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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a fraternal non-profit association

Vol. LXXV

No. 34

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 2007

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

New Jersey governor establishes Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy

JERSEY CITY, N.J. – Governor Jon S. Corzine on August 6 signed an executive order establishing the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy that will develop recommendations for a comprehensive and strategic statewide approach to successfully integrating immigrants in the state.

“For years New Jersey has been a gateway to America – a place of opportunity and new beginnings,” Gov. Corzine said, speaking in Liberty State Park. “And today we take an important step in creating a comprehensive statewide strategy for weaving immigrants into the economic, social and civic fabric our communities and state.”

The Governor’s Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy will examine a number of areas important to New Jersey’s immigrant population, including education, citizenship status, civil rights, fair housing, health care, language proficiency and employment and workforce training.

The panel will be chaired by Public Advocate Ron Chen and must report its findings and recommendations to the governor by the 15th month after its organizational meeting.

Sen. Ronald Rice, a member of the panel and chair of the African American Legislative Caucus, said: “When people come to this country, often under duress, they need a place to live and a way to provide needed health care for their families. But immigrants also need to be treated with respect and be granted the basic human rights associated with the dignity of living in America. We are still a nation of immigrants and we can never forget that. I am hopeful that the Governor’s Blue Ribbon Panel will expose the injustices imposed on many immigrants today as they struggle for survival. It’s time to ensure justice for immigrants who today often find the path to citizenship marked with violent attacks, job discrimination and inequality.”

Assemblyman Joe Vas (D-Middlesex), mayor of Perth Amboy and the Hispanic Legislative Caucus’s representative on the panel said: “Undocumented residents have become an incredibly important facet of our nation’s economy and they deserve to be treated in a manner that is respectful and well-reasoned,” he added. “It’s good to see New Jersey moving in a rational manner where the federal government has failed so miserably. This advisory panel is a solid step toward fostering a constructive dialogue on the immigration issue. It will enable all parties to avoid the xenophobic and ill-informed hysteria that too often accompanies the issue.”

The governor’s executive order authorizes the panel to call upon any department, office, division or agency of the state to supply it with any information, personnel or other assistance avail-

able as deemed necessary to carry out its duties. As the panel begins to deliberate on issues such as farm labor, driving privileges and other issues it deems necessary, the panel will consult with experts in those fields.

“The creation of this panel certainly demonstrates the governor’s commitment to ensuring that all New Jersey residents enjoy equal opportunities to participate in the wealth, culture and diversity of this state,” said Public Advocate Chen. “I share that commitment and feel honored to be part of this effort. On a state level, we must work toward developing policies and programs that encourage our newest residents to integrate into our communities, helping to fuel our economic growth, enhance our social

(Continued on page 4)

ELECTION NOTEBOOK: Political parties respond to Ukraine’s bleak demographics

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine’s bleak demographic situation has become prime fodder for the parliamentary election campaign.

In its proposal to alleviate the crisis, the Party of the Regions (PRU) has promised generous government subsidies for new parents – \$2,340 for the first newborn, \$5,000 for the second and \$10,000 for the third.

“We are dying as a nation, which is supported every month by the government’s active data,” said an August 14 party press release, citing figures projecting a further population decline of 10.5 million in the next 50 years, bringing Ukraine’s population down to 36 million.

“To halt this negative process, it is necessary that each Ukrainian woman give

birth to two or three children, according to experts,” the PRU’s press release stated.

Government subsidies will alleviate the poor socio-economic conditions that are the main cause of the population crisis, the press release said, in which an average of 16 deaths per 1,000 Ukrainians in 2006 outnumbered the average of nine births per 1,000.

Not to be outdone, Yulia Tymoshenko declared at her bloc congress that she is ready to match all the subsidies for newborns proposed by the Party of the Regions.

Initially, the Tymoshenko Bloc has proposed a \$2,080 subsidy for the first child, \$3,000 for the second child and \$5,000 for the third.

The Our Ukraine – People’s Self-Defense Bloc proposed \$2,400 for the first child, \$3,000 for the second child

(Continued on page 4)

Recalling the heady days of Ukraine’s independence declaration



Janice Helwig/Helsinki Commission

KYIV – Just seven weeks before Ukraine marked the 16th anniversary of its declaration of independence, members and staffers of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission) took time out during their trip to Kyiv for the annual meeting of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, to visit some of the capital city’s sites. Above, Rep. Chris Smith (R-N.J.), former chairman and now ranking member of the Helsinki Commission, and Orest Deychakiwsky (right), staff adviser, are seen in the Verkhovna Rada in front of a mural depicting the historic events and personages of August 24, 1991. The mural was hung in the Rada building in 2001 before the 10th anniversary celebrations of Ukraine’s Independence Day. Among the “founding fathers” of modern-day independent Ukraine are political and religious leaders of the day, as well as historical figures, including Mykhailo Hrushevsky, president of the Ukrainian National Republic of 1918.

ANALYSIS

Ukraine's 2007 elections will also determine the next president

by **Taras Kuzio**

Eurasia Daily Monitor

Ukraine's September 30 parliamentary elections will decide the country's next government and most likely determine the outcome of the presidential elections two years later. As seasoned Zerkalo Nedeli commentator Serhiy Rakhmanin pointed out, the "pre-term parliamentary campaign gives [President Viktor] Yushchenko a great opportunity to launch the presidential campaign ahead of time."

The conflated election campaigns have led to electoral populism. Mr. Yushchenko and his Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) coalition has launched a campaign to remove parliamentary immunity, a campaign issue last raised by President Leonid Kuchma in an April 2000 referendum. The Party of the Regions (PRU), which now dominates Parliament, replied by calling for the end of immunity for all officials – the president, prime minister, judges and deputies.

These moves should discourage corrupt oligarchs and businessmen from running for Parliament and help separate business and politics. But the anti-oligarch election rhetoric does not square with the continued presence of oligarchs in both the PRU and OU-PSD. Yurii Lutsenko's People's Self-Defense, Our Ukraine's ally in the 2007 elections, was established by an oligarch, Davyd Zvannia. The Privat oligarchic group, allied with former senior Yushchenko adviser Oleksander Tretiakov, has eight representatives in the OU-PSD list.

The leaders of the People's Self-Defense claim to have reformed. Mr. Lutsenko admitted, "Yes. We are the only political force that publicly accepted its mistakes, including the choice of personnel, and cleaned out and renewed ourselves." The party removed businessman Petro Poroshenko, whose name is associated with the corruption charges that led to the September 2005 political crisis.

According to Zerkalo Nedeli, the OU-PSD election list was heavily influenced by Mr. Lutsenko and Ihor Kolomoyskyi, the controversial head of Privat. Thus, the changes look more like musical chairs than cleaning house.

OU-PSD needs to regroup after Our Ukraine's poor performance in the 2006 elections, when it obtained fewer seats than in 2002. The coalition also needs reinforcement to compete with the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB), another veteran of the Orange Revolution. Finally, OU-PSD needs nationwide support. Anti-oligarch and anti-corruption sentiment mobilized many western and central Ukrainians to participate in the Orange Revolution. These sentiments are not popular among voters in eastern Ukraine, who have had no qualms about voting for a convicted felon supported by oligarchs – Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich.

Mr. Yanukovich's Party of the Regions has always included corrupt and discredited former Kuchma officials and oligarchs, such as Rynat Akhmetov, who has ignored calls by the president to not run for Parliament. Mr. Akhmetov ranks seventh on the PRU election list.

Dr. Taras Kuzio is visiting professor at the Elliot School of International Affairs, George Washington University. The article above, which originally appeared in the Jamestown Foundation's Eurasia Daily Monitor, is reprinted here with permission from the foundation (www.jamestown.org).

OU-PSD has unequivocally stated that its election and future coalition partner is the Tymoshenko Bloc. Senior OU-PSD leaders have publicly refuted suggestions that they may enter a coalition with the PRU. Mr. Lutsenko has stated that OU-PSD would only enter a grand coalition if the YTB also agreed. Mr. Yushchenko has been less clear in his intentions. Following the 2006 elections Mr. Yushchenko sent two close allies to separately negotiate with the YTB and the PRU – a strategy that he may repeat this year.

The parliamentary coalition established after the 2007 elections will heavily influence the outcome of the 2009 elections. With the prime minister's position strengthened following constitutional reforms in 2006, the office is an even better launching pad for the presidency.

However, President Yushchenko has proven unable to work with two of his three prime ministers, Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovich, because he sees both as potential competitors for the presidency. Ideally, Mr. Yushchenko would prefer that neither of them become Ukraine's next prime minister.

The Party of the Regions is leading the polls, so the Orange camp is battling for second place. If OU-PSD places second, President Yushchenko would likely choose a non-threatening technocrat, such as former Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov, for the job.

If the YTB finishes second, as seems likely, Mr. Yushchenko could again be tempted to negotiate a grand coalition with the PRU. His only condition would be that Mr. Yanukovich not be prime minister. Mr. Yushchenko has reportedly reached such an agreement through Mr. Yekhanurov, who has always been close to the PRU, and Presidential Secretariat head Viktor Baloha.

This scenario poses three risks for President Yushchenko.

First, forcing OU-PSD into a grand coalition with the Party of the Regions might be more palatable than in 2006, as it would not include the Communists and Mr. Yanukovich would not be prime minister. However, it would split OU-PSD and prevent the planned post-election unification of its constituent members into a pro-presidential party and vehicle for President Yushchenko's reelection in 2009.

Second, it would push the YTB into the opposition, where it has always felt rather comfortable. Ms. Tymoshenko was the only one of four opposition leaders who did not run in the 2004 elections. If Ms. Tymoshenko were to be in the opposition in 2007-2009, during which time Mr. Yushchenko supported a grand coalition, the president could lose Orange voters.

Third, the PRU could renege on any agreement to stand aside in 2009 and members could submit their own presidential candidate. Alternatively, they might find it difficult to persuade their voters to back Mr. Yushchenko, after seven years of hostile propaganda against him.

President Yushchenko is convinced that the 2007 elections are the key to his reelection in 2009. But whether he repeats the strategic mistakes made against Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovich in 2005-2006 will also play an important part in deciding Ukraine's future.

Sources: Zerkalo Nedeli, August 11-17; Inter TV, August 6; Ukrayinska Pravda, August 2, 13.

NEWSBRIEFS

President questions privatization ...

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said at a news conference in Kyiv on August 20 that plans to privatize major enterprises should be suspended until after early parliamentary elections scheduled for September 30, Ukrainian media reported. "I feel extremely suspicious of institutions of powers that are trying to initiate any privatization process today. I am convinced that the current State Property Fund is incapable of unbiased, objective privatization based on competition and law," Mr. Yushchenko said. In particular, he objected to the proposed sale of a 99.5 percent stake in the Odesa Portside Plant, a major manufacturer of chemicals. The chairwoman of the State Property Fund, Valentyna Semeniuk, rejected Mr. Yushchenko's criticism, saying that "all statements by the president about suspending the privatization of the Odesa Portside Plant are linked to the fact that oligarchs ... in his entourage are dissatisfied with the transparent and rigorous conditions of the auction as well as with the extensive social commitments demanded of investors." (RFE/RL Newsline)

... rules out Orange-Blue coalition

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said at a news conference on August 20 that he would not welcome a ruling coalition of the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc and the Party of the Regions after the September 30 polls, Ukrainian media reported. "I am not a great optimist regarding such a [ruling] configuration," Mr. Yushchenko added. He said the Party of the Regions made a "mistake" by not observing the Universal of National Unity, which was signed in August 2006 by Mr. Yushchenko and major political forces in Ukraine to defuse the coalition-building crisis that followed the March 2006 parliamentary elections. The president also warned that a policy of "ignoring the opposition" by any ruling coalition formed after the September 30 elections "will have no prospects" for success. Asked to comment on the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc's proposal to simultaneously hold a constitutional referendum on election day, Mr. Yushchenko suggested that it is impossible to prepare for a legitimate referendum in the short time before the scheduled elections. Mr. Yushchenko

added that three or four months are needed to plan a referendum. (RFE/RL Newsline)

CEC registers 35 parties' lists

KYIV – The Central Election Commission (CEC) on August 20 stopped accepting applications from political parties to register their candidates for the pre-term elections on September 30, Interfax-Ukraine reported. CEC member Mykhailo Okhondovskiy said the CEC received applications from 35 parties and blocs, compared to 45 parties and blocs registered for the March 2006 parliamentary elections. Meanwhile, CEC Chairman Volodymyr Shapoval told President Viktor Yushchenko later the same day that the CEC by August 20 registered nine lists of candidates for the September 30 polls. (RFE/RL Newsline)

President seeks to end immunity

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko told journalists on August 17 that the abolition of immunity from prosecution for national deputies should be tackled by a new Verkhovna Rada following the early polls on September 30, Ukrainian media reported. Mr. Yushchenko was responding to a question about Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's proposal last week to convene a special session of the Parliament before election day and to do away with legal immunity not only for legislators, but also for other government officials. "The cancellation of deputies' immunity is not a show for me. This decision depends on Parliament. That is why I call on everybody, regardless of their [political] color, to respect their society. If the issue of stripping deputies of their immunity has become so popular among all political forces, then after September 30 a session of the Ukrainian Parliament should consider [it]," Interfax-Ukraine quoted Mr. Yushchenko as saying. He added that any meeting of the "powerless Parliament" ahead of September 30 would have no legal force. (RFE/RL Newsline)

CEC rejects referendum proponents

KYIV – The Central Election Commission (CEC) on August 17-18

(Continued on page 14)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Yearly subscription rate: \$55; for UNA members – \$45.

Periodicals postage paid at Parsippany, NJ 07054 and additional mailing offices. (ISSN – 0273-9348)

The Weekly: UNA:
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510 Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

Postmaster, send address changes to: **Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz**
The Ukrainian Weekly **Editors:**
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Parsippany, NJ 07054

The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com; e-mail: staff@ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, August 26, 2007 No. 34, Vol. LXXV

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INTERVIEW: Rep. Alcee Hastings, chairman of the Helsinki Commission

Following the Kyiv session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) that took place in early July, the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) conducted an interview in early August with the chairman of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission), Rep. Alcee Hastings (D-Fla.).

In your opinion, what is the state of the freedom of the press and human rights for Ukraine's minority citizens? Do you see a change since the historic 2004 Orange Revolution?

Since the 2004 Orange Revolution, the state of media freedom in Ukraine has seen vast improvements. In particular, Ukraine's media remains diverse with hundreds of state and private TV and radio stations, and numerous print and electronic news outlets.

However, it is important to note that powerful business interests with ties to the government own much of the media and, therefore, coverage at times can be slanted. According to the Committee to Protect Journalists, Ukraine enjoys "partly free" status; nevertheless journalists are occasionally subject to physical attacks and intimidation by organized crime and local officials.

On August 2 I held a hearing entitled "Freedom of the Media in the OSCE Region," which focused on trends regard-

ing freedom of the media in OSCE participating states. It is important to note that a free media in a democratic society keeps citizens abreast of the decisions of their government, and gives the citizenry the opportunity to make informed choices about the men and women who seek their permission to govern them. It is my sincere hope that Ukraine will continue to improve on its state of freedom of the press, especially in light of the upcoming parliamentary elections being held on September 30.

Human rights are for the most part respected in Ukraine. Clearly, Ukrainians enjoy political freedoms and, since the Orange Revolution, Ukraine has earned the designation of "free" from Freedom House, in contrast to the first 13 years of independence, when it was designated as "partly free."

And, while national minorities enjoy considerable protections and are able to develop their culture and language, I am concerned about the increase in racially motivated attacks in Ukraine over the past few years. I hope that the Ukrainian government will continue to combat any manifestations of societal discrimination and violence.

Ukraine is obviously now focused on the upcoming snap parliamentary elections. On July 23 you introduced a concurrent resolution calling upon the United States to support the democratic processes of a free, fair and transparent election in Ukraine. Did you introduce this legislation as a reaction to what you had witnessed?



The chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, Rep. Alcee Hastings (standing), during a press conference in Kyiv in July.

I introduced H. Con. Res.189 upon returning from Ukraine, where I had the opportunity to meet with President [Viktor] Yushchenko to discuss the political crisis. My resolution underscores Congress' staunch support for the development and respect for human rights and the rule of law in Ukraine since the restoration of its independence in 1991. In particular, my resolution urges all sides to abide by the May 27, 2007, agreement calling for new parliamentary elections on September 30 and ensuring those elections are free, fair and transparent.

It is my hope that Ukraine continues the pattern of the last two elections – the December 2004 presidential election and the parliamentary election of March 2006, where I led the OSCE International Election Mission, which I described as "free and fair" – the first election in the CIS to hear that distinction.

Following the parliamentary elections on September 30, 2007, how can the United States enhance the bilateral strategic relationship that currently exists with Ukraine?

I believe that the United States and Ukraine continue to share a positive strategic relationship, which has continued to prosper and develop into a vital partnership. Ukraine's democratic Orange Revolution opened to the door to closer cooperation and dialogue between our two nations. A cornerstone of U.S. policy still remains centered on strengthening political, economic and humanitarian reforms, as well as efforts to integrate Ukraine into Europe and Euro-Atlantic institutions.

During your trip to Ukraine, the CSCE delegation toured the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. Experts claim that the devastation from the Chernobyl nuclear accident, which seeped into the soil, water outlets, vegetation, etc., will take hundreds of years to eradicate. Currently,

the sarcophagus is crumbling and falling onto the burned out reactor. Ukraine has repeatedly requested billions of dollars in assistance from the West to construct a new sarcophagus, as well as to assist Ukraine in acquiring alternative energy sources. How best can the United States assist Ukraine in acquiring alternative energy sources in a market that is tightly controlled by Russia?

The United States Congress has continued to demonstrate a strong interest in the affects of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster over the last two decades, having approved funding and expressed strong interest about Chernobyl's health, social and environmental consequences. The U.S. Helsinki Commission has held hearings on this matter. The aftereffects of the Chernobyl explosion will continue to remain a priority for this Congress.

Another area of concern is energy security. I know that the people of Ukraine have experienced first-hand the potential for energy insecurity at the hands of a market dominated by Russia. As chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, I am acutely aware of the need for multiple sources – and reliable sources – of energy for Ukraine and for the rest of Europe. It is imperative that we find solutions to achieving energy security by taking a comprehensive approach that moves toward improving transparency [and] accountability, combating corruption, and promoting democracy and the rule of law in oil-exporting states.

Earlier this month, I introduced an amendment to the energy bill, which passed the House unanimously, calling on the United States to further efforts regarding global energy security and promote democratic development, deter kleptocracy and promote transparency in resource-rich foreign countries. Energy security is a critical issue for Ukraine and, indeed, for the entire world.

(Continued on page 8)

NATO chief reflects on Ukraine-NATO Charter

RFE/RL

BRUSSELS – As Ukraine and NATO marked the 10th anniversary of the Ukraine-NATO Charter, which was signed on July 9, 1997, to mark the occasion, NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer sat down with Ukrainian journalists in Brussels, including RFE/RL correspondent Natalia Vikulina, to discuss relations between Kyiv and the alliance.

Some may feel discouraged by the ongoing turmoil in Ukrainian politics, but Mr. de Hoop Scheffer said that, to him, it is a sign the country has grown into a healthy democracy. At the same time, he underscored that the partnership between Kyiv and the alliance has grown correspondingly.

"You now have a much more mature political debate [in Ukraine], which did not exist before," he said. "With all the consequences, I am always positive to see political debate. I'll not enter that political debate because it is not up to me to enter what is specifically Ukrainian. But, the partnership, at the same time, has grown. Mention to me one other NATO partner like Ukraine who is participating in all NATO's operations and missions. I don't know a second one."

"I say again, I'll not enter the Ukrainian debate. As I said on the video conference a moment ago, NATO is not washing powder. I'm not going to Ukraine to sell NATO. You don't sell NATO. You explain what NATO is," he added.

Mr. de Hoop Scheffer said his words of praise did not mean Ukraine's leaders should rest on their laurels and he urged further changes, especially in modernizing the country's armed forces and security structures.

"I think that the essential reforms should go on. I hope they will go on – security sector reform, defense reform, oversight of the armed forces, security

sector in the wide sense that also concern the Interior [Internal Affairs] Ministry troops," he explained.

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has been an ardent supporter of his country's membership in the alliance. But opinion polls show most of his fellow-citizens remain opposed or indifferent. That contrasts with the majority of Ukrainians who would like their country to join the European Union.

Mr. de Hoop Scheffer said he would not enter the domestic debate on whether Ukraine should seek NATO membership. "I never comment on opinion poll figures, but I do know that in Ukraine, of course, this is a group who is critical on NATO membership, which is their legitimate right," he said. "I say again, I'll not enter the Ukrainian debate."

The NATO leader did say he thought some alliance opponents in Ukraine might not be well-informed about the bloc's purpose and mission.

"I think that those people who are critical [of NATO] – and we have to work on them, and we want to assist and help in that regard, that's why we have a Kyiv office – that they perhaps should know more and should be informed better about what NATO is, what NATO is doing," he said.

Mr. de Hoop Scheffer dismissed concerns, regularly expressed by Russia, that the alliance's eastward expansion could be seen as a threat that destabilizes security in the region.

"As a general rule, I have never seen NATO enlargement as a threat to anyone or anybody," he said. "Every nation joins NATO out of its own free will. NATO has never pressed or pressured any nation [into] joining NATO. That is based on performance, as you know, [and] the decision, which is taken by the free will of the people."

Quotable notes

"... In the first Bush era of 1989-1993, with 'stability' the paramount goal of diplomacy, the world 'realism' began to make a comeback. It peaked in the senior Bush's visit to Kiev [sic], just as the Soviet Union showed signs of coming apart in the Baltics and Ukrainians sought their freedom from Moscow rule. Brent Scowcroft, a retired general who had been a longtime Kissinger aide, helped write a stability-first speech for George H.W. Bush urging Ukrainians to stay within the Soviet Union and direly warning of 'suicidal nationalism.' This caused a vituperative right-wing opinion monger at The New York Times to label the outburst of realism 'Chicken Kiev' (and the elder Bush has not talked to me since). ..."

– Language maven William Safire, writing about the word "realism" in his "On Language" column in *The New York Times Magazine* on December 24, 2006.

UWC president set to sue Communists over defamation of Roman Shukhevych

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukrainian World Congress President Askold Lozynskyj said on August 21 that he will help file a defamation lawsuit against Communist Party of Ukraine Chair Petro Symonenko with the European Court for Human Rights.

The nation's top Communist claimed Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler personally awarded Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) Supreme Commander Roman Shukhevych two Iron Crosses.

Mr. Symonenko made the statement during a May 30 Verkhovna Rada session in reaction to President Viktor Yushchenko's May 16 order officially recognizing the 100th anniversary of Shukhevych's birth.

Mr. Yushchenko is "raising to sainthood today one who received two Iron Crosses from the hands of Hitler with his order to celebrate his 100th anniversary on a government level," he said.

Several weeks later, Mr. Symonenko's allegation was echoed by Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Dmytro Tabachnyk, who will also be a defendant in the lawsuit.

Nazi leaders awarded more than 5.7 million Iron Crosses, which were given to Nazi officers and soldiers demonstrating bravery in battle and exceptional military contributions on the battlefield.

Gen. Shukhevych did not receive any Iron Cross, let alone from Hitler personally, said Dr. Petro Potichnyj, an UPA veteran who currently serves as editor-in-chief of Litopys UPA (UPA Chronicle), a multi-volume series on the army's history published in Toronto and Lviv.

In a letter to Svoboda published on August 3, the retired McMaster University political science professor stated that he had extensively researched the matter and confirmed his findings with Germany's Federal Military Archives in Freiburg, Germany.

The only Ukrainian officer to receive an Iron Cross was Yuriy Lopatynskyi, who led an SS division in Vinnytsia, Dr. Potichnyj reported.

Shukhevych's links to the Germans stem from his 1939 appointment as commander of the Nachtigall battalion. Two years later, he became an assistant battalion commander of the Ukrainian auxiliary police.

The defamation lawsuit, including slander charges against Messrs. Symonenko and Mr. Tabachnyk will be filed on behalf of Shukhevych's surviving children, Yuriy and Maria, Mr. Lozynskyj told the annual meeting of the Ukrainian World Congress held this year in Donetsk.

A local reporter with the Ostrov website reported Mr. Lozynskyj's statements, which were quickly picked up by the national media.

New Jersey...

(Continued from page 1)

network and enrich our cultural fabric. This panel will work hard toward achieving these vital goals."

The advisory panel will consist of 27

members. The governor will appoint 18 public members from various arenas. There will be two legislative members, one each from the African American and Latino legislative caucuses. There will be seven commissioners or their designees who will serve as ex-officio members.



New Jersey Gov. Jon S. Cozine (right) in Liberty Park with community representatives (from left) Michael Koziupa (Ukrainian National Association), Dotty Sowchouk (Polish cultural affairs and a member of the New Jersey Ethnic Advisory Council), Sarah Elzahazy (a director in the state's civil rights division), Cami Huk (acting head of the Ethnic Advisory Council, and Chet Nadolny (Polish representative to the council).

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.

Political parties...

(Continued from page 1)

and \$5,000 for the third.

The ambitious plan to consolidate Ukraine's national democratic forces had few believers among political observers and their doubts are already bearing fruit.

Members of the Pora Citizen's Party voted at their August 20 congress to withdraw from the August 2 agreement signed by their leader Vladyslav Kaskiv to join the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense Bloc and merge into a single party after elections.

"The majority of our party members were against the decision to enter a single party after the elections on the basis of the bloc," said Olena Bondarenko, Pora spokeswoman.

Pora has also asked the Ministry of Justice to recognize its Central Council's decision to strip Mr. Kaskiv of his post, which is expected will happen within days, she said.

On August 2 nine political parties, most of which have a national-democratic orientation, signed a pact to form the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc for the parliamentary elections, and to fold and merge their forces into a single party afterwards.

Pora is the first of the nine parties to back out, but it already appears others will try to as well.

Ukrainian People's Party Chair Yuriy Kostenko said he will lead an effort in the next Parliament to amend the law on political parties to allow them to unite in forming larger parties instead of self-liquidating.

"The Ukrainian People's Party unification with the presidential mega-bloc doesn't mean the party's self-liquidation," Mr. Kostenko said. "We aren't taking such a path."

Perhaps it was inevitable.

A "For Our Own" (Za Svoyikh) Verka Serdushka Bloc has been formed to compete in the parliamentary elections, consisting of the Liberal Democratic Party of Ukraine, the Women of Ukraine Party and the For Verka Serdushka Party, formerly the Communist Workers' Party.

"The country needs a star who should say, 'Enough of this mess,'" said Ihor Dushyn, chair of the Liberal Democratic Party of Ukraine.

Members met in Kyiv on August 11 to approve the bloc's electoral list and political platform, which includes transferring more budgetary authority to local governments, introducing reforms to allow local governing bodies to select local leaders and shrinking the Cabinet of Ministers.

The bloc is targeting eastern and southern Ukrainian voters fed up with the standard parties, Mr. Dushyn said.

"There is supposed to be a choice," he said. "At the present day, not everyone is represented. "We simply want to offer a choice to those in the east, the south and Crimea who don't want to vote for the Orangists or the Party of the Regions."

Ms. Serdushka didn't appear at the August 11 congress, nor has she begun promoting the bloc.

Opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko on August 18 accused Kyiv Mayor Leonid Chernovetskyi of ordering the illegal removal and destruction of her bloc's campaign advertising along the city's roads and highways.

To prevent the removals, Tymoshenko Bloc activists have organized all-night guards to protect their campaign billboards and signs, she said.

"Those same rules which operated under [President Leonid] Kuchma are

returning to Ukraine," she said of the alleged destruction, which "hasn't been the case in Ukraine for a long time."

The Tymoshenko Bloc will file complaints in court if the destruction continues, she said.

Ivan Pliushch of the National Security and Defense Council said on August 21 that the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc intentionally improperly completed Central Election Commission forms in order to create a scandal to stage demonstrations and draw publicity.

"It was concocted public relations," Mr. Pliushch told leaders of Ukrainian American credit unions meeting in Kyiv.

The CEC on August 10 temporarily barred the Tymoshenko Bloc from taking part in the September 30 elections because its forms failed to cite the street addresses of its candidates.

For four days, more than 1,000 Tymoshenko Bloc supporters appeared daily to protest the CEC's decision, which Ms. Tymoshenko characterized as an attempt by the coalition forces to derail the bloc's election campaign.

She insisted the forms were completed properly and dismissed accusations of staging a publicity stunt.

Mr. Pliushch is a vocal proponent of a coalition government between Ukraine's three major political forces – the Party of the Regions, the Tymoshenko Bloc and the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc.

He earned 23rd place on the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense electoral list.

The Central Election Commission (CEC) on August 18 denied the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc's attempt to register its initiative to conduct a constitutional referendum simultaneously with the 2007 parliamentary elections.

At least half a million Ukrainians sent documents to the CEC to request the registration of an initiative group that aimed to collect the 3 million signatures necessary for a constitutional referendum, Ms. Tymoshenko said.

She accused commissioners with ties to Our Ukraine, namely Chair Volodymyr Shapoval and Andrii Mahera, of colluding with coalition-appointed commissioners in reaching its ruling.

"At every level sit sold-out officials – people who receive money not from the state budget, but in their pockets from the mafia and oligarchs, everyone who is in power," she said. "Yesterday's CEC meeting demonstrates people are sometimes correct when they say all politicians are the same. The conspiracy was obvious – don't allow the people a referendum."

The Tymoshenko Bloc appealed the CEC ruling to the District Administrative Court.

Two days later, President Viktor Yushchenko told a press conference that at least three months would be necessary to conduct any constitutional referendum.

Odesa police on August 18 detained and brutally beat Ukrainian nationalists campaigning for the Svoboda All-Ukrainian Union, party leader Oleh Tiahnybok alleged on August 21.

Injuries to the arrested activists, among them candidate for national deputy Heorhii Sodol, included head, spine and thigh wounds, as well as concussions, he said.

Two days later, Lutsk police officers unlawfully arrested and interfered with the political activity of Svoboda activists, Mr. Tiahnybok alleged. The beatings and arrests are part of a massive organized government campaign of political provocations and repressions, he added.

The Ukrainian Museum holds its 31st annual meeting

by Marta Baczynsky

NEW YORK – The 31-year history of The Ukrainian Museum reflects numerous achievements and milestones and the year 2006, which marked the museum's 30th anniversary, heralded new and exciting opportunities for the institution. It also happened to be the first full year of activities in the new museum building.

What transpired during 2006 became the topic of reports, discussions, questions and answers at the museum's annual meeting held on June 10 in the lower gallery of the institution's elegant new facility. An audience consisting of close to 80 museum members and friends gathered to hear about the "state of the museum" from its governing body – the board of trustees – and its administration.

Before the proceedings started, the president of the board of trustees, Olha Hnateyko, presented a plaque to the Committee for the Building Fund of The Ukrainian Museum in New York City – Rochester Branch. The wording on the plaque conveyed the appreciation and gratitude of the museum to the committee's founder and longtime president, Myron Russnak (now deceased); its current president, Wolodymyr Pylyshenko; its treasurer, Ludwig Bach; and all its members for their work raising funds for many years for the

events, especially its exhibitions, were positively and amply reviewed in the American and Ukrainian media.

The board president went on to say that the extent of the museum's achievements is evident in the impressions of its visitors, which they express in their comments in the visitors' book. Many comments written by young people are very moving, particularly those that describe the rediscovery of pride in their heritage, in their roots. Mrs. Hnateyko said that examples like this show the museum's success in fulfilling its mission – preserving the Ukrainian experience, past and present, and passing it on to future generations.

Mrs. Hnateyko also went to great lengths to explain the allocation of the \$1.2 million that the museum received in bequests in 2006 from Dr. Mary Beck, Jaroslaw Luchanko, Stefania Porajko, Dr. Julian Salisnjak and Helen Kupchynska Schlaffer. Because the donors did not designate the disbursement of the funds for any specific purpose, the board assigned its own designation for this money by creating an Endowment Fund (\$500,000), a Reserve Fund (\$400,000), a fund for any future building repairs (\$200,000) and \$100,000 for general operations. "We are extremely grateful to these donors for



Museum Board President Olha Hnateyko (center) holding the appreciation plaque presented to the Committee for the Building Fund of The Ukrainian Museum in New York City – Rochester Branch, with Iwanna Martynetz, former member of the committee (left), and board member Orest Glut (right).

building of the new museum facility.

"We greatly value the input of every individual and the contribution of every donor, but we also value the work of our committees, and this committee worked extremely well, collected a great deal of money and was very active," said Mrs. Hnateyko.

During the years of the museum's capital fund-raising initiative, several regional committees throughout the country were organized with the aim of raising funds within their communities for the new museum building. The Rochester committee, founded in 1989, has been functional the longest in this capacity and is still operational. The committee members, with the most generous support of the Rochester community raised over \$280,000, which contributed substantially to the museum's Building Fund.

Mrs. Hnateyko reported that 2006 was an unusually prolific year for the museum in terms of activities, featuring superb exhibitions, the presentation of many events organized in cooperation with various cultural and civic organizations, and engaging cultural programs and programs for schoolchildren. A large number of tour groups visited the museum, as did many individual visitors. The museum's

their overwhelming trust in the museum and their most generous bequests," Mrs. Hnateyko underscored.

The board president thanked the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, the museum's founding organization, for its unwavering support; Ukrainian financial institutions, especially Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union for its generosity; and all those who either financially, morally, or by lending a helping hand contributed to a very successful year for the museum.

Mrs. Hnateyko expressed her gratitude to members of the board, the working committees of the board – especially the program committee chaired by Irena Yurchuk and the special events committee chaired by Yaroslawa Luchechko – and to the many museum volunteers, whose work is greatly valued and appreciated.

Museum director Maria Shust elaborated on the agenda of this very active year in her report. She described the exhibitions that were on view during 2006 and briefly highlighted the attributes of each. The exhibitions explored various themes – symbolism in folk art, the tragedy of Chernobyl, the artistic genius of Jacques Hnizdovsky, among others.

"When The Ukrainian Museum was



Dr. Wolodymyr and Anna Rak declared a \$10,000 donation to The Ukrainian Museum during its annual meeting. From left are: Museum Director Maria Shust, Anna Rak, Dr. Wolodymyr Rak, Board President Olha Hnateyko and Administrative Director Daria Bajko.

founded 31 years ago, it seemed that it was an impossible dream to bring original works of art from Ukraine and to develop cooperative endeavors with its museums and art community, or to exhibit its art treasures beyond its borders," said Ms. Shust. She went on to explain that in 2006 that dream was realized with the opening at The Ukrainian Museum of two important exhibitions from Ukraine.

The first was the critically acclaimed exhibition "Crossroads: Modernism in Ukraine, 1910-1930," with works from the National Art Museum of Ukraine in Kyiv and other museums and private collectors in the country. This exhibition illuminated one of the most dynamic periods in Ukrainian art history, but its merit lies in establishing the featured artists as Ukrainians "whose unique achievements secured for them an important page not only in Ukrainian history, but in world art history," explained Ms. Shust.

The second unique exhibition from Ukraine opened a month later. "Ukrainian Sculpture and Icons: A History of Their Rescue" presented objects from the private collection of the President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine, and other collectors. In the fall of 2005, while in New York City, President and Mrs. Yushchenko came to see the museum. It was during this memorable visit that the idea of a presidential exhibition was broached with the president, an idea to which he readily agreed, while requesting that other collectors participate in it as well.

In 2006 the museum's influence reached other directions as well. Its inaugural exhibition "Alexander Archipenko: Vision and Continuity" (April-October 2005) traveled to two prestigious venues: the Smith College Museum of Art in Northampton, Mass., and the Chazen Museum of Art at the University of Wisconsin in Madison – where thousands of visitors, mainly young people, had the opportunity to become acquainted with the creative genius of Archipenko, one of Ukraine's greatest artists.

During 2006 the museum co-sponsored numerous events with various cultural and civic organizations. Included were lectures, concerts, book signings and films that featured artists, scholars and authors from our community and from Ukraine. In conjunction with its folk art exhibition "The Tree of Life, the Sun, the Goddess: Symbolic Motifs in Ukrainian Folk Art" (which opened in November 2005), the museum presented a folk art conference in the fall of 2006 on the theme of preserving our living heritage.

In 2006 the museum updated its very important window to the world – its website – especially those pages that feature the gift shop, a source of indispensable income for the institution. Also, a month-

ly electronic newsletter, e-news, made its first appearance in December.

Ms. Shust thanked everyone involved in the organization and presentation of the museum's extensive agenda, which included professionals in Ukraine and in the United States. She thanked the staff, board members and volunteers whose valuable input was indispensable to the daily operations of the institution.

The financial aspect of museum activities was of great interest to the audience. Speaking for Dr. Yar Mociuk, the museum's treasurer, Administrative Director Daria Bajko presented a condensed financial report, asking the audience to refer to the complete version in the annual report. The audience responded with several questions about finances.

Mrs. Hnateyko gave a very thorough explanation about the fund-raising practices in the museum and enumerated the sources of funds. She explained that this is only the second year that the museum is in its new facility with new fiscal responsibilities for which fund-raising opportunities need to be researched and applied. Other questions related to such topics as audience building, public relations, marketing, volunteers and membership. Suggestions intended to improve the museum's operations and its image were offered on these and other matters.

Some individuals in the audience supported the work of the museum with financial endorsements. Outgoing board member Anna Rak and her husband, Dr. Wolodymyr Rak, who have been exceptionally generous benefactors of The Ukrainian Museum, declared a contribution of \$10,000 during the meeting, responding to the board president's comments about the need and importance of financial support. Mrs. Rak is a volunteer at the museum as well, regularly helping in the office. The museum also received donations from Eugene and Eugenia Ivashkiv, Iwanna Martynetz and Dr. Wolodymyr Petryshyn.

Iryna Kurowyckyj, president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, said that UNWLA members are proud to support the museum and will continue to do so. Mrs. Kurowyckyj, who by statute is the first vice-president of the museum's board of trustees, described the highlights of recent museum historical events as "special moments" in which she was a grateful participant. She said that it was very important that everyone contribute to the support of the museum so that its work continues uninterrupted.

The nominating committee offered its list of proposed candidates for the 2007-2008 term for the board of trustees. Mrs. Hnateyko was re-elected president. Six new individuals joined the board, while

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Immigrant policy

Earlier this month, during a ceremony held in Liberty State Park in Jersey City, N.J., against the backdrop of the Statue of Liberty, New Jersey Gov. Jon S. Corzine signed an executive order establishing the Blue-Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy. Its goal, according to a press release from the Governor's Office: to develop recommendations for a comprehensive and strategic statewide approach to successfully integrating immigrants in the state. The panel has 15 months to complete its work and is to start meeting in the fall.

Englewood Mayor Michael Wildes, who will serve on the panel, said the panel will prove helpful "while Congress stands silently on the sidelines watching our broken immigration system fester" and the New Jersey League of Municipalities has applauded the governor's initiative. But not all New Jerseyans are pleased. Morristown Mayor Donald Cresitello told The Star-Ledger that, instead of forming a committee, the governor needed to take immediate action such as ordering the state Department of Labor to crack down on employers of illegal immigrants.

Illegal immigration and immigrant rights are hot issues in New Jersey, and public opinion is divided. A July poll conducted by Monmouth University/Gannett New Jersey found that some 40 percent of those surveyed said immigration was good for the state, while 44 percent said it was bad. Sixty-five percent said illegal immigrants who've worked in the U.S. for at least two years should have a path toward citizenship.

The Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy will consist of 27 members: 18 public members have already been tapped by the governor; there will be two legislative members, one each from the African American and Latino caucuses; and seven state commissioners or their designees will serve ex-officio. Heading the panel is state Public Advocate Ronald Chen, whose parents are Chinese immigrants.

No Ukrainian representatives were named to the panel – unacceptable, really, given the fact that there are many immigrants from Ukraine in the state, not to mention a large Ukrainian American community. In fact, there is not a single representative of any Eastern European community on the list of appointees. New Jersey's strong Ukrainian and Polish communities, in particular, are very displeased – and surprised. Immigration, after all, is an issue that affects a variety of ethnic communities. Need we recall the heinous treatment of the Karnaoukh family of immigrants from Ukraine who were seized and deported from New Jersey in January of 2006?

Surely there has to be a review of immigrant policy with a view toward humane treatment for all as well as law enforcement, and Gov. Corzine has taken a step that he feels will benefit all the residents of New Jersey. To be sure, there are those critics who say the best way for a problem to be ignored is to create a commission, preferably one with a longer term, to study it. We hope that won't be the case with this commission.

Unfortunately, however, the advisory panel as it now stands is hardly representative. Sure, Polish and Ukrainian representatives were present at the signing ceremony when the panel was created, but apparently they were there only as window-dressing. Don't they – a vibrant part of this nation of immigrants – deserve a seat at the table?

August
26
2001

Turning the pages back...

Six years ago on the 10th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, The Ukrainian Weekly asked Ukrainian politicians what they believed were the greatest achievements of the last decade for Ukraine. Many of the initial responses were largely similar to one another.

"The biggest accomplishment? That the country has survived these 10 years. That is it. What else can there be?" commented Ivan Drach, leader of Rukh. Other politicians gave the same response, citing the fact that Ukraine remained independent, considering the 300 years of imperial hegemony that the Ukrainian nation suffered under.

"The second biggest accomplishment," according to Les Taniuk of Rukh, "is that Ukraine appeared on the European map not through violent overthrow but by a vote, a national referendum. And when we began to analyze that vote we saw that while more than 90 percent of ethnic Ukrainians voted for independence, 80 percent of ethnic Russians living in Ukraine did as well. And Jews were at about 90 percent in support, while Tatar support came out to some 96 percent. It turned out that not only did Ukrainians want out [of the Soviet Union], but Jews, Tatars, Russians and Germans did too."

"The main thing is that Ukraine has established itself legally. It has also accomplished many things: it created a government system, a court system, a legislative system and a Constitutional Court," explained Levko Lukianenko, a leading figure in Ukraine's break for independence.

Contrastingly, Petro Symonenko, chairman of the Communist Party of Ukraine, pessimistically explained: "Of course there are achievements, but the gross domestic product has fallen by two times. The number of heads of cattle on Ukrainian farms has fallen by two-thirds. Industrial output is down by 15 percent to 20 percent. The average pay for a worker is \$50 U.S. and for a pensioner a whopping \$20 per month. Our government is considered the most corrupt in Europe and the world. These are unique achievements that we should be proud of as we move toward Europe."

Maintaining the general optimism of other politicians, Yuri Yekhanurov, first vice-prime minister under Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko, commented: "The fact that we have overcome the economic crisis is important, as well as the fact that we are experiencing growth for the second year running. The quality of life has risen a bit, and I think the worst is over."

According to Mr. Yushchenko: "The most important is that Ukraine is a country on the map of the world. It is a known entity. I understand the pessimism that is evident in the country. But remember, 10 years is absolutely a kid's age. It is a young country. That does not mean, however, that the leadership can use that as an excuse for certain failures. On the other hand a lot has been accomplished. It is just that a lot still needs to be done."

Source: "Politicians comment on Ukraine's achievements over the past decade," by Roman Woronowycz and Liuda Liulko, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, August 26, 2001.

ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

Roman Szporluk comments on Ukraine 16 years later

by Peter T. Woloschuk

Following is an interview with Prof. Roman Szporluk, Research Professor of Ukrainian History at Harvard University, former director of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI), and emeritus professor of history at the University of Michigan.

Prof. Szporluk is the author of a number of books and scholarly articles including "Russia, Ukraine and the Breakup of the Soviet Union" and "Communism and Nationalism: Karl Marx versus Friedrich List." A collection of his scholarly historical articles has been published in *Ukraine* and an article on Lviv is currently on www.zaxid.net.

Prof. Szporluk, in light of Ukraine's 16th anniversary of independence, what would you like to see happen in the upcoming parliamentary elections in September?

There are three matters that I would like to see handled properly in the upcoming elections – and during the campaign preceding the actual vote on September 30.

The first is that the voting be really free, which means really secret, and that all votes be counted honestly and accurately. The fact that current regulations allow individuals to vote at home opens the possibility of manipulation and fraud, and this makes me worried.

The second is that during the campaign, which is already under way, people in all regions of Ukraine are able to become acquainted with the programs of all political parties. Voters in Lviv, Donetsk, Sevastopol and Sumy should be equally able to acquaint themselves with the competing political parties and what they stand for. They should also have free access to newspapers – reports and commentaries by journalists. It is not normal if certain parts of the country are cut off from certain media.

I am concerned when I read in one of Ukraine's most interesting newspapers, *Ukraina Moloda*, that since the start of the election campaign, its subscribers are not getting their paper or that it is being delivered to them late, several issues at one time. Before they vote, Ukrainian citizens should have free access to news and opinion – both news and opinion – regardless of where they reside. To be a free country, Ukraine has to form a single intellectual and political space.

And, finally, I would like the competition between political parties and blocs to be focused on the real problems that Ukraine is facing now and will be facing in the coming years. Among those problems I will mention just a few. Everybody knows Ukraine is facing a most serious health crisis. It has very high mortality rates and very low birth rates. Its population since 1991 has declined by about 5 million, and this was not due only to emigration. Alcoholism is widespread, and tuberculosis is a common illness. Ukrainian agriculture, and living conditions of the countryside in general, is another problem area. And, finally, let me add crime and corruption, especially corruption in the government and, even more shocking, corruption in the educational system.

Ukrainian voters should be offered clear and realistic programs on how to deal with these issues – and they should decide whom to support after they conclude whose programs are more realistic. Instead, there is a dangerous tendency to distract voters from

issues where their vote can make a difference by turning their attention to matters that have no practical bearing today. The election is not about whether Ukraine will join NATO or not, or whether it will join the Single Economic Space with Russia and Kazakhstan. The contest should not be presented and decided as one between those who recognize the UPA's [Ukrainian Insurgent Army] role in World War II and those who do not, or between those who want to keep Lenin monuments where they now stand and those who disagree.

Let me add in passing that the tendency to distract voters with irrelevant issues is not limited to Ukraine: we remember when in an American presidential campaign some people argued that you should vote for the candidate with whom you would prefer to go fishing or whom you would like to invite to your Fourth of July party.

If these three conditions are met, I will not be particularly concerned by which party comes in first. If the vote is free and the count is honest, if access to information is universal, and if the real issues of the country are truthfully and freely presented and debated before the vote – then Ukraine will be a country where politicians can not manipulate the government and rule in defiance of the will of the people.

You gave me your thoughts on the problems Ukraine is facing today. Can you share with me your thoughts as a historian on the occasion of the 16th anniversary of Ukrainian independence?

Where should one begin? Let us take a quick look at the three or four centuries of Ukrainian history before 1991 – when in those times was Ukraine both independent and at peace at home, and at peace with her neighbors? You want to mention 1648? But was not 1648 a start of what one may call Ukraine's Sixty Years War, twice the size of the Thirty Years War the Germans had ended in 1648? And what about the 20th century: Ukraine was divided and dependent – but can anyone call the time between the two world wars one of peace for Ukraine?

Clearly the 16-years period since August 1991 has no precedent in modern history.

Since we are talking about elections, let me note that the 2007 election is most likely to be last one in which persons born in independent Ukraine will not participate: those born in 1991 will be 18 years old only in 2009 and they surely will vote in the next election. They will form the first cohort of adults whose entire lives have been spent in an independent Ukraine.

For this young generation the Orange Revolution of 2004 will represent its formative experience, just as for the earlier generations, 1991 was both a conclusion of their struggles and the realization of their dreams – and the point of departure for dealing with new challenges. Demographers have their own criteria, but for a historian, "generation" is defined by the shared formative experience of its members.

I think the young people in Ukraine are fortunate to have the experience of 2004 as the event defining their generation. In just five years, in 2012, they will be turning 21, when their country will also be celebrating its 21st anniversary, and thus in a very real sense, will also be reaching adulthood. It so happens (Is it a matter of coincidence only?) that in 2012 Ukraine will be co-hosting Euro-2012, the European soccer

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FOR THE RECORD

An open letter to the leaders of political parties in Ukraine

The following is a letter from the intelligentsia and artists of Ukraine to the country's party leaders. The following is a direct translation of the letter.

This is an open letter on behalf of the Ukrainian creative intelligentsia to you in regard to the unprecedented act of vandalism by the Kyiv City Administration, headed by [Mayor] Leonid Chernovetskyi, concerning the art and culture of Kyiv. It is a striking fact that the majority of the deputies on the City Council – members of your party organizations (with the exception of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc) – are purposefully evicting people from the following buildings rented from the city: Les Kurbas National Center for Theater and Art, Union of Composers of Ukraine, Actors Building; the theater Actor; Association of Individuals of Modern Art in Ukraine, the galleries Atelye Karas, Soviart, Pa and others; and workshops of artists that are located in garrets and basements. This is truly a war against culture and art with the ongoing raids and the appearance of armed personnel. “The cleansing of the territory” in the central regions of Kyiv is carried out under the protection of Statute 118 of the law of Ukraine “On the Government Budget of Ukraine for 2007.”

The purpose: to fill the city (regions) treasury due to the revisions on rental rates for space not part of the housing market. A review of the wealth of the tenants placed the creative intelligentsia artists and artistic organizations as a whole on the same level as wealthy businessmen who rent space (even in the boxing ring, boxers are put up against others of equal weight). “Competitive” transactions (tendered bids) are being decided in their favor. The rental management, commission is ignoring the law, specifically Statute 777 of the Civil Codex of Ukraine, the law of Ukraine “On Professional Creative Workers and Creative Unions”; Statute 17, “The basis of the Legislation of Ukraine on Culture.” In accordance with these two documents, members of creative unions and centers of culture and art, which

carry out the conditions of their contracts with regard to their leases, are allowed to continue their leases for a new term. The tender process is supposed to apply only to those who are first-time renters.

In the government-landlords relationship there is an illusion of victory for the government by vacating the apartments and raising the rent. But – and this is not a secret to society – deputies are planning to buy a large part of this territory from the city. This explains their extremist actions. This is occurring through their aggressive property “privatizations.”

Only the people who do not look at the long term in this process will not notice the moral and cultural losses of Kyiv as the capital of a democratic nation. The administration of Leonid Chernovetskyi is ruining the culture of the capital and is turning Kyiv into Las Vegas, instead of a Washington or a Paris, with his ignorant thinking and indifferent attitude toward culture.

They do not think about the moral, national and patriotic losses with this “cleansed territory.” The momentum gained in this “cultural counter-revolution” has the effect of a neutron bomb or a second Chernobyl.

Director of the Les Kurbas National Center, academic Nelli Kornienko noted that, a “dismantling of the culture, dismantling of the nation, its intelligentsia, the population is occurring, and this means that this state ... this leadership which has undertaken these actions, in the mindset of the society is an occupational force.”

The anti-cultural actions of these “new colonizers” and their disregard, compromises the authority of an independent, democratic Ukraine and Kyiv as its capital.

We must also understand the threat of a new outflow of artists from Ukraine due to these outrageous actions against culture.

Dear leaders of Ukraine's parties:

This is such a dire situation for us that we are announcing the following: work-

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ACTION ITEM

Promoting fair parliamentary elections in Ukraine

On July 23, Helsinki Commission Chairman Rep. Alcee L. Hastings (D-Fla.), along with several original co-sponsors, introduced House Concurrent Resolution 189 urging all sides in the political crisis in Ukraine to abide by the May 27 agreement on pre-term elections to the Verkhovna Rada. The agreement calls for a new round of parliamentary elections on September 30 and for assurances of free, fair, and transparent democratic elections in Ukraine based on the rule of law.

As Ukrainian Americans, we have a duty to support the initiative of Rep. Hastings and to call on our representatives in Congress to join his commendable efforts.

The Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) encourages the Ukrainian American community to contact their respective representatives in Congress and urge them to support H. Con. Res. 189. Below is a sample letter to members of Congress. Should you have any questions, please phone UNIS at 202-547-0018 or e-mail unis@ucca.org.

Sample letter
The Honorable (Name)
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative (Name):

As a Ukrainian American, I closely monitor the political situation in Ukraine. The last several months have been marked by turbulence, which resulted in the president calling for snap parliamentary elections. The outcome of the elections will ensure that the composition of the Parliament of Ukraine will truly reflect the people's choice.

Establishing the rule of law in Ukraine has been a top priority since the day its independ-

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NEWS AND VIEWS

The battle against human trafficking

by Bozhena Olshaniwsky

Trafficking in persons is modern-day slavery. The United States government estimates that 600,000 to 800,000 individuals – men, women and children – are trafficked across international borders each year.

In addition, it is estimated that millions more are trafficked within the borders of their own countries – including the United States. Therefore, it is important to note that any citizen or non-citizen of the United States can become a victim to the crime of human trafficking. “Trafficking” means moving victims frequently from place to place in order to avoid capture; also a method of selling and reselling of victims is practiced to provide a variety of merchandise.

Victims of human trafficking can be exploited for the purpose of sexual abuse, including prostitution and pornography, as well as many types of forced labor – including domestic servitude and migrant agricultural work.

Criminal traffickers lure and control their victims through the use of force, fraud or coercion, and employ techniques of physical abuse, false employment offers, withholding of documents (passports) and isolation.

Like any other crime aimed at obtaining large amounts of monetary gains through illegal channels, the crime of human trafficking is driven by greed, political considerations of domination, power, cheap labor, etc. Thousands of years ago it was legal to buy and sell humans, and slavery was practiced on a wide scale. Slavery was abolished in the U.S. since 1863 and serfdom and slavery in Eastern Europe was abolished several years earlier. But, surprise, surprise – it is still here!

Third World countries and the post-Soviet survivor countries serve as easy targets for the modern-day big-time wheeler-dealer predators and as sources of victims.

Despite our concerns for Ukraine and the people of Ukraine, we in the diaspora are loathe to talk about human traffickers and sexual abuse of victims from Ukraine in houses of ill repute in the United States or other countries. We discuss and help in Ukrainian language and cultural preservation both here and abroad, print books, help orphanages and medical institutions in Ukraine, issue scholarships, support universities and churches, but we ignore the most fragile and helpless of Ukraine's society – the women and children who become endangered species. We forget or ignore the fact that many of the orphans that we have so diligently helped have become victims of traffickers on an international scale. This impacts on future generations of Ukraine, causing a decrease in population and degradation of families.

The attorney general of New Jersey, Anne Milgram, who was appointed in June of this year, and the Division of Criminal Justice are committed to training and assisting law enforcement agencies in methods of identifying victims and signs of trafficking in order to disrupt and interdict this activity. They recognize the need to coordinate law enforcement efforts and to collaborate with multi-disciplinary service providers to meet the needs of the victims of trafficking.

Ms. Milgram was the U.S. federal prosecutor who prosecuted criminals for the crime of human trafficking and comes to us with a history of fighting

Bozhena Olshaniwsky is a leader of American for Human Rights in Ukraine, an organization based in Newark, N.J.

this crime. She also served in Gov. Jon Corzine's office when he was U.S. senator. Before her recent appointment the attorney general of New Jersey was Stewart Rabner; during the enactment of statute NJSA 2C: 13-8 – the human trafficking statute – on April 26, 2005, the attorney general was Peter Harvey. Gov. Richard Codey signed the bill into law. Previous governors of New Jersey – Jim McGreevey and Mr. Codey – and the current governor, Mr. Corzine, were also supportive of this issue.

Thus, New Jersey became one of the first states to make this horrendous crime – human trafficking – a first degree offense. Prior to this, Presidents Bill Clinton and George Bush signed laws against flesh trading.

Trinitas Hospital in Elizabeth, N.J., served as the meeting place recently for the who's who in the fight against human traffickers. A number of activists and out-of-state guests met on May 30 in order to discuss and focus on this problem. Some of them were: James R. Lape, vice-president, Behavioral Health and Psychiatry, Trinitas Hospital, Elizabeth, N.J.; Theodore J. Romankow, prosecutor, Union County, N.J.; Terry Coonan, executive director, Center for the Advancement of Human Rights, Florida State University; Jennifer Gottschalk, Division of Criminal Justice, New Jersey Task Force; Debbie Marulanda, director of Refugee Resettlement/Human Trafficking Program, Catholic Charities of Newark, N.J.; Dr. Elizabeth K. Hopper, Ph.D. program director, Project Reach; Ingrid Hayward and Tyamba, survivor of human trafficking and volunteer with the Polaris Project's Newark Coalition Against Human Trafficking.

We are extremely fortunate to have Mr. Romankow, an attorney of Ukrainian descent, as the prosecutor of Union County. He officially opened the conference at Trinitas. Since his appointment by Gov. McGreevey on July 26, 2002, he has overseen an office of 250 employees and more than 2,000 police officers in 21 municipal departments, the Sheriff's Office and the Union County Police Department. He is considered to be an expert on the crime of human trafficking.

Mr. Romankow was an invited guest at the National Conference on Human Trafficking held in Tampa, Fla., by the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. He gave testimony before both the Assembly and Senate Judiciary Committees of New Jersey on the plight of women and children forced into servitude. He was instrumental in authoring New Jersey's human trafficking bill, which was signed into law on April 26, 2005, by Gov. Codey.

Mr. Romankow has been a vocal proponent of stronger laws to protect the innocent victims of human trafficking and for harsher punishment for dealers in this sordid business.

In addition to his daily duties as a very busy prosecutor, Mr. Romankow works and cooperates with the Essex County Justice Department, serves as president of the prosecutors' association, which he previously served as vice-president, treasurer and secretary, chaired the association's Scholarship Committee and co-chaired the Police Chief Association's Liaison Committee.

He served as co-chair of the Drug Court Committee, co-chair of the Coalition for the Prevention of Substance Abuse and as a commissioner on the Child Life Protection Commission. He organized a roundtable with all schools

(Continued on page 16)

The Ukrainian Museum...

(Continued from page 5)

several vacated their posts – their terms expired or they chose to leave for personal reasons. The board president commended outgoing board members Katria Czerwoniak, Lidia Krushelnytsky, Ms. Rak and Mr. Yurchuk for doing a great job as board members and Wolodymyr Magun for his service on the Audit Committee, saying that the museum community is very grateful to them for their valuable contribution of time and expertise.

Mrs. Hnateyko emphasized the fact that the museum's image is reflected in its collections and explained the necessity to enrich the collections with donations of museum-quality objects, particularly referencing the fine arts collection. She said that the collection falls short of having the desirable representation of Ukrainian artists who worked in Ukraine, in the diaspora and in the United States. She informed the audience that shortly the museum will begin a project whereby a register would be created of privately owned works of art by Ukrainian artists, thus identifying sources from which paintings, drawings or sculptures could be borrowed for exhibitions.

At the close of the meeting Mrs.

Hnateyko thanked everyone in the audience for their active and constructive participation and once more repeated that without financial support from its members and friends the museum cannot function. "Without your support, without your generosity the museum could not have existed for 30 years, there would not be a new museum building, nor all the exhibitions," concluded the president.

The Ukrainian Museum's Annual Meeting was chaired by Mrs. Martynetz, and the minutes were recorded by Lida Babiuk.

The 2007-2008 roster of the board of trustees of The Ukrainian Museum:

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The Ukrainian Museum, located at 222 E. Sixth St. in New York, is open to visitors Wednesday through Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. For information call 212-228-0110, e-mail info@ukrainianmuseum.org or log on to www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

Rep. Alcee Hastings...

(Continued from page 3)

The Ukrainian American community was very grateful to see that the Helsinki Commission delegation visited the 1932-1933 Ukrainian Genocide memorial in Kyiv. Next year, Ukrainians throughout the world will mark the 75th anniversary of one of the world's least known genocides ... the Famine imposed by Stalin upon the Ukrainian people. Lately, the legislatures of countries such as Spain, Peru and nearly a dozen others have recognized the Famine in Ukraine in 1932-1933 as a genocide against the Ukrainian people. Will the U.S. Helsinki Commission propose any special legislation next year to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Genocide, and acknowledge it as such in the U.S. Congress?

Our delegation visited the Famine-Genocide memorial, or, as it's known in Ukrainian, the Holodomor memorial. There we spoke to survivor Ms. Eugenia Dallas, who shared her moving story about this horrific example of man's inhumanity to man – the largest man-made famine in the 20th century, if not in history.

One of the principal reasons my colleagues and I on the Helsinki Commission fight to promote human rights and democracy is so abominations such as this one – almost inevitably perpetrated by totalitarian regimes – never, ever happen again. I will work with my co-chairman, Sen. Benjamin Cardin, on the idea of introducing legislation concerning this monumental tragedy.

In closing, I would like to note that additional information on Ukraine can be found on our website at www.csce.gov. For the Ukraine page, click on map of Ukraine.

An open letter...

(Continued from page 7)

ers in the areas of culture, art and creative unions – our numbers total nearly 5 million – will not be voting for the parties or blocs that disgrace themselves in their battle against culture.

We will do everything we can, so that such parties will not win in the parliamentary elections. It will be extremely undesirable if because of your inactivity or lack

of help, that the intelligentsia of Ukraine (Kyiv) turn to the Human Rights Commission of the U.N. and UNESCO.

Europe must know whom they are taking under their roof.

Academician Myroslav Popovych; Academician Viacheslav Briukhovetskyi; National Artist, laureate of the Shevchenko Award; composer Lev Kolodub; producer Roman Balayan; culturologist Vadym Skurativskyi; director of the Kurbas Center and theatrical critic Nelli Kornienko; Prof. Olga Petrova; director of Association of

Individuals of Modern Art in Ukraine; Yevhen Karas; recipient of the Order of Princess Olga Alla Tiutiunyk; head of the Association of Museums and Galleries Zynovyi Mazuryk; head editor of the magazine Kyivska Rus' Dmytro Stus; vice-president of the Association of Ukrainian Poets Yurko Pokalchuk; producer Oles Sanin; and many other citizens, artists, theorists, journalists, professors, businessmen – nearly 250 signatures on 12 pages.

– Translated by Roman Tabatchouk



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September 22, 2007, Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-1:45 p.m.

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UABA-related questions:

Contact UABA President, Andrew Pidgirsky, Esq. at (713) 308-0138, or Board Chairman, Andrew E. Steckiw, Esq. at (215) 564-2466.

INTERVIEW: Mykola Kyrychenko, Ukraine's consul general in New York

On July 27, Mykola Kyrychenko, consul general of Ukraine in New York, responded to questions posed by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America regarding the Consulate's plans to appropriately commemorate the upcoming 75th anniversary of Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-1933. Mr. Kyrychenko, a career diplomat, also shared his thoughts on how the Ukrainian American community can join in the Consulate's efforts, as well as his ideas for future cooperation.

With respect to the upcoming 75th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, does the Consulate have any specific plans to commemorate this horrific page in Ukraine's history?

A tragic anniversary in the history of our nation is approaching. In the beginning of the 20th century, Ukraine experienced unprecedented losses – millions of our sons and daughters perished in the Forced Famine.

In past decades, information regarding this horrible page in history was concealed. Only after Ukraine declared independence did the truth finally begin to emerge about the heinous crimes and systematic plan of the Communist government to destroy the Ukrainian nation.

The Ukrainian nation endured and grew stronger. With this growth came an understanding of our responsibility to remember our past.

On November 28, 2006, the president of Ukraine, Viktor Andriyevych Yushchenko, signed a law titled "About the Holodomor of 1932-1933 in Ukraine," in which the Holodomor was recognized as a calculated act of mass destruction – a genocide of the Ukrainian nation.

Today, as a result of the hard work of Ukrainians in the diaspora, the truth about this terrible crime has become known throughout the world. Wherever Ukrainians have settled, they have never remained indifferent to their historical motherland, supporting Ukraine in good and bad times, actively disseminating the truth about our nation's history and turning attention to the tragic pages of its past.

The work done to propagate the truth about the genocide of the Ukrainian nation, its causes, effects and organizers, further investigation of this tragic page in history, the growth of global awareness about crimes of the past, and the necessity to prevent such acts in the future – all of these should be a constant reminder to every community worldwide of the millions of innocent victims murdered during this time. This topic is particularly relevant at present, as next year Ukraine will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor.



Consul General Mykola Kyrychenko

During the 70th anniversary year, the Consulate General worked with Ukraine's Mission to the United Nations to promote awareness of the Holodomor. Will you be coordinating efforts again for the 75th anniversary? And if so, can you tell us about your plans?

As in past years, the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York, together with the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations, will conduct a multifaceted program to commemorate this tragic chapter in Ukraine's history.

The Consulate General began preparations for the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor of Ukraine in 1932-1933, at the end of last year, when we took an active part in organizing and delivering to Ukraine a private collection of books and testimonials from the personal Holodomor archives of Dr. James Mace, the former executive director of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine.

This year the Consulate General is planning to: issue and distribute related thematic press-releases to major Ukrainian media outlets in the U.S.; request that the Ukrainian American community honor the memory of the victims of this tragic event which took place in Ukraine during the 1930s with a moment of silence and actively participate in the all-Ukrainian event "Light A Candle"; initiate and help develop a lesson plan dedicated to the tragedy of the Holodomor for the UAYA (Ukrainian American Youth Association) Ukrainian Saturday School in New York; and host a requiem evening event at the Consulate.

Simultaneously, the Consulate General is conducting political work to gain global recognition of the Holodomor as a

genocide of the Ukrainian nation, by conducting meetings with leaders of foreign consulates accredited in New York, and by preparing and sending related English-language press releases to foreign consulate generals in New York.

Is the Consulate planning to participate in any of the events being planned by the National Committee to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933, in particular November's March of Remembrance and the solemn requiem service at St. Patrick's Cathedral? Do you have any other thoughts on how the Ukrainian American community and the Consulate can work together to appropriately commemorate this anniversary?

The Consulate General of Ukraine in New York will certainly take part in events organized by the Ukrainian community to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor within all the nine states of the northeastern U.S. that fall under our consular jurisdiction, and foremost in the March of Remembrance and requiem service at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York.

In this context, I would like to express my thanks to all the members of the National Committee for the Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933 for their extremely important work in organizing an appropriate commemoration within the United States for the anniversary of the Holodomor.

At the same time, I feel it is worthwhile to propose to the national committee the possibility of including the partic-

ipation of not only the hierarchies of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches, but also the hierarchies of other Churches and denominations in New York in the requiem service, as was done during the 60th anniversary of the Holodomor.

Also, in my opinion, it would be valuable to encourage all Ukrainian churches within the United States to initiate requiem services to the victims of the Holodomor every November on an annual basis.

Does the Consulate General keep any educational resources/materials available for the general public to learn about Ukraine's Genocide?

In preparing for the commemoration of the anniversary of the Holodomor, the Consulate General is using the following resources: the official website of the National Archive Committee of Ukraine (www.archives.gov.ua/Selections/Famine) on which are posted written, audio and photo materials dedicated to the Holodomor, as well as special multimedia presentations. The website was created with the support of the International Fund "Ukraine 3000" (www.golodomor.org.ua) and Supervising Council, that is run by the first lady of Ukraine, Kateryna Mykhailivna Yushchenko.

At the same time, the Consulate General is waiting to receive an English-language brochure titled "Holodomor – Ukrainian Genocide in the Early 1930s" from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, which will be distributed among Ukrainian community organizations in the U.S.

Translated from Ukrainian into English by the UCCA.

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Soccer great Oleh Blokhin: "the man with the Midas touch"

by Ihor Stelmach

Oleh Blokhin has become a magnet for flashbulbs. He cannot smoke his cigarette peacefully, never has a chance to finish his cup of coffee, or substantiate the creation of his soccer miracle in Kyiv.

Memorabilia collectors toting cameras close in upon this folk hero from all sides inside the Sports Bar on Kyiv's Khmelnytsky Street. Blokhin arises, as if on cue, poses for a snapshot and sits back in his booth. After several repetitions he does not seem even remotely upset nor pleased. Indeed he accepts the flattering attention all in stride.

He has changed a bit over the years. Now 53, he is no longer hindered by the restraint of being a Soviet coach. One notices the change in places like his eyes and his waistline. Yet, despite the subtle aging, the piercing gaze and the razor-sharp crew cut hairdo recall the old Red menace of Blokhin the player. Back then he was the Cold War-era policeman in shorts who produced reactions of amazement and alarm with his pure athletic expertise.

Perhaps the greatest soccer player ever to emanate from the Soviet Union was Oleh Blokhin. He proudly wore the Cyrillic letters "СССР" embroidered across the chest of his Soviet jersey 101 times in international competition. The soccer periodical France Football named him European Footballer of the Year in 1975. Referred to as "first violin" in the

so-called Red Orchestra, he led his Dynamo Kyiv club to victory in two European finals and the UEFA Super Cup.

For later-generation Ukrainians there was an edifying video clip that ran on national television from autumn of 2005 through the last months of 2006. The video tribute featured an exuberant Blokhin dancing his way past 1974 West German World Cup winners Georg Schwarzenbeck, Franz Beckenbauer and Sepp Maier in rapid quickness during the 1975 Super Cup finals match against Bayern Munich. This of course, before gently tapping the ball over the line for a truly highlight-reel goal. A stunned German commentator was heard in living rooms from Kyiv to Donetsk to exclaim, "That was world class!"

For current generation Ukrainians who can recall the on-field exploits of the great Blokhin as the "wunderkind" of Soviet soccer, the hero takes on a different role at the very ending of the video clip. Thirty plus years later, Blokhin is now Ukraine's coach, celebrating the country's successful qualification for the 2006 World Cup of Soccer to the soundtrack of the new national anthem, a soccer anthem.

The soccer anthem includes the following creative line: "There was once a great country that loved Blokhin, Blokhin." However, since the great country has fallen on some difficult times, the new nation needs "another team like that again." Oleh Blokhin has been selected to launch an encore performance. The rousing chorus of

the anthem urges: "Come on lads, bottoms up. Let's all toast Blokhin." Occasionally when pressured by adoring fans in public, Blokhin, himself, is asked to join in the refrain, to which he grudgingly agrees.

When asked by journalists about his metamorphosis from Soviet soccer star pupil to Ukraine's proud soccer professor, Blokhin shrugs it all off as a mere shift of good fortune. "Every era has its good aspects," he told Walter Mayr, Moscow correspondent for Spiegel (an international soccer periodical). Sipping one of those now cold cups of coffee, he added even in the old Soviet era he thought he had everything he could ever want. "When I was 20 I used to drive a white Volga. That was really something then. I always got the girls I wanted."

Blokhin's present grandeur mirrors that of Ukraine, which is fine. Yet his primary goal is winning and his essential part in achieving this success. "When I was coaching in Greece 11 years ago, people still thought Ukraine was somewhere in Siberia. Those days are over," he said in his conversation with Mr. Mayr, a very gratifying grin on his face.

Respect in world soccer fortifies the self-respect of a nation attempting to reinvent itself after centuries of existing under Russian oppression. When Dnipro's Ruslan Rotan scored the match winner against Georgia on September 3, 2005, making Ukraine the first European qualifier for the World Cup, the sports event

was celebrated from the Carpathian Mountains to the Black Sea as if it was an act of national emancipation.

The Ukrainian soccer factories of Kyiv, Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk had already provided the core group of players of the USSR clubs – 14 members of the 22 person Soviet team at Mexico in 1986; 10 of the squad in Italy in 1990. After declaring their nation independent following the USSR's break-up, Ukraine was excluded from the 1994 World Cup qualifications. As a result, key Ukrainian soccer stars abandoned their country, with six of them opting to play for Team Russia. Among the six was top Ukrainian scorer Oleg Salenko. Ukraine then went on to twice fail to qualify for soccer's greatest world stage.

People in Kyiv claim Blokhin is the answer to Ukraine's soccer future. Some refer to him as the man with the Midas touch, perhaps the only man competent enough to change their nation's luck. Many were puzzled why their favorite never made his comeback sooner from his self-imposed banishment on the sidelines.

Back in his late 30s, Blokhin wound up his playing career by hopping town to town for Vorwarts Steyr, a second-division team in Austria. He then began his coaching career in Greece, where he won one trophy in three seasons. In Kyiv they were convinced he would never have lasted very long at Dynamo with his Greek won-lost record. In 1997, when the country's favorite son decided to come home, security precluded him from setting foot in the stadium which witnessed his greatest conquests.

The 1997 stadium incident garners lots of publicity. Dynamo's president Grigori Surkis was quoted as saying "Blokhin will only enter this stadium again over my dead body." Surkis was one of ex-president Kuchma's inner circle, a billionaire tycoon-oligarch.

Banning him from the stadium was pay-back for obstinacy which was a Blokhin symptom even back under the Soviets. At first, he refused to abide by the new Ukrainian rulebook. In 1998 he was elected to Parliament since politicians at the time held the power and the financial resources, thus what better job was out there? However, Blokhin could never compromise himself by allowing the use of his good name to the oligarchic United Social Democrats led by Dynamo owner Surkis. Blokhin kept a low profile while in Parliament, showing little care for committee assignments or pontificating at the podium. His fellow members of Parliament were never certain about his political ideology. He went on to change party affiliations five times in his first legislative session, going independent twice and aligning himself with Communist blocs two other times. He twice threw his support with high-level politicians who ended up being arrested: ex-premier Pavlo Lazarenko, then Yulia Tymoshenko.

Oleh Blokhin finally relented on October 8, 2002. The soccer hero from the Soviet days gave in and signed up with the big-business faction of Dynamo owner Surkis, who doubles as president of Ukraine's soccer association. Any political convictions were ignored and left at the door.

Almost a year afterwards the energetic member of Parliament was selected to the post of national coach, setting in motion the onset of another soccer fairy tale. The immediate task at hand was to lead his team into the next World Cup, following the quickest path to being tops in its group. Ukrainian soccer fans were at once ecstatic and doubtful.

Blokhin's aspirations were set high, yet he was clear about his dissatisfaction with the standard of Ukraine's domestic league. Dynamo Kyiv, the league's prize franchise, was struggling to draw 5,000 fans to big

(Continued on page 17)

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Tryzub men's soccer team captures Eastern Pennsylvania Championship

by Eugene A. Luciw

PHILADELPHIA – During the last weekend of June, the Ukrainian Nationals U-23 men's team participated in the United States Amateur Soccer Association (UASA) Eastern Pennsylvania Championship tournament. Despite missing three midfielders due to injury, Tryzub went undefeated and prevailed.

In an emotional post-game interview, the coach of the Ukrainian Nationals, Walter Maruszczak, praised his players' "heart, their resolve and determination."

"These guys turned huge obstacles into challenges...They left everything, literally everything, on the field. They are winners well beyond simply this championship," he said.

Mr. Maruszczak also thanked his coach and trainer, Jeff Konopelsky, for his tireless work and cited the leadership of team co-captains Danylo Maciel and Paul Camarco.

In addition to defeating its perennial rivals, Phoenix and the United German Hungarians, the Nats played nationally

recognized powerhouse, F.C. Delco, to a scoreless tie.

In the Nationals game against Phoenix, the Nats' Dan Doe scored the games only goal on a beautiful crossing pass from Dima Tupitsyn in the first half.

Playing against Delco, Tryzub was missing three starting midfielders. The resulting tied game was determined by solid defensive play and outstanding goaltending by Michael Henry. It should be noted that the starting line-up of the Delco team consisted of players from Division 1 college programs including several All-American and nationally known and ranked players.

In the UGH game, goals were scored by Stephen Chareczko, Eber Duque, Diego Palacios and Lawrence Vincent. The score was 3-1 at the half.

There are four Ukrainians on the current team roster: Mark Chajkowsky, Stephen Chareczko, Andriy Krylyuk and Dima Tupitsyn. A fifth Ukrainian, goalie Christopher Rizanow, is out due to a long term injury (broken cheekbone).

Six teams compete in Syracuse at USCAK soccer tournament

by Oleh Lesiuk

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – The Ukrainian Nationals, Tryzub, won the 2007 Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A and Canada (USCAK) men's soccer tournament held in Syracuse, N.Y., on Saturday, July 21. The host of this year's event was the Ukrainian Sports Club Ukraina of Syracuse.

Six Ukrainian soccer clubs sent teams to compete for this year's USCAK trophy. The teams were divided into two groups of three teams each. The games were played in two 25-minute halves using a round-robin system.

Group A included Toronto, Ukraina, Yonkers, N.Y., Krylati and the Ukrainian Nationals from Horsham, Pa.

Group B included the New York Soccer Club, Chornomorska Sitch of Whippany, N.J., and the Ukrainian Sports Club Ukraina of Syracuse.

During Group A competition, Tryzub won its first game 5-1 against Toronto Ukraina. In the next game, a very competitive one at that, Krylati won the round-robin match 2-1. In the final Group A match, Yonkers Krylati beat Toronto Ukraina 3-0 in a hard-fought match.

The Final Group A results were Yonkers with six points, Tryzub with three points and Toronto with zero points.

In Group B competition; Sitch had six points, Ukraina had three points and USC

from New York had zero points.

The first semifinal match was Tryzub against Chornomorska Sitch. The Tryzub squad played the full game with 10 players due to a leg injury. Whippany won 2-0 against Tryzub and advanced to the finals of the tournament.

Semi-final match No. 2 was Yonkers Krylati against Syracuse Ukraina. Yonkers prevailed with a victory based on penalty kicks after completing the full game as a tie.

Thus, the final for the 2007 USCAK trophy pitted the Ukrainian Nationals Tryzub against Yonkers Krylati.

It was a tough match as Tryzub had to compete once again with only 10 players on the fields with no substitutes. Yonkers came well-prepared with 15 players. Tryzub's players were exhausted, but they continued to hold the defensive line. Constant attacks by Yonkers resulted in only one goal. Tryzub prevailed 2-1 with both goals by Vergis Anusauskas.

The Tryzub team was awarded the 2007 USCAK East trophy and each player received a medal. The tournament committee also voted Tryzub's Ryan Gilespy as the most valuable player (MVP) of the tournament.

The manager of the Tryzub team is Mike Jurchak, and the acting coach for the tournament was Dino Tomasos (coach Petro Boretsky was away on business).

Action item...

(Continued from page 7)

ence was restored. These elections are a concrete step by the current administration to make certain that the establishment abides by the laws of Ukraine and the political process becomes transparent and honest. Considering the strong strategic relationship that Ukraine and the United States developed over the last several years, we believe that the people of Ukraine, who continue to work persistently to secure democracy within their country and to integrate Ukraine

into the Euro-Atlantic community, deserve most active support from the United States. This is a very important juncture for Ukraine, and the U.S. should support the laudable efforts of the Ukrainian nation to establish a stable democracy.

As your constituent, I urge you to co-sponsor this legislation. The Ukrainian American community is extremely interested in this issue and believes that Ukraine deserves U.S. support and will be a stable strategic partner.

Sincerely,
(your name)

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TRAVELS: Seeking the past on a road trip through northern Germany

by Taras Kuzio

PART I

When we are young most of us seek to escape our parents' clutches and find freedom. At least that's true for me, who voluntarily left home at age 18 to pursue university studies. But what if one was involuntarily taken at the age of 15, never again to see one's parents and to wait half a century before seeing one's sister and brother?

This is the difference between my father, who was taken to Germany as a Nazi slave laborer in 1942 and did not return home until exactly 50 years later in 1992, and me.

My father's deportation was undoubtedly organized by the same German labor office where Viktor Medvedchuk's father had worked in World War II. Although Mr. Medvedchuk claims his father was in the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN), there is no record of this, according to the editor of *Litopys UPA* (*UPA Chronicles*), Prof. Peter Potichnyj. The Medvedchuk family was deported for "Nazi collaboration" from Zhytomyr to Siberia, where Viktor was born.

My father returned to Ukraine only in 1992 because he had not wanted to travel to Ukraine when it was a part of the USSR. British Ukrainians had little contact with Ukraine during the Soviet era. He has since returned on many occasions to Ukraine to see relatives in western Ukraine (Sambir), to visit the city of Kyiv and to take a river cruise along the Dnipro.

My father was part of a large majority of Ukrainians in Britain who never took out British citizenship, although they were entitled to it after living decades in the country. In 1997 the Ukrainian law on citizenship was changed to allow



The Kuzios in Hamburg. (A Ukrainian flag is among those seen in the background.)

Ukrainians living abroad without citizenship to apply for Ukrainian citizenship. Applicants had to prove their birth in Ukraine but no longer had to live five years in Ukraine before qualifying. A year later my father obtained his first passport, a Ukrainian one, and in 1999 he voted for the first time in his life in the presidential elections. The choice was easy in the first round, but he found it very difficult to vote for Leonid Kuchma in the second round.



Jozef Kuzio with his wife, Ersilia Toselli-Kuzio, at Checkpoint Charlie.

My father's latest foreign trip was both very different and at the same time inter-connected with earlier ones. In July, Jozef Kuzio, my father, his Italian wife, Ersilia Toselli-Kuzio, and one of my brothers, Ivan (the other brother, Roman, works in Australia), did what Americans would call a "road trip" through northern Germany. The purpose was to retrace my father's life from 1942, when he was brought to Germany, until 1948, when he emigrated to Britain.

Taking any kind of "holiday" with one's family is not an easy affair, as many of you will know – especially when there is a 30-year gap since the last family holiday when we were children. (It can be nearly as stressful as having all of your family visit you at Christmas or having relatives visit you from Ukraine.)

My father had talked for many years about returning to Germany to retrace his World War II footsteps. But this had only become possible after 1990 when the GDR collapsed and German reunification followed. Most of the places my father had worked in were located in what became the GDR and so he remembers the early Soviet occupation of eastern Germany.

The flight to Berlin took off from Manchester, a city with one of the largest concentrations of Ukrainians in Britain. Berlin was simply a staging post for the road trip as flights to Hamburg, where my father had awaited his emigration to Britain, were not available from Manchester.

Berlin was both a tourist leg of the road trip, as well as a political lesson. As we walked the streets of Berlin, my father constantly asked if we were in the "East" or in the "West." We visited what was left of the Berlin Wall but commentators stated that three times more of the wall had been sold than had actually been built in 1961 (I remember buying pieces of the "Wall" in 1991 from Polish vendors in Berlin).

The highlights of the visit to Berlin were Checkpoint Charlie, the former U.S.-Soviet border crossing point in Berlin, the museum next to the former crossing, the Brandenburg Gate, the new German Parliament and the former GDR secret police (Stasi) headquarters. It was hard to

believe that the billboards showing the history of Berlin and superpower confrontation from the 1940s to 1980s happened at Checkpoint Charlie since today it looks like any other up-scale shopping area of Berlin. The GDR was the first to experience an uprising against communism in 1953, followed by Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia and, finally, the USSR.

The museum next to Checkpoint Charlie was a fascinating example of how a large number of Germans had come to see Nazism and Communism as twin totalitarian evils. Many Western academics still refuse to accept that Communism can be equated with Nazism. The equating of the twin evils is important because Germans are still the only country of the Axis powers (that also included Austria, Italy and Japan) who have genuinely come to terms with Nazi crimes. My own father has received a German pension for three decades.

The museum's exposés described and showed numerous ways in which Germans sought to flee to what they believed was "freedom" in the West.



Jozef Kuzio before a historic photograph in the museum at Checkpoint Charlie.

Many died trying to flee the GDR. The expositions covered other countries besides the GDR. One room in the museum was devoted to totalitarian crimes in Ukraine, including material on the 1933 Terror-Famine, the Great Terror and repression of dissidents. This was a sign of progress: in 1983 the Ukrainian diaspora commemorated the 50th anniversary of the genocidal Famine at a time when the Western public was still skeptical. It took until 1990 for the Communist Party in Ukraine to admit that the Famine had taken place and 17 more years for the Ukrainian Parliament to vote a law on the Famine.

The law was not supported in Parliament by the Communist Party and the Party of the Regions. It is not surprising that the Communists would not support such a law, but why would oligarchs in the Party of the Regions feel threatened by a law dealing with an event that took place seven decades ago? Ukraine still has an ambivalent attitude toward the Soviet past, as do all of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Statues of Vladimir Lenin are still to be found throughout Ukraine (I recall receiving a videotape in 1990 of the first removal of a Lenin statue in the former USSR in the Galician town of Stryi).

Can a country that still has numerous statues honoring the first Soviet leader, including one in Kyiv, ever really hope to join the European Union? Ukraine resembles a country where one half seeks to expunge the Soviet past, while the other half continues to have nostalgic views of it.

Ukraine and the CIS are similar to Europe in terms of an intellectual reluctance to equate Nazism and Communism as twin evils. Only Nazi parties are banned in countries such as Germany and Austria, whereas extreme left parties are allowed to function. In Ukraine the Communist Party was a virtual opposition that proved useful to Leonid Kuchma in the 1999 elections, in helping to remove the government of Viktor Yushchenko in 2001 and in supporting Viktor Yanukovich and the Party of the Regions in 2004 and 2006.

In the first 20 years of his life, from 1926 to 1945, my father – just like many other Ukrainians – experienced Polish autocracy followed by the evils of Nazism and Communism, first in 1939 with the arrival of the Soviet "liberators" and two years later with the Nazi invasion followed by his deportation to Germany. For that generation there is no debate – Nazism and Communism are simply the flip sides of the same totalitarian coin.

Artist Sophia Lada explores new medium in "Found Threads"

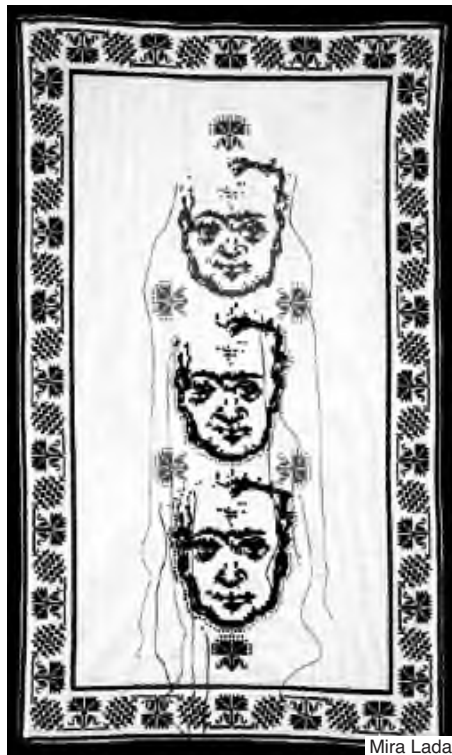
by Olena Wawryshyn

"I will take this rushnyk, and lay it out as my destiny ... and on that rushnyk will come alive all familiar pains, and childhood, and separation, and true love ... and your motherly love."

TORONTO – In the lyrics of the popular Ukrainian song, "Ridna Maty Moya" (My Dear Mother) a mother gives her son an embroidered "rushnyk," or ritual cloth, as a token of luck as he sets off into the world. The song evokes not only the universal concept of motherly love, but also the particular centrality of the rushnyk in Ukrainian culture. More than simply a decorative object, it is a talisman rife with symbolism. Traditionally, it has an important presence at ceremonies marking the stages of an individual's lifecycle, from birth to death.

Like the sentimental ballad, a new exhibit called "Found Threads" presents the rushnyk as an important cultural icon, putting it in the context of familial love, this time, though, focusing on the tender bond between a mother and her daughter.

The exhibit, which runs in Toronto on September 5-16 at *new* gallery, in the heart of Toronto's trendy Gallery District on Queen Street West, features the collabora-



Mira Lada

Embroidered pieces in the "Found Threads" exhibit.

tive hand embroidery of visual artist Sophia Lada and her mother, Marusia Lada-Uhorczak, who died this year at the age of 98. "The exhibit was inspired by my mother's embroidered linens," said Ms. Lada.

The majority of the pieces on display were, in their first incarnation, the handiwork of Ms. Lada-Uhorczak. Her traditionally patterned table runners and coasters, with intricate embroidery running along their edges, have been revived with new layers of meaning by her daughter. Using old threads found in her mother's sewing box, Lada has filled the centers of the linens with textured embroidered images that reflect her feelings towards her mother and express her sense of loss at her passing.

The exhibit's centerpiece is an imposing six-foot-long rushnyk. It depicts Mrs. Lada-Uhorczak's face, hands, figure and feet, surrounded by symbolism relating to her life, including butterflies representing her butterfly pin collection and a coral necklace with a Hutsul cross, which was her favorite piece of jewelry. Around the edges of the rushnyk, Ms. Lada-Uhorczak's maiden name, Hanushevska, and the surnames of her two husbands, Lada and Uhorczak, are embroidered. In the four corners are squares representing the four seasons of life. The date of

Mrs. Lada-Uhorczak's birth was stitched into the design; afterwards, the date of death was added.

At Mrs. Lada-Uhorczak's funeral service at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Toronto last May, Ms. Lada lovingly draped the commemorative rushnyk over her mother's coffin. "I thought it was a very fitting way to celebrate my mother's life – instead of having an elaborate coffin – which was something my mother would not have liked."

The history of the rushnyk's creation is a testament to Ms. Lada's love for her mother and to the appreciation for the visual arts that has been passed on from one generation to the next.

Ms. Lada began working on the design of the rushnyk in 2005. At that time, her widowed mother, who had developed age-related dementia, had just moved into the artist's studio loft, which serves both as her living and working space.

"I wanted to spend the time with my mother in a creative way," said Ms. Lada. She first thought she'd paint her mother's portrait but discounted that idea as it meant her mother would "just have to sit and do nothing."

She then encouraged her mother to start embroidering. Though her mother could no longer remember complicated embroidery stitches, Ms. Lada-Uhorczak spent hours making numerous hanging ornaments, as well as blocks covered with simple cross-stitches for her newborn great-granddaughter Aurora (the daughter of the award-winning photographer Mir Lada and his wife, Leda.)

Being a caregiver to her mother meant that Ms. Lada could not dedicate the time and attention needed to paint, so she decided to join her mother in embroidering. "A rushnyk to commemorate my mother's work in folk embroidery seemed like a perfect project for us," she noted. Ms. Lada plotted out the design on a paper grid, and the pair began working on the ritual cloth together. It incorporates pieces that Mrs. Lada-Uhorczak embroidered in the last year of her life, as well as an intricately stitched linen that she had embroidered years ago.

In her earlier years, Mrs. Lada-Uhorczak, who was born in Bolekhiv, Ukraine, used to manage a team of eight seamstresses in a shop in Lviv. During the second world war she ended up in a displaced persons' camp in Germany, where she embroidered, despite the uncomfortable living circumstances. "She used to send her embroidery to the states for sale to a shop run by Ukrainian women," explained Ms. Lada.

Mrs. Lada-Uhorczak eventually immigrated to the United States with her two small children, having lost her husband, lawyer Markian Lada, in the war. In Philadelphia, where Ms. Lada was



Funeral service of Marusia Uhorczak-Lada with the commemorative rushnyk draped over the coffin. Father Roman Galadza is the priest. Ms. Uhorczak-Lada's daughter Sophia Lada is in the first row, as is her grandson, photographer Mir Lada and great-granddaughter Aurora with Mr. Lada's wife, Leda.



Mira Lada

Marusia Lada-Uhorczak and daughter are seen at work on the commemorative rushnyk. And, close up photos of elements of it.

raised, her mother embroidered in what little spare time she had in between raising her family and working in a factory and sewing garments on order for clients.

"She was a very creative person," said Ms. Lada. Mrs. Lada-Uhorczak sent her daughter to art school as a child and she later completed a design program at Moore College of Art. After graduating from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in 1965, Ms. Lada focused on painting. When she landed a job as the curator of the Osередok Art Gallery and Museum in Winnipeg, she moved to Canada.

The commemorative rushnyk project has given Ms. Lada an opportunity to learn about a new medium of expression. The repetitive and ritualistic aspect of embroi-

dering gave her a sense of peace and order that helped her through her mourning, she noted, while at the same time allowing for creative experimentation. "There's spontaneity; I would look at the piece and decide what I wanted to do with it. It wasn't pre-planned," she explained.

"I like working with fabric and threads; there's a possibility for creativity besides just geometric patterns," Ms. Lada said. Among the free-form patterns she has embroidered in the works in "Found Threads" are images of hearts and verses of poetry by Ukrainian poet Bohdan Ihor Antonych (1909-1937), whose words have both inspired and comforted her.

Though "Found Threads" represents a shift in direction for Ms. Lada, there are thematic parallels between pieces in the exhibit and her earlier body of work. Notably evident is her longtime interest in the spiritual realm and mythology of her ancient Ukrainian ancestors. "Goddesses were an important part of that culture," said Lada. "There was one designated for each season and for harvest-related festivities; it has always fascinated me," said Ms. Lada, whose own surname comes from the name of the ancient goddess associated with love, beauty and domestic happiness.

In many of the pieces in "Found Threads," it is her mother who is identified as a goddess. In one, a triptych consisting of three linens, Mrs. Lada-Uhorczak's image is embroidered alongside the goddess of spring, Marena, "because my mother died in the spring," Ms. Lada commented.

Marusia Lada-Uhorczak's spirit, however, lives on – both through her embroidery,

(Continued on page 14)

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

refused to register more than 30 groups set
up by the opposition Yulia Tymoshenko
Bloc (YTB) to collect signatures in favor
of a constitutional referendum, Ukrainian
media reported. The referendum initiative
was opposed by CEC members nominated
both by the government and the president.
"I was quite surprised by the position of
our partners from [pro-presidential] Our
Ukraine, who coordinated their actions
with the [pro-government] Party of the
Regions in passing this decision. I would
like to meet with the president as soon as
possible to discuss this grave fact with
him," Yulia Tymoshenko told journalists
on August 18. "The CEC members are not
independent, they are appointed to pursue
the interests of parties and groups. Out of
the 15 members of the CEC, nine shame-
lessly banned people from collecting sig-
natures," she added. The YTB has pro-
posed holding such a referendum, if tech-
nically possible, simultaneously with the
early parliamentary elections on
September 30. Among nine questions
offered for the referendum, the bloc
reportedly wants to ask Ukrainians if they
prefer a presidential or a parliamentary
form of government and if they want to
elect and dismiss judges by popular vote.
(RFE/RL Newsline)

Lutsenko wary of PM's proposal

KYIV - Yuri Lutsenko, a leader of the
Our Ukraine - People's Self-Defense elec-
tion bloc, told journalists in Kyiv on
August 15 that Prime Minister Viktor
Yanukovich's proposal to abolish the legal
immunity enjoyed by lawmakers and other
high-ranking government officials was a
"political trick" ahead of the September 30
early elections, Interfax-Ukraine reported.
"We do not trust the [Yanukovich-led]
Party of the Regions and consider this de-
claration to be opportunistic," Mr. Lutsenko
said. "Mr. Yanukovich had a parliamen-
tary majority for 378 days and took no
decision on abolishing parliamentary
immunity, while now, 46 days before the
elections, he proposes to call an extraordi-
nary session of the nonexistent Parliament
in order to buy people off," he added. Mr.
Lutsenko announced that neither the Our
Ukraine - People's Self-Defense bloc nor
the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc intend to par-
ticipate in a potential special parliamentary
session proposed by Mr. Yanukovich.
Meanwhile the same day, the Socialist
Party and the Communist Party expressed
support for Prime Minister Yanukovich's
idea of a special parliamentary debate on
immunity. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yulia to tour Ukraine's regions

KYIV - Yulia Tymoshenko, the leader
of the opposition bloc of the same name,

(Continued on page 15)

Artist Sophia Lada...

(Continued from page 13)

which has been given new life through the
innovative artistic vision of her daughter,
and through the creative impulse that she
has passed on to Ms. Lada. The exhibit
inspired by her work is an exploration of
the transcendental potential of art.

"Found Threads" is on display on
September 5-16 at *new* gallery at 906
Queen St. W. The opening reception takes
place on September 9 at 3-6 p.m. Gallery
hours are Wednesday to Sunday, 1-6 p.m.
Call 416-588-1200 for more information.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

said on Ukrainian Channel 5 television on August 16 that on August 20 she will inaugurate her bloc's regional campaign ahead of the September 30 parliamentary elections by visiting her home city, Dnipropetrovsk. Ms. Tymoshenko, whose political support base is located in western and central Ukraine, said she will pay more attention to eastern regions in the current elections. Meanwhile, the Taras Shevchenko Institute of Political and Sociological Studies reported earlier the same day that the Party of the Regions is currently supported by 27.6 percent of voters, while the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc is close behind with 26.5 percent backing. The report was based on a poll the institute conducted on August 8-14 among 2,000 Ukrainians. According to the poll, the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc and the Communist Party could also top the 3 percent threshold needed to make it into Parliament, with 11.1 percent

and 3.2 percent of the vote, respectively. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Putin asked to condemn Great Terror

MOSCOW – Russian Human Rights Ombudsman Vladimir Lukin in on August 14 appealed to President Vladimir Putin to condemn Joseph Stalin's Great Terror to mark the 70th anniversary of the launch of the campaign of repression, Russian news agencies reported. Mr. Lukin said that he hopes Mr. Putin "will not forget this subject." No senior Russian government official went to any of the commemorative events in late July and early August, which were attended primarily by several hundred activists and relatives of the victims. State-run media paid little attention to the meetings and Russian Orthodox services connected with the anniversary. Mr. Putin recently sought to downplay the importance of the purges and other unsavory aspects of Russian and Soviet history, claiming that German Nazism and the U.S. use of nuclear weapons in 1945 were far worse. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Roman Szporluk...

(Continued from page 6)

championships with Poland. The simple fact that Ukraine and Poland were selected as hosts over a number of major competitors, including Italy, is a sign that Europe is beginning to accept Ukraine, and not just Poland, which is already a European Union member, as one of its own.

Let me close with a personal note. Sometime in 1991, or maybe in 1992, shortly after Ukraine had become independent, my colleagues at the Ukrainian Institute [HURI] had one of many discussions about the grave problems the new state was facing. As we remember, some international affairs experts were predicting

a Yugoslavia-style collapse for Ukraine.

None of us thought so pessimistically – if I recall, most, including myself, expected that in four to six years Ukraine would be doing fine politically and economically. But I also recall that a very distinguished colleague, Prof. Ihor Sevchenko, argued that Ukraine needed approximately 20 years to become a truly independent, democratic, modern European country. I disagreed – and thought that he was far too pessimistic. Since then I have come to appreciate the wisdom of Prof. Sevchenko's position. I believe that the 20th and 21st anniversaries of Ukraine's independence will prove him a good prophet.

But to get there Ukraine needs to do everything right on September 30, 2007.



With deep sadness, the family of George Dyba announces the death of beloved father, grandfather and brother-in-law.

George Dyba

89, died on Thursday, June 14, 2007.

Born March 22, 1918 in Bayonne, New Jersey, he was the son of the late Ignatius and Maria Dyba.

The parastas was held on Sunday, June 17 at R.P. Drago Funeral Home in Astoria, New York.

Funeral services were held Monday, June 18 at Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church in Astoria, NY, followed by interment at Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery in Goshen, NY.

He leaves behind in sorrow his

sons	Alexander, with wife Stephanie Roman, with wife Domenica
daughters	Nadia, with husband Roman Olga
grandsons	Alexander and Joseph
sisters-in-law	Tekla Husiak with family Stefania Popyk with family from Ukraine

and close and distant family in the United States and Ukraine.

The family of George Dyba wishes to express deep appreciation and sincere thanks to our extended family and friends for their flowers, prayers, condolences, charitable contributions and comforting expressions of sympathy.

Eternal Memory!



In Memory of Rev. Michael Halchuk (1948 - 2007)

Suddenly, on May 31st, 2007 in St. Catharines, Ontario, the Rev. Michael went to be with the Lord, at 58 years of age. Michael was a most cherished and beloved son of Jaroslaw, the late Oliha Halchuk and step-son of Sophia. Loving brother of the late Walter Halchuk, he is survived by his aunt, Teresa, and cousins, Steve and Cathy Czerkes. Michael touched the hearts of many and will be missed by all, including godmother, Valetina Lytwynec, special friend, Linda Lamarche and former wife, Larysa.

Michael was born in Belgium in 1948. With his family, he moved to Sudbury, Ont. in 1951 where he attended school and Air Cadets. Upon graduating from high school and Ukrainian school, he then moved to Toronto to attend Ryerson University. In Toronto, he played the bandura and belonged to the Ukrainian National Youth Federation of Canada and was a Ukrainian National Federation Board Member. He studied theology at Trinity College, University of Toronto. Ordained as an Anglican Minister, he went to serve the orphanage for Children of Chernobyl in Ukraine. He was curator at St. Luke's Anglican Church in Burlington, Ont. and later moved to Port Colborne, Ont. as pastor of St. Brendan the Navigator Anglican Church. Rev. Michael then, through the Church of England, continued his ministry in Zagreb, Croatia for two years, returning to Canada in 2006.

A funeral service to celebrate Michael's life was held in St. Luke's Anglican Church in Burlington on June 4, 2007. A private family burial will be held on a later date. Memorial remembrance to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada would be appreciated by the family.

"We walk by faith, not by sight; We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."



WASYL MACKIW

January 22, 1928 - July 30, 2007

With deep sadness, the family of Wasyl Mackiw, born in Strutyn, Ukraine, announces his passing away on July 30, 2007 in North Port, FL.

Wasyl Mackiw, Korean war veteran and member of Cpl. Roman G. Lazor Post 40 of the Ukrainian Americans Veterans (UAV) in North Port, FL, passed away after battling an incurable illness. He was the son of late Ivan and Maria (nee Yankiv).

Wasyl was born January 22, 1928 in Strutyn, Ukraine. After completing his primary education in his native village he entered Business High School in Kalush, Ukraine, during the German occupation. He was able to complete his high school education in the Displaced Persons Camp in Mittenwald, Germany, after his family was forced to leave Ukraine.

After immigrating to the United States, Wasyl was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1951 even before he became an American citizen. After completing his honorable service, he used his GI Bill to study engineering at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

As a professional engineer, Wasyl was employed by several firms, including the U.S. Army. After retiring and settling in North Port, FL, he was active in several local organizations. Wasyl devoted much time, effort and financial resources to help "de-russify" the armed forces of the independent Ukraine, especially the Ukrainian Navy, by providing scholarships to naval cadets in Sevastopol, Ukraine.

He will be missed by his wife, Nina, (nee Iwasiuk), and her sisters, Tamara and Valentina; nieces Halyna, Irene, Eugenia and nephew Orest and their families in Detroit, MI and NJ; brothers Theodore in NM, Michael in CA, John in MD, and their families, as well as by many other relatives, friends and fellow veterans. He was predeceased by his brother, Dennis, of Englewood, FL.

Funeral services arranged by Farley Funeral Home, took place Wed., Aug 1, and Thurs., Aug. 2, in St. Andrew's Ukrainian Church in North Port, FL. The Rt. Rev. Mychajlo Borysenko officiated.

Members of UAV Post No. 40, led by Commander Ihor Hron, acted as honorary pallbearers and rendered their deceased comrade their final salute.

May he rest in peace!

Connecticut State Ukrainian Day: September 9

WALLINGFORD, Conn. – The Connecticut State Ukrainian Day Committee will be sponsoring its 40th Ukrainian Day Festival on Sunday, September 9, on the grounds of St. Basil's Seminary in Stamford, Conn.

Beginning at 9 a.m. the outdoor Ukrainian arts and crafts bazaar will feature over 15 vendors offering a kaleidoscope of Ukrainian souvenirs – ceramics, wood, shirts, books, paintings, pysanky, embroidery, tapes, CDs, novelties and more. Coffee and donuts will also be available.

Priests will be available to hear confessions before liturgy. At 11 a.m. a pontifical divine liturgy will be celebrated by Bishop Paul Chomnycky, of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford.

Throughout the day, guests can continue to visit the vendors and sample Ukrainian foods, such as kovbasa, varenyky (potato and cheese dumplings), holubtsi (stuffed cabbage) and kapusta (cabbage), as well as picnic food. At 2:45 p.m. there will be a lively program at the outdoor pavilion featuring, among others, the music of the Cheres Ukrainian Folk Orchestra, which will provide music for dancing after the program; Ukrainian folk dancing by the Vesna Dancers of Rockland County, N.Y.; and the Kalynonka Dance Ensemble of Lower Fairfield County, Conn.

Tours will be given at both the Ukrainian diocesan museum and the Diocesan Cultural Center.

The festival continues because of the steadfast support of people from the 10 sponsoring Ukrainian Catholic parishes of Connecticut: Ss. Peter and Paul, Ansonia; Holy Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Bridgeport; St. Mary's, Colchester; St. John the Baptist, Glastonbury; St. Michael's, Hartford; St. Josaphat's, New Britain; St. Michael's, New Haven; St. Vladimir's Cathedral, Stamford; St. Michael's, Terryville; and St. Mary's, Willimantic.

Some members of the committee have served at each festival since 1965.

The Connecticut State Ukrainian Day Committee has raised over \$400,000 since its inception. Initially all monies were accounted to Metropolitan Joseph Schmondiuk; then to Bishop Basil H. Losten. Currently the funds go to Bishop Chomnycky. Last year \$23,000 was raised, with \$500 each being given to the Catechists of the Sacred Heart, Brazil; St. Mary's Villa in Sloatsburg; the Diocesan Charities Fund and Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God (Stamford); the Ukrainian Diocesan Museum and Library; St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church Building Fund; and St. Basil's College Seminary (for students' needs). A sum of \$20,000 went to St. Basil's College Seminarian Fund.

Five general chairmen have led the committee since it began in 1965. With support from the late Bishop John Stock, Roman Hezzey, of Ipswich, Mass. (formerly of Mount Carmel, Conn.), initiator and organizer of Connecticut State Ukrainian Day Committee, was its first general chairman; followed by the late Myron Dmyterko of Hamden, Conn.; the late Michael Rudy of East Hartford, Conn.; Donald Horbaty of Wallingford, Conn.; and the current chairman, Lubomyr Czubytyj of Milford, Conn.

Behind the scenes, contingents of older and younger adults in each participating parish, days before the festival, are preparing the thousands of varenyky, holubtsi, tortes, etc. consumed at this event.

Entrance to the festival, which includes free parking, is \$10 (age 12 and over) at the gate and \$5 for advance tickets, which may be purchased at any of the 10 parishes listed above or by contacting ticket chairwoman Helen Rudy of East Hartford, Conn., 860-568-5445. The festival will be held rain or shine. For more information or to volunteer your help during the festival, call 203-269-5909.

New Jersey...

(Continued from page 7)

and St. Barnabas Health Care System on shaken baby syndrome in order to teach young mothers the danger of shaking babies. He participated and contributed to the 31st National Conference on Juvenile Justice and received an award from Family Court Judges and District Attorneys' Association. He organized a roundtable forum of the Union County educators and police chiefs to increase awareness of gang activities and methods of identifying gang members.

If it seems that Mr. Romankow is doing a superhuman job, he is. He states that he never felt as happy in a job as he feels now. For him it is a dream come true. In spite of working many arduous hours, he fights off fatigue and is satisfied that he makes a difference.

The all-day meeting at Trinitas Hospital provided a wealth of information and an opportunity to discuss and learn about new approaches to the challenge of human trafficking. There have been many developments during the past several years in New Jersey on this subject.

Representing Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine (AHRU) at the meeting was Walter Bodnar, who obtained much updated and recent information on this subject. AHRU has been interested in this issue for quite some time, has written numerous letters and articles on the subject, and has had an opportunity to intervene and help in several cases of possible abduction of young women.

Increased success in the prosecution of criminals who engage in trafficking of persons by federal and state prosecutors would be enhanced if law enforcement agencies were provided with more information and education on the issue. In addition, collaboration and coordination of responses to victims' needs would

markedly increase success.

Because human trafficking is one of the biggest moneymakers in the world, there is a strong suspicion among some circles that the money raised through human trafficking is used for global terrorism. For the longest time it was taboo to talk about or acknowledge the existence of human trafficking and sex business in many countries.

Ukraine is one of these countries where the victims and their families are reluctant to seek help from the authorities and to speak out against this crime. According to the U.S. State Department's 2007 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report released in June and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) report, more than 100,000 Ukrainians have been trafficked since 1991. They are most frequently trafficked to: Poland, Russia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, the Czech Republic, Italy, Portugal, Germany, Austria, Cyprus, Greece, Serbia, Montenegro, Spain, Hungary and Israel.

In addition, Ukraine also serves as a major transit country for women trafficked from Central Asian countries like Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan for sexual exploitation in Europe. The corrupt governmental agencies that are "on the take" and the powers that be give tacit approval and turn their backs on this scourge.

This crime against humanity has been kept in virtual secrecy until recently. Many of us do not know and do not possess a true understanding of the modern-day slavery widely publicized in newspapers and TV as the most lucrative business in the world. Because of its geographical location, seaports and airports with easy access and availability to major transportation centers, New Jersey is in a prime location as a major transit entry for trafficking. Since we are in the right place and time we should take the opportunity and responsibility to act forcefully and successfully against this crime.

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Oleh Blokhin...

(Continued from page 10)

games after drawing 100,000 in its heyday. Furthermore, the disparity between Dynamo with its high-priced imported stars and the rest of Ukraine's clubs was way too large.

With the disparity in talent across the league, most of the national team players had lost their killer instinct – there was little competition. As a result, the first six international competitions under Blokhin's helm were winless. But having a master plan for success, off the field Blokhin was laying the proper foundation.

In March of 2004 there was the Andriy Shevchenko blow-up: the star striker was bloodied in the mouth after colliding with a Macedonia player in a 1-0 loss. Shevchenko had already expressed his frustration at his team's listless effort against an inferior opponent. He proceeded to strip off his shirt, ripped off his captain's armband and stormed off the field. He then hopped aboard AC Milan (Shevchenko's European club at the time) owner Silvio Berlusconi's private jet bound for Milan, Italy.

Blokhin, the coach with a master plan full of master tactics, acted in a contradictory manner. Initially he tried to separate himself from his star's dramatic behavior. Later, at a press conference, he defended Shevchenko in public, eventually taking him aside for a heart-to-heart chat about appropriate conduct befitting a national team captain. The central theme here was that a player's first priority is to his country – only then can one begin forging an international reputation. (Ukraine comes first, AC Milan is second.)

Here Blokhin made the ultimate point with Shevchenko: the latter has already accumulated wads of money and mantles of trophies. He now must ensure some World Cup playing time next to his name so his brilliant soccer career is not besmirched. Oh, and it wouldn't hurt his resume to win the "Ballon d'or," the European Footballer of the Year award handed out by France Football. Especially since Blokhin once won the same honor.

"Without the national team, you can forget about the Golden Ball," Blokhin told his striker in 2004. The coach took a big risk in his approach with the superstar Shevchenko. The approach proved successful as the national team captain went on to score several key goals in the next few months. Shevchenko went on to become Ukraine's top weapon in the qualifying rounds. For his remarkable turnaround performance, Shevchenko was awarded the European Footballer of

the Year accolade in Paris.

Blokhin comprehends today's media craving for superstars and willingly proclaims Shevchenko one of them. "We are a young country, and Andriy is our leading ambassador in the younger generation," said Blokhin. However, the hero-worship has to stop somewhere.

Blokhin is a tough nut to crack, prone to dance to his own tune. He doesn't enjoy the interview scene, practicing a philosophy of not placing much value on the press. This probably reverts to the old Soviet days. Also there is now a hint of a tabloid press in Ukraine – some journalists are more interested in how many cigarettes he smokes during a match or his young wife, rather than strategies of soccer. Blokhin further believes lots of press talk doesn't mesh with his desire to form a tightly knit squad, the sort Dynamo Kyiv had in the past. Any magnified focus on individuals undoes the spirit of a team. No one understands this better than Shevchenko with him you still hear echoes of the Soviet style.

Shevchenko was the son of a non-commissioned officer who grew up in the town of Obolon, outside of Kyiv, an avid student who loved to run early-morning marathons. At the Dynamo youth academy he always outworked the other boys. He was 18 when he scored his first Champions League goal against Bayern Munich. During these formative years of training he was mentored by legendary coach Valeri Lobanovskyi, who had whipped a young Oleh Blokhin into shape 25 years prior. Lobanovskyi sensed Shevchenko was at the gateway to a potentially great career. He was the spiritual authority of the Dynamo school whose credo was: "Anything is possible if you work hard enough."

Today, when one arrives in the pine forests of Koncha Zaspas – the home of Dynamo's state-of-the-art training facility where the national team practices – one is surrounded by framed reminders of Lobanovskyi's intellect. The portrait gallery on the first floor of Dynamo's clubhouse includes Blokhin and Shevchenko, the first and last superstar students from Lobanovskyi's school. When one member of the national team complained that Shevchenko had arrived in a private jet with a Japanese physiotherapist, coach Blokhin defended his striker by telling the footballer to go and try and play in Milan himself. Shevchenko turned out as an example of where hard work can get you.

At AC Milan he played his way into the superpower's record books with some 130 league goals since 1999. The

Milanese adored Shevchenko because he made the effort to learn Italian fluently and, unlike other Eastern European imported players, avoided alcohol and card-playing. Shevchenko is described as the rare young superstar who is loved by fandom because of his class and good breeding. His agent reportedly remarked this was rare to see in a man who grew up on the wrong side of the Iron Curtain.

Just what the Milanese construe as Shevchenko's affection for their city and culture is a direct result of what he learned from the Dynamo philosophy. Everything Shevchenko starts, he finishes, and does so with the utmost principle and resolve. Anything from a well-coiffed "Sheva" gliding along the runway in an Armani suit or stealing away AC Milan owner Berlusconi's son's girlfriend only to marry her.

Every now and then Shevchenko will make a mistake, but almost never more than once. This is why he no longer voices any opinion regarding politics. Prior to the 2004 Ukrainian presidential elections, Shevchenko was pressured into voicing support for ex-President Leonid Kuchma's candidate, Viktor Yanukovich. Dynamo's owner/oligarch Surkis propagated the statement that Shevchenko was convinced a victory for Yanukovich would bring beneficial changes for Ukrainian soccer.

Now the reaction of the general public plus the nation's soccer fanatics to Shevchenko's public position was absolutely nothing compared to their utter consternation with the national coach's urgings to support the regime. The outcry peaked in November 2004, when Blokhin dedicated a 3-0 win over Turkey in the World Cup qualifier to Yanukovich, a convicted two-time felon.

These were poor political choices by both men. While the Ukrainian people rallied in the streets supporting Orange opposition candidate Viktor Yushchenko, demonstrating a peaceful democratic revolution, the coach and his goalscorer lost major

points in the popularity polls. President Yushchenko boycotted the Kyiv celebrations of World Cup qualification while Surkis, Blokhin and Shevchenko appeared on a stage on the Maidan, the Orange Revolution's headquarters. Only later did the two groups meet at Dynamo's training facilities. The mood was described as cold and solemn, like a Cold War summit.

With Blokhin and Shevchenko on either side of him, Yushchenko was at a loss for words. The president mentioned that he hoped his country could win in the World Cup. He made the analogy that Ukrainian soccer is European – emphasizing in another way his belief in a moderately pro-Western direction for the future. The soccer leaders expressed their thanks to the president by awarding him an autographed ball.

President Yushchenko attended a couple of international matches, but found himself sitting behind one of the goals. The oligarchs and their cronies occupied the main stand of select seating. Kyiv soccer commentator Denis Bosyanog referred to it as a tragedy of the country: the key players in Ukraine's most recent heroic sagas have almost nothing in common. A nation and a soccer nation were born almost in the same breath. Ukraine had finally become Ukraine, and the national team made the World Cup.

What was left was the hope that the frozen fronts of Ukrainian society would begin to thaw again during this World Cup season, culminating in the summer of 2006. And the newly democratized nation was indeed captivated by the play of its national squad on the soccer fields of Germany.

Half a dozen Dynamo Academy graduates were chosen to form the nucleus of the Ukrainian national team. Learning from Oleh Blokhin meant learning to win. It was reportedly heard by someone that Blokhin had increased the ante for his team prior to play beginning in June of 2006. The rumored quote: "No one would understand if we didn't make the semis now."

ATTENTION PARENTS!

St. Andrew Ukrainian School in South Bound Brook, NJ, announces the upcoming registration of students in grades 1 through 12, kindergarten, pre-school and svitlychka for the 2007-2008 school year. Our School is a member of the Ukrainian Educational Council – U.C.C.A. (*Shkilna Rada*).

The school year will begin on September 8, 2007, with a prayer service at 8:45 a.m. in the Church Consistory, while registration and commencement of the school day will be at 9:00 a.m. After every school day, children are encouraged to stay for meetings of PLAST-Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

Interested parents are asked to contact:

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OUT AND ABOUT

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Current - August 31
Millville, NJ</p> | <p>Art exhibit "Ukrainian Riches" by Vera Nakonechny, Down Jersey Folklife Center at WeatonArts, 800-998-4552</p> | <p>Philadelphia</p> | <p>Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, 215-684-3548</p> |
| <p>August 29
Horsham, PA</p> | <p>Ukrainian Folk Festival, Ukrainian American Sports Center - Tryzub, 215-343-5412</p> | <p>September 8-9
Chicago</p> | <p>Ukrainian Village Fest, Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church, 312-829-5209 or stsvo@sbcglobal.net</p> |
| <p>August 31-September 3
Toronto</p> | <p>Ukrainian Festival, Harborfront Center, 416-973-4000</p> | <p>September 8-9
Baltimore, MD</p> | <p>Ukrainian Festival, Baltimore Ukrainian Festival Committee, Patterson Park, 410-687-3465</p> |
| <p>September 1
Jewett, NY</p> | <p>Concert with Yuriy Mazurkevych, The Grazhda - Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-263-4619</p> | <p>September 8-9
Silver Spring, MD</p> | <p>Ukrainian Festival, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 410-947-0913 or 301-593-5316</p> |
| <p>September 1
Kerhonkson, NY</p> | <p>51st annual swimming championships, USCAK, Soyuzivka Heritage Center, 908-851-0617</p> | <p>September 9
Edmonton</p> | <p>Harvest Festival, Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village, 780-662-3640</p> |
| <p>September 1
St. Charles, IL</p> | <p>Banquet and dance, Association of American Youth of Ukrainian Descent (ODUM), Pheasant Run Resort, zustrich2007@yahoo.com</p> | <p>September 9
Toronto</p> | <p>Greeting banquet for Metropolitan Andriy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church - Kyiv Patriarchate, Ukrainian National Federation, 416-604-0095</p> |
| <p>September 7
Jersey City, NJ</p> | <p>Film screening, "Dwarfs Go to Ukraine" and "Orange Alternative," Jersey City Theater Center, 201-876-8686</p> | <p>September 9
Richmond, BC</p> | <p>Golf tournament, Ukrainian Community Society of Ivan Franko, Country Meadows Golf Course, 604-274-2025</p> |
| <p>September 7-22
New York</p> | <p>Art exhibit by Alexander Motyl "Golden Illusions," Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660</p> | <p>September 9
Stamford, CT</p> | <p>Ukrainian Day Festival, St. Basil Seminary, 203-269-5909</p> |
| <p>September 8
New York</p> | <p>Lecture by Judge Bohdan Futey, "Judicial Chaos, Constitutional Crisis and Pre-Term Elections: Quo Vadis Ukraine?" Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130</p> | <p>September 11
Saskatoon, SK</p> | <p>Kybasa Classic Golf Tournament, Moon Lake Golf and Country Club, Ukrainian Canadian Professionals and Businesspersons Association, 306-653-5137</p> |
| <p>September 8
Rosemont, QC</p> | <p>Ukrainian Festival, Parc de l'Ukraine, 514-276-2477 or 514-591-5329</p> | | |
| <p>September 8</p> | <p>Ukraine vs. Georgia, Euro Cup broadcast,</p> | | |

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

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

MONDAYS, June 25-August 27, 2007

Steak Night with Soyuzivka House band on the Veselka Patio

WEDNESDAYS, June 27-August 29, 2007

Hutsul Night with Soyuzivka House band on the Vorokhta Lawn

FRIDAYS, June 29-August 31, 2007

Odesa Seafood Night with Soyuzivka House band on the Veselka Patio

SATURDAYS, June 30-September 1, 2007

Ukrainian zabavas (dances) featuring a live Ukrainian band

Labor Day Weekend Festivities:

August 31 - Zabava featuring 'Na Zdorovya,' 9:30 pm

September 1 - Zabava featuring 'Hrim,' 9:30 pm

September 2 - Zabava featuring 'Luna,' 9:30 pm

September 14-16

UNA General Assembly Meeting and Bayreuth Gymnasium Reunion

September 21-23

KLK Weekend - General Meeting and Banquet

September 25-27

Stamford Clergy Days - Fall Seminar

September 28-30

Plast Sorority - Pershi Stezhi Rada

September 6-9

Reunion - Salzburg Gymnasium

September 10-12

Reunions - Regensburg, Bertesgaden, Karlsfeld and Landshut Gymnasiums



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Wednesday, September 5

NEWARK, N.J.: St. John's Ukrainian Preschool will re-open with Ukrainian-language Montessori sessions each weekday morning from 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Extended hours from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. are available to serve working parents. Minimum age is 2 years six months by September. The preschool emphasizes respect for the children, individualized learning and promotion of the child's independence. For more information call Olenka Makarushka-Kolodiy, 973-763-1797.

Saturday-Sunday, September 8-9

SILVER SPRING, Md.: The fifth annual Washington Ukrainian Festival will be held on the grounds of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 15100 New Hampshire Ave. The festival will feature Ukrainian and grilled foods, the famous Kozak beer and liqueur garden, Ukrainian music and dance performances, children's activities and the Market Place (handicrafts, art, clothing, ceramics, novelties, jewelry, music/videos, books and more). Parking and admission to the festival are free. The official opening is Saturday at noon. The zabava (dance) is at 9 p.m. on Saturday in the church's Founders' Hall; admission is \$10. For directions and detailed information go to <http://www.standrewuoc.org/festival.htm> or call Val Zabijaka, 301-593-5316.

Sunday, September 9

WOONSOCKET, R.I.: St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church is sponsoring a Ukrainian Food and Fun Festival at 74 Harris Ave., Route 122. Divine liturgy will begin at 9 a.m.; the festival will be held at 11 a.m.-4 p.m. The festival kitchen will offer Ukrainian and American favorites, from varenyky, holubtsi, kovbasa, borsch

and cabbage soup, to grilled food. A Music and Fun Area will be a special feature of the festival. Admission is free. For further information call 508-883-9952.

Sunday, September 16

ALEXANDRIA, Va.: As the opening concert of its 2007-2008 "Sunday Music Series," The Washington Group Cultural Fund, under the patronage of the Embassy of Ukraine, presents Bandurna Rozmova featuring Taras Lazurkevych and Oleh Sozansky from Lviv and Kyiv. The virtuoso bandurist duo, in the United States on a concert tour, will present a rich and diverse program of vocal and instrumental numbers spanning the folk and classical repertoire. The concert will be held at The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., at 3 p.m., with a brief reception immediately following the performance. There is a suggested donation of \$20; unreserved seating. For information call 703-241-1817.

ADVANCE NOTICE

January 12-19, 2008

PHILADELPHIA: The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center's Malanka Cruise on the Freestyle Norwegian Sun leaving Miami for Roatan, Honduras; Belize; Cozumel; Great Stirrup Cay, Bahamas. Cruise prices, including port charges and taxes: \$590 per person — inside cabin; \$697 per person — ocean-view cabin; \$860 per person — balcony cabin. Deposit is \$250 per person. The extended deadline for reservations is September 10. For more information contact: Zenia's Travel Club LLC, 46 Muirfield Road, Jackson, NJ 08527; phone, 732-928-3792; fax, 732-928-3793; e-mail, ztc@earthlink.net. For information about the UECC or this fund-raiser visit www.ueccphila.org or call 215-663-1166.

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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**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
SEPTEMBER 16-17, 2006
AT SOYUZIVKA**

Friday, September 16-17, 2006

The Ukrainian National Association General Assembly Special Session, the first meeting after the 36th UNA Convention began with Stefan Kaczaraj, UNA President welcoming the General Assembly members to the meeting. Everyone present sang the American, Canadian and Ukrainian national anthems. Keeping with tradition, Oksana Trytjak read former honorary member Tekla Moroz's short essay about UNA's patron, Taras Shevchenko. Everyone present sang the Zapovit.

A moment of silence was observed for those members of the General Assembly that passed away since the 36th Convention, Joseph Lesawyer – UNA Supreme President, Eugene Ewanciw – Vice-President, Genevieve Zerebniak – Vice-President, Roman Forystyna – Secretary Branch 293; Andrew Keybida – Advisor, Paul Fuga – Secretary Branch 269; Roman Prypchan – Branch 399; and the vice chairman of the 36th Convention Wasyl Kolodchin. The meeting began with a prayer led by Myron Groch.

The following members were present at the General Assembly meeting:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Stefan Kaczaraj, president
Zenon Holubec, first vice-president
Michael Koziupa, second vice-president
Myron Groch, director for Canada
Christine E. Kozak, national secretary
Roma Lisovich, treasurer

AUDITORS

Slavko Tysiak
Wasyl Szeremeta

ADVISORS

Maya Lew
Gloria Horbaty
Nicholas Fil
Eugene Oscislawski
Olya Czerkas
Al Kachkowski
Bohdan Kukuruza
Eugene Serba

The following members were not present:

Auditor: Vasyl Luchkiw; excused

Advisors: Myron Pylypiak was excused, Pavlo Prinko and Serguei Djoula were not excused.

The Editor-in-Chief of Svoboda, Irena Jarosewich, and of The Ukrainian Weekly, Roma Hadzewycz were present.

1. OPENING**Stefan Kaczaraj, UNA President**

Stefan Kaczaraj called the meeting to order, welcoming all the members of the newly elected General Assembly and congratulated everybody for being elected. He presented the agenda as follows:

1. Opening
2. Calling of the following committees: Financial, Organizing, Fraternal and Canadian
3. Report of the Executive Committee for the last six months ending June 30, 2006: Stefan Kaczaraj – President, Christine E. Kozak – National Secretary and Roma Lisovich – Treasurer
4. Plans for balance of 2006-2007
5. Conflict of interest reports
6. Approval of 2007 UNA Budget
7. Miscellaneous
8. Adjournment

MOTION:

Myron Groch, second by Zenon Holubec
Accept agenda as presented
No discussion
For: unanimous
Motion passed

2. CALLING OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

**ПРОТОКОЛ СПЕЦІАЛЬНОГО ЗАСІДАННЯ
ГОЛОВНОГО УРЯДУ
УКРАЇНСЬКОГО НАРОДНОГО СОЮЗУ ЩО ВІДБУВСЯ
На оселі УНСоюзу, СОЮЗІВКА
в днях 16-17 ВЕРЕСНЯ: 2006 РОКУ**

FINANCIAL: Eugene Serba, Roma Lisovich, Zenon Holubec, Michael Koziupa, Myron Groch.

ORGANIZING: Christine E. Kozak, Gloria Horbaty, Maya Lew, Nicholas Fil, Bohdan Kukuruza.

FRATERNAL: Olya Czerkas, Christine E. Kozak, Gloria Horbaty, Eugene Oscislawski.

CANADIAN: Myron Groch, Eugene Serba, Maya Lew, Al Kachkowski, Serguei Djoula, Stefan Kaczaraj, Olya Czerkas.

Slavko Tysiak auditor requested that the auditors participate on every committee.

It was requested that we list the names of the members of the Press Committee and the Soyuzivka Committee

PRESS: Taras Szmagala Sr., Wasyl Luchkiw, Myron Kuropas, Zenon Holubec, Michael Koziupa.

SOYUZIVKA: Maya Lew, Olya Czerkas, Nicholas Fil, Al Kachkowski, Gloria Horbaty, Roma Lisovich.

3. EXECUTIVE REPORTS: STEFAN KACZARAJ, CHRISTINE E. KOZAK, ROMA LISOVICH.**REPORT OF UNA PRESIDENT STEFAN KACZARAJ**

Since 1894, the Ukrainian National Association has provided members with financial protection and security along with opportunities for charitable, community and educational growth. This remains our mission today.

For some time, UNA officers and leaders have recognized changes in demographics and attitudes that have challenged and even slowed the growth of the UNA's core business that being fraternal insurance policy sales. It is the sale of insurance policies that provides the UNA with the funds necessary to sustain the publications of "Svoboda" and "The Ukrainian Weekly" as well as our cultural and social hearthstone 'Soyuzivka' and other fraternal benefits. The UNA leadership in response to policyholder voices to preserve and retain these institutions has attempted to balance policyholder expectations with the ever-increasing financial burdens imposed by these assets that in fact are held in trust for the Ukrainian community.

The UNA leadership has struggled with the decline in the fraternal insurance business that haunts not only us but also other fraternal that provide such insurance to their communities. The leadership has demonstrated its commitment to reverse these with policyholder trends and to reinvigorate the UNA with the presentation of reality checks to members of the General Assembly at the Chicago Convention in 2002 and more recently at the first-ever UNA convention held at Soyuzivka in 2006. Just as important, UNA advisors have adopted a pro-active role and have started to identify and implement specific proposals for actions that will reinvigorate UNA's core business and revive UNA's role in the Ukrainian community.

The momentum to generate real business growth and societal revival is taking place on many levels and on a number of different fronts. Slowly a vision has emerged that provides both a starting point and a blueprint for renewal of the UNA. We have now identified a strategy that allows for the conversion of some financial under-performing assets to new funds needed to reinforce our core insurance business, to upgrade our workforce and technological infrastructure, and to address the need to find innovative ways to preserve and maintain our historical leadership role in the delivery of Ukrainian centric publications and to be a destination site in the form of Soyuzivka.

Past leaders of the UNA have endowed today's membership with a number of valuable assets in the form of real estate property. Our real estate holdings include surplus land at Soyuzivka, part-ownership of a Foundation, and the building that houses the UNA headquarter offices in Parsippany, N.J. Some of these real estate holdings are in fact assets that could provide new funds that can be spent on improving the UNA's financial condition and to advance new initiatives critical to our future.

The message is clear: The UNA is on the road to renewal and growth.

Overview of the Financial Results For The Six Months Ended June 30, 2006

During this reporting period our surplus decreased by \$816,000. Subsidies to Soyuzivka in the amount of \$434,000, subsidies to Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly in the amount of \$189,000, net loss from insurance operations in the amount of \$531,000. The decrease in surplus of \$1,154,000 was offset by net realized and unrealized gains from investments and other adjustments in the amount of \$338,000. See Exhibit A for detailed analysis of financial statements.

Overview of the Organizing Department For The Six Months Ended June 30, 2006

The organizing result for the period ended June 30, 2006 showed improvement since 28 more policies were sold than in same period in prior year. 23% of the yearly-organizing quota of 850 new members was attained. The insurance amount for the 199 new member applications sold was \$1,862,000. Our best four organizers for the six months ended June 30, 2006 were Stefan Hawrysz who sold 16 policies, Joseph Chabon who sold 13 policies, Eugene Oscislawski who sold 9 policies and Joyce

Kotch who sold 8 policies. Only 27 annuities were sold in the six months ended June 30, 2006 with \$378,000 in premium with application.

Membership Statistics

For the six months ended June 30, 2006, the UNA had 40,298 certificate holders with life and ADD policies combined. Only 45% or 17,999 were still active policies; another 22,299 were inactive or paid-up policies.

Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly Subscribers

As of June 30, 2006 Svoboda had 5,534 subscribers, showing a loss of 147 subscribers for the six-month period. The Ukrainian Weekly had 5,950 and showing a loss of 113 subscribers. Both papers have been marketed at various festivals and conferences.

Overview of the Financial Results For The Six Months Ended June 30, 2006

Total income for the six months ended June 30, 2005 when compared to the same period in 2005 had a decrease of \$32,000 and expenses had an increase of \$51,000. The net loss for the six months ended June 30, 2006 was higher by \$82,000 when compared to the same period in 2005. UNA subsidized both papers in the amount of \$189,000 (\$100,000 for Svoboda and \$89,000 for The Ukrainian Weekly) in 2006 and \$107,000 (\$46,000 for Svoboda and \$61,000 for The Ukrainian Weekly) in 2005 during the six-month periods. See **Exhibit C** for a detailed income and expense statements for the six months ended June 30, 2006 and the year ended December 31, 2005.

SOYUZIVKA

Overview of the Financial Results For The Six Months Ended June 30, 2006

Total net loss for six months ended June 30, 2006 increased by \$161,000 from \$273,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2005 to \$434,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2006. See **Exhibit B** for a detailed income and expense statements for the six months ended June 30, 2006 and the year ended December 31, 2005.

Ukrainian National Urban Renewal Corporation

See **Exhibit D** for a complete income statement for the six months ended June 30, 2006 and year ended December 31, 2005 and **Exhibit D-1** for a balance sheet as of June 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005. The net income for the six months ended June 30, 2006 is \$81,000 and for the year ended December 31, 2005 is \$152,000. A total of 6,257 sq.ft. out of 65,750 is empty and available for rent. UNURC is in process of signing a lease with a prospective tenant for 1,700 sq.ft.

Closing

In closing, I would like to thank each of my fellow colleagues on the Executive Committee, especially my in-house colleagues Christine E. Kozak and Roma Lisovich for their dedication, commitment and teamwork. I would also like to thank both Editor-in-Chiefs Roma Hadzewycz and Irena Jarosewich for their perseverance and commitment to UNA Publications. I would be remiss in not thanking all the numerous people who volunteered their time and expertise to help the UNA continue its various fraternal activities and to improve the facilities at Soyuzivka. Many thanks to the General Assembly Members who actively promoted UNA in their respective areas and to all employees who work with dedication for the benefit of UNA.

EXHIBIT A

Ukrainian National Association, Inc. Statement of Operations For Six Months Ended June 30, 2006 and for Year Ended December 31, 2005

	US & Can. 6/30/06	US & Can. 12/31/05
INCOME		
Dues from members	\$707,210	\$1,376,846
Annuity premiums from members	630,117	2,032,668
Dues-Universal Life	63,557	124,539
Reinsurance premium paid	-29,467	-34,000
Net premium income	\$1,371,417	\$3,500,054
Investment income(excluding Soyuzivka):		
Banks	\$1,379	\$2,806
Bonds	1,214,600	2,365,261
Certificate loans	7,577	14,634
Mortgage loans	129,915	278,074
Short term investments	68,576	62,608
Stocks	72,144	221,739
Urban Renewal Corporation-Mortgage	84,498	168,996
Total interest and dividend income	\$1,578,689	\$3,114,120
Amortization of interest maintenance reserve	\$10,597	\$21,193
Other Income:		
Donation to Fraternal Fund	\$1,063	\$7,666
Misc.	-26	94
Due To The Ukrainian National Foundation	-194	73
Total other income	\$842	\$7,834
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,961,545	\$6,643,200
Deductions for the benefit of members:		
Annuity payments		
Annuity surrender, partial withdrawal, and death benefits	\$756,456	\$1,162,424
Cash surrender	151,159	364,385
Death benefits	583,126	914,069
Endowment matured	374,827	613,813
Interest and adj on cert. Or deposit-type contract funds	12,904	49,352
Payment on supplementary contracts with life contingencies	11,448	21,745
Scholarships	725	21,100
	\$1,890,645	\$3,146,889
Increase(decrease) in reserve for life and accident and health certificates	\$339,846	\$1,424,829
Deducting for organizing:		
Advertising	\$29,967	\$39,405
Field conferences	3,079	14,603
Medical inspections & Medical Examiner's fee	4,958	12,121
Refund of branch secretaries expenses	85,341	181,837
	\$123,345	\$247,965
Deductions: payroll, insurance and taxes:		
Canadian corporation taxes and premium taxes	\$1,439	\$21,418
Employee benefit plan	144,861	213,451
Insurance-general	29,947	14,506
Insurance-workmen's compensation	1,432	1,094
Salaries of Executive officers	128,750	257,500
Salaries of office employees	257,134	515,588
Taxes-Federal, state and city on employee wages	38,218	85,315
Total	\$601,782	\$1,108,871
Deductions: General Expenses		
Actuarial and statistical expenses	\$83,148	\$166,901
Annual session expenses	2,595	15,674
Auditing committee expenses	0	1,643
Bank charges	1,068	2,047
Bank charges for custodian account	2,849	6,136
Books and periodicals	7,032	8,629
Certificate loans adjustments	-80	20
Depreciation of EDP equipment	858	10,902
Donations	9,100	10,208
Dues to fraternal congress	3,120	4,673
Fraternal activities	2,012	4,392
General office maintenance	6,657	11,802
Increase in reserve for convention expenses	32,320	30,000
Increase in reserve for orphan's fund	343	1,241
Increase(decrease) in loading	126	126
Insurance department fees	27,346	54,670
Investment expenses	30	-100
Legal expenses general	46,175	103,220
Operating expenses of Canadian office	0	6,414
Postage	20,681	38,359
Printing and stationery	8,162	28,287

Continued on page 3

EXHIBIT A**Ukrainian National Association, Inc. Statement of Operations For Six Months Ended June 30, 2006 and for Year Ended December 31, 2005**

	US & Can. 6/30/06	US & Can. 12/31/05
Professional fees	22,976	84,969
Rent	125,691	251,172
Rental of equipment and services	48,717	88,716
Telephone and telegraph	8,159	14,619
Transfer account	1,060	2,454
Traveling expenses-general	3,617	7,942
Youth sports activities	0	1,215
	\$463,761	\$956,332
Total deductions	\$3,419,379	\$6,884,886
(Net loss) before surplus refunds to members	-\$457,834	-\$241,687
Fraternal benefits	59,693	118,908
Net(Loss) from operations before net realized capital gains(losses)	-\$517,526	-\$360,595
Net realized capital gains(losses)		
Gain(Loss) on bonds and stocks	17,540	10,182
Loss on foreign exchange(transfer funds from Canada to US)	-31,225	-312,338
Total capital gain(losses)	-13,685	-302,156
(Net loss) from operations	-\$531,211	-\$662,751
Soyuzivka:		
Income	\$500,211	\$1,775,529
Expenses (excluding depreciation)	886,314	2,286,549
Depreciation	47,449	96,460
Total expenses	933,762	2,383,009
(Net loss) from Soyuzivka operations	-\$433,551	-\$607,480
Svoboda and Ukrainian Weekly		
Income	\$525,556	\$970,396
Expenses excluding depreciation	695,021	1,311,502
Depreciation-printing plant	4,951	9,903
Increase in reserve for unexpired subscriptions	14,401	-36,411
Total expenses	\$714,373	\$1,284,993
(Net loss from Svoboda and Ukrainian Weekly operations)	-\$188,817	-\$314,598
(Net loss) from operations including Soyuzivka & Publications	-\$1,153,580	-\$1,584,828
Change in net unrealized capital gains(losses):		
Common stock	\$94,725	\$58,570
Foreign exchange	154,668	341,848
Certificate loans	-121	175
Real estate-Soyuzivka	11,007	68,388
Net gain(loss)	\$260,279	\$468,981
Change in nonadmitted assets:		
Printing plant-USA	\$4,951	\$12,355
Change in asset valuation reserve	-8,052	-46,664
Net Income-Building-UNURC	80,858	152,364
Net change in surplus for the year ended December 31	-\$815,543	-\$997,792
Unassigned surplus, beginning of year	4,263,322	5,261,124
Unassigned surplus, end of period	\$3,447,779	\$4,263,322

EXHIBIT A-1**Ukrainian National Association, Inc.**

ASSETS	Assets	Assets	Net	Net
	6/30/06	Not Admitted 6/30/06	Admitted Assets 6/30/06	Admitted Assets 12/31/05
Bonds	\$50,186,827	\$0	\$50,186,827	\$48,952,005
Stocks:				
Preferred stocks	1,560,799		1,560,799	1,560,799
Common stocks	1,624,550		1,624,550	2,612,011
Mortgage loans First liens	6,595,432	104,551	6,490,881	6,781,353
Certificate loans and liens	293,734	125	293,609	275,562
Cash and short-term investments	3,001,592		3,001,592	3,955,020
Other invested assets	2,757,185	2,757,185	0	0
Subtotal, cash and invested assets	\$66,020,120	\$2,861,861	\$63,158,259	\$64,136,751
Electronic data processing equipment	\$4,004		\$4,004	\$4,121
Life insurance premiums and annuity considerations deferred and uncollected on in force business	46,634	454	46,179	46,179
Accident and health premiums due and unpaid	1,102	38	1,063	1,063
Investment income due and accrued	686,946	0	686,946	686,881
Amounts receivable from subsidiaries and affiliates			0	561
Printing plant	41,060	41,060	0	0
TOTALS	\$66,799,865	\$2,903,414	\$63,896,451	\$64,875,556

EXHIBIT A-1**Ukrainian National Association, Inc. Liabilities, Special Reserves and Unassigned Funds**

	6/30/06	12/31/05
Aggregate reserve for life certificates and contracts	\$57,643,920	\$57,303,557
Aggregate reserve for accident and health certificates	18,036	18,553
Supplementary contracts without life contingencies	426,936	442,782
Certificate and contract claimsLife	602,037	534,898
Premiums and annuity considerations received in advance	501,059	485,873
Interest maintenance reserve	24,925	35,522
Commissions to fieldworkers due or accrued - life and annuity	26,076	13,367
General expenses due or accrued	91,268	66,856
Taxes, licenses and fees due or accrued	108,613	131,364
Unearned investment income	865	596
Amounts withheld or retained by Society as agent or trustee	3,119	6,643
Net adjustment stments in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates	409,100	563,768
Asset valuation reserve	533,945	525,893
Payable securities	250,000	500,208
Payable to subsidiaries and affiliates	23,229	
Drafts outstanding	63,655	83,591
Aggregate write-ins for liabilities	-278,111	-101,237
Total liabilities	\$60,448,672	\$60,612,234
Unassigned funds	3,447,779	4,263,322
TOTALS	\$63,896,451	\$64,875,556

EXHIBIT B**Soyuvika Income and Expense Summary For Six Months Ended June 30, 2006 and for Year Ended December 31, 2005**

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2,006	Year Ended December 31, 2,005		Six Months Ended June 30, 2,006	Year Ended December 31, 2,005
INCOME					
Room	\$118,763	\$597,722	Gift Shop	\$11,837	\$37,129
Room Non - Tax	33,027	32,115	Gift shop paid by UNA	0	295
Deposits	50,605	22,585		\$11,837	\$37,424
Total	\$202,396	\$652,422			
Meal Plan	\$0	\$28,239	Kitchen Misc.	\$5,111	\$12,571
Restaurant Food	51,879	189,761	Dining Room	14,061	40,717
Banquet Food	54,409	170,016	Housekeeping	16,997	52,174
Food Non - Tax	59,575	82,504	Electric, Gas, Oil	103,487	219,777
Total	\$165,864	\$470,520	Camps	832	21,934
Snack Bar	\$1,849	\$39,475	Sundries	18,315	18,656
Gate	407	9,075	Maintenance / Repairs	55,562	127,701
Pool	0	1,851	Sanitation	118	9,875
Taxable Misc.	\$1,522	\$2,168	Real Estate Tax	24,769	55,893
Banquet Bar	\$15,753	\$39,625	Insurance	\$96,173	\$180,159
Main Bar 1	2,150	57,284	Insurance paid by UNA	0	10,648
Dining Room Bar	7,247	22,114	Total	\$96,173	\$190,806
Outdoor Service Bar	3,688	65,022	Transportation	\$3,636	\$11,598
Rec. - Hall Service Bar	0	2,382	Telephone	7,821	13,312
Total	\$28,838	\$186,427	Office Expenses	5,020	10,980
Gift Shop	\$7,829	\$46,938	Professional Fees	440	12,207
Pepsi	3	0	Refunds	342	4,220
Non - Tax Misc.	3,430	5,363	Entertainment	7,822	43,397
Rents	2,550	9,750	Advertising	1,709	3,370
Postage	0	81	Bank charges / Bad checks	5,817	30,359
Camps	6,487	86,909	Furniture / Equipment	22,773	50,539
Occupancy tax	2,093	9,121	Gratuities	21,075	89,265
Gratuities	57,434	176,533	NY State Sales Tax	8,797	110,463
NY State Sales Tax	21,240	102,090	Payroll & payroll taxes	209,902	592,739
Miscellaneous donation	258	4,680	Employee benefits	67,037	115,242
Redeposited bad checks	377	1,280	Micro Retail System	0	1,071
Amex Charges	-2,365	-29,645	Tips	20,385	0
Donations received by UNA	0	492	Liquor licenses expenses	100	7,760
TOTAL INCOME	\$500,211	\$1,775,529	Workmen's compensation	764	969
			Furniture & Fixtures	1,249	0
DISBURSEMENTS			Miscellaneous	290	1,069
Food	\$96,489	\$289,241	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$872,766	\$2,293,988
Snack Bar Food	\$4,398	\$13,226			
Snack bar Misc.	1,015	6,230	NET LOSS BEFORE DEPRECIATION	-\$372,555	-\$518,459
	\$5,413	\$19,456	DEPRECIATION	\$47,449	\$96,460
Bar Liquor	\$31,031	\$79,320	ACCRUAL OF EXPENSES-REVERSA	-10,790	-18,229
Bar Misc.	7,590	19,883	ACCRUAL OF EXPENSES	24,338	10,790
	\$38,622	\$99,203	(NET LOSS)	-\$433,551	-\$607,480

EXHIBIT C**Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly Publications Revenue and Expenses For Six Months Ended June 30, 2006
and for Year Ended December 31, 2005**

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2006			Year Ended December 31, 2005		
	SVOBODA	THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY	TOTAL	SVOBODA	THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY	TOTAL
INCOME:						
Advertising revenue	\$114,766	\$71,541	\$186,308	\$184,541	\$122,787	\$307,328
Subscriber-members	76,692	67,551	144,243	152,153	125,439	277,592
Subscriber-nonmembers	63,200	60,219	123,419	117,728	121,277	239,005
Press fund	9,645	11,132	20,777	21,704	32,528	54,232
Back-issues	53	109	162	136	366	502
Address change	33	9	42	49	7	56
Misc. income	810	1,463	2,273	11,764	20,858	32,622
Preview of events		1,716	1,716		4,438	4,438
Income-Almanac	31,399		31,399	36,507		36,507
Advertising revenue-Almanac(Svoboda), UW 2000	1,656	0	1,656	4,566	0	4,566
Books	810		810	1,310		1,310
Misc.	25		25	594		594
Sales tax	0		0	0		0
Almanac-PF	10,684		10,684	11,529		11,529
UW 2000		44	44		90	90
UW 2000 P/F		0	0		25	25
Total cash income received directly by publications	\$309,772	\$213,784	\$523,556	\$542,581	\$427,815	\$970,396
Increase(decrease) in income due to amortization of deferred subscription income	-8,581	-5,820	-14,401	25,455	10,956	36,411
Income received directly by UNA	1,000	1,000	2,000	0	0	0
TOTAL INCOME	\$302,190	\$208,964	\$511,154	\$568,036	\$438,771	\$1,006,807
EXPENSES PAID BY PUBLICATION:						
Postage	\$61,000	\$59,000	\$120,000	\$106,047	\$102,096	\$208,143
Printing	38,178	31,275	69,454	76,624	64,255	140,878
Correspondents	2,435	2,425	4,860	12,560	10,750	23,310
Contract	9,412	28,554	37,966	23,272	33,630	56,902
Commission	9,009	6,535	15,543	12,383	9,539	21,922
Expenses	5,194	3,087	8,282	9,334	6,222	15,556
Misc.	4,832	1,229	6,061	1,726	2,819	4,545
Office supplies-60%	5,763	3,103	8,867	5,832	3,141	8,973
Material-60%	975	650	1,624	3,903	2,602	6,505
Repairs-60%	2,031	1,354	3,385	5,478	3,652	9,131
Office expense-60%	1,197	798	1,995	1,273	849	2,122
Correspondent-Almanac	5,668		5,668	4,996		4,996
Commission-Almanac	474		474	858		858
Printing-Misc	14,526		14,526	13,411		13,411
Postage-Misc	5,788		5,788	5,150		5,150
TOTAL EXPENSES PAID BY PUBLICATION	\$166,482	\$138,011	\$304,493	\$282,847	\$239,555	\$522,402
EXPENSES PAID BY UNA:						
Salaries and Payroll Taxes	\$151,428	\$111,414	\$262,842	\$297,863	\$259,330	\$557,193
Workmens compensation(allocated)	428	498	926	441	383	824
Employee benefits allocated from UNA	71,658	41,176	112,835	121,340	80,752	202,091
Miscellaneous Svoboda expenses	105	105	210	283	283	565
Telephone-allocated-65% & 35%	1,950	1,050	3,000	3,900	2,100	6,000
Postage-paid by UNA	7,624	5,034	12,658	14,953	9,452	24,405
TOTAL EXPENSES PAID BY UNA	\$233,193	\$159,277	\$392,469	\$438,779	\$352,300	\$791,079
Depreciation-60% & 40%	\$2,971	\$1,982	\$4,952	\$5,942	\$3,962	\$9,904
Accruals-Net	-971	-971	-1,941	-990	-990	-1,979
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$401,675	\$298,298	\$699,973	\$726,578	\$594,827	\$1,321,405
NET INCOME (LOSS)	-\$99,485	-\$89,334	-\$188,819	-\$158,542	-\$156,056	-\$314,598

EXHIBIT D-1**UNURC BALANCE SHEET
As of June 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005**

Assets	6/30/06	12/31/05
Current Assets		
Cash in Bank-Summit-Checking	\$123,932	\$48,158
Cash in Bank-Self Reliance UA FCU-Checking	50,682	134,057
Cash in Bank-Self Reliance UA FCU-Savings	30,162	29,938
Cash in Bank-Paine Webber	397,144	388,058
Rents receivable and Prepaid Expenses	24,444	0
Due from UNA	23,229	-561
	\$649,592	\$599,651
Fixed Assets		
Land	\$1,520,782	\$1,520,782
Building and Improvements	5,469,124	5,468,346
Furniture and Fixtures	23,951	23,951
Accumulated Depreciation- Building and Improvements	-1,160,146	-1,090,206
Accumulated Depreciation-Furniture & Fixtures	-23,951	-23,951
	\$5,829,760	\$5,898,921
Other Assets		
Cash in Bank-Self Reliance UAFCU- Savings Security Deposit	\$39,945	\$39,945
Build-Out Receivable	1,738	1,738
Deferred Commission Charges	292,855	183,665
Escrow Deposit	15,000	15,000
	\$349,538	\$240,348
Total Assets	\$6,828,890	\$6,738,921
Liabilities and Deficiency in Net Assets		
Current Liabilities		
Commissions Payable	0	0
Accrued expenses	17,154	21,361
Due to HRA	-7,273	-12,009
	\$9,881	\$9,352
Long Term Liabilities		
Mortgage Note Payable to UNA	\$2,600,000	\$2,600,000
Notes Payable to Members of UNA	3,152,816	3,153,417
Tenants' security Deposits Payable-Parsippany	71,059	71,059
	\$5,823,875	\$5,824,476
Net Assets		
Balance at Beginning of Year	914,276	761,912
Net profit	80,858	152,363
Net deficiency in Assets at End of Period	\$995,134	\$914,276
Total Liabilities and Net deficiency in Net Assets	\$6,828,890	\$6,748,104

EXHIBIT D**UNURC INCOME STATEMENT
For Six Months Ended June 30, 2006 and for
Year Ended December 31, 2005**

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2006	Year Ended December 31, 2005
INCOME		
Rental Income	\$627,777	\$1,236,484
Interest Income	9,462	12,549
Miscellaneous income	0	349
	\$637,239	\$1,249,382
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Accounting	\$7,864	\$7,940
Bank Service Charge	265	122
Commissions	18,354	33,864
Depreciation Expense-Building	70,368	140,214
Depreciation expenses-F&F	-428	0
Donations	50	0
Employee Benefits	6,331	12,275
Elevator Maintenance	3,542	6,684
Heat & A/C Maintenance	35,906	27,011
Insurance	33,067	63,253
Interest expenses-UNA Mort	84,498	168,996
Interest expenses-UNA Memb	75,985	171,080
Janitorial Services	22,514	41,666
Legal fees	0	0
Management Fee	23,323	46,275
Maintenance & Supplies	19,188	57,746
Permits & Fees	405	740
Postage & Travel	146	0
Rental equipment	0	32
Rubbish Removal	4,072	7,156
Salaries	9,033	18,240
Security Guard Services	5,135	8,307
Taxes-Payroll	819	1,662
Taxes-Real Estate	74,544	149,089
Utilities	49,143	105,713
Water & Sewer	12,258	28,953
	\$556,381	\$1,097,019
NET INCOME	\$80,858	\$152,363

REPORT OF NATIONAL SECRETARY CHRISTINE E. KOZAK

First and foremost, I would like to thank the delegates of the 36th UNA Convention for once again placing their trust in my ability to perform the duties of National Secretary of the Ukrainian National Association. Over the past four years, the UNA's in-force block of business has stabilized. However, there is much work to be done and I am counting on every member of the General Assembly, every District Chairman and every Branch Secretary to do their part in increasing the membership of UNA; for this is the ONLY way the UNA will be here for our grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Our forefathers had the vision to build and we must not let that vision fade away into obscurity but work together to strengthen and clarify that vision for today's world and today's market. We CAN do it!

If you see a door, open it. If opportunity does not knock, build that door. If you need help in building that door, we are here to give you the necessary tools-but it takes all of us-working together.

The first six months of 2006 were busy with preparations for the 36th UNA Convention, however, a Pre-Convention sales contest was held for the UNA branch secretaries;

1st place – Joseph Chabon, Secretary of Branch 242, Shamokin District chairman;
2nd place – Stefan Hawrysz, Secretary of Branch 83, Philadelphia District chairman and long time member of the UNA General Assembly
3rd place – Joyce Kotch, Secretary of Branch 39

Congratulations on a job well done!

A total of 191 policies were sold for a face amount of \$1,862,000.00 and an annual premium of \$64,491.00. In comparison, for the same time period 2005, 163 policies were sold with an annual premium of \$54,093.00. Once again, the most popular policy sold was the Single Premium Whole Life followed by the twenty-payment Whole Life policy.

The UNA as a fraternal organization has a priority in its membership and how many new members are organized during a given year. However, as a financial institution and a viable company, the amount of premium collected in a given year is vital. For the first six months of 2006, the following individuals are at the top of the board for most annual premium collected:

Christine Brodyn, Secretary of Branch 27, UNA Home Office employee, holds professional license
Myron Pylypiak, Secretary of Branch 496, member of the UNA General Assembly
Eugene Oscislowski, Secretary of Branch 234, member of the UNA General Assembly, holds professional license

Vera Krywyj, Secretary of Branch 174
Nadia Salabay, UNA Home Office employee
Julia Cresina, Secretary of Branch 382
Lubov Streletsky, Secretary of Branch 10
Maya Lew, Secretary of Branch 5, member of the UNA General Assembly
Mike Zacharko, Secretary of Branch 349
Joyce Kotch, Secretary of Branch 39

Congratulations and good luck for the remainder of the year!

And as mentioned, as a fraternal, the UNA counts on its membership; the following individuals have recruited the most new members in the first six months of 2006:

Stefan Hawrysz, Secretary of Branch 83, Philadelphia District chairman and long time member of the UNA General Assembly
Joseph Chabon, Secretary of Branch 242, Shamokin District chairman, holds professional license
Eugene Oscislowski, Secretary of Branch 234, member of the UNA General Assembly, holds professional license
Joyce Kotch, Secretary of Branch 39
Eli Matiash, Secretary of Branch 120
Alex Redko, Secretary of Branch 130, holds professional license
Maya Lew, Secretary of Branch 5, member of the UNA General Assembly

Congratulations to all and good luck for the rest of the year!

The annuity business has slowed due to the high CD interest rates offered in banks and other financial institutions. Unfortunately, the UNA is not in the position to offer higher interest rates and our annuity block of business suffers. In 2006, the UNA sold 27 annuities, with \$378,368.00 in premium with application, in comparison to 2005 where the UNA sold 45 annuities for a total of \$701,295.00 premium collected with application.

Although the first half of 2006 has not been as positive in sales as in previous years, our annuity products have proven to be one area of growth for the UNA. At year-end 2001, the UNA had \$12,144,469 in force in annuity business; at year end 2005 the UNA reported \$20,930,637 in force in annuities. And effective August 1, 2006, the UNA increased interest rates on annuities and are expecting an increase in annuity business.

Steve Woch, UNA Home Office employee, professionally licensed, has collected the

most premium with application in the annuity book of business. Congratulations Steve!

It is my deep belief that the UNA must continue to recruit a professional sales force, have more licensed professionals working from the Home Office, branch secretaries that are also licensed to sell life insurance and also licensed professionals within the district structure. This will give the secretaries the latitude to organize branch activities and work with the professional in contacting branch members.

Currently, the UNA is comprised of 169 branches within the U.S. and Canada; the UNA is licensed in 15 states and 6 Canadian Provinces. The largest concentration of business is in the New York tri-state area and slightly beyond; New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania, followed by the mid-west in the State of Illinois, to the West coast and the State of Washington, to the south in Florida. The UNA is currently advertising for professional agents in the states of Pennsylvania, Florida and Ohio.

Every insurance company would like to write large policies, which are a more efficient way to put business on the books. However, the UNA has a real niche market with those segments that have been abandoned by the large insurance companies. The UNA need not and will not focus on markets that require very competitive products that are expensive to administer. An organization our size cannot be all things to all markets and the UNA must serve our members with straightforward, reasonably competitive product lines and serve our members with fraternal benefits.

The UNA was approved by the IRS to serve as a non-bank trustee in order to sell the Coverdell ESA's (Coverdell Education Savings Accounts). All pertinent information regarding the ESA's were compiled, written, applications produced and mailed out to all branch secretaries and members of the UNA General Assembly in preparation of product sales.

The UNA continues to participate in various festival events during the summer months as well as having a weekly professional presence at the UNA resort of Soyuzivka. As we are all aware, marketing is the key to future growth in sales of life insurance and annuity products. It has been proven that marketing success is dependent on advertising, the training and education of branch secretaries and the recruiting of professional agents. Participation in the festivals places a face of the UNA in the public eye and is but one tiny fragment of the job ahead of us. We encourage all branch secretaries and district officers to contact the UNA and advise us of any festivals planned in their communities.

Every year, the UNA has the pleasure of paying out the policies to members who have achieved a milestone. Each life insurance plan is based upon a mortality table that ends between ages 96 and 100, depending on the table. The UNA members who have outlived the mortality table receive their entire death benefit. In the first six months of 2006, the UNA paid out \$20,000 to 29 UNA members who have been honored with this achievement.

As a financial and fraternal organization, the UNA is regulated by its State of Domicile, the State of New Jersey, Department of Banking and Insurance and all federal laws applying to financial institutions also apply to the UNA. Therefore, on an annual basis, the UNA is required to mail to all members a Privacy Notice that reflects the manner in which personal financial information is protected or divulged.

All senior members age 62 and older in the State of New Jersey receive a third party designation notification. The regulation provides the member with a right to designate a third party to receive a copy of the lapse notice if one is warranted. The intent of this regulation is the protection of the member from losing their life insurance policy should it lapse due to non-payment of premiums.

The UNA and the Ukrainian community paid their last respects to the following individuals:

- Joseph Lesawyer, Supreme President, passed on January 2006
- Eugene Iwanciw, Second Vice-President, passed on February 2006
- Genevieve Zerebniak, Supreme Vice-Presidentess, passed on February 2006
- Roman Forostyna, Secretary, Branch 293, passed on April 2006
- Andrew Keybida, Member of the General Assembly, Secretary, Branch 322, passed on July 2006
- Paul Fuga, Secretary, Branch 269, passed on August 2006

Vichna Im Pamyat!

The following individuals were elected by their branches as branch secretaries:

- Judy Hawryluk, Branch 360
- Myroslav Hladyshevsky, Branch 500
- Valia Kaploun, Branch 269
- Alexander Kisak, Branch 465
- Nicholas Fil, Branch 13
- Nestor Tatarsky, Branch 94
- Alexander Poletz, Branch 345

Congratulation, and we look forward to working with you!

Long time Branch Secretary, District Chairman, member of the General Assembly, Stefan Hawrysz, has accepted the position of Honorary Member of the General Assembly. This prestigious post is offered to esteemed members of the UNA who served on the General Assembly for a minimum of 20 years.

The UNA continues to utilize USSI's policy administration system-a system that is operational in many other fraternal benefit societies. The UNA will be upgrading to the "Client Based System" within the next six months. This upgrade will give the UNA the internal capacity to increase our book of business without having to increase the size of our staff proportionately. This relationship-management capability will make it possible for us to develop a database of prospects; that will be an important marketing tool used to identify prospects, provide the ability to track the sales process and to conduct targeted marketing campaigns.

The UNA is a member organization. In order to sustain the UNA and sustain it with the benefits afforded our members, Soyuzivka, The Ukrainian Weekly, Svoboda, a continued increase in membership is vital. To put this all into perspective, if each branch secretary were to recruit a minimum of 4 new members per year (one per quarter) we still would not reach the amount of members that the UNA used to recruit, but this would be a beginning. In building the UNA to what it was, we must begin and continue at the grassroots level. This starts with the members they can refer potential members (UNA pays a referral fee if the referral results in a sale). The secretaries can sell (UNA pays commissions), or also refer to the UNA Home Office (again, the secretary would get a referral fee if the referral results in a sale).

The Districts are charged with the following responsibility; their purpose is outlined in the UNA Manuals:

- (a) to coordinate the works and to intensify and extend the activities of the UNA within the district
 - (b) to have representation in the district for spreading UNA ideals and activities among the local citizens;
 - (c) to aid the branches of the UNA in the district to carry out, as best as possible, their obligations under the By-Laws of the Association, as well as the directives of the Convention, of the General Assembly and of the Executive Committee of the UNA;
 - (d) to jointly plan and conduct affairs of organization, educational, and cultural and recreational nature;
 - (e) to jointly plan and conduct campaigns for new members of the UNA;
 - (f) to further the ideological and technical training of the UNA workers, especially Branch officers in the district;
 - (g) to give moral and material support to UNA members in the district;
- the professionals do what they need to do – each segment compliments the other and each works in conjunction with the other. We work together and together as in the past the UNA will continue to build and thrive.

The next four years will be challenging years, however, with your support we can accomplish what at times may seem overwhelming. As the saying goes, my doors are always open; I look forward to receiving your calls or e-mails whenever you may have an idea, a suggestion, a comment, or just to brainstorm for together we can give the UNA the helping hand extended by our forefathers and foster the Ukrainian spirit of community for "UNA and the community, are partners for life!"

**UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC.
2006 District Recap Report
January 1, 2006 - June 30, 2006**

District	Policy Count	Fact Amount	District imposed quota	# of Br. In District	Percentage Quota Achieved	Projections	
						2006 UNA quota 3 per	2007 UNA quota 3 per
Albany	3	20,000	32	5	9.38	15	25
Allentown	1	5,000	30	3	3.33	9	15
Baltimore	5	25,000	20	3	25.00	9	15
Boston	3	30,000	10	5	30.00	15	25
Buffalo	2	35,000	17	5	11.76	15	25
Central New Jersey	7	40,000	30	5	23.33	15	25
Chicago	9	90,000	15	14	60.00	42	70
Cleveland	18	189,000	25	9	72.00	27	45
Connecticut	6	120,000	40	8	15.00	24	40
Detroit	10	80,000	30	8	33.33	24	40
Minneapolis	1	10,000	10	3	10.00	9	15
Montreal	1	5,000	15	3	6.67	9	15
New York	24	176,000	95	12	25.26	36	60
Niagara	6	35,000	7	2	85.71	6	10
Northern NJ	24	300,000	100	15	24.00	45	75
Philadelphia	22		140	16	15.71	48	80
Pittsburgh	17	182,000	32	9	53.13	27	45
Rochester	0	120,000	18	5	0.00	15	25
Shamokin	16	188,000	45	10	35.56	30	50
Syracuse	8	40,000	35	5	22.86	15	25
Toronto	1	25,000	23	8	4.35	24	40
Various	7	147,000	60	13	11.67	39	65
Winnipeg	0		0	4	0.00	12	20
Total	191	1,862,000	829	170	23.00%	510	850

RECORDING DEPARTMENT				
MEMBERSHIP REPORT from 01-2006 to 06-2006				
	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Total Active Members 12-2005	5,354	10,840	2,337	18,531
Total Inactive Members 12-2005	7,639	14,921	0	22,560
Total Members 12,2005	12,993	25,761	2,337	41,091
Active Membership				
Gains from 01-2006 to 06-2006				
New members	93	121	0	214
New members UL	1	3	0	4
Reinstated	25	28	12	65
TOTAL GAINS	119	152	12	283
Losses from 01-2006 to 06-2006				
Died	0	173	0	173
Cash surrender	22	65	0	87
Endowment matured	56	78	0	134
Fully Paid-up	33	92	0	125
Reduced Paid-up	0	5	0	5
Extended insurance	39	61	0	100
Certificates lapsed	49	34	68	151
Certificates terminated	4	7	29	40
TOTAL LOSSES	203	515	97	815
Total Active Members 06-2006	5,270	10,477	2,252	17,999
INACTIVE Membership				
Gains from 01-2006 to 06-2006				
Paid-up	33	92	0	125
Reduced paid up	0	5	0	5
Extended insurance term exp.	10	36	0	46
TOTAL GAINS	43	133	0	176
Losses from 01-2006 to 06-2006				
*Died	12	248	0	260
*Cash surrender	41	63	0	104
Pure endowment matured	11	9	0	20
Reinstated to active	25	28	0	53
TOTAL LOSSES	89	348	0	437
Total Inactive Members 06-2006	7,593	14,706	0	22,299
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	12,863	25,183	2,252	40,298

AGENT RECAP BY FACE AMOUNT			
Organizer's Name	Policy Count	Face Amount	Annual Premium
Oscislowski*Eugene	9	155,000	4,968.65
Chabon*Joseph	13	143,000	1,483.92
Hawrysz*Stefan	16	129,000	1,683.80
Prochorenko*Walter	2	100,000	1,043.00
Reeves*Gary	6	75,000	1,520.70
Grant*Joseph J	4	70,000	724.80
Welhasch*Stephan	5	65,000	1,020.25
Staruch*Longin	2	60,000	632.70
Redko*Alex	7	55,000	772.55
Horbay*Gloria	2	55,000	335.25
Brodyn*Christine	5	50,000	9,002.90
Turko*Michael S.	5	50,000	549.10
Streletsky*Lubov	5	48,000	2,261.00
Krywyj*Vira	5	45,000	3,264.15
Lew*Maya	6	45,000	2,144.20
Kaploun Valentina	5	45,000	512.45
Pylypiak*Myron	4	42,000	5,249.42
Kotch*Joyce	8	40,000	1,722.55
Matiash*Eli	7	35,000	1,700.35
Hentosh*Marguerite	1	30,000	774.60
Darmograi*Yuri	1	25,000	730.50
Burij*Anna	1	25,000	49.75
Kaploun*Valentina	1	25,000	27.50
Salabay*Nadia	4	23,000	2,544.85
Woch*Steven	5	23,000	1,010.55
Olenchuk*Alice	3	21,000	181.37
Groch*Myron	3	20,000	950.35
Kozicky*Walter	4	20,000	729.60
Fil*Nicholas	3	20,000	652.95
Bodnar*Lew	2	20,000	548.70
Gulycz*Eugene	1	20,000	236.40
Podoliuk*Bohdan	3	18,000	1,121.40
Zacharko*Mike	3	15,000	2,042.05
Shuya*Natalie	5	15,000	1,473.00
Smal*Emilia	3	15,000	597.30
Lysko*Martha	3	15,000	571.00
Pryjma*Irene	2	15,000	524.40
Cresina*Julia H.	1	10,000	2,490.00
Hawryluk*Judith	1	10,000	730.00
Zajac*Roman	1	10,000	640.00
Holubec*Zenon M.	2	10,000	600.00
Hawrylcw*Peter	1	10,000	600.00
Komichak*Jaroslawa	1	10,000	600.00
Devito*Dominic	1	10,000	406.30
Diakiwsky*Nicholas	2	10,000	388.35
Lisovich*Roma	2	10,000	354.30
Lonyszyn*Sophie	1	10,000	349.60

AGENT RECAP BY FACE AMOUNT			
Organizer's Name	Policy Count	Face Amount	Annual Premium
Kuzio*Myron	1	10,000	340.90
Kramarczuk*Myron	1	10,000	292.20
Sarachmon*Irene V.	1	10,000	74.60
Majkut*Stephania	1	10,000	32.30
Auria*Rodney	1	5,000	292.10
Fenchak*Paul G.	1	5,000	204.15
Godfrey*Rodney S.	1	5,000	183.25
Blazofsky*Maryann	1	5,000	174.80
Oksana*Lopatynsky	1	5,000	174.80
Stadnyuk*Maria	1	5,000	102.50
Banach*Joseph	1	5,000	26.45
Lawrin*Alexandra M.	1	5,000	25.60
Bobeczko*Nicholas	1	5,000	24.85
Boland*Genet H.	1	5,000	24.85
Total	191	1,862.00	64,489.91

REPORT OF UNA TREASURER ROMA LISOVICH

(Note the following report was presented in PowerPoint presentation)

The overall financial position of the UNA remains challenging as the pressure on the surplus position is at a critical level. The importance of improving the financial position is paramount and we continue to pursue remedial measures aggressively. The Asset position of the UNA declined through the first 6 months of the year. Total Net Admitted Assets between yearend 2005 and the end of the first half of 2006 decreased to \$63,896,000 as of June 30, 2006 from the \$64,876,000 as of December 31, 2005 due to a significant downturn in annuity sales. Competition from other financial service companies offering higher-yielding CDs were a contributing factor. Premiums from life insurance and annuity sales are down \$357,000 from the same period prior year – from \$1,728,000 to \$1,371,000.

The two prime engines of growth and revenue for any insurance company including UNA is premium income – (1) premiums collected from the sale of insurance, endowments and annuities and (2) investment income. In recent years, investment income surpasses premium income as the prime engine of growth industry-wide. In order not to be redundant and since the report of the President outlines the overall performance and the National Secretary will highlight the insurance sales business, on the latter. Investment portion of the income stream as the sales and revenue from the insurance business will be addressed by the National Secretary.

For the next 6 months we will be analyzing our assets to determine how best to achieve a maximum return on investments. This will include an analysis of all of our real estate holdings and investments, including our corporate headquarters. It is important that we look at all assets objectively and take advantage of market opportunities when they arise.

US Economy & Market Overview

Over past 3 yrs, long-term rates and bond market have not recovered as predicted. For past 3 years, analysts predicted 6% yield for average 10-year bond. Currently, the 10-year Treasury yield remains below the 5.25% Fed target. Most analysts believe that the inflation risk remains high. The Federal Reserve has not raised rates for an extensive period now and, a key indicator, crude oil, now priced at \$68 a barrel, is becoming less a factor. Another factor that impacts rate trends is housing and construction. The first half of the year, housing starts are lower.

US Treasury Bond Rates

Maturity	Yield	Sept. 13	Last Week	Last mo.
6 mo	4.88	4.88	4.81	4.95
2 yr	4.81	4.79	4.81	4.94
5 yr	4.70	4.69	4.72	4.87

The chart indicates the current rates and movement.

For the first time in UNA's history, net investment income surpassed net premium income from traditional life and annuity products, as the prime revenue-generating resource. In order to improve portfolio performance, we recognize the critical need to adjust investment strategy and have been aggressively working toward this goal.

The times now require a different more assertive approach and we are proposing a new investment strategy, which will allow us to increase our annual return, while carefully monitoring credit quality. A professional asset manager was hired to manage and realign our portfolio and these efforts have already begun showing results. We ask that the General Assembly approve the new investment strategy, which is outlined in detail in your packages. During the course of the year, we will be analyzing all of our assets in order that we can determine how to achieve optimal results.

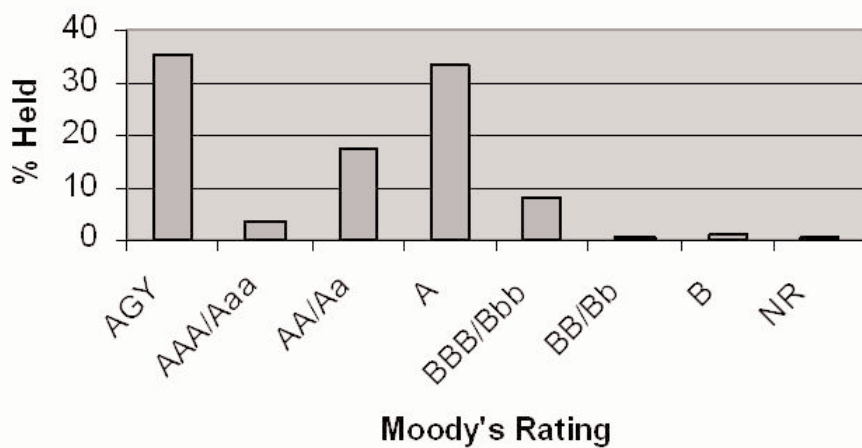
The goal remains to improve the yield of the portfolio, lengthening the duration of our maturities while maintaining acceptable level of credit quality risk. Unfortunately, the new investment initiatives have not had time enough to significantly improve investment income. We believe that for the remainder of 2006 and 2007, we will see investment income performance improve measurably.

as of 9/06/06 (securities outstanding)

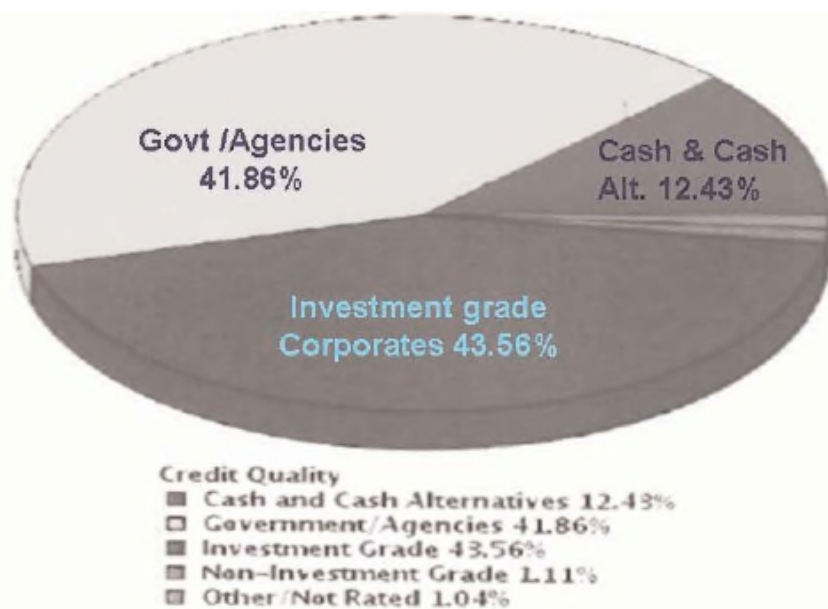
	2005 5/1/05	8/1/06	2006 8/15/06	9/13/06
Quality	Aa3	Aa2	Aa2	Aa2
Dur (mod)	4.46	3.79	3.88	4.65
Dur (eff)	3.45	3.14	3.24	3.11
Yield	5.01	5.07	5.10	5.13

Although we are presenting the latest financial figures available which are as of June 30, 2006, the chart above is the most up to date overall analysis of our portfolio. The credit quality remains excellent at Aa2 rating with an increasing average yield of 5.13%. It reflects our investment strategy of extending duration, sacrificing some credit risk in order to obtain higher yields.

UNA --Credit Rating of portfolio



On the above chart, you can see the credit rating of our portfolio remains excellent. In order to increase our investment portfolio yields, the distribution mix between investment types was realigned with a greater emphasis on investment grade corporate bonds, which yield better returns.



The above chart evidences that the fact that asset quality remains excellent and has shown improvement over the past two years. A carefully management investment strategy was implemented with the goals of balancing the portfolio. The aim is to increase average portfolio yield without fundamentally decreasing credit quality, which is being achieved by purchasing Class 2 bonds of B1-BBB quality, buying investment vehicles of greater duration, which carry higher yields, and at the same time diversifying the portfolio to avoid a concentration in any one-industry category.

Changes in bond quality are indicated by the following ratios:

	06/30/2006	12/31/2005
Class 1	82 %	91 %
Class 2	17 %	7 %
Class 3	1 %	2 %
Total	100 %	100 %

All of the measures we have taken to improve investment performance have resulted in noteworthy changes as evidenced in the charts. The continued reduction on the reliance on the riskier common and preferred stocks continues and has resulted in the following distribution of assets by percentage over the recording period:

	06/30/2006	12/31/2005
Bonds	80.4 %	76.3 %
Stocks	5.5 %	5.5 %
Mortgage Loans	9.8 %	10.6 %
Cash	3.8 %	6.2 %
Other	.5 %	.4 %

The portfolio's historic concentration in the 1-5 year term resulted in lower-yielding returns. The UNA had kept the portfolio short in anticipation of higher rates, but the bond market has never fully recovered to pre-2002 levels. The UNA is now concentrating on extending the maturities of its portfolio in order to take advantage of higher yielding instruments. The Investment strategy has resulted in changes of average maturities as follows:

	6/2006	12/2005
5 years or less:	62%	69%
Over 5 years	38%	31%

MORTGAGES

The UNA continues not too actively market mortgage loans due to return on investment issues and will keep this strategy in 2007 if the present market conditions prevail. Total mortgages outstanding is \$3,890,881 as of 6/20/2006 with a total past due interest of only \$1,254 for the same period.

EQUITIES

In terms of equities, UNA has \$1.6MM in common stock: \$1.4MM in preferred stock. The performance is improving subsequent to the market crash, but we still show an unrealized loss of \$372,000 on our books. The small amount invested in

equities safeguarded UNA from financial disaster when many companies suffered unrecoverable losses during the market downturn.

CANADA

In order to conduct business in Canada, we must maintain investments in Canadian dollars in Canada. This subjects UNA to what is called foreign exchange risk. What does this term mean? It is the risk of a bond's value changing due to uncontrollable changes in the currency rate. The value of the bond increases or decreases depending on the rate. This fluctuation will cause the investments reported value to either decrease or increase. It affects our financial statement, and has, in the past, impacted it greatly.

At the time of this report, the Canadian dollar has improved to .89USD. The outlook for the Canadian dollar is good, rising 40% against the US dollar in the past year. In an effort to mitigate foreign exchange exposure, Canadian bonds have been allowed to mature and then reinvested in higher yielding, less risky U.S.\$ bonds. Nonetheless, the UNA must maintain a portfolio of CDN investments (approx \$10 million) per Canadian regulation as long as we maintain Canadian dollar policyholders in Canada. Management continues to evaluate the possibility of converting Canadian dollar policies to U.S. dollar policies to protect it from currency fluctuations. Our Convention body in May 2006 voted to delay this decision until further evaluation is made.

CASH FLOW & LIQUIDITY

Bond maturities, calls, and mortgage principal payments are expected to provide ample cash for future needs in excess of cash from operations as bond performance and investment income continue to improve. Expenses, death maturity, and surrender benefits are the prime sources of cash outflow. These expenses increased in 2006 but expense containment initiatives, for both operating expenses and fraternal benefits are being implemented. Bond maturities and mortgage principal payments are the major unused source of liquid assets.

INVESTMENT SUMMARY

Our implemented strategy will allow us to continue to increase our net average portfolio yield (after investment expenses) from 4.7% at the end of 2005 to a little over 5% by the yearend 2006. It is the Management's goal to continue to work toward obtaining a higher average portfolio yield. We will continue to pursue greater investment in Class II bonds, with concerted effort to sell off low-yielding, lower credit worthy instruments.

Our goals for the coming period are:

- Boost the bottom line of UNA by an estimated \$500,000 annually
- Reduce credit risk even further
- Improve cash flow
- Improve the yield of our portfolio without extending maturities significantly

2006 can be characterized as a year of complex challenges as we concentrate on implementing an extensive reorganization of our operations and work towards a plan, which will lead to a recovery in the UNA's surplus position. Since the National Secretary will address sales performance, the second portion of my report will concentrate on one of the largest drains on our reserve position, Soyuzivka.

SOYUZIVKA:

Fraternal benefits, like the publications and Soyuzivka, have defined our organization for many decades. Unfortunately, without sufficient revenues generated from our prime insurance business, they cannot be sustained. Fraternal benefits continue to drain surplus. UNA management has worked diligently over the past two years to reduce expenses vis a vis fraternal benefits but progress is slower than anticipated. We have been working on a number of initiatives, measures, and innovative solutions to alleviate this situation, which I will highlight later in this report.

Over the past few years, marketing efforts were increased which included initiatives which would restore confidence in a public that had "given up" coming to Soyuzivka by developing more interesting menu of activities and careful selective improvements in the facility's infrastructure. As we try to find a solution to the problems Soyuzivka operations presents, we have had some successes and some disappointments since the beginning of our administration in 2002.

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS – POSITIVES AND NEGATIVES

Key Financial Highlights

Key income and Expense Items in thousands USD

	2002	2003	2004	2005	% from 2002 to 2005
Revenue					
Rooms	\$389	\$490	\$515	\$630	62%
Total Income	\$1,289	\$1,626	\$1,683	\$1,776	38%
Expenses					
Utilities	\$132	\$158	\$168	\$220	67%
Maintenance/repairs	\$87	\$69	\$111	\$128	47%
Real Estate Tax	\$65	\$38	\$52	\$56	-14%
Insurance	\$117	\$157	\$158	\$191	63%
Professional Fees	\$3	\$5	\$6	\$12	300%
Salaries/benefits	\$747	\$677	\$725	\$701	-6%
Total Expenses (before depreciation)	\$1,921	\$1,924	\$2,208	\$2,286	19%
depreciation	\$88	\$90	\$95	\$96	9%
Total Expenses	\$2,009	\$2,014	\$2,303	\$2,382	19%
(Net loss)	-\$720	-\$388	-\$620	-\$606	\$0

On the positive:

- Occupancy has increased leading to a 62% increase in room revenue since 2002. This has been achieved with no price increase.
- Total Income rose 38% vs. Total Expense rise of 19%, which is evidence of better Expense control.
- Salaries DOWN 6%. We have fewer employees servicing more guests. This point to good management.
- Total Income outpaced Total Expenses rise: 38% vs. 19% as we see better expense control.

On the negative:

- However, unmanageable deficits continue as Soyuzivka is equipped only to operate for a 4-month season, as it does not have the services needed to operate a 12-month season. Income is primarily produced for only 4 months while utilities, insurance, maintenance; tax expenses are fixed costs, which drain the facility for 12 months.
- The infrastructure is rundown and in need of major renovation to bring it to a full season facility.
- The application from the IRS for a non-profit is still pending, as they need more information.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

There have also been capital improvements made to make Soyuzivka over the past 3 years to make it more marketable. These have consisted of the addition of five rentable rooms, the renovation of various buildings formerly unusable, the addition of outside beverage venue to generate revenue, fixing the underpinnings of swimming pool deck, replacing the main House boiler, renovating dining room, adding some new furniture, adding a children's playground, skating rink and a multiple of smaller projects. All of the buildings have been power washed, the summer dining room renovated to accommodate campers and the Studio building as converted into rental space. This did achieve increased occupancy but the facility cannot be sustained on such a limited season.

Chart – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

in USD thousands	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total Capital Improvements
capital improvements	0	210	97	28	335
FF&E	33	33	63	51	180
Total	3	243	106	79	431

THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION... Activating volunteers

In order to remove the asset off the books of the UNA and allow it to continue operating independently, it was determined that the most appropriate and positive step for The UNA would be to transfer this asset, which serves as an educational, cultural, heritage and community center for the ethnic community, to a foundation which could then operate it as a 501(c)3 non-profit foundation. This, we had expected to be completed by this time, but IRS issues have stalled the approval, and we are working to resolve these issues. Whether or not the Foundation receives the IRS designation, the transfer to a Foundation is a necessary step, which will limit UNA's exposure and negate the impact on UNA's financial statement. The IRS designation is not legally a prerequisite to the transfer, albeit desirable as it facilitates charitable giving and grants procurement. In order that this designation is obtained, we are moving toward increasing our camp offerings, community seminars as a prerequisite for obtaining such a status is maintaining a prime educational and cultural emphasis. This includes offering permanent exhibits of Ukrainian culture and heritage, offering greater variety of heritage based camps, conferences, and events. As we move in this direction, we should be able to achieve an IRS designation in our favor.

To this regard, the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation was created and incorporated. The UNA will still control the Foundation, as we appoint the 5-member board. In order to maintain the necessary level of independence from UNA, the Board will consist of two UNA executives and three outside directors. This structure allows the Foundation to be "sufficiently independent" from the parent company to allow it to be removed from our UNA financial statement from an accounting and reporting perspective.

In April of this year, the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation was launched. The Foundation has had one meeting to date and is still a fledgling state. The response for membership has been steady, but larger donors are waiting for, we believe, the transfer, in order to be assured of the continuance of facility. To date we have 170 members. This may not seem many, but it is excellent from a statistical point of view in view of the short amount of time since the membership drive began. One of the problems remains the lack of committed resources to conduct an avid fund-raising campaign. Relying on volunteers to conduct volunteer activities is not sufficient. Total membership fees collected since the launch – \$45,000.

Particularly inspiring is the response by young professionals – the 20-40 year-olds that provides the UNA with a marketing opportunity and potential members. They have organized Cleanup Weekends, concerts, silent auctions, etc. in order to raise money for a cause they believe in – Soyuzivka. It is inspiring to work along side a group, which is very enthusiastic, willing to work, and committed to the Foundation's purpose.

We are attracting youth to UNA, PRECISELY because they think the preservation of Soyuzivka is worthwhile. We have identified that few individuals under 50, (which includes these volunteers) have knowledge about UNA and its purpose. Now the challenge will remain: "How do we translate this into UNA membership?"

We have succeeded in attracting individual as well as some corporate and organizational community support but this effort will have to be intensified if we are to succeed.

Other measures to eliminate the negative impact the Center has on our financial position have been pursued which I will outline in my report.

OTHER MEASURES

Notwithstanding the transfer to a foundation, the UNA is proceeding with the sale of a substantial portion of this asset – the unused forested land of approximately 250 acres to a preservation group that will maintain it as a park preserve. We expect this sale will conclude in 2007. The Open Space Institute will provide Soyuzivka and its patrons rights in perpetuity. The attorneys are working on the complexities of the contract to ensure our water rights, etc. Proceeds from this sale we hope will be used to renovate some of the common areas that will allow us to operate as a full season facility.

In addition, The UNA is proceeding with negotiations with a developer who proposes to develop an additional 50 acres into a condo-coop community at Soyuzivka. The UNA sent out 4000 surveys of interest and received approximately 400 positive responses. This will be shared with the assembly and membership as the contract develops.

All of these measures are being pursued with utmost expediency. They will have to be coupled with an intensive marketing and fundraising initiative if they are to be successful.

CONCLUSION

Despite many challenges, financial and otherwise, that UNA faces, we acknowledge and accept this challenge and are striving to bring back the financial strength of our hundred-year-old organization. Key strategies remain to achieving these goals; accelerate product launches by strengthening marketing efforts and identifying niche markets, expand sales staff by utilizing sales staff and commissioned third party agents and strengthen internal sales staff.

It will be a struggle, but I believe, with your help and the successful implementation of the initiatives at hand, we will succeed.

Christine E. Kozak, National Secretary

Handed out her detailed written report and asked that everyone read it. She briefly elaborated on a couple of points. The first six months of this year were specifically dedicated to the 36th UNA Convention. It took a lot of time and energy. In the first six months of 2006 there were some individual successes, the following secretaries were the top producers, Joseph Chabon, Branch 242; Stefan Hawrysz, Branch 83; and Joyce Kotch, Branch 39. A total of 191 policies were sold with a face amount of \$1,862,000 and an annual premium of \$64,490.00, it has risen slightly over last year's sales. Christine Kozak emphasized the importance of sales of life insurance. Also, she commented on the loss of revenue from annuities. Total premium for 2006 was \$378,368.00 where as last year total annuity premium collected was \$701,295.00.

The emphasis is on sales. Her office is constantly looking to hire professional sales agents, who do most of the selling. She emphasized the importance of each and every secretary, organizer and district head and the value of each branch and district. She advised everyone of the Secretarial courses that will be held in various districts to aid secretaries and district heads with the latest information about our products. She encouraged everyone to attend. She also explained some of the internal administrative procedures in the home office.

She invited everyone to read her report and she would be ready to answer any questions.

Discussion:

Slavko Tysiak, Wasyl Szeremeta, Gloria Horbaty, Al Kachkowski, Myron Groch, Michael Koziupa, Roma Lisovich, Nicholas Fil, Slavko Tysiak.

• We should advertise more in Canada. Though we must remember that insurance sales in Canada is quite different, their rates are lower and the products are different, and that is why it is difficult to sell insurance in Canada

• It was explained that the UNA is not licensed in every state.

• For reporting purposes, sold annuities are counted in individual numbers sold, and it is preferred that agents with insurance license sell annuities, however should you have a prospect, the Home Office staff is always willing to help you should you need it.

• We should be advertising for professional agents in agent journals. We must remember that ads in professional journals are prohibitively expensive.

Christine E. Kozak ended her report by stating that her primary concern is to develop a loyal professional agents pool who will sell our products.

Stefan Kaczaraj, President

The key to UNA's success is revenue. In the last 6 months UNA lost over \$800,000 from reserves. It is obvious if our reserves are depleted any further the regulators from the New Jersey Department of Insurance who safeguard every policy holder will insist on our safeguarding our reserves and not depleting them by subsidizing some of our fraternal benefits like our publications, Soyuzivka and the payment of premiums on some policies of members over 79 years of age. Our premiums from annuities which have been doing very well in the past year fell by over \$300,000 this last year.

We are loosing readership in our publications and yet the expenses are the same.

The UNA's plan to increase our reserve base, which we presented to the New Jersey Department of Insurance and Banking:

• Another solution, is that since we can no longer finance Soyuzivka at \$600,000 a year, we can apply to make Soyuzivka a foundation. If Soyuzivka gains foundation status, it would be removed from UNA books, eliminating this drain of our reserves.

Discussion: All present participated.

In view of the New Jersey Department of Insurance and Banking a reserve target of \$5,000,000 would be considered a comfort zone.

• If our projects come through and we have an influx of money, we would primarily invest in developing a professional sales force, in advertising, promotion and marketing.

• Holding the Convention at Soyuzivka certainly benefit's both Soyuzivka and the UNA, because either way we must hold a convention and better at Soyuzivka than at the Hilton.

• There was an extensive discussion regarding Soyuzivka expenses and how to curb them, how to get an influx of visitors etc.,

• Regarding both publications, the cost and importance of UNA advertising in our papers was discussed, including the decline in subscriptions.

• It was suggested that in the future there be a more detailed accounting of each fraternal benefit.

• When reporting to the New Jersey regulators it will be imperative to demonstrate that most proceeds will be allocated back into growing our insurance business.

• Many successful fraternal concentrate on sales of annuities. It seems we are loosing money on all lines of business. We must prioritize our concentration on our primary line of business and that is insurance. We must solicit independent insurance agents.

Stefan Kaczaraj answered and explained particular figures on the financial statements.

Roma Lisovich, Treasurer:

Reviewed the Investment portfolio report. Explained that our 10 yr. treasury bonds are yielding 5.25%. Our investment portfolio is primarily in bonds. As a fraternal we cannot be invested in any high-risk investments. The entire investment portfolio is \$42,896,000.

In Canada we keep \$92,000 in cash and \$10,000,000 in bonds. Last year's revenue from insurance sales in Canada was \$3,000.

AQS Asset Management Company manages our financial portfolio. We pay them monthly and renew our contract with them every 30 days. The final financial decision remains with the UNA, and we have absolute control. Our target goal is to increase our portfolio by \$500,000 annually.

Regarding Soyuzivka Roma Lisovich presented a 20 page Situational Analysis on Soyuzivka, which included an exact financial comparison.

Regarding the fraternal benefit for UNA members of 10% discount when you hold your wedding at Soyuzivka. Please note this scenario. A person age 30, becomes a UNA member by purchasing a minimum UNA term policy which costs him \$60 annually, yet he receives a 10% discount on the wedding which add up to \$5,000-\$10,000. Very often after the wedding they allow their policy to lapse. Note that at 5 or more weddings a year, where Soyuzivka gives the 10% discount to UNA members, Soyuzivka suffers a loss of up to \$100,000. In order for Soyuzivka not to be loosing money on weddings, we should consider another structure to the 10% fraternal benefit for weddings only. Maybe a structure where for every year that you are a UNA mem-

ber you get 1% discount up to 10%.

Nestor Paslawsky, manager of Soyuzivka, attended this portion of the meeting which related to plans for Soyuzivka. He welcomed the attendees then answered many of the questions relating to future plans for Soyuzivka as well as questions relating to running the resort on a daily basis.

	<u>June 2006</u>	<u>June 2005</u>	<u>December 2005</u>
Income	\$500,211	\$578,901	\$1,775,529
Expenses	\$872,766	\$806,039	\$2,293,988

Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation membership status was explained. Over 170 became members, total fees collected \$45,000 since April 2006. Over \$100,000 collected in donations in the first year.

Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation's 501 © (3) status is still pending approval. To receive approval we must focus more on educational and cultural programs at Soyuzivka. We must have permanent exhibits, artwork, sculptures, daily programs of a cultural nature etc. We are preparing detailed event and program schedules, redesigning our Web-page, all this, to resubmit to the IRS more detailed information in order to obtain the tax exempt status.

In order for the UNA to maintain control of the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation, the UNA appoints the directors. Two UNA Executives plus three other UNA members are appointed by the Executives. The Foundation as an entity must stand on its own financially, but the UNA will keep control.

There was much discussion on the erection of the brick wall on the side of the Main House. Question – why wasn't the original plan of building a donors walk built? The answer to that was that many people objected to having pedestrians walk over names of people.

Original directors of Soyuzivka Foundation: Stefan Kaczaraj, Roma Lisovich, Taras Szmagala Jr., Orest Fedash and Nestor Olesnycky.

4. Plans for the balance of 2006, 2007

In discussing Soyuzivka, this touched on the plans for the remaining of the year. Also, developing our sales force.

Discussion:

· For the benefit of the new General Assembly Members, Al Kachkowski and Zenon Holubec explained the responsibility of the advisory board. As an organization we follow the UNA By-Laws and as such most decisions are made by the Executive Committee. But as advisors, you have influence, you can make motions and if passed these do influence the executives. The entire General Assembly is a sounding board to check and to get various points of view from the entire UNA community. There are many decisions that are strictly financial that are handled by the executives and the executives advise the board and many decisions are related to regulatory rules which must be adhered to. Other plans, possibilities, options etc., are discussed, voted by the entire General Assembly and the Executives are influenced by your commentary, advice, and motions. All general assembly members must remember that their responsibility is great and their influence is very important. We must all strive to work together for the benefit of the UNA.

· We need to build and develop a professional sales force. We need to have more of our secretaries pass their insurance license. Our secretaries are a reflection of the UNA within the community. The more secretaries that are licensed the more professional the UNA becomes. The UNA is always looking for new secretaries and new insurance agents. Any secretary that wishes to take the life insurance course and passes it, the UNA is more than willing to refund the costs.

· The UNA is planning to restructure our referral fees to make it more attractive for secretaries to refer to the Home Office. There are cases where secretaries make the original contact but cannot sign the prospective member. We want to make sure the secretary feels comfortable in seeking help from the Home Office. They will be rewarded with a better referral fee, and the member will be signed into their branch.

· The UNA is planning various seminars in UNA districts to encourage new life in the districts. These seminars are refresher courses for secretaries, district heads and any member in the community that wishes to find out about UNA products and the UNA's input into the community.

· It is imperative that each General Assembly member advise the Home Office of current events in their communities where the UNA can take part. This is something that is very important to plan for the future. Members of the General Assembly know their community and are instrumental in making arrangements.

5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST REPORTS

All General Assembly members that were present signed the report.

6. APPROVAL OF UNA BUDGET 2007

The Financial Committee consisting of: Stefan Kaczaraj, Roma Lisovich, Zenon Holubec, Michael Koziupa and Eugene Serba presented the Budget Plan for 2007 with some minor adjustments.

MOTION:

Christine E. Kozak proposed to accept the budget as presented
Motion seconded by Michael Koziupa
Budget passed unanimously.

REPORTS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MOTION:

Zenon Holubec proposed to accept the reports of the Executive Officers as presented.
Michael Koziupa seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

2. Canadian Committee Report

This committee consists of the following members: Myron Groch, Al. Kachkowski, Serguei Djoula (not present), Eugene Serba, Maya Lew and Olya Czerkas.

Al Kachkowski reported on behalf of the committee.

· It is suggested that Canada be divided into 3 major regions.
Western Canada – represented by Al Kachkowski
Central Canada – represented by Myron Groch
Easter Canada – represented by Serguei Djoula

· Even though we get together only on a yearly basis, we should report our activities by e-mail.

· Al Kachkowski will be looking for new secretaries in Western Canada, like Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton and Winnipeg. He volunteered to contact the secretaries in the western provinces to see whether the secretaries are working with new potential secretaries and where necessary he will try to find replacements.

· UNA brochures should be specifically geared to Canadians. The Canadian committee should come up with the particular wording for brochures.

· The committee recommends that all the secretaries take refresher courses on UNA products that are available and on selling UNA to the community.

· The committee can contact various dance groups to see whether we can entice their dancers to become members. If they sign on all their dancers to become members the dance group can receive the commission into the dance ensemble's coffers.

· Al Kachkowski will try to find a secretary among the latest Ukrainian immigrants in Saskatoon, there are over 80 new families living in Saskatoon.

· Al Kachkowski will give a contact list to the Home Office.

Wasył Szeremeta thinks all these plans sound very good, but asks why was none of this done in the last four years?

Roma Hadzewycz will share an old Sales Presentation Book with the insurance department.

2. Organizing Committee Report

This committee consists of the following members: Christine E. Kozak, Maya Lew, Gloria Horbaty, Bohdan Kukuruza and Nicholas Fil.

· Primary goal is to help the secretary.

· Create a Sales Book. Alex Redko, a licensed sales agent and a delegate to the last Convention promised to work on a sales book with the Home Office.

· All the brochures should be dated, and a space reserved for the secretary's contact information, so that when the secretary leaves the brochure with a potential member, the member can contact the secretary.

· Promote licensing for all new secretaries

· Keep the UNA website current, UNAMEMBER.COM

· Christine E. Kozak encourages everybody to be on the look out for potential secretaries and/or insurance agents.

· Have a questionnaire on the web page asking particular questions for statistical information, this will help in tracking where/when people heard about UNA.

· Maya Lew offered to check the Ukrainian websites where we may be able to advertise for professional insurance sales people.

· All UNA brochures should be translated into both languages. Finding good translators is very difficult. Daria Semegen who does most of our translations very well, and that is because she knows the UNA and understands both languages thoroughly. Unfortunately, many of the good Ukrainian speakers from Ukraine do not understand the nuances of the English language and do a poor translation.

· Always have someone available at Soyuzivka to answer UNA questions, especially at peak season.

· Place the UNA application on a PDF file. When signing on a member, an actual application must be completed, but the PDF file can be used for basic information.

· List all the branches with contact people on the web page.

· The UNA is checking on having direct deposit, to pay premiums.

2. Fraternal Committee

This committee consists of the following members: Christine E. Kozak, Gloria Horbaty, Nicholas Fil, Olya Czerkas, Bohdan Kukuruza, and Eugene Oscislawski,

· Regarding various camp members staying at Soyuzivka, the secretaries should get their names/addresses of non UNA members so they can contact them in their community presenting our insurance products and the benefits of being a UNA member.

· Newspaper subscribers that are not UNA members should get information about UNA products and the benefits of membership – discount on a subscription.

· We should consider having an essay writing contest on various Ukrainian topics.

· Have a contest, a la Ukrainian Idol at Soyuzivka

· We should consider republishing Veselka Magazine for children

· Have cultural courses at Soyuzivka

· With every condolence check, we have an opportunity to check on the extended family and eventually solicit them regarding membership at the UNA.

· Restructure the UNA Scholarship Program
· Have events at the district level with the community, serve coffee, show the film "Helm of Destiny," other Ukrainian movies, wine/cheese, etc. at this time reintroduce the UNA who we are and what we have done for the community.

· Write more articles in our publications about UNA's services and our history in the community.

Soyuzivka Festival Committee is being formed – Maya Lew and Gloria Horbaty offered to be on the committee

MOTION:

Roma Lisovich presented a motion to change the format of the UNA Scholarships. Have 2 to 5 larger scholarships in the amount of \$5,000 each, and all other UNA member graduates should be listed with their photos in both our publications.

Christine E. Kozak seconded the motion.

Discussion. Most members preferred to give out more scholarships or awards. Give something to everyone that applies.

Wasył Szeremeta proposed to close the discussion.

Majority voted against this change, 4 members voted for, Motion failed.

MOTION:

Zenon Holubec proposed that each member present deduct \$25.00 from his per diem and donate it to the UNA Foundation.

Roma Lisovich seconded the motion

No Discussion

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION:

Roma Lisovich proposed a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Zenon Holubec seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.