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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy strengthens ties with U.S.

CHICAGO – The National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy recently enlarged its contacts and support in the United States through an information campaign and fund-raising drive aimed at expanding the university’s programs with U.S. institutions and building a more financially secure base for the future.

A total of \$350,000 was raised during a three-week period when the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America hosted the university president, Dr. Viacheslav Briukhovetsky, at events in the Ukrainian communities of Washington, northern New Jersey, Philadelphia, Detroit and Chicago.

Dr. Briukhovetsky also conducted meetings at Stanford University in California, Georgetown University in Washington and Bard College in New York.

“We established new relationships of cooperation with these distinguished universities. Developing personal contacts

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Yushchenko appeals for world recognition of the Holodomor

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on April 11 called on world leaders to recognize the Great Famine of 1932-1933 – known in Ukrainian as the Holodomor – as genocide against the Ukrainian nation. He asked world leaders to act before the 75th anniversary of the Famine, which will be marked in 2008.

“As president of Ukraine, I am calling on you to support the adoption of a United Nations resolution to condemn Ukraine’s Holodomor and [I am calling on] parliamentarians from all over the world to declare the Great Famine of 1932-1933 an act of genocide against the people of Ukraine,” he said in his statement. He underscored that such recognition would play a role in preventing genocides in the future.

President Yushchenko said Ukraine appreciates the solidarity and support of the international community. “Our state is thankful to Australia, Georgia, Estonia, Canada, Lithuania, Poland, the United States of America and Hungary, whose par-

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Political stalemate in Ukraine leads to talk of compromise

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Caught in a stalemate, President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich have begun attempts at reaching compromise in Ukraine’s political crisis, privately exchanging lists of proposals and negotiating points.

In the most significant effort so far, Mr. Yushchenko offered on April 10 to delay pre-term parliamentary elections beyond the scheduled May 27 date, which is widely viewed as unrealistic. He insisted, however, that pre-term elections were the only way out of the crisis, and he said he expects concessions.

The overture didn’t impress Mr. Yanukovich, who maintained the president should withdraw his April 2 decree to dismiss Parliament – which the prime minister described as unconstitutional – or allow the Constitutional Court to review it and make a ruling.

“If the president repeals this decree, that will be the first step to calm society,” the prime minister said. “If he doesn’t do that, the consequences, which are unknown, will be on his conscience.”

While the president and prime minister exchanged their confidential proposals, they continued rattling their swords in public and had their allies engage in further political posturing and maneuvering throughout government organs.

Addressing more than 50,000 supporters on Independence Square on April 11, Mr. Yanukovich proposed that one of the ways to resolve the crisis is to hold presidential elections and parliamentary elections at the same time.

The next day, the president said there currently is no constitutional basis for holding pre-term presidential elections, which could only take place in the event of his death, illness, resignation or impeachment for crimes.

He criticized the coalition for refusing to engage in constructive dialogue and for further pursuing its campaign to monopolize the Ukrainian government.

No money, no rulings

At its April 11 session the Cabinet of Ministers issued a resolution refusing the president’s order to finance pre-term elections, stating that the president’s decree violates Ukrainian law and that a corresponding National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) resolution violates the budget code.

Minister of Justice Oleksander Lavrynovych said the president should adhere to the parliamentary ruling that his decree was unconstitutional.

In response, NSDC Chair Vitalii Haiduk said the elections will be financed by the state budget – an order that will be enforced by legal means. He said the \$68 million needed to conduct elections is in the budget’s reserve fund.



Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz (left), Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich (center) and Communist Party of Ukraine Chair Petro Symonenko appear before tens of thousands of supporters on Independence Square during an April 11 rally.

While Mr. Yanukovich continues to stress the need for the Constitutional Court to rule on the legality of the president’s decree, it appeared increasingly doubtful the judges would issue a ruling anytime soon.

Five Constitutional Court judges said at an April 10 press conference that they were under persistent external pressure, without directly identifying the source but implying it was the coalition government.

“Brazen, public threats against the judges of the Constitutional Court – certain political forces pressuring them with the goal of scaring them into directing the court’s decisions towards politicized approaches and passing decisions advantageous for them – in our view, don’t allow us to make judicial rulings on the constitutional submission from the national deputies of Ukraine,” said Petro

Stetsiuk, a Constitutional Court judge who was Our Ukraine’s parliamentary appointment.

This heavy pressure prompted Court Chair Ivan Dombrovskiy’s attempt to resign, they said.

The judges said they would not review the presidential decree until they were provided with an environment enabling them to make an independent ruling. They also asked the government to provide them with personal security guards.

Judge Viktor Shyshkin, who was appointed to the court by the president, criticized the coalition government for planting its demonstrators in front of the Constitutional Court and exacerbating an already tense political situation.

Four of the five judges are western Ukrainians, three of whom are presidential appointees, which caused suspicion

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Our Ukraine supporters march during April 11 demonstrations in Kyiv.

ANALYSIS

Yushchenko radicalizes as political crisis deepens

by Taras Kuzio

Eurasia Daily Monitor
April 6

On Monday, April 2, President Viktor Yushchenko issued a decree disbanding Parliament and plunging Ukraine into a political crisis. Elections are set for May 27 – before the Constitutional Court will rule on the legality of the decree.

Mr. Yushchenko is a highly cautious and moderate politician who had previously ruled out disbanding Parliament. Until mid-March only the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc supported a call for early elections, which were officially not due until March 2011. In the two weeks prior to the decree, Mr. Yushchenko, the Presidential Secretariat, Our Ukraine and former Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Lutsenko, who heads the National Self-Defense, shifted to the Tymoshenko Bloc's position.

There are at least five reasons for the shift.

- First, a sense of déjà vu surrounding Anatolii Kinakh's appointment as minister of the economy which echoes events in 2002, when the pro-presidential majority bribed liberals and trade unionists to defect from Our Ukraine. This gave President Yushchenko his strongest legal argument that the ongoing "buying" of deputies was altering the outcome of the 2006 elections. Since April 2004 it has been illegal for deputies to change factions.

- Second, last month police raided Mr. Lutsenko's apartment and arrested members of the National Self-Defense. Again, this felt familiar, as weapons and explosives were reportedly planted to incriminate them as alleged "terrorists." In October 2004 the

police planted explosives in the offices of Pora, a youth-oriented NGO, and accused them of being "terrorists."

- Third, the cancellation of the popular "Toloka" television program on State Channel 1 brought back memories of media censorship.

- Fourth, there was the contract killing on March 28 of Maksym Kurochkin, head of the pro-Yanukovich "Russian Club" during the 2004 elections. His high-profile political and business ties to the regime of former President Leonid Kuchma complemented Mr. Kurochkin's links to organized crime.

Finally, there is also a personal factor. Mr. Yushchenko's decision to disband Parliament came after repeated provocations against him from the Anti-Crisis Coalition and government.

On numerous occasions the coalition and government have repeatedly and unnecessarily embarrassed the president. These included the unconstitutional dismissal of Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk, refusal to accept the president's choice for his replacement, the law on the Cabinet of Ministers, the refusal to join the president's constitutional commission to improve the hastily adopted reforms, attempts at removing governors (oblast administration chairmen) and failure to implement the August 2006 Universal of National Unity.

Threats to change the Constitution to make Russian a second state language and the refusal to vote in favor of the law on the 1933 Famine-Genocide damaged relations with Mr. Yushchenko further. These are emotional and non-negotiable issues for national democrats.

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Compromise between President Yushchenko and Yanukovich's coalition: is it possible?

by Pavel Korduban

Eurasia Daily Monitor
April 10

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has rejected calls for a truce from Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and ignored the pacifying overtures made by Mr. Yanukovich's allies in Parliament last week.

Mr. Yushchenko insists that his April 2 decree to dissolve Parliament was in line with the Constitution and that an early election to Parliament will take place on May 27 despite the parliamentary majority's disapproval.

It is not clear, however, how and with what money the election will be conducted. The ruling coalition is boycotting it, and the Finance Ministry says there is no money for it in the state coffers.

The parliamentary majority's initial reaction to President Yushchenko's decree was highly emotional. The Coalition of Prime Minister Yanukovich's Party of the Regions (PRU), the Socialists and the Communists, protesting Mr. Yushchenko's legally doubtful decree, made a series of controversial statements ranging from accusations of power usurpation and calls for Mr. Yushchenko's impeachment to instructions to the Procurator General's Office to open a criminal case into the "abuse of office" by President Yushchenko, to threats of criminal responsibility against those state officials who complied with Mr. Yushchenko's "criminal orders." Parliament also took a highly controver-

sial decision to restore Serhii Kivalov, who had been blamed for trying to rig the 2004 presidential elections in Mr. Yanukovich's favor, as chairman of the Central Electoral Commission.

Mr. Yushchenko, however, did not bend to pressure, so the coalition changed its tactics and started to send pacifying signals. On April 4 Parliament changed the wording of its April 2 statement against the dissolution, removing from it the accusation against Mr. Yushchenko of "masterminding a coup." Speaking on the same day, Mr. Yanukovich offered Mr. Yushchenko a "zero option." He said that his allies would accept most of the president's earlier demands, such as amendments to the law on the Cabinet and making some of the provisions of the Yushchenko-drafted Universal of National Unity of August 2006, in exchange for the withdrawal of the April 2 decree.

Mr. Yanukovich made more compromise offers at his press conference on April 5. He ruled out impeachment for Mr. Yushchenko and said that he had asked Austrian Federal Chancellor Alfred Gusenbauer to mediate efforts to settle the Ukrainian crisis. The prime minister remained firm, however, on the point of early elections. He said that his allies would recognize them only if the Constitutional Court finds that the presidential decree was legitimate.

On April 6 the pro-Yanukovich coalition showed yet more readiness to sur-

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NEWSBRIEFS

Court postpones its hearings

KYIV – The Constitutional Court of Ukraine has postponed hearings on the dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada until April 17, Interfax reported on April 10. Also on April 10, five Constitutional Court judges complained about pressure exerted on them and asked for the state to provide them with bodyguard services. Ukraine's security services have agreed to provide them with temporary protection. The judges also said that they cannot decide on high-profile cases unless there are conditions that would allow unbiased rulings. "The president of Ukraine has issued a decree to dissolve the Verkhovna Rada within his constitutional authority. Regrettably, some well-known statesmen and political figures are making premature statements that the decree is unconstitutional, whereas the Constitution says that only the Constitutional Court is authorized to decide on the constitutionality of the decree," the judges said in a statement. The Constitutional Court consists of 18 judges, appointed by the president, the Parliament and the Council of Judges, a nonpartisan judicial body, which each name six. An effective ruling requires the support of at least 10 judges. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushchenko: court must be obeyed

KYIV – Viktor Yushchenko said on April 10 that all political forces involved in the Ukrainian governmental crisis should accept and honor, rather than discuss, any future Constitutional Court ruling on the legality of the presidential decree dissolving the Verkhovna Rada, Interfax reported. "I would like Constitutional Court rulings to be obeyed rather than discussed," Mr. Yushchenko said. "I am sure that this rule is applicable to all sides," he replied when asked whether he himself will obey a ruling if the Constitutional Court finds his decree unconstitutional. "Both the Constitution and its interpretation by the Constitutional Court should be respected by all parties to the process. This is one of the fundamental preconditions for resolving any conflict, including the conflict that is under way in Ukraine today." (RFE/RL Newsline)

President, law enforcement chiefs meet

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko told an April 10 meeting of the heads of Ukrainian law enforcement agencies that "all law enforcement and security agencies should undertake a peacekeeping mission and stay away from political conflicts," Interfax reported, quoting Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko. Mr. Hrytsenko also said that participants in the meeting did not discuss whether to introduce a state of emergency or whether to beef up law enforcement and security agencies to deal with the situation. According to Mr. Hrytsenko, two groups are monitoring the activity of Ukrainian law-enforcement agencies: one operates on behalf of the president and is led by Vitalii Haiduk, the secretary of the National Defense and Security Council, and the second acts on behalf of the government and is led by Vice Prime Minister Volodymyr Radchenko. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Symonenko seeks president's ouster

KYIV – Petro Symonenko, leader of the Communist Party of Ukraine, is calling on supporters of the ruling coalition to demand the ouster of President Viktor Yushchenko. Speaking at a rally on Independence Square in Kyiv on April 4, he said the main slogan should be "Out with Yushchenko and his Orange team." (Ukrayinski Novyny)

Rada wants presidential election...

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada unanimously adopted with the 258 votes of the ruling coalition an address to the Ukrainian people on April 9 in which it said it will agree to early parliamentary elections if they are held concurrently with a presidential election and a referendum on Ukraine's accession to NATO, Interfax reported the same day. "If elections are the only way to settle the conflict, we will insist on simultaneous presidential elections and a referendum on Ukraine's NATO entry," the address read. The parliamentarians who participated in the vote reiterated their stance that the

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Ruslana Lyzhychko speaks at Woodrow Wilson Center in D.C.

by **Violetta Tutunik**
U.S.-Ukraine Foundation

WASHINGTON – Ukrainian National Deputy Ruslana Lyzhychko gave a presentation on “Leading Ukraine into a New Era of Global and European Citizenship” at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars on March 30. The event was co-sponsored by the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, the Kennan Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund.

A UNICEF goodwill ambassador and winner of Eurovision 2004, Ms. Lyzhychko, a member of the Our Ukraine faction, emphasized the need to integrate Ukraine into the Euro-Atlantic community through membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the European Union (EU). She discussed issues such as human trafficking problems in Ukraine, her involvement with UNICEF, her campaign against drugs, her promotion of Ukrainian language and culture, her new “Wild Energy” initiative and the current political situation in Ukraine.

After introductory welcoming remarks by Renata Kosci-Harmatiy, program associate at the Kennan Institute, and Dr. Oleh Shamshur, Ukraine’s ambassador to the United States, Ms. Lyzhychko shared her vision of the future of Ukraine and described her efforts to promote a positive image of Ukraine in the international community as well as within Ukraine.

It is essential for Ukraine to develop its own ideology as an independent state, said Ms. Lyzhychko. In order to accomplish this, it is important to promote the richness of Ukrainian culture in Ukraine as well as abroad. Ms. Lyzhychko has made many efforts in pursuit of this by taking advantage of opportunities during her travels as a singer and winner of Eurovision, and has used her popularity to promote a political message about Ukraine as well as the humanitarian efforts in which she is involved. Through efforts such as integrating Ukrainian culture into her music and organizing yearly expeditions to the Carpathian Mountains, Ms. Lyzhychko explained that she hopes to keep Ukrainian culture flourishing.

She reiterated her support for President Viktor Yushchenko and Ukraine’s pro-Euro-Atlantic stance,

and expressed her commitment to preserving and promoting Ukraine’s ethnic heritage as a prerequisite to Ukraine finding its own ideology, stability and recognition by the international community. In addition, Ms. Lyzhychko emphasized the need to mobilize the youth as the future generation of progressive, pro-Western leaders who will be the key to a truly democratic Ukraine.

During the question and answer session, Ms. Lyzhychko was asked about her involvement in Ukraine’s anti-human trafficking campaign, her activity with the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund, and her work with UNICEF.

Nadia McConnell, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, asked Ms. Lyzhychko to explain how she envisions a shift in the Ukrainian government from the current struggle for power to a situation where the government will be more focused on resolving the numerous issues that were identified by Ms. Lyzhychko.

Ms. Lyzhychko acknowledged that strong forces of instability exist in Ukraine. Nevertheless, she reassured the audience that President Yushchenko has played and is continuing to play a vital role in the efforts to stabilize the situation at hand. She said she believes that Mr. Yushchenko will find a way to compromise with the destabilizing forces and work on ways to resolve problematic issues such as conflicts over NATO, energy and language. Deputy Lyzhychko said that she does not believe those issues are of primary concern, but that maintaining unity in Ukraine is most urgent. She urged all politicians of Ukraine to unite and find common ground to resolve the current impediments to stability.

When asked about her view of Ukrainians’ position on NATO and the European Union, Ms. Lyzhychko said there is an overwhelming need to inform the Ukrainian people about the actual responsibilities of NATO and the European Union and the benefits associated with Euro-Atlantic integration.

To facilitate this task, Ms. Lyzhychko has established a committee on European integration and currently chairs a subcommittee on information, which deals with informational outreach. However, funds are limited and she doubts the proper allocation of these funds. She proposed that a professional approach to information outreach is necessary in order to ensure that quality information about the EU and NATO reaches the people of



Heidi Fancher/Woodrow Wilson Center

Ruslana Lyzhychko at the Woodrow Wilson Center.

Ukraine.

In regard to Russia, Ms. Lyzhychko stated that she has a positive view of Russia and that problematic issues between the two countries should be worked out diplomatically and not via provocative statements of any kind.

The entire webcast of Ms. Lyzhychko’s “Leading Ukraine into a New Era of Global and European Citizenship” is available to view online at: http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1424&fuseaction=topics.event_summary&event_id=230383

Deputy Lyzhychko’s presentation at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars was part of a four-day visit to the United States, which included meetings with the U.S. Department of State, the Coalition for a Secure and Democratic Ukraine and the International Organization for Migration, as well as a performance at the Slavic Festival in Washington.

Ruslana meets with Coalition for Secure and Democratic Ukraine

by **Marta Matselioukh**
U.S.-Ukraine Foundation

WASHINGTON – Members of the Coalition for a Secure and Democratic Ukraine met with Ruslana Lyzhychko, member of Ukraine’s Verkhovna Rada, to discuss the political, economic, and social issues currently facing Ukraine. The meeting was held on March 30 at the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation’s office in Washington.

Ms. Lyzhychko, a member of the Our Ukraine faction in Parliament, addressed a variety of issues at the meeting, including a NATO information campaign in Ukraine, the confrontation between the Yushchenko administration, on the one hand, and the government and Rada majority coalition, on the other, the possibility of new Verkhovna Rada elections, and the Ukrainian language issue.

Emphasis was placed on the need to develop a strong democracy in Ukraine and overcome all obstacles that are currently interfering with that goal. Specifically, Ms. Lyzhychko highlighted the urgent need to address the stability factor in Ukraine today and to unify the country as a whole.

In addition, Ms. Lyzhychko called for the “need to cultivate

new stars in politics” by fostering democratic values among the youth of Ukraine. Quality education would enable new progressive leaders to become vibrant members of the future political order, she noted.

Ms. Lyzhychko underscored the importance of cultivating Ukrainian culture and promoting a positive image of Ukraine domestically and abroad. She also noted how impressed she was with American patriotism and said that she would like to “see as many flags in Ukraine as in the United States,” commensurate with the Orange Revolution times.

The Coalition for a Secure and Democratic Ukraine is the successor to the Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition, and has assigned priority to promoting the U.S. Congress-Verkhovna Rada partnership, supporting Ukraine’s integration into the Euro-Atlantic community, and promoting Ukraine’s market reform, democratic development and energy efficiency. The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation serves as the secretariat of the coalition.

For more information, or to join the Coalition for a Secure and Democratic Ukraine, readers may contact Marta Matselioukh at martam@usukraine.org or at 202-223-2228.

Quotable notes

“... We will never accept any ultimatums that are outside the bounds of the law and the Constitution. ... If the president subscribes to the principles of democracy, and if he adheres to them, then he should know the principles of how they work. The choice of the Ukrainian people does not depend on the point of view of the president. He should honor it. Thus he should also honor the representatives of the Ukrainian people – those who were elected by the people. And the decisions made today by the government are aimed strictly at the betterment of the lives of our people.

“Today we call upon both the president and the opposition to build our country with us, to work for the improvement in the lives of our people, and to build a strong country. Therefore I call upon all of you to act in peace and unity. Only this can be our future. The unity of the Ukrainian people, of this hard-working people, opens the way to the future. Anything else is impossible. ...”

– Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, speaking at an April 2 rally on Kyiv’s European Square, as translated by *The Ukraine List*.

“Our country has again been brought onto the brink of serious turmoil. A group of radically minded politicians, who have called themselves the united opposition, is seeking to transform their own internal problems and unfulfilled power ambitions into a full scale political battle.

“Not thinking about the possible repercussions of their actions, they are prepared to deprive society of stability and civil peace but also to put in question the very existence of Ukrainian statehood. ...”

“We witness how political adventurers are trying to turn President [Viktor] Yushchenko into a hostage in this irresponsible affair. Through blackmail and undisguised threats of a new maidan, he is being pushed to sign an unconstitutional decree on the dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada.

“The Verkhovna Rada unequivocally states that there are no legal grounds to call snap elections and dissolve the current Parliament that was elected in free and fair elections in accordance with democratic norms. ...”

“The Verkhovna Rada is categorically opposed to any attempts to discredit and defame the highest representative body of the people. It is opposed to the attempts to pressure the president, trying to use his authority to carry out anti-constitutional acts in the interests of certain opportunistic politicians in order to destabilize the socio-political situation in the country, which can cause irreparable damage. ...”

– The Verkhovna Rada’s April 2 address to the people of Ukraine, as translated by *The Ukraine List*.

Hryhorii Nestor turns 116, enters Ukraine's record books



UNIAN/Oleksander Baran

Hryhorii Nestor, unofficially the world's oldest man, celebrated his 116th birthday on March 15 in the village of Staryi Yarychiv in the Lviv Oblast.

by **Larysa Marchuk**

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

STARYI YARYCHIV, Ukraine – It was a sunny day, and Ukraine's oldest person sat on a bench outside his house and basked in the first spring rays. "Today is a nice day," Hryhorii Nestor said. "I feel good and warm. God shines light and I am alive, thank God."

March 15 was Mr. Nestor's 116th birthday. But the elderly man warned his grandniece Oksana Savchuk not to set the table or celebrate because he is fasting.

"Our old man (didus) loves God and observes all the holidays," said Ms. Savchuk, who works as a teacher in the village school. "From his youth, he was raised with a love for God. He is fasting now. Every morning, he prays a long while and sings psalms."

Dozens of reporters had arrived in Mr. Nestor's village of Staryi Yarychiv, Lviv Oblast, just 16 miles (25 kilometers) from Lviv, for his 116th birthday.

Mr. Nestor was undaunted, having already learned how to pose for cameramen and photographers and confidently speak into microphones and audio recorders.

He joyfully greeted everyone without declining, asking only that they speak louder.

The Guinness World Records representative in Ukraine, Ihor Pidchibii, traveled from Kyiv to present Mr. Nestor – who was born in 1891 – with a certificate officially recognizing him as Ukraine's oldest man.

"Hryhorii Nestor is two years older than the official world record holder," Mr. Pidchibii said. "He has the right to earn the title of the planet's oldest living resident and write his name in the Guinness Book of Records."

"We've already submitted an application to register our Ukrainian record. It's a two-or three-month wait. May God allow our elderly man (starozhyl) to live long enough to see his recognition," he added.

Among Mr. Nestor's other visitors was Staryi Yarychiv Village Council Chair Andrii Andrushko, who presented him with a Mother of God of Perpetual Help icon, which delighting the old man.

"A new history begins today with this icon," Mr. Nestor said. "The

Mother of God will be your advocate. When I pass away, hold on to the icon."

District council members also greeted Mr. Nestor with his birthday, bringing flowers and money.

"He is indifferent to money," Ms. Savchuk said. "When he receives his pension, he simply looks at the portrait of Shevchenko and says, 'Oh, look how sad he is ... but this one's happier!', he says holding the image of Franko on the 20-hrv bill."

The doors remained open as guests shuffled in and out. Then suddenly the old man became noticeably worried.

"What's wrong, didu (grandfather)?" Ms. Savchuk said. "Maybe something isn't right. Say so."

"Where is my family? Strange people are walking all around," he replied. "Where are Ilko's grandchildren? Is it possible they won't come?"

"They will come later, when all the guests leave," Ms. Savchuk said calming him.

There were seven children in the Nestor family; three of his siblings died early and four survived.

Older brother Mykhailo served as a church cantor; the youngest, Ilko, went to France to earn money; and sister Kateryna as a young woman traveled to the U.S., worked in a tobacco factory, returned to her native village and married.

In 1939 the family was resettled from Monastrets, a village in what is now Polish territory, to the small village of Partseliatsiya in the Kamianka-Buzka district of the Lviv Oblast.

Mr. Nestor's relatives gathered later on his birthday in a tight family circle.

Ilko's grandchildren, Vira, Nadiya, Liubov and Oleh came, along with Ms. Savchuk – the granddaughter of Mr. Nestor's sister Kateryna – her husband and three children.

"Here is the icon that Ilko gave his sister Kateryna when he returned from working in France," Ms. Savchuk said, showing the small picture with some writing in French. "The date on it is 1898. She gave this to Hryhorii, who gave it to me."

The Savchuk family, with whom Mr. Nestor lives, is convinced he is a source of happiness and wealth, and that God sent him, because he constantly teaches them to find joy in every living moment.

National University...

(Continued from page 1)

and establishing academic legitimacy through the success of our students, faculty and graduates is of utmost importance. It opens the doors to acceptance and acknowledgment of the international academic community and ensures academic freedom and autonomy in Ukraine. Thanks to the support of the Ukrainian communities in the U.S., we are able to continue in this direction," Dr. Briukhovetsky commented.

Accompanying Dr. Briukhovetsky to several of the events was the foundation's co-chairman, Ambassador William Green Miller, who said, "the generous response to the appeal for support of Kyiv Mohyla Academy is proof that the key to a prosperous future for an independent democratic Ukraine depends upon the quality of its leadership. The old leadership is passing and the future will be in the hands of a new leadership from the generation now in university."

He continued: "Kyiv Mohyla Academy is dedicated to the best possible education for the highest quality of qualified youth and its new curriculum is designed to enable them to lead a new nation. Kyiv Mohyla Academy is already regarded as one of the best – if not the best – university in Ukraine. This position is in large measure due to the enlightened direction of its president, Viacheslav Briukhovetsky, and the excellent faculty he has put together. Support of Kyiv Mohyla Academy is an investment in Ukraine's future as a leading democratic nation in Europe."

NUKMA achievements noted

The main purpose of the U.S. tour was to report on some of NUKMA's remarkable achievements since 1991 and to assure the Ukrainian diaspora that its moral and financial support are justified. The university essentially remains a private institution and, therefore, depends on the continuing moral and financial support of the North American Ukrainian diaspora and other private individual and corporate donors.

The university has had many achievements during its brief renaissance. Since Ukraine's re-established independence in 1991 the university reaffirmed its role as the country's leading academic institution and reformer in education, being the first university in Ukraine to introduce anonymous admissions testing, stringent admissions criteria and instruction in both Ukrainian and English. Its mission in educating the leaders of the future is attested by nearly 4,500 graduates, most of whom have attained leading positions in the private and government sectors.

The university's new library, named after its principal donors Omelian and Tetiana Antonovych of the U.S., will be officially opened in May and will house a collection of more than 400,000 volumes and 1,000 periodicals.

The academic legacy of Prof. Omeljan Pritsak, founder of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute and a leading specialist in Oriental studies, will be housed in a separate historical building currently under reconstruction. This building will become a museum and center of archives that will be available to all scholars.

The latest achievement of NUKMA faculty and students is related to the university's law school, whose dean is Andriy A. Meleshevych. The Kyiv Mohyla Law School won the National Championship in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition in Ukraine, competing with the top established law schools of Ukraine. The team of Kyiv Mohyla students will be coming to Washington to participate in the international competition.

This achievement represents a major recognition for Ukraine in the legal academic field. Many of Kyiv Mohyla Law School's graduates are working in top international and Ukrainian law firms, and in the government and ministries. One of Ukraine's former vice ministers of justice is a graduate of the Kyiv Mohyla Law School.

Foundation expresses gratitude

Marta Farion, elected president at the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation's recent annual meeting, said, "The fund-raising drive brought out hundreds of supporters in the various communities during cold and snowy winter weekends and raised \$350,000 – and we are very grateful. The support of individuals, organizations and financial institutions in the Ukrainian community has been generous and is highly valued, and acknowledgment and appreciation of donations and a list of donors will be presented in the near future."

She added that the funds will be transferred for designated uses at the university and a report will be issued.

"The cooperation and assistance of the Ukrainian National Association and the directors of Ukrainian cultural centers in each community, as well as friends made the fund-raising tour possible," Ms. Farion underscored.

Ms. Farion noted that "much more remains to be done, and some very exciting university projects are ahead of us." One of these is the interest of Newsweek International, whose senior editor came to Bard College to meet with Dr. Briukhovetsky and also with the university's dean of social sciences, Dr. Serhiy Kvit, who established the university's department of journalism. Newsweek will be establishing an office in Kyiv and is looking for young journalists in training at Kyiv Mohyla," Ms. Farion related.

The Kyiv Mohyla Foundation, a non-profit organization, has been engaged in work to help Kyiv Mohyla Academy in raising financial assistance in the U.S. and also to develop relationships with American universities, foundations, grants, assists Kyiv Mohyla students, faculty and administrators during their stays in the U.S. The foundation set a goal of raising \$1 million in 2007 from a combination of sources – individuals, foundations, organizations. The Ukrainian community contributed a significant portion toward the fund-raising goal and provided the moral support necessary to build the university's national and international significance.

Press-office, Kyiv Mohyla Foundation

Yushchenko appeals...

(Continued from page 1)

liaments have recognized that Famine as genocide," he noted.

In a separate statement addressed to Ukrainians living around the world, Mr. Yushchenko expressed support for the efforts of the Ukrainian World Congress and its committee for observances of the 75th anniversary of the 1932-1933 Great Famine. He said its work, which is aimed at promoting Holodomor awareness, should make each Ukrainian citizen and each citizen of the world forever remember "those millions of innocent people tortured to death."

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THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

UNA's newly redesigned website lets visitors calculate insurance needs

by Matthew Dubas

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Everyone has a little voice that occasionally pops into his or her head asking questions such as: How much insurance coverage would I need for my final expenses? Will the children have money for education? Who will pay off the mortgage? Who will repay my debts? In case of an emergency, how well am I prepared? Who will care for the family elders?

To protect your family's financial security, the Ukrainian National Association's website (www.ukrainiannationalassociation.org) offers solutions for current and prospective members. Visitors to the website – UNA members and non-members alike – can use the online calculator (Microsoft Windows is required to run the calculator program) to estimate what coverage would be appropriate for their unique situation, providing financial solutions for everyday concerns.

The first step in the calculation is based on: A.) final expenses, including medical bills, funeral costs, attorney fees and other associated costs; B.) children's education fund, which considers the total cost of earning a degree and the number of children; C.) mortgage balance, D.) debt repayment, including auto loans, home equity loans, credit cards and other debts; E.) an emergency fund for major

home repairs, auto repairs and medical emergencies; and F.) annual dependent/home care expenses, which include care for dependent, home maintenance, food and clothing and an estimate of the number of years to continue support.

Next, you determine your life insurance coverage based on liquid assets that need protection such as cash, saving accounts and other liquid assets.

Finally, you determine how much additional coverage would be needed for your individual situation. Estimate the total cash needs from step one (sections A-F), minus the total available liquid assets and existing life insurance from step two. This estimates the additional life insurance needed.

Some points to consider when evaluating your life insurance include: making adjustments due to variances in cost of living and inflation; conducting annual policy reviews to meet your family's changing needs; and supplementing your retirement income with UNA annuities and life insurance policies.

After you estimate your life insurance needs, your UNA representative can help you determine the right insurance policies for you and your family. For more specific details about policy coverage, readers may contact a UNA representative or call 800-253-9862.

Young UNA'ers



UNA Branch 15 in Washington has four new members: (from left) Lianne Chapin, Paul Salvi, Stephen Salvi and Katia Chapin. Two-year-olds Lianne and Katia are twin daughters of Dora Chomiak and Daren Chapin of New York. Paul, 3, and Stephen, 6 months, are the sons of Tania Chomiak-Salvi and Lucantonio Salvi of Washington. The four cousins were enrolled by their grandparents Martha Bohachevsky-Chomiak and R. L. Chomiak.

**Do you have a young UNA'er,
or potential young UNA'er in your family?**

Call the UNA Home Office, 973-292-9800, to find out how to enroll.

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Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

- to promote the principles of fraternalism;
- to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and
- to provide quality financial services and products to its members.

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Stalemate in Ukraine

*"The president has dissolved a Verkhovna Rada that was based on treachery."
— Our Ukraine National Deputy Ksenia Liapina*

*"The Orange forces want to force us to live not in compliance with the law, or even with our beliefs, but to follow instructions from abroad."
— Communist Party Chairman Petro Symonenko*

The two quotations above sum up the feelings of the two warring sides in Ukraine as the political crisis that came to the fore with President Viktor Yushchenko's dismissal of the Verkhovna Rada concluded its second week. Both claim they are defending the rights of voters and the Constitution of Ukraine, each claims the other is guilty of usurping power, and both claim to speak for the people of Ukraine.

Thankfully, all is calm in Ukraine, even as the verbal volleys continue to fly between the ruling coalition and the opposition and, we might add, despite the hysterical statements by some coalition supporters about troop movements, planned kidnappings of political leaders and imminent civil war.

The latest news indicates that there is some movement toward compromise, with the two Viktor's exchanging proposals, but thus far rejecting them. The president is standing firm on his decision to dismiss the Rada, though he is willing to have the pre-term parliamentary elections take place at a later date, while Prime Minister Yanukovich is spouting the line that if pre-term elections to the Rada are held, pre-term presidential elections must be held concurrently. Mr. Yushchenko said he believes a political settlement may be reached to resolve the conflict, while Mr. Yanukovich said he wants the Constitutional Court to rule on the constitutionality of the presidential decree.

Meanwhile, according to our Kyiv correspondent, the demonstrations in Kyiv are not really being taken seriously – save for those out to earn a buck. There is good news and bad on the national democratic front, as some forces are seriously looking ahead to the elections and talking about running as a bloc, while significant divisions remain among others. (Don't these folks learn the lessons of past elections?)

"Big brother" Russia continues to carefully watch events unfolding in Ukraine, looking for any opportunity to "help." The Russian Federation's Duma passed a resolution calling President Yushchenko's decree "unconstitutional" and expressing concern over his act "dissolving a legally elected Parliament" and thus destabilizing Ukraine. Clearly an example of foreign interference in Ukraine's internal affairs, this harkened back to Russian President Vladimir Putin's involvement in supporting the candidacy of Mr. Yanukovich for president (and then twice congratulating him on his victory even as the vote was disputed). And, pro-Russian elements were in full view as a flag of the "Donetsk Republic," bearing the Russian national emblem that depicts a two-headed eagle, was unfurled on the maidan.

Our view from the faraway U.S.: we support the position that will most empower the people of Ukraine. The people deserve to have true leaders who care not about themselves, not about their business interests and not about their parties, but about the people who voted them into office and, yes, even about those who did not vote for them. In short, their loyalty must be to the nation of Ukraine. And, in order to overcome the current stalemate in Ukraine, the people must be allowed to pass judgement.

April
12
1987

Turning the pages back...

It was 20 years ago that The Ukrainian Weekly reported on the Chrysler-sponsored CBS-TV docu-drama "Escape from Sobibor." Based on a book by Richard Rashke, the film depicts an escape of 300 inmates during 1943 from the death camp at Sobibor.

The made-for-TV movie, which was released on April 12, 1987, sparked protests by the Ukrainian community in Washington, Chicago, Philadelphia and New York, due to the repeated references to "Ukrainian guards." According to the Ukrainian community, this made it appear as if all the guards at the death camp were Ukrainian. Some suspected that the network was attempting to associate Ukrainians with Nazism. As a result of the work of the protesting organizations, the film aired with a disclaimer that noted the film contained some "prejudicial ethnic references."

The script of the docu-drama was sent to schools nationwide that participated in the CBS Television Reading Program. The word "Ukrainian" appears 90 times in the script, while "German" only appears three times.

Dennis Doty, the film's producer told The Weekly that, based on independent research, which included survivors' accounts and their testimony at trials, the guard force during mid-1942 to 1943 was in fact composed of Ukrainians. "Every survivor alive today and every piece of literature tells us they (the guards) were Ukrainians," Mr. Doty added.

Dr. Taras Hunczak of the Ukrainian Research and Documentation Center refuted these assertions and said that no more than 25 percent of the guards could have been Ukrainians. Dr. Yitzhak Arad, director of the Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust memorial, said that most of the guards were Ukrainians and Latvians.

In response to the film, groups such as the Ukrainian Heritage Council, the World Jewish Congress, the Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons Association of New York/New Jersey, the Ukrainian American Justice Committee, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian National Center: History and Information Network (UNCHAIN) began a letter-writing campaign targeted at Chrysler and CBS officials.

Apparently in reaction to the film's publicity, four swastikas were scratched into the surface of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in New York between Friday and Saturday morning, April 10-11, 1987.

Source: "'Escape from Sobibor' Producer stands by his research," by Roma Hadzewycz, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, April 5, 1987.

NEWS AND VIEWS

A tale of two men in Canada's military

by Lubomyr Luciuk

There were two of them. Both were liars. The younger man was Stephen, age 25. His older brother, George, was 33. Until August 17, 1914, they lived near Edmonton. Within two weeks of the war being declared, they had volunteered to join the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force. Then they were sent east, to the Valcartier Militia Camp, just outside Quebec City. That's where they completed their Attestation Papers, on September 4 and 19. Both swore they had been born in Russia, an allied power. Mr. E. Pascoe witnessed their statements, presumably believing they were honest lads. They weren't. It took just over 90 years for the truth, and me, to catch up with them.

Stephen became Private No. 19388 with the 9th Infantry Battalion. George was also a Private, No. 19361, in the 1st Infantry Battalion. We know a bit more – but not much – about each of them.

Stephen was short, standing around 5 feet 3 inches perhaps a bit taller as some of his documents record a height of 5 feet 5 inches. He had a dark complexion, brown eyes and black hair but no other distinguishing marks. The war soon changed that. He picked up a venereal disease behind the lines, "not severe" according to the March 2, 1915, note in his medical record. Worse would come.

In May an exploding shell rendered him completely and permanently deaf in his left ear, partly so in the right. Returned to duty, he was again hurt badly, on June 13, 1916, with gunshot wounds to the face and neck. But his frontline military service continued until October 8, 1917, when he suffered contusions to his hip, head and hand. Repatriated to England, he was eventually shipped home, arriving in Halifax aboard the Empress Britain on January 21, 1919.

Discharged as "medically unfit" on February 19, Stephen was officially declared to have a 15 percent disability as a direct result of military service. So, at 30, he was a disabled and unskilled laborer, with no home other than the YMCA's Red Triangle Club in Toronto. He died there in 1934.

Stephen endured another loss. George, also 5 feet 3 inches, but with blue eyes, brown hair and a fair complexion, was killed in action, on May 24, 1915, during the Battle of Festubert. He fell somewhere in the vicinity of Le Quinque Road, described in Lt. Edmund Blunden's haunting war poem of the same name as a "cemeterial fen," sunk

Lubomyr Luciuk is a professor of political geography at The Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston, Ontario.

into a "foul-gorged" landscape. Digging deep trenches there was impossible so "grouse butts," stacked islands of sandbags, provided the only shelter our troops had, poor protection against artillery bombardments of the intensity that the 1st Battalion's War Diary recorded on May 23-24. Of George's body no identifiable trace was ever found and no memorial cross erected.

And therein lies a tale. Neither George nor Stephen should have been anywhere near the Western Front. They were not born in Russia. They came from a western Ukrainian village, Beremiany. It still exists. And, on the date the Great War was declared, their hamlet was within the borders of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Technically, by Ottawa's definition, the brothers were both "enemy aliens."

If that had been discovered they would have been interned, along with thousands of their fellow Ukrainian Canadians in one of the 24 concentration camps set aside for that purpose. There they would have been forced to labor for the profit of their jailers and subjected to other state-sanctioned indignities. The Dividenko brothers avoided all that by lying about who they were and where they had come from. The price they paid for fibbing you already know.

Yet George was not entirely lost to history. His name, along with that of the 11,284 other Canadian soldiers who went "missing, presumed dead" in France, and whose bodies were never recovered, is inscribed on the Vimy Memorial's ramparts. Canada's prime minister, Stephen Harper, was there in recent days to honor the memory of all those men. Having spoken in Parliament of the need for righting the historical injustices done to Ukrainians and other Europeans during Canada's first national internment operations, I trust Mr. Harper paused, if only for a few seconds, to look upon the name of "G. Dividenko."

Where George lies may forever be known only unto God but who he was – an "enemy alien" who died for Canada – is now known to all.

EDITOR'S NOTE: April 9 marked the 90th anniversary of the Canadian military attack on Vimy Ridge in France. According to the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. (CBC), the battle was hailed as the first allied success of World War I, and as "the cornerstone of the nation's [Canada's] image of its place in the world." The Vimy memorial, which was erected near Arras, France, lists the names of 11,285 Canadian soldiers who died in France and whose remains were never found. The rededication of the restored monument took place on Monday, April 9.

IN THE PRESS

Pre-term elections in Ukraine

"Ask Ukraine's voters," editorial, The Globe and Mail, Toronto, April 6:

"Ukraine has been plunged into another major political and constitutional crisis because some politicians have not yet grasped their obligations in a parliamentary democracy..."

"President [Viktor] Yushchenko is right to leave it up to Ukraine's voters to resolve this crisis – to decide if the prime minister [Viktor Yanukovich] and his coalition have overstepped their mandate and if the defectors [to the ruling coal-

tion in Parliament] have made a legitimate case for switching sides. The results could very well go against the president.

"Meanwhile, an inquiry should be held to determine whether bribes or other illegal inducements were used, and the prime minister should stop rousing the divisive forces in Ukrainian society and start practicing the art of compromise that underpins all healthy democracies. As the president wrote this week in the Financial Times: 'Genuine democrats should never fear the verdict of the people.'"

NEWS ANALYSIS

Weak institutions at the root of Ukraine's political crisis

by Brian Whitmore

RFE/RL

April 3

Here we go again. The streets of Kyiv are filling up with opposing demonstrators clad in orange and blue. Just another crisis in the new democratic Ukraine.

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has disbanded Parliament in the name of the Constitution. Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich – citing the very same Constitution – has declared the move illegal and vowed to resist.

But why exactly do political disputes in the former Soviet Union tend to spill out on to the streets?

Alexander Rahr of the German Council on Foreign Relations says the problem – in Ukraine and elsewhere in the region – lies in the lack of democratic traditions.

“The problem, even 15 years after the demise of the Soviet Union, is to bring the leading politicians into a situation where they obey the rules of the game, which they obviously don’t do,” Mr. Rahr says. “And second, the problem is the mentality of the elites and the broader population, which also favor leaders and not law.”

Personality and politics

Following the 2004 Orange Revolution, Ukraine tried to move away from the powerful executives who have been prevalent in the former Soviet Union and build a true parliamentary system. The presidency’s powers were trimmed and Parliament’s were strengthened.

At the time, many observers hailed the changes as the revolution’s most important legacy.

But President Yushchenko’s decision to dissolve Parliament represents the end of this experiment.

“Ukraine is shifting away from the idea of a parliamentary republic,” Mr. Rahr explains. “Ukraine has failed to build – the first country in the post-Soviet space – a democratic system based on parliamentary leadership and not on the leadership of one single person, namely the president.”

Mr. Rahr says that when faced with difficulties, politicians in the former Soviet Union tend to fall back on what they know best – attempting to rule with a strong hand.

“If politicians recognize that it is easier for them to try to come to power and rule the country through authoritarian means and not through compromises and democratic choices, then they choose the easiest way, the authoritarian way,” Mr. Rahr explains.

Looking around the region

Ukraine is not the only country in the region struggling with the checks, bal-

ances and competing institutions that characterize Western democracies.

In Kyrgyzstan, months of stalemate led to the prime minister’s resignation on March 29.

So far, Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiev – elected after an uprising in 2005 ousted President Askar Akaev – has tried to placate the opposition and work with Parliament. Some opposition groups are nevertheless demanding that Bakiev step down.

Georgia – which in 2003 ushered in a new wave of democratic revolutions in the former Soviet Union – has so far escaped such unrest.

But analysts say Georgia’s institutions have not yet been truly tested.

President Mikheil Saakashvili, who was elected after the 2003 Rose Revolution, enjoys an overwhelming majority in Parliament – and Georgia remains largely a presidential republic with a strong executive.

Mr. Saakashvili repeatedly says that he intends to give up some of his presidential power in favor of a stronger Parliament – but has made no moves toward actually doing so.

“I don’t think we have a parliamentary republic in Georgia,” Mr. Rahr says. “We have seen a presidential [system] replaced by a new strong leader, Saakashvili, which he still is. Georgia is not moving toward a genuine democratic system like Ukraine was after the Orange Revolution. Kyrgyzstan is also difficult because there you have local clans and a kind of split in the country [between] the north and the south.”

Russia’s influence

Part of the problem lies in the neighborhood these countries are forced to live in – one dominated by an increasingly authoritarian Russia with strong interests in its neighbors’ affairs.

“There is a challenge in their region from countries like Russia, which are backsliding in terms of democracy,” says Nadia Diuk, senior director for Europe and Eurasia at the National Endowment for Democracy, a non-profit organization that receives support from the U.S. Congress. “It’s not easy for a country like Kyrgyzstan that is surrounded by authoritarian dictatorships.”

Russia, of course, had its own showdown between the president and parliamentary opposition back in 1993. At that time, Russia’s pro-Western President Boris Yeltsin solved the crisis by shelling what many saw as a reactionary opposition into submission.

At the time, many in the West cheered Mr. Yeltsin on and called the move a victory for democratic forces.

Today, many view those events as the end of Russia’s democratic experiment and the beginning of the overbearing executive that now rules the Kremlin.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Thinking the unthinkable

With the clash between west and east in Ukraine accelerating, one Ukrainian is thinking the unthinkable.

“After 15 years of independence, there is not a single clear reason for Ukraine to remain one country,” writes Dmitry Koublitsky in a March 10 Kyiv Post commentary. A native of Lviv, he has been advocating full independence for western Ukraine since 1996.

Mr. Koublitsky believes that: “Secession of western Ukraine – and not just Galicia [Halychyna] will allow us, western Ukrainians, to achieve what can no longer be achieved by ‘Greater Ukraine.’ It will make possible a smaller Ukraine as an integral part of Europe. Our small compact country will not be called just ‘Ukraine’ anymore, but we will still be Ukrainians. European Ukrainians, that is.”

Another state called Ukraine will co-exist next door, Mr. Koublitsky argues. Its national capital will be Kyiv and those people will revere Taras Shevchenko just like western Ukrainians. “Let that Ukraine be proud of its huge industrial potential; have Russian as a second – or first or the only – state language; retain an over-regulated economy permanently feeding corruption; have laws that only deepen lawlessness; shout a strong ‘no’ to NATO and ‘yes’ to Moscow’s chokingly tight embrace.”

Like many of us in North America, Mr. Koublitsky is weary of the “everlasting struggle for power in Kyiv between different political actors,” a struggle that “always consumes the involved parties entirely, leaving no space or time to come up with coherent reform strategies and policies that the country so crucially needs.”

But what about the Orange Revolution? Didn’t that unite Ukraine? No, claims Mr. Koublitsky. It “was nothing but a general protest against the existing state of affairs in the country. It certainly was not a united, well thought-out push for a new structural model.”

Dr. Ivan Katchanovski disagreed with Mr. Koublitsky in a March 21 Kyiv Post commentary, arguing that integration of the two Ukraines is essential. At the same time, however, he cited a 2003 Institute of Politics Survey that underscored deep divisions between the two Ukraines. According to the survey, some 68 percent of eastern Ukrainians express favorable views of Ukraine’s 1654 incorporation by Moscow. While most western Ukrainians have positive attitudes towards Ivan Mazepa, Mykhailo Hrushevsky and Symon Petliura, only a minority of eastern Ukrainians share such views. “About half of the respondents in eastern Ukraine, compared to a small minority of western Ukrainians, express a favorable attitude towards Vladimir Lenin,” writes Dr. Katchanovski. Amazingly, some 30 percent of eastern Ukrainians have a favorable view of Stalin!

There are certain historical precedents for an independent western Ukraine. As the political power of Kyivan Rus’ began to wane in the 11th century, the empire was gradually partitioned among royal heirs. The first and most complete secession was that of the Principality of Galicia. Galicia eventually united with Volhynia [Volyn] in the 12th century and, under the rule of able rulers (Roman, Danylo, Lev), the Galician-Volhynian Kingdom survived for almost 200 years. Following attacks on Kyiv, first by the Muscovites in 1169, and then by the Mongol/Tatars in 1240, Galicia-Volhynia emerged as the ethno-

cultural center of the Ukrainian people.

In time, Galicia-Volhynia came under the rule of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. With the rise of the Kozaks, Ukraine’s fortunes improved somewhat, especially during the time of Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky (1648-1657). Independence died with the hetman’s signature on the 1654 Treaty of Pereyaslav, however. Other hetmans tried but failed to restore Ukraine’s independence. Weary of Ukraine’s recalcitrance, Russia and Poland formally divided Ukraine into “Left Bank Ukraine” and “Right Bank Ukraine” with the Treaty of Andrusovo in 1667. Independence hopes were reborn briefly under Hetman Mazepa but perished at the Battle of Poltava in 1709. The Zaporozhian Sich was destroyed by Russia’s Catherine II in 1775 and Ukraine remained divided until the onset of the first world war. Poets like Taras Shevchenko in eastern Ukraine and Ivan Franko in western Ukraine kept freedom hopes alive, however.

With the collapse of the Russian Empire in 1917, Ukrainian political and organizational leaders formed a Central Rada in Kyiv and, on January 22, 1918, declared Ukraine’s independence. When Austro-Hungary began to collapse, western Ukrainian leaders met in Lviv on November 1, 1918, and established the Western Ukrainian National Republic (ZUNR). The two Ukrainian republics formally united on January 22, 1919. Unity was short-lived. As Ukraine was besieged by Gen. Anton Denikin’s white Russians from the south, Bolshevik Russians from the east and the Poles under Gen. Josef Pilsudski from the west, western and eastern Ukrainians were unable to permanently unite their forces to fight common foes. “In the final analysis,” writes Prof. Orest Subtelny in his “Ukraine: A History,” “the vast cultural, psychological and political differences that accumulated between east and west Ukrainians during the centuries of living in dissimilar environments were now coming to the fore.”

Disagreements between the two Ukraines carried over into the peace process at Versailles. Neither side could agree on a common front. When it was clear that a united Ukraine was impossible, Ukrainian Americans still hoped for an independent eastern Galicia, raising some \$138,000 for the Galician cause. Hope died in 1923 when the Council of Ambassadors awarded Ukrainian Galicia to Poland.

Following the war, Ukraine was partitioned among Czechoslovakia, Romania, Russia and Poland. Ukraine remained partitioned until Stalin’s forced unification during and after World War II.

Ukraine has been partitioned for most of its history. This fact plus Samuel Huntington’s 1996 contention in “Clash of Civilizations” that Ukraine is a “cleft country” that “could split along its fault line into separate entities, the eastern of which would merge with Russia,” it’s a miracle of sorts that “one Ukraine” has survived for nearly 16 years.

Will the present Ukraine follow in the footsteps of 1918 Ukraine? I think not. Ukraine’s leadership is wobbly, but it’s not stupid. Could a separate western Ukraine survive economically? Probably not. But the idea is tempting. People are thinking the unthinkable. Only God knows what the future will bring.

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Political stalemate...

(Continued from page 1)

among coalition supporters that the judges made their statements to either threaten or denigrate the coalition government.

The western Ukrainians are Yaroslava Machuzhak, Dmytro Lylak, Volodymyr Kampo and Mr. Stetsiuk; the presidential appointments are Mr. Shyshkin (a Moldova native), Mr. Kampo and Mr. Lylak.

Indeed, the judges revealed support for Mr. Yushchenko's dismissal decree, which they said was issued within the capacity of his presidential authority and therefore, required adherence. They criticized coalition leaders for declaring his decree unconstitutional, stressing that only the court can determine its constitutionality.

In response, coalition leaders accused the judges of making an illegal statement.

Mr. Shyshkin said President Yushchenko didn't pressure them or request them to appear in the Presidential Secretariat, as had been rumored.

Even without the participation of the five judges, the Constitutional Court has

enough judges to review the presidential decree, as 12 judges constitute a quorum.

However, the possibility loomed that a quorum may soon be lost.

On the evening of the judges' statement, Our Ukraine Faction Chair Viacheslav Kyrylenko called on law enforcement authorities to investigate the judges' claims of pressure.

The Court has scheduled April 17 as the day it will begin to review the presidential decree, its press service reported.

Parliament at work

Ukraine's Parliament kept meeting in daily special sessions, directly violating the president's decree and disregarding the authority of the Presidential Secretariat.

National deputies continued making accusations against the president from the podium, accusing him of dividing the country and comparing his conduct to that of fascists and Nazis.

The inflammatory and destabilizing conduct of coalition deputies escalated when Party of the Regions National Deputy Oleh Kalashnikov accused Minister of Defense Anatolii Hrytsenko

of having prepared and mobilized elite army units to kidnap coalition leaders, including Prime Minister Yanukovich.

"Three fighting units of 100, 150 and 180 soldiers are mobilized and ready to executing the task of seizing the Cabinet of Ministers, the Verkhovna Rada, and arrest deputies, coalition members, government officials," Mr. Kalashnikov said. "The scariest is they're ready to kidnap the prime minister of Ukraine and his entourage that escorts him."

Just two days earlier, leaders of Ukraine's armed forces and law enforcement authorities said during an April 10 meeting at the Presidential Secretariat that they had no plans to call a national state of emergency.

To prevent any potential for concerns or suspicion regarding the Ministry of Defense, Mr. Hrytsenko said he ordered his commanders not to raise the army's level of military preparedness during the political crisis. He also noted he was following President Yushchenko's direct order not to involve Ukraine's armed forces in a political conflict.

Mr. Hrytsenko said Mr. Kalashnikov's statements were provocative, for which he deserved to be stripped of his national deputy's status. He asked the Party of the Regions to dismiss him from its ranks, and voiced regret that he wasn't able to strip him of his officer status in the military.

The coalition government of three parties continued their refusal to acknowledge that pre-term elections were imminent, even as many of Ukraine's political parties began holding congresses to determine whether they would approach the elections independently or as part of a bloc.

Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz stressed the need for a decision by the Constitutional Court, while adding that only compromise would provide a resolution to the crisis.

In further attacks on Mr. Hrytsenko, Mr. Moroz asked the Cabinet of Ministers on April 10 to review his appointment, hinting at the Parliament's interest in the defense minister's dismissal.

Protesters for hire

The coalition government has managed to create its own version of the maids 2004 during the last two weeks of demonstrations.

Every day, including Easter Sunday, coalition supporters filled Independence Square to demonstrate their support for the government and listen to speeches. However, the overriding sense is the coalition maids lacks the historical and cultural significance of the Orange maids.

Protesters arriving from throughout Ukraine, but mainly from eastern and southern oblasts, openly admit they are being paid for their protest services. The standard fee ranges between \$10 and \$30 a day, and protesters said they were able to earn a \$30 bonus for the Easter holiday.

Seen as another sign of their lack of conviction is the fact that protesters frequently decline to talk to the media, let alone give their names.

The coalition parties have been particularly aggressive in recruiting high school students to cut class and spend time in Kyiv demonstrating.

Artem Herasymenko, an 18-year-old resident of Alchevsk in the Luhansk Oblast, told The Weekly that local Party of the Regions functionaries offered him \$24 to cut class and travel to Kyiv for a day, with transportation expenses covered. In a neighboring town, the Party of the Regions offered as much as \$30 a

day, he said.

Some coalition protesters are even undermining the cause of the coalition government, which is trying to cast itself as the political force fighting for Ukrainian national unity and independence.

On Independence Square itself, coalition supporters carry Russian Federation flags. Donetsk separatists led by Oleksander Tsurkan arrived for the protests waving a Donetsk Republic flag.

Donetsk Oblast Council Chair Anatolii Blyzniuk said the Donetsk separatists were a planted provocation by the Yushchenko government. However, Mr. Tsurkan has been a consistent, well-known Donetsk separatist for several years.

The scene on the maids stage wasn't much better.

Reminiscent of the hysterical reaction of eastern Ukrainians during the Orange Revolution, speakers began attacking Mr. Yushchenko for having "an American wife, and American children." (The president's five children were all born in Ukraine.)

A group of supporters from Belarus appeared on stage calling for a revival of the Soviet Union.

Coalition supporters also staged daily rallies in front of key government buildings, namely the Presidential Secretariat, the Central Election Commission, the Security Service of Ukraine, the Constitutional Court and the Verkhovna Rada.

While the pro-coalition rally is largely a commercial enterprise, with observers estimating only about 10 to 20 percent idealistic supporters, the support for the opposition forces isn't overwhelming either.

An April 11 rally on European Square, just a stone's throw from Independence Square, drew several thousand activists, mostly party functionaries and teenagers, who also were cutting class.

Activists from Pora, the grassroots movement of energetic youth that served as the Orange Revolution's backbone, are noticeably absent from any activities. They have set up only a handful of tents in front of the Presidential Secretariat and the Central Election Commission.

Instead, Pora's leadership has been at war with itself in recent weeks, with Vladyslav Kaskiv permanently parting ways with Andrii Yusov and Yevhen Zolotariv.

Some demonstrators have even carved out a part-time career for themselves, the UNIAN news service reported, noting that some were participating in demonstrations for both the coalition government and the opposition. With enough creativity, a demonstrator can earn as much as \$60 a day, a very lucrative salary for the average Ukrainian.

International reaction

Both Mr. Yushchenko and Mr. Yanukovich met with international diplomats, including U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Taylor, assuring them that intervention wasn't needed.

Former Polish President Alexander Kwasniewski was able to confirm that Mr. Yushchenko has a clear plan to resolve the crisis.

Meanwhile, European Council Secretary General Terry Davis endorsed Mr. Yushchenko's proposal to postpone the date for pre-term elections.

The Russian Federation Duma weighed in on the conflict, passing a resolution on April 6 that called the Ukrainian president's decree to disband the Verkhovna Rada unconstitutional.

Church leaders support president

Ukrinform

KYIV – Representatives of five Churches of Ukraine, in an April 5 address to the people of Ukraine, expressed their support of President Viktor Yushchenko's dismissal of the Verkhovna Rada.

The signatories to the statement were: Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, Patriarch Lubomyr Husar of the

Ukrainian Catholic Church, representatives of the Ukrainian Christian Evangelical Church and the Evangelical Christian Church of Ukraine, as well as the Conference of Roman Catholic Bishops of Ukraine.

Patriarch Filaret stated: "We support the position of the president of Ukraine – the guarantor of the Constitution – and we believe that what he has outlined in his decree is the best way out of the current situation."

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On the road to Chernobyl: a journey to the exclusion zone

by Irene Zabytko

In February writer Irene Zabytko traveled with a filmmaker to the Chernobyl exclusion zone to visit the people living in an abandoned village for a pre-production research trip. The following is a chronicle of their adventures. © 2007, Irene Zabytko.

PART I

Chernobyl "chic"

A few days before my trip to Ukraine, I was shopping at Goodwill for durable winter coats, thick-soled boots and other thermal clothing. I live in Florida and such things weren't too easy to get, even in February. I was days away from my trip to wintry Kyiv, a city I hadn't seen in 11 years and only during summer, and I was on a frantic hunt for anything that would protect me from the cold blasts



The author (right) with Dr. Anna Korolevskaya, interim director of the Chernobyl Museum.

and maybe a bit from the radiation too.

Actually, I was shopping for a trip to Chernobyl. I was told by my Chernobyl contact, Pan Valerii, that if I was too worried about radiation, I should just bring along some old clothes which I could throw away after the visit there. Fine, I grimly thought when I spotted a pair of slightly worn hiking boots in my size. I will be Chernobyl "chic." And hopefully warm.

It wasn't a trip I was especially looking forward to. Who wants to go to Chernobyl, really? And yet, I am fascinated by that part of the world, in particular the elderly people who have returned to live in their ancestral but highly contaminated villages in the "dead zone," the 30-kilometer area surrounding the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. They returned to live in their irradiated forbidden homes and many are still there 21 years after Chernobyl's nuclear reactor exploded and became an indivisible part of Ukraine's legacy.

"The Sky Unwashed"

I first learned about these returnees (also called "samosely") from an article in The Ukrainian Weekly written by Marta Kolomayets (August 5, 1990) in which she and members of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA) visited Opachychi, one of the forbidden villages. While there, they met the few elderly people who returned because they disliked being relocated and wanted to die on their own land despite the radiation.

I was intrigued by the idea that anyone would choose to return and live in one of the most contaminated places on the planet. Why would they do that and how are they surviving? My questions were transformed into a novel that was published in 2000,

called "The Sky Unwashed." In it, I fictionalized the village of Opachychi and morphed other villages I visited in western Ukraine where my relatives come from.

My fictional protagonists consist of Marusia, an older woman who returns to the "dead zone" after she and her family are evacuated several days after the Chernobyl explosion. Her family is disbanded, and she alone finds her way back to her village, "Starylis," because she had no where to go. Later in the novel, a few more elderly women return, and together they form a fragile community despite the horrific radiation poisoning their homes and bodies.

On my book tour, I was always asked by readers if I had been to Chernobyl, and I had to answer no. Since The Ukrainian Weekly article, and my novel's publication, these samosels have been in the news, most recently on National Public Radio and on the Canadian Broadcast



Irene Zabytko in front of the Chernobyl Museum in Kyiv.

to interview the women living there and seek out locations for filming.

The church-like Chernobyl Museum

Our first stop was the Chernobyl Museum in Kyiv, located in the very historical Podil district of Kyiv. Our cab driver couldn't find it, and Peter and I found ourselves trouncing in the slushy sidewalks, asking people where it might be. We finally found the right path when we saw signs on street corners announcing that the Chernobyl Museum was up ahead. Peter spotted the yellow church-like brick building first since he had seen a photo on a website, and we were welcomed by the evocative modernistic black sculpture of the Madonna and Child standing between what looked like a minimalist iconostasis.

Inside, we were met by an English-

speaking guide who took us on an extensive tour of the exhibits. We climbed up a staircase that had branches of the tree of life painted on each stair. The signs of all the villages in the dead zone were hung on either side of the stairs which gave us the feeling that we were entering that forbidden area. Going down the stairs, the same signs were slashed in red, indicating that we were leaving the zone. I also interpreted the slashes as reminders that those villages no longer existed.

The museum is large with two huge rooms filled with many artifacts and mesmerizing blow-ups of photos taken during and immediately following the Chernobyl explosion on April 26, 1986. There are also several television newscasts from that time that we watched and found especially riveting and poignant, like the news scenes

(Continued on page 15)

Corp. series, "Ideas." And every time I heard about the returnees, I yearned to meet them because what they did was so extraordinary and, yes, crazy, too. Did they have to be there? And did my novel truly echo and mirror their lives?

I was also thinking what a great documentary that would make! Why not meet them at last and film it all for everyone to witness? How visually stunning and amazing it would be to visit these real-life Marusias and at last talk to them about their lives in the shadow of Chernobyl, and to bring more awareness about that catastrophe because the world's collective memory too easily forgets what happened there.

Seeking life in the dead zone

I love watching movies, but filmmaking is an entirely new art form for me. In preparation, I took an intensive filmmaking class, learned how to write a decent script treatment, and from there took on the daunting task of fund-raising for the documentary I christened, "Life in the Dead Zone: A Writer Visits Chernobyl."

Through the immense generosity of many individual donors, Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union in Chicago and an Artist's Enhancement Grant awarded to me last year by the state of Florida, my director/cinematographer Peter Mychalcewycz and I were able to travel to Kyiv and Chernobyl.

Because of time and monetary limitations, Peter and I could only be there for four days, so our goals were very concentrated and focused: we wanted to visit the Chernobyl Museum in Kyiv for archival footage and background research, and then to travel to Opachychi

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Serhii Plokhii named to history chair at Harvard University

by Peter Woloschuk

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – After a two-year international search, Serhii Plokhii was named the new Mykhailo Hrushevskyi Professor of Ukrainian History in Harvard University's Faculty of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1, 2007.

Dr. Plokhii, 49, comes to Harvard from the University of Alberta, where he is currently a professor of history and acting director of the Canadian Institute for Ukrainian Studies (CIUS). For 10 years he was associate director of the Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research at CIUS working on the Hrushevsky Translation Project, co-editing three of the four volumes of the History of Ukraine-Rus' published to date. He also taught at Harvard as a visiting professor in the spring of 2003 and the fall of 2005. In the spring of 2002 Dr. Plokhii was the Petro Jacyk Distinguished Fellow in Ukrainian Studies at HURI.

The Harvard appointment process for new senior faculty involves solicitation of notable potential candidates on a worldwide basis, the screening of applications by a search committee and then by the full department, review of the departmental decision by the deans and an ad hoc committee, and, finally, approval by the president of the university.

"Prof. Plokhii's incisive explorations of nationality and religion in Ukraine make him a real asset to our history department," said David Cutler, dean for the social sciences at Harvard University's Faculty of Arts and Sciences. "From his daring writings on religion while still under the Soviet regime to his more recent explorations of the origins of nationality and culture, Prof. Plokhii represents the frontier of contemporary studies in the

history of Ukraine and its environs."

"Serhii Plokhii is a superb choice to follow in the formidable footsteps of Omeljan Pritsak and Roman Szporluk as the third Mykhailo Hrushevskyi Professor of Ukrainian History at Harvard," said Oleksandr Potebnja Professor of Ukrainian Philology and HURI Director Michael S. Flier. "Grounded in Ukrainian history but with a broad outlook, Prof. Plokhii is not narrowly committed to a single period but teaches, conducts research and publishes over the entire spectrum of Ukrainian history, from the days of Rus' to the Orange Revolution. He connects Ukrainian history with broader Ukrainian culture (religion, art, nationality) and with other histories and cultures, including those of Poland, Lithuania, the Czech lands, Belarus, Russia, and the Ottoman and Habsburg Empires, as well as transnational groups, including the Jews, the Roma (Gypsies) and the Tatars. He is a prolific writer and one of the most active participants in the scholarly life of our field."

"Prof. Plokhii acquired his administrative credentials through his experience at the Jacyk Center," Dr. Flier continued, "and is completely familiar with the operations of our Ukrainian Research Institute and its staff. We at the institute are excited about the prospect of having Prof. Plokhii join our faculty and help shape priorities in research, teaching and publication in Ukrainian studies for many years to come."

Commenting on the appointment, Dr. Roman Szporluk, research professor, former director of HURI and second holder of the Hrushevskyi Chair in History, said, "I know that Prof. Omeljan Pritsak, founder of Ukrainian Studies at Harvard, would be very pleased with Prof. Plokhii's appointment because it gives continued affirmation to his vision of bringing Ukrainian studies into the over-



Dr. Serhii Plokhii, the newly appointed Mykhailo Hrushevskyi Professor of Ukrainian History at Harvard University.

all schema of European studies, and, even more importantly, into the study of Western civilization and world history."

"Plokhii comes to us at Harvard by way of Dnipropetrovsk, Moscow, Kyiv and Edmonton," Dr. Szporluk pointed out. "His appointment is a recognition of his personal accomplishment in the world of historical scholarship and in Ukrainian studies and it also highlights the strides that have been made by scholars in Ukraine over the past 20 years. Plokhii is an embodiment of the successful breaking down of the barriers that existed between scholarship and historiography in the Soviet Union and in the West."

"Plokhii is young, he is dynamic, and he will be good for Ukrainian Studies at Harvard," Szporluk concluded. "I believe that he will be able to reach out to our new students and energize and excite them."

Associate HURI Director Dr. Lubomyr Hajda pointed out that "Plokhii is the third incumbent of the Hrushevskyi Chair. Each of the incumbents was marked by great erudition and great understanding of the full sweep of Ukrainian history but each has also had his own specialized interests: Omeljan Pritsak concentrated on the origins of Rus' and the early history of the Kyivan state, as well as Ukraine's relationship with the peoples of the steppe and the Turkish Empire. Roman Szporluk focused on the 19th and 20th century, Ukraine's connection with Eastern and Central Europe, with a strong emphasis on intellectual history. Prof. Plokhii's major contributions have been on the early modern period from the 16th through the 18th centuries, especially religious and cultural developments, and the Cossack [Kozak] experience, as well as the historiography of these developments. In a sense Dr. Plokhii completes the circle of coverage of Ukrainian history at Harvard."

Dr. Plokhii first earned his scholarly reputation through his writings on the early modern religious history of Ukraine completed during Soviet times. After relocating to Canada, this study culminated in a sweeping book, "The Cossacks and Religion in Early Modern Ukraine" (Oxford University Press, 2001). Drawing on archives in seven European languages, Dr. Plokhii tracks the religious history of the country through the emergence of the Union of the Ukrainian Church in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth with Rome, the Orthodox revival in Kyiv, and the defense of Orthodoxy by the Kozaks during the Khmelnytsky revolt.

In his subsequent major work, "Unmaking Imperial Russia: Mykhailo

Hrushevsky and the Writing of Ukrainian History" (University of Toronto Press, 2005), Dr. Plokhii presents an intellectual biography of the Ukrainian historian Hrushevsky with a close analysis of how his career interacted with the politics of imperial Russia and the Soviet Union. Dr. Plokhii shows how Hrushevsky sought to replace the Russian interpretation of the history of the East Slavs that united Russian, Ukrainian and Belarusian history into a single stream by constructing a new model of the period. In tracking Hrushevsky's intellectual approach, Dr. Plokhii judiciously analyzes and critiques both the imperial Russian and Ukrainian national approaches to early Slavic history.

Dr. Plokhii recently published a third major book, "The Origins of the Slavic Nations: Premodern Identities in Russia, Ukraine and Belarus" (Cambridge University Press, 2006), which is a culmination of a decade's work on how elite political discourse and history-writing create and shape cultural identities. Examining the pre-modern history of Eastern Europe, Dr. Plokhii seeks to explain how and when separate Russian, Ukrainian and Belarusian identities emerged.

In commenting on his appointment Dr. Plokhii said, "I am looking forward to my move to Harvard. I am especially excited about the prospect of working with undergraduate and graduate students who seek to specialize in the area of Ukrainian studies. I am most interested in developing a new cadre of specialists and have already been involved in the selection of two new graduate students who will begin their work in the fall."

"Although I have spent a considerable amount of time working on the 17th and 18th centuries," Dr. Plokhii continued, "I have also been keenly interested in cultural and social history and I have begun doing research in the 19th and 20th centuries as well. I don't want to limit myself or my students to the study of a particular era. I am going to be professor of the entire course of Ukrainian history," he emphasized.

"For a scholar of Ukraine, Harvard, with its vast resources, is a true blessing," Dr. Plokhii pointed out. "The most important, of course, is the Ukrainian Research Institute. I have spent time at HURI and I know its scholars and staff. I am excited by the potential of working with them and continuing my research and publications."

"Finally, I look forward to working with colleagues in Ukraine," Dr. Plokhii added. "When Ukraine became independent and the old barriers fell, Ukrainian scholars needed help from the West to get back to the business of real historical studies. They needed to be reintroduced to the source material and they needed help in filling in the blank spots. Now a new generation of scholars has emerged that is truly professional and can partner equally with scholars from the West. I look forward to working with them and to undertaking joint projects with them."

Dr. Plokhii's family comes from Zaporizhia but Serhii was born in Nizhni Novgorod on the Volga in Russia. His father, Mykola, was a graduate of Zaporizhia's Technical Institute but was forced to take a position in Nizhni Novgorod with his wife, Lydia, as a result of the Soviet system mandating all graduates to spend the first two years of their careers wherever the state assigned them. Shortly after his birth, Serhii Plokhii was taken to Zaporizhia where he spent his formative years.

After the fall of Communist Party leader Petro Shelest, who was accused of Ukrainian nationalism, and his replacement by hard-liner Volodymyr Shcherbytsky, there was a crackdown in the Ukrainian

(Continued on page 17)



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The Ukrainian Museum hosts works from the estate of Krychevsky

Press Office of The Ukrainian Museum

NEW YORK – An exhibition titled “Works from the Estate of Vasyl Hryhorovych Krychevsky” will open here at The Ukrainian Museum, 222 East Sixth St., on April 13. The works – oil paintings and watercolors by the artist – are from the collection of Zorya Fine Art gallery in Greenwich, Conn. The exhibition will run through June 3.

Vasyl Hryhorovych Krychevsky (1873-1952) is considered one of Ukraine’s outstanding public figures of the 20th century – an architect, artist, scholar and educator whose remarkable accomplishments impacted greatly on the country’s cultural development in the early part of the century.

Museum and showing until April 29. Here, Krychevsky’s paintings can be viewed within the context of one of the most exciting and innovative periods of art in Ukraine – the period of Modernism, which is so aptly discussed in the “Crossroads” exhibition.

Krychevsky, along with such illustrious contemporaries as David Burliuk, Alexandra Exter, as well as fellow faculty members of the Ukrainian Academy of Art – artists Oleksander Bohomazov, Abram Manevych, Hryhorii Narbut, Vadym Meller and Kazimir Malevich among others – represented the vibrant voices in the Ukrainian world of art of that day.

A 112-page, illustrated, English-and-Ukrainian-language exhibition catalogue published by Zorya Fine Art contains a



“Still life with cabbage,” 1951 (Oil on paper), Zorya Fine Art collection.

A Renaissance man in effect, he was dynamic and innovative in his creativity. He pioneered a distinct Ukrainian style of architectural expression and brought new trends to the art of book design. He made notable contributions to scholarship, the applied arts and theater production design, and was distinguished as an art director in the Ukrainian film industry.

As one of the principal organizers of the Ukrainian State Academy of Arts in 1917 (its name was later changed to the Kyiv Art Institute), its first president and a professor on the staff, Krychevsky played a major role in educating a generation of exceptional Ukrainian architects and artists.

Krychevsky was a celebrated artist. The collection of his paintings from the Zorya Fine Art gallery is presented in a most timely fashion – to run concurrently with the critically acclaimed “Crossroads: Modernism in Ukraine, 1910-1930,” presently on view at The Ukrainian

comprehensive essay on the life and work of Krychevsky by Valentyna Ruban-Kravchenko, doctor of art history, corresponding member of the Academy of Fine Arts of Ukraine.

Dr. Kravchenko divides the artist’s work represented in the show into “three thematic cycles”: paintings from before World War I and from the years before the start of World War II that project the natural beauty of Ukraine in compositions that embody joy and appreciation for the majesty of nature; works the artist created during his immigration period beginning with the final months of World War II, during which Krychevsky’s longing for his homeland is expressed poignantly in landscapes of Ukraine, which he painted from memory; and works in which the artist evokes Venezuela’s natural beauty and the urban environment of Caracas, where he lived the rest of his life and where he died in 1952.

In the essay, Dr. Kravchenko best



“Bridge, Paris,” 1947 (watercolor and pencil on paper), Zorya Fine Art collection.

describes the essence of Krychevsky’s paintings: “In both peaceful and difficult times, Krychevsky returned again and again to the images dearest to his heart – tree-hugged peasant homes above quiet-flowing Ukrainian rivers, the changing colors of the sky above the open spaces of green fields, the powerful surge of Crimean mountains, or the boundless blue of the sea. These small-scale harmonious works are monumental in their imagery, perfect in their composition and color scheme. In them, the artist’s soul sings like an Aeolian harp, open to the expanses and colors of his native land.”

Krychevsky was a prolific artist. According to his biographer Vadym Pavlovsky, the artist “produced close to 200 large paintings, several hundred of medium format, and several thousand small works.” Unfortunately, the bulk of his creative work was destroyed in a fire and only a small portion of his paintings are preserved in galleries, museums and private collections.

Krychevsky’s media were watercolor and oil. In describing the artist’s work, Mr. Pavlovsky said, “His paintings, full of sunlight and air, express the mood of the moment at which the artist captures nature and recreates it with his brush. The harmony of light and transparent hues, a joyous, rarely

pensive mood, and a sense of intimacy are characteristic of almost all his landscapes.” Mr. Pavlovsky identifies Krychevsky’s style as close to Impressionism, but says that the artist “followed his own path.”

Olha Hnateyko, president of the board of trustees of The Ukrainian Museum, said the museum “is delighted to collaborate with Zorya Fine Art in displaying a selection of the vast artistic output of this distinguished artist, whose pioneering work in the name of Modernism helped change the face of Ukrainian culture in the early 20th century.”

The Ukrainian Museum’s purpose is to share the breadth and wealth of Ukrainian culture with the public. To that end the museum organizes exhibitions from its collections or from loans, offers educational programming, and works in concert with other museums, institutions and organizations to provide excellence in substance, visual enjoyment and a learning experience in all its endeavors.

In 2005 the museum relocated to its newly built facility, funded in total by generous donations from the Ukrainian community in the United States.

For further information readers may call 212-228-0110 or e-mail info@ukrainian-museum.org.



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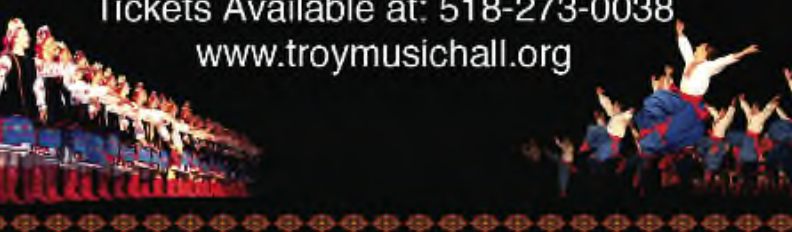
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“Extreme” skiing in the Carpathians with Ukraine’s KLK

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

MOUNT STIH, ZAKARPATTIA OBLAST – As we tossed about like potatoes in the truck bed of a military jeep, I desperately gripped whatever I could to keep from slamming about.

Across from me, the eyes of Orest Antoniuk blared with exhilaration as we turbulently ascended into the Carpathians Mountains.

He thrust a bottle of champagne to his mouth, took a healthy swig, then pointing its mouth directly towards me. “Have some!” he cried out as I clung for my life.

“No thanks,” I replied regrettably. “I haven’t adjusted to drinking at seven in the morning.”

He was visibly disappointed, but it didn’t keep him from polishing off the bottle with a buddy in a minute’s time.

The Carpathian Ski Club (KLK) is not for the delicate or the faint of heart.

Founded in Lviv in 1924, forced into the diaspora during the Soviet era, the KLK that revived in 1989 was a network of young skiers who derived no greater pleasure than barreling down the soft, snowy slopes of the Carpathian

just as essential to KLK members as ski goggles, as I would later learn.

“If it helps, I’m not against it,” I replied.

We began chatting, eventually reaching the point in the conversation in which he explained why he dragged his wife and daughter onto a cramped, musty bus at midnight for a six-hour all-nighter into the Carpathians.

After all, it’s not the type of vacation newlyweds fantasize about on their honeymoon.

“It’s a type of extreme,” he said. “To stir up the blood. To stir up the adrenaline a bit.”

“We’re going pretty deep into the Carpathians, huh?” I asked.

“Into the very heart,” Vlodko replied.

Our destination was Drahobrat, an isolated ski resort with a handful of hotels and ski slopes. Its remote location and underdeveloped infrastructure ensured less crowds and more skiing, compared with swamped destinations like Slavske.

“Will we be able to see Hoverla from there?” I asked, referring to the highest peak in the Carpathians.

“Hoverla? Yurko, will we be able to see Hoverla?”

Sitting across the aisle was former



Zenon Zawada

KLK Champions Oksana Hrushynska and Bohdan Kokhan display their trophies at a March 17 ceremony.

the officer asked.

“We’ve got a group going for skiing at Drahobrat,” the driver responded. “We hear there’s snow up there.”

“Snow out there? Well, let’s hope so. Where is the group from?”

“Lviv.” And so we trekked onwards.

* * *

“Time to wake up!”

Yurko glanced at his daughter and smiled, “How’s life?”

Somehow, I had managed to fall asleep on this Turkish jalopy. I awoke to a scenic panorama of a Carpathian town covered in the charcoal blue haze of dawn. It was Yasynia.

As Hummer-sized army jeeps pulled up and the driver threw open the door, I noticed a sharp difference in temperature and changed my clothes after most of the passengers exited.

I climbed into one of the jeeps, and there sat the tall, lanky Orest Antoniuk, 44, first president of the revived KLK, who popped open a bottle of champagne.

“Ladies?” he offered, before being politely declined.

“Then a toast to Halychyna separatism!” he cried out before downing a gulp.

This man has too much energy for 6:45 in the morning, I thought to myself, perhaps a bit envious.

Orest was elected the first president because of his devotion to KLK from the get-go, said Oleh Kubiv, 43, his longtime colleague.

It was at his Lviv apartment in early 1989 that they held their first informal meeting. “He knew everyone and was

able to bring us all together,” said Mr. Kubiv, himself a former KLK president.

The jeep began banging up and down, jerking us left and right, as we ascended into the heart of the Carpathians along a narrow, icy road lined with six-foot snow banks and magnificently tall coniferous trees.

The two boys across from me delighted in being tossed about, and I appeared to be the only passenger startled by the jeep’s violent rocking.

When the door flung open some 30 minutes later, I noticed the cold air contrasted sharply with the foothills down below, and I was greeted with a postcard view of the snow-covered Carpathians under a bright blue sky.

Aside from my inability to pound alcohol at all hours of the day, another way I might have disappointed the KLK crew was my need for at least seven hours of sleep to function.

Perhaps it’s not in my blood, or maybe it’s my Manhattan upbringing, but my desire to tuck myself into a cozy bed and rest my head far outweighed any urge to strap on boots and skis and hoist myself atop Stih Mountain, despite the breathtaking views.

I was an anomaly, because that’s exactly what the KLK did upon our arrival at Drahobrat, opting to take advantage of the clear morning skies and instead sleep in the late afternoon.

I bid them well.

* * *

Since it was my second time in the Carpathian Mountains, I knew what type of lodging to expect: a shower barely



Perched in a dugout in the snow, KLK judge Orest Dubyniak calls out racers’ times at the finish line on March 17.

Mountains by day and partying by night.

Though its members have since married and are raising children, the KLK spirit of gnarling at the bone of life and sucking its marrow has not waned with the passing of time.

Instead, they bring their kids along.

I knew I was in for an experience when KLK President Olena Pankiv told me to meet the club’s buses in Petrushevyh Square at midnight on March 16.

That implied an all night trek in what’s considered a standard Ukrainian bus: a Turkish jalopy with filthy carpets, a seat that either reclined too far or didn’t recline at all, and barely any room for my legs, despite my unimposing five-foot-seven frame.

The driver wore no seat belt and all the passenger cargo was heaped into a fragile pile in the back corner of the bus that teetered on the brink of collapse at any given moment.

As I sat in my seat on the chilly spring night, I braced myself for a torturous six hours.

Fortunately, my neighbor Vlodko Dubyk offered to relieve my stress. “Would you like some cognac?” he asked, whipping out a metal flask that is

KLK President Yurii Dubyk, 48.

“Maybe if we get to the neighboring mountain, Blyznytisia. Our mountain is Stih.”

Stih, Blyznytisia, Hoverla. We spoke of these mountains as if they were women to be conquered.

Noticing my journalist’s notepad, Yurko began to tell me the history of KLK.

He had dug around Lviv’s archives some 15 years ago and found the club’s original protocols, statutes and minutes from 1924, bearing the signature of founder Kost Pankivskyi.

The Poles had suspected it was a front for the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists. (In the versions told by other KLK presidents, that’s exactly what it was.)

After two hours on the bus, I noticed it was moving at a snail’s pace along the rocky, decrepit roads of rural Halychyna. I began thinking it’s a wonder how anyone could sleep in this rickety tin can on wheels, but glancing around, I noticed half the bus was indeed asleep.

I don’t know what traffic police were doing up at 2 a.m., flagging down cars in the middle of nowhere, but there they were.

“Where are you heading at this hour?”



KLK presidents past and present: (from left) Oleh Kubiv, Orest Antoniuk, Olena Pankiv and Yurii Kosarchyn.



KLK members board a military jeep in the town of Yasynia at 6:30 a.m. on March 16 on their way to Stih Mountain in the Carpathians.

large enough to squeeze into, the clunking and stomping of ski boots shaking the stairs and halls, and cardboard-thin walls that intimately betray what the neighbors are up to.

To top it off, my key got stuck in the doorknob each time I tried locking it. A manager insisted there wasn't any problem. I was the one who didn't know what he was doing.

That's Ukrainian customer service for you. I eventually gave up and left my door unlocked for the two-night stay, and my \$30 a night fee began to seem overpriced.

Half my meals consisted of a thick, low-grade kovbasa, and my choice of beverage was limited to tea or coffee, all prepared by a staff of young village ladies who were either lovely or passive-aggressive.

"Do you have water?" I asked.

"Yes," the hostess replied in a poisonous tone.

"Can I have a bottle of water?"

"Yes," she replied, not lifting a finger.

"Can you please bring me the bottle of water?"

"Where?"

"To me."

A morning glass of orange juice is a luxury item that will cost you \$1.50. Yes, it's not Kansas. It's the Carpaty.

After a delightful seven-hour nap, I threw my boots on to explore Drahobrat as the sun was starting to set. As I meandered between the six-foot snow banks, barely retaining my balance on dirt roads covered with ice, I noticed a local fellow hauling logs with a horse.

There's something about villagers performing hard labor with animals that is particularly amusing to a city slicker like me.

As I snapped his photo from afar, he invited me closer.

If I could understand our conversation, I would describe it. But he spoke some mongrel mix of Russian, Ukrainian and perhaps Hungarian with a possible Rusyn accent, the result of which I couldn't interpret if my life depended on it.

Nevertheless, he understood my wish to be photographed alongside his horse, snapped the shot and wished me well.

I eventually found Yurko and Vlodko Dubyk sitting at a table in a hotel cafeteria with their families, who discussed more of the KLK's history.

In 1989, Lviv resident Oleh Rozhankivskyi learned that his "babtsia" (grandmother) Nuna was a KLK member until 1939, when the Soviets arrived and raised hell.

She had saved the club's statutes, and upon their discovery in their home, Mr. Rozhankivskyi began discussing the KLK within his circle of friends, already avid skiers.

The first informal meeting of the renewed KLK in Ukraine was held in Orest Antoniuk's home in January 1989. Mr. Rozhankivskyi led the KLK's inaugural meeting at the physics department of Franko State University on Drahomanov Street in Lviv in autumn 1989.

The renewed KLK consisted of 59 founders. Most were college students or in their 20s, and tight friendships and mystical romances soon blossomed.

"Those were the best times," Orest said.

"Feeneesh! Hotovyi!"

Seated on a makeshift bench made of tree branches, perched in a cubbyhole in the snow, KLK senior Orest Dubyniak shouted to the starting gate, signaling he was ready for the next racer.

The KLK is not a high-tech operation.

Ten years earlier, an electronics specialist pieced together the KLK's "electronic start/finish" gadget, essentially a single dilapidated suitcase containing sensor and timing devices.

The suitcase is placed at the finish line, which communicates via radio to the starting gate. Two sensors, posted on eight-inch tripods and positioned directly opposite each other, record each racer's time automatically.

As racers competed on the afternoon of March 17, American KLK President Erko Palydowycz arrived and was greeted with warm embraces by the KLK crew. He is the only skier on the slope not wearing a hat, despite chilly winds.

KLK is not only about skiing, Orest tells me.

It has the same mission now as it did in 1924 – fostering an association of nationally conscious people who will "defend the nation not only in words, but with the highest price," he said.

KLK's current struggle, as it had been in the last century, is to defend Ukrainian authenticity in Ukraine, particularly among their children.

"Our children are raised in a Ukrainian environment," Olena Pankiv, 38, tells me, which initially struck me as an exceptionally odd statement considering where we were.

"Even though this is Ukraine, the Russian influence is enormous," she added.

Any doubt that the KLK youth needed a Ukrainian atmosphere, even in the Carpathians, was quickly extinguished by the sound of Russian pop music echoing across the slopes, even as Olena spoke to me.

To me, hearing the Russian language in the Carpathians is akin to spilling ketchup on a wedding dress.

And the KLK skiers are easily recognizable among the crowd because they're

among the minority speaking Ukrainian.

The KLK also provides a way for parents to spend quality time with their children, "not at home in front of the television, but in the fresh air through sports," Olena said.

Suddenly I felt extremely thirsty.

Orest offered me his flask of cognac tucked in his jacket.

"No, thanks. Thirst. My throat is parched."

I went to find water, a commodity in far less abundance than cognac among the KLK crowd, and entered a dank, tightly crammed cabin reeking of beer at the slope's base.

Upon quenching my thirst, I noticed Erko nestled among his KLK colleagues, blissfully trading banter.

I became acquainted with three generations of KLK: Yaroslav Hronskyi, 66; father of Olena Pankiv, and Yaryna, 22; and grandfather of Olesia, 10, and Andrii, 8.

Mr. Hronskyi beamed with pride that Olena is leading the club.

Whether a stroke of coincidence or cosmic destiny, she married Oleh Pankiv, a fellow with the same surname as former KLK President Volodymyr Pankiv, but no relation.

For Oleh, 46, KLK instills a love and appreciation for the Carpathians among his children.

"Bez Moskovschyny!," ("Without Moscovdom!") added Yaroslav.

What was once a club for young singles is now a family-oriented activity, with 50 of its 70 members having two children each, Oleh said.

"Its like one big family," he said, just as members placed their food on the table, sharing everything: hard-boiled eggs, slices of pork fat (salo), kovbasa sandwiches and, of course, cognac.

It was then that I was introduced to "Piu do tebe!" ("I drink to you!")

"Is declining an option?" I asked.

Volodymyr Hronskyi looked at me in disgust. "Only an American would even consider declining a 'Piu do tebe,'" he said.

The correct response, I was instructed, is "Pyi zdorovyi."

By the third round, I stealthily tried to



Former KLK President Orest Antoniuk communicates with the finish line via radio as a KLK skier prepares for his race on March 17.

slow the pace down, holding the bottle of cognac in my hand for two or three minutes at a time.

That drew a sharp rebuke from the watchful KLK crowd. "What's the matter? You're supposed to pass the bottle!"

"I'm catching my breath. Just trying to slow the pace down," I replied.

The idea got no support.

That night, about 20 KLK members and their children gathered in front of their hotel, formed pairs and descended along an icy, treacherous path to a cabin hosting the night's celebration.

Led by the moonlight and a flashlight or two, we marched arm-in-arm, gripping each other tightly and filling the surrounding forest with the melodies of Ukrainian folk songs.

When reaching the cabin, I took a seat at the KLK seniors table, or as one fellow put it, the Ukrainian geology section.

Though a humorous remark, it was far from reality as 59-year old Bohdan Kokhan was awarded the KLK Cup among males for his superior performance in the slalom and giant slalom races.

Whoever said life begins at 40 could have been referring to Oksana

(Continued on page 16)



Three generations of Lviv KLK: Yaroslav Hronskyi, 66; daughter Yaryna Hronska, 22; granddaughter Olesia Pankiv, 10; daughter Olena Pankiv, 38; grandson Andrii Pankiv, 8; son-in-law Oleh Pankiv, 46.

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Yushchenko radicalizes...

(Continued from page 2)

The current political crisis is, in part, a product of the unfinished nature of the Orange Revolution. Viktor Yanukovich and his allies were never punished for election fraud in 2004, even though the Supreme Court ruled on December 3, 2004, that those involved in mass fraud should be criminally charged.

The unwillingness on the part of the Yanukovich camp to accept guilt for election fraud, coupled with Mr. Yushchenko's lack of political will to prosecute, has led to the current impasse. The coalition and government have returned many odious officials from the Kuchma regime, ignoring how this would be perceived in the Orange camp.

Prof. Olexiy Haran of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy told Eurasia Daily Monitor (EDM), "All the events after the signing of the universal showed that the Party of the Regions [was] not ready to find a compromise and wanted to monopolize power in the country and to return Ukraine to the Kuchma era."

In a significant return to past practices, on April 3 Parliament voted to reinstate the 2004 Central Election Commission (CEC), which was involved in election fraud. Former CEC Chairman Serhii Kivalov is a Party of the Regions deputy who refuses to accept any implication in election fraud.

The 2004 CEC had been reformed as part of the December 8, 2004, compromise that resulted in a repeat of the second round of the elections and constitutional reforms that reassigned many presidential powers to Parliament.

The Security Service of Ukraine threatened to prosecute anybody attempting to change the CEC put in place after December 8, 2004. The parliamentary decision also radicalized the CEC, moving it from a middle-of-the-road position to agreeing to organize early elections in May.

The decision to reinstate the discredited CEC opens up a Pandora's box that could unravel the December 2004 compromise. Constitutional reforms could also be deemed illegitimate.

U.S. Judge Bohdan Futey, an expert on Ukrainian law, told EDM: "The reforms are illegitimate and unconstitutional. The Rada and the Cabinet are abusing the reforms, as their aim is to curtail the powers of the presidency and to change the Constitution." According to Judge Futey, for deputies to change affiliations is unconstitutional, but President Yushchenko's decree is not.

An alternative solution to the crisis, supported by Western governments and the European Union, is to seek a compromise. Prime Minister Yanukovich has proposed a "zero option," whereby the coalition would step back by canceling the law on the Cabinet of Ministers, prohibiting deputies from changing factions, and not attempting to create a constitutional majority. In return, the president would cancel his decree.

Reaching a compromise is difficult, however, due to the Yushchenko team's lack of trust in Mr. Yanukovich, following repeated examples of bad faith. Mr. Yushchenko is also reluctant to cancel his decree, as this would transform him into a lame-duck president.

If Ukraine holds elections next month, the results will be similar to those a year ago, except the Socialists will not enter Parliament. The choice will again be an Orange or a grand coalition. The Anti-Crisis Coalition is dead and buried.

Sources: *Ukrayinska Pravda*, April 2-4; *president.gov.ua*, *The New York Times*, April 4; *The Observer*, April 1.

The article above is reprinted from *Eurasia Daily Monitor* with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, www.jamestown.org.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

president's decision to dissolve Parliament is based on dubious grounds. President Viktor Yushchenko "is trying to blackmail the constitutional and other courts, disrupt the activities of the Parliament and push the government into taking unlawful steps," the address claimed. According to the national deputies, the Security Service of Ukraine and the armed forces are being constrained to take unconstitutional and illegal actions. They also alleged that deputies, government members, Central Election Commission representatives, and Constitutional Court judges are under surveillance. (RFE/RL Newsline)

...condemns pressure on court

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada adopted by a vote of 256 coalition deputies in favor and two abstentions a declaration on April 9 saying that President Viktor Yushchenko is exerting "unprecedented" pressure on Constitutional Court judges, Interfax reported. The legislature noted that 53 lawmakers have submitted a petition to the Constitutional Court requesting that the lawfulness of the president's decree on the dissolution of Parliament be examined. "The Verkhovna Rada considers the president's pressure on the Constitutional Court one of the factors toward legitimizing unconstitutional acts of the president and those political forces that drive him to do this," the declaration read. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Russia again offers "assistance"

MOSCOW – Viktor Chernomyrdin, Russia's ambassador to Ukraine and a former Russian prime minister, said in Kyiv on April 4 that "if questions arrive from Ukraine, we shall offer assistance," Interfax reported. He added that "we have not been hired as aides, but if requests for assistance arrive, assistance will be provided." He did not specify what kind of help Russia might offer or at whose request. He made the remarks to journalists after Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's meeting with foreign ambassadors. Mr. Chernomyrdin also stressed that the Ukrainians must settle their differences through negotiations. Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov has also offered "assistance." On April 5, the Gazprom-owned daily Izvestia wrote that "current events in Ukraine are painfully reminiscent of the October 1993 tragedy in Russia.

There's the same kind of confrontation between the Parliament and the president. The opponents are just as unwilling to listen to each other's arguments." The daily also noted that some supporters of Mr. Yanukovich, who have been bused into Kyiv from Donetsk, blame the United States for the current troubles. One young man told the Moscow daily: "Do you really think this was [President Viktor] Yushchenko's own idea? The Americans were involved. [Yulia] Tymoshenko [of the Tymoshenko Bloc] had her reasons for visiting Washington. Besides, why would the president keep meeting with [U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine] William Taylor?" (RFE/RL Newsline)

President warns of criminal responsibility

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said at a session of the National Security and Defense Council in Kyiv on April 5 that the Cabinet of Ministers will face criminal responsibility if it fails to obey his decree on the dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada, UNIAN reported. Mr. Yushchenko requested of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, who attended the session along with Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz, that the government allocate funds for a campaign for the early parliamentary elections on May 27, as stipulated by his decree. Mr. Yushchenko also appealed to all political forces in Ukraine to restrain from sending supporters to the streets during the current crisis. Meanwhile, police reported that some 6,000 supporters of Mr. Yanukovich and the ruling coalition arrived in Kyiv from the provinces in the morning of April 5. Anti-Yushchenko demonstrators have reportedly pitched more than 500 tents in downtown Kyiv, where they are staying overnight. According to police reports, an April 4 rally on Kyiv's Independence Square in support of the ruling coalition attracted some 10,000 people. Also on April 4, the Verkhovna Rada, which has been continuing its session despite Yushchenko's decree to disband it, adopted a resolution slamming Mr. Yushchenko for the creation of "legal chaos" in the country. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Moroz no longer on NSDC

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz has been withdrawn from the National Security and Defense Council via presidential decree. According to the April 3 decree, internal troops commander Oleksander Kikhtenko and First

Vice-Chairman of the Security Service of Ukraine Valentyn Nalyvaichenko have been added as members of the NSDC. (Ukrinform)

Prime minister urges unity

KYIV – The Ukrainian nation should make a choice in favor of unity against confrontation for the sake of the future, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich told a March 30 forum of national unity, organized in Kyiv on the initiative of the parliamentary coalition. "We urge you to unite for the sake of an important process,

which will pave the way to development of a potent and prosperous country," he stressed. According to the prime minister, some politicians are working toward destabilization in Ukraine. He also voiced his conviction that the president will not allow destabilization in Ukraine. "I spoke with Viktor Yushchenko just a few minutes ago. He was calm and asked me to find mutual understanding," Mr. Yanukovich said. He stressed that the Party of the Regions offered Our Ukraine to unite with it, however, Our Ukraine refused. (Ukrinform)



OLGA ALICE MALISCHAK

86 a long-time secretary of the Ukrainian National Association Branch 29 and an active member of the Ukrainian community

died Tuesday, March 27, at Wesley Village, Jenkins Twp. Mrs. Malischak represented Branch 29, Transfiguration of Jesus, Nanticoke, PA at numerous national conventions. Alice assumed the duties of branch secretary after her husband, Michael, passed away in 1953.

Alice was born on April 12, 1920 in Ansonia, CT. She was the daughter of the late John and Paraska Astrab Hlywa. She was a resident of the Korn Krest section of Hanover Township and a graduate of Plains Memorial High School, class of 1938. Alice was a member of the Holy Transfiguration Greek Catholic Church of Nanticoke, PA.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Michael, sister Mildred Modresky and twin sister, Anna O'Malia.

Surviving are her nephew Martin O'Malia and his wife, Sherry, Plains, PA, and nephew Michael J. Modresky, Maryland. She is also survived by great nieces Cindy Thomas, Amie O'Malia, Beth Ann Woolley, Dr. Michalene Torbik and great nephew, Michael A. Modresky.

Funeral services were held on March 30, at Simon S. Russin Funeral Home Inc., 136 Maffett St., Plains, PA.



Ділимося сумною вісткою з родиною, приятелями і знайомими, що у вівторок, 27 березня 2007 р. відійшов у Божу вічність наш найдорожчий і незабутній
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ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися в суботу, 31 березня 2007 р. в Українській католицькій церкві Царя Христа у Філадельфії, а відтак на цвинтарі св. Марії при Fox Chase Road, Jenkintown, Pa.

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– ХРИСТЯ з мужем ДЖІМОМ і дітьми ДЖІМОМ та ЕВАНОМ
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кузин – МИХАЙЛО ПАВЛІЧКА з дітьми СТЕФАНІЄЮ і МИРОНОМ та їх родинами в Канаді
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On the road...

(Continued from page 9)

taken of the first group of young men sent to clean up right after the explosion. They were told they only had to work for two minutes at a shift in lieu of the mandatory two-year stint in the Red Army. Before they were sent out to the gaping rooftop where the reactor exploded, we see those young cherubic-faced boys laughing and joking with each other, looking valiant in their leaden suits that resembled a medieval knight's, and innocent to what they were about to experience.

There were other equally wrenching and difficult exhibits to gaze on, such as the many mementos donated by the families of the dead firefighters who first responded to the explosion. Among those was a white button-down shirt, one of the last things a liquidator wore before hurriedly changing into his work clothes to put the fires out. There were also many red Soviet passports of the deceased, and their accompanying photos were marked with the ominous radiation insignia.

Other exhibits included a grotesque skeleton of a Siamese-twin piglet, a replica of the famous pine tree that resembles a cross, and a wall adorned

with the many photos of children afflicted with Chernobyl-related diseases. Many photos were taken well after Chernobyl occurred. Our guide told us that some of the children have recovered and are now adults and have since returned to look at their old photos. "They are always surprised to see how sick they were as children," she said.

There is one huge photo in the center of the wall, and that belongs to a 5-year-old boy named Alex, a leukemia victim from Belarus. He is bald with red markings on his head that resemble star bursts, and his huge soulful eyes follow you wherever you go, like a saint on an icon.

"He died," our guide said when we asked about him. "Soon after the photo was taken, he was gone."

It was a sobering experience, and we were silent after the tour when the guide let us sit in front of the photos and contemplate all that we saw. It was like being at a panahykda (requiem service).

After our tour, Peter and I met with the interim director, Dr. Anna Korolevskaya, who allowed us to film many of the exhibits for our promotional DVD. I presented her with a copy of my novel, "The Sky Unwashed," for the museum. "Perhaps it will be translated into Ukrainian," she said.

"Extreme" skiing...

(Continued from page 13)

Hrushynska, who finished with the best time among the women.

The several dozen children in attendance cheered and encouraged each other when receiving their awards and certificates of participation.

"We didn't even have children's competitions 15 years ago," Orest Antoniuk said. "Then in 1996, we had a baby boom of 13 children."

Hearty applause was showered upon two American KLK ambassadors, Erko and Zenon Stakhiv. It was his first time skiing the Carpathians, Mr. Stakhiv told his comrades, and fulfilled a goal he'd always had.

I spotted a relic, a KLK patch, on Oleh Kubyk's jacket, which stemmed from the club's first ever contact with the American KLK.

He received it during a 1990 visit from George Popel, and has cherished it ever since.

He and former President Yuriy Kosarchyn filled in more gaps of KLK history for me.

An informal association of skiers had existed in Lviv prior to 1989, however they were divided in three vertep associations – Durniv, Kubiv and Masniv – which were forbidden at the time.

Once Oleh Rozhankivskyi showed his friends the original KLK statute and they met at Orest's apartment, the decision to restart the club was obvious. "We were all Ukrainian, we were all skiers and we all traveled to the Carpathians," Mr. Kubyk said.

Chatter, laughter and song filled the air as the KLK members partied into the night.

Alcohol fueled the festivities, including a fiercely bitter invention made from sweet grass called Zubrivka. I preferred the samohon or home brew.

As the early morning hours approached, I saw some dirty dancing that amused even this jaded journalist. Sensing I might get tempted to join in, I called it a night at that point and stumbled home with the moonlight's guidance.

I felt every muscle in my body being tested on Stih Mountain, but I wasn't even skiing. Getting up the slope was a test of athleticism in it of itself.

As with most Carpathian ski resorts, with the exception of luxurious outfits like Bukovel, your ski lift is a rubber, 12-inch tee-bar, upon which you neatly rest your butt, propping it up by gripping its end with your hand.

Perhaps it was a sign that I'd best join a gym soon, but the task of maintaining your balance on skis while a rubber tee-bar shoves your butt up a steep mountain is not easy.

I lasted two minutes the first time before I abandoned ship, and 30 seconds

longer the second time.

I was determined to make it to the very top of Stih Mountain on my third ascent.

I had never seen the weather change so drastically while on a ski lift. After spending three minutes struggling to keep my backside parked on that tee-bar, cold winds surrounded me and a thick fog enveloped me.

I managed to hang onto that tee-bar for five minutes before letting go in utter exhaustion. And I still wasn't atop the great Stih!

The fog was so thick I could barely see two feet in front of me. Meanwhile, aggressive skiers were recklessly dashing down the slope.

Energized from the lift, I could only descend Stih's painfully steep slopes in 20-second intervals before pausing to catch my breath.

Not being able to see anything also motivated my cautiousness, but others didn't necessarily share my approach.

Two-thirds of my way down, a maniac sped over my skis, almost crashing into me, before wiping out himself. I think I heard him mutter, "Excuse me," indicating he was still alive.

At that point, my only hope in life was

to get off foggy Stih Mountain as quickly as possible with the goal of preserving all my limbs.

Boots and skis rented for \$10 a day, and my ticket for 20 lifts cost \$24.

When reaching the beer-reeking café, I committed another KLK faux pas by ordering a Zhyvchyk, a delightful fruit soda produced by Obolon. "You should be drinking hot wine after a morning of skiing!" Oksana scolded me.

But if she didn't get to me, then the other KLK folks did. For when I reached their table, I heard words that I didn't want to hear at noon: "Piu do tebe!"

In spite of such moments, the rank and file KLK demonstrated hallmark Ukrainian hospitality (particularly when it came to cognac).

Oksana Hrushynska deserves particular credit for providing me with her friendly company, hugs and kisses, all of which I eagerly accepted.

I'm not quite sure I'm KLK material when it comes to skiing, cognac and partying, but I certainly wouldn't turn down a chance to travel with them for another round of extreme skiing in the Carpathians.

And if snow is lacking, then the camaraderie alone will be sufficient. Piu do tebe!

Compromise...

(Continued from page 2)

render to Mr. Yushchenko's demands. A parliamentary session, which no supporters of Mr. Yushchenko attended, passed (237-23) the president's plan to conduct exercises involving foreign troops in Ukraine in 2007, which it had rejected two days earlier. The coalition also expelled from its ranks the defectors from Yushchenko's Our Ukraine (OU) and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB). Mr. Yushchenko had quoted the defections as the legal foundation for his decision to dissolve Parliament.

Mr. Yushchenko, however, firmly rejected the coalition's overtures. Addressing the nation on Easter Eve, April 7, he said that it was his duty to "cleanse the temple of the Pharisees and merchants" with his decree on Parliament's dissolution. "My decision is constitutional and legitimate," he said. "There will be no turning back."

Mr. Yushchenko's determination outraged the coalition. At an emergency session on April 9, Parliament approved statements accusing Mr. Yushchenko of "blackmailing" the Constitutional Court,

and the Security Service of Ukraine of "spying" on judges and coalition leaders, calling Mr. Yushchenko's April 2 decree illegal, and urging early presidential elections and a referendum to rule out NATO membership.

Mr. Yushchenko's snap parliamentary election plan, meanwhile, faces serious difficulties. The coalition parties and their allies outside Parliament are boycotting it. As a result, local electoral commissions are being formed without their participation. Finance Minister Mykola Azarov, who is one of the PRU's founders, has said that no money will be provided for organizing the election because no funds for this had been earmarked in this year's budget. Only Parliament may amend the budget, but Mr. Yushchenko does not recognize Parliament's legitimacy after his dissolution decree. All this means that the election will hardly be properly organized and significant irregularities should not be ruled out.

The results of the most recent opinion polls conducted by two respectable Kyiv-based pollsters show that the ruling coalition has nothing to fear if the Constitutional Court upholds President Yushchenko on Parliament's dissolution

and early elections. The current coalition, hostile to Mr. Yushchenko, would likely be preserved in the next Parliament, so Mr. Yanukovich should be able to stay on as prime minister.

His PRU would get 35.3 percent, according to the Sofia pollster, and 33.5 percent, according to the Razumkov Center. YTB should be second (25.1 percent according to Sofia and 24.9 percent according to Razumkov), followed by OU (Sofia's 5.4 percent and Razumkov's 9.6 percent), and the Communists (Sofia's 4.7 percent and Razumkov's 5 percent). The Socialists may fail to clear the 3 percent barrier (Sofia gives them 2.8 percent, and Razumkov 2.1 percent), but they will be competing for the last seats in Parliament against the radically anti-Western Vitrenko Bloc (1.6 percent from Sofia, and 2.5 percent from Razumkov), which is another likely ally of the PRU.

Sources: Channel 5, April 2-9; UNIAN, April 4, 6; Ukrayinska Pravda, April 4; Interfax-Ukraine, April 6.

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Patriarch Lubomyr Husar visits Catholic parishes in Florida

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. – While on his way to Argentina and Brazil, Patriarch Lubomyr Husar stopped in Florida where he conducted a pastoral visit to the Ukrainian Catholic parishes. While in St. Petersburg, the patriarch conducted a day of recollection for priests in the area on Wednesday, February 21.

While in Miami Patriarch Husar also conducted a day of recollection for priests in that area. He conducted a pontifical divine liturgy on Sunday, February 25, along with Bishop Basil Losten and local clergy.

The patriarch visited the Assumption Parish in Miami on Sunday, February 18, celebrating a divine liturgy with Archbishop John C. Falavola and Bishop John A. Elya, eparch emeritus of Newton, Mass. Msgrs. Martin Canavan

and John Stevensky concelebrated with Deacon Jaroslaw Shudrak.

Patriarch Husar then traveled to St. Andrew's Parish in North Port, where he celebrated a moleben on Tuesday, February 20. He also visited St. Andrew's Parish in Brooksville on Thursday, February 22. St. Mary's Parish in Apopka was his next visit on Friday, February 23. The patriarch celebrated both the English and the Ukrainian divine liturgies at the Epiphany of Our Lord Church in St. Petersburg on Sunday, February 25.

During his six-day stay in St. Petersburg, Patriarch Husar also visited local Latin Rite Bishop Robert Lynch and also visited the Maria Manor nursing home in St. Petersburg, where several parishioners from the Epiphany of Our Lord parish reside.



Pictured with Patriarch Lubomyr Husar (from left, front row) are: Father Michael Kouts, pastor of St. Andrew Church in Brooksville; Msgr. John P. Stevensky, pastor of the Epiphany of Our Lord Church in St. Petersburg; Mitrat Matthew Berko, retired; Msgr. Mercurio Fregapane, retired pastor from the Harrisburg, Pa., diocese; Deacon Richard Wilhelm; (second row) Father Robert Evancho, pastor of St. Theresa's Byzantine Church in St. Petersburg; Father Bohdan Lukie (a missionary from Canada who was preaching at the Epiphany Parish at the time); Father Ivan Kubishyn, pastor of St. Mary Church in Apopka; Father Jorge Porales, pastor of the local Maronite Church; Father Michael Pytlak, pastor of St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

Serhii Plokhii...

(Continued from page 10)

SSR. This was especially true in the cultural, intellectual and educational spheres, and universities in Ukraine were subjected to even more rigid control. History departments severely limited Ukrainian scholars from working on the Kyivan Rus' and early modern periods, and restricted access to source materials. Party control was especially severe at the Kyiv and Lviv universities.


The one important exception was the history department of the University of Dnipropetrovsk which enjoyed the patronage of Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and later Leonid Kuchma, both of whom came from the city. As a result of their intervention, the school was put under the direct control of the All-Union Ministry of Higher Education in Moscow and was given considerably more latitude than other institutions in Ukraine. Most of the research was published in Russian but it dealt with Ukrainian material.

Under the leadership of Prof. Mykola Kovalskyi, who later served as the vice-president of the Ostroh Academy, major

research was done on the 17th and 18th century Ukrainian source material as well as on the Kozaks. A school of specialists was slowly developed and over the years some 25 serious scholars were educated.

Dr. Plokhii said he opted to attend the history faculty at Dnipropetrovsk University and received his B.A. in history and social sciences in 1980. He continued his studies there for the "kandydat nauk" degree, but when it came time to present and defend his dissertation he found that a committee could not be assembled in Dnipropetrovsk, and no other university in Ukraine would deal with a dissertation on a clearly Ukrainian topic.

Dr. Plokhii said he was advised to try his luck in Moscow and the history department at Patrice Lumumba University proved sympathetic and agreed to form a committee to review his dissertation. He received his master's degree in Moscow in 1982. Owing to the liberalization of the late 1980s there was a gradual change in the educational establishment in Ukraine and Dr. Plokhii was able to complete his studies at Kyiv University, earning a Ph. D. in history in 1990.



1st Annual SUSTA Conference

Rutgers University – New Brunswick, NJ

APRIL 21st, 2007
10:00 am

Rutgers University
Allison Road Classroom Building
618 Allison Road
Piscataway, NJ 08854

Ukrainian Students and Community Members,

This April, SUSTA and the Rutgers Ukrainian Students Club will be holding a national conference consisting 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 we will be having a summit of SUSTA leaders in order to have elections for the next governing board and to further expand the organization. We are looking for students and community members to partake in this conference and the expansion of SUSTA; if you would like to learn and network, with other Ukrainians, as well as help preserve and build your community, this event is for you. The SUSTA Conference 2007 will be held at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ the 21st of April and hosted by the Rutgers Ukrainian Students Club. The topics of the lectures and panels will range from wide array of subjects; it will most certainly be of interest to anyone who cares about future of Ukrainian affairs.

<p>Program:</p> <p>Friday April 20th- SUSTA Pre Pub night</p> <p>Saturday April 21st- SUSTA Conference 2007 9:30 am- Registration/Coffee and Bagels 10:30am- Introduction 10:40am- Opening 11:00am- Keynote Address 11:30am- Panel 1 12:45pm- Panel 2 2:00pm- Lunch 2:30pm- Break Out Session 1 3:15pm- Break Out Session 2 4:00pm- SUSTA Summit/Forum/Elections 5:00pm- Closing Address 5:30pm- Tentative Reception Dinner 9:00 pm- SUSTA Conference After Party</p> <p>For details go to: http://www.ukrainianstudents.net or http://ukrainians.rutgers.edu/</p>	<p>Clubs Attending:</p> <p>Rutgers Ukrainian Students Club Columbia Ukrainian Student Society Ukrainian Club at SUNY Buffalo Ukrainian Students Association of UIC Penn State Ukrainians NYU Ukrainians UPenn Ukrainian Students Club Princeton Ukrainian Alliance Villanova Ukrainians Cornell Ukrainian Club USC at University of Toronto McGill Ukrainian Students Club ...and Students from all over</p> <p>Endorsed by:</p> <p>Rutgers University Columbia Ukrainian Studies Program Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute US-Ukraine foundation The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America</p>	<p>Conference Fee is: \$15- with Pre-Registration \$20- At the Door And that will include the conference, food, drinks and official membership to SUSTA.</p>
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Oksana Pelenska, art historian, Prague
Ukrainian Modernism versus Tradition in Czechoslovakia: The Art of Decelerated Time

Admission: \$15; members and seniors - \$13; students - \$10
A reception will follow the symposium.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 24)

Leschishin, the principal oboe of the Washington National Opera, will be joined by five of his musician friends (viola, violin, cello, piano and basson) who will perform a program of music by Mozart, Poulenc and Kalliwoda. Venue: The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Old Town Alexandria. Time: 3 p.m. Seating is unreserved; suggested donation: \$20. For more information call 202-244-8836.

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ADVANCE NOTICE

Friday, June 15

ROCK HALL, Md.: The Ukrainian American Nautical Association Inc. (UANAI) will hold its annual three-day Chesapeake Sail on June 15-17. If you have your own boat, we'd love to have you join us. We have chartered two sailboats. A few crew spots are still available (cost: \$335/person). For further details, please contact Petro at 610-225-0211 or e-mail June07Sail@uanai.com.

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

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 submission) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community.

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

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, senders are asked to include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours, as well as their complete mailing address.

Information should be sent 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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Film Festival

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'Zabava' (Ukrainian Dances) with Ukrainian Bands

Saturday, July 14

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|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| Current to May 12
Detroit | Art exhibit, "In Search of Ukrainian Symbolism and Motifs," The Scarab Club, 313-831-1250 | April 23
Cambridge, MA | Lecture by Michael Moser, "Movo ridna, slovo ridne: How the Galician Ruthenians Were Taught to Become Ukrainians," Harvard University, 617-495-4053 |
| 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 23
Toronto | Film screening, "Orange Revolution," by Steven York, The Royal Ontario Museum Theater, 416-586-8000 |
| April 16
Cambridge, MA | Lecture by Tatiana Oparina, "The Issue of the 'True Faith': Some Problems in Russian-Ukrainian Ecclesiastical Contacts in the 17th Century," Harvard University, 617-495-4053 | April 24
Syracuse, NY | Mayfest International, featuring performance by Odesa Ukrainian Dancers, Syracuse University, 315-443-3133 |
| April 16
Washington | Lecture by Laada Bilaniuk, "Language and Politics in Ukrainian Popular Culture," Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, 202-691-4140 | April 25
Whippany, NJ | Wine, spirits and beer tasting fund-raiser for Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-479-8715 or 973-713-6956 |
| April 18
New York | Meet the Filmmakers, Ukrainian Film Club, Columbia University, sy2165@columbia.edu | April 25
Washington | Film screening, "The Orange Chronicles," by Damian Kolodiy, George Washington University, 202-994-6240 |
| April 18
Toronto | Lecture by Michael Moser, "Far From Yazychiye: The Galician Ukrainian Written Language, 1831-1849," Munk Center for International Studies, 416-978-8669 | April 26
Winnipeg, MB | Lecture with Denis Hlynka and Robert Klymasz, "Chornobyl: As Commemorated in North American Popular Songs," Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center, 204-942-0218 |
| April 19
Toronto | Lecture by Kirill Shevchenko, "Interwar Czechoslovakia and the Development of Rusyn Identity," Munk Center for International Studies, 416-978-8669 | April 27
Chicago | Concert, "An Evening with Young Bandurists: The Bandura, Unplugged," Ukrainian National Museum, 312-421-8020 |
| April 20
Toronto | Film screening, "Orange Revolution," by Steven York, The Al Green Theater, 416-924-6211 | April 28
Washington | Art exhibit and sale, sponsored by Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 78, The Field School, 703-271-9672 or 301-854-2062 |
| April 20-22
Hancock, MI | Ukrainian Dance Workshop, Copper County Community Arts Center and Laurium Ballroom, 906-337-5529 or jkmarr@mtu.edu | April 28
New York | "Celebrating Les Kurbas," presentations by Dr. Irena Makaryk and Virlana Tkacz, with a concert by Julian Kytasty and Bandura Downtown, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 |
| April 20-22
New York | Art exhibit featuring works by Bohdan Soroka, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America building, 212-260-4490 | April 28
Toronto | 60th anniversary of "Akcja Wisla," Ukrainian Cultural Center, mjekret@rogers.com |
| April 21
New York | Lecture by Theodor Kostyuk, "How Unique is Earth in Our Solar System?" Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130 | April 28
Winnipeg, MB | Presentation by Sophia Kachor, "Ukrainian Ritual Breads and Korovai (wedding bread) Workshop," Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center, 204-942-0218 |
| April 21
New York | "Ukrainian Modernism in Art," discussion with Konstantin Akinsha, Myroslava Mudrak and Oksana Pelenska, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 | | |
| April 21
Jenkintown, PA | Benefit Cabaret Night, featuring Vasyl Popadiuk and the Papa Duke band, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-663-1166 | | |
| April 21
New York | Fund-raiser "Casino Royal, An Evening in Montenegro," 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 21
Webster, NY | Dance, featuring music by Vechirka, Ukrainian Home, 585-872-0240 | | |
| April 21
Piscataway, NJ | Ukrainian students (SUSTA) conference, Rutgers University, 609-240-5227 or www.ukrainianstudents.net | | |
| April 22
Ryan, MI | Concert featuring Solomia Soroka and Arthur Greene, Ukrainian Arts Society, St. Josephat Parish Center, 734-354-6517 | | |
| April 22
Carnegie, PA | Concert, "Bandura - The Soul of Ukraine," Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, Andrew Carnegie Free Library Music Hall, 412-331-6724 | | |

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Bohdan Tytla
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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



UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Mishanyna

On Easter Sunday, many of our readers probably had an opportunity to see a performance of HAHILKY, or SPRING ritual dances, also known as VESNIANKY. Many youth groups perform hahilky after the EASTER liturgies at their churches.

Such ritual dances can be traced back to the days before Christianity was accepted in Ukraine; they are an ancient custom. According to "Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia," "The dance and the SONG have become deeply rooted in the way of life of the Ukrainian people, and even now they play an important part in RITUAL festivities ..."

Ancient Ukrainian dances were actually dance GAMES, called KHOROVODY, and their basic form was the CIRCLE, the encyclopedia notes. Some forms of the hahilky and vesnianky that we see performed today belong to this category of circular dances. You probably know some of them: "KRYVYI TANETS," "Podolianochka," "Yahilochka."

The earlier hahilky were about the awakening of nature and springtime. Later hahilky incorporated themes of family life and love, as well as social trends of the day. New circular DANCES were created also to mark Easter.

Hahilky are known for their LYRICAL character; with movements that are soft, TRANQUIL and restrained, notes "Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia." They are performed from early spring until the Feast of the Holy Trinity – and particularly at Easter. Today they remain part of the Easter TRADITIONS observed by Ukrainian communities around the GLOBE.



A glasspainting (painting in reverse on glass) by Yaroslava Surmach Mills called "Easter Games" depicts hahilky and other Easter rituals on the church grounds.

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

Our Name: Ukelodeon

UKELODEON: it rhymes with nickelodeon. Yes, that's a kids' network (spelled with a capital "N"), but the original word referred to an early movie theater that charged a nickel for admission. According to *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*, the root of the word, "odeon," is from the Greek "oideion," a small building used for public performances of music and poetry. Our UKELODEON is envisioned as a public space where our youth, from kindergartners to teens, can come to learn, to share information, to relate their experiences, and to keep in touch with each other. Its contents will be shaped by the young readers of the next generation.

A Ukrainian Summer

Appears May 6, 2007, in The Ukrainian Weekly

*Travel to Ukraine and learn about your heritage...
Focus on Ukrainian studies, and earn college credit...
Or relax and enjoy the activities
at the ever-popular Soyuzivka...*

*How will you enjoy your Ukrainian summer?
Read our special section for information from those in the
know on great destinations and unique activities!*

EDITORIAL & ADVERTISING DEADLINE: APRIL 16

SUBMIT ARTICLES ON UPCOMING SUMMER CAMPS, COURSES, WORKSHOPS AND OTHER EVENTS (NOT MORE THAN 250 WORDS, TYPED AND DOUBLE-SPACED) PLUS PHOTOS.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A FREE ONE-LINE LISTING IN OUR SUMMER EVENTS CALENDAR (INDICATE DATE, TYPE OF EVENT AND PLACE).

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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

Hutsul 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 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 Weekend 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 Weekend 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 Tymbala 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 and up

July 2-6, 2007

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

July 6-8, 2007

Fourth 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 and crafts, and more

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

July 15-21, 2007

Discovery Camp, ages 8-15

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

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/>.

Saturday, April 21

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture by Dr. Theodore Kostyuk, astrophysicist, NASA Goddard Space, Greenbelt, Md., titled "How Unique is the Earth in Our Solar System?" The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

PISCATAWAY, N.J.: The national conference of SUSTA – the Federation of Ukrainian Student Associations 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 to 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, 732-718-8240, or log on to ukrainians.rutgers.edu.

NEW YORK: In conjunction with the widely acclaimed exhibition "Crossroads: Modernism in Ukraine, 1910-1930," The Ukrainian Museum invites the public to the "Symposium on Ukrainian Modernism in Art," with presentations by Dr. Konstantin Akinsha (correspondent for ARTnews magazine, Budapest), Dr. Myroslava Mudrak (professor of art history, Ohio State University) and Oksana Pelenska (art historian, Prague). Join us at 3 p.m. at The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St. Refreshments will be served. Admission: \$15; members and seniors, \$13; students, \$10. For reservations call 212-228-0110 or e-mail info@ukrainianmuseum.org. For additional information about the exhibition visit www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center (UECC), 700 Cedar Road, invites the public to attend a benefit concert featuring violin virtuoso Vasyl Popadiuk and his band Papa Duke. The evening begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Hall of the UECC. Enjoy the unique sounds of Gypsy World Fusion and experience an exciting show in an intimate cabaret style. The show features a blend of traditional and original songs in a fusion of jazz, classical and pop styles with incredible musical performances by Mr. Popadiuk and his superbly talented players. This one-of-a-kind performance by Mr. Popadiuk kicks off the UECC building renovation and reconstruction fund-raising campaign. Tickets are \$30. For additional information contact the UECC office, 215-663-1166.

Sunday, April 22

DETROIT: The Ukrainian Arts Society in Detroit presents world-renowned violinist Solomia Soroka and pianist-laureate Arthur Greene in concert, performing works by Lysenko, Ropslawec, Skoryk, Hubay, Chopin and Hartman. The concert is at 4 p.m. at St. Josaphat Parish Center. Tickets: \$20, adults; \$15, seniors; \$5, students age 15 and up; no charge for children up to age 14. Tickets are available at the Ukrainian Selfreliance Credit Union, the Future Credit Union and at the door. For information call 734-354-6517.

Wednesday, April 25

WHIPPANY, N.J.: A Wine, Spirits and Beer Tasting, sponsored by the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), Whippany Branch, the Morris County Volleyball Club (MCVC) and Liquor Outlet Wine Cellars of Boonton, N.J., will take place at 6-9 p.m. at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (UACCNJ), 60 N. Jefferson Road. Tickets are \$40 per person (over 21, please); includes hors d'oeuvres, food stations and prizes. For ticket information call 973-479-8715 or 973-713-6956, or e-mail CeEyeBee@optonline.net. Information is available also on the website www.uaccnj.org. Proceeds will benefit SUM, MCVC and UACCNJ.

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 will benefit the charitable, educational and cultural endeavors undertaken by the UNWLA Inc. For information call Tania Terleckyj, 703-271-9672, or Sophia Caryk, 301-854-2062.

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Museum invites the public to attend two special events in conjunction with its exhibition "Crossroads: Modernism in Ukraine, 1910-1930." At 3 p.m. a mini-festival will celebrate Les Kurbas with Dr. Irena Makaryk (University of Ottawa) presenting "On the World Stage: The Berezil in Paris and New York," and Virlana Tkacz, artistic director of Yara Arts Group, giving a presentation and slideshow titled "A Light: Kurbas and His Theater Productions." Admission: \$15; members and seniors, \$13; students, \$10. At 7:30 p.m., in "Echoes of Ukrainian Modernism," Julian Kytasty and the New York Bandura Ensemble will feature contemporary compositions and improvisations, interspersed with poetry in translation inspired by the great explosion of modern Ukrainian culture in the 1920s. Admission: \$15; members and seniors, \$13; students, \$10. Join us at The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St. Refreshments will be served. For reservations call 212-228-0110 or e-mail info@ukrainianmuseum.org.

Sunday, April 29

ALEXANDRIA, Va.: The Washington Group Cultural Fund, under the patronage of the Embassy of Ukraine, invites the public to a "Sunday Music Series" concert: "Igor Leschishin and Friends." Mr.

(Continued on page 18)



To book a room or event call: (845) 626-5641, ext. 140
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