special session of the Cabinet of Ministers on April 3.

grounds in issuing his dismissal decree.

The Constitution refers to three specific instances in which the president may dismiss Parliament: if a coalition isn’t formed within the first 30 days of a new government in accordance with Article 83; if a Cabinet of Ministers isn’t formed within 60 days of the predecessor government’s dismissal; and if a plenary session of Parliament isn’t called within 30 days.

The president is relying on the first condition, arguing

(Continued on page 8)

Our Ukraine congress elects new leader

by Stephen Bandera

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – In attempt to refurbish its tarnished image, the pro-presidential Our Ukraine’s People Union (OUPU) party elected as its leader stalwart patriot Viacheslav Kyrylenko at its March 30 congress held at Kyiv Polytechnic University.

Nearly 1,500 delegates at the fourth national congress also declared its support for Parliament’s dismissal and pre-term elections, despite the likelihood that the Our Ukraine bloc would lose a significant number of seats.

“Many people are wondering whether or not the president will sign the decree,” Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said during his opening address.

Chants of “He will sign it! He will sign!” reverberated through the hall, causing Mr. Yushchenko to pause.

“If the parliamentary majority is not restored on a constitutional basis, then he will sign,” the president responded. Delegates then delivered a standing ovation and

began chanting the president’s name. (Two days later, Mr. Yushchenko issued the decree.)

The president has led the party since it was formed in 2001, and was once again nominated as its chair, along with Mr. Kyrylenko, who also serves as parliamentary faction chair. Mr. Yushchenko withdrew his candidacy, and Mr. Kyrylenko attempted to do the same when the president asked him not to do so.

The president said he will remain honorary chair and maintain an office at the party’s headquarters, but asked the convention to support Mr. Kyrylenko because he is a member of a “new generation” who will bring “new opportunities” for the party.

Only 51 delegates voted against Mr. Kyrylenko with the conviction that Mr. Yushchenko is the party’s only leader.

Mr. Yushchenko joked that the single candidate nomination was reminiscent of a Communist Party convention.

In his inaugural speech, Mr. Kyrylenko spoke of the need to pro-

tect democracy and realize Ukraine’s Euro-Atlantic aspirations.

Under his leadership, he said the party will focus on local initiatives, and among his priorities would be to visit all the country’s regions.

Mr. Kyrylenko, 38, was born in the small town of Poliske in the Kyiv Oblast. A pro-democracy activist and member of the People’s Rukh of Ukraine, he was a philosophy teacher at Shevchenko National University of Kyiv.

After Rukh split into two parties, Mr. Kyrylenko joined the Ukrainian People’s Party, becoming the party’s assistant chair in 2002. A member of Parliament since 1998, he joined OUPU to run under its banner for the 2006 elections.

After the Orange Revolution he served as minister of work and social policy and vice prime minister of humanitarian affairs, leading an ambitious initiative to dub 70 percent of foreign films into the Ukrainian language by July 2007.

In December 2006 he was tapped to serve as Our Ukraine’s parlia-

(Continued on page 4)

ANALYSIS

Kyiv assassination leaves trail of intrigue

by Roman Kupchinsky
RFE/RL

What promises to be one of Ukraine's biggest scandals of the year emerged last week when a Russian-Ukrainian businessman known as "Mad Max" was assassinated in Kyiv.

Maksim Kurochkin's high-profile connections have fueled a storm of speculation about the possible reasons behind his death. The fact that Mr. Kurochkin was one of the major Russian supporters of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's failed presidential bid in 2004 has attracted much attention in the wake of the killing.

One unsolved mystery that derives from the campaign is determining who is responsible for poisoning candidate Viktor Yushchenko.

And, Mr. Kurochkin's business and political ties are not being discounted as a possible motive, Ukrainian Vice-Minister of Internal Affairs Mykola Kupianskyi said on March 28.

"We are following several leads, including Mr. Kurochkin's activity in the Russian Federation," Mr. Kupianskyi said. "We do not rule out a possible link to his activity in Russia. The reason for most contract killings is associated with conflict situations linked with the commercial activities or business interests of the victim."

Mr. Kurochkin was shot in broad daylight on March 27 while being escorted from a Kyiv courthouse by three police officers.

The bullet went through his heart and he died soon afterward. One of the police escorts was wounded by the same bullet. The shot is believed to have come from the eighth floor of a nearby building, where police later found a rifle they suspect is the murder weapon. The shooter escaped.

The Russian Club

Mr. Kurochkin was the founder of the Russian Club in Kyiv, an organization with which many prominent Russian "political technologists," including Gleb Pavlovsky and Kremlin aide Igor Shuvalov, worked on behalf of Mr. Yanukovich during his presidential campaign. The club had the active support of Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin and included many prominent supporters of former Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma among its ranks.

After the Orange Revolution brought Mr. Yushchenko to the presidency, a warrant for Mr. Kurochkin's arrest was issued by then-Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Lutsenko.

Mr. Kurochkin was charged with extortion in a number of business deals in Kyiv involving the Hotel Dnipro, an outdoor market, and three sanatoriums in the Crimea that he was accused of obtaining illegally.

Mr. Kurochkin returned to Moscow after the election and then, in an unexpected move, decided to return to Ukraine in November 2006, where he was arrested at Kyiv's Borispol Airport.

Soon afterward, Lutsenko was forced out of his Internal Affairs Ministry post by the Cabinet headed by Mr. Yanukovich, who had become prime minister earlier in the year.

Reason to be afraid

During Mr. Kurochkin's pretrial hearing on March 27 – just minutes before he was killed – he pleaded with the judge to release him and claimed that a contract had been put out on him. "I don't want to die," he reportedly told the presiding judge, who nonetheless ordered him to remain in confinement.

Mr. Kurochkin apparently had reason to fear for his life.

In 2004, he survived a bomb attack outside his Russian Club. In March a bullet-riddled Toyota Landcruiser was found on a highway outside Kyiv containing the bodies of his bodyguard and two close associates. His business partner, Volodymyr Vorobiov, was killed in Dnipropetrovsk in late 2006.

There are also more recent developments that add intrigue to the circumstances of Mr. Kurochkin's killing.

The Ukrayinska Pravda website noted that by returning to Ukraine voluntarily, Mr. Kurochkin knew that he faced immediate arrest, yet he chose to do so nevertheless.

This has led to inference that Mr. Kurochkin may have been considering revealing what he knew about the workings of the Russian Club and any dirty tricks used during the 2004 Ukrainian presidential election in return for his freedom. One unsolved mystery that derives from the campaign is determining who is responsible for poisoning Mr. Yushchenko when he was a presidential candidate.

Yanukovich reacts

The man who opposed President Yushchenko in the contentious election, Prime Minister Yanukovich, expressed his concern about Mr. Kurochkin's killing and other recent crimes during a Cabinet of Ministers meeting on March 28.

"The recent crime situation in the regions is worrisome, particularly the high-profile killings, including yesterday's," Mr. Yanukovich said. "We had also faced similar situations in several regions before that. We agreed that individual operative groups would be set up to deal with those regions. I would like to hear your report now."

The Kurochkin case promises to reopen numerous questions about the nature of the 2004 election in Ukraine. Firstly, why did Mr. Yanukovich's team work with Mr. Kurochkin? And why did Messrs. Chernomyrdin, Pavlovsky and Shuvalov – men with direct ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin – agree to be associated with an organization created by a man with a criminal record in Russia and Ukraine?

The Ukrainian opposition will also likely question the effectiveness of a Yanukovich appointee, Vasyl Tsushko, as Mr. Lutsenko's replacement as internal affairs minister.

Ukrayinska Pravda pointed out that Mr. Tsushko had failed to protect the life of a high-profile suspect wanted on serious criminal charges – and that this alone should compel him to resign.

The assassination was highly unusual. The use of a high-powered rifle strays from the more common close-range use of handguns, automatic weapons or even bombs during assassination bids.

Vice-Minister of Internal Affairs Kupianskyi said on March 28 that the investigation is focusing on two suspected perpetrators of the attack.

"There were two criminals – [one] 1.85 meters tall, [the other] 1.75 meters – fit, wearing black masks and jackets," Mr. Kupianskyi said. "They disappeared from the scene of the crime in a silver Mazda. Later, this car was found in a yard on Lesia Ukrayinka Street in Kyiv. The investigation and the search for the owner of the car is under way."

What is certain is that the assassin was a highly trained marksman, considering that Mr. Kurochkin was shot through the heart from a distance of 300 meters.

NEWSBRIEFS**Coalition refuses to obey decree**

KYIV – During an emergency session in the evening of April 2, some 260 national deputies of the ruling coalition of the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party adopted a resolution condemning President Viktor Yushchenko's decree as illegal and constituting a "step toward a coup d'état," Ukrainian media reported. The ruling coalition's lawmakers also passed a resolution disbanding the Central Election Commission formed in December 2004, and another one banning the government from funding the campaign for early elections. On April 3 ruling-coalition lawmakers requested that the Constitutional Court rule on whether President Yushchenko's decree on the dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada conforms to the Constitution. (RFE/RL Newswire)

President: decision is irrevocable

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich discussed the current political standoff in the presidential office on April 3 for four and a half hours, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported, citing the presidential press service. Mr. Yushchenko reportedly told Mr. Yanukovich that his decision to dissolve the Parliament was final and warned the prime minister against resorting to force. "The main issue discussed at the meeting was to ensure strict implementation of the decree on an early election. Viktor Yushchenko, as commander-in-chief of Ukraine's armed forces, also stressed he would allow no use of force in the country," the president's press service reported. (RFE/RL Newswire)

CEC instructed to fund campaign

KYIV – Central Election Commission Chairman Yaroslav Davydovych said on Channel 5 on April 4 that President Viktor Yushchenko has instructed the National Security and Defense Council to provide funding for a campaign for the early parliamentary elections scheduled for May 27. Mr. Davydovych estimated that some \$340 million hrv (\$67 million U.S.) is needed to finance the campaign. First Vice Prime Minister and Finance Minister Mykola Azarov told journalists on April 3

that he sees no legal grounds for the government to finance the early-election campaign, as President Yushchenko ordered in his decree dissolving the Parliament. On April 2, following Mr. Yushchenko's decision to call new elections, the Verkhovna Rada passed a resolution to outlaw the Central Election Commission headed by Mr. Davydovych, and another one to ban the government from funding the election campaign. (RFE/RL Newswire)

PM: no campaign before court ruling

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich said at a Cabinet meeting on April 4 that the ruling coalition would not make any attempt to enter a campaign for early parliamentary elections until the Constitutional Court rules that the presidential decree dissolving the Verkhovna Rada and calling new elections is in line with the Constitution, Channel 5 reported. Mr. Yanukovich reiterated his position that the presidential decree is a "mistake" and called on President Viktor Yushchenko to make compromises in order to overcome the current political crisis. According to Mr. Yanukovich, the president should rescind his decree in exchange for concessions from the ruling coalition on a number of controversial issues. Mr. Yanukovich suggested that the ruling coalition could meet Mr. Yushchenko halfway in amending the controversial law on the Cabinet of Ministers adopted in January and in abandoning the expansion of the parliamentary majority with individual deputies from the opposition. Simultaneously, Mr. Yanukovich accused the presidential administration of pressuring judges of the Constitutional Court, adding that Constitutional Court Chairman Ivan Dombrovskyi will soon resign because of such pressure. (RFE/RL Newswire)

PM's supporters arrive in Kyiv

KYIV – According to police, some 4,500 people arrived in Kyiv in the morning of April 4 in buses from Ukrainian regions to support Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and protest against the presidential decree dissolving the Verkhovna Rada, UNIAN reported. Regional backers

(Continued on page 14)

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NEWS ANALYSIS

Ukraine faces crisis as president dissolves Verkhovna Rada

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Newswire

April 3

President Viktor Yushchenko on April 2 signed a decree to disband the Verkhovna Rada and hold new elections on May 27. A majority of national deputies, including members of the Party of the Regions led by Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, responded by condemning the decree as a "step toward a coup d'etat" and indicated they will disobey the president's order.

Mr. Yushchenko's decision to dissolve the Parliament and call new elections followed last week's defection of a dozen opposition deputies to the ruling coalition of the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party. That changeover strengthened the government's support base in the 450-seat Verkhovna Rada to some 260 votes.

President Yushchenko was evidently afraid that even more defections from his Our Ukraine bloc and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc would follow, allowing Mr. Yanukovich to increase the parliamentary coalition to a constitutional majority of 300 votes. In such a scenario, Mr. Yanukovich's coalition would be able to override presidential vetoes, change the Constitution and reduce the

Ukrainian presidency to a merely symbolic role or even abolish it altogether.

By dissolving the Verkhovna Rada, President Yushchenko, who has often been criticized for indecisiveness, made his boldest move since being elected president in December 2004.

In a television address to the nation on April 2, Mr. Yushchenko asserted that it was his "duty" to disband the legislature. "My actions were dictated by the urgent necessity to save the state, its sovereignty and territorial integrity, and to ensure the Constitution of Ukraine, the rights and liberties of people and citizens are upheld," he said. "I would like to underline that this is not only my right, it is my duty."

Mr. Yushchenko stressed that the main legal reason for the dissolution of the legislature was the ruling coalition's push to convince individual deputies from the opposition to switch allegiance to the parliamentary majority. The Constitution, he said, unambiguously stipulates that such a majority should consist of parliamentary factions, rather than individuals.

But some Ukrainian commentators maintain that President Yushchenko's justification for his decree is shaky, to say the least. They point out that the Constitution of Ukraine explicitly states only three cases when the president may call early

parliamentary elections: if the Verkhovna Rada fails to form a majority within 30 days after its first sitting, or a new Cabinet within 60 days after the dismissal or resignation of the previous one, or if it fails to gather for a sitting within 30 days during an ongoing parliamentary session.

So did Mr. Yushchenko overstep his bounds in issuing the decree to disband the Verkhovna Rada? Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz on April 2 said he has no doubts about it. "The Verkhovna Rada, with all its responsibilities, states that today there are no legal reasons to dissolve this Parliament, which people freely elected according to all the democratic standards as recognized by all the Ukrainian and international organizations, and the president himself."

During a late-night emergency session on April 2, national deputies from the ruling coalition adopted an address to the nation, blasting Mr. Yushchenko's decree as a "step toward a coup d'etat." They also passed two other resolutions that have added fuel to the rising political tensions in the country – they revoked their resolution of December 2004 on the formation of the Central Election Commission, and banned the government from funding a campaign for early parliamentary elections.

Moreover, the ruling coalition on April 3 made a formal request to the Constitutional Court, asking it to pass a judgment on the president's decree. The Constitutional Court, however, has failed to gather for a single session in the past six months. Some argue that it may take months for the panel of 18 judges to rule on the decree. Meanwhile, Mr. Yushchenko formally put his decree into effect on April 3 by publishing it in his official bulletin.

There seem to be two immediate

options available for Ukraine's main political players to move ahead in the current political crisis.

A less favorable scenario for Ukrainian politicians is to wait for the Constitutional Court's ruling and, in the meantime, allow people to decide in street rallies who of the two key figures – President Yushchenko or Prime Minister Yanukovich – is more loved by the electorate. Such an option would almost certainly deepen the divide between the west and the east of Ukraine and, in an extreme case, could lead to bloodshed or even split the country into two political entities.

A better option for both sides is to hold fresh elections in May – even if the decision would represent a major public boost for Mr. Yushchenko at Mr. Yanukovich's expense.

But if Mr. Yanukovich wants to maintain the standing of a responsible prime minister and guarantee a public role for himself in post-crisis Ukraine, he should do everything possible to preserve the country's political stability, rather than satisfying his personal ambitions by outplaying and marginalizing Mr. Yushchenko. At the emergency Cabinet meeting, Mr. Yanukovich suggested in enigmatic fashion that he is mulling over a "third" option for resolving the current stand-off between the president and himself. "If the president does publish his decree tomorrow [April 3], he still has the chance to rescind it," he said. "I will not say out loud what the third option is. All other [options] would boost tensions significantly in Ukraine, and the president would be fully responsible for that heavy burden."

Some were quick to conclude that the

(Continued on page 18)

U.S. is monitoring situation, calls for maintaining calm

Following is the April 2 press statement by Sean McCormack, spokesman for the U.S. Department of State, regarding the decree of President Viktor Yushchenko disbanding the Ukrainian Parliament.

In light of President Yushchenko's decision today ordering the dissolution of Ukraine's Parliament, the Verkhovna

Rada, the United States calls on all Ukrainian political leaders to take full responsibility for their supporters' actions and to maintain calm. We are monitoring closely developments in Ukraine and urge all parties to respect the rule of law and resolve disputes non-violently, in a manner consistent with Ukraine's democratic values and national interests.

Russia calls on Ukrainians to demonstrate 'wisdom'

RFE/RL Newswire

MOSCOW – The Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement on April 3 that Moscow is concerned about the political crisis in Ukraine and hopes that the political forces there will show "restraint and responsibility" and act within the framework of the law, Interfax reported.

The statement added that Russia hopes that those political forces "will display restraint and demonstrate wisdom and responsibility to their people as they search for a way out of the current political crisis."

Elsewhere, Konstantin Kosachyov, who heads the Duma's Foreign Affairs Committee and is often more outspoken than the Foreign Ministry, said in Moscow on April 3 that Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko was wrong to order the dissolution of Parliament the previous day. Mr. Kosachyov argued that "the president of Ukraine made a mistake. This mistake clearly will not help resolve the problems in domestic political life there."

Mr. Kosachyov said he believes that the Ukrainian parliamentary majority did not act outside the law and that, therefore, there was no justification for the president's "radical interference in the situation." He stressed that his views are

simply his "personal opinion."

The daily Kommersant wrote on April 3 that the Kremlin prefers Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich to the president but is less open about expressing its support than in the past.

The newspaper added that the Kremlin has repeatedly forced a postponement of a planned visit by President Yushchenko to Moscow and thereby undermined his position at home. When and if he does come to the Russian capital, the daily predicts his reception will be "extremely cold indeed."

In another article, the same daily compared the situation in Kyiv now with that in Moscow "in October 1993, when legislators barricaded themselves in the Russian White House to protest President Boris Yeltsin's dissolution of the Russian legislature and refused to budge until the army sent in tanks to shell the parliament building and force the deputies to surrender. The question now is whether the warring factions [in Ukraine] will resort to force: the prime minister controls the police, while the president claims the support of the army."

Kommersant also argued that President Yushchenko's patience has been exhausted.

President Yushchenko's address to the nation

Following is the text of President Viktor Yushchenko's address to the nation on Monday evening, April 2. The abridged text was released by the Press Office of the President of Ukraine.

Dear Fellow Citizens:

I have signed a decree to dissolve the Verkhovna Rada of the fifth convocation today.

I made this decision in accordance with Ukraine's Constitution and my obligations as president of Ukraine. My actions are dictated by the crucial necessity to save the country, its sovereignty and territorial integrity, and ensure adherence to the Constitution and the observance of civil rights and freedoms. I would like to say again that this is not only my right but also my obligation.

The Verkhovna Rada is deliberately escalating the political crisis, which poses a threat to our country and nation. There are three dangerous tendencies in it.

The first one is the unconstitutional process to form and expand the parliamentary coalition. Under the Constitution, the coalition can be formed by deputies, factions and not by individual or group members. Any other way is a revision of the will of the nation and the most cynical challenge for each of us.

The second tendency is the practice to pass illegitimate and unconstitutional

al laws. The most recent example is the law on the Cabinet of Ministers, which systematically violates the Constitution of Ukraine and is an attack on Ukraine's constitutional order.

The third tendency is their inability to fulfill obligations and fraudulent policy of intrigues and betrayals disguised by national unity slogans.

In the past year, the Verkhovna Rada has not demonstrated what the nation expected from it. The parliamentary coalition does not even conceal its major goal to usurp power and preserve its rule.

Society is tired of seeing this power struggle and how its daily needs are ignored.

I have been calling on parliamentary forces to start constructive dialogue for months. My proposals were ignored even today.

Violations of the Constitution of Ukraine, among them unconstitutional coalition formation, created obvious legal and political reasons to dissolve Parliament.

A new election is the best way out. It became inevitable. Regular and early elections are a legitimate democratic instrument belonging to the people of Ukraine to control their government. There will be no shocks and confrontations. The situation in the country is under control and will be stable. The presidential decree to disband Parliament is obligatory. ...

ONE YEAR AFTER THE ELECTIONS: National democratic forces lack influence

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

This is the second article in the three-part series "One Year After the Elections."

KYIV – The People's Rukh of Ukraine (Narodnyi Rukh Ukrainy, NRU) was the second most popular party during the parliamentary elections of 1994 and 1998, representing European national democratic ideals of liberal democracy, free markets and cultural conservatism.

Although these ideals are popular among Ukrainians, national democrats have since lost most of their influence on government.

The Ukrainian People's Party (Ukrainska Narodna Partia, UNP) led by Yurii Kostenko failed to pass the 3-percent barrier in the 2006 parliamentary elections, while just a handful of NRU and Christian-Democratic Union deputies made it into the Verkhovna Rada, only by joining the Our Ukraine bloc.

"The current composition of the Verkhovna Rada is the worst since 1990," said Stepan Khmara, a national deputy in every parliamentary convocation except the current one, as a result of UNP's defeat.

"It is blatantly anti-Ukrainian. There may be pockets of Ukrainian patriots, but no pro-Ukrainian structures. All the dominating factions are oligarchic clans," he stated.

Recognizing their failure to unite among themselves, and to motivate a significant portion of the electorate, the national democrats are in a crisis. Some blame a corrupt, expensive electoral system, while others blame themselves.

The first attempt to confront the crisis occurred on December 20, 2006, when Mr. Kostenko of the UNP and NRU leader Borys Tarasyuk shook hands and signed a declaration renewing the organizational unity of their two parties and calling for a union of all national democratic forces.

The declaration created an NRU-UNP council with 12 members from each party.

The parties also agreed to cooperate in political demonstrations, monthly leadership meetings and representative government bodies.

The declaration called for all national democratic parties to cooperate in defending their politics, support each other's activity, unite for elections and form an active inter-party committee.

"We waited for this event very long – perhaps even too long," Mr. Tarasyuk said, offering a view shared by many Ukrainian political observers, who cite the division among Ukraine's national democrats as one of the key problems in Ukraine.

The declaration reunited two parties that had sprung from the People's Rukh of Ukraine, known in shorthand form as or Rukh (Movement), which was the driving force for Ukrainian independence from the Soviet Union. They were torn apart by a conflict over who would become Vyacheslav Chornovil's torchbearer.

Rukh's legendary leader tapped Hennadii Udovenko, a senior Soviet diplomat who posed no threat to his leadership, as the party's 1999 presidential candidate.

Following Mr. Chornovil's untimely death, one faction elected Mr. Udovenko party chairman in March 1999 and kept the party name thanks to a Ministry of Justice ruling. The opposing faction led by Mr. Kostenko split and launched the UNP.

The rift marked the start of a gradual

decline in Ukraine's national democratic movement.

Mr. Kostenko's party earned only 2 percent support in the 1999 presidential elections, while Mr. Udovenko's earned 1 percent.

"Chornovil ran Rukh into the ground by closing in, safeguarding his own position, and relying on close, servile confidants," said Ivan Lozowy, president of the Kyiv-based Institute of Statehood and Democracy, financed by Ukrainian business donations. Since then, national democratic parties have deteriorated into isolated political cliques, he said.

Mr. Chornovil's tragic flaw – protecting his leadership post at the party's expense – is common among most current national democratic leaders.

"They're small, tiny old-boy networks that aren't interested, or not showing any desire, in reaching out and building more powerful organizations, because that would challenge them," Mr. Lozowy commented.

A UNP member for five years since its inception, Mr. Lozowy said leaders are themselves to blame for their inability to tap into and organize a national democratic electorate that is as high as 60 percent of the voting population.

He said he's seen Rukh and UNP leaders let valuable fund-raising possibilities slip through their fingers as a result of mismanagement.

"In the mid-1990s a group of very serious businessmen approached Chornovil to finance a shadow government," Mr. Lozowy said. "All Chornovil had to do was put together a shadow government and let it work. He never followed up, and the opportunity faded."

Meanwhile, no one is interested in investing effort toward building local party organizations in towns and villages nationwide, he said, which would create a system for attracting and developing members.

"Parties should raise and rear local leaders who rise to the national level," Mr. Lozowy said. "Instead, it's half chaos, and half run at the behest of the leader, who runs the party like it's his own backyard."

UNP leaders insist Ukraine's elections system makes it difficult for a genuine, national democratic party to survive. The closed party list system implemented for the 2006 elections prevented national democrats from becoming elected in single-mandate constituent districts.

"If there were open lists, intellect, programs and ideas would compete – and not money," Mr. Kostenko said during a March 26 press conference. "The system was specially created, not for the competition of programs or ideas, but money, with the aim of fooling people through television and mass actions on which millions were spent uncontrolled."

Besides advocating a proportional, open-list electoral system based on single-mandate constituent districts, Mr. Kostenko also supports campaign finance restrictions. He pointed out that there isn't a civilized country in the world like Ukraine where campaign financing is limitless and entirely opaque, without any disclosure rules.

With its many millionaire supporters, Our Ukraine is more financially capable of competing on the national level than UNP.

"In the United States, election funds are strictly controlled," Mr. Kostenko said. "Here, we've allowed three megablocs to buy voters throughout the country. With the help of mass advertising, with the help of these or other giveaways to voters, parties are buying off voters."

However, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc's immensely successful campaign



Zenon Zawada

People's Rukh of Ukraine Chair Borys Tarasyuk (left) and Ukrainian People's Party Chair Yurii Kostenko sign a declaration on December 20, 2006, renewing the organizational unity of their parties.

last year proves that the UNP can't entirely blame lack of financing for its failure, Mr. Lozowy said.

"Money is not the deciding factor," he said. "Yulia Tymoshenko is extremely stingy and didn't buy any television commercials. But she has incredible charisma. On the other hand, Kostenko is dry and uninteresting."

Another reason for the Tymoshenko Bloc's success, and that of the Party of the Regions, is their top-down organizational structures that bear military traits.

Decisions are made at the very top, with top- and middle-ranked operatives responsible for their execution, political observers said.

"These parties are not built as political parties, but as mafia clans," said Mr. Khmara, a UNP member who said he abandoned the Tymoshenko Bloc in early 2005 because it began recruiting oligarchs.

"Both the Tymoshenko Bloc and the Party of the Regions act along a methodology of pure mafia structures, in which there isn't any internal party democracy and the leadership does whatever it wants," he added.

Our Ukraine...

(Continued from page 1)

mentary faction chair.

Analysts said Mr. Kyrylenko's selection marks the demise of the so-called "dear friends" ("liubi druzi") – a tight circle of wealthy businessmen who exerted tremendous influence in the party, namely Petro Poroshenko, Mykola Martynenko and Oleksander Tretiakov.

When exposing the corruption in Mr. Yushchenko's midst, which led the president to dismiss his entire government, former Presidential Secretariat Chair Oleksander Zinchenko blamed the triumvirate. The accusations were eventually cleared in court.

Of the three, only Mr. Tretiakov was elected to the party's 203-member Political Council. A Kyiv city regional branch of the party circulated a newspaper calling for Mr. Martynenko's ouster from the party's ranks.

The congress rejected Mr. Poroshenko's proposals to amend the party's statute. He also argued the party should not demand that the president dissolve Parliament because it would be perceived as exerting pressure.

While not likely to achieve the type of discipline evident in the Party of the Regions and the Tymoshenko Bloc, Mr. Tarasyuk and Mr. Kostenko led the national democratic forces to another level of progress.

Leaders of five national democratic parties signed a memorandum on March 24 uniting their forces into a national democratic bloc to compete in national and local elections and participate in political demonstrations.

Joining NRU and UNP were the Sobor Ukrainian Republican Party led by Anatolii Matviyenko, the Republican Christian Party led by Mykola Porovskiy and the Village Revival Party led by Ivan Tomych. A permanent coordinating council is to consist of the party's five leaders.

Consolidation of national democratic forces is critical to their future success, political observers said. But unity won't solve all their problems.

"National democrats have been divided ever since independence, but I don't think that's the major problem," Mr. Lozowy said. "Together or divided, if everyone is doing the wrong thing, it doesn't matter."

In fact, the delegates did exactly the opposite, passing a resolution appealing to Mr. Yushchenko to do so.

Mr. Kyrylenko's election may also signify Our Ukraine is becoming more of a right-of-center political force, observers said.

Mr. Kyrylenko was a student of late Rukh leader Vyacheslav Chornovil and has always been a committed national democrat, said Ilko Kucheriv, director of the Democratic Initiatives Foundation think-tank in Kyiv.

"He is a professional politician in the Western sense," he said. "He does not have a business background. Kyrylenko did not abandon politics when times were bad."

A "cleaner image" for the party may result in higher numbers at the polls, Mr. Kucheriv said. "With Kyrylenko, OUPU has a chance of becoming a real political party and not a rich boys' club," he said.

OUPU is the largest among five parties in the Our Ukraine bloc. Five years ago, it won nearly 24 percent of the vote in parliamentary elections. Last year, the bloc earned 14 percent, with current support hovering at between only 4 and 8 percent, according to polls.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

2006 organizing results of the Ukrainian National Association

by **Christine E. Kozak**
UNA National Secretary

It is that time of year when we put our hands together and applaud all those individuals who have risen to the top as UNA's leading organizers. The Ukrainian National Association Inc. has several tiers of producers – those who sell our life insurance and annuity products. The gamut runs from the branch secretary/organizer who has been with the UNA for many, many years, to the younger-generation secretary and to the professionally licensed agents who sell life insurance and annuities for a living.

Today, however, we honor those individuals who are loyal, dedicated and enjoy working within the Ukrainian community. These are our UNA branch secretaries and organizers who sell UNA products to help their friends, their neighbors; to assure them that, should the unthinkable happen, their family will have the ability to live life without having to sacrifice more than they have already lost.

UNA products are solid, straightforward and affordable, sold in amounts the large commercial life insurance companies do not want to bother with. The UNA has the products that are written about in today's professional journals as the type of products Americans are returning to: strong, basic, with no complications.

The UNA's most popular product continues to be the 20-Payment Life. This product is a whole life insurance policy, paid up in 20 annual payments. It is especially advantageous for young adults, as the premiums are low and they remain the same throughout the life of the policy. Usually when one is younger, one is also healthy, making this the best time of life to begin purchasing life insurance.

And it is these products our UNA branch secretaries and organizers are selling. For the year 2006, the UNA saw an 8 percent increase in its life insurance book of new business with a face amount value of \$3,474,000 and \$124,828 collected with applications. For annuities, the UNA collected \$575,803 with applications.

Kudos to the following branch secretaries and organizers for their hard work.

Best overall combined single premium + annual premium

- Christine Brodyn, secretary, Branch 27, professionally licensed;
- Myron Pylypiak, advisor, UNA General Assembly; secretary, Branch 496

Most annual premium collected

- Lubov Streletsky, secretary, Branch 10



Christine Brodyn

2006 "Club of UNA Builders"

Enrolling 10-24 new members:

- Stefan Hawrysz, honorary member, UNA General Assembly; secretary, Branch 83
- Stephanie Hawryluk, secretary, Branch 88
- Eli Matiash, secretary, Branch 120

2006 "Club of Dedicated UNA'ers"

Enrolling 5-9 new members:

- Stephan Welhasch, chairman, New Jersey District Chairman, Home Office employee, professionally licensed
- Alex Redko, secretary, Branch 130
- Myron Pylypiak, advisor, UNA General Assembly; secretary, Branch 496

In January through April 2006, the UNA held a pre-convention sales blitz. Following are the top three winners:

- Joseph Chabon, chairman, Shamokin, District; secretary, Branch 242
- Joyce Kotch, secretary, Branch 39
- Stefan Hawrysz, honorary member, UNA General Assembly; former chairman, Philadelphia District; secretary, Branch 83

During the last quarter of 2006, the UNA held its third annual Life Insurance Awareness Drive for branch secretaries. I am very proud to announce the 2006 winners:

- Lubov Streletsky, secretary, Branch 10
- Stephanie Hawryluk, secretary, Branch 88
- Maya Lew, advisor, UNA General Assembly; secretary, Branch 5

Congratulations, ladies, on a job well done!

UNA annuities are a very important



Myron Pylypiak

part of our entire product portfolio. UNA annuities offer excellent interest rates with no additional fees or charges. If you make a deposit of \$1,000 into a UNA annuity, the interest begins accruing on the full \$1,000, nothing less. And our UNA members receive special annuity benefits of which they can take advantage.

The UNA would like to acknowledge and congratulate our top two annuity organizers:

- Steve Woch, UNA Home Office employee, professionally licensed
- Eugene Serba, advisor, UNA General Assembly

Congratulations, Gentlemen!

And lastly, a special thank you and congratulations go to our top salesperson who collected the most premiums for the year 2006, for life insurance and annuities combined:

- Steve Woch, UNA Home Office employee, professionally licensed

The UNA hereby congratulates all branch secretaries and organizers for their dedication to our organization and



Lubov Streletsky

wishes them all the best in 2007.

We also welcome our new members and thank them for purchasing a life insurance policy, an endowment or an annuity from the UNA, for premiums from these products are what supports the UNA. In return, the UNA supports the Ukrainian community by providing it with our publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, and our beloved cultural center, Soyuzivka, located in the Catskill region of New York state.

We invite all Ukrainian Americans and Ukrainian Canadians to join this 113-year-old organization by purchasing one of our life insurance or annuity products. Help the UNA to help you and your family be prepared – you never know what life can bring. For product information, call your branch secretary or the UNA Home Office. You can also visit the UNA website for product information at www.ukrainiannationalassociation.org.

We need your commitment, for "The UNA and the community are partners for life!"

DISTRICT COMMITTEE of UNA BRANCHES OF CONNECTICUT

announces that its

ANNUAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2007, at 2:00 p.m.

**HOLY PROTECTION of the B.V. MARY Ukrainian Catholic Church
255 Barnum Ave., Bridgeport, CT**

Obligated to attend the annual meeting as voting members are District Committee Officers, Convention Delegates and two delegates from the following Branches:

12, 59, 67, 253, 254, 277, 387, 414

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:
Stefan Kaczaraj, UNA President
Gloria Horbaty, UNA Advisor

DISTRICT COMMITTEE
Ihor Hayda, District Chairman
Bohdan Doboszczak, Secretary
Taras Slevinsky, Treasurer

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 83

As of April 2, 2007, the secretary's duties of Branch 83, were assumed by Mr. Michael Luciw.

We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance to the address listed below:

Mr. Michael Luciw
1009 Melrose Ave.
Melrose Park, PA 19186
215-635-5109

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Volatile Ukraine

Three days after President Viktor Yushchenko issued a decree dismissing the Verkhovna Rada, the situation in Ukraine remained uncertain, even volatile. Demonstrators supporting what until recently was called the Anti-Crisis Coalition were converging on Kyiv and setting up tent camps, and the Verkhovna Rada and the Cabinet of Ministers continued to defy the president. Meanwhile, opposition forces, in hopes of preventing civil strife, called on their supporters to shy away from participating in street actions and began to speak of preparations for pre-term parliamentary elections on May 27.

That was the state of affairs as this issue of The Ukrainian Weekly was completed. The situation in Kyiv was fluid, with new developments, it seemed, every hour.

There was one constant: the president continued to insist he had dismissed the Parliament in order to guarantee the rights of citizens and the choices they had made in the 2006 parliamentary elections.

Citing the parliamentary majority's efforts to recruit individual national deputies from opposition factions and thus increase its size so that it could overturn presidential vetoes and alter the Constitution, Mr. Yushchenko said: "This is a direct violation of human rights, of the key, fundamental law – the right to choose." After all, he argued, the people of Ukraine had voted for party lists based on their programs and now members of those parties were being lured – or bought – by the ruling coalition. These deputies no longer represent the parties on whose lists they were elected and, therefore, go against the will of those who voted them into office. The coalition thereby created is illegal and that, Mr. Yushchenko said, gave him the right and the obligation to act as the guarantor of the Constitution of Ukraine.

The president's decision to dissolve the Rada was a gutsy gamble, albeit late in coming – it was the president who'd allowed things to deteriorate to a point that left him no options. In fact, the coalition government's aggressive usurpation of power forced Mr. Yushchenko to finally take a strong stand. This "outrageous political corruption," this "real threat to freedoms, democratic values and human rights" ends now, he said. There would be no more roundtables.

The president decided the only way out of Ukraine's crisis was to once again empower the people – via pre-term elections. Let the people's votes determine Ukraine's course, not the corrupt ruling coalition that never signed an agreement it intended to keep, that repeatedly demonstrated it was interested only in influence for the benefit of its members, that put Ukraine in reverse on the road to democracy.

Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich reacted to Mr. Yushchenko's move by calling it a "fatal error." In the ensuing days he attempted to persuade the president to rescind the decree, threatening that "if he doesn't cancel the decree, then presidential elections also are inevitable."

Thus far, President Yushchenko has stood his ground, repeatedly responding that he has no intention of rescinding the Rada's dismissal, and he called on "all branches of authority to mobilize to ensure a democratic resolution to this political crisis."

Much too eagerly, neighborly Russia offered – not once, but twice so far – its "assistance," without specifying what form that assistance might take. And, Russian spinmeisters were already accusing the United States of being involved in fomenting the crisis in Ukraine. (One wonders if Russia's spin doctors communicate with the pro-Russian Mr. Yanukovich's U.S. handlers...)

Then there was Ukraine's Constitutional Court – which has not yet issued a single ruling in the nine months of its existence, although many pressing appeals have been filed. The court said it would decide within 15 days whether to hear a case concerning the presidential decree to dismiss Parliament. And so, Ukraine will have to wait.

As the holy days of Easter approach, Ukrainians beyond the borders of Ukraine pray for renewal in their ancestral homeland. May the people of Ukraine have their say and may they finally succeed in electing true leaders of the nation who are responsive to their needs.

April
16
2006

Turning the pages back...

Last year The Ukrainian Weekly reported on President Viktor Yushchenko's optimism about the formation of Ukraine's government after the parliamentary elections in March 2006. His optimism was unusual – and perhaps misplaced – because his rival Viktor Yanukovich and the Party of the Regions led the formation of a government coalition.

The president said it was too early to predict who would join the coalition, but talks were ongoing between his Our Ukraine bloc, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialist Party of Ukraine, in an attempt to re-unite the Orange coalition.

However, Mr. Yushchenko did not want the formation of any coalition until a detailed agreement was written and signed by its partners to clarify the coalition's position on every political and economic matter. This was a safeguard to ensure the stability of the coalition and in the event of failure it would be easier to pinpoint the reasons for the coalition's collapse.

According to President Yushchenko, the main points for the agreement included positions on the World Trade Organization, the European Union, the Single Economic Space, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, privatization and re-privatization, and dozens of other questions. Once an agreement was drafted, Mr. Yushchenko said he would be ready to name a prime minister.

Divisions were already apparent in the stipulation by Yulia Tymoshenko that she would not unite with Our Ukraine unless she was named Ukraine's next prime minister.

Source: "Yushchenko optimistic about Ukraine's next government," by Zenon Zawada, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, April 16, 2006.

IN THE PRESS

The crisis in Ukraine

"Ukraine's crisis needs a firm response," by Viktor Yushchenko, Financial Times, April 4:

"... Ukraine's young democracy today faces a new and dangerous challenge, one that requires a firm and immediate response. It comes from a ruling coalition that has exceeded its mandate and attempted to monopolize political power, even at the cost of violating the Constitution and ignoring the democratically expressed wishes of the Ukrainian people.

"Since the new government was formed last summer, I have repeatedly tried to persuade Viktor Yanukovich, the prime minister, to govern in a spirit of national unity and reconciliation. Instead, the ruling coalition has waged a relentless campaign to overturn both the constitutional balance of power and the results of the last parliamentary elections. This situation cannot persist. I have been left with no choice but to dissolve Parliament and call a fresh round of parliamentary elections for May 27. ...

"In a democracy, the people must always be the final arbiters of power. Only by trusting in the wisdom of the Ukrainian people can we break this political deadlock and create the consensus necessary for our country to move forward again. ...

"It is with great regret that I have to say that the spirit of reconciliation and compromise required to make ... [the Universal of National Unity] a success has not been reciprocated by the ruling coalition. They have consistently acted in bad faith. Instead of respecting the agreement to share power, they have sought to undermine it by grabbing more power for themselves at every opportunity and with every means available. Instead of respecting the wishes of the Ukrainian people expressed freely at the ballot box, they have used subterfuge to alter the parliamentary balance in an entirely undemocratic manner.

"These are not the actions of responsible democrats. They reflect attitudes and behavior that the Ukrainian people had every reason to believe had been consigned to our past. Instead, it seems that we must fight and defeat them once again. ..."

"Ukraine clash brings distant echo of Orange Revolution," by Roman Olearchyk, Financial Times, April 4:

"For a moment it almost seemed like 2004 again. Against a backdrop of an escalating constitutional crisis, tens of thousands of demonstrators took to the streets of Kiev [sic] yesterday to protest against President Viktor Yushchenko's decision to dissolve Parliament and call snap elections.

"But any comparisons with the Orange Revolution – when massive public protests propelled Mr. Yushchenko into office – quickly proved misleading. Despite the drama surrounding the power struggle between the president and Viktor Yanukovich, his prime minister, yesterday largely passed without incident as most Ukrainians went about their everyday business.

"Such apparent indifference is one of the symptoms of the months of political stalemate that followed the inconclusive result of the March 2006 general election. That vote produced a Parliament split between forces loyal to Mr. Yanukovich, whose power base is in the industrial, Russian-speaking east of the country, and those broadly pledged to the more pro-Western course favored by the president.

"The current power struggle is the biggest political clash since the Orange Revolution ..."

"The heart of the problem we are see-

ing now is the blurred political reforms which were adopted in the heat of the Orange Revolution,' said Bohdan Futey, a U.S. judge who has advised Ukraine on constitutional issues and judicial reforms.

"While these reforms, aimed at preventing a return to authoritarian rule, brought a peaceful resolution to the Orange Revolution, they had left the country's top tiers of government in a state of 'legal chaos,' Mr. Futey added. ..."

"Ukraine's Yushchenko turns Cromwellian," by Adrian Blomfield, The Daily Telegraph, April 4:

"Frequently derided as a vacillator, Viktor Yushchenko has suddenly turned Cromwellian.

"Fed up with its constant infighting, the Lord Protector dissolved the Rump Parliament in 1653 with the famous words: 'You have sat here too long for any good you have been doing. Depart I say and let us have done with you. In the name of God go.'

"Like Cromwell, Mr. Yushchenko may be doing the wrong thing for the right reasons. Many Ukrainians, at least in the pro-European west of the country, are fed up with what they call their 'gangster Parliament.' The ruling coalition in the legislature, led by Viktor Yanukovich, the pro-Russian prime minister, stands accused of blocking market reforms and promoting the business interests of dubious oligarchs.

"The rapid rate at which MPs loyal to the president have been defecting to the Yanukovich ranks is even more alarming. ... The president suspects financial inducements are being offered. But even if the constitutional court upholds his decision to call fresh parliamentary elections next month, Ukraine's political problems are unlikely to disappear. ..."

"East and West: Ukraine's squabbling politicians should put their country first," The Times (London), April 4:

"Ukraine has the potential to be a thriving, prosperous nation. It has huge tracts of fertile 'black earth' that have traditionally produced large grain surpluses. It inherited a well-educated workforce and a high technology base. It has coal reserves and heavy industries that have proved innovative, in some cases, in adapting to a post-Soviet world. Yet Ukraine has consistently failed to live up to its cherished independence. ...

"Once again, the country has reached a political impasse. President Yushchenko's decision to dissolve Parliament and call for new elections next month has met furious opposition from Viktor Yanukovich, the prime minister, who called it a 'fatal error' and has threatened to challenge it in the Supreme [sic] Court. His government refuses to resign, and parliamentarians will not quit. After eight months of a dysfunctional administration, with the two rivals sniping at each other, Ukraine again stands on the brink of a constitutional crisis. Protesters have been massing in public squares. Two and a half years after the Orange Revolution, there is a grim sense of failure. ...

"The uneasy coalition with Mr. Yanukovich has clearly collapsed. The stream of defections to the prime minister's party has raised Mr. Yushchenko's fears that his rival was trying to build up enough support to override vetoes and sideline him. East and West see the dangers: Moscow and Brussels have called for calm and compromise. It is a call the squabbling politicians should heed for the sake of their long-suffering country."

FOR THE RECORD

Ukrainian scholars of diaspora voice protest on language issue

Following is the text of an open letter from Ukrainian scholars in the United States, Canada and Europe protesting against attempts to declare Russian the second state language in Ukraine. The letter is dated March 31.

We, Ukrainian scholars in America, Canada and Europe, members of the World Scholarly Council of the Ukrainian World Congress and of the Ukrainian-American Association of University Professors, express our indignation and protest against the renewed attempts by certain political forces in Ukraine to declare Russian as the second state language.

Nothing threatens the Russian language in Ukraine; it is the native language that is in real jeopardy, as evidenced by recent appeals to students to bar Ukrainian-speaking teachers from school auditoriums. Such anti-Ukrainian elements, by pushing for the official introduction of Russian as a second state language, intend to bring Ukrainian to the level of "non-obligatory" and "impractical" to learn and use. They know perfectly well that without language there is no nation and that making Russian the second state language would threaten the existence of Ukraine as an independent country.

This was stressed by President Yushchenko in his February 21 address during the celebration of the International Day of the Native Language. The president said, "We must always remember that the Ukrainian language is the language of our freedom and our statehood."

Many examples in history demonstrate that the disappearance of the native tongue may lead to the disappearance of that nation from the map of the world. That is why for centuries Kremlin authorities have imposed Russification on the Ukrainian people in an attempt to destroy their self-respect and national identity. The Ukrainian language has been ridiculed and declared a mere "Little Russian dialect" having no future, while its defenders were persecuted. And yet, in spite of all those efforts, Ukrainian self-awareness could not be destroyed.

Today, in an independent Ukraine the native language – as the natural basis of the national culture – has ample opportunities for preservation and development. Emphasizing the importance of language as a crucial element in state-building, President Yushchenko said, "We are faced with a vitally important task of implementing a wise, tolerant and consistent linguistic policy so as to transform the native word into an effective unifying force in Ukrainian society."

Unfortunately, today, when progressive nations are apologizing and seeking forgiveness from people whom they exploited, culturally suppressed and enslaved during times of imperialism and colonialism, there still exist elements in an independent Ukraine that refuse to show any sign of respect for the

Ukrainian people and the country in which they reside.

This is why we sound the alarm and appeal to the deputies of the Verkhovna Rada and members of the government, to local administrators, business representatives, to students and teachers, and to all those who value Ukrainian cultural identity, to reject the declaration of Russian as a second state language. We urge you to use all means to assure the stability and growth of the Ukrainian language on all levels of national life. If Ukraine is to be respected by the world community as an independent and sovereign nation, it must respect its own cultural and linguistic heritage.

Prof. Lubomyr Wynar (U.S.A.), president, World Scholarly Council WSC, Ukrainian World Congress (UWC); president, Ukrainian-American Association of University Professors (UAAUP); president, Ukrainian Historical Association (UHA); head, History Section, the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences, U.S.A. (UAAS); full member, Shevchenko Scientific Society, U.S. (NTSh);

Prof. Assya Humesky (U.S.A.), vice-president WSC; vice-president, UAAS; vice-president, UAAUP; head, Philological Section, NTSh; head, Language and Literary Section, UAAS.

Prof. Arkadii Zhukovskiyi (France), vice-president, WSC; president, NTSh Europe; member, board of directors, UHA; full member, UAAS; academician, National Academy of Arts and Sciences, Ukraine.

Prof. Stefan Kozak (Poland), vice-president, WSC; president, NTSh Poland; full member, UAAS; chairman, department of Ukrainistics, Warsaw University; president, Association of Ukrainists, Poland.

Prof. Rev. Oleh Kravchenko (Canada), member, board of directors, WSN; ex-President of UAAS Canada.

Prof. Myroslav Melnyk (U.S.A.), director, Scientific Fund, UAAUP; secretary, UAAUP; full member, NTSh, UAAS.

Prof. Mykola Musinka (Slovakia), member, board of directors WSN; president, NTSh, Slovakia; president, Association of Ukrainists, Slovakia.

Prof. Osyp Martyniuk (U.S.A.), secretary, WSC; corresponding member, UAAS; full member, UHA and UAAUP.

Dr. Vasyl Veryha (Canada), member, board of directors, WSC; ex-president, UWC; full member, NTSh Canada, UAAS Canada, UHA, UAAUP.

Prof. Vsevolod Isajiw (Canada), full member, board of directors WSC; vice-president, UAAUP; full member, NTSh Canada and UAAS Canada; president, Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center, Toronto.

Prof. Dmytro Shtohryn (U.S.A.), member, board of directors WSC; full member, NTSh and UAAS; director, Ukrainian Research Program, University of Illinois.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Ukrainian physicians in the U.S. and a challenge to UMANA

by George Hrycelak

Oleh Wolowyna, Ph.D., presents an informative and revealing statistical analysis of physicians and surgeons giving Ukrainian as their first or second ancestry during the 2000 U.S. census. "Ukrainian Physicians in the United States: a statistical overview," (The Ukrainian Weekly, January 21). These data are of particular interest to the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA), the largest organization of Ukrainian American professionals in the Western hemisphere.

UMANA, established in 1950, has been in continuous operation for 57 years, encompassing a diverse membership with a steady influx of new members. 2006 UMANA data reveal 487 active dues-paying members, with 859 known physicians and affiliated health care professionals in our database. Over 70 new members applied for membership in 2003-2005, and nearly 50 have applied through the present date.

The 2000 U.S. census data analyzed by Dr. Wolowyna suggest that there are approximately 5,947 physicians, the majority U.S.-born, stating their ancestry is Ukrainian. This fact by itself is encouraging and optimistic. Dr. Wolowyna fittingly notes that this number must be viewed through a critical lens: stating one's ancestry does not, for many reasons, necessarily reflect one's self-awareness and active participation in things Ukrainian.

Reviewing the data presented by Dr. Wolowyna, it is reassuring to note that many of his statistics corroborate UMANA's numbers and trends. For example, with the exception of Los Angeles-Riverside, Calif., and Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, the top seven major metropolitan areas with physicians of Ukrainian ancestry correspond directly to the top seven UMANA branches in the United States. Over the last two decades, the northern and southern California branches have shown definite growth, and the number of members in Texas is also rising.

UMANA has also noticed a definite demographic trend of rising membership in the Southern states. This is again verified by the U.S. Census data, with California, Texas, Arizona and Florida emerging as major centers of physicians of Ukrainian ancestry. Such a trend may be fueled by expanding professional opportunities, or perhaps represents a general interest of baby boomers to move to warmer climes.

UMANA has also experienced an expected shift in nativity and period of immigration depicted in the analysis. As the generation that founded UMANA in 1950 undergoes natural attrition, the percentage of U.S.-born physicians rises, hopefully representing not only a healthy rate of replacement, but an actual growth in members.

The U.S. Census data at the city level also confirm UMANA statistics. Taking the Chicago area as an example, the U.S. Census reveals 310 physicians of Ukrainian ancestry, 107 of those being U.S.-born. The UMANA Illinois Branch database contains 220 names, 125 of whom are active dues-paying members. UMANA Illinois Branch numbers

revealed a similar ratio of U.S.-to foreign-born among the active membership in 2000, but with a distinct trend now favoring U.S.-born members.

The census data further reflect the presence of recent immigrants in percentages that agree with UMANA's membership statistics. Over the past five years, approximately 25 percent of new applicants have been individuals with medical degrees from Ukraine – most of whom are in the process of presenting their credentials for recognition by U.S. accrediting bodies.

The challenge to UMANA posed by Dr. Wolowyna is this: With the potential number of physicians claiming Ukrainian ancestry in the thousands, how can UMANA reach out to this group?

The largest group consisting of English-speaking, U.S.-born physicians is difficult to identify and contact. Identification initially seems achievable, since Ukrainian names are rather unique. However, this method is imperfect due to name variations in mixed marriages, use of professional names, and name changes and disparate spelling that were popular in earlier generations.

Contacting this group may be more problematic. They don't all read the English-language Ukrainian press, such as The Ukrainian Weekly, and there are no nationwide communications venues (radio, TV) that encompass such a group. There is some activity on the Internet, with a web presence by many Ukrainian American professional groups, including UMANA. This may, in fact, represent a future method of communication and recruitment. But the main problem remains how to discover and introduce UMANA to individual physicians of Ukrainian origin in a diverse geographic area.

UMANA recruits members best by personal referrals. Current members identify their colleagues in work situations, referring them to local branch group activities, lectures or social events. In addition, UMANA places paid ads in The Ukrainian Weekly, which continue to bring in new applicants on a regular basis. Also, online applications at www.umana.org have eased the new member sign-up process. UMANA's executive director has successfully recruited applicants by scanning the medical and lay ethnic press for Ukrainian names and following up with invitations to join. Finally, UMANA has made a concerted effort to be visible with an informative bilingual website, a public presence through press releases, the popular newsletter UMANANews, the in-house UMANA Banana, and the venerable Journal of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America.

Based on the U.S. census data, recruitment efforts may need enhancement. There are undoubtedly hundreds, if not thousands of physicians who never hear of UMANA, but yet might find the mission of the association appealing and fulfilling. Certainly, the statistics presented by Dr. Wolowyna are encouraging, indicating a potential for growth and development for many years into the future. The trick will be to find a way to reach out and touch these physicians. Their Ukrainian ancestry need not remain a historical footnote.

UMANA presents an opportunity for health professionals to satisfy the need to rediscover their roots, become part of a warm and welcoming group, and use their medical talents and skills to help someone in need. UMANA's future will depend on how well we embrace the possibilities revealed in the U.S. Census data.

George Hrycelak, M.D., is executive director of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America. UMANA may be contacted at 888-RX-UMANA; information about the organization may be found on its website, www.umana.org.

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Ukraine in crisis...

(Continued from page 1)

that by attempting to further enlarge itself, the parliamentary coalition in fact failed to form itself according to Article 83, that is, within the required 30 days.

But while that article specifically refers to factions as the basis for forming coalitions, it doesn't address whether deputies could switch factions, said Mr. Lozowy, a graduate of New York University Law School.

"They're basically saying the voters pick parties, their factions form a governing coalition and, if massive defections take place, this subverts election results," he said. "But there's nothing in the Constitution addressing that."

The Ukrainian Constitution's failure to provide clarity on the authority, rules and limits of governmental organs, and how they relate to one another, is a main contributor to such crises, Mr. Lozowy said. "It's a poorly drafted Constitution – a hodgepodge fragmentation thrown together by different people with different interests and of the Soviet tradition," he said.

"This is a direct result of the Soviet tradition that laws didn't matter, because the Communist Party did whatever it wanted. As a result, the Constitution has too many general phrases that don't mean anything," he commented.

Political leaders react

After the president addressed the public on national television at 9:10 p.m., parliamentary opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko, Our Ukraine chair Viacheslav Kyrylenko and National Self-Defense leader Yurii Lutsenko appeared on Independence Square (the "maidan") to express gratitude.

They announced the start of the elec-

tion season for the May 27 elections and stated that any subsequent sessions held by the Parliament were invalid.

Afterwards, Messrs. Kyrylenko and Lutsenko joined other political leaders in scurrying to the studios of the ICTV network to engage in debate on a special episode of Ukraine's most popular political talk show, "Svoboda Slova" ("Freedom of Speech"), hosted by Savik Shuster.

While Mr. Shuster moderated the passionate debates, Mr. Moroz led the extraordinary parliamentary session and Mr. Yanukovich convened a special session of the Cabinet of Ministers, both working into the early morning hours of April 3.

Mr. Yanukovich instructed his Cabinet to take measures ensuring the nation's stability and to defend the rights of Ukrainians.

At the session, Minister of Defense Anatolii Hrytsenko said the president's decree to dismiss Parliament must be obeyed upon its official publication. He assured the Cabinet that the nation's military forces were stable and were not being mobilized, despite rumors to the contrary.

At the meeting's conclusion, only Mr. Hrytsenko and Minister of Foreign Affairs Arsenii Yatseniuk voted against a Cabinet resolution supporting the Parliament's position that the presidential decree is illegal.

In addition to requiring ministers to obey orders and lead their ministries in resolving socio-political matters, the Cabinet resolution also forbade financing of the pre-term elections.

Mr. Hrytsenko is the only remaining minister in the Cabinet who is loyal to Mr. Yushchenko, having been appointed during the Tymoshenko government.

The Ministry of Defense and the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), led

by Acting Chair Valentyn Nalyvaichenko, is under the president's influence, while the Ministry of Internal Affairs that runs the nation's police is led by Socialist Vasyl Tsushko.

The next day, Mr. Yushchenko and Mr. Yanukovich spent another four and a half hours at the negotiating table, with the prime minister offering to compromise if the president nullified his decree.

The president declined the request.

Responding to the Parliament's attempt to block financing of elections, Ms. Tymoshenko said the CEC has a reserve fund of more than \$100 million, which is more than enough to hold elections.

"Conducting pre-term elections will cost Ukraine about \$60 million," Ms. Tymoshenko said. "Leaving a mafia in government will cost Ukraine tens of billions of dollars."

The descent towards lawlessness accelerated on April 5, when Mr. Moroz forced his way into a meeting of the president's National Security and Defense Council, from which he was dismissed three days earlier.

The council is the single government organ falling under the exclusive purview of the president; its role is to coordinate the activities of all the government's key bodies.

That same morning, violence erupted at Kyiv's Pechersk District Court when former Chair Volodymyr Kolesnychenko stormed the court's lobby with a group of men that included Mr. Kivalov, demanding the court's official stamps.

When a secretary denied their demand, Mr. Kolesnychenko assaulted her and snatched one of two official stamps, said Inna Otrosh, the court's acting chair.

The men entered an office and Mr. Kolesnychenko began authorizing documents with the stamp, she said.

The Pora Citizens Campaign called for

Mr. Kivalov's arrest for participating in the siege of the Pechersk District Court, stating that he is no longer a national deputy protected by immunity.

Ukrainian nationalist organizations and parties, including the All-Ukrainian Union Svoboda, asked the president to declare a state of emergency.

Maidan II

Parliament's dismissal re-ignited the very same conflicts that drove the Orange Revolution, creating a sense of déjà vu on the streets of Ukraine's capital.

This time around, it's the coalition supporters who took control of Kyiv's strategic public areas, including Mariyivskyi Park adjacent to Parliament, and Independence Square at the heart of Kyiv.

Coalition leaders demonstrated they had learned valuable lessons from the Orange forces in mobilizing citizens and holding demonstrations, imitating tactics that enabled Mr. Yushchenko and his supporters to emerge victorious during the Orange Revolution.

Thousands of coalition supporters had already begun pouring into Kyiv from throughout the country as early as March 30, when the coalition government held a rally on European Square under the banner "The Country's Unity – Ukraine's Future."

By then, coalition supporters had taken control of Mariyivskyi Park, setting up a tent city of about 500 residents, which has swelled to 2,000 following the dismissal decree.

Once the presidential decree was issued, coalition leaders mobilized tens of thousands more to arrive and stage demonstrations in Kyiv. Estimates ranged between 30,000 and 100,000 for the number of coalition supporters in the

(Continued on page 9)



Photo by Pavlo Mulyk

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Sponsored by the Embassy of Ukraine and the UNA, this itinerary consists of Ukrainian crafts, entertainment and demonstrations.
Overnight Room Rates- starting at \$65+tax & gratuities

23rd Annual Father's Day Program & Luncheon JUNE 17, 2007

This year's program will feature 'SYZOKRYLI DANCE ENSEMBLE' from New York City, Tenor ROMAN TSYMBALA, a graduate of the State Theater in Lviv & band 'VIDLUNNIA' featuring violinist Marian Pidvirnyj.
Luncheon- \$20+tax & gratuities/per person at 1 pm, followed by program.

Ukraine in crisis...

(Continued from page 8)

nation's capital at any given moment this week.

By the morning of April 4, coalition supporters also took control of Independence Square, setting up a concert stage in the exact place where it stood during the Orange Revolution. More than 50 tents were also pitched as an encampment to prevent Orange supporters from holding meetings or demonstrations on the Maidan.

"They want to occupy the battlefield for demonstrations and protests," Mr. Lozowy said. "Their main motivation is to envelop everything."

Throughout the day, loud speeches of pro-coalition demonstrators echoed in Kyiv's city center as traffic was disrupted on what was a normal business day for local residents.

Coalition leaders imitated more than just their Orange opponents' protest tactics.

In his Maidan address, Minister of Transportation Mykola Rudkovskyi, a Socialist, began chanting a familiar slogan from two years ago: "We are many! We will not be defeated!" ("Nas bahato! Nas ne podolaty!")

Orange supporters did not mobilize after the president's decree – a conscious decision by leaders to avoid unnecessary conflicts.

They held a "Betrayal – Get Out!" ("Zradu – Het!" – a play on the words "Rada" and "zrada") rally on Independence Square the evening of March 31 that drew about 100,000 supporters, many arriving from central Ukrainian oblasts by buses.

"The life of a country is like the life of a person – you can't give up too early," said Nadiya Halenko, a Sumy Oblast resident who supports the Tymoshenko Bloc. "Our country is only three years old. It still doesn't know or understand anything. It is only learning how to walk, to talk and to understand."

Many of those attending were party functionaries who had arrived in buses from towns and cities in neighboring oblasts.

An unusually large number of high school-age students, however, were holding the flags of Our Ukraine and the People's Self-Defense movement led by Mr. Lutsenko.

They denied being paid, but when asked to explain why they supported the party represented by the flag in their hands, they couldn't offer much of a reason.

"We're for the truth," said a teenager distributing People's Self-Defense flags. She said she belonged to the organization because "it's the right thing to do," declining to offer her name.

No other Orange public demonstrations have been held since the "Betrayal – Get Out!" rally.

Pora stated that it expects 5,000 activists to eventually arrive in Kyiv to defend government institutions.

In another moment of déjà vu, the 1+1 television network reported that the Party of the Regions was recruiting high school students in the Cherkasy Oblast town of Chyhyryn to skip class and travel to Kyiv for the demonstrations.

Students told 1+1 they were offered \$8 a day by local officials of the Party of the Regions. One Chyhyryn high school reported 29 students absent on April 4.

While thousands of high school students were present for the March 31 opposition rally, it took place on a Saturday, not interfering with classes.

During the weekdays, thousands of high school students suspiciously roamed about Kyiv's city center during the coalition's demonstration. They almost unani-

mously declined to tell reporters where they arrived from and how old they were. Many responded they were university students in Kyiv, without being more specific. A few openly admitted to receiving \$20 a day for their participation.

Central Election Commission

The Verkhovna Rada's decision to revoke the law appointing Mr. Davydovych and his fellow commissioners was unconstitutional, the president said, as was reappointing Mr. Kivalov as CEC chair.

"Kivalov's renewal is yet further evidence of the wide scale return of Kuchmism," Ms. Tymoshenko said.

Mr. Kivalov was so excited by the prospect of returning to his old office that he wanted to start working the same morning the Parliament reinstated him.

He had some obstacles.

SBU Acting Chair Nalyvaichenko said on April 3 that any attempt to change the CEC's status or make-up would be considered an infringement on the Constitution. The SBU will also ensure the functioning of the CEC and local election commissions, he said.

"In a democratic country, which Ukraine is, there are enough forces to ensure preparations enabling all of us to vote in elections in a lawful manner," Mr. Nalyvaichenko said.

The Pechersk District Court in Kyiv put a bigger damper on Mr. Kivalov's plans, at least temporarily, canceling the parliamentary resolution appointing him. That drew an angry response from the Party of the Regions deputy, who threatened to dismiss the judges from their posts.

That same day, a delegation of Party of the Regions deputies paid Mr. Davydovych a visit.

"Believe me, it's not easy to work in the CEC today when two political giants are caught in a sharp political battle," he said. "But there is a law that defends our rights and no one has the right to demand that the CEC pass unlawful decisions."

The Presidential Secretariat later accused Prime Minister Yanukovich and the Party of the Regions of pressuring Mr. Davydovych.

Disturbed by the prospect of Mr. Kivalov returning to the CEC, Pora activists pitched tents on April 4 in front of the CEC headquarters in order to defend any attempts to lay siege.

Instead of targeting the CEC, Mr. Kivalov teamed up with Mr. Kolesnychenko to forcibly take control of the Pechersk District Court on the morning of April 5, which occurred under the passive observation of police officers.

That afternoon, Mr. Yushchenko characterized Mr. Kivalov's actions as criminal.

"I called for and call for all sides, including the prime minister, not to appeal to the population now," the president said, "but for the opposite: to use political methods to find a democratic way of resolving."

The National Security and Defense Council voted on April 5 to require the government to finance pre-term elections from the national budget's reserve fund.

That day, Mr. Moroz said the Socialist Party of Ukraine would not take part in elections and continued denying they would ever take place.

Opposition forces meet

Leaders of more than a dozen of Ukraine's opposition political forces met with Mr. Yushchenko at the Presidential Secretariat on April 5 to discuss forming a mega-bloc of democratic forces to campaign for the May elections.

Among those attending were Mr. Kyrylenko of the Our Ukraine People's

Union, Borys Tarasyuk of the People's Rukh of Ukraine, Yurii Kostenko of the Ukrainian People's Party, Viktor Pynzenyk of the Reform and Order Party, Vladyslav Kaskiv of the Pora Citizen's Party, Volodymyr Lytvyn of the People's Party of Ukraine and Liudmyla Suprun of the National Democratic Party.

The leaders avoided commenting to the press after the meeting.

Ms. Tymoshenko, on the other hand, is against the mega-bloc proposal and wants her bloc to approach the May elections independently.

Mr. Yanukovich said his party has no intention of preparing for May elections until the Constitutional Court reaches a verdict.

The All-Ukrainian Council of Churches, consisting of six confessions, issued a statement supporting the president's decision; among the signatories were Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate and Ukrainian Catholic Patriarch Lubomyr Husar. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate did not endorse the statement.

Constitutional Court appeals

Both the Presidential Secretariat and the Verkhovna Rada submitted appeals to Ukraine's Constitutional Court on April 3 to review the constitutionality of the president's dismissal decree.

The 18 judges of Ukraine's Constitutional Court are under enormous pressure as Ukraine's future hangs in the balance, Mr. Lozowy said. "I am certain the amount of pressure that is already exerted on the court is unprecedented," he said. "If (Victor) Pinchuk allegedly offered \$10 million bribes for the Kryvorizhstal privatization, there's no doubt the Party of the Regions would offer far more."

Court Chairman Ivan Dombrovskyi attempted to resign on April 4, but his colleagues rejected his resignation.

Coalition leaders accused Mr. Yushchenko of attempting to pressure the court when he met with its judges on March 27.

"The coalition isn't pressuring the Court," the chairman of the Socialist Faction, Mr. Bokyri, said. "On the other hand, the president went to the court and pressured them, which is a violation of the law. Why did six court judges decline to work on the Cabinet of Ministers law after his visit?"

Presidential Representative to the Constitutional Court Volodymyr Shapoval denied the accusation. The Constitutional Court requires at least two months to make a ruling on the dismissal decree, Mr. Shapoval said.

However, the Constitutional Court issued two statements on April 5, the first stating that it will spend 15 days considering whether it would even review the president's decree. Later in the day, spokesman Ivan Avramov said the court had begun to review the complaint submitted by the Verkhovna Rada, "deeming it undelayable."

The Constitutional Court hasn't made a single ruling in nine months, and it's possible it will avoid making one this time as well.

Though Western judges have the luxury of reviewing a law within the context of legal precedents and well-defined constitutions, Ukraine's judges make their rulings based on the immediate political considerations, Mr. Lozowy said. "The court takes an ostrich approach, hiding its head in the sand," he said.

International community reacts

U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Taylor didn't make any statement on the dismissal decree, but U.S. State

Department spokesman Sean McCormack called on all Ukrainian political leaders to take full responsibility for their actions and maintain calm.

"We are monitoring closely developments in Ukraine and urge all parties to respect the rule of law and resolve disputes non-violently, in a manner consistent with Ukraine's democratic values and national interests," Mr. McCormack stated.

Both President Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yanukovich have begun appealing to the international community, with the president meeting with Group of Eight and European Commission representatives.

Russian Federation Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin offered assistance to Ukraine's leaders in resolving the conflict, without offering any specifics about the type of assistance he had in mind.

OSCE urges restraint, dialogue

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

MADRID – The chairman-in-office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Spanish Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos, on April 4 expressed his concerns and called all parties in Ukraine to find a swift solution to the political crisis.

"It is of utmost importance that all political forces show restraint and a high sense of responsibility, while continuing to use dialogue, in the resolution of this crisis," said Minister Moratinos.

Minister Moratinos said he would follow developments in Ukraine closely.

"I expect that all parties will act in a spirit of constructive cooperation so that the role of democratic institutions may be preserved and democracy strengthened," he said.

Pifer to speak at Penn State

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. – Steven Pifer, former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, will visit Penn State's University Park campus to deliver a talk titled, "The Role of Europe in Resolving Ukraine's Orange Revolution Crisis." Sponsored by the Woskob Ukraine New Century Fund in the College of Agricultural Sciences, the talk will take place at 2:30 p.m. on April 10 in Room 102 of the Weaver Building.

Now a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Ambassador Pifer was a foreign service officer for more than 25 years, focusing on U.S. relations with the former Soviet Union and Europe, as well as on arms control and security issues. He served as ambassador to Ukraine from 1998 to 2000.

His talk is part of the Woskob Speaker Series. The Woskob Ukraine New Century Fund – begun by real estate developers Helen and Alex Woskob of State College – also supports several other Penn State initiatives: the Woskob International Research in Agriculture the Ukrainian Forest Resources Initiative and a faculty exchange program with Ukraine.

More information on programs sponsored by the Woskob Ukraine New Century Fund is available by calling the College of Agricultural Sciences' Office of International Programs at 814-863-0249 or by logging on to the website <http://www.cas.psu.edu/docs/international>.

THE ART SCENE

Vera Jacyk's meditation on historical events

OSHAWA, Ontario – Vera Jacyk's "Chysto, Chysto, Chysto" (Ukrainian for Clean, Clean, Clean) on view at the The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, is a meditation on the power of historical events that, for the artist, have lingered long after their occurrence. This history includes the ravages perpetrated by Communist and Nazi regimes on Ukrainian soil, the birthplace of the artist's émigré parents.

For many who endured war, displacement and forced emigration to Canada, such as the artist's parents, telling their story was difficult or impossible, and, thus, oral history was lost. Nevertheless, the impact of such experiences was passed on to the artist through silent transmission, taking up residence within the domestic sphere of her early life and the artistic imagination of her adult years.

The crafted objects placed within the pristine environment of "Chysto, Chysto, Chysto" make reference to Ukrainian heritage, history and culture. Though the imagery is drawn from familiar icons and even clichés, it has been reworked into idiosyncratic artifacts through selected materials, juxtapositions and placements. Of importance is the trace of the artist's hand within these works, as it reflects an inherited sensibility, that of Ukrainian womens' handiwork, and makes manifest accumulated, decisive actions taken by an individual in formulating a response to a particular life experience.

The viewer experiences two worlds in Ms. Jacyk's installation: one associated with lived experience and the other an

artistic invention. In a stripped, white space, objects have been rendered or assembled by hand and strategically placed. A bust of Joseph Stalin sits behind cupboard doors. Traces of an embroidered swastika lay in a drawer. A chalk drawing and a bundle wrapped in archival newspapers sit on the floor. Each hand-wrought object reveals itself to the viewer.

Although the setting is one suggestive of domesticity, there are no objects reflecting family life, no family photos or other specific memorabilia. Autobiographical material is not overtly evident, in order to summon abandonment, disconnection and strangeness – all legacies of inter-generational trauma.

Art begun as a response to past trauma creates a space of troubled silence for contemplating the nature of our violent reality. The viewer of "Chysto, Chysto, Chysto" may be motivated to explore personal silences or the nature of power and the continuing threat of its misuse in both public and private domains.

The exhibit, which opened on March 16, is on view through May 6.

On Sunday, April 15, Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk will speak at the gallery. His lecture on the topic broached by "Chysto, Chysto, Chysto" is slated for 1 p.m.

The Robert McLaughlin Gallery is located at 72 Queen Street, Civic Centre, Oshawa. Gallery hours are: Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, noon-4 p.m.

For information call 905-576-3000, ext. 107, or e-mail ocasimiro@rmg.on.ca.

Depictions of Ukrainian symbolism and motifs

by Chrystyna Nykorak

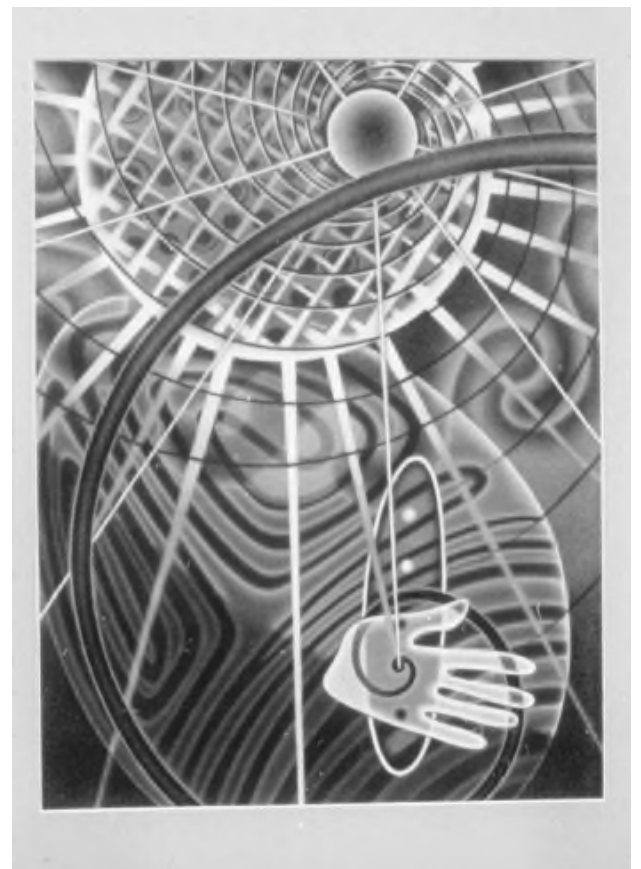
DETROIT – An exhibit of paintings, sculptures, textile art, photography, woodcuts and pysanky featuring 27 artists from the United States, Canada and Europe who depict ancient and contemporary symbolism and motifs from their Ukrainian heritage will be presented at the Scarab Club on April 4-May 12.

"In Search of Ukrainian Symbolism and Motifs" is an art exhibit that draws from rich and colorful Ukrainian traditions filled with symbolism and motifs.

One of the works on exhibit is Christina Pereyma O'Neal's "Caryatid," a dress based on Ukrainian archeological and pictorial references of a garment worn by "Rusalky" (water spirits). The linen garment is very long, pillar-like in form, and encrusted in natural and dyed eggshells. Actual garments with the same exaggerated long sleeves have been found in Ukraine; the sleeves were used in dance to mimic flapping wings of birds.

Other symbolism and motifs depicted by the artists are drawn from floral patterns, geometric designs, the cosmos, spirals, the summer solstice, birds, mythological spirits, icons and poignant encounters.

Anizia Karmazyn's vivid "Tree of Life" woodcut depicts the universal theme of the continuum of life. Alexander Tkachenko's watercolor painting of the ancient ritual of "Summer Solstice" is both enchanting and mesmerizing. Irma



"Talisman 21" (conte and pastel, 33.5 by 25.5 inches) by Irma Osadsa.

Osadsa's "Talisman 21" depicts the ancient belief that certain symbols transfer their power to the object on which they are drawn, thereby creating a talisman for coping with life's uncertainties.

Daniel Grascuck, the juror of this exhibit, is a professional photographer and chairman of the board of directors of the Detroit Artists Market, as well as a former board member of the Wayne Council of the Arts, History and Humanities, and a former board president of the Indian Village Association and Historical Indian Village Collections. Mr.

(Continued on page 16)

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Paintings by Alexander Motyl

TORONTO – "Elusive Elements" – an exhibit of acrylic paintings by Alexander J. Motyl, a New York-based artist, writer, and scholar – will open on Sunday, April 15, at 3 p.m., at the Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation/KUMF Gallery.

Prof. Motyl will also read from his novels, "Whiskey Priest" and "Who Killed Andrei Warhol," during the opening.

The exhibit will run through Sunday, April 29.

Born in New York City in 1953, Prof. Motyl studied painting with Leon Goldin at Columbia University. He has exhibited in solo and group shows in New York City, Philadelphia and Cleveland. He is represented by The Tori Collection, and his work is on display at www.toricollection.com.

Tersely styled and quietly rendered, the evolving corpus of Prof. Motyl's work hovers between cityscape, still life and figures. Inspired by his reverence for the ordinary, Prof. Motyl's most representational work projects the prosaic features of urban architecture. Personalized by the artist through a pictorial and symbolic focus, windows align the artist's gaze with the viewer's emotion.

In his most recent work, Prof. Motyl presents a series of angular, elongated nudes, bottles and legs braced against starkly simplified landscapes. Through the meditative beauty of such figures, he

extends the mood of solitude and introspection of his earlier work.

Prof. Motyl is also the author of two novels, "Whiskey Priest" (Universe, 2005) and "Who Killed Andrei Warhol" (Seven Locks, 2007).

"Whiskey Priest" is a Graham-Greene-esque "entertainment" in which a relatively simple plot line serves as a vehicle for psychological examinations of the leading characters and their existential dilemmas. The plot centers on a KGB assassin working for the Russian mafia, the American professor he is pursuing, and the female U.S. foreign service officer assigned to the case.

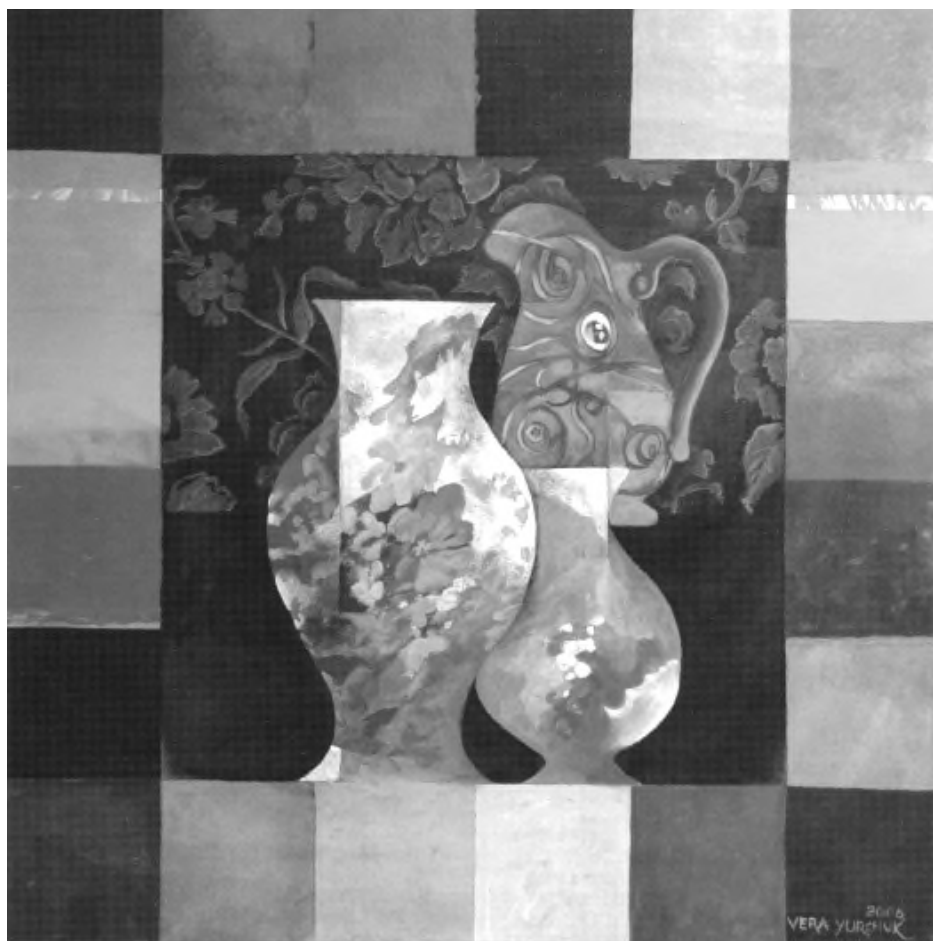
The assassin is a devoted Communist whose world has collapsed with the fall of the Soviet Union and who can no longer find moral justification for the killings he still commits. The professor is a corrupt and cynical academic. The central character is an existentially, professionally and emotionally insecure Ukrainian American woman, Jane Sweet, who discovers who she is and what she is capable of in the course of her investigation.

"Who Killed Andrei Warhol: The American Diary of a Soviet Journalist" is an absurdist tragicomedy that proceeds from the unlikely coincidence of Andy Warhol's having been a working-class

(Continued on page 16)

THE ART SCENE

Canadian artists' exhibit in Chicago



"Vases #5" (32 by 32 inches, acrylic on canvas) by Vera Yurchuk.

by Maria Klimchak

CHICAGO – The Ukrainian Association of Visual Artists of Canada (USOM) this year celebrates its 50th anniversary, and to honor this occasion an exhibit of its artists' works is visiting the Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago. Included are 40 pieces, representing various styles and a number of different artists.

Founded in Toronto in 1956 by a group headed by Mychajlo Dmytrenko and Bohdan Stebelsky, the association provides artists with a community of fellows and a venue for showcasing their works. Members have included such well known artists as William Kurelek, Leo Mol, Myron Levitsky and Mykola Bidniak.

The association, known by its Ukrainian acronym USOM, continues to be an important part of Ukrainian cultural life on the North American continent. It has over 40 members of various ages, both longtime residents of Canada and new immigrants. USOM President Bohdan Holowacki stated that a number of original members remain active and comprise the group's core.

Maria Klimchak, assistant director of

the Ukrainian National Museum, introduced the new exhibit, stating that during its 55th year, the museum is pleased to welcome its Canadian neighbors, to strengthen the bonds between Ukrainians of the two countries. "Art has no boundaries, especially when it is united by its Ukrainian subject matter," she underscored.

Exhibited works are in various media and styles, each indicative of the artist's worldview. The pairing of traditional methodologies with modern artistic interpretation creates unique works, whose breadth is reflected in the association's 50th anniversary catalogue, which is available for purchase during the show. The exhibit gives Chicagoans a taste of art which highlights the creativity of today's Ukrainian Canadian artists.

The exhibit of the Ukrainian Association of Visual Artists of Canada will be on view through April 29. The Ukrainian National Museum is located at 2249 W. Superior St., in the heart of Chicago's Ukrainian Village. For more information and museum hours visit the Ukrainian National Museum at www.ukrainiannationalmuseum.org.

Bohdan Soroka in New York

NEW YORK – Bohdan Soroka, a distinguished artist from Ukraine, will again show his artwork in New York City. The exhibit will open on Friday, April 20, at 203 Second Avenue (near 13th Street), second floor, at 7 p.m., with Jaroslawa Gerulak who will speak about the art of Mr. Soroka.

The show also will be on view on Saturday and Sunday, April 21 and 22, at 1-5 p.m. The exhibit will close with a "Meet the Artist" event planned for Sunday at 2 p.m., featuring Mr. Soroka, who will discuss his artistic life's path. During the exhibit, composer Volodymyr Tkachenko will perform original piano music inspired by the artwork.

Mr. Soroka was born in 1940 in Lviv and is considered to be a graphic artist and painter-monumentalist. He graduated from the Lviv Academy of Art in 1964, and in 1989 received an award at the International Ex Libris Competition in Vilnius. He is the founder of the department of industrial design at the Lviv Academy of Art.

Throughout his artistic career, Mr. Soroka has had the opportunity to travel extensively with personal exhibits. In Europe, he has shown in Lviv (1988, 1989, 1998, 2000, 2006), Kyiv (1987, 1990), Munich (1993, 2000), Paris (1995) and London (1996). He also has exhibited in Canada (1991, 2000-2001, 2006), as well as in the United States, in such cities as Philadelphia (1992), New York, Cleveland, Chicago and Washington (1998-1999, 2003), Detroit and Chicago (2004), and Ann Arbor, Mich. (2005).

In addition, he has participated in various important group exhibitions, such as Contemporary European Bookplate, Brussels (1972), Twelve Ukrainian



Bohdan Soroka's "Easter Bells."

Artists, Calgary (1991), Work on Paper-Edmonton (1993), Lviv '91 – Vidrodzhennia, Biennial of Ukrainian Art – Lviv (1991), "Sources of Freedom" Exhibition of Contemporary Art-Berlin, Wroclaw, Lviv (1997).

Mr. Soroka's works are included in permanent collections of numerous galleries, museums and other institutions, such as the Ukrainian Museum of Art (Kyiv), Taras Shevchenko Museum (Kyiv), Kaniv Preservation Museum, National Museum (Lviv), Picture Gallery (Lviv), Museum of Religious History (Lviv), Library of the Academy of Sciences (Lviv), Ukrainian-Canadian Art Foundation (Toronto), Ukrainian Free University (Munich), Niagara Falls Gallery and Museum, Lithuanian National Library (Vilnius) and Hum Museum, Savannah, Ga.

This exhibit in New York is dedicated to the memory of the late Nina Samokish, president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 64 and leader of the Ukrainian Plast sorority "Verkhovynky."



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Cruising the Caribbean with the UNA, and for a good cause

by Maya Lew

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

For days, I had been sitting behind my desk, wishing it was Thursday, March 8. Great day at the office? Nope, on March 8 I was snorkeling the stunningly blue waters of the second largest barrier reef in the world with about 15 Ukrainian companions, while on the Ukrainian National Association's first fund-raising cruise.

Let me start from the beginning: Labor Day weekend at Soyuzivka, 2006.

It was pouring rain on Labor Day Saturday for the first time in Soyuzivka's history, according to UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich. I was decked out in Caribbean gear along with others promoting the fund-raising cruise, running around asking anyone who would listen in the rain at the early happy hour, "Have you booked your cruise yet? Won't you go on the UNA cruise?"

Delightedly enough, I had about 15 friends express interest. Four of them even called Zenia Brozyna at Zenia's Travel Club, who was organizing the trip, to book their cruise. Unfortunately, when the sun came out the next day and a new happy hour began, many of them seemed to for-

Maya Lew is an advisor on the Ukrainian National Association's General Assembly and secretary of UNA Branch 5.

get their excitement about a cruise that was happening six months down the road.

As the months progressed, I vigilantly promoted the UNA cruise on the Internet, my e-mail lists, on Multiply.com and to friends. Being an avid supporter of all the things that the UNA does to bring us together, I wanted more than anything for this cruise to be a success, as funds were to be raised for the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation and the press funds of the UNA's two newspaper. But how was it going to turn out? Who was going to go? Was everyone going to enjoy it? What if they didn't have fun?

In the weeks preceding the cruise and up to the night beforehand, even though I was so thrilled to go on this trip, these were the things that occupied my mind. I had learned from Zenia that around 70 people were going. Not a bad turnout I thought. Knowing that other organizations had planned these types of cruise fundraisers (ranging from 30 to 150 people), I felt the UNA had a solid number of people and I was excited with the outcome.

Saturday, March 3: Vacation day was here! I was so excited I couldn't wait to get out of New York. Anxious, glad for my vacation and, yes, even a bit nervous, we boarded our plane only to be pleasantly surprised that nine other Ukrainians were traveling with us from

JFK International Airport. I was immediately calmed for some reason. Although I did not know everyone yet, I felt comfort in seeing familiar faces and hearing funny Ukrainian conversations. There was a shared twinkle in everyone's eye, knowing we were all about to go on vacation and leave our worries back in New York.

We arrived in rainy Tampa, and that evening the bulk of the UNA group went to a dinner that Zenia organized for the group featuring flamenco dancers. Perhaps shy to take part, eight of us in our 20s and 30s decided to stay at the hotel restaurant where we were joined by my mother and some of her friends. We all had



Zenia Brozyna with the ship's mascot, Freddy.



Dressed for the formal "Captain's Night" dinner (from left) are: Roma Lisovich, Bozhena Polanskyj, Anna Koziupa and Ksenia Rakowsky.



Seen during a mandatory fire drill aboard the ship (from left) are: Michael and Anna Koziupa, and Stefan and Swiatoslawa Kaczaraj.



During a stopover in Mexico, against the backdrop of Carnival Cruise Lines' Miracle, (from left) are: Maya Lew, Lydia Kozak and Oksana Lew.

a great time laughing and getting to know each other a little bit better, while making many cheerful toasts to the week ahead.

On Sunday morning we thankfully awoke to sunshine and 70 degree weather. Carnival Miracle here we come! Our group took two buses to the port and, as Zenia told us details about what to expect, all I could think of was that it's here, it's finally here! We pulled up to the port and there "she" was. I have always been intrigued by ships, and ours definitely did not disappoint. The Miracle had its inaugural sail in 2004; weighing in at over 80,000 tons, she can hold over 2,000 guests.

After a relatively quick and well-organized check-in process, we were whisked through the entrance gates to the ship – and snap – our first picture was taken by Carnival greeters. Walking onto the ship I was ecstatically overwhelmed by all the things before me – a 10-story lobby, rich colors in blues and mauves, people scurrying to find their cabin, smiling servers offering drinks and, of course, the Carnival cruise line mascot energetically waving at us. The Miracle's décor was inspired by characters from novels, songs, poems, myths, movies and Broadway, and there was a new character or theme everywhere I looked.

Since we were not yet able to check into our rooms, we decided to go up on the Lido Deck and check out our new home for the next week. I couldn't help but sing the "Love Boat" theme song in my head as the glass elevator climbed 10 stories. We spent the next few hours walking around the different levels of the ship, through the three pools on the Lido deck, Horatio's restaurant where food was available 24 hours a day, the Phantom Lounge, Mr. Lucky's Casino, the photo gallery (where our pic-

ture taken earlier that day was already on display and available for purchase), "Yellow Brick Road" that included duty-free and gift shops, the Raven Library, the cigar bar, sports bar, piano bar, dance club, Bacchus Dining Room and the Adonis Spa, just to name a few of the ship's features.

It was incredible! I honestly felt like a kid in a candy store. And every time we ran into someone we recognized from the UNA group, I would excitedly wave with a loud and proud, "Dobryden!"

That evening our group of eight reunited for dinner at Bacchus, and we ended up at Mr. Lucky's Casino where I won \$84 worth of quarters, which I scooped out of the bucket so that everyone could play more. What could be better?

Monday was our first "Fun Day at Sea" and I quickly realized that there were almost too many activities to choose from. Should I go to a spa seminar or play bingo? Lay by the pool or attend an auction with Picassos? I found myself alternating between pool time and the different activities, and many jokingly started calling me the cruise director because I faithfully read our "Carnival Caper," the ship's daily bulletin that announced activities for the day, and I always knew where to be and the most amusing things to do.

Zenia and the UNA had two events planned for us that day, a welcome cocktail hour and a group photo in our "vyshyvani" (embroidered) blouses and shirts. During our cocktail hour we were welcomed with a beautiful cake provided by Carnival that read "Welcome UNA Group!" Several birthdays were acknowledged, as well as one 50th wedding anniversary.

No Ukrainian social gathering could possibly be complete without Ukrainian song,



UNA cruisers enjoy cocktails in the ship's Phantom Lounge.



Younger cruisers socialize on the Miracle's Lido deck.

right? UNA Second Vice-President Michael Koziupa brought his accordion and provided a "spivanyk," or songbook, for everyone. We charmed all of our servers, I'm sure, with our proud Ukrainian voices.

That evening was the first formal evening of two during the cruise. Opportunities to have our picture taken were available all week on the ship for different occasions, but on this occasion for our group photo, what a sight to see 70 people on the grand staircase of the Metropolis Lobby in our embroidered shirts!

Our (very handsome Italian) captain had a special cocktail hour that evening and he acknowledged our group while on stage by saying, "I am practicing my Ukrainian." We, of course, responded to him with great cheers. Zenia was also interviewed by one of the hosts and her interview about the UNA group was playing all week on the Carnival TV channel.

Tuesday, March 6: Grand Cayman here we come! Well, not quite, actually. I awoke earlier than usual that day at 7 a.m. to the sound of Tori, our (real) cruise director letting us know that due to high winds we were not going to be able to dock in Grand Cayman. For a split second I felt claustrophobic and was so upset! Another full day at sea? I took a few moments out on the balcony of my room drinking coffee, and gathered my thoughts as we floated by the island and slowly turned around. At that moment I saw a rainbow, quickly grabbed my camera and took a picture, and just as quickly made peace with not making a stop that day.

My next move? What else! I grabbed the "Carnival Caper" and got excited for yet another "Fun Day" of nothing but food, friends, shopping with my mother, raffle prizes, funny contests by the pool and just being with Ukrainians. That evening, after a gourmet dinner at the special Carnival restaurant Nick & Nora's as well as a variety show that included dancers, jugglers and a comedian, I thought to myself: what a great, full day. What else could I possibly ask for?

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday were fabulous days when we docked in the ports of Cozumel, Belize and Costa Maya. Each day we had anywhere from 20 to 30 different excursions to choose from. They ranged from city tours to snorkeling, scuba diving, cave tubing, zip-wiring through the rainforest and even climbing ancient Mayan ruins.

In Cozumel I was able to take the best photo with my mother as a gift for my father who loves birds – with four Macaws, one of which sat on my mother's head! My fondest memory had to have been when a few of us happened to be on the same excursion in Belize. Not only did I get to see the bluest waters and an amazing private beach with the whitest sand, but the catamaran that took us back to our ship will be sure to remember us, I believe. They quickly realized that the Ukrainians were the fun ones on the boat, and the rum punch flowed freely as we were the ones who started a conga line and even a

"Kolomyika."

But probably the most noteworthy excursion was one that a dear family friend took – in her youthful 80s, she had the opportunity to swim with the dolphins even though she didn't know how to swim. That, indeed, is how memories are made.

All throughout the week I felt comfort in seeing my Ukrainian cruising friends. You would think that on such a large ship it would be easy to get lost, but somehow we all seemed to run into each other, whether at the 2 p.m. drawing for a tanzanite pendant, the Mardi Gras party on Tuesday night, the Ladies Night at the Adonis Spa, or the Ukrainian sing-along on Friday night.

We learned early in the week that another group of 16 Ukrainians was also on the ship! They were a travel club from five churches in Parma, Ohio, and we delighted in meeting with them. We were thrilled about the coincidence that somehow brought us onto the same ship.

As we all went our ways during the day to take part in the various excursions and shop in the large number of jewelry and souvenir shops in port, I was always

thrilled to run into a new Ukrainian friend. And I absolutely loved the eight of us coming together for dinner each night as we all shared our awesome adventures with one another.

And, wouldn't you know it, we met at least three members of the crew who were – what else? – Ukrainian! Even though they were native Ukrainians from Odesa, they were happy to speak to other Ukrainians, in Ukrainian.

By the time Saturday arrived I felt that familiar feeling of sadness that I so often got as an adolescent when Plast camp was coming to an end. With all the anticipation, build-up and even nerves, this vacation for me was perfect and so much fun, and I didn't want it to end. I not only had an opportunity to spend time with my mother and people closest to me, but I created bonds with those I never knew I would.

As I looked around during our farewell cocktail hour organized for the group, I saw the familiar faces, now bronzed and smiling, that just one week ago I did not know as well. By going on this cruise together I felt we had created a sort of camaraderie that we will keep in our hearts forever; our

bond as "the first ever UNA cruisers."

Kudos to the UNA for gathering a great group of people to not only have an amazing time, but to raise funds for this wonderful 113-year-old organization that has done so much to bring our community together. And kudos to Ms. Brozyna from Zenia's Travel Club for organizing such a thoughtful and well-planned trip for all of us. I'm sure our family members who left Ukraine during difficult times would never have imagined that somewhere in the middle of the Caribbean Sea, so many Ukrainians would find a way to unite.

So, sitting at my desk today, I reminisce about an experience that was special and new for all of us. I am left with happy memories and the feeling that I simply cannot wait for the next UNA fund-raising cruise. I would cruise the Ukraini-bbean any day.

So keep an eye out for me – I'll be the one playing \$1,000 bingo in the Phantom Lounge. I hope to see you there!

Photos in this series by Maya Lew, Roma Lisovich, Michael Koziupa and Carnival Cruise Lines.



UNA cruise participants – many of them decked out in Ukrainian embroidery – gather for a group photo on the staircase of the ship's main lobby before a formal dinner that evening.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

of the ruling coalition of the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party – whose lawmakers have been continuing a parliamentary session despite the decree disbanding the legislature – pitched more than 400 tents in downtown Kyiv. They also built a stage on Independence Square, which was the main rostrum for supporters of Viktor Yushchenko during the Orange Revolution in Ukraine in November-December 2004. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Russia offers Ukraine 'assistance'

MOSCOW – Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on April 3 in Yerevan, Armenia, that Russia “wants a resolution to be found [for the Ukrainian political crisis] within the framework of Ukrainian law and the Ukrainian Constitution, through a dialogue among all political forces on this legal basis,” news agencies reported. He added, “as for the possibility of Russia, or the CIS, or other countries getting involved in helping resolve this crisis, I believe it is up to the Ukrainian side, first and foremost. If Ukraine asks for assistance, let me assure you that Russia will not hesitate to provide such help.” He did not specify what this “assistance” might entail. In Moscow, State Duma Speaker Boris Gryzlov said that “the power struggle in Ukraine is turning from rivalry between [political] parties into confrontation between the sides that is taking place on the streets, which has already become standard practice, and that is fraught with violence and possible unrest.

This is what we would like our Ukrainian colleagues and friends to stay away from.” In Kyiv, a spokesman for President Viktor Yushchenko said that the president hopes to pay a working visit to Russia soon, Interfax reported. The spokesman added that “we will not [further] delay [the trip], because we need to finalize all issues pertaining to the plan for our relations for 2007-2008.” Also on April 3, the Russian daily Trud quoted Boris Nemtsov, who is a former adviser to the Ukrainian president, as saying that the political balance of forces in Ukraine is likely to remain the same, whatever the outcome of the current crisis. Some other commentators told the daily, however, that the situation is delicate and could lead to violence or to a realignment of the political balance. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yulia: president's order is valid

KYIV – The president's order on dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada and early parliamentary elections is valid until the final decision of the Constitutional Court, opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko said on April 3 after a meeting with foreign ambassadors. According to Ms. Tymoshenko, the president's order is valid, and everyone defying it will see criminal punishment. Meanwhile the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc leader stressed the Constitutional Court is the only institution to explain laws and orders. She also noted that all the sittings of the Rada, since its dissolution, are illegitimate. Ms. Tymoshenko also said her bloc and Our Ukraine will run for the elections separately. The next day she stated that her bloc and Our Ukraine have agreed they would form a coalition after the election. (Ukrinform, Ukrayinski Novyny)

PRU demands Constitutional Court action

KYIV – The opposition has initiated and formed a conflict, which has now grown to a national crisis, Party of the Regions (PRU) faction leader Raisa Bohatyriova told an April 3 sitting of the Verkhovna Rada. She noted that the opposition is taking advantage of a deep political crisis, while the nation is cynically used to meet the opposition's ambitions. Ms. Bohatyriova vowed the Regions Party will assert interests of the electorate. The coalition demanded that the Constitutional Court review the president's order on dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada in a round-the-clock regime. The coalition also demanded that a Rada delegation be sent to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe to call a sitting of the monitoring committee in order to discuss the political situation in Ukraine. (Ukrinform)

Holovatyi disobeys decree

KYIV – Serhii Holovatyi, a member of the Our Ukraine faction in the Verkhovna Rada, said on April 3 that he considers President Viktor Yushchenko's decree on the dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada unconstitutional. He said that the transfer of national deputies from opposition factions into the ruling coalition could be considered a reason but not a basis for the Rada's dismissal. Furthermore, he said he does not consider the presidential decree to be obligatory for national deputies. Mr. Holovatyi said the decree is obligatory only for those organs of authority or officials who are under the jurisdiction of the president. Mr. Holovatyi added that he personally will not obey the decree because he considers it to be unconstitutional. Mr. Holovatyi was the only member of the Our Ukraine faction who attended the April 3 session of the Verkhovna Rada, which was held in contravention of the presidential decree. (Ukrayinski Novyny)

Deputies kicked out of OU

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(Continued on page 15)

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

faction kicked out several of its members: Serhii Holovaty, Lev Hnatenko, Vasyl Hureyev, Viktor Leschenko, Vitalii Maiko, Oleksii Fedun and Anatolii Shkribniak. The news was reported on April 3 by the Our Ukraine press service. The deputies took part in the Verkhovna Rada's nighttime session of April 2-3 which adopted a resolution calling President Viktor Yushchenko's decree dissolving Parliament unconstitutional. "The deputies took part on the night of April 2-3 in the anti-presidential session of the Verkhovna Rada and voted for anti-constitutional decisions, which were against the positions of Our Ukraine," the press service reported. A meeting of Our Ukraine deputies on April 3 unanimously voted to kick out these deputies, all of whom – save for Our Ukraine party member Mr. Holovaty – are members of the Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of Ukraine. (Ukrayinski Novyny)

President meets with G-8 envoys

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko met with ambassadors of the Group of Eight (G-8) and representatives of the European Commission and presented his action plan to secure fulfillment of his order on dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada, according to the deputy chief of the Presidential Secretariat, Oleksander Chalyi. Mr. Chalyi said on April 3 that the president will hold political consultations with the government to reach an accord and carry out early parliamentary elections. He added that the president said he will guarantee free and fair elections and invited representatives of the G-8 to participate in monitoring the election. Mr. Chalyi also noted that the president will hold telephone conversations with the presidents of the European Council and PACE to explain his order and inform about the political situation in Ukraine. He also stressed that the crisis should not be regarded as a standoff between President Yushchenko and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, but as a confrontation among parliamentary political forces. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko and Yanukovich meet

KYIV – The main topic of the April 3 meeting between President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich was securing strict observance of the presidential decree on early parliamentary elections, the presidential press service reported. The president insisted that

his decree to dissolve Parliament must be fulfilled and said presidential orders were obligatory under Ukraine's Constitution. Mr. Yushchenko also said the Central Election Commission (CEC) was capable of holding an early election and called that day's vote to reappoint the previous commission, which had been found guilty of being involved in rigging the 2004 presidential election, not only unlawful but also immoral. He said the government of Ukraine was not a political force and, therefore, could not use parliamentary resolutions as its cover. He said the Cabinet of Ministers must ensure that the CEC can work without problems. The president, who is also the commander-in-chief of Ukrainian military forces, reassured the prime minister he would make sure there is no "violent scenario" in the country. (Ukrinform)

Moroz: Rada to continue functioning

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada will continue functioning under the Constitution, Chairman Oleksander Moroz said on April 3. Summing up the political situation in Ukraine, he noted that the president's order on dissolution of the Rada violates the Constitution. According to Mr. Moroz, there are no constitutional grounds to disband the Parliament. The Verkhovna Rada concluded that the president's order is anti-constitutional, and thus has no impact on its work. According to Article 60 of the Constitution, the president bears responsibility for issuing illegal orders. The Rada chairman appealed to national deputies, the president and leaders of parliamentary factions to announce a moratorium on holding street protests to secure order until the Constitutional Court rules on the validity of President Yushchenko's decree. (Ukrinform)

Thousands rallied on March 31

KYIV – Tens of thousands of Ukrainians took part in two separate rallies in Kyiv on March 31 to manifest their stance in the ongoing standoff between President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, Ukrainian media reported. At a rally organized by the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, Our Ukraine and the People's Self-Defense on Independence Square, participants called on Mr. Yushchenko to dissolve the Verkhovna Rada. "It is not just the president's right to dissolve Parliament. It is his duty to dismiss this corrupt, treacherous assembly and go ahead with an open, honest, early election in which there can be no doubt democratic forces, those who defend and love Ukraine, will win," Ms. Tymoshenko told the crowd. A rally staged

on European Square, some 300 meters away from Independence Square, manifested support for Prime Minister Yanukovich's ruling coalition. "We will never accept ultimatums that are outside the realm of law and the constitution," Mr. Yanukovich told his supporters in what appeared to be an indirect response to President Yushchenko's threats to dissolve the Verkhovna Rada if the ruling coalition fails to heed his demands. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Polish president supports Yushchenko

KYIV – Poland's president, Lech Kaczynski, agrees with the position taken by President Viktor Yushchenko that the best way out of the situation in which Ukraine finds itself is transparent early elections to the Verkhovna Rada. This was reported on April 3 by the Press Service of Ukraine's President, which cited a conversation between the two leaders. Mr. Yushchenko informed Mr. Kaczynski about the political situation in Ukraine and detailed the reasons he issued his decree dismissing the Verkhovna Rada. (Ukrinform)

Salvation Committee appeals to president

KYIV – The Committee for National Salvation on March 30 called on the president to disband the Verkhovna Rada. The relevant appeal was signed by representatives of political parties and public organizations after the first sitting of the Committee for National Salvation. Participating in the sitting were Yulia Tymoshenko, Viacheslav Kyrylenko of Our Ukraine and People's Self-Defense leader Yurii Lutsenko. The participants urged the president to stop the coup d'état initiated by the coalition. The document also set forth violations of the rights of citizens in view of the political and social-economic crisis in the country. According to Mr. Lutsenko, representatives of the Committee for National Salvation would present the document to

the president in person. (Ukrinform)

Forum of National Unity held

KYIV – The forum of national unity, organized by political forces of the parliamentary coalition, was held on European Square on March 30. Party of the Regions activist Raisa Bohatyriova noted that the opposition is pushing the president to disband the Verkhovna Rada, adding "We should not let anyone divide the country. We should protect the president from such pressure." An appeal to the Ukrainian people and the president was adopted by participants of the forum. "The time which has passed since the elections proved there are forces in Ukraine that can assume responsibility for the people's destiny," the appeal said. "For the first time, the Verkhovna Rada and the government are working as a single organism, and the Anti-Crisis Coalition, having fulfilled its initial mission, was transformed into the Coalition of National Unity." Forum participants addressed the people of Ukraine, urging them to unite around national unity. At the conclusion of the forum, participants went to the Presidential Secretariat to deliver their appeal to the president. (Ukrinform)

CUN urges direct presidential rule

KYIV – The Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists (CUN) Party on April 4 urged President Viktor Yushchenko to institute direct presidential rule. "The Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists supports your decisive actions aimed at maintaining constitutional order in Ukraine. We have publicly stated that we support your decree about early termination of the powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. At the same time we call upon you, in view of the series of threats that face Ukraine, to institute direct presidential rule until pre-term parliamentary elections are held," the CUN statement notes. (Ukrayinski Novyny)



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Похоронні відправи відбудуться 10-го квітня о год. 11:30 ранку в українській католицькій церкві св. Юра в Нью-Йорку, а відтак на цвинтарі св. Андрія Первозваного в С. Бавнд Бруку, Н. Дж.

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Wednesday, April 11, 2007

Room 1512, International Affairs Building (15th floor),
Columbia University, 420 W. 118th St., New York, NY

9:00-9:10am: Opening Remarks

9:10-11:10am: Morning Session

Chair: Yuri Shevchuk (Columbia University)

Panelists:

-- Johannes Remy (University of Helsinki; Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute Skhlar Fellow)

-- Myroslava Znayenko (Shevchenko Scientific Society; Rutgers University)

-- George Grabowicz (Harvard University Ukrainian Research Institute)

Discussant: Rory Finnin (Columbia University)

11:10-11:20am: Coffee break

11:20am-1:20pm: Afternoon session

Chair: Richard Wortman (Columbia University)

Panelists:

-- Abbott Gleason (Brown University)

-- Susan Heuman (City College of New York)

-- Mark von Hagen (Columbia University)

Discussant: Anna Procyk (City College of New York)

1:20-1:30pm: Closing Remarks

For more info., contact ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu or (212)854-4697.

Kyiv Mohyla Academy announces 2007 summer school sessions

CHICAGO – The National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy has announced that its 2007 summer school session will be held in two sessions: the first session from May 28 until June 24, and the second session from July 27 until August 24.

Kyiv-Mohyla Academy offers a unique opportunity to study Ukraine's language, culture, politics, history, ecology and traditions in a comfortable environment with world-class lecturers.

The Kyiv Mohyla Summer School program is taught in Ukrainian and English in the heart of the beautiful city of Kyiv. Ukrainian language courses are offered for beginner, intermediate and advanced students. Excursions and "hands-on" studies are incorporated into the summer school program with visits to various fascinating sites throughout the country. Main areas of study will be Ukrainian studies, history, Ukrainian literature and folklore, and lectures on the current political and economic situation in Ukraine.

The program provides a month-long experience of immersion in "things Ukrainian." In addition to classroom work, students will have a chance to visit some of the most beautiful places Ukraine has to offer during the excursions program (including an optional visit to Crimea or to western Ukraine).

The fee for the Kyiv Mohyla Summer School is \$1,599 (U.S.). Information on payment details will be sent to applicants who submit a registration form. The Summer School fee includes: four weeks' accommodation while in Ukraine (dormitory for two or three persons per room); meals (welcome dinner, lunches and coffee breaks everyday except weekends, final dinner); all classes and sessions; all excursions included in the Summer School program; transportation (to/from Kyiv-Boryspil International Airport, bus-excursion to Pyrohovo).

For an additional payment, there is an opportunity to stay in the hotel for foreign professors which is on the campus of Kyiv Mohyla Academy.

Application forms for the Kyiv Mohyla Summer School can be downloaded from <http://www.summerschool.ukma.kiev.ua/index.htm>. The number of students that can be accepted into the program is limited.

For further information readers may contact Larysa Kadurina, director of the NUKMA Summer School, at the following address: National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, Kyiv Mohyla Summer School – "Osvitni Studiyi," 2 Skovoroda Street, Kyiv, Ukraine; telephone, 380 44 425 10 47; e-mail lari@ukma.kiev.ua. Information is also available at <http://www.summerschool.ukma.kiev.ua>.

Depictions...

(Continued from page 10)

Graschuck is currently a photographer for the Michigan Chronicle, Real Detroit Weekly, and freelances for the Free Press.

The curator of the exhibit is artist, author and educator Dzvinka Hayda. This is the fourth show that Ms. Hayda has curated at the Scarab Club.

The exhibit's opening reception is scheduled for Sunday, April 15, at 1-5

p.m. Refreshments will be served, and there will be a presentation of Ukrainian folk songs at 3 p.m. featuring vocalist Maria Nazarenko accompanied on the piano by Olga Dubriwnyj Solovey. A pysanky demonstration will be held that day at 2-4 p.m.

The exhibit is on view at the Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit, MI 48202; telephone, 313-831-1250. Exhibit hours are: Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

UNA SENIORS' CONFERENCE AT SOYUZIVKA

Sunday, June 10-15, 2007, during UNA Seniors' Week

Ladies and Gentlemen: 2007 is here!

We wish you good health, good spirits and invite you to visit SOYUZIVKA!

On behalf of the UNA Seniors, we invite all senior citizens to participate in our annual UNA Seniors' Week which will be held from Sunday, June 10, to Friday, June 15, 2007.

The UNA Seniors were organized over 30 years ago for the purpose of supporting UNA endeavors, preserving and cultivating the Ukrainian heritage, promoting unity within the community, developing social activities and maintaining Ukrainian community life in America.

Thankfully, we have finally reached a time in our lives where Ukraine is independent and developing as a democratic state. Although Ukraine will always be in our thoughts and have our support, there is a time when we must concentrate on maintaining our own Ukrainian community here, beyond the borders of Ukraine. There is much that can be done, and we will discuss this and other matters during UNA Seniors' Week. We promise that the week will be interesting and enjoyable, with many fun activities.

As you may have read in the UNA's publications, last year's Seniors' Week had over 75 participants, seven interesting speakers and entertainment in the evenings. Fun was had by all. This year once again we have an interesting program scheduled.

We hope you will be able to join us. So, please save these dates for UNA Seniors' Week and follow the press for further information about the program.

Make your reservations now for the **UNA Seniors' Conference**, which will be held at our mountain resort **SOYUZIVKA**, from Sunday, June 10 (starting with a wine and cheese reception) through Friday, June 15 (including brunch). The package is all-inclusive: five nights of accommodations, all meals, including banquet, (taxes and gratuities included).



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Paintings...

(Continued from page 10)

boy of Rusyn-Ukrainian background from Pittsburgh and the fact that the Communist Party U.S.A. had its headquarters in the same building as Warhol's Factory on Union Square.

Written in the form of a diary, the novel imagines and explores the clash between two opposite worlds – that of Andy Warhol and that of a straight-laced orthodox Communist, a Soviet Ukrainian journalist who arrives in New York in early 1968 to cover the impending American Revolution. As the journalist, Sasha Ivanov, struggles to understand life in New York, he comes to believe that his fellow Ukrainian worker, "Andrei" Warhol, is a socialist realist painter, a proletarian genius and a passionate Leninist.

Dr. Motyl's day job is professor of political science and deputy director of the Division of Global Affairs at Rutgers

University – Newark. He served as associate director of the Harriman Institute at Columbia University in 1992-1998.

He is the author of six academic books, "Imperial Ends: The Decline, Collapse, and Revival of Empires" (2001); "Revolutions, Nations, Empires: Conceptual Limits and Theoretical Possibilities" (1999); "Dilemmas of Independence: Ukraine after Totalitarianism" (1993); "Sovietology, Rationality, Nationality: Coming to Grips with Nationalism in the USSR" (1990); "Will the Non-Russians Rebel? State, Ethnicity, and Stability in the USSR" (1987); and "The Turn to the Right: The Ideological Origins and Development of Ukrainian Nationalism, 1919-1929" (1980).

He is also editor of the two-volume "Encyclopedia of Nationalism" (2000); "Thinking Theoretically About Soviet Nationalities" (1992); and "The Post-Soviet Nations" (1992).

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Syzokryli Ukrainian Dancers perform at European Folk Festival

NEW YORK – The Syzokryli Ukrainian Dancers of New York performed to a crowd of over 700 people at the 30th annual European Folk Festival, held at the Fashion Institute of Technology on Sunday, March 18.

Originally known as the Slavic Folk Festival, this year's show included dances from Norway, Greece and Macedonia. In addition to the Ukrainians, other Slavic groups that have regularly performed at the festival included Belarusians, Serbians, Poles, Slovaks, Hungarians, Russians and Bulgarians.

The Syzokryli dancers performed two Ukrainian pieces choreographed by the late Roma Pryma Bohachevsky, with a dance from Bukovyna in the first half of

the program and the ever-popular Hopak as the finale.

Roman Lewkowicz, a former student of Ms. Bohachevsky, and founder and choreographer of Obrij Folk Song and Dance Ensemble of New York, commented that, "Syzokryli have a new look, with younger dancers who perform with an enthusiasm and tenacity that is their trademark, but being a younger group, I look forward to their continued high level of execution and refinement that people have expected from Syzokryli."

Commenting also on Alexander Sevasteian's bayan performance of Belarusian melodies, Mr. Lewkowicz noted the striking similarities of melodic lines to Ukrainian folk music.



Christine Syzonenko

A dance from the Bukovyna region as performed by the Syzokryli.



A view of the ever-popular "Hopak."

The show was made possible by the Slavic Heritage Council of America, a working committee of representatives of Slavic ethnic organizations that 30 years

ago planned the first "Slavic Culture Week" in New York. Vasyl Sosiak represents the Ukrainian community on the council's board of directors.

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Ukraine's ambassador to U.S. pays a visit to Pittsburgh

by Stephen Haluzczak
and Nickolas C. Kotow

PITTSBURGH – Dr. Oleh Shamshur, the extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of Ukraine to the United States of America, visited on March 4-5 as part of his program to visit American cities. His visit was planned by Galyna Pobedonosteva, third secretary at the Embassy, working with Ukrainian community leaders in Pittsburgh.

Upon their arrival at noon on Sunday, March 4, the ambassador's party was greeted by Ukrainian Technological Society President Roksana Korchynsky, Ph.D., Vice-President Debra A. Walenchok and Secretary Nickolas C. Kotow and taken to lunch. Afterwards, the ambassador was driven to the Cathedral of Learning on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh to view the Ukrainian Nationality Classroom, one of 30-some nationality classrooms in the cathedral.

At 4 p.m. the ambassador greeted the Pittsburgh Ukrainian community at the Pittsburgh Airport Marriott Hotel, where he was welcomed with the traditional bread and salt by Chrystyna and Oriana Hlutkowsky of the Poltava Ukrainian Dance Company of Pittsburgh and Alexandra Kocelko and Larissa Spak of the Kyiv Ukrainian Dance

Ensemble and School.

The American and Ukrainian national anthems were then sung by the Ukrainian Cultural Trust Choir of Western Pennsylvania, led by Dorothy Waslo, director. The Rev. Protopresbyter George Hnatko, dean of the Pittsburgh Deanery of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., lead the invocation.

The program, moderated by attorney Roman Komichak as master of ceremonies, began with the introduction of the clergy in attendance, including the Rt. Rev. Hnatko, the Very Rev. Timothy Tomson, Msgr. George Appleyard and the Rev. Volydymyr Ivashchenko, as well as representatives of more than 15 Ukrainian organizations in the Pittsburgh area.

Mrs. Walenchok thanked all the people and organizations that had a part in planning the ambassador's visit especially Luba Hlutkowsky, Mr. Komichak and Michael Korchynsky. She briefly outlined the goals and programs of the Ukrainian Technological Society, an association of Ukrainian professionals and businesspersons.

Next to welcome the ambassador was Mr. Komichak, director of the Ukrainian Radio Program in Pittsburgh, who informed Ambassador Shamshur about the history of the Pittsburgh Ukrainian com-

munity, from its first arrivals in the 1880s and the succeeding immigrations to the characteristics of the present community and the business climate in Pittsburgh.

Ambassador Shamshur addressed the assembly in both Ukrainian and English, speaking on bilateral relations between the United States and Ukraine, the current political situation in Ukraine, and future prospects of Ukraine joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the World Trade Organization and the European Union. He was positive that the move towards democracy was irreversible, and that Ukraine will progress to become a leader in the community of nations. A lively question-and-answer session followed.

Ambassador Shamshur saw the growing energy crisis in Ukraine as the most important near-term problem. He said conservation efforts and new energy sources were needed to address this problem in the next three to five years.

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Msgr. Appleyard, dean of the Central Deanery of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma, Ohio.

A private dinner was then held with the ambassador, attended by some 60 local Ukrainian community leaders. The invocation was again given by the Very Rev.

Hnatko, and Dr. Korchynsky acted as mistress of ceremonies for a program in which the officers of seven Ukrainian organizations informed the ambassador about their programs. An exchange of gifts was made, and "Mnohaya Lita" was sung for the ambassador. The Rev. Ivashchenko, of the Slavic Baptist Church Congregation, gave the benediction.

On Monday, March 5, Dr. Shamshur, accompanied by Stephen Haluzczak, executive director of the Ukrainian Cultural and Humanitarian Institute of Pittsburgh (UCHI), met with Tom Fallon, president of the Greater Pittsburgh Sister Cities Association, who informed the ambassador that the Pittsburgh-Donetsk Sister City relationship was one of the strongest and most active of the 14 official sister city relationships Pittsburgh has. He warmly received the ambassador's desire to strengthen the relationship.

Dr. Shamshur later made a presentation about concrete opportunities for foreign direct investment in Ukraine in the areas of energy, information technology, agriculture and trade at a business luncheon sponsored by UCHI and the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Russian and East European Studies. Dr. Shamshur was encouraged by the interest in Ukraine from the Pittsburgh corporate community, and he said he anticipates further talks.

Visits to the offices of Luke Ravenstahl, mayor of Pittsburgh, and Dan Onorato, Allegheny County chief executive, were important appointments on the day's program, as Dr. Shamshur presented plans for an official invitation from the Donetsk city government to local Pittsburgh officials to send a business delegation from Pittsburgh to Donetsk to establish concrete avenues for cooperation between the two metropolitan areas.

In the afternoon the ambassador paid a courtesy visit to Metropolitan Archbishop Constantine of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. The Very Rev. Steve Repa of Carnegie, Pa., and the Very Rev. Michael Kochis of Ambridge, Pa., participated in the meeting.

A trip to the Sen. John Heinz Regional History Center provided Dr. Shamshur the opportunity to learn more about Pittsburgh's rich history.

The ambassador's visit to Pittsburgh concluded with a dinner with Mr. Haluzczak and the board of directors of the Ukrainian Cultural and Humanitarian Institute. Dr. Shamshur expressed gratitude for the work of the institute with Donetsk and eastern Ukraine.

Dr. Shamshur reiterated the importance of this work in regions of Ukraine that are poorly understood and often overlooked, but are very important to the nation, as the people living there consider themselves citizens of Ukraine and are looking forward to a democratic future. He mentioned several opportunities for future projects in this region and offered his support to UCHI in its future programs.

Ukraine faces...

(Continued from page 3)

prime minister does not rule out a show of force in dealing with the president. Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko, one of the two presidential allies in Yanukovich's Cabinet, felt obliged to immediately clarify whose side the armed forces would take in such a scenario. "In accordance with existing legislation, the army will only carry out orders from the commander in chief [Yushchenko]," he said.

Irrespective of what course political events in Ukraine may take in the coming days and weeks, Ukrainians are certain to face a newly turbulent and nerve-racking period.

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Psychology prof finds new career in Ukraine

ROCHESTER, N.Y. – A chance encounter led a retired Ukrainian American psychology professor from Rochester, N.Y., to a new career in Ukrainian science.

In the summer of 1996 Dr. Roman Tratch, professor emeritus of psychology at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, N.Y., was attending the International Congress of Psychology in Montreal. During one intermission, he overheard people speaking Ukrainian. He approached them, introduced himself, and met Zoia Kisarchuk, Ludmila Karamushka and Viktor Titov, who were attending the Congress as members of the H.S. Kostiuk Institute of Psychology in Kyiv, a well-known research institute in this field, which employs about 70 researchers and is part of the Ukrainian Academy of Pedagogical Science.

Dr. Tratch kept company with the Ukrainians for the duration of the congress, talking about psychology, exchanging ideas about their favorite subject. Among other things, he learned that a team of researchers at the Kyiv institute was working on a multi-language psychological dictionary – Ukrainian-Russian-German-French-English – and that they needed a consultant for the psychological terminology of the three Western languages. Dr. Tratch volunteered his services – as he had studied psychology in German-French and English-language countries. Thus he started his collaboration with the H.S. Kostiuk Kyiv Institute of Psychology,



Dr. Roman Tratch

which continues to the present.

In 1997 Dr. Tratch was invited to Kyiv by the institute to address its members on the topic of humanistic psychology. Humanistic psychology is a relatively recent trend in modern psychology that represents a reaction against some dehumanizing aspects of the dominant trends in the field – the experimental and the psychoanalytic.

His lecture elicited considerable interest and, during the next four years, he was invited to participate in several conferences and seminars sponsored by the institute and held in Kyiv, Rivne and Ivano-Frankivsk. He also published several articles in Ukrainian scholarly jour-

(Continued on page 20)

Ukrainian American at PinchukArtCentre

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Peter Doroshenko, a Ukrainian American born in Chicago, was recently appointed as the president of PinchukArtCentre, the largest collection for contemporary art in Ukraine.

Previously, Mr. Doroshenko worked in Ukraine during the second half of the 1990s, when he was a member of the supervisory board at the Soros Center for Contemporary Art in Kyiv.

Most recently, Mr. Doroshenko was named director of the BALTIC Center for Contemporary Art in Gateshead, England, one of the largest galleries in Europe, and has gained unique work experience in the world of contemporary art, both in the United States and Europe.

In 2003-2005 Mr. Doroshenko was director of the Museum for Contemporary Art S.M.A.K. (Stedelijk Museum Voor Actuele Kunst), in Ghent, Belgium. Mr. Doroshenko also served as director or curator at: the Institute of Visual Arts in Milwaukee, Wis.; the Contemporary Arts Museum in Houston; and the Everson Museum in Syracuse, N.Y.

In 2002 the French government awarded him the Diploma of Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters.

Mr. Doroshenko will serve as the commissioner of the Ukrainian pavilion



Peter Doroshenko

at the 2007 Biennale di Venezia, in Venice, Italy, a contemporary art show.

In a statement released by BALTIC, Mr. Doroshenko said, "I am extremely pleased to accept this position for the PinchukArtCentre. BALTIC is about connecting people with people through engagement with the very best contemporary art in the world. The new relationship with PinchukArtCentre will provide enormous scope for creative encounter and exchange at all levels."

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

A Ukrainian Summer

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY



SOLOMIYA IVAKHIV, violinist
New York City Debut

ANGELINA GADELIYA, piano **MICHAEL HAAS, cello**

Saturday, April 14, 2007, at 8 p.m.
at the Ukrainian Institute of America

Program:

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART
Sonata for Violin and Piano in G Major, KV 301 (293a)
MAURICE RAVEL
Sonata for Violin and Piano (1927)
BORYS LYATOSHYNSKY
Sonata for Violin and Piano, Op. 19 (1926)
ROBERT SCHUMANN
Piano Trio in D Minor, Op. 63

A reception will follow the performance

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Ukrainian Institute of America
2 East 79th Street, New York, NY 10021
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Art Exhibition

"Untitled" The Art of Vasyl Bazhaj

April 13 – May 6, 2007
Exhibition Hours – 12 to 6 p.m. daily
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Opening Reception
April 13, 2007, at 6 p.m.

Ukrainian Institute of America
2 East 79th Street, New York, NY 10021

To RSVP for the opening reception call
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or email
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Philadelphia center organizes Ukrainian Cartoon Festival

by Andrea Porytko Zharovsky

JENKINTOWN, Pa. – For the first time in its history, the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center (UECC) celebrated International Mother Language Day on Saturday, February 24, by hosting a Ukrainian Cartoon Festival. The UECC and Svitlychka, a Ukrainian Cooperative Nursery School, jointly organized the Ukrainian Cartoon Festival.

Also during the day, a petition was distributed by UECC press and signed by concerned students of the Ukrainian Heritage School and members of the Ukrainian Philadelphia community. This document, which will be mailed to the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington, supports the president of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko, and the children of Ukraine, who expect and deserve Ukrainian translations and dubbing of films, especially children's films, in theaters and in home video rentals on the territory of Ukraine. Over 350 signatures were collected.

More than 180 Philadelphia-area children and their parents filled the main hall eager to watch the highly anticipated cartoon festival.

The Ukrainian Cartoon Festival's chairperson, Andrea Zharovsky, briefly explained how the idea for the festival came about and explained the meaning of International Mother Language Day. She also informed all that the president of Ukraine also celebrated International Mother Language Day by attending a viewing of a film with his wife and children in Kyiv. The film was "Charlotte's Web," a live-action/computer-animated feature film based on the popular children's book of the same name by E.B. White, which was translated and dubbed into Ukrainian.

President Yushchenko stated when asked about the holiday, "As for the development of the Ukrainian language, more and more people come to understand that it can help us unite. It is incumbent upon me to make Ukrainians understand that it is their obligation to know and learn their native language."

At the 30th session of the General Conference of UNESCO in 1999, it was decided to launch and observe an International Mother Language Day on February 21 every year throughout the world. "Linguistic and cultural diversity represent universal values that strengthen the unity and cohesion of societies. The recognition of the importance of lin-

Andrea Porytko Zharovsky is on the Press Committee of the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Jenkintown, Pa.

guistic diversity led to UNESCO's decision to celebrate International Mother Language Day," UNESCO explains.

With about half of the 6,000 or so languages spoken in the world under threat, the holiday attempts to heighten awareness of the problem. In 2006 the theme focused on the topic of languages and cyberspace. Other years were devoted to: Braille and sign languages (2005); the process by which children learn and master the use of written literacy skills in the classroom (2004); and the encouragement of all forms of promotion, development and teaching of the mother language (2003).

Recognizing the importance and the need for such a holiday, Ukraine celebrated International Mother Language Day for the first time on February 21, 2002.

The Ukrainian Cartoon Festival program at the UECC featured three cartoons.

The first two short films were created in Ukraine: "Rukavychka," 1996, Ukranimafilm Studios (8:05 minutes), and "Litachok Lip," 2000, Ukranimafilm (9:35 minutes).

The third, Walt Disney Pictures, "Cars," or "Tachky," was created by Pixar Animation Studio in the United States and translated into Ukrainian by Oleksa Nehrebetsky.

Incorporating many of Ukraine's popular idiomatic expressions, the translation is very effective, interesting, funny and most of all, devoid of Russified elements. Lending their voices to the dubbed film are Ostap Stupka, Olha Sumska, Yuriy Kovalenko and Andriy Sereda.

Children of all ages sat mesmerized, at times laughing out loud, reacting to the films. The festival was a great success. Eight gifts were raffled off as well. The winners received "Cars"-related snacks, toys and coloring posters.

A promise was made to the many children and parents in the audience: that the UECC would continue to promote Ukrainian language films; it would continue its work of encouraging and enticing its children to speak, write, think and, yes, even play in Ukrainian.

* * *

The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, founded in 1980, is a non-profit organization whose objective is to preserve and promote awareness of Ukrainian heritage throughout the Philadelphia community. The UECC is located at 700 Cedar Road in Jenkintown, PA 19046 and can be reached via phone at 215-663-1166 or e-mail at contact@ukrainiancenterphila.org. The UECC website is located at www.ukrainiancenterphila.org.

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Psychology prof...

(Continued from page 19)

nals, including one titled "The Challenge of Nihilism," which appeared in the journal *Suchasnist* in 2004 (issue 7/8).

To satisfy the apparent great interest in humanistic psychology, with the assistance of Prof. G.O. Ball from the institute, Dr. Tratch edited an anthology of "Western Approaches to Humanistic Psychology," Vol. I. The book was published in 2001 by the University Publishing House Pulsary and was well-received. In 2005 it was followed by volume II, titled "Psychology and Spirituality," which also received a favorable review in the Ukrainian journal *Social Psychology*. In both books introductory chapters were written by Dr. Tratch, who also wrote informational and

biographical data about the authors of the articles included in the anthologies.

Both books are recommended by the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science for use as texts in institutes of higher learning; the books are used as texts by many psychology professors.

In the fall of 2005 the First All-Ukrainian Congress of Psychologists took place in Kyiv, and Dr. Tratch was one of the five speakers invited to address its plenary session. He chose to speak about "What it Means 'To Thy Own Self Be True.'"

As he continues his work in Ukraine, Dr. Tratch in January 2006 was named professor of psychology at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, and in November 2006 was elected as a foreign member of the Ukrainian Academy of Pedagogical Sciences.

San Francisco Ukrainians celebrate Taras Shevchenko Day

by Nestor Wolansky

SAN FRANCISCO – An exciting Taras Shevchenko Day program took place on Saturday, March 24, at the Ukrainian Orthodox Church Hall in San Francisco. As is the case every year, Bay Area Ukrainians, adults and children alike, honored the most distinguished Ukrainian of them all with a lively display of talent.



A presentation during San Francisco's Taras Shevchenko program.

Sviatoslav Stus, tenor, and Andriy Danylyshyn, baritone, started off with Taras Shevchenko's "Testament" (1845), followed by the "Destiny" (1858), a wonderful recitation by Nazariy Tochytskyi, the young son of Mykola Tochytskyi, the current consul general of Ukraine's in San Francisco. Ivan Stus, the son of Sviatoslav Stus, sang from Taras Shevchenko's poem "Hamaliya"

(1842).

Mr. Danylyshyn also presented a lecture titled "The Two Destinies in the Life of Taras Shevchenko." The energetic Maria Tcherepenko, mezzo-soprano, the concert organizer and well-known Bay Area's activist, sang two classic pieces, "I Will Go to the Forest for Wood" and "I Will Go over the Hill." She was followed by Katherine Rybiy with a Shevchenko

recitation, "In All Our Earthly Paradise" (1849). Ivanna Taratula-Filipenko, mezzo-soprano, performed two pieces from the opera "Zaporozhian Kozak Beyond the Danube," "Oy, Hoya-ya, Oy, Hoya-ya" and "My Mother Told Me."

A duo of identical twin sisters, Olya and Olesya Sokalski, recently arrived in San Francisco from Kyiv (but originally from Ivano-Frankivsk), performed two

Ukrainian folk songs on their banduras, "The Wind Goes Howling Down the Hale," a fragment from the "Poplar" (1839), and "High above Dnipro, Shevchenko Sleeps."

Following the intermission, during which the audience had a chance to sample home-made varenyky, various pies and coffee, the program resumed with warm greetings from Consul General Tochytskyi, who reassured everyone that visa-free Ukraine is beckoning everyone to visit now more than ever before, adding that the country is once again expecting a record number of visitors.

A staged poem, "The Hired Girl" (1845) was performed on the church hall stage by Natalia Biscardi, Andriy Kryshchak, Svitlana Kryshchak, Katherine Bober, Roman Drohobytzky, Alexandra Danylyshyn, Danylko Drohobytzky, Andriy Danylyshyn, Olya Trofymiuk and Anna Somyk, the play's coordinator.

Juliana Filipenko, the young daughter of Ivana Taratula-Filipenko, sang a lovely Ukrainian folk song, "Shoes in Visions" (1848), which was followed by a recitation, "The Muse" (1858) performed by Sviatoslav Tochytskyi, the Ukrainian consul general's other son.

Ms. Tcherepenko then sang "Dumka"

(1839). Ola Herasymenko-Oliynyk, the Merited Artist of Ukraine, who comes from a distinguished musical family – daughter of the renowned bandurist Prof. Vasyl Herasymenko – performed two Ukrainian pieces on the bandura. Ms. Taratula-Filipenko teamed up with Ms. Herasymenko-Oliynyk to perform Shevchenko's "Grey Geese."

The concert came to a close with a spirited rendition of the Ukrainian national anthem, performed to perfection, bringing tears to many in the audience, by Mmes. Tcherepenko and Taratula-Filipenko.

Ella Belikovskaya accompanied many of the performers on the piano.

A stunning exhibit of art by Boris Soroka, who resides in Palo Alto was displayed in the church hall, along with an outstanding collection of embroidery and bead work by Ms. Herasymenko-Oliynyk.

The Shevchenko event was sponsored by the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church of San Francisco, the St. Volodymyr Mission of Santa Clara and the Ukrainian Consulate General of San Francisco.

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SUMMER CAMPS AT SOYUZIVKA!

TENNIS CAMP AGES 10-18

Intensive two weeks instruction and competitive play directed by George Sawchak. Limited to 45 participants.

Weeks: June 24– July 6, 2007
\$670 UNA Members
\$720 Non UNA Members

EXPLORATION DAY CAMP AGES 7-10

Six hours of fun-filled activities in this day camp, which focuses on the outdoors.

Session 1: June 25– June 29, 2007
Session 2: July 2– July 6, 2007
\$100/per week or \$25/per day

PLAST CAMP-TABIR PTASHAT

A Plast day camp held at Soyuzivka. Please contact Plast for registration & Soyuzivka for room bookings.

Session 1: June 24– July 1, 2007
Session 2: July 1– July 8, 2007

ROMA PRYMA BOHACHEVSKY UKRAINIAN DANCE WORKSHOP AGES 16 and UP



For over 30 years, Workshop has been a popular summer dance program and this year it will be held at Soyuzivka! Continuing her mom's legacy, this workshop will be directed by Ania Bohachevsky-Lonkevych. Campers hard work will be highlighted at our Ukrainian Film & Cultural Festival weekend.

Session : July 1– July 15, 2007
\$910- UNA Members
\$960- Non UNA Members

A \$75 deposit is required to register a child into camp (For Sitch camp- register directly with Sitch Sports School. For Plast camp- register directly with Plast) For more information & for camp applications call: (845) 626-5641 or check out our website at: www.Soyuzivka.com



UKRAINIAN HERITAGE DAY CAMP AGES 4-7

Formerly known as Chemney Camp, this day camp exposes kids to their Ukrainian heritage through daily activities such as dance, song, crafts and games. Price includes tee-shirt & daily lunch.

Session 1: July 15– July 20, 2007
Session 2: July 22– July 27, 2007
\$150 Per Camper
\$190 if not an overnight guest

DISCOVERY CAMP AGES 8-15

Calling all nature lovers for this sleepover camp filled with hiking, swimming, scuba, organized sports, & bonfires.

Week: July 15– July 21, 2007
\$400 UNA Members
\$450 Non UNA Members

SCUBA DIVING COURSE AGES 12-ADULTS

One week course will complete academic, confined water and open water requirements for PADI open water certification. Classes given by George Hanushevsky, scuba-diver instructor.

Pre registration is required.

Week 1 : July 15– July 21, 2007
Week 2 : July 22– July 28, 2007
\$400 for Course, \$120 Deposit Required, All fees payable to George Hanushevsky

UKRAINIAN "SITCH" SPORTS CAMP AGES 6-18

This is the 38th Annual Ukrainian "SITCH" Sports Camp run by the Ukrainian Sitch Sports School. This camp will focus on soccer and tennis & is perfect for any sports enthusiast. Registration for this camp is done directly by contacting Marika Bokalo at (908) 851-0617.

Session 1: July 22– July 28, 2007
Session 2: July 29– August 4, 2007
\$350 Per Camper
\$150 for Day Campers

ROMA PRYMA BOHACHEVSKY UKRAINIAN DANCE CAMP AGES 8-16

Directed by Ania Bohachevsky-Lonkevych (daughter of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky). Expert instruction for beginning, intermediate and advanced dancers. The camps will end with a grand recital- always a summer highlight!

Session 1: July 22– August 4, 2007
Session 2: August 5– 18, 2007
\$910- UNA Members
\$960- Non UNA Members



OUT AND ABOUT

Current to May 12 Detroit	Art exhibit, "In Search of Ukrainian Symbolism and Motifs," The Scarab Club, 313-831-1250	April 20-22 Hancock, MI	Ukrainian Dance Workshop, Copper County Community Arts Center and Laurium Ballroom, 906-337-5529 or jkmarr@mtu.edu
April 10 New York	Lecture with Roman Kupchinsky, "Energy and Nation-Building in Ukraine," Columbia University, 212-854-4697	April 20-22 New York	Art exhibit featuring works by Bohdan Soroka, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, 212-260-4490
April 11 New York	Ss. Cyril and Methodius Conference, "The Impact of 'Young Europe' in Ukraine and Russia," Columbia University, 212-854-4697	April 21 New York	Lecture by Theodor Kostiuk, "How Unique is Earth in Our Solar System?" Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130
April 12-14 New York	Association for the Study of Nationalities 2007 World Convention, featuring 12 panels on Ukraine, Columbia University, www.nationalities.org or gmb12@columbia.edu	April 21 New York	Modernism in Ukraine, discussion with Konstantin Akinsha, Myroslava Mudrak and Oksana Pelenska, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110
April 13 Washington	Spring social, The Washington Group, Leopold's Café, 703-548-8534 or 240-381-0993	April 21 New York	Fund-raiser "Casino Royal, An Evening in Montenegro," Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660
April 13-May 6 New York	Art exhibit, "Untitled" - The Art of Vasyl Bazhaj, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660	April 21 Yonkers, NY	Volleyball tournament, to benefit Yonkers branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), Sacred Heart High School, 914-709-0435
April 13-June 3 New York	Art exhibit, "Works from the Estate of Vasyl Hryhorovych Krychevsky," The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110	April 21 Webster, NY	Dance featuring music by Vechirka, Ukrainian Home, 585-872-0240
April 14 Baltimore, MD	Spring fling pub night, featuring live music, Ukrainian National Home/Sports Club Dnipro, 410-529-5375 or 410-967-0501	April 21 Piscataway, NJ	Ukrainian students (SUSTA) conference, Rutgers University, 609-240-5227 or www.ukrainianstudents.net
April 14 New York	Discussion, "Students from Ukraine: The Future of Ukraine and of the Ukrainian American Community," Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-475-5326	April 22 Ryan, MI	Concert featuring Solomia Soroka and Arthur Greene, Ukrainian Arts Society, St. Josephat Parish Center, 734-354-6517
April 14 Bloomington, IL	Dance featuring music by Hrim, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church, steven_martyn@hotmail.com	April 22 Carnegie, PA	Concert, "Bandura - The Soul of Ukraine," Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, Andrew Carnegie Free Library Music Hall, 412-331-6724
April 14-15 Tyler, TX	Battle re-enactment, "Ukrainian War of Liberation," Four Winds Renaissance Faire, www.fourwindsfaire.com or 501-655-2161		
April 14-15 South Bound Brook, NJ	St. Thomas Sunday Pilgrimage - "Providna Nedilia," St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 732-356-0090		
April 15 Oshawa, ON	Lecture by Lubomyr Luciuk at art exhibit featuring "Vera Jacyk: Chysto, Chysto, Chysto," Robert McLaughlin Gallery, 905-576-3000		
April 15 Ithaca, NY	Stephen Miahky performs works of Bartok, Debussy and Ives, Cornell University, 607-255-3430		
April 15 Sacramento, CA	Easter festival - "Providna Nedilia," St. Andrew Ukrainian Catholic Church, 916-381-2529 or 916-363-8143		
April 15 Hillside, NJ	Easter ritual songs and dances - hahilky, featuring instruction and performance, Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church, 973-599-9381		
April 15-29 Toronto	Art exhibit featuring works by Alexander Motyl, "Elusive Elements," Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation Gallery, 416-766-6802 or 484-995-0601		
April 16 Cambridge, MA	Lecture by Tatiana Oparina, "The Issue of the 'True Faith': Some Problems in Russian-Ukrainian Ecclesiastical Contacts in the 17 th Century," Harvard University, 617-495-4053		
April 16 Washington	Lecture by Laada Bilaniuk, "Language and Politics in Ukrainian Popular Culture," Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, 202-691-4140		
April 18 New York	Meet the Filmmakers, Ukrainian Film Club, Columbia University, sy2165@columbia.edu		
April 20 Toronto	Film screening, "Orange Revolution," by Steven York, The Al Green Theater, 416-924-6211		

Plast Camp at Vovcha Tropa Welcomes You!

OTK, the Operating Committee for Vovcha Tropa Plast Camps in East Chatham, NY, held its annual camp planning workshop on Saturday, March 18, to prepare for the upcoming July camp season. Five camps are being offered this year including:

Tabir Novakiv
Tabir Novachok

Tabir Yunakiv
Tabir Yunachok
Tabir Starshoho Yunatstva*

** for 15-year-olds and up; special requirements*



The camps are three-week sessions from Saturday, July 7, through Saturday, July 28, with the exception of Tabir Starshoho Yunatstva, which is a two-week camp from Saturday, July 7 through Sunday, July 22.

Applications have been mailed to most Plast members in the U.S. If you did not receive an application and are interested in attending, please access www.vovchatropa.org for more information and all necessary camp forms or call Darka Patti at 973-783-4427.

Early deadline for registration is May 1, 2007.

Soyuzivka's Datebook

MONDAYS, June 25-August 27, 2007

Steak Night w/music by Soyuzivka House band located on Veselka Patio

WEDNESDAYS, June 27-August 29, 2007

Hutzul Night w/music by Soyuzivka House band located on Vorochta Lawn

FRIDAYS, June 29-August 31, 2007

Odesa Seafood Night w/music by Soyuzivka House band located on Veselka Patio

SATURDAYS, June 30-September 1, 2007

Ukrainian Zabavas (dances) featuring a live Ukrainian band

April 13-15, 2007

Ukrainian Language Immersion
Weekend offered at SUNY
New Paltz

April 20-22, 2007

BUG (Brooklyn Ukrainian Group)
Spring Cleaning/Volunteer
Weekend

April 21, 2007

Alpha Kappa Sorority Semi-Formal
Dinner Banquet

April 27-29, 2007

Plast Sorority "Shostokryli" Rada

April 28, 2007

TAP New York Beer Festival at Hunter
Mountain - 10th Anniversary!
Round-trip bus from Soyuzivka,
special room rate \$60/night
Alpha Phi Delta Fraternity Semi-
Formal Dinner Banquet

May 4-6, 2007

Ukrainian Language Immersion
Weekends offered at SUNY
New Paltz

May 13, 2007

Mother's Day Luncheon 11:30 a.m.-
2 p.m., \$15++

May 19, 2007

Tri Valley High School Prom

May 25-27, 2007

Memorial Day Weekend BBQ,
Orchidia Patrons' Reunion,
Summer kick-off and zabava

June 1-3, 2007

Ukrainian Language Immersion
Weekends offered at SUNY
New Paltz

June 4-8, 2007

Stamford Clergy Days -
Spring Seminar

June 9, 2007

Wedding

June 10-15, 2007

UNA Seniors Week

June 15, 2007

Walkill High School Retirement Party

June 15-17, 2007

4th Annual Adoptive Parents
Weekend

June 16, 2007

Party

June 17, 2007

Father's Day Luncheon and program
featuring Syzokryli Ukrainian
Dance Ensemble, tenor Roman
Tsybala and band Vidlunnia with
Marian Pidvirnyj, 1 p.m., \$20++

June 21-24, 2007

UMANA Convention

June 24-July 6, 2007

Tennis Camp

June 24-July 1, 2007

Plast Camp - Tabir Ptashat,
Session #1

June 25-29, 2007

Exploration Day Camp, Session #1,
ages 7-10

July 1-8, 2007

Plast Camp Tabir Ptashat, Session #2

July 1-15, 2007

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian
Dance Workshop, Ages 16 & up

July 2-6, 2007

Exploration Day Camp, Session #2,
ages 7-10

July 6-8, 2007

4th OF JULY FESTIVITIES
Tiki Bar Entertainment, Concerts,
Zabavas

July 8-10, 2007

Discount Days, 25% off all room rates

July 11-15, 2007

Ukrainian Film & Cultural Festival -
featuring Roma Pryma
Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance
Workshop, Ukrainian films
coordinated by Yuri Shevchuk,
founding director of UFCCU,
Ukrainian arts & crafts, and
other venues

July 13-15, 2007

Ukrainian Language Immersion
Weekend offered at SUNY
New Paltz

July 15-20, 2007

Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp,
Session #1, ages 4-7

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, April 14

NEW YORK: The USA/USA - Ukramerezha Program invites all to a free information session, forum and reception titled "Students from Ukraine: The Future of Ukraine and of the Ukrainian American Community." The USA/USA Program, since 1992, has helped 34 students from all regions of Ukraine earn full-year college scholarships to leading American colleges. The session will be held at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, 63 Fourth Ave. (between ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For information call 212-475-5326 or e-mail info@ukrainianscholarships.org. For more information about the USA/USA Program log on to www.ukrainianscholarships.org.

Monday, April 16

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will host a lecture given by Tatiana Oparina, associate professor of history, Novosibirsk Pedagogical University, and Eugene and Daymel Shklar Research Fellow, Ukrainian Research Institute. Her lecture, "The Issue of the 'True Faith': Some Problems in Russian-Ukrainian Ecclesiastical Contacts in the Seventeenth Century," will be held at 4-6 p.m. in Room S-050 (Concourse level) of the South Building of the Center for Government and International Studies (CGIS), located at 1730 Cambridge St. For more information contact HURI at 617-495-4053 or huri@fas.harvard.edu.

Wednesday, April 18

NEW YORK: The April event of the Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University will feature a screening and a personal meeting with the filmmakers of "The Unnamed Zone," a 2006 full-length documentary film about the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident. Three children and their families, living close to the exclusion zone around the destroyed station, recount their fears, dreams and hopes for the future. The film (80 min.) will be shown in its original Ukrainian version with English subtitles, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 717, Hamilton Hall, 1130 Amsterdam Ave., Columbia University. It will be introduced by Yuri Shevchuk, director of the Ukrainian Film Club, and followed by discussion with the film's director, Carlos Rodriguez, and producer, Asun Lasarte. The screening is free and open to the public. For more information call 212-854-4697 or see http://www.columbia.edu/cu/ufc/.

Friday-Sunday, April 20-22

NEW YORK: In memory of the late Nina Samokish, Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 64 and the "Verkhovynky" Plast Sorority, New York branch, invite the public to an exhibition of graphics and paintings by Bohdan Soroka of Lviv. The exhibition will open on Friday at 7 p.m. with Jaroslawa Gerulak, who will introduce the audience to Mr. Soroka's art. The exhibit will close on Sunday at 2 p.m. with a "Meet the Artist" event, featuring Mr. Soroka, who will discuss his artistic life path. During the exhibit, composer Volodymyr Tkachenko will perform original piano music inspired by the artwork. Donations are voluntary. The exhibition will take place at the UCCA, 203 Second Ave., second floor, New York, NY 10003. For more

information call 212-260-4490, log on to www.brama.com/calendar/ or e-mail ukrartlitclub@yahoo.com.

Saturday, April 21

PISCATAWAY, N.J.: The national conference of SUSTA - the Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations of America - will consist of a wide variety of lectures, films and panel discussions relating to contemporary Ukrainian issues and the role of Ukrainian students. Along with the conference there will be a summit of SUSTA leaders and elections in order to further expand the organization. The conference will be an opportunity to learn more and to network with other Ukrainians, as well as help preserve and build the Ukrainian community. The SUSTA conference will be held at Rutgers University in Piscataway, N.J., hosted by the Rutgers Ukrainian Students Club. For more information contact Nick Prociuk at 732-718-8240 or go to ukrainians.rutgers.edu.

Saturday, April 28

WASHINGTON: Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA) Branch 78 invites the public to the "Choose Your Muse" spring art exhibit and sale featuring the works of 11 women artists. Choose from oils, watercolors, pottery, tiles, mixed media and photography. Participating artists: Krystyna Marchak-Baransky, Andrea Cybyk, Irene Fedyshyn, Natalia Gawdiak, Chrystyna Kinal, Natalia Kormeliuk, Marta Legeckis, Christina Saj, Natalia Sluzar, Ilona Sochynsky and Martha Hirniak-Voyevodka. The one-day only exhibit, sale and reception will be held at 2-8 p.m. Address: The Field School, 2301 Foxhall Road NW, Washington, DC 20007. Admission: donations welcomed. Proceeds to benefit the charitable, educational and cultural endeavors undertaken by UNWLA, Inc. For information call Tania Terleckyj, 703-271-9672, or Sophia Caryk, 301-854-2062.

Sunday, April 29

WHIPPANY, N.J.: Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 75 is sponsoring an art exhibit, sale and silent action called "An Artful Afternoon." All are invited to the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 60 N. Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07054 for 1-5 p.m. Thirteen Ukrainian artists will be featured. See http://www.uaccnj.org for more information and a list of participating artists. Come meet with the artists and enjoy welcome cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Donation: \$25; proceeds benefit The Ukrainian Museum in New York. For more information contact Olha Lukiw at olha@comcast.net or 973-376-4829.

Saturday, May 5

TROY, N.Y.: Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church of Cohoes, N.Y., and its Centennial Jubilee Committee are sponsoring a performance by the Taras Shevchenko Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus and the Syzokryli Dancers to be held at the world famous Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets are available by calling 518-273-0038 or on the web at www.troy-musichall.org.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

Listings of **no more than 100 words** (written in Preview format) plus payment should be sent a week prior to desired date of publication to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, (973) 644-9510; e-mail preview@ukrweekly.com.



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