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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Fourth Wave Ukrainians meet in Kyiv for first Economic Forum

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – They arrived under the slogan, “Ukrainians for Ukraine.”

Fourth Wave Ukrainians gathered in Kyiv on November 30 and December 1 for the first annual Economic Forum of the World’s Ukrainians held at the Ukrainian Home and organized by the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council and Fourth Wave (Chetverta Khvyliya), an international organization of Fourth-Wave Ukrainians.

“The intellectual potential of Ukrainians, which has colossal strength, is now being used for foreign countries,” said Oleksander Shokalo, coordinator of the forum’s expert council.

“That’s why our forum’s slogan – Ukrainians for Ukraine – is aiming to reorient our people toward the interests of our country and society,” he underscored.

More than 180 businessmen and investors representing 22 countries, including the Russian Federation, Moldova, Kazakhstan, the U.S. and Canada, arrived for the two-day forum.

Unable to realize their potential and establish themselves on their native land, these Ukrainians left after the Soviet

Union’s collapse in 1991, in what has become known as the Fourth Wave of Ukrainian immigration, and found economic success abroad.

They’ve declared their interest in developing Ukraine, also realizing the country still has a long way to go. For example, on this trip to Ukraine Anatolii Kondratiev said he visited a local university where a poster in the economics department titled “The World’s Great Economists” featured Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels.

The lack of economic competence extends from the universities to the current government, he said. “The economists who spoke, from [Presidential Secretariat First Assistant Oleksander] Shlapak to others, don’t know general economic principles at all,” said Mr. Kondratiev, director of Progressive Technologies, a Ukrainian-Canadian enterprise.

“When people don’t know basic economic principles and they address such a forum, that is only half bad. But when these people lead our nation, then that’s truly bad,” he commented.

Among the biggest initiatives to emerge from the forum was the creation

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## Tymoshenko one vote short of becoming prime minister

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – As a thick fog engulfed Ukraine’s capital on December 11, the political bout within the Verkhovna Rada’s walls that afternoon proved just as murky as it was bizarre.

Yulia Tymoshenko came within one parliamentary vote of returning as prime minister, only to be thwarted because deputies from her own coalition apparently couldn’t command the electronic voting system.

Party of the Regions of Ukraine politicians pounced on the technical difficulties, characterizing them as an act of God, and physically blockaded Parliament for the next two days to prevent a Tymoshenko government from replacing the acting government led by Viktor Yanukovych.

“This is the will of the people and the will of God,” said Inna Bohoslovka, a Party of the Regions deputy. “God Himself doesn’t want Tymoshenko to lead Ukraine’s government again and throw Ukraine again into a war.”

When the dust settled that evening, it remained unclear who was at fault for the vote being undermined.

Ms. Tymoshenko and the Our Ukraine – People’s Self-Defense leadership accused the Party of the Regions of hatching “a technical provocation” in rigging the Parliament’s electronic voting system to tally 225 votes both times (one short of a 226-vote majority).

“Today, at the hands of the Party of the Regions, the Verkhovna Rada opened a new disgraceful page in history,” Ms. Tymoshenko told a press conference that afternoon. “Today was the first falsification of electronic voting in the Parliament’s history. This was supported by all deputies whose cards were artificially blocked during voting.”

Coalition leaders called for an investigation, to which the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), led by presidential ally Valentyn Nalyvaichenko, promptly responded that evening.

After forming a team of experts and reviewing the voting system that same night, the SBU reported the next morning that in fact no one tampered with the voting system as the coalition leaders alleged and that it was functioning properly.

Although the coalition’s nomination of Arseniy Yatsenyuk had been approved with minimal difficulty the previous week, political observers expected Ms. Tymoshenko’s candidacy would face more challenges, particularly from within the pro-presidential Our Ukraine – People’s Self-Defense faction.

Numerous politicians within the president’s circle are known to disapprove of Ms. Tymoshenko’s governing style, in which she assumes much authority and



UNIAN  
Yulia Tymoshenko, leader of the eponymous bloc, watches with concern during the December 11 parliamentary session at which her own coalition deputies apparently failed to properly vote for her nomination.

allows little room for compromise or power-sharing.

They include former Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov, who attacked Ms. Tymoshenko’s campaign promises as unrealistic; acting Minister of Defense Anatolii Hrytsenko, who criticized her proposal to end mandatory military service by January; and Presidential Secretariat Chair Viktor Baloha, who attempted to install Ivan Pliusch as Rada chair in an attempted power play.

Mr. Pliusch, who favored a coalition with the Party of the Regions, didn’t join the parliamentary coalition and risks having his deputy’s mandate confiscated by his Our Ukraine – People’s Self-Defense faction.

In his speech to the Parliament nominating Ms. Tymoshenko, President Yushchenko reaffirmed the necessity of the pre-term parliamentary elections held in September and called for policies that uphold national interests.

To replace Mr. Yatsenyuk as foreign affairs minister, Mr. Yushchenko nominated Volodymyr Ohryzko, a career diplomat with firm pro-Western positions. Mr. Ohryzko’s candidacy for the same post had been rejected by the Russian-oriented parliamentary majority led by Oleksander Moroz earlier this year.

In an even more surprising move, the president nominated Mr. Yekhanurov to replace Mr. Hrytsenko as defense minister. Mr. Hrytsenko is the only minister to remain from the Yushchenko administration’s first Cabinet, formed in February 2005.

“Yekhanurov’s selection is strange,” said Yurii Syrotyuk, a political analyst at the Kyiv-based Open Society Foundation, funded by American, British and Polish grants. “Hrytsenko was among most

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## New Zealand postal issue marks anniversary of Holodomor

AUCKLAND, New Zealand – New Zealand became the first country in the world to have a postal stamp marking the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Holodomor.

The Ukrainian Association of New Zealand (Northern Regions) (UANZ) on November 10 announced the issuance of a commemorative postal stamp dedicated to the Famine Genocide in Ukraine.

Stamps of the nominal values of 50 cents and \$1.50 (N.Z.) were issued in a limited edition of 600 and were expected to become a rarity shortly after the release. The first day of issue, November 24, was the day of the national moment of silence in Ukraine to remember victims of the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933.

A total of 103 first day covers (FDC) were to be canceled with the first day of issue postmark in Auckland. The UANZ issued three FDCs of the Exclusive Edition, as well as 100 ordinary numbered FDCs. The Exclusive Edition FDC has a different design on the envelope, and both stamps are attached. Ordinary FDCs have one 50-cent stamp.

An Exclusive Edition Gift Set also includes a sheet of 50-cent stamps in mint condition. Two of the three Exclusive



One of New Zealand’s two stamps dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor.

Edition Gift Sets will be gifted to the president of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko, and the governor-general of New Zealand, Anand Satyanand. The third Exclusive Edition Gift Set will remain the property of UANZ.

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## ANALYSIS

## New coalition passes first tests

by Pavel Korduban

*Eurasia Daily Monitor*  
December 6

The Our Ukraine – People’s Self-Defense (OU-PSD) bloc of Viktor Yushchenko and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) have managed to set aside their differences and create a majority coalition in Parliament. OU-PSD accepted Mr. Yushchenko’s choice for Verkhovna Rada chair and dissenters in Our Ukraine (OU), the biggest party in OU-PSD, agreed to sign a coalition deal with YTB.

The coalition then passed the first serious test for viability, unanimously approving the president’s choice for chair, Arseniy Yatsenyuk, when the rest of Parliament refused to back him.

Eight representatives of the liberal, business-oriented wing of Our Ukraine had refused to sign the coalition deal between OU-PSD and the YTB in mid-November. They protested against the inclusion of several Tymoshenko election promises that they said were impossible to fulfill, and against the decision by the OU-PSD’s majority to nominate OU leader Viacheslav Kyrylenko for Rada chair. They suspected him of excessive sympathy toward Ms. Tymoshenko, who may run against Mr. Yushchenko in the next presidential election. The coalition would not control the majority in Parliament if the dissenters stood their ground.

After a closed-door meeting with President Yushchenko on November 28, all but one dissenter agreed to sign the deal. They did not say what arguments Mr. Yushchenko had used to persuade them. Simultaneously, Mr. Yushchenko asked Our Ukraine members to change their mind and nominate Foreign Affairs Minister Yatsenyuk for chair instead of Mr. Kyrylenko. Our Ukraine obeyed, although several representatives of its nationalist conservative wing made it clear that they agreed to Mr. Yatsenyuk only grudgingly.

Unlike Mr. Kyrylenko, who often does not display flexibility in dealing with political opponents, Mr. Yatsenyuk is agreeable to compromises. President Yushchenko prefers a cautious and flexible figure at the helm of Parliament at a time when the coalition that backs him is very fragile, numbering just two people beyond a simple majority – 227 deputies in the 450-seat legislature.

Mr. Yatsenyuk may be exactly what Mr. Yushchenko needs. He is a polite young technocrat who at various stages in his career cooperated with both the Communists and the Party of the Regions (PRU) of Mr. Yushchenko’s archrival, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich.

Ms. Tymoshenko approved Mr. Yushchenko’s choice, saying that her bloc would back any candidate nominated by OU-PSD. The coalition accord’s conditions are such that it would be impossible for her to secure the position of prime minister if a representative of OU-PSD did not become Rada chair. Ms. Tymoshenko worked hard to prove her bloc’s loyalty. On November 30 the YTB went as far as openly naming the PRU figures accused of trying to bribe several YTB deputies so that they would not turn up at Parliament to vote on the chair and the prime minister. The PRU denied the allegation.

The PRU, the Communists and the Lytvyn Bloc refused to give even a single vote to back OU-PSD’s choice for speaker. Mr. Yatsenyuk was elected chair in a secret ballot on December 4 with OU-PSD and YTB votes only. Every single member of the 227-strong coalition voted in his favor.

The PRU and the Communists said they would not recognize Yatsenyuk’s election. They argue that the voting process, which was supposed to be secret, was personally controlled by Ms. Tymoshenko and her aides who checked the ballots of YTB deputies at the voting booth.

PRU National Deputy Yuriy Miroshnychenko said that the PRU might dispute the results of the vote in court. When Mr. Yatsenyuk’s election was announced late on December 4, the PRU and the Communists left the assembly hall to protest procedural violations. Ms. Tymoshenko did not deny their accusations, but she said that Parliament can carry on even without the two parties.

Mr. Yatsenyuk, unabashed by the demarche of the new opposition, promised equal rights to all caucuses and offered his thanks to the opposition for not disrupting the voting process. He said that his election was the first vote in Parliament “without political corruption.” He promised to ensure “European standards of parliamentarianism” and suggested concentrating on national priorities rather than political differences.

At 33, Mr. Yatsenyuk is the youngest Ukrainian Parliament chair ever, and the first to speak English fluently. Despite his age, Mr. Yatsenyuk has rich experience in both the private sector and the government. A lawyer and economist by education, he claims to have founded his first private business as a teenager. In 2001 he was deputy chairman of Aval, one of Ukraine’s biggest banks. In 2001-2003, when the Communists dominated the Crimean government, he headed the economy ministry there.

Mr. Yatsenyuk was caretaker chairman

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## Maneuvering begins for Rada posts

*Ukrinform*

KYIV – Prime-Minister-designate Yulia Tymoshenko said on December 7 that every provision of the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc’s program would be included in the new government’s program if the faction supports her candidacy for the post of prime minister in the December 11 vote.

On December 7 the Verkhovna Rada discussed the posts of the first and second vice-chairs of the Rada and committee chairmanships, and how they would be distributed among the representatives of the opposition and the majority coalition.

According to Ms. Tymoshenko, the

coalition has agreed to the proposal of opposition factions, that is, the Party of the Regions, the Communist Party and the Lytvyn Bloc, to elect both vice-chairs in a single vote.

No nominations for vice-chairmen have been formally made, but the opposition insists that Communist Adam Martyniuk should be a vice-chair, while the coalition wants to see Mykola Tomenko in that position. Both men are former vice-chairs of the Verkhovna Rada.

According to National Deputy Nestor Shufrych of the Party of the Regions, his faction has taken a “tough stance” on the candidacy for the Rada first vice-chair and would insist on a “package vote.”

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Yushchenko cites step toward stability...

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said on December 5 that the approval of Arseniy Yatsenyuk as the chairman of the Verkhovna Rada is a step toward political stability in Ukraine, RFE/RL’s Ukrainian Service reported. Mr. Yushchenko also said that Mr. Yatsenyuk will act as a chairman for the whole Ukrainian Parliament, and not just for some factions. Mr. Yatsenyuk pledged to treat lawmakers of all factions equally, and suggested offering some parliamentary leadership posts to the opposition. Outgoing Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, however, criticized the manner in which Mr. Yatsenyuk was elected. Mr. Yanukovich said that 227 lawmakers of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Our Ukraine – People’s Self-Defense bloc endured a “humiliating procedure” during the vote, in which the leaders of the two blocs “checked out” how lawmakers voted. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### ...nominates Tymoshenko for PM

KYIV – President Yushchenko on December 6 nominated Yulia Tymoshenko, leader of the parliamentary bloc bearing her name, for the post of Ukraine’s prime minister, UNIAN reported. “The head of state announced several times that he would not delay the nomination of the prime minister. Now he has kept his word,” said Viktor Baloha, chief of the Presidential Secretariat. However, the approval of Ms. Tymoshenko may be delayed, as the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and Our Ukraine – People’s Self-Defense agreed in their coalition deal to pass a package of bills regarding the functioning of the future government before approving the nominated prime minister. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Nominee for PM announces priorities

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko, who was nominated by Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko for the post of prime minister, met on December 7 with ambassadors of European Union member-states and informed them of the presumptive new Ukrainian government’s priorities,

RFE/RL’s Ukrainian Service reported. Ms. Tymoshenko said that the main goals of the government under her leadership would be energy security, judicial reform, improvement of the investment climate in Ukraine and active social policy. Ms. Tymoshenko said that the new government would take advantage of Ukraine’s expanding relations with the EU. “I believe in the European future of Ukraine,” she said. The Verkhovna Rada was expected to vote on Ms. Tymoshenko as prime minister on December 11. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### NATO awaits new Ukrainian government

KYIV – NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer on December 7 said that Ukraine conducted its pre-term parliamentary elections in a democratic manner, and that NATO is now waiting for the formation of the new Ukrainian government, RFE/RL’s Ukrainian Service reported. “The Ukrainian nation has made its political choice in a democratic manner,” Mr. de Hoop Scheffer said. He praised Ukraine’s participation in NATO missions and the Ukrainian Defense Ministry’s efforts to adapt the armed forces to Euro-Atlantic standards, adding that he expects Ukraine to continue its reforms in the defense and security sectors. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Yatsenyuk: I will resign if Yulia not elected

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Arseniy Yatsenyuk said on December 10 that he will resign if Yulia Tymoshenko is not elected as prime minister. Mr. Yatsenyuk said if the coalition doesn’t vote for Ms. Tymoshenko with its full complement “it will put an end to the democratic coalition.” The coalition has 227 votes. (Ukrinform)

### Defense, foreign ministers nominated

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko attended the December 11 session of the Verkhovna Rada and proposed Yuriy Yekhanurov for the post of defense minister and Volodymyr Ohryzko as foreign affairs minister. He made his proposal on the same day he nominated Yulia

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## Helsinki Commission initiatives focus on Ukraine's pre-term Rada elections

by Orest Deychakiwsky  
and Ronald McNamara

WASHINGTON – The Helsinki Commission undertook several initiatives this fall in connection with Ukraine's September 30 pre-term parliamentary elections, including deploying staff to observe the elections, sponsoring a Congressional resolution on the elections and convening a public briefing on their implications.

The elections – the fifth national balloting in less than three years – came on the heels of a political crisis that had engulfed Ukraine's president, government and Parliament for much of 2007.

The elections to the 450-seat Parliament, the Verkhovna Rada, were judged by the International Election Observation Mission (IEOM) led by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to have been conducted "mostly in line with OSCE commitments and other international standards for democratic elections and in an open and competitive environment."

The September elections were monitored by some 800 international observers under OSCE auspices, including Helsinki Commission staff members who observed the balloting in western Ukraine's Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast and Kyiv's Podilskyi District. Swedish parliamentarian Tone Tingsgård, the special coordinator of the short-term election observers for the IEOM and vice-president of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, stated that these elections were conducted "in a positive and professional manner."

While there were shortcomings, notably with respect to the quality of voter lists and delays in processing vote counts in a few districts, OSCE observers assessed the voting as good or very good in 98 percent of the nearly 3,000 polling stations visited, and the vote count was assessed as good or very good in 94 percent of the IEOM reports.

Commission staff observations were consistent with the assessment of other international observers. The voting process was calm, orderly and, with very few exceptions, conducted in an efficient, professional and transparent manner. Members of precinct commissions representing various political parties and blocs, as well as the party observers present, helped to ensure the integrity of the voting process.

The most significant shortcomings witnessed by staff stemmed from inaccuracies in the voter lists which led to inconsistencies regarding the treatment of voters, including the disenfranchisement of some at polling stations visited on election day.

The elections – with 60 percent voter turnout – saw Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's Party of the Regions come in first with 34.3 percent of the votes. The most substantial gains over previous elections, however, were garnered by the electoral bloc of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko (YTB), with 30.7 percent. President Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc (OU-PSD) placed third with 14.15 percent.

Two other parties passed the 3 percent threshold required to enter the new Parliament – the Communist Party with 5.4 percent and the bloc of former Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn with 3.9 percent.

The two electoral blocs associated with Ukraine's 2004 Orange Revolution – YTB and OU-PSD – have created a razor-thin majority coalition in the new

Rada and on December 4 elected acting Foreign Affairs Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk as the new chairman with a single vote to spare.

On October 5 Helsinki Commission Chairman Alcee L. Hastings, together with 12 other House members, including Commissioners Louise McIntosh Slaughter, Hilda L. Solis, G.K. Butterfield, Christopher H. Smith, Robert B. Aderholt and Joseph R. Pitts, sponsored a resolution congratulating the Ukrainian people for the holding of free, fair, open and transparent parliamentary elections in a peaceful manner consistent with Ukraine's democratic values and national interest, and expressing continuing Congressional interest and support for Ukraine.

The resolution, which has garnered bipartisan backing, expresses strong support for the efforts of the Ukrainian people to build upon the democratic gains of the Orange Revolution. The resolution recognizes the link between the consolidation of democracy and the rule of law and the strengthening of Ukraine's independence and integration with the West, and, importantly, serving as a positive role model for all too many post-Soviet countries caught in the vice of authoritarianism.

In introducing the resolution, Rep. Hastings expressed the hope "that Ukraine's political leaders will form a government reflecting the will of the Ukrainian people as expressed by the results of the elections" and "that the new Parliament and government will focus on the constitutional framework, especially the question of separation of powers, in order to avoid the political uncertainty that we witnessed earlier this year."

On October 25 the commission convened a public briefing: "The Ukrainian Elections: Implications for Ukraine's Future Direction" with Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Oleh Shamshur, as well as former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Miller, and Stephen Nix of the International Republican Institute, who had both been present at the elections as international observers.

In his assessment of the elections, Ambassador Shamshur noted that "for the second time in a row, Ukraine succeeded in avoiding most of the electoral pitfalls. Aside from minor deficiencies, there was no harassment of political opponents, no media oppression, no so-called creative counting or use of forged absentee ballots ... Ukraine has once again confirmed its democratic credentials. That's the irreversibility of the democratic change spurred by the Orange Revolution."

Ambassador Miller, who observed in Ukraine as a member of the National Democratic Institute's international observation delegation, called the elections "relatively free and fair." He expressed the "hopeful possibility" that the two democratic (Orange) coalition partners, Yulia Tymoshenko and Viktor Yushchenko, "will fulfill finally the promises they made with their hands on their hearts" during the 2004 Orange Revolution.

Mr. Nix, while noting that IRI's election observation mission found that the elections "broadly met international standards," nevertheless urged the Ukrainian Parliament and election officials "to address the quality of the voter lists to ensure their accuracy for the next national election." He also called upon Ukraine's leadership to take steps "to resolve the constitutional issues that were the very reason these elections were called."

## NEWS ANALYSIS: Ukraine set to pay much more for gas in 2008

RFE/RL

Ukraine's outgoing government has agreed to a significant price hike in a deal for supplies of natural gas from Russia, sparking an immediate denunciation from the presumptive prime minister, Yulia Tymoshenko.

But she and other opponents of the agreement appear less concerned about the nearly 40 percent price rise than the specifics of the deal, which include the services of a murky intermediary, RosUkrEnergo.

Prime Minister-designate Tymoshenko called the government's continued use of the middleman company's services part of a "corrupt" and "brainless policy."

If she is confirmed as the head of a new government, however, Ms. Tymoshenko will have little alternative but to comply with the deal, which appears to have the consent of Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko.

Russian monopoly gas provider Gazprom announced after the conclusion on December 4 of negotiations with Ukrainian Fuel and Energy Minister Yurii Boiko that it will charge Kyiv \$180 per 1,000 cubic meters for gas supplies next year, up from the current \$130.

The European Union was watching the talks closely for signs of a repeat of a price dispute in 2006 that led Gazprom to briefly shut off supplies to Ukraine – through which 80 percent of Europe's Russian gas supplies travel.

A similar crisis was averted in October of this year when Ukraine and Russia came to an agreement on unpaid gas debts that had led Moscow to threaten to cut supplies again. Ukraine eventually paid RosUkrEnergo nearly \$920 million to end that dispute.

### History of shady middlemen

The potential involvement of the Swiss-based intermediary in supplying Russian gas in 2008 had also placed the recent negotiations under intense scrutiny in Ukraine.

Ms. Tymoshenko had urged Mr. Boiko during negotiations to cut RosUkrEnergo out of any new deal, and in the run-up to the September 30 parliamentary elections, Mr. Yushchenko was highly critical of the company's role as intermediary.

RFE/RL analyst Roman Kupchinsky commented that this is because RosUkrEnergo's services "will cost Ukraine about \$1 billion a year."

When negotiations began in the fall, Gazprom Chairman Dmitry Medvedev said that "we will probably revise the scheme of our relations [with Ukraine] and give up any intermediary structures that are not clearly understandable – at

least those structures whose existence is not quite clear to us and who were proposed by our partners in a certain historical context."

During negotiations for the 2006 supplies, President Yushchenko supported the entry of RosUkrEnergo into the arrangement, over the objections of Ms. Tymoshenko.

Mr. Kupchinsky explains that the company receives a commission – in the form of gas – on transit fees for the 50 billion to 55 billion cubic meters of Turkmen natural gas that Ukraine buys from Gazprom.

"They then resell [that gas] in Europe and make even more money," Mr. Kupchinsky said. The market rate for gas imported to Europe is about \$230 per 1,000 cubic meters.

### Moscow's least-favorite PM returns

It took nearly two months of maneuvering after Ukraine's recent parliamentary elections for a coalition to emerge of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc.

The same day Gazprom announced the gas deal, Ms. Tymoshenko's bid for confirmation as prime minister got a boost with the election of former Foreign Affairs Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk to the post of Verkhovna Rada chair. Mr. Yatsenyuk, a member of the president's Our Ukraine party, received 227 votes in the 450-member Verkhovna Rada.

"What is very strange is that they tried, and they succeeded, in signing the deal before the new government comes in – which will lock either Tymoshenko or whoever becomes prime minister into this deal," Mr. Kupchinsky noted. He said it's a "bad deal" to which RosUkrEnergo "does not add any value."

During Ms. Tymoshenko's seven-month stint as prime minister following the 2004 Orange Revolution, Kyiv's relations with Moscow fell to an all-time low. Moscow previously sought her extradition relating to corruption charges that stemmed from her role as president in 1995-1997 of Unified Energy Systems of Ukraine – which served at the time as middleman for Russian gas imports.

The new agreement was not unexpected, as it follows a jump in the price that Gazprom pays Turkmenistan for imported gas. Last month, it was announced that the Russian company would pay \$130 per 1,000 cubic meters of Turkmen gas for the first six months of 2008, and \$150 for the second half of the year.

Ukraine is the end user of much of the Turkmen gas imported by Gazprom.

## Quotable notes

"... The [Russian parliamentary] election raises two pressing questions. One is the future political role to be played by Mr. [Vladimir] Putin ... With the Kremlin in control of two-thirds of the seats in the Duma, the lower house of Parliament, it will be able to amend the Constitution to conform to Mr. Putin's ambitions – a state of affairs that deepens concerns about Moscow's drift from democracy and pluralism.

"Having systematically attacked the West, Mr. Putin for the first time blocked Europe from observing a Russian vote and then capped off his campaign by formalizing Moscow's withdrawal from the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, which limits Russian and NATO deployments on the continent. Now, on the heels of a tainted election, Western leaders must reassess Russia's role in the G-8 and other democratic clubs whose ideals and principles Moscow holds in such evident contempt."

– "In Russia, the backward march to czarism continues," Editorial, *The Washington Post*, December 4.

## PROFILE: Western Canada's newest Ukrainian Catholic bishop

by Paulette MacQuarrie

NEW WESTMINSTER, British Columbia – After a whirlwind of travel, Bishop Ken Nowakowski of the Eparchy of New Westminster is finally settling into his new home.

Since his ordination and installation on July 24 in Vancouver, British Columbia, he attended a special seminar for recently ordained bishops conducted by the Pontifical Congregation for Bishops (Rome), the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Sobor on the Youth of Our Church (Kyiv), and the Synod of Ukrainian Greek-Catholic bishops in Philadelphia (held in the United States this year to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the first Ukrainian Catholic Bishop in America).

On October 7 Bishop Nowakowski began a two-month intensive eparchial visitation to become acquainted with his new flock. The eparchy covers all of British Columbia, the Yukon and part of the Northwest Territories, with 15 parishes serving some 7,800 faithful.

To say that Bishop Nowakowski found his appointment a surprise is somewhat of an understatement. He'd been rector of the Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Seminary in Ottawa since November 2001 and had just moved from the Canadian capital to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, to serve as chancellor of the Eparchy of Saskatoon, when he got a call from Bishop Luigi Ventura, the apostolic nuncio. Assuming it was just a friendly call to "catch up," he was stunned when asked if he would accept the pope's nomination to be eparch of New Westminster.

"I thought, 'Wow, is this really being asked of me?'" he recalled. To make the situation more surreal, after accepting the

invitation, he was asked to keep the nomination secret until it was official. No easy feat; the day he got the call he was visiting his parents, who are very perceptive.

He kept the secret of course, and was ordained and installed in Vancouver on July 24 at the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary (St. Mary's) Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Kenneth Anthony Adam Nowakowski was born on May 16, 1958, in North Battleford, Saskatchewan – the middle of three sons born to Stan and Roma Nowakowski. After high school, he spent a year studying advertising and public relations at Grant McEwan College in Edmonton.

He returned to Saskatchewan and entered the work force, but nothing in the secular world stirred his soul. So in 1980 he entered Redeemer House of Studies in Toronto, conducted by the Ukrainian Catholic Redemptorist Fathers. In 1984 he graduated from St. Michael's College University of Toronto with a bachelor of religious studies and philosophy.

Soon after graduating from university, he moved back to his home town of Battleford and was hired by a non-governmental organization that assisted people in job search and employment skills training. He became active in the local Ukrainian Catholic parish, where he was encouraged by the parish priest to continue his formation for priestly ministry. In 1986 he was accepted as seminarian for the Eparchy of Saskatoon and was sent to Rome for theological studies.

In the spring of 1989 he received his bachelor of sacred theology at the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas while a seminarian at St.



Bishop Ken Nowakowski, eparch of New Westminster, British Columbia.

Josaphat's Pontifical Ukrainian College in Rome. Later that year, on August 19, he was ordained a priest by Bishop Basil Filevich of the Eparchy of Saskatoon. He then returned to Rome to continue his studies.

In Rome, this eager young priest's talents and skills were soon recognized. In 1990 he was appointed vice-chancellor and chief of staff to Cardinal Myroslav Ivan Lubachivsky, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church. He also established the Refugee Office of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church for Soviet refugees.

In 1989 Soviet authorities had officially begun to allow religious communities to register themselves, which meant the end of the clandestine existence the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church was forced to endure since 1946 when the Soviets liquidated it. Then, in March 1991, Cardinal Lubachivsky's exile ended. Faced with the task of re-establishing the administrative and pastoral structures in Ukraine, Cardinal Lubachivsky invited members of his Rome staff to assist him.

"I thought about it for about 30 seconds and said, yes!" recalled Bishop Nowakowski. "I could not think of a more exciting place to serve the Lord, seeing the Church re-emerge from the catacombs and be part of the re-birth of the Ukrainian nation."

It was a busy time, with other roles in addition to being chief of staff to Cardinal Lubachivsky and later to his successor, Cardinal Lubomyr Husar.

In 1991-1992 Father Nowakowski was vice-rector at Holy Spirit Seminary, the Lviv Archeparchy's historic seminary (which had been closed by the Soviet authorities in 1946).

In 1994 he helped found the Ukrainian Catholic Church's official charitable organization, Caritas Ukraine, serving as

vice-president from 1994 to 1998 and then as president until 2001. He worked with locals to set up humanitarian aid distribution centers, soup kitchens, an orphanage, the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Hospital, home-care programs, medical assistance and disaster emergency relief. Today Caritas Ukraine is one of Ukraine's leading organizations fighting HIV/AIDS and human trafficking.

In 2001 Father Nowakowski was appointed director of the Press Office of the Catholic Churches in Ukraine for the historic visit to Ukraine by Pope John Paul II. Working with the Ukrainian government and consultants, his team provided state-of-the-art technology and logistics for some 3,000 journalists covering the event.

Having remained a priest of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon, Father Nowakowski had always assumed he would return to Canada some day. In November 2001 he did – as rector of Holy Spirit Seminary in Ottawa.

In 2002 he was also appointed press officer/spokesperson of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada, and served as the Vatican-accredited media personnel liaison and assistant to the Press Office of the Holy See during World Youth Day in Canada.

While seminarians were off on their summer break, he also provided pastoral assistance to his own Eparchy of Saskatoon as well as other Ukrainian Catholic eparchies in Canada. It was a task he cherished, as it allowed him to remain grounded in understanding the role of a parish priest.

In his new role as the third bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster, Bishop Nowakowski's immediate goals involve getting to know his clergy and faithful, and the pastoral needs, strengths, gifts and challenges of his eparchy.



Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Vancouver.

## OBITUARY

### Taras Zakydalsky (1941–2007), scholar, translator, community activist

by Roman Senkus

TORONTO – Colleagues and staff at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) mourn the loss of Dr. Taras Zakydalsky, who died on November 8 after a brief battle with brain cancer. He was 66.

Dr. Zakydalsky was born in Lviv on February 2, 1941. He and his mother emigrated from a displaced persons camp in Germany to Toronto in the late 1940s.

He majored in philosophy at the University of Toronto and Bryn Mawr College, where he wrote an M.A. thesis on Hryhorii Skovoroda (1965) and a Ph.D. dissertation on Nikolai Fyodorov (1976). He



Taras Zakydalsky

taught at Ursinus College in Pennsylvania before returning to Toronto in 1978.

Throughout his life Dr. Zakydalsky was an active member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. In the 1970s and 1980s he took part in the defense campaigns organized by the Smolospk Organization for the Defense of Human Rights in Ukraine and by the Toronto Committee in Defense of Soviet Political Prisoners.

Dr. Zakydalsky had a long relationship with the CIUS, serving as a translator (1978-1982), manuscript editor (1982-1993) and subject editor in philosophy (1988-2007) of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine and as editor of the Journal of Ukrainian Studies (2003-2007).

He taught philosophy at the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy National University (1994, 1995, 2000), edited the journal Russian Studies in Philosophy (1998-2007), and served on the executive of the Shevchenko Scientific Society of Canada.

Those who knew Dr. Zakydalsky will remember him for his unflagging commitment to scholarship, enlightenment, human rights and the Ukrainian community, and for his playful wit and good humor.

His family has requested that donations in his memory be sent to the Ostroh Academy, c/o 505 Annette St., Toronto ON, M6P 1S1.

CIUS extended its sincere condolences to Dr. Zakydalsky's mother, Natalia, his wife, Oksana, his sons, Danylo and Orest, his daughter-in-law Anna, his grandson, Taras, and his many other relatives, friends and colleagues in Canada, the United States and Ukraine.

# COMMENTARY: "A long time ago - and not true"

by Roman Solchanyk

Rumor has it that when Ukrainians and Russians get into a testy discussion about some particularly unpleasant aspects of their relations over the past several centuries – for example, the various bans on the Ukrainian language in the 18th and 19th centuries, the execution of an estimated 5,000 people in Kyiv during the city's pillage and occupation by Mikhail Muravev's Red Guards in January 1918, the meticulously planned Russification of Ukraine throughout most of the Soviet period, the Holodomor in the early 1930s, the near annihilation of the Ukrainian intelligentsia beginning in the latter half of the 1930s, the executions and mass deportations of the population of western Ukraine after its "liberation" in September 1939 and re-occupation in 1944-1945, the pogrom of Ukrainian intellectuals in the 1960s and 1970s, etc., etc. – the final recourse of the Russian side is to insist that all of this was "a long time ago – and not true."

**DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE SO-CALLED "HOLODOMOR"-FAMINE IN UKRAINE IN THE BEGINNING OF THE 1930s, AND, IF YOU DO, WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ASSERTIONS REGARDING THESE EVENTS MOST CLOSELY APPROXIMATES YOUR VIEW? (in percentages)**

This was a purposeful extermination of the Ukrainian nation carried out by the Stalinist regime	7
These were mass repressions of the peasantry that were carried out not only in Ukraine, but throughout the entire USSR	34
All reports about the Holodomor are strongly exaggerated by enemies of the USSR and Russia	6
I don't know anything about this, never heard of it	36
Difficulty answering	17

A survey conducted in November of this year by the Levada-Center, Russia's foremost polling agency, offers us a glimpse of the consequences of Moscow's version of "don't ask, don't tell." When pollsters questioned Russian citizens if they had heard of the Holodomor and, if so, what they thought about it, nearly 40 percent said that they had no clue; another 34 percent said that these were mass repressions against the peasantry that were conducted not only in Ukraine but throughout the Soviet Union.

*Roman Solchanyk is an international affairs analyst in Santa Monica, Calif.*

But maybe we should not be so tough on our Russian friends. After all, it seems that most American high school students think that Canada borders on Germany, or whatever, and that about one-fifth of Americans cannot find the United States on a world map. Not to worry. This year's entry in the Miss Teen USA beauty pageant from South Carolina "personally believes" that the answer lies in the availability of more maps for "U.S. Americans."

In some sense, much more disturbing is the fact that nearly half of Russians polled in the survey still – after more than 15 years of the existence of separate Ukrainian and Russian states – think that Ukrainians and Russians are the same people/nation.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK: ARE RUSSIANS AND UKRAINIANS ONE PEOPLE OR SEVERAL PEOPLES? (in percentages)**

	1997	2006	2007
One people	56	53	49
Two different peoples	37	41	46
Difficulty answering	7	6	5

Readers should take note of a positive trend here. More Russians, however slowly, are beginning to join the ranks of the reality-based community.

And there is further good news. Russians are increasingly abandoning the illusion that Ukraine wants nothing more than to draw closer to Russia, which was the longstanding mantra of learned Soviet academicians and propagandists and, lest we forget, that dynamic team of "Yeltsin democrats and reformers" of the 1990s. Remember them?

The majority of Russians are now convinced that the sympathies of Ukrainians are with the West, and that Ukrainians want to distance themselves from Moscow.

**IN WHICH DIRECTION IS UKRAINE NOW MOVING? (in percentages)**

	2005	2007
Steadily drawing closer to Russia	10	8
Steadily drawing closer to the countries of the West (European Union, U.S.) and moving away from Russia	49	53
The country suffers from growing chaos and confusion	27	27
Difficulty answering	15	13

happened to the Karanoukhs [a Ukrainian family deported in February 2006] was a nightmare – and it happens to others who are too ashamed to ask for help and feel hopeless about their situation."

The other new appointees to the Governor's Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy are: Carol Ann Brokaw (Plainfield), Stephen Moses (Englewood), Ramon Hernandez (Bridgeton), Councilman Manuel Segura (Trenton), Vidalia Acevedo (Teaneck) and Isaac Fromm (Teaneck).

The state of New Jersey established the Governor's Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy "to develop recommendations for a comprehensive and strategic statewide approach to successfully integrating New Jersey's rapidly growing immigrant population into the life of this state." The governor signed Executive Order No. 78 establishing the panel on

As much as we would like to end on a positive note, unfortunately only a little more than a quarter of Russians have it right about Ukraine – specifically, those who feel that the country is chaotic and confused.

How else does one explain that Serhii Kivalov, the head of the Central Election Commission during the rigged presidential election in 2004, or Mr. "Pidrakhui" as he is better known by his countrymen, was recently awarded an honorary certificate and medal for his "considerable personal contribution in guaranteeing the realization of the constitutional electoral rights of citizens of Ukraine blah, blah, blah" by that very same Central Election Commission, which is now headed by an alleged supporter of President Viktor Yushchenko?

Mr. Kivalov was quoted as saying that his award represents a "logical conclusion to the processes that began in 2004." Really? One would have thought that perhaps a rather more logical outcome would have been a hefty prison term.

Not to be outdone by the overseer of Ukraine's elections, Mr. Yushchenko bestowed the state award "For Merits" on Borys Kolesnikov, the former head of the Donetsk Oblast Regional Council, who at the November 2004 meeting of deputies in Siverodonetsk (Luhansk Oblast) called for the secession of Ukraine's southern and eastern regions and the formation of a new "federated south-eastern republic" with its capital in Kharkiv.

But wait, there's more.

Mr. Kolesnikov was given the award by the president not only for his "significant personal contribution to Ukraine's socio-economic, scientific-technical and cultural development and for his considerable achievements blah, blah, blah," but also to mark, of all things, the anniversary of the December 1 referendum confirming Ukraine's declaration of independence in 1991.

Try as you will, it is impossible to make stuff like this up.

Maybe the next perfectly "logical" step in this progression of events is to appoint Prof. Dmytro Tabachnyk, currently the acting vice prime minister for humanitarian affairs – who once characterized the raising of the blue-and-yellow national flag in front of City Hall in Kyiv as a criminal act perpetrated by a crazed mob of primitive fanatics – to head the officially established but practically non-existent Ukrainian Institute of National Memory.

## Demjanjuk challenges immigration judge's 2005 deportation order

CINCINNATI, Ohio – John Demjanjuk, the former autoworker whom the U.S. government had accused back in 1977 of complicity in Nazi war crimes, is challenging the right of the chief immigration judge of the United States to order his deportation.

On November 29 the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals heard arguments challenging an order for deportation issued in 2005. It may take several months before the court issues a decision.

Mr. Demjanjuk's attorney, John Broadley, said the chief immigration judge was not authorized to judge the case because his position on the immigration review board is administrative, not adjudicative.

The U.S. Department of Justice argued that the chief immigration judge is just that: a judge. "Why would that be the title if he wasn't to be a judge?" argued Robert Thomson of the Justice Department.

For three decades, Mr. Demjanjuk, 87, has maintained that he himself was a prisoner, captured by the Germans during World War II, and that he is a victim of mistaken identity.

The Demjanjuk case dates back to 1977, when the Justice Department first accused him of being a guard at the Treblinka death camp.

A naturalized U.S. citizen, he lost that status in 1981, when a court stripped him of his citizenship. He was ordered deported and in 1986 was extradited to Israel, where a war crimes trial began a year later.

He was sentenced to death in 1988, but that conviction was overturned on appeal in 1993 by Israel's Supreme Court, and Mr. Demjanjuk returned home to Seven Hills, Ohio. His citizenship was restored in 1998. In that 1998 ruling Judge Paul R. Matia cited fraud on

## Camilla Huk among new appointees to New Jersey's immigrant policy panel

TRENTON, N.J. – New Jersey Gov. Jon S. Corzine on December 10 signed an executive order expanding the membership of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy from 27 to 35 members.

Among the eight newly appointed members of the panel is Camilla Huk, of Rutherford, N.J., a representative of the Ukrainian American community.

Ms. Huk served on the first Governor's Ethnic Advisory Council in New Jersey under Gov. Brendan Byrne and was later re-appointed by Govs. Jim McGreevey, Richard Codey and Corzine. At present she is acting head of the council, which also counts Ukrainian American Michael Koziupa among its members. Ms. Huk is also spearheading efforts to create an East European leadership caucus in the state.

Speaking of her new appointment, Ms. Huk said: "My passion is making sure that our people are not victimized, especially by the immigration process. What

(Continued on page 32)

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## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Opening the archives

Seemingly lost among the recent news from Ukraine about the constantly shifting political landscape was a very important news item about the country's state archives.

Among documents recently released by the Branch State Archive of the Security Service of Ukraine (known by its Ukrainian-based acronym as SBU), were documents which confirmed something that many had suspected for decades – although in some quarters the news might be perceived as downright sensational.

Newly unearthed documents confirm that special groups of the Ministry of State Security and the Internal Affairs Ministry of the USSR were active under the guise of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) in western Ukraine. Their aim was to discredit the legitimate forces of the OUN and UPA by acting in their name in various operations directed against the populace of the western oblasts of Ukraine. The undercover operations, which took place between 1944 and 1950, were meant to undermine the OUN and UPA forces who fought valiantly against the “evil empires” of Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union in their struggle for the independence of Ukraine.

According to Serhii Bohunov, chief of the SBU Branch State Archives, through the end of 1945 there were 150 such special groups, comprising approximately 1,800 persons, sent by the Soviets to western Ukrainian lands. By February 1950, by which time most of the special groups were disbanded, there were 19 groups composed of 130 persons. Mr. Bohunov, who announced the new findings back on November 30, indicated that most of the consolidated documentary materials directly related to these special groups were destroyed in 1990; however, the SBU archives do contain various individual items that speak volumes about Soviet activity in this realm.

For example, by studying these separate documents, scholars were able to determine that as of July 1, 1945, the special groups had liquidated 1,980 participants of underground resistance activity in Ukraine and had captured 1,142 persons. Other documents reveal that the special groups brutalized ordinary residents of western Ukraine. Thus, it was ascertained that during the winter of 1947-1948 such groups active in the Rivne and Zakarpattia oblasts regularly robbed the locals, taking their money, personal possessions and food. Other documents reveal such atrocities as the 1949 rape of a woman in one village and the torture of a man in another village in the Rivne Oblast with the aim of gathering information.

Archivists at the SBU are continuing their research and study of documents in their possession. These documents are a veritable treasure trove that must be studied by scholars from around the globe and revealed to the world in order to continue telling the true story of the Soviet subjugation of Ukraine.

Dec  
19  
2002

### Turning the pages back...

Five years ago, on December 19, 2002, the leaders of four main opposition parties, including the Communist and Socialist parties, Our Ukraine and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, united in resistance to the parliamentary tabulating committee formed two days earlier by the pro-presidential majority to pass resolutions by voting outside the Parliament chamber.

At a press conference, the leaders declared that they were ready to resort to street demonstrations and mass strikes in order to make the majority meet their conditions, which included the cancellation of the parliamentary tabulating committee, the replacement of National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) Chairman Volodymyr Stelmakh with Serhii Tyhytko and the cancellation of the 2003 draft budget.

On December 17, 2002, opposition forces surrounded the presidium and rostrum of the Verkhovna Rada after deputies voted to consider the appointment of Mr. Tyhytko as NBU chairman in a repeat of the previous week's blocking of the parliamentary chamber. National Deputy Igor Sharov then announced on behalf of the majority that it had agreed on the appointment of Mr. Tyhytko and that the majority had issued a resolution forming an alternative to the existing tabulating committee in order to hold voting. The committee, headed by National Deputy Volodymyr Zaitsev of the Social Democratic Party United, then decided to hold voting by assigned ballots (each deputy received a ballot with his/her name printed on it), rather than via the computerized voting in the session hall that opposition forces were successfully blocking for the second time.

Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn then called a recess to hold a vote on the draft resolutions prepared by the majority on the budget, the National Bank and the redistribution of Rada committees. Ballots were distributed by the tabulating committee to leaders of the Parliament's factions and, amid much confusion, voting took place in the office of Oleksander Zadorozhnyi. The tabulating committee then announced that the majority had succeeded in passing all of the measures.

Opposition leaders declared that they would seek to have the results invalidated in court, noting that even the regulations of the majority's commission had been violated as 30 ballots were submitted late. Ms. Tymoshenko said that a claim would be submitted bearing the signatures of approximately 200 deputies.

At the press conference, opposition leaders insisted that pressure on their deputies to join the majority must end, that a moratorium must be declared on deputies moving from faction to faction, and that deputies elected from a party list should be dismissed when they leave their faction. If the majority agreed to these conditions, the opposition would allow the appointment of Mr. Tyhytko as chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine in exchange.

The opposition leaders said they combined their efforts to prevent Ukraine from falling further into political chaos – a situation that could lead to economic catastrophe. They also commented that the current authorities were implementing a policy that could result in the loss of Ukraine's independence. Oleksander Moroz, leader of the Socialist Party, said, “The current authorities are capable of stepping over the law, over the Parliament, over democracy and, finally, over Ukraine itself.”

Source: “Opposition forces unite to resist majority's parliamentary ‘coup’,” by Conor Humphries, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, December 22, 2002.

## CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

### A legacy of war

*A memoir by Anastasia (Smerechuk) Pawlowsky as told to her daughter, Alexandra Pawlowsky.*

September 27, 1944, as the Russian front was approaching our native village of Rafayil, in the foothills of Ukraine's Carpathian Mountains, our father made the difficult decision that our family had no choice but to forsake our home and homeland and make our way westward.

Our family, the Smerechuks, my parents, Ivan and Maria, older sister Anna, age 17, younger sister Marusia, 5, and I, a 16-year-old, joined a group of like-minded Ukrainians following behind a military convoy headed for Austria. Although history may say we were now officially refugees, we felt distinctly more like prisoners. From our first steps behind the convoy we were under the constant surveillance of the soldiers. And this feeling of imprisonment stayed with us for the duration of the war.

The journey to Austria was arduous; much of it we made on foot. Our possessions were few. Each of us carried a small satchel and we all took turns carrying 5-year-old Marusia. Our fellow sojourners behind the convoy marveled that our family was making this trek with a young child in tow. But Marusia's presence was an asset to all of us, as her childlike exuberance about this unexpected adventure eased our more grown up fears.

Several weeks later, completely exhausted, some of us now next to barefoot, we arrived at our destination, a transitional refugee camp in Straushof not far from Vienna. There our documents were

inspected and then re-inspected. Our parents interrogated at length. Our bodies subjected to medical examinations, the humiliation of de-lousing and then further examinations. These seemed to last an eternity. Naked, we huddled together not so much out of modesty, but more so to keep ourselves, and particularly our little sister, warm. When the process was over, we were issued new documents which now identified us as forced laborers.

Linz, a picturesque Austrian city, stands on the banks of the Danube River against the backdrop of the majestic Austrian Alps. Already an industrial hub, it had been transformed into a center of wartime activity. Its munitions factories and state-run farming operations were filled with forced laborers.

Our family was promptly dispatched to one of Linz's huge state farms. Except for Marusia, the rest of us worked seven days a week, existing on meager food rations and sleeping in a communal bunkhouse where any sort of privacy was an unheard of luxury. Hunger and fatigue were constants in our daily lives. The dire exigencies of war preyed on our minds and our bodies. We felt vulnerable and powerless.

The nightly bombing raids rapidly became increasingly intense. The very first wail of the air raid sirens sent us fleeing for shelter in a nearby stone basement. We were not the only ones frequenting this “shelter.” Para-military trainees from a nearby facility also sought refuge there. These were teenage girls about the same age as Anna and I. We knew instinctively that we were enemies. As such, even in the close confines of the basement shelter, neither side spoke to the other and hardly dared to even glance at each other.

On December 24, 1944, Christmas Eve, the sirens sounded shrilly. There, in the relative safety of the shelter, we once again encountered the trainees. That evening the wait for the all-clear signal seemed interminable. For a while we sat in silence. However, as time passed, we struck up a somewhat hesitant conversation with the Austrian girls. One of the girls brought out a paper bag filled with cookies – an almost unheard of delicacy for us – and shyly offered us some. And, as the Austrian girls quietly began to sing the magnificently serene “Stille Nacht” (“Silent Night”), without any hesitation, Anna and I joined in.

Once the all-clear signal sounded we made our way back out into the outside world without farewells.

War had forced our family, like so many others, before and since, to forsake all that we cherished. Furthermore, the countless hardships of refugee existence and our uncertain future succeeded in making us virtual prisoners of war.

Yet, the memory of that first Christmas away from home resonates with me to this day. On that first Christmas Eve the power of the holy spirit of Christmas imparted a lifelong lesson: that humankind, when motivated to do so and without any huge effort, can work together to transcend even the worst human atrocity, war.

### MAY WE HELP YOU?

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## Double Exposure

by Khristina Lew

### Santa Claus is coming to town (twice)

My sister Olesia and I are struggling with presenting a cohesive magical experience for our three little children this holiday season. Is Sviaty Mykolai the grandfatherly figure in the priestly robes or the jolly man in the red suit, with a sleigh and eight reindeer? Does he bring presents on December 6, 19, 24 or on January 6? Who's the guy at the mall?

Sviaty Mykolai, it seems, is a busy fellow. In Monkton, Md., his appearance coincides with his arrival at Ridna Shkola (School of Ukrainian Studies) in Washington, which this year was on December 15. Each member of the Traska family waits for him by staking out a window and searching him out in the evening sky. When a bell rings, the entire clan races downstairs, but, explains Lara Traska, "we never catch him." The gifts are left under the Christmas tree.

On Christmas Eve, December 24, the Traska children, Stefchyk, 5, and Maxim, 3, receive presents from an angel, who also leaves them under the tree – but not before delivering a little magic of her own. The "angel," says Ms. Traska, is usually one of the older cousins who dresses in an angel costume and circles the house three times with sparklers while the younger children sing "O khto khto, Mykolaya liubyt?" (Who loves Sviaty Mykolai?).

Then, on Christmas Eve according to the Julian calendar, January 6, in Toronto, the angel visits the Traska boys yet again. (Thank goodness my son, Hryts, can't read, or he would insist on becoming a member of the Traska family and trekking out to Maryland and Canada.)

In North Royalton, Ohio, Sviaty Mykolai delivers presents to Mykola, Danylo and Tymish Jarosewich, 4 1/2, 2 1/2 and 2 months, under the pillow on the morning of December 6, the feast of St. Nicholas according to the Gregorian calendar. The angel delivers the remainder of the gifts on Christmas, December 25. "We recently had to have a conversation about the difference between Sviaty Mykolai and Santa Claus when Mykola asked whether we could bake 'tistochka' (cookies) for Santa Claus," said the

mother of the three boys, Tania Jarosewich.

Myrosia Dragan explains that her children are satisfied with the answer that "just like there are different people who speak different languages, Sviaty Mykolai has different helpers around the world – but the real one is Ukrainian." Sviaty Mykolai leaves gifts for the Hankewycz children, 8-year-old Terenia, 6-year-old Zachar, 4-year-old Orest and 2-month-old Nina under the pillow in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., on December 19, the feast of St. Nicholas according to the Julian calendar. The angel delivers additional presents on Christmas Day, January 7.

Ivanna Hodowanec has explained to her children, Sofia, 7, Daniel 5 1/2, and Alexia, 2, that Sviaty Mykolai is the same person as St. Nicholas or Santa Claus – only he is called by a different name in different languages. He comes on different days, she tells them, because in each country children wait for him on a different day. In Jersey City, N.J., Sviaty Mykolai comes on the evening of December 6, rings the doorbell and leaves a stack of gifts.

"We are a mixed marriage – from Ukraine and America," said Ms. Hodowanec, who was born in Lviv. "In Ukraine we did not have angels, but here we do," so her children get additional gifts on December 24-25.

For the Kohout children of Lake Forest, Ill., Sviaty Mykolai delivers a small gift to 12-year-old Matthew, 9-year-old Anna and 3-year-old Isabella at Ukrainian School, and Santa Claus leaves the remainder of the presents under the tree on December 25. Areta Kohout explains that her husband, Chris, is not Ukrainian and grew up with Santa Claus.

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So my dear sister, whether it's Sviaty Mykolai, Santa Claus or an angel with pixie dust, whatever tradition we decide on will be a magical one for our children.

Happy Christmas to all, and to all a goodnight!

## CROSSCURRENTS

by Andrew Sorokowski

### Have an alternative holiday

We complain about the commercialization of Christmas, but we participate, and thus we perpetuate. Can we fail to deliver presents to our children and grandchildren, nieces and nephews, friends and associates? And so, we join the army of thickly clad shoppers besieging the malls and department stores, pelting each other with coughs and sneezes, pressed in on all sides like the Spartans at Thermopylae. Then comes the raising and decoration of the Christmas tree, as obligatory a civic ritual as the emperor cult in ancient Rome. Nor dare we default at the holiday parties, with their forced cheerfulness and their chit-chat on work and weather, sports and gossip.

Finally it's Christmas morning, when our ravenous children rip open their presents and scatter for the nearest video screen, while we puzzle over the 80-page instruction manual for our latest gadget. Perhaps we stop by a church, though our minds are too cluttered with the logistics of provisioning and transporting our families to pay much attention to the sermon or the liturgy. The next day we're back at the malls, exchanging our gifts for what we really want. (And what do we really want?)

And suddenly it's over. We sink into a post-holiday depression, with nothing to look forward to until New Year's Eve. Then it's more talk of work and weather, sports and gossip, as we celebrate the extraordinary fact that the earth has completed yet another revolution around the sun – though that depends on your starting point: isn't it all relative anyway? Late next morning we start the new year with a hangover and the gloomy realization that there is no reason this year should be any better than the last.

Such has become the standard American Christmas. As the U.S. Supreme Court remarked in *County of Allegheny v. ACLU* (1989), "both Christmas and Chanukah are part of the same winter-holiday season, which has attained a secular status in our society" (492 U.S. 573, at 616). Indeed, it is because Christmas has been "largely secularized" that it can remain a national holiday (see the 1999 federal district court decision in *Ganulin v. United States*, 71 F.Supp.2d 824, 832).

Ever inventive, Americans have come up with alternative holidays, if not holy days. In southern California back in 1966, black nationalist Ron Everett, a.k.a. Maulana Karenga, invented a pan-African "first fruits" festival called Kwanzaa, celebrated from December 26 to January 1. At first, Mr. Karenga, son of a Baptist minister from Maryland, denounced Christianity as a white man's religion. But later he decided that Kwanzaa did not have to displace anyone's faith.

Then in December 1997 Daniel O'Keefe, a scriptwriter for the television series "Seinfeld," introduced Festivus. Invented by his father, a Reader's Digest writer and editor, the new holiday was a response to the commercialization of Christmas. Festivus involves a variety of mock-serious rituals, more or less in the spirit of the "Seinfeld" brand of humor.

Naturally, we Ukrainian Americans have our own alternative to the standard

American Christmas. The main difference is "Sviat Vechir" or Christmas Eve, with its traditional meal followed by Christmas songs – if we still remember the words, and haven't lost the habit of singing. If we invite non-Ukrainians, we can impress them with our ingenuity in devising a 12-course meal that contains no meat or dairy products. We can entertain them with our exotic customs – the sheaf of wheat in the corner, the dish of kutia for the spirits of the departed – or amuse them with stories of how our people used to talk to farm animals and throw kutia onto the ceiling. If they are secular-minded, we can assure them that all this is really pre-Christian, originating when we were carefree pagans romping in the woods. Thus, our ethnic nationalism sometimes leads us, like the early practitioners of Kwanzaa, to favor folklore over an inconveniently universalistic faith. But basically it's the standard American Christmas with ethnic coloring.

There is a radical alternative to all this, but it's not for everyone. It requires commitment, self-discipline and a willingness to resist the current of the surrounding culture. While everyone else is partying you begin "Pylypivka," a 40-day fast between St. Philip's Day and Christmas Eve, roughly corresponding to the Western Advent. Not a strict fast, Pylypivka fosters a mood of solemn anticipation. At about the middle comes St. Nicholas Day, when you exchange gifts. For children, associating gift-giving with the legends about St. Nicholas is a lesson in charity, and separates the notion of presents from Christmas. Sviat Vechir is festive yet subdued, a prelude to the central event: the miraculous birth of Christ, celebrated at liturgy that night or the next morning.

And now, as the rest of society sinks into post-holiday depression, you are just beginning the festivities. They last 12 days, punctuated by New Year's Eve. Then comes "Schedryi Vechir," the eve of the feast of Theophany. Known in the West as Epiphany, Theophany (Bohoavlennia) is in Eastern tradition the greatest holiday after Easter and Pentecost, for it proclaims Jesus as the son of God. Also known as "Yordan" (after the river in which he was baptized by St. John), it is accompanied by the blessing of water and, in some places, of a large cross cut out of ice.

Those interested in this holiday alternative – which we can simply call "Christmas" – may wish to investigate Generations of Faith, an intergenerational approach to religious education that focuses on major feast days, extending through the family to the broader community. Both Ukrainian Orthodox and Catholic parishes have participated.

Which holiday, if any, will you celebrate? Whatever your choice, it will say something about how you live and what you believe – in other words, about who you are.

Further reading: "The Year of Grace of the Lord: A Scriptural and Liturgical Commentary on the Calendar of the Orthodox Church," by A Monk of the Eastern Church (Crestwood N.Y.: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1992); [www.generationsoffaith.org](http://www.generationsoffaith.org).

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"Visit from St. Nicholas," a glasspainting by Yaroslava Surmach Mills.

## U.S. ambassador addresses U.S.-Ukraine Business Council

KYIV – An overflow crowd of U.S.-Ukraine Business Council (USUBC) members and guests listened on Friday, December 7, as U.S. Ambassador William B. Taylor Jr. explained recent successes and failures in the U.S. government's attempts to have a positive influence on the business climate in Ukraine.

Mr. Taylor pointed to the increasing number of American businesses that are making substantial investments into Ukrainian business and industry and described the continuing problems faced in certain areas.

The ambassador made specific reference to Pepsi, Holtec, Vanco, SigmaBleyzer, Boeing, Bunge, Horizon Capital, Shell and Marathon as having made recent major investments or sales in the Ukrainian market.

The meeting, held in the conference hall of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF), also heard a top Ex-Im Bank official, Nikolay Oudovichenko, announce that Ukraine's State Export-Import Bank is opening a representative office in New York whose primary function will be facilitating increased investment of Ukrainian capital in the U.S. economy.

Mr. Oudovichenko went on to explain many of the innovations that have put the State Import-Export Bank of Ukraine on the leading edge of state-owned banks in the former Soviet Union.

Ambassador Taylor was decidedly upbeat about recent developments in Ukraine, particularly in moving Ukraine even closer to accession to membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO). He expressed his confidence that, in spite of a late roadblock put up unexpectedly by the European Union on the issue of export licenses, there is an outside chance of WTO membership becoming a reality for Ukraine in the last few days of 2007 or at

least by early 2008.

USUBC members asked questions and discussed in detail with the ambassador a number of problems that continue to plague most businesses in Ukraine.

There was a consensus that the failure of the government to make VAT (value-added tax) refunds in a timely fashion is one of the major problems that has a very negative effect on U.S.-owned and Ukrainian businesses at all levels. While U.S. businesses that export from Ukraine are owed sums that exceed \$200 million, there is at least another \$100 million owed to smaller U.S. and Ukrainian firms that are less able to stand the loss of expected VAT refunds.

Ambassador Taylor assured all U.S.-Ukraine Business Council members that he has continued to meet with Mykola Azarov, acting first vice prime minister and minister of finance, who has oversight in this area, and will meet with Mr. Azarov's successor as soon as a new government is in place.

USUBC President Morgan Williams, who is affiliated with SigmaBleyzer in Washington, raised the continued problem of the U.S. government's Overseas Private Investment Corp. (OPIC) being closed for loan guarantees and other benefits to Ukraine since 2005 because of the Ukrainian government's unwillingness to find a solution to a relatively small judgment involving only \$17 million. As Mr. Williams pointed out, solution of this problem could open up several hundred million dollars of U.S. equity investment funds, in addition to loan guarantees and political risk insurance. All parties agreed that this problem would be near the top of the agenda with the new government when it is constituted, and the U.S. ambassador said he would meet with Ukrainian officials regarding OPIC.

The Ukrainian customs service was another matter that concerned many of the

business executives and owners participating in the meeting. A new USUBC member, the express delivery service UPS, pointed out that the company has more trouble entering priority packages into Ukraine than any other country the company serves.

Because of outdated Soviet-era thinking

in the customs service, UPS has had instances of desperately needed parts being delivered to Ukraine within one day, only to take two to three weeks for customs clearance.

– Excerpts from the *Ukrainian Observer of Kyiv*, December 11 issue.

## UkrExImBank to open New York office

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The State Export-Import Bank of Ukraine (UkrExImBank) will open the doors to its New York representative office at 14 Wall St., 20th floor, on December 19.

UkrExImBank has a pipeline of new projects to be financed in 2008 together with the Export-Import Bank of the United States, said Mykola Oudovichenko, deputy chairman of the bank's board of directors.

However, the bank wants more American investment in Ukraine, he said.

"Our representative office is a way of more consistent and efficient communication between the two countries," Mr. Oudovichenko told a December 7 meeting of American businessmen in Kyiv. "We should focus not on the big list of issues, but the most important priorities and industries for the development of bilateral relations."

At present, Germany leads foreign direct investment in Ukraine, accounting for 22 percent, followed by the Netherlands (8 percent), the Russian Federation (5 percent) and the U.S. (5 percent).

Founded in 1992, the State Export-Import Bank, which issues government loans, is a commercial bank geared toward financing Ukrainian businesses in expand-

ing outside Ukraine, as well as financing domestic and foreign businesses operating within Ukraine. Its shares are entirely owned by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

The UkrExIm Bank serves as the main bridge for Ukraine's foreign trade, and borrows funds from the World Bank to finance the Ukrainian banking system, enabling it to lend to export-oriented businesses, Mr. Oudovichenko said.

Earlier, Ukraine's ExIm Bank was primarily a corporate lending institution, but small- and mid-size lending has increased dramatically in recent years, he said, reaching 28 percent of the bank's current loans.

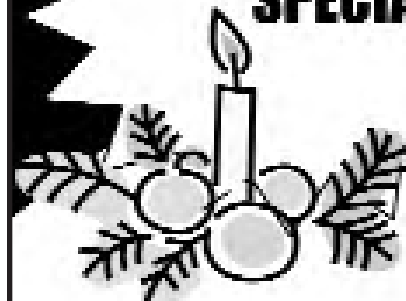
"The spirit of entrepreneurship in our country is growing dramatically, but it should be supported by reforms and strong deregulation systems that would allow for a real platform for sustainable growth," Mr. Oudovichenko said.

The bank's return on equity is above 20 percent, he said, which is comparable to what top commercial banks achieve.

Global Finance magazine named ExIm Bank Ukraine's top bank in 2005.

The bank will host the grand opening of its New York representative office at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79 St., on December 18 at 6 p.m.

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# BOOK NOTES: *Batkivschyna's mission and a five-year adventure*

by Zenon Zawada  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – It's been more than seven years since the schooner *Batkivschyna* made its legendary voyage across the Atlantic, yet the American reception still awes and inspires its captain, Dmytro Biriukovych, to this day.

"It was the brightest star on our journey," Capt. Biriukovych said. "If anyone asked what most impressed you, it was the treatment of Americans, from the most common worker to the highest senator."

In dedication to his voyage and those who supported it, Capt. Biriukovych spent 14 months writing "*Misiya Batkivschyna*" (*Mission Fatherland*), a 414-page Ukrainian-language opus about his five-year adventure (with a few breaks, of course).

Humorously portrayed in *The New York Times*, revered in the Ukrainian American media and sarcastically dismissed in the Russian American media, the *Batkivschyna's* voyage can now be viewed through the eyes of Capt. Biriukovych.

Published in August and written in the Ukrainian language, "*Misiya Batkivschyna*" is akin to a daily log of the journey, hatched during Kuchma-era Ukraine when all the average Westerner really knew about Ukraine was Chernobyl and Internet brides.

The kindness of strangers, rendezvous with U.S. politicians, disinterest on the part of Ukrainian politicians, his crew's desertion and abandonment by Ukraine's diplomatic corps are all described in detail.

Capt. Biriukovych writes about his family's decades-long devotion to sailing going back to the post-World War II years, when they invested their first large sum of money into a boat.

A construction engineer, Capt. Biriukovych and his colleagues at the legendary Cruiser Yacht Club in Kyiv built the 89-foot *Batkivschyna* out of a 22-ton steel hull from a Soviet industrial ship. Within three years, a sailing schooner with a cement hull was constructed and christened in 1991.

With his newly gained freedom, Capt. Biriukovych began sailing to Turkey, Italy and Israel, participating in sailing festivals in Spain by 1999. In his travels, Mr. Biriukovych saw how little Europeans truly knew of his native Ukraine and realized the need to create positive publicity for his fatherland.

Capt. Biriukovych's breakthrough came with an invitation from U.S. President Bill Clinton to attend Operation Sail (OpSail) 2000, the U.S. sailing festival for the new millennium.

Though a "Let the World Recognize Ukraine" Charity Fund was launched, it failed to raise funds. Undaunted, Capt. Biriukovych set upon the journey with about \$5,500 donated from OpSail – a mere tenth of what such a voyage normally requires.

"There were no sponsors and no government support," he said. "Everything was done with American money. At home, this interested no one, through I sent dozens of letters, knocked on doors in the Rada. Zero. No attention."

Capt. Biriukovych's Canadian son-in-law Roy Kellogg worked miracles as the trip's coordinator and public relations representative, but the book reveals that the greatest miracle of the journey of the *Batkivschyna* – "the little ship that could" – was its utter reliance on the kindness of strangers, who soon become family.

Before he even set sail, the Ukrainian diaspora kicked into gear.

Steve Femiak organized a support group,

Connecticut Friends of the Ukrainian Expedition in New London, Conn., inviting Capt. Biriukovych and his wife to visit.

The couple was awestruck.

"Why are the Americans supporting *Batkivschyna*?" Capt. Biriukovych wrote. "Steve and Lesia are understandable – they are Ukrainians. But why Michael Lamperelli and Dorothy? We are strangers to them. Why are they expending energy, time and money?"

The generosity of the New Londoners was but a drop in a flood.

The *Batkivschyna* set sail on April 17, 2000, conquering more than 7,800 nautical miles across the Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean in just under two months, avoiding a threat from the Turks, losing a land-loving sailor and weathering storms along the way.

Capt. Biriukovych describes how and why the crew got lost at sea for three weeks, causing them to miss the festival's first two events in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Miami, and drawing a two-week search by the Coast Guard.

Immediately, visitors were amused and enamored with the *Batkivschyna* expedition, visiting the yacht and donating fuel, food, flowers and clothes.

Among the expedition's stars were Petro Vaschyk, a Kozak who amused the crowds with his raucous accordion-playing and boisterous song.

Mr. Biriukovych hides little from the reader, even describing how his original crew of 18 dwindled bit by bit, lured by the comforts of American life.

Eventually, Capt. Biriukovych would travel throughout the East Coast, up the Hudson River to the Erie Canal, through the Great Lakes, the mighty Mississippi River, across the Panama Canal and up along the West Coast.

Among the key moments of Capt. Biriukovych's journey was his visit to Chicago for the 10th anniversary commemoration of Ukrainian independence, during which the captain presented Chicago Mayor Richard Daley with a Kozak bulava.

"Truly, the Ukrainian presence in Chicago is substantial," Capt. Biriukovych wrote of the festivities. "Pride for my country filled my heart."

Among the other dignitaries Capt. Biriukovych encountered was Connecticut Gov. John Rowland, who climbed aboard the *Batkivschyna*.

Currently, the schooner is stranded on Kangaroo Island off the coast of Australia, perhaps never to return to Ukraine.

Capt. Biriukovych said he was assured support from the Ukrainian diaspora in Australia, led by Stefan Romaniw, only to be abandoned without any financial means of continuing the expedition.

When Capt. Biriukovych approached Ukraine's Ambassador to Australia Oleksander Mischenko for support, he refused because the expedition was not government-sponsored.

"Why are you bothering me?" Mr. Mischenko allegedly told Capt. Biriukovych said. "This is not my business!"

Capt. Biriukovych returned to Kyiv by airplane with his wife, Nina, thanks to tickets generously paid for by fellow sailing enthusiast Ken Kling.

The five-year journey had its ups and downs, but Capt. Biriukovych strikes a stubbornly optimistic and hopeful tone when writing about them.

Disappointment in Australia left Capt. Biriukovych even more grateful for the American reception.

Mission *Batkivschyna* was a test of international friendship and support, and Americans, with and without Ukrainian roots, passed with flying colors, he said.



The *Batkivschyna's* captain, Dmytro Biriukovych.

"I was surrounded by friends warmer than here," Capt. Biriukovych told *The Weekly* back in his native Kyiv. "I can never forget that."

"*Misiya Batkivschyna*" offers 370 photographs, as well as historical nuggets and descriptions about all the visited cities and sites, many with which Americans themselves aren't familiar.

For example, it was President Andrew Jackson who first used the phrase "O.K." And, did you know there are two Mississippi Rivers?

Capt. Biriukovych said his book would make an excellent Christmas gift, but, perhaps more importantly, he said he borrowed the funds to publish it and now needs to pay his creditors back.

"*Misiya Batkivschyna*" costs \$30, plus \$9 in shipping costs, and those interested can call the Biriukovyches at (804) 419-5998, or e-mail dbiriukovych@yahoo.com.

\*\*\*

To read *The Weekly's* reports about the *Batkivschyna's* participation in OpSail 2000, log on to [www.ukrweekly.com](http://www.ukrweekly.com) and search the issues for the year 2000.

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***The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association,  
the editorial staffs of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly  
and the management of the Soyuzivka Heritage Center***

*greet*

the hierarchs of Ukrainian Churches, leaders of Ukrainian organizations,  
members of the UNA, officers of UNA branches and districts,  
subscribers and readers of our publications, and Soyuzivka guests,  
as well as all Ukrainians of the diaspora and Ukraine.

***Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!***

***Радісних Свят  
Різдва Христового і  
Щасливого Нового Року***

Родині, Приятелям, Знайомим,  
Головному Урядові УНСоюзу,  
Працівникам та всім Секретарям Відділів

*щиро бажають*

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КАЧАРАЇ з родиною**

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і  
Щасливого Нового Року***

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і Членам Головного Уряду, Головам Округ і Секретарям Відділів,  
Працівникам і всім Членам Українського Народного Союзу

*бажає*

**д-р ЗЕНОН ГОЛУБЕЦЬ  
з дружиною МИРОСЛАВОЮ  
і родиною**

*Wishing  
a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR  
to the General Assembly, District Committee Chairpersons,  
Branch Secretaries, UNA members, and their families and friends,  
as well as all Ukrainians in the Diaspora and in Ukraine*

*from*

**MICHAEL KOZIUPA  
wife ANNA  
and children TATYANA and DANIEL**



***РАДІСНИХ СВЯТ  
РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО  
і  
ЩАСЛИВОГО НОВОГО РОКУ***

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Головам Округ і Секретарям Відділів  
та їх управам

*щиро бажає*

***ХРИСТИНА Є. КОЗАК з родиною***



*We greet all our  
dear friends  
and colleagues  
with a joyful  
Christmas carol  
and best wishes  
for a wonderful new year!*

– *Andriy, Roma, Markian and Paul Hadzewycz*

**З ПРАЗНИКОМ  
РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО**

*вітаємо  
РОДИНУ, ПРИЯТЕЛІВ  
і ЧЛЕНІВ ГОЛОВНОГО УРЯДУ  
та бажаємо*

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працівникам та всім секретарям відділів*

*щиро бажають*

**МАРТА і ДАРКО ЛИСКО  
з родиною**

*Родині, Приятелям і Знайомим  
бажаємо*

**ВЕСЕЛИХ  
ТА  
ЩАСЛИВИХ СВЯТ**

**д-р ЮРІЙ та ОКСАНА ТРИТЯК  
з дітьми АРЕТОЮ та ЯРЕМІЄМ**

**З Різдвом Христовим**

*вітаємо щиро Рідних, Приятелів і Знайомих,  
а в Новому Році бажаємо  
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бажають*

**ЛІДА і ОРЕСТ ЦЯПКА з родиною**

**З нагоди Свят Різдва Христового**

*вітаємо  
УСІХ РІДНИХ і ДРУЗІВ  
та бажаємо всього добра в  
НОВОМУ РОЦІ.*

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*та*

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з донечками АЛЕКСОЮ і СОФІЙКОЮ**

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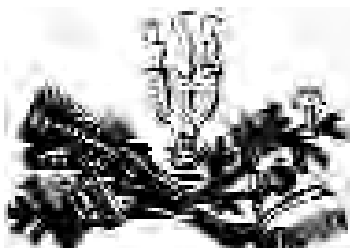
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рідній Батьківщині та всім ближчим і дальшим друзям.

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РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО  
і  
НОВОГО РОКУ*

РОДИНИ, ПАЦІЄНТАМ і ПРИЯТЕЛЯМ

*— засилають —*

**д-р ПЕТРО ЛЕНЧУР  
і д-р РУТА ЧОЛГАН-ЛЕНЧУР**

з дітьми

**ХРИСТИНКОЮ,  
КАТРУСЕЮ і ПЕТРИКОМ**





ROMA PRYMA BOHACHEVSKY  
UKRAINIAN DANCE FOUNDATION

Syzokryli Ukrainian Dance Ensemble

Ukrainian Dance Schools,  
Workshops and Camps

*Wishing all of our students, families, friends and  
benefactors a*

**BLESSED CHRISTMAS  
and  
A HAPPY AND HEALTHY  
NEW YEAR!**

**The Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian  
Dance Foundation  
and  
Ania Bohachevsky Lonkevych  
with Family**



***Merry Christmas  
and the Best of Health  
in the New Year***

***Dr. Ihor, Lesia, Adia  
and Maksym Magun***



**З РІЗДВОМ ХРИСТОВИМ  
і НОВИМ РОКОМ**

*щиро вітаємо*

РОДИНУ, ПРИЯТЕЛІВ і ЗНАЙОМИХ

**д-р БОРИС і МИРЯСЯ МИХАЛЬЧАКИ  
з донею СОФІЙКОЮ**



***Радісних Свят  
Різдва Христового  
і  
Щасливого Нового Року***

*Родині і Приятелям*

*щиро бажає*

***СВІТЛЯНА НЕДІЛЬСЬКА  
з дітьми і внуками***



***Радісних Свят  
Різдва Христового  
і Щасливого Нового Року***

Родині, Приятелям, Знайомим  
та Пацієнтам

*бажають*

**д-р МАРКО і д-р ЛЮДМІЛА ОЛЕСНИЦЬКІ  
з донями і сином та їхніми родинами.**



*Родині, Приятелям і Знайомим*

*бажаємо*

***ВЕСЕЛИХ ТА ЩАСЛИВИХ СВЯТ  
РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО***

**ІВАНКА, НЕСТОР, ДАМ'ЯН  
І АНДРІЙ ОЛЕСНИЦЬКІ**

845 754-7987



***З празниками  
РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО  
НОВОГО РОКУ та ЙОРДАНУ!***

*Ісрархам українських церков, голосім пластовим проводам,  
крайовим проводам, усім пластункам і пластунам,  
прихильникам Пласту та українському народові*

*бажає*

БАГАТО БОЖИХ ЛАСК, ДОБРА Й ЩАСТЯ

**ЛЮБОМИР РОМАНКІВ  
НАЧАЛЬНИЙ ПЛАСТУН**



**Веселих Свят і  
Щасливого Нового Року**



РОДИНІ, ПРИЯТЕЛЯМ і ПАЦІЄНТАМ

— б а ж а є —

**д-р Омелян Коцопей з дружиною Ерікою  
та синами Андрієм і Петром**

1100 South Broad St., Trenton, NJ 08611 • (609) 393-6891



**Best wishes to our Family and Friends  
For the Holidays**

**and for Health and Happiness  
Throughout the Year**

**Zoriana and Myroslaw Smorodsky  
and Family**



**Д-р ЯРОСЛАВ і ОЛЯ  
СТАВНИЧІ**

вітають

РОДИНУ, ПРИЯТЕЛІВ і ПАЦІЄНТІВ

**З РІЗДВОМ ХРИСТОВИМ  
і НОВИМ РОКОМ**

**Христос Родився! Славимо Його!**



Щиросердечний привіт і побажання з нагоди  
Радісних Свят Різдва Христового  
та Щасливого Нового Року

Родині тут і на Батьківщині, Приятелям,  
шановним Пацієнтам, Знайомим  
та всьому Українському Народові на Рідних Землях

пересилає

**д-р ЛЮБОМИР ВОРОХ з дітьми  
сином ЛЮБОСЛАВОМ  
донями АНДРЕЄЮ і ТАТЯНОЮ**



**РАДІСНИХ СВЯТ РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО  
та ЩАСЛИВОГО НОВОГО РОКУ**

РОДИНІ, ПРИЯТЕЛЯМ і ЗНАЙОМИМ

бажає

**ЕВГЕНІЯ ШПИРКА**

**ВЕСЕЛИХ СВЯТ, РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО,  
ЩАСЛИВОГО НОВОГО РОКУ  
та БОЖИХ ЛАСК**



РОДИНІ, ПРИЯТЕЛЯМ і ЗНАЙОМИМ

бажають

**ЛЮБА і ЯРОСЛАВ ФЕДУНИ з родиною**

**Веселих Свят Різдва Христового  
та Щасливого Нового Року**

РІДНИМ, ПРИЯТЕЛЯМ та ЗНАЙОМИМ

— б а ж а ю т ь —

**ВІРА й РОМАН ЗАПУТОВИЧІ**



Hillsdale, NJ

Веселих свят та  
Щасливого Нового Року!



понад 48 років...  
немає музики без

**(973) 736-5609**



**З РІЗДВОМ ХРИСТОВИМ  
і НОВИМ РОКОМ**

вітаємо

РОДИНУ, ДРУЗІВ і ЗНАЙОМИХ

**ІГОР, НАТАЛКА і АННА  
Г'АВДЯКИ**



**РАДІСНИХ СВЯТ  
РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО  
і ЩАСЛИВОГО НОВОГО РОКУ**



бажає

**ЦЕНТРАЛЬНИЙ КОМІТЕТ ДРОГОБИЧЧИНИ**

всім своїм землякам та колишнім жителям  
Дрогобицької Землі на всіх поселеннях

**ХРИСТОС РОЖДАЄТЬСЯ!**





**РАДІСНИХ СВЯТ  
РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО  
ТА ЩАСЛИВОГО  
НОВОГО РОКУ**

РОДИНІ, ПРИЯТЕЛЯМ ТА КЛІЄНТАМ

*бажають*

**ЗЕНЯ БРОЖИНА з чоловіком ЄВГЕНОМ  
та дітьми ОЛЕСЕМ з дружиною ХРИСТЕЮ  
і РОМАНОМ**

Call: (732) 928-3792



**THE BOARD OF KLK  
UKRAINIAN SKI CLUB**

**WISHES ALL ITS  
MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

*and a*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**



**Управа  
Східньо-Європейського  
Дослідного Інституту  
ім. В. Липинського**

*вітає*

*Вельмишановних Членів, Співробітників,  
Прихильників, Жертводавців і всю Українську Громаду  
в діаспорі та в Україні*

**з ПРАЗНИКОМ РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО**

*і щиро бажає*

**ЩАСЛИВОГО НОВОГО РОКУ**

7911 Whitewood Road, Jenkintown, PA 19027



**KYIV MOHYLA FOUNDATION  
and  
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF  
"KYIV MOHYLA ACADEMY"**



We send all our donors, supporters and friends our best wishes for good health, prosperity and the fulfillment of all your plans in coming year!

May the upcoming year bring success to all your endeavors and let the hopes we all share for a democratic and prosperous Ukraine become a reality.

May the year 2008 be blessed with peace and stability throughout the world!

Thank you for your support.

Kyiv Mohyla Foundation: 803 Box 868179, Chicago, IL 60686.  
Tel: 773 685 1826, www.kmfoundation.com



Головна Управа  
„САМОПОМІЧ“  
Об'єднання Українців в Америці

National Board  
„SELFRELIANCE“

Association of Americans Ukrainian, Inc.

98 3rd Avenue, New York, NY 10003  
Tel.: (212) 777-1326

**ДИРЕКЦІЯ ГОЛОВНОЇ УПРАВИ  
ОБ'ЄДНАННЯ УКРАЇНЦІВ  
В АМЕРИЦІ „САМОПОМІЧ“**

*вітає*

свої відділи та членство

*і бажає*

**РАДІСНИХ СВЯТ  
РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО  
та ЩАСЛИВОГО НОВОГО РОКУ  
ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ!**

За Дирекцію  
головної управи ОУА „Самопоміч“

**БОГДАН МИХАЙЛІВ**  
голова

**НАДЯ САВЧУК**  
секретар



**З РІЗДВОМ ХРИСТОВИМ  
З НОВИМ РОКОМ  
ТА СВЯТИМ ЙОРДАНОМ!**

**ВЕСЕЛИХ СВЯТ**

Бажають своїм членам, жертводавцям,  
землякам в Україні й поза Україною

**УПРАВА ТА АДМІНІСТРАЦІЯ  
УКРАЇНСЬКОГО МУЗЕЮ**



**УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ МУЗЕЙ**  
222 East 6th Street, New York, NY 10003  
Tel.: (212) 228-0110 Fax: (212) 228-1947  
E-mail: info@ukrainianmuseum.org  
Web site: www.ukrainianmuseum.org

*З нагоди радісних свят  
Різдва Христового і Нового Року*

вітаємо український народ на Рідних Землях та в діяспорі,  
Ієрархів Українських Церков та проводи  
українських організацій і установ

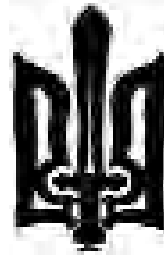
*Сердечні поздоровлення шлемо  
проводові та складовим організаціям  
Світової Федерації Українських Лемківських Об'єднань,  
Управам Відділів та всьому членству  
Організації Оборони Лемківщини в Америці.*

**ХРИСТОС НАРОДИВСЯ! СЛАВІТЕ ЙОГО!**

**КРАЙОВА УПРАВА  
ОРГАНІЗАЦІЇ ОБОРОНИ ЛЕМКІВЩИНИ  
В АМЕРИЦІ**

*Рівночасно запрошуємо всіх на*

**8-му ЛЕМКІВСЬКУ ВАТРУ,**  
яка відбудеться в червні 2008 р.  
на оселі СУМА в Елленвіл, Н.Й.



**Центральна Управа, Відділи  
і все членство Організації  
Державного Відродження  
України (ОДВУ)**

*ВІТАЮТЬ*

**З РІЗДВОМ ХРИСТОВИМ І  
НОВИМ РОКОМ**

*Український народ на рідних землях і всіх наших земляків, розкинутих по різних країнах світу. Вітаємо Ієрархію Українських Церков в Україні і діяспорі, центральні проводи і членство політичних і громадських організацій в Україні і діяспорі, а в тому проводі і членство Українського Золотого Хреста, ІСНО, Редакцію журналу „Самостійна Україна“, Фундацію ім. О. Ольжича, Жіноче т-во ім. О. Теліги, Об'єднання Студіюючої Молоді „Зарево“ в Україні. Зокрема вітаємо і шлемо сердечний дружній привіт Голові Проводу Українських Націоналістів Миколі Плав'юкові і членам Проводу Українських Націоналістів, побажання успіхів у всіх заходах для об'єднання національно-державницьких сил у справі відбудови і закріплення української соборної самостійної України.*

**ХРИСТОС РОЖДАЄТЬСЯ!**

**Олександр Процюк**  
ГОЛОВА

**Уляна Процюк**  
секретар



**The National Office of the Organization for  
the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, Inc.**

sends

**Christmas and  
New Year's greetings**

to:

**the Ukrainian nation, to Ukrainians in the diaspora, to the hierarchy of the Ukrainian Churches in Ukraine and in the world, to the Executive of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (r) and its president Andriy Haidamakha, all fellow organizations of the World Confederation of Ukrainian Nationalist Organizations, the Ukrainian World Congress, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the executives of all the ODFFU branches, all of our members and their families, and all Ukrainian-American communities and patriotic supporters of the OUN Fund.**

**We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!  
Khrystos rodyvsia! Slavim Yoho!**

**President - Michael Koziupa General Secretary - Osip Roshka**



**5-ий Курінь УПС і 23-ій Курінь УСП**

**З РІЗДВОМ ХРИСТОВИМ  
і НОВИМ РОКОМ**

*ВІТАЄ*

*Блаженнішого Верховного Архієпископа  
Главу УГКЦ Патріярха Любомира Кардинала Гузара,  
о. Ректора А. Чировського, о. Лева Голдейда,  
члена Курії Василян, о. Івана Хміля в Україні,  
Пластові Проводи,  
усе Пластове Братство в Україні та в діяспорі,  
всіх братчиків нашого славного Загону з родинами  
та увесь український нарід  
і бажає*

**Веселих і радісних Свят та  
щасливого Нового Року!**

**ГЕНЕРАЛЬНА СТАРШИНА**

*Запрошуємо на Вечорниці ЧК  
з презентацією дебютанток  
Субота, 2 лютого 2008 р. готель Шератон Медовлендс,  
Іст Радерфорд, Нью-Джерзі.*





**Plast Foundation, Inc.**

144 SECOND AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10003

**ДИРЕКЦІЯ ПЛАСТОВОЇ ФУНДАЦІЇ В НЬЮ-ЙОРКУ**

*бажає*

своїм Членам, Фундаторам, Добродіям, Жертводавцям,  
Начальному Пластунові, Пластовим Проводам, Проводам  
Пласт-Приятю, Пластункам і Пластунам  
та всій українській Громаді

**ВЕСЕЛИХ СВЯТ  
РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО  
та  
ЩАСЛИВОГО НОВОГО РОКУ**

**ДИРЕКЦІЯ**



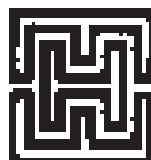
**ЩИРІ ПОБАЖАННЯ З НАГОДИ ПРАЗНИКА  
РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО І НОВОГО РОКУ!**

Ієрархам і Духовенству Українських Церков, Президентів України Вікторів Ющенкові,  
Пластовим Капелянам, Начальному Пластунові, Крайовим Пластовим Старшинам  
Австралії, Аргентини, Великобританії, Канади, Німеччини, Польщі, Словаччини, США,  
України, усім Пластункам і Пластунам, Приятелям та Добродіям Пласту  
та Українському Народові

**ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ –  
СЛАВІМ ЙОГО!**

**ГОЛОВНА ПЛАСТОВА РАДА  
ГОЛОВНА ПЛАСТОВА БУЛАВА**

пл. сен. ЮРІЙ СЛЮСАРЧУК, голова ГПР  
пл. сен. ВОЛОДИМИР БАЗАРКО, голова ГПБ  
пл. сен. ВІРА МОЛЛС, секретар ГПБ



**Наукове Товариство  
ім. Шевченка в Америці**

*бажає*

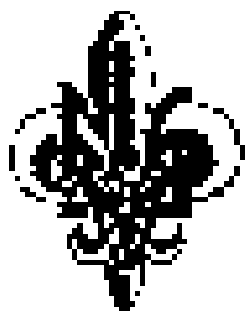
ВСІМ ЧЛЕНАМ НАШОЇ ГРОМАДИ

**РАДІСНИХ СВЯТ РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО,**

**ДОБРОГО Й УСПІШНОГО 2008 РОКУ**

**ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ!**

*Запрошуємо Вас  
на наші конференції й доповіді.*



**ПЛАСТ – УКРАЇНЬСЬКА СКАВТСЬКА  
ОРГАНІЗАЦІЯ В ЗСА**

З радісним празником Різдва Христового, Крайова Пластова  
Старшина в Америці вітає Президента України, Віктора Ющенка та  
український уряд, Ієрархів українських церков і духовенство,  
Начального Пластуна, проводи Головної Пластової Ради і Головної  
Пластової Булави, Крайову Пластову Старшину в Україні та в усіх  
країнах, де діє Пласт. Рівнож вітаємо усіх пластунів, розкинутих по  
світі, та весь український народ на рідних землях і в діяспорі.

Нехай зоря, що над Вертепом сяє  
Ваші серця любов'ю зігриває!  
Добра і миру Вам!  
і світу всьому!

**ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ!  
СЛАВІМО ЙОГО!**

**КРАЙОВА ПЛАСТОВА СТАРШИНА ЗСА**

**The Ukrainian Congress  
Committee of America**

**Wishes You and Your Family**



***a Very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!***

*Let us celebrate this special holiday, which symbol-  
izes a new beginning, by uniting our community for  
the betterment of Ukrainians  
in the United States and Ukraine!*

***Christ is Born!***

***Let Us Praise Him!***

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America  
203 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10003  
Tel.: (212) 228-6840  
E-mail: [ucca@ucca.org](mailto:ucca@ucca.org)

UCCA Kyiv Bureau  
Tel.: (044) 228-45-80  
E-mail: [ucca@i.kiev.ua](mailto:ucca@i.kiev.ua)

Ukrainian National Information Service  
311 Massachusetts Ave., NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
Tel.: (202) 547-0018  
E-mail: [unis@ucca.org](mailto:unis@ucca.org)

# ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ!

Вітаємо парафіян, вірних і весь український народ  
та бажаємо  
щастя, здоров'я і Божого благословення



## оо. Василіяни при церкві св. Юра

### СВЯТИЙ ВЕЧІР – 6 СІЧНЯ

Велике Повечір'я 9:00 вечором  
Торжественна Літургія 10:00 вечором

Запрошуємо всіх на різдвяні відправи

в церкві св. Юра  
30 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY

### РІЗДВО ХРИСТОВЕ – 7 СІЧНЯ

Божественна Літургія – 8:30 ранку,  
10:00 ранку, 12:00 пол. і 6:00 веч.



## ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ! СЛАВІМ ЙОГО!

Релігійне Товариство Українців Католиків

### „Свята Софія“

бажає благословенних свят

## РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО і НОВОГО РОКУ

Патріярхові УКЦ Блаженнішому Любомирові, всім її Ієрархам,  
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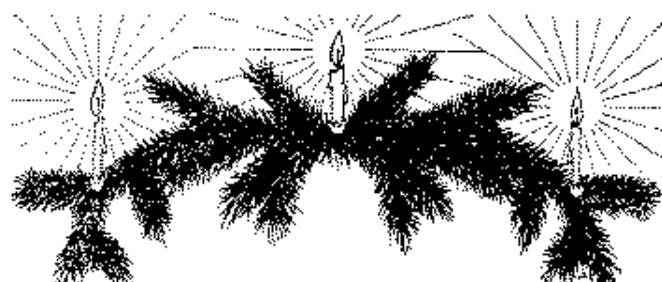
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# NEWSBRIEFS...

(Continued from page 2)

Tymoshenko for prime minister. Mr. Yekhanurov was prime minister from September 2005 to August 2006. Mr. Ohryzko previously served as first vice minister for foreign affairs. Mr. Yushchenko congratulated lawmakers on overcoming the political crisis, describing it as "our common victory" obtained in a "peaceful, fair and lawful manner." (RFE/RL Newline)

## Tymoshenko nomination fails

KYIV – Exactly half of the 450-seat Verkhovna Rada voted on December 11 in favor of approving Yulia Tymoshenko, leader of the bloc bearing her name, as prime minister, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported. The voting was attended only by the coalition parliamentarians of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) and the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc (OU-OSD). According to the YTB and OU-PSD, the voting cards of two coalition lawmakers did not function properly due to a problem with the parliament's electronic voting system. During the repeat voting, one card reportedly did not function and Vladyslav Lukianov of the Party of the Regions prevented Rada Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk from casting his vote. The Security Service of Ukraine intends to investigate the incident and the operation of the voting system. Mr. Yatsenyuk announced that the Verkhovna Rada would continue its session on December 12. (RFE/RL Newline)

## President: keep gas out of politics

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said on December 6 that the issue of the price for Russian gas supplies to Ukraine should be kept out of politics, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported. Russia and Ukraine announced on December 4 that Russia's Gazprom monopoly will supply gas to Ukraine at \$179.50 per 1,000 cubic meters in 2008, up from the current rate of \$130. "The price of \$179.50 is a great shock to the Ukrainian economy. This once again forces us to revise the energy-consumption policy, especially in such sectors as housing, the private sector and some areas of industry," Mr. Yushchenko said. Yulia Tymoshenko, the party leader nominated by the president for the post of prime minister, said that she will be able to arrange a reduction in the price after she takes office. "I would advise Ukrainian politicians not to politicize the issue of gas prices. This will only cause harm," Interfax quoted Mr. Yushchenko as saying. Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev described President Yushchenko's words as "a wise stance" and expressed hope that the Ukrainian government follows his advice. (RFE/RL Newline)

## Historians launch Stalinism project

MOSCOW – A group of Russian historians recently published the first five of a scheduled 100-volume collection of foreign and Russian works on the rule of Soviet leader Joseph Stalin, which lasted from 1922 to 1953, the Associated Press reported from Moscow on December 5. Historian Nikita Petrov said, "There still has been no legal assessment of Stalin's terror, of the Soviet system's crimes. We have not bothered to analyze that bloodshed and its legacy." The collection is titled "History of Stalinism" and will appear over the course of three years. It is sponsored by a fund set up by former President Boris Yeltsin, the Russian State Archive, the human rights organization Memorial and independent historians. Many consider the collection timely

because Russian President Vladimir Putin has revived a version of the Stalin-era national anthem and some other symbols associated with the dictator's rule. Mr. Putin has also argued that some other countries, such as the United States and Germany, have far blacker pages in their histories than did the Soviet Union. (RFE/RL Newline)

## Law on genocide denial proposed

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko has submitted to the Verkhovna Rada a bill criminalizing any public denials of the Nazi Holocaust or the Holodomor of 1932-1933, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on December 10. The draft proposes punishment of two years in prison or a fine of 100 to 300 times the Ukrainian monthly minimum wage, which amounts to between \$9,000 and \$27,000. Repeat offenders could be imprisoned for four years. The Verkhovna Rada in 2006 recognized the Great Famine of 1932-1933, orchestrated by the Soviet regime of Joseph Stalin, as genocide against the Ukrainian nation. (RFE/RL Newline)

## Restored Golden Gate is opened

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko took part in the opening ceremony of the restored Golden Gate of Kyiv architectural site dating back to the 11th century. "Every nation has its symbols, by looking at which one can say that it is being revived. One of these national symbols has always been the Golden Gate of Kyiv," the president said during the ceremony. During the festive re-opening of the Golden Gate there was a dramatized historical performance and a "City of Craftsmen" fair. The Golden Gate is a historic gateway in the ancient city walls of Kyiv. It was one of three gateways constructed by Prince Yaroslav the Wise and was reputedly modeled on the Golden Gate of Constantinople, from which it took its name. In 1240 it was partially destroyed by Batu Khan's Golden Horde. It remained as a gate to the city through the 18th century, although it gradually fell into ruin. In 1832 the ruins were excavated and an initial survey for their conservation was undertaken. Further works in the 1970s added an adjacent pavilion housing a museum. (Ukrinform)

## Visa-free travel for border areas

KYIV – Ukrainians who reside in the 50-kilometer area bordering on Hungary may visit the country visa-free although it will belong to the Schengen zone as of December 21. A decision on the visa-free travel was ratified by the Hungarian National Assembly. Ukraine's Ambassador to Hungary Dmytro Tkach said, "all Ukrainians who reside in the 50-kilometer zone on the border between Ukraine and Hungary are entitled to travel to Hungary without visas." They may purchase the relevant document for 20 euros at the General Consulate or Consulate, and this is added to their passports as a loose leaf. "This authorization is valid for five years. Thus, some 700,000 persons, residing primarily in the Zakarpattia region, may travel visa-free," the ambassador said. (Ukrinform)

## Dzhemilev elected to head Mejlis

KYIV – Mustafa Dzhemilev has been elected for the fourth time as chairman of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people, it was reported on December 10. The vote occurred at the first session of the fifth congress of Crimean Tatars (Kurultai) in Symferopol. Mr. Dzhemilev told journalists he will assume the post in the summer of 2008, when the next Kurultai assembles for the election of a new chair-

(Continued on page 29)

## Tymoshenko...

(Continued from page 1)

devoted ministers in supporting Yushchenko's position."

As they walked into Parliament the morning of the crucial vote, the coalition deputies were so confident of Ms. Tymoshenko's election they were already discussing with reporters who was likely to gain which Cabinet posts.

Tymoshenko Bloc Deputy Mykola Tomenko, who is expected to become the Parliament's vice-chair, brought in the by-now-standard massive bouquet of roses to congratulate his leader.

The coalition appeared to muster all 227 of its deputies, including Vladyslav Kaskiv, a deputy who recently underwent an operation and ascended the Parliament's steps with the help of a metal cane and fellow Deputy Andrii Shevchenko.

Ivan Spodarenko, the 76-year-old being treated in a hospital for heart troubles he suffered weeks earlier, also was present.

After the president's nomination, Ms. Tymoshenko reaffirmed her intention to fulfill all her campaign promises, even those considered unrealistic, particularly returning the \$120 billion in bank deposits destroyed by the hyperinflation of 1991-1995.

Prior governments were able to return billions in value-added refunds to exporters and other costs to corporations, she said. "Somehow politicians don't think about those kopeks that people held on their savings books, which was their last hope in life," Ms. Tymoshenko said.

"They offer explanations of inflation, an absence of funds, and that it's not a priority issue. I would want for us to change our priorities so that Ukraine's government has the honor and conscience before the people, who for 30 years collected their rubles and then hryvni on their savings books," she added.

The Communist Party of Ukraine voiced its opposition to Ms. Tymoshenko's candidacy, largely because of her poor handling of energy and economic policy as prime minister in 2005. The centrist Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc didn't criticize or support her, while deputies of the Party of the Regions didn't bother registering for the session.

After Mr. Yatsenyuk announced the vote, gasps filled the session hall when the number "225" flashed on the Parliament's scoreboard, with two abstentions. Mr. Yatsenyuk's eyes grew wide and his head jerked back in apparent disbelief upon viewing the results.

Immediately, Oleksander Turchynov, Ms. Tymoshenko's right-hand man,

announced that the card of Tymoshenko Bloc deputy Ivan Denkovych had failed. Then it was announced the card of Oleksander Omelchenko also had failed.

Both are rookie deputies, serving in the Parliament for the first time.

Mr. Yatsenyuk quickly called a second vote, asking the Parliament to decide whether it wanted to vote on Tymoshenko's candidacy again.

The coalition would have had its 226-vote majority had Party of the Regions Deputy Vladyslav Lukianov not reached for Mr. Yatsenyuk's voting card and removed it from its slot just as the vote occurred.

"Give the card back," Mr. Yatsenyuk shouted.

Mr. Lukianov returned the card only after the tally again produced a result of 225 votes, causing Party of the Regions deputies to erupt in wild cheers and shouts of "Hanba" (Shame) directed at Messrs. Yatsenyuk and Yushchenko.

Results posted on the Verkhovna Rada website revealed that the cards of Mr. Denkovych and Mr. Omelchenko had worked on the second vote, but that Tymoshenko Bloc deputy Yaroslav Fedorchuk had abstained (in addition to Mr. Yatsenyuk's vote not registering).

Mr. Yatsenyuk called a break and left the presidium, followed by the president.

Party of the Regions deputies immediately rushed into the Parliament's halls to speak with reporters to denounce the coalition's stability and legitimacy.

"This isn't pragmatic, and this has no future," said Hanna Herman, a Party of the Regions deputy. "This will happen at every vote. What is necessary now is to unite Parliament into a broad coalition, select the governing organs and find compromise even if this compromise will be painful for us."

Unabashed and proud of his act, Mr. Lukianov declared he was compelled to swipe the speaker's card because Mr. Yatsenyuk had violated the parliamentary rules in holding a vote to reconsider Ms. Tymoshenko's candidacy.

"Without the Parliament's approval, he put the issue to a repeat vote," he said. "That was a violation of the regimen, and it was the single possibility to prevent a violation of the law and the Parliament's work."

Mr. Lukianov's Party of the Regions colleagues immediately set up a blockade of Parliament, preventing any repeat vote on Ms. Tymoshenko's candidacy that evening and for the next two days.

Soon enough, conspiracy theories began swirling about.

Aside from Ms. Tymoshenko's accusation that the Party of the Regions had



UNIAN/Oleksander Kosaryev

Party of the Regions of Ukraine National Deputy Vladyslav Lukianov swipes the voting card of Parliamentary Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk from its slot during a second vote on Yulia Tymoshenko's candidacy on December 11.

fixed the voting system, some experts suspected possible sabotage from within the coalition itself.

Having spent more than a decade in Ukrainian politics, New York native and Ukrainian citizen Ivan Lozowy didn't rule out the possibility of the Baloha faction, including fellow Zakarpattia natives Vasyl Petiovka and Ihor Kril, undermining the vote.

Though the Verkhovna Rada website listed all the deputies who voted and how they voted, the official list could be subject to easy manipulation, he said.

The Party of the Regions alleged two days later that Mr. Fedorchuk wasn't even in the session hall on that fateful day, implying a conspiracy on behalf of the coalition. Mr. Fedorchuk's seat is adjacent to Mr. Turchynov's.

A close observer of Parliament, Mr. Syrotiuk doubted any conspiracy. "The

voting button needs to be held for two seconds," he said. "You can't press the button before the signal. But if that was truly the problem, then they could have voted the next day. We don't know the entire situation, but it's apparent there are problems within the coalition."

Coalition leaders renewed negotiations on December 13 with the Party of the Regions on distributing control of parliamentary committees. However, it became apparent the Party of the Regions was attempting to stall any agreement as long as it could as its leaders shifted and increased their demands periodically.

"In dragging out the discussion on committees, the Regions are aiming to open further division within the coalition," Mr. Syrotiuk said. "The longer Tymoshenko isn't approved, the more likely coalition members are going to call in sick."

## NEWSBRIEFS...

(Continued from page 28)

man. Mr. Dzhemilev, 64, has been the Mejlis leader for 16 years. He wants to resign that post and find a successor as he is a Ukrainian national deputy (Our Ukraine – People's Self Defense bloc) and he finds it difficult to combine the leadership of Mejlis with his work in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. (Ukrinform)

### 5,000 tons of oil from spill

KYIV – A total of 5,152 tons of black oil fuel mixed with sand and seaweed have been collected on Tuzla Island and the Kerch Strait shore, reported the Emergencies Ministry in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. The fuel was spilled by the Russian tanker Volgoneft-139 in a November 11 storm. Ecologists are monitoring the Kerch Strait, as well as the Black and Azov seas' shoreline, for new signs of pollution. The president of the Aquaculture

Association for Water Resource Rehabilitation and Fish Selection, Volodymyr Volkov, said he believes that Russia should pay Ukraine at least \$1.5 billion (U.S.) in damages following the shipwrecks in the Kerch Strait. He said the accidents have prevented fish migration from the Bosphorus and the Mediterranean Sea to Ukrainian waters. According to experts, the natural water balance can only be restored through a long-term program lasting at least five years. (Ukrinform)

### Kyiv to introduce congestion charge

KYIV – Kyiv authorities intend to introduce a congestion charge in the summer of 2008 in order to prevent traffic jams and improve the city's ecology, it was reported on December 7. According to Kyiv Deputy Mayor Irena Kylchytka, over 800,000 cars have been registered in Kyiv and 200,000 more enter Kyiv daily. (Ukrinform)



**З глибоким жалем і смутком повідомляємо, що в четвер 29 листопада 2007 р. у Баунд Бруку, Н. Джерзі, відійшов у вічність, на 84-му році життя, наш найдорожчий МУЖ, БАТЬКО І ДІДУСЬ**

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## Fourth Wave...

(Continued from page 1)

of the Kyiv-based Small- and Middle-Sized Business Support and Coordination Center, which will attempt to attract both domestic and foreign investment. It will work in conjunction with the Ukrainian World Information Network established in Vienna and led by Dmytro Slavov, Mr. Shokalo said.

The forum also proposed creating a National Commission for Ukraine's Safe, Stable Ecological Development, under the president's oversight, which would have the goal of implementing a strategy for stable development of Ukrainian society.

Among the biggest topics discussed at the forum was maintaining the diaspora's cultural and educational activities overseas.

Those in the publishing industry complained of little or no support from the Ukrainian government in their activities, particularly after the government of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich cut financing for diaspora programs in the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"In 2007 Russia earmarked \$10 million to support its mass media abroad," said Mykhailo Petruniak, chief editor of the Ukrayinets newspaper in Spain. "Ukraine didn't set aside a single kopek for its 7 million emigrants and laborers abroad."

The Ukrainian government's handling

of cultural matters is so poor that other governments appear more supportive. For example, the government of Kazakhstan is remarkably supportive of Ukrainian cultural initiatives, said Volodymyr Skrypnyk, director of the executive committee of the Ukrainians of Kazakhstan Council.

More than 30 Sunday schools, and even a high school, have been established, he said. "Ukrainians in Kazakhstan are [treated as] first-rate citizens," Mr. Skrypnyk said. "Ukrainian culture isn't any less tended to than here in Ukraine." He called for a global information and economic network for Ukrainians.

The forum placed particular emphasis on strategically developing Ukrainian society through its agricultural sector, "which would ensure the foundation for a rebirth of the nation's gene pool and material wealth."

Its final resolution declared Ukraine's agricultural sector as the most promising branch in developing Ukrainian society "because Ukrainian soil is an inexhaustible, renewable national resource and the basis for the nation's wealth."

"All our socio-economic problems can be solved only on the basis of renewing the village – the nation's demographic stabilizer where the nation's quality gene pool is formed," the resolution stated. "The nation's strategic task, therefore, is to develop the food production industry



Dmytro Pavlychko, chair of the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council, opens the first annual Economic Forum of the World's Ukrainians.

within villages and support villagers' management of large-scale agriculture on their own lands."

The budget for the first Economic Forum of the World's Ukrainians was \$50,000, which was drawn from Ukrainian businessmen within Ukraine, Mr. Shokalo said.

Those who attended the forum came at

their own cost, the largest contingents being from the Russian Federation and Moldova, he said.

"The fourth migrational-emigrational wave should become the last wave of Ukrainians spilling abroad and the first wave to return home," said Volodymyr Ilyin, an economics professor at Taras Shevchenko State University in Kyiv.



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## New Zealand...

(Continued from page 1)

Sixty ordinary FDCs and two sheets of 50-cent stamps will be gifted to several organizations, including the Ukrainian World Congress, for further distribution to member-organizations, as well as other New Zealand, Ukrainian and world organizations.

Thirty-seven stamps – including 20 of the 50-cent stamps and 17 of the \$1.50 stamps – were placed in postal circulation both in New Zealand and internationally by the UANZ for its own postal needs. The remaining articles were offered for a limited time for purchase to UANZ members and eventually released to collectors and general public via auction on <http://www.trademe.co.nz> portal. The only full sheet of \$1.50 stamps was to be sold via online auction.

More information about New Zealand's Holodomor stamp is available at <http://www.holodomor-stamps.info>. Further enquiries should be directed to [stamps@nzukrainians.org](mailto:stamps@nzukrainians.org).

The UANZ is non-profit organization of Ukrainian New Zealanders, their families and others. It traces its roots to the Ukrainian immigrant societies in New Zealand founded in the 1950s.

## New coalition...

(Continued from page 2)

of the National Bank in 2004 while the bank's formal chairman, Serhii Tyhypko, headed Mr. Yanukovich's election headquarters. After the 2004 Orange Revolution he served consecutively as Odesa Oblast vice-chair, Ukrainian economy minister and vice-chair of the presidential office. Mr. Yatsenyuk has been foreign affairs minister since March.

On December 6 Mr. Yatsenyuk submitted Ms. Tymoshenko's nomination for prime minister to President Yushchenko, who has two weeks to formally ask the Verkhovna Rada to approve her nomination.

Sources: Interfax-Ukraine, November 28, 29; NTN TV, November 30; Channel 5, Ukrayinska Pravda, December 4, 6.

# Pittsburgh community commemorates the Holodomor

by Nicholas C. Kotow

PITTSBURGH – The greater Pittsburgh Ukrainian community gathered in solemn assembly at Heinz Chapel on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh on Sunday, November 11, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933.

The panakhyda (requiem) service and program were arranged by the Ukrainian Nationality Room Committee at the University of Pittsburgh in affiliation with the Pittsburgh committee on the 75th anniversary of the Famine chaired by Marika Zaliszczuk, president of Branch 27 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America.

Representatives from area Ukrainian Catholic, Orthodox and Baptist churches, the League of Ukrainian Catholics, Ukrainian Orthodox League, School of Ukrainian Studies (Ridna Shkola), Ukrainian Selfreliance Credit Union, Ukrainian Technological Society and the Ukrainian Radio Program formed the Famine Commemoration Committee of Pittsburgh.

As some 300 people entered Heinz Chapel, they were greeted by Christina Hlutkowsky, Eryna Honchar, Olya Lysak and Katrina Malarsky, all in traditional Ukrainian dress, who gave each person a black remembrance wristband and a program booklet.

As people were being seated, the 22-voice choir of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Pittsburgh sang an overture of selections from the divine liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. The choir then sang "Dostoyno yest" as a procession of some 20 children from the Ridna Shkola, Kyiv dance group and Baptist church, each carrying a carnation, led the priests, deacons and flag-bearers

of the Ukrainian and American flags to the tetrapod on the chapel altar dias.

The children placed their flowers, a remembrance of the 7 million to 10 million Ukrainians who perished in the Famine-Genocide, into a vase, which was then placed on the tetrapod.

An ecumenical memorial service was co-officiated by Msgr. George Appleyard, dean of the Central Deanery of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma, Ohio, and the Very Rev. Protopresbyter George Hnatko, dean of the Pittsburgh Deanery of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

Ukrainian Catholic clergy participating were: the Very Rev. Canon Archpriest Philip Bumar (Holy Trinity Church, Carnegie, Pa.), the Revs. Ivan Chirovsky (St. John the Baptist Church, Pittsburgh), Ihor Hohosha (St. John the Baptist Church, McKees Rocks, Pa.), Ivan Smereka (Holy Trinity) and Valerian M. Michlik (St. George Church, Pittsburgh.)

Ukrainian Orthodox clergy participating were: the Very Rev. Timothy Tomson (St. Mary Church, McKees Rocks, Pa.) and the Revs. Paisius McGrath (Holy Virgin Church, Arnold, Pa.), Roman Yatskiv (St. Nicholas Church, Monessen, Pa.) and Steve Repa (Ss. Peter and Paul Church, Carnegie, Pa.).

Also participating were the Rev. Paul-Alexander Shutt, OSB, from St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pa., and the Rev. Deacons Jerry Ikalowych (Holy Trinity, Carnegie, Pa.) and Dennis Lapushansky (Ss. Peter and Paul, Carnegie, Pa.). Laity responses were sung by the choir of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church under the direction of Stephen Zinski.

After the panakhyda Ms. Zaliszczuk welcomed all and read a proclamation



Michael Komichak, master of ceremonies, speaks; in the background are Marika Zaliszczuk, chair of the local committee on the 75th anniversary of the Famine, and the Choir of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Pittsburgh.

from Dan Onorato, Allegheny County chief executive, urging all Allegheny County residents to join their neighbors of Ukrainian heritage in commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 on Sunday, November 11.


Michael Komichak, chairman of the Ukrainian Nationality Room Committee at the University of Pittsburgh and host-director of the Ukrainian Radio Program, acted as master of ceremonies. He first introduced survivors of the Famine-Genocide who were present: Olya Didyk, Kateryna Dowbenko, Daria Drechsler, Elizabeth Ivashchenko, Alexandra Kozak and Gregory Repa. They were acknowledged with applause.

Mr. Komichak then read a greeting

from the National Committee to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 sent by Michael Sawkiw Jr., chairman, and Daria Pishko Komichak, English-language secretary.

Dr. George Kulchytsky, professor emeritus of Soviet and East European history at Youngstown State University in Ohio, spoke in Ukrainian and English on the Soviet genocide against the Ukrainian nation. His remarks included original historical research that he had conducted in preparation for the commemoration which documented that Joseph Stalin and the Communist Party in Moscow instigated an artificial famine

(Continued on page 32)



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## Pittsburgh...

(Continued from page 31)

in the villages of Ukraine in 1932-1933.

The Ukrainian Cultural Trust Choir of Western Pennsylvania, comprising 18 voices under the direction of Dorothy Waslo, sang "Pid Tvoiu Mylist," "Koly Vy Vmyraly" and "So Sviatymy Upokoi."

Then Ms. Dowbenko, faculty instructor of Ukrainian in the department of Slavic languages and literatures at the University of Pittsburgh, recited the poem "Crime and Punishment" in Ukrainian, written by the late Prof. Dr. Wasyl Jaszczun.

The Rev. Vladimir Ivashchenko of the Slavic Baptist Church of Pittsburgh offered a prayer in English in remembrance of those who had perished. Then the 21-member Slavic Baptist Church Choir, under the direction of Dr. Steve Benham, professor of music at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, sang "Pro Blahodattiu Doliu Ukrayni" and "Blahoslovy Dushe Moya Hospody."

Mr. Komichak then invited all to also remember those in the military service on this Veterans U.S. Day with a resounding

"God Bless America."

In closing remarks, Mr. Komichak commended the ecumenical cooperation of the Ukrainian Catholic, Ukrainian Orthodox and the Slavic Baptist churches and various Ukrainian organizations for participating in the 75th anniversary commemoration of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide and urged all to likewise participate in future commemorative events and those sponsored by the national committee. Finally, he asked all to remember the Holodomor's victims in their private prayers.

The combined voices of all three choirs, under the direction of Dr. Benham, then led the singing of "Bozhe Velykyi Yedyny," after which the clergy recessed to end the commemorative event.

Thanks were expressed to Michael J. Jula, who was in charge of dressing the tetrapod and providing the bread, candles, kutia, hand cross and censor, as well as icon and rushnyk hangings for the podium, to Dr. Roksan Korchytsky for the make-up of the program book, to George Honchar, secretary, and the Ukrainian American Citizens Club of Carnegie for use of their flags.

## Demjanjuk...

(Continued from page 5)

the part of U.S. government prosecutors and wrote that attorneys of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) "acted with reckless disregard for their duty to the court and their discovery obligations" in failing to disclose potentially exculpatory evidence to the Demjanjuk defense.

In 1999 the Justice Department filed suit once again to seek revocation of Mr. Demjanjuk's U.S. citizenship on the grounds that he illegally gained entry into the United States and illegally gained U.S. citizenship because he had concealed his service as a camp guard. His citizenship was revoked in February 2002, with Judge Matia saying there is enough evidence to prove Mr. Demjanjuk was a guard at Nazi death and forced labor camps without eyewitness corroboration. That ruling was affirmed in April 2004 by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th District.

In June 2005, Chief Immigration

Judge Michael J. Creppy ruled that Mr. Demjanjuk, could be deported from the United States; on December 28, 2005, he ruled that Mr. Demjanjuk be deported from the United States to his native Ukraine, or to Germany or Poland if Ukraine refused to accept him.

The U.S. government now claims that Mr. Demjanjuk – whom it once accused of being the notorious guard known as "Ivan the Terrible" at Treblinka – was a guard at the Sobibor, Majdanek and Flossenberg Nazi concentration camps.

Mr. Demjanjuk denies that he ever served the Nazis, but admits giving false statements when entering the United States in order to escape repatriation to the Soviet Union. He says he served in the Soviet army and was a prisoner of war captured by the Germans.

Mr. Demjanjuk's son-in-law Ed Nishnic was quoted by the Reuters news service as saying that Mr. Demjanjuk, who was not in court for the latest hearing in his case, is old and "not in good health." He added, "He's in a way oblivious to what's going on in the courtroom."

## Camilla Huk...

(Continued from page 5)

August 6.

According to a press release issued by the Governor's Office, "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 work force training."

Via Executive Order No. 91, the governor expanded the panel to 35 members, "of whom 26 shall be public members

appointed by the governor. The 26 public members shall be broadly representative of the following subjects and constituencies: civil rights, commerce, community-based organizations, education, faith-based organizations, immigration advocacy, labor and service providers."

The panel is chaired by Public Advocate Ron Chen and must report its findings and recommendations to the governor by the 15th month after its organizational meeting. Also on the panel are two legislative members, one each from the African American and Latino legislative caucuses, and seven commissioners or their designees who serve as ex-officio members.

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## Peter and Doris Kule create major endowment for Ukrainian Canadian studies

EDMONTON, Alberta – Well-known Edmonton philanthropists Drs. Peter and Doris Kule have once again made a major donation in support of Ukrainian Studies in Canada.

Having already given more than \$1.1 million to post-secondary institutions in Edmonton and Ottawa, in July they contributed \$900,000 toward the establishment of an endowment dedicated to the study of Ukrainians in Canada. Combined with the \$100,000 they previously donated to the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) to support research on Ukrainian communities around the world, their donation represents an outstanding investment in academic research on the Ukrainian experience outside of Ukraine.

The \$1 million donation will eventually be doubled through the government of Alberta matching gifts program. In combination with CIUS's annual budgetary allocation to the Ukrainian Canadian Program, the endowment will in time triple the amount of money available for the continued development of Ukrainian Canadian Studies.

In announcing the news of their donation, Jars Balan, the administrative coordinator of the Ukrainian Canadian Program at CIUS, described the Kules' gesture as "unprecedented and humbling."

"It is hard to adequately convey our gratitude to the Kules," explained Mr. Balan, "because they have given so generously to so many other Ukrainian institutions. The impact they are having on Ukrainian scholarship is impossible to underestimate. Indeed, they are not only supporting historical research, they are making Ukrainian history in Canada."

The Peter and Doris Kule Center for Ukrainian and Canadian Folklore at the University of Alberta, the Sheptytsky Institute at the University of St. Paul, the Ukrainian Resource and Development Center at Grant MacEwan College and, most recently, the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa, have all been beneficiaries of major donations by the Edmonton couple. The Kules have



Drs. Peter and Doris Kule

at the same time supported other post-secondary programs at the University of Alberta in religious studies, business and accounting.

In recognition of their gift, the Ukrainian Canadian Program is being renamed the Kule Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies (KCUCS) at CIUS. The Diaspora Studies Initiative, which is being coordinated by Dr. Serge Cipko, will operate under the umbrella of the new center, whose work it both complements and enhances.

The Kule fund will provide much-needed financial stability for the conduct of scholarly investigations into Ukrainian life in Canada. As has been the case with the humanities in general, cutbacks and

reductions in government funding to the university made it necessary for CIUS to seek grants and outside sources of revenue simply to keep pace with inflation. In the short term, the income from the endowment will help ease some of the fiscal pressures experienced by the UCP, while in the longterm, it will ensure greater self-sufficiency for Ukrainian Canadian studies within CIUS.

"Although it is a significant and much appreciated infusion of new money," observed Mr. Balan, "when you consider the scope of our activities it will have to be invested wisely to ensure that it yields the maximum benefit. Given that we have to subsidize staff positions, hire contract researchers, writers and editors,

sponsor conferences and disseminate the results of our research, you quickly realize that even a million-dollar endowment only goes so far. Consequently, we plan to leverage some of the income by continuing to apply for project grants and by appealing for other donors to come forward, like the Kules have – to help us put Ukrainian Canadian studies on a solid financial base into the future."

In September the Kules were awarded a Shevchenko Medal by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress in recognition of their contributions in promoting Ukrainian scholarship and education. They were to be honored by the University of Alberta on December 14, when a specially commissioned portrait of them will be unveiled at a ceremony at the university's Timms Center.

As there are only a handful of individuals who have supported education in Canada on the scale of the Kules, they are in a very exclusive club of philanthropists.

"The money could not have come at a better time," noted Mr. Balan, "considering the interest that Ukrainians in Canada, as well as Ukraine, are showing in the Ukrainian heritage in Canada. The founding of several diaspora studies centers in Ukraine is one indication that scholars and students there are starting to appreciate the remarkable contributions that Ukrainians have made in different countries around the world. And here, many Canadians of Ukrainian descent are exploring their family histories, while at the same time wanting to learn more about the history of Ukraine and the community in Canada."

Mr. Balan said he hopes that more individuals will follow the example of the Kules and support Ukrainian Canadian studies at CIUS with donations large or small. "Ideally, we'd like to see the endowment for the Kule Center grow to \$4 million, a quarter of which would then be earmarked for diaspora studies. It would be wonderful to be able to do comparative analyses of different Ukrainian communities, and to make Canada a leading source of expertise on Ukrainian achievements globally."



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## Yaworska Scholarships offered to music students in U.S. and Canada

OTTAWA – The Marusia Yaworska Scholarship Fund administered by the University of Ottawa will provide at least two scholarships, each valued at up to \$5,000 (Canadian), to talented students in Canada or Ukraine who are pursuing music studies at the graduate level.

The fund, established from the estate of Marusia Yaworska, a music lover and herself a pianist and violinist who taught performing arts for 40 years, awards scholarships to students at the master's, doctoral or post-doctoral level. Candidates must be enrolled in a recognized music program in Canada, Ukraine or elsewhere, and be nominated by their own school of music.

In 2007-2008 two students received a Marusia Yaworska Scholarship: Elliott Braganza and Bryan Wagom from the University of Ottawa.

Each school is invited to nominate one student before March 31, 2008, with proper supporting documentation, including an official application form, a curriculum vitae, a recording of three works, official transcripts and reference letters.

For information call 613-562-5800, ext. 2636, or e-mail [grdaward@uottawa.ca](mailto:grdaward@uottawa.ca).

# Plast Spartanky sorority holds annual conference

by Vera Chuma-Bitcon

SLOATSBURG, N.Y. – The senior Plast sorority “Spartanky” held its annual conference here at St. Mary’s Villa run by the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate. Close to 40 Spartanky from the tri-state area, as well as Pennsylvania and Vermont attended the September 28-29 gathering.

Prior to the start of their meeting, the Plast members spent the morning hiking the spectacular grounds of this historic estate. During their opening ceremony, the sorority inducted its latest member, Roksolana Misilo.

In addition to planning the work for the upcoming year, the Spartanky held

their annual elections. Irka Sawchyn-Doll was re-elected as president, Petrusia Paslawska as vice-president and Lida Prokop as secretary.

The Spartanky continue to work closely with Plast youths, organizing sporting events, a camp for 6- to 7-year-old Plast children, and other activities within the various Plast branches. In addition, throughout the year many Spartanky are active in their respective branches, either holding leadership positions or volunteering their services when needed.

On December 14 the Spartanky were to hold a traditional “Andriyivsky Vechir” at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, located in Whippany.



The Spartanky sorority of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

## OUT AND ABOUT

- December 23  
Ottawa  
St. Nicholas program, Assumption of the Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 613-728-0856
- December 31  
Whippany, NJ  
New Year’s Eve dance, music by Ostap Stakhiv and friends, and Tempo, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-599-0555 or 973-397-9651
- December 31  
Uniondale, NY  
New Year’s Eve party, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church, 516-481-7717 or 516-996-3231
- December 31  
Stamford, CT  
New Year’s Eve Gala, featuring music by Hrim, St. Basil’s College, St. Vladimir’s Organization of Young Adults, 203-329-8693 or 203-253-8005
- December 31  
Jenkintown, PA  
New Year’s Eve ball, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, contact@ueccphila.org or 215-663-1166
- December 31  
Passaic, NJ  
New Year’s Eve dance, music by The Wave Band, Ukrainian Center, 973-779-4017
- December 31  
Ottawa  
New Year’s Eve celebration and potluck dinner, Assumption of the Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 613-728-0856
- January 4  
Washington  
Monthly social, The Washington Group, Leopold’s Café, 240-381-0993 or president@thewashingtongroup.org

Entries in “Out and About” are listed free of charge. We welcome submissions from all our readers; please send e-mail to [mdubas@ukrweekly.com](mailto:mdubas@ukrweekly.com).

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**PUB NIGHT**  
 Friday, 25 Jan 2008  
 National Home In Hartford

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

**Saturday, December 22**

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a Literary Bazaar titled "The December Attack of Ukrainian Prose on New York." Participating will be: Oksana Lutsyshyna (Uzhhorod-Florida), prose writer, poetess, author of two books newly published by Fakt - a collection of stories "Ne Chervoniuchy" and a novel "Sontse Zakhodyt Tak Ridko" (Two of Ms. Lutsyshyna's books have been nominated this year for the BBC book prize.); Oles Berezhny (Washington), prose writer, author of the collection of stories "Chervonyi Borsch" (Kyiv: Fakt, 2007); and Alexander Motyl (New York), prose writer and painter, author of two novels, "Whiskey Priest" and "Who Killed Andrei Warhol." The program will be emceed by Vasyl Makhno. After the reading, it will be possible to purchase the authors' books. The bazaar will take place at the Shevchenko Society's building, 63 Fourth Ave (between Ninth and 10th streets), at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

**Sunday, January 6**

**HARTFORD, Conn.:** The board of directors of the Ukrainian National Home of Hartford (UNHH) invites you and your family to a traditional Christmas Eve dinner-concert at 6 p.m. at the UNHH, 961 Wethersfield Ave. The program includes a performance by the Yevshan Ukrainian Vocal Ensemble and a family-style dinner. Discounted tickets, to be purchased by December 31, are available for \$15 for adults, \$8 for stu-

dents; tickets purchased at the door will sell for \$20 for adults; \$10 for students. For further information readers may contact any board member or call the UNHH office, 860-296-5702.

**Saturday, January 19**

**WASHINGTON:** You are cordially invited to attend Malanka 2008, sponsored by the Ukrainian Association of Washington Metropolitan Area Inc. The gala banquet and ball will be held at the Georgetown University Conference Center, 3800 Reservoir Road NW. Music will be provided by Canada's Zolota Bulava. Tickets are \$115 if purchased prior to December 19. For tickets and information call Sophia Caryk at 301-854-2062 or e-mail malanka2008@gmail.com.

**CARTERET, N.J.:** St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church are co-sponsoring a Malanka, which will be held at the St. Demetrius Community Center, 681 Roosevelt Ave. Music will be by Fata Morgana. Tickets are \$50, which includes admission, choice of sirloin beef or stuffed capon dinner, open bar, midnight hors d'oeuvres and a champagne toast. (Outside liquor is prohibited.) The St. Demetrius Center is located just blocks from Exit 12 of the New Jersey Turnpike. Doors open at 6 p.m.; dinner will be served at 7 p.m.; music begins at 8:30 p.m. For tickets and table reservations call Peter Prociuk, 732-541-5452. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Deadline for tickets is January 14.

### 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.

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](mailto:preview@ukrweekly.com).

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## RETURN TO THE SOURCE

### Folk Costume & Folk Art Study Tour of Ukraine

with Orysia Tracz

Aug. 5-21, 2008

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