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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Presidents sign road map for Ukrainian-Polish cooperation



Ukraine's President Viktor Yushchenko and First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko with Poland's President Lech Kaczynski and First Lady Maria Kaczynska during the official welcoming ceremony in Warsaw.

WARSAW — Presidents Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine and Lech Kaczynski of Poland on September 7 signed a road map for Ukrainian-Polish cooperation for 2009-2010 that underscored the strategic partnership between the two countries, as well as a joint statement on energy cooperation that focused on the need to diversify energy sources and increase energy security in Europe.

The Ukrainian president and his wife, Kateryna Yushchenko, were in Poland for a state visit on September 7-8. Also traveling with the president were: acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Volodymyr Khandohiy, National Security and Defense Council Secretary Raisa Bohatyriova, Vice Prime Minister Ivan Vasiunyk, Minister of Culture Vasyl Vovkun, Minister of Family, Youth and Sports Yuri Pavlenko, Presidential Secretariat Deputy Chair Andrii Goncharuk and acting Chairman of the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory Ihor Yukhnovskiy.

The Ukrainian leader was greeted by the Polish president at an official welcoming ceremony, after which the two heads of state presented awards to each other: the Commander's Cross of Polonia Restituta was awarded to Mr. Yushchenko, and Ukraine's Order of Liberty was conferred on Mr. Kaczynski.

Commenting on Ukrainian-Polish talks in Warsaw, both presidents noted the importance of historical reconciliation for the Ukrainian and Polish people in order to spur efficient development of partnership relations.

Mr. Yushchenko said that, despite a difficult common history, both countries had decided to adhere to the historical truth and see the common past as a basis

for the development of further friendly ties. "Where the pages of history require respect and deep reverence, or mutual apology, both sides should find the strength to do it. President Kaczynski and I are doing everything to make this policy dominant in our relations," he noted. Mr. Kaczynski confirmed that the question of historical reconciliation remains an important component of Ukrainian-Polish cooperation.

(Continued on page 3)

Hryvnia's plunge leads to demands for top Ukrainian banker's resignation

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The Ukrainian hryvnia's 8 percent plunge in value during the last five weeks has renewed public demands for the resignation of National Bank of Ukraine Chair Volodymyr Stelmakh, who is widely accused of allowing the central bank to become a den of corruption.

Public frustration approached the boiling point when the currency's value dropped to 9 hrv per \$1 on September 4 on the interbank market — a 15 percent decline. It has since rebounded to 8.50 hrv per \$1 as of September 10, an 8 percent decline from August 6, when a U.S. dollar bought 7.87 hrv.

Internal Affairs Minister Yuri Lutsenko, Ukraine's top police official, called National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) First Assistant Chair Anatolii Shapovalov in for questioning on September 10, two days after announcing that he has evidence of criminal activity within the central bank that is currently being investigated.

"The exchange rate has become a scenario for destabilizing the situation in the country from the Presidential Secretariat's end," Mr. Lutsenko said at a September 8 press conference. "That's why I turn to the president of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko: either establish order in the National Bank, or prepare your subordinates for prison. It's impossible to put up with this further. A massive fraud is unfolding before our eyes."

The hryvnia's drop became the latest

political football between the warring poles of power in Ukrainian politics — President Viktor Yushchenko blamed Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, her national deputies accused the National Bank of Ukraine of corruption, and presidential front-runner Viktor Yanukovich blamed them all.

"Who's to blame? Everyone's to blame — the president, and the prime minister, and the National Bank chair, who are supposed to sit together, develop a state approach to this issue, and provide all measures to defend the national currency," the opposition leader said on September 8.

Both Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovich have avoided directly calling for Mr. Stelmakh's resignation, in contrast to their fiery rhetoric last winter when the hryvnia began its plunge.

The prime minister adopted a more reserved tone in dealing with Mr. Stelmakh, merely assuring voters in an early August television interview that she would appoint a new NBU chair once she wins the presidential election in the winter and "everything will be fine" with the exchange rate.

Ms. Tymoshenko is maneuvering to gain influence on the NBU and its leadership, said Dr. Oleh Soskin, director of the Institute of Society Transformation in Kyiv.

Mr. Lutsenko's threats of criminal prosecution are intended to intimidate its leadership to side with Mr. Tymoshenko,

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Kyiv conference to focus on WWII and historical memory

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — No European nation endured as many casualties in World War II as Ukraine. According to widely accepted estimates, 2.5 million soldiers and 5.5 million civilians were killed, and 2.4 million were forcibly deported as Ostarbeiters, a portion of whom emigrated permanently or perished at the hands of the Soviets and Nazis.

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the launch of World War II, the Fulbright Program in Ukraine has organized an international conference, "World War II and the (Re)Creation of Historical Memory in Contemporary Ukraine," that will be held on September 23-26 in Kyiv.

Prominent Ukrainian historians from around the world, including Dr. Yuri Shapoval, Dr. Orest Subtelny and Dr. Roman Serbyn, will examine the Ukrainian experience of World War II and "the subsequent mythologizing of the war and Ukraine's role in it by Soviet authori-

ties," organizers said.

"It's the first and biggest international conference on the theme of World War II and Ukraine's role, and historical memory of the war, since independence," said Myron Stachiw, the director of the Fulbright Program in Ukraine, who will co-chair the conference with Vladyslav Hrynevych, senior research associate of the Kuras Institute of Political and Ethnonational Studies at the National Academy of Sciences in Ukraine.

Their eight-member organizing committee has met and worked regularly for 18 months in preparation for the conference, Mr. Stachiw said.

In June 2008, they invited top Ukraine scholars and historians to submit papers on the philosophy, theory and politics of historical memory, and the creation of historical memory in Soviet and contemporary Ukraine. This includes public commemoration of the war; public education about the war and Ukraine's role; representation of the war and its memory in art, film and literature; and contempo-

rary issues on the politics of historical memory and national identity in Ukraine.

More than 50 scholars representing 13 countries will present their work, with the goal of advancing international dialogue on Ukrainian historical memory and national identity. About half of the presenters are from Ukraine and the others are from abroad.

The four-day conference's most unique event is an all-night film festival beginning at 7:15 p.m. on September 25 that will screen movies examining Ukraine's World War II experience through 5:50 a.m. the next day.

Among the films to be shown are Slavko Nowytski's "Between Hitler and Stalin" and Sergey Bukovsky's "Spell Your Name" about the Holocaust in Ukraine.

"It was the idea of the organizing committee," Mr. Stachiw said. "We wanted to include examples of how World War II is presented in media and film. Many of the documentary films were made for Ukrainian

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ANALYSIS

The Putin-Medvedev brawl over Gazprom: Will Europe suffer?

by Roman Kupchinsky
Jamestown Foundation Blog
September 8

With the fall/winter heating season in Europe rapidly approaching, there are indications that a vicious fight has begun between the apparatus of Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's entrenched loyalists over control of Gazprom, the giant Russian state-owned gas company.

The victor will have a major say in determining Russia's energy policy toward Europe in the coming years, as well as gaining control over the financial resources of Gazprom, a vital asset in future political campaigns.

The first public indications that a fight had begun in Moscow came on September 1 when Mr. Putin met with Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko in Poland and agreed to release Ukraine from the key provision of the "take or pay" gas contract signed in January 2009 – that Ukraine would have to pay for the gas it had promised to buy but did not take from Gazprom.

Ms. Tymoshenko stated that in 2010 Naftohaz Ukrayiny, the state oil and gas monopoly, would only purchase 25 billion cubic meters (bcm) of gas from Russia instead of the 52 bcm contracted for under the long term contract. In 2009 Ukraine was obligated to buy 40 bcm but only needed 33 bcm for its domestic consumption.

Ms. Tymoshenko was reported by the Moscow Times as saying that, "In my view, one can say we removed all gas problems, or at least are firmly on the way to having no problems about the issue." She added, "I am always delighted to have our meetings and I know that they always result in real actions."

As part of the agreement, Mr. Putin agreed to have Gazprom drop a lawsuit against Naftohaz by RosUkrEnergo, a Swiss gas trader 50 percent owned by Gazprom, for \$600 million in late payment penalty charges.

Soon after the Putin-Tymoshenko agreement was announced, Ukraine raised the transit fee for Russian gas to Europe in 2010 from \$1.70 per 1,000 cubic meters/100 kilometers to \$2.70 and asked that Gazprom pay this bill in advance.

On September 7 President Medvedev

met with Gazprom CEO Alexei Miller and instructed him not to make this payment. "We need to act in accordance with the agreement that was signed on January 19 (2009). We do not need to dream up anything new. We also face difficult times," Mr. Medvedev stated.

Mr. Medvedev's comment that Gazprom must act in accordance with the existing contract was a direct attack on Mr. Putin, who a week earlier had pledged to bypass its fundamental clauses.

As soon as the Putin-Miller meeting ended, Gazprom spokesmen were reported by Kommersant as saying that Ukraine had the right to ask for changes in the existing contract, but that this does not obligate Gazprom to act on them and Gazprom has the right to penalize Ukraine for breaking the contract. This response might indicate that Gazprom management is looking to break its umbilical cord to Mr. Putin and switch its loyalty to Mr. Medvedev.

Another event that could shed light on the Putin-Medvedev fight began on September 7 when a Moscow court began a new trial in the case of Vladimir Nekrasov, the owner of the now-bankrupt chain of cosmetic stores Arbat Prestige, and Semyon Mogilevich, an alleged Russian organized crime leader suspected of links to RosUkrEnergo. According to sources in Moscow, President Medvedev's supporters are anxious to show that Mr. Mogilevich and organized crime were linked to Gazprom in their efforts to discredit Mr. Miller and Prime Minister Putin and take control of Gazprom.

To make matters worse, on August 31 the representative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Ukraine, Max Alier, threatened to break off all cooperation with Ukraine if the government led by Prime Minister Tymoshenko reneged on meeting its commitment to raise domestic gas prices. The first price increase (20 percent) for household users was scheduled to go into effect on September 1, however, this apparently did not take place and the vast government subsidies for gas remain in place as European frustration with Ukraine grows.

Roman Kupchinsky is an analyst for the Jamestown Foundation in Washington and runs the Jamestown Foundation blog. The article above is reprinted with the author's permission. (See <http://www.jamestown.org/blog>.)

Gongadze's mother says son used in political games

RFE/RL

LVIV, Ukraine – The mother of slain Ukrainian journalist Heorhii Gongadze says her son's name is being used by Ukrainian officials for political purposes, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on September 7.

Lesia Gongadze told RFE/RL that she has urged the government and other politicians to leave his name alone.

She said she has many doubts regarding the current investigation of her son's abduction and murder and is skeptical that former high-ranking police official Gen. Oleksii Pukach – who was arrested in July – personally strangled her son, as has been reported.

Mrs. Gongadze also said she does not believe that the decapitated body kept in

a morgue for nearly nine years is her son.

Last month President Viktor Yushchenko said that an investigation into the Gongadze murder would affect Ukraine's January 2010 presidential election because organizers of the crime still hold high positions in the country.

Heorhii Gongadze disappeared on September 16, 2000. A decapitated body believed to be his was found two months later in a forest outside of Kyiv.

This summer, fragments of a human skull were found near where Gongadze is believed to have been killed. Ukrainian forensic experts concluded that the skull fragments are from Gongadze.

Ukraine's Procurator-General Oleksander Medvedko said on September 7 that additional forensic tests on the fragments will be performed in the United States.

NEWSBRIEFS

Opposition continues to block Rada

KYIV – The opposition Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) is continuing to block the rostrum of the Verkhovna Rada. A poster with the inscription "Tymoshenko's government does not want to increase pensions and wages" remains on the Cabinet's seats, while another poster reading "The Party of Regions will protect the social guarantees of the people" was put above the Parliament's presidium. The first deputy chair of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB), Andrii Kozhemiakin, expressed doubt that the Verkhovna Rada would work on September 9. The leaders of parliamentary factions were holding talks in the morning. Mr. Kozhemiakin said that the YTB would insist that a bill on increasing social standards, which the PRU wants to be passed, should take into account the sources of financing for an increase in social benefits. The YTB proposed that a source of such additional funds be an increase in excise rates for tobacco, alcohol and fuel, however, the PRU rejected that proposal. (Ukrinform)

Lytvyn blames Party of Regions

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn has charged that the opposition Party of Regions is leading Ukraine to a political collapse. Speaking at a September 8 briefing, he was commenting on the ineffectiveness of that day's meeting of the conciliation board of heads of parliamentary factions. According to Mr. Lytvyn, the main motive behind the blocking of the Parliament is not to press raising social standards, but the attempt "to finally break control in Ukraine." He said, "I think that there is today every reason for chaos to develop in Ukraine, which will lead to a political collapse." According to Mr. Lytvyn, the current situation in the Ukrainian Parliament resembles the events of 2004. The presidential campaign "of one of the teams" was then aimed at closing the Verkhovna Rada; the same mechanism is being realized today, Mr. Lytvyn said. (Ukrinform)

President to Rada: work or dissolve

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko

is concerned over the Verkhovna Rada's inability to start working efficiently, said the president's press secretary, Iryna Vanykova, on September 9. "The president of Ukraine is strongly concerned over a stalemate in the Verkhovna Rada. The leading parliamentary factions behave themselves irresponsibly by blocking the work of the Verkhovna Rada, it would seem, under various specious excuses," she said. Ms. Vanykova said Mr. Yushchenko is calling on the national deputies to decide: either get to work, removing election discrepancies, or initiate a voluntary dissolution of the Rada. Ms. Vanykova added that the president pointed to the necessity to review stage budget indices for 2010 and for immediate consideration of the budgetary forecasting indices for next year. The president also noted the lack of key ministers in the Cabinet. (Ukrinform)

Lytvyn signs new law on election

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn on September 9 signed a bill amending the law on presidential elections, a presidential veto of which was overridden by Parliament on August 21. The document was submitted for signing by President Viktor Yushchenko on August 25. However, on September 2 the president returned it unsigned to the Verkhovna Rada and proposed that the document be published after it is signed by the Rada chair. The law will take effect after it is published in the Parliament's newspaper, Holos Ukrainy, and other official publications. The new law on presidential elections reduces the period of the election campaign to 90 days, increases the amount of a deposit required for the registration of a presidential candidate to 51,000 hrv, significantly changes the principles of forming election commissions and lifts restrictions on the volume of the election fund. Mr. Yushchenko had said that, after the new law comes into force, he would challenge it in the Constitutional Court as he is sure that a number of clauses in the new law are unconstitutional. (Ukrinform)

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How Obama's Russia reset is playing on the ground in Europe

U.S. President Barack Obama took office promising to try to mend ties with Russia, part of his strategy to overhaul foreign policy by engaging countries around the world. His pledge has caused serious concern in Eastern Europe that Washington would weaken its support in favor of better relations with Moscow. It's also raised doubts Mr. Obama's policy will get the support it needs in Western Europe, where opinion on Russia is divided.

In a three-part series on U.S.-Russia relations, RFE/RL asks how the "reset" is playing on the ground and how it's affecting Europe.

by Gregory Feifer
RFE/RL

The official "reset" of relations between the United States and Russia took place in July. That's when Barack Obama first traveled to Moscow to detail a policy already outlined by Vice-President Joe Biden and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

In a speech delivered steps away from the Kremlin, the U.S. president criticized Moscow's "old assumptions," among them Russia's drive to compete with the United States by carving out an opposing sphere of influence.

"These assumptions are wrong," he said. "In 2009, a great power does not show strength by dominating or demonizing other countries. The days when empires could treat sovereign states as pieces on a chessboard are over."

But six months into his first term, it's not clear whether Mr. Obama's reset has effected any real policy change in Washington, while the Kremlin has continued ratcheting up tensions with its pro-Western neighbors.

In his speech last July, Mr. Obama singled out Georgia, the U.S. ally invaded by Russia last year in a war that sent relations with Western countries spiraling to Cold War lows.

No trade-offs

It was a nadir after years of deepening strain, during which Washington came to see Moscow's approach to foreign policy as a "zero-sum game," in which what's good for one country is believed to be bad for the other.

Michael McFaul, the U.S. National Security Council's senior director for Russian and Eurasian affairs, is the chief architect of President Obama's Russia policy. Speaking to reporters ahead of July's summit, he said Washington had no illusions about the worldview of Russian officials.

"The United States is considered an adversary," he said. "I'm sure many would use harsher words among themselves when they talk about us. And they think that our No. 1 objective in the world is to make Russia weaker, to surround Russia, to do things that make us stronger and Russia weaker."

Dr. McFaul said the United States would begin seeking to move past the current impasse in relations through a new kind of realism. Washington, he said, would present its stand on contentious issues "very explicitly," before trying to find "ways that we can have Russia cooperate on things we define as our national interests."

Among the most divisive disagreements is Russia's furious objection over the drive by pro-Western Ukraine and Georgia to join NATO. Dr. McFaul said Washington would not "reassure or give or trade anything with the Russians" over NATO expansion.

"We are not in any way, in the name of the reset, abandoning our very close rela-

tionship with these two democracies, Ukraine and Georgia," he said.

Opening up

President Obama's Russia policy is part of a wider strategy of seeking engagement with countries from Latin America to the Middle East by showing greater respect and urging that all sides can benefit more by increasing cooperation than seeking competition.

Harvard University's Marshall Goldman says the notion of a reset has already diminished tensions between Moscow and Washington. "Obama's looking at a whole range of issues from afresh," he said. "So this may be an important turning point in world history."

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev welcomed President Obama's overtures during the summit in July.

"The new administration headed by President Obama is showing its willingness to change the situation and build more effective, reliable and ultimately more modern relations," he said. "We are ready to play our part."

On September 8 Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov wrote in a newspaper article that U.S.-Russia ties had significantly improved, partly thanks to Mr. Obama's visit. "We see that the desire for confrontational policies is falling, especially in the Euro-Atlantic community," he wrote.

But Russia has recently taken a series of actions that are prompting doubts about Washington's ability to engage Moscow. In August the Kremlin increased its military presence in Georgia's pro-Moscow breakaway regions, Abkhazia and South Ossetia, violating a European Union-brokered ceasefire.

Soon after the Kremlin drafted legislation to make it easier to send troops abroad to "defend Russian citizens" and "prevent aggression against another state."

In Moscow, political analyst Kirill Rogov says Obama's charm offensive hasn't had any visible effect on relations. He says appeals to respect common values fall on deaf ears when it comes to authoritarian leaders such as Russia's.

"For them, politics is always played along zero-sum rules," he said. "That means the results of Obama's [reset] policy may be very disheartening, even though the idea itself may seem laudable."

Is Ukraine Georgia all over again?

Some see the Kremlin's latest actions as a dark signal of intent to take a stand over the next possible geostrategic battleground between Russia and the West: Ukraine.

Mr. Medvedev recently called for new leadership in Russia's pro-Western neighbor, prompting accusations the Kremlin wants to influence the outcome of a presidential election there next January – and stirring speculation Moscow may be angling for a diplomatic or even military conflict.

Mr. Rogov says Russia's designs on the former Soviet republic don't end at objections to Ukraine's joining NATO.

"The Kremlin believes Ukraine must be made part of the Russian sphere of influence," he said. "That's how they understand it, and that's going to be a major problem in relations [with the United States]."

He says the impasse between Washington and Moscow over what actions are permissible in Ukraine and other former Soviet republics threatens to derail Obama's reset policy.

But others in Moscow downplay

Ukraine's importance, dismissing accusations the Kremlin's actions have been overly confrontational.

Viktor Kremenjuk of Moscow's U.S.A. and Canada Institute says Russia is only addressing the security threat it sees from possible NATO expansion. He questions the Western insistence that values, not spheres of influence, should drive foreign policy. "If we shared similar values," he said, "I don't think we could have the same problems."

"We are different," Mr. Kremenjuk continued. "And this is something like a challenge, because with these different values, can we still live together? This is the real question."

Mr. Kremenjuk says any success of Obama's reset hinges on the positive outcome of talks to reach a new nuclear arms pact by the end of the year. Both sides say they want to sign a deal that would replace the 1991 START

agreement, which expires in December.

Most analysts agree there has yet to be a confrontation or crisis in relations that would expose a difference in the way Washington interacts with Moscow. But there are serious doubts about whether the president's trip to Moscow last July really started a process that can pull relations with Russia from the depths they reached during the Bush administration.

The second part in this series looks at fears in Eastern and Central Europe that Washington will do little to fight Moscow's drive to reassert its influence in the former Soviet bloc.

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Presidents sign...

(Continued from page 1)

The Ukrainian president also pointed to the importance of Poland's support for Ukraine's Euro-integration course. "I am sure that Ukraine-Poland relations are a great test for Europe and what path it will follow – the path of consolidation and building of a single European space, or a policy based on the preferences of political influence on one or another part of European territories and states," Mr. Yushchenko commented.

Referring to the significant progress Ukraine has recently achieved in terms of European integration, Mr. Yushchenko emphasized: "We have moved so far on a great number of these directions because Poland has always been close to us. I would like every Pole to hear that – we deeply appreciate and are thankful for this."

Mr. Kaczynski noted the need to further develop political cooperation between the two countries, in particular, within the framework of Ukraine's Euro-integration. He expressed confidence that Europe would be "a Europe of cooperation, but not dominance," based on partnership relations among which Ukrainian-Poland relations are "very important, and must be expanded and strengthened."

On the first day of his state visit, Mr. Yushchenko laid flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw's Pilsudski Square. In addition, he and his Polish counterpart participated in the unveiling of a memorial to victims of the Holodomor, the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Ukraine.

The next day, President and Mrs. Yushchenko participated in a flower-lay-

ing ceremony at the monument to "Fighters for Ukraine's Freedom" at a military cemetery in the village of Pikulice in southeastern Poland. The memorial is dedicated to soldiers of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and the Galician Army.

Also on September 8, President Yushchenko praised Poland's decision to transfer the building of the Narodni Dim (People's Home) in Przemysl (Peremyshl, according to the Ukrainian transliteration) to the Ukrainian community. Speaking at a meeting with the Ukrainian community in Przemysl, Mr. Yushchenko said that a constructive dialogue between Ukraine and Poland had produced success on this issue. "This is a good gift to the Ukrainian community," he underscored.

The Ukrainian president and first lady also paid a visit to the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, the seat of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Przemysl-Warsaw.

During the state visit, Mr. Yushchenko met also with Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk. The two leaders discussed energy security, trade and bilateral economic cooperation.

At a meeting with Chairman Bronislaw Komorowski of the Sejm, the lower house of the Polish Parliament, Mr. Yushchenko focused on continuing cooperation between the Parliaments of the two countries, as well as humanitarian policy and evaluation of the two countries' common history. Messrs. Komorowski and Yushchenko also touched upon the development of Ukrainian-Poland-Lithuanian cooperation in the framework of the three countries' Inter-Parliamentary Assembly.

Sources: Ukrinform, Official Website of Ukraine's President.



President Viktor Yushchenko and Ukraine's Ambassador to Poland Oleksander Motsyk during a meeting with the Ukrainian community of Poland in Przemysl (Peremyshl).

ADU holds 13th annual summer technology seminar in Kovel

by Julianne Shepelavy

ALBANY, N.Y. – Americans for Democracy in Ukraine (ADU), a not-for-profit based in Albany, N.Y., in cooperation with Siena College in Loudonville, N.Y., has recently completed its 13th annual summer seminar in Ukraine under founding director Prof. Lydia Tarnavsky. The seminar this year was held at the Nadia Resource Center in Kovel, Volyn region of Ukraine.

Previously ADU had sponsored methodology seminars in nine cities in various oblasts. After their participation in these seminars teachers organized themselves into professional associations. Upon completion of the paperwork required by the Ukrainian government, centers were set up. ADU funded the furnishing of the centers with books, video-and audio-tapes, CDs and the appropriate equipment to use the teaching aids. The centers were also equipped with photocopiers and computers.

Last year's seminar focused on web design, video conferencing, advanced computer research skills, YouTube productions and interactive Power Point presentations. The participants took what they had learned back to their associations to train other members.

Representatives of the Resource Centers for Teachers of the English Language from Buchach, Dnipropetrovsk, Kirovohrad, Kovel, Myrhorod, Odesa, Okhtyrka and Uzhhorod were selected to attend this year's seminar by the members of their respective teacher associations. The participants had been trained by last year's attendees and had to submit pre-seminar projects to the program director in order to be eligible to attend. Each participant had to document his/her com-



Ukrainian teachers with their American instructors in Kovel. Dr. Lidia Tarnavsky, program director, is seated on the far right; Mayor Serhiy Kosharuk of Kovel is standing in the center.

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund: August

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TOTAL: \$2,497.00

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

puter expertise in order to qualify for the second phase of the technology program.

This year the team of American teachers led by Prof. Tarnavsky achieved its goal of incorporating technology tools and programs such as blogs, wikis, Skype and Adobe Acrobat Connect Pro into their teaching methodology.

The six-day workshop was designed to develop an international partnership between U.S. teachers and Ukrainian teachers that will last throughout the coming school year. Ukrainian teachers were paired with American teachers in order to engage in collaborative lesson planning. Teachers from the Berkley School District in Michigan worked with their Ukrainian counterparts via video conferencing to develop a working relationship and to begin their year-long project promoting cultural diversity through the use of educational technology. The school year project will involve both teachers and students in Ukraine and in the United States.

Judy Nichols, educational technology consultant with the Oakland School in Michigan (to which the Berkley schools belong), was the leader of the group of American teachers who participated in the seminar in the U.S. After the seminar she commented that the American and Ukrainian teachers "all worked together in an online learning and web air environment. The big moments came when we could all see and talk with one another and experience first-hand the power of these connections."

The impact of the international project attracted the attention of Mayor Serhiy Kosharuk of Kovel, who made a personal visit to the workshop to see and experience this global connection first hand.

The Ukrainian teachers were provided with laptop computers and data projectors to take back to their associations. The participants were charged with training other teachers and with continuing their relationship with their American counterparts during the 2009-2010 school year. The equipment provided to each association lends portability so that the technology can reach and involve many schools and students in the cities represented by the participants.

ADU is committed to continue its partnership with teachers of English in Ukraine and to support their participation in international communication with educators and students outside of Ukraine.

For further information readers may contact ADU at P.O. Box 3874, Albany, NY 12203-0874 or ADU@nycap.rr.com. All contributions to ADU are tax-deductible and all administrative work is done by volunteers.

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The founding of Rukh

Twenty years ago an unprecedented gathering took place in Kyiv: the founding congress of Rukh, or as it was formally called at the time, the Popular Movement of Ukraine for Perebudova. Rukh was undoubtedly the most important organization formed in Ukraine in the wake of the policies of glasnost, perestroika (perebudova in Ukrainian) and demokratyzatsiya announced by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

It was a time of a great national reawakening in Ukraine. The Ukrainian Helsinki Group was reactivated (and soon thereafter transformed into the Ukrainian Helsinki Union), the Ukrainian Culturological Club, the Zelenyi Svit environmental association, the Memorial Society and the Ukrainian Language Society were formed. Ukrainian Catholics were coming out of the "catacombs," and the Initiative Committee for the Renewal of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church was announced. The people of Ukraine began to speak out against the Communist Party and for human, national and religious rights.

The founding congress of Rukh, a public movement of patriotic Ukrainians, was held up for a year and a half by the ruling conservative elements of the Communist Party of the Ukrainian SSR under the leadership of First Secretary Volodymyr Shcherbytsky. Indeed, a propaganda campaign was conducted by the authorities against what was seen as a major political threat to the Soviet order. Nonetheless, Rukh succeeded in publishing its draft program in the official newspaper of the Ukrainian Writers Union, Literaturna Ukraina, in mid-February of 1989. The nascent movement continued to gain strength. By July of that year, Rukh had 200 chapters and 250,000 members nationwide.

On September 8-10, 1989, Rukh held its congress at Kyiv Polytechnical Institute with approximately 1,200 delegates in attendance. Also present were countless representatives of Soviet and foreign news media, guests from throughout Ukraine and other Soviet republics, Poland, Western Europe and North America. The atmosphere was euphoric; blue-and-yellow flags of Ukraine and other national symbols were proudly displayed in the session hall.

Writer Volodymyr Yavorivsky, who headed the congress organizing committee, opened the event, and the words of Oles Honchar's opening address set the stage for what was to follow. "Gathered here are not those who are driven by ambition, as the bureaucrats attempt to assert. From this congress rostrum the truth of life will speak, as well as concern for the fate of perebudova, the fate of Ukraine," he stated.

The Rukh platform adopted at the congress underscored that the movement was guided by "the principles of humanism, democracy, glasnost, pluralism, social justice and internationalism; it emanates from the interests of all citizens of the republic regardless of their nationality." It called for political and economic sovereignty for Ukraine, the reversal of decades of Russification imposed by Moscow and its satraps, protection of the rights of national minorities and ethnic groups, and environmental safeguards. Delegates elected writer Ivan Drach, head of the Kyiv regional Rukh organization, as Rukh's first leader.

Rukh was born. Our editorial from 1989 expressed our hope – and heartfelt expectation – that Rukh "is merely the first step toward a democratic and humane Ukraine, an independent Ukraine." And the rest, as they say, is history.

FOR THE RECORD

President Viktor Yushchenko's Independence Day address

Following are excerpts of President Viktor Yushchenko's August 24 address on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of Ukraine's independence. The text was provided by the president's press office.

Dear Ukrainian nation, esteemed Ukrainian officers and military, respected fellow citizens, Ukrainians of the world:

I greet you with the 18th anniversary of Ukraine's independence.

In our contemporary history, August 24th is the main, most important date in our lives.

But I will begin with words that do not concern the date, but all of us.

I will begin with the symbolic Ukrainian "I Believe," which today each one of us can and should utter, no matter our views, background or faith:

I believe that I am a Ukrainian, and I wish my homeland well.

I believe in our national identity and want it to spread through our native land, while, like any good and wise host, I respect and protect each and every culture that has been born here.

I believe in my belonging to a great Ukrainian people, to its thousands years' culture, history, fate, for which I feel a personal responsibility, because it concerns my life and the lives of my children and my grandchildren.

I believe and respect our state and will utilize my own strength to make it stronger, and ensure a more secure and prosperous life for my nation, my fellow citizens and our families.

I believe in our sovereign ability to achieve great goals.

Any divisions pale before the understanding of our truly great idea in a new era: the creation of a single Ukrainian nation, a contemporary national, political and community organism, which includes each and every citizen of our country. ...

I appeal to all Ukrainians worldwide.

There are not 10, or 20, or 40, but 70 million of us all together. This makes us a global force capable of bringing good to the native state.

The problems Ukraine is experiencing are of difficult and I would say complex nature.

I am sure, we should be straightforward and without despair about these objective factors.

Namely, Ukraine is a post-totalitarian state. This, first of all, has tremendously affected the traditions and the way of governance and the functioning of state authorities. ...The hardest thing is that people got used to permanent guardianship, patronage from the state, which the Soviet system provided and mouthed drop by drop to all its 'cogs,' regardless of the quality of their work or the real achievements of this work. ...

Ukraine is a post-colonial country. One of the main results of such a state is domination of capital alien to its people, unproductive, impotent, tied to the former mother country. ...

Ukraine also is post-genocide nation. This post-genocide status of Ukraine, according to James Mace, means: firstly, the "killing of the intellect of the nation," i.e. tearing apart its intellectual elites; secondly, the "lumpenization" of the village, which significantly slows agrarian reform; thirdly, the perversion of worldview and vision of history, as well as low national solidarity between different strata of the population. ...

Openly speaking about our problems,

we should celebrate and value with dignity our every national achievement. ...

We are a free and democratic country. The system of political censorship and persecution has become the thing of the past. The opposition has come to power twice in a free election.

...Ukraine was recognized a market economy. We joined the World Trade Organization, and got rid of discriminatory trade restrictions which had been there for last 15 years.

We have overcome tremendous distance in relations with the European Union. Soon we expect a truly historic event to happen: the signature of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement. Gradually, we are joining the European space in all the important areas – from energy to education. ...

With the right steps we have stopped critical demographic processes. In 2009 we recorded the highest birth rate in 18 years. The number of children adopted by our citizens has increased by almost 40 percent. More than half a million Ukrainians are born yearly now – we did not have that in the past 18 years.

We have laid new standards of social policy, which allowed us to increase almost three times the average salary in Ukraine and to increase the real incomes of people. Over the past four years we have doubled the national budget. Ukraine did not have such indices in its previous history. I am convinced, deeply convinced that we will withstand the economic crisis. ...

My strategic plan has three principal positions.

First. We must continue the course of true national revival of Ukraine. Much work has already been done. The state speaks from the position of national idea. We have started extensive work to restore the historical truth and memory. We have given an impetus to establishment of a local Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

...the most focus should be on the newest information policy of Ukraine. Together with the promotion of our media, film and publishing it should become a major tool to promote Ukrainian national ideas – ideas of cultural and spiritual unity among all segments of our community.

Second. The key and no-alternative means to restore order in our country is constitutional reform. I firmly insist on constitutional changes that should fix all the current controversy. I stand for strong state authority with democratic division of powers, duties and responsibilities among all branches of government. I demand lifting parliamentary immunity. It is humiliation for the Ukrainian society. I propose to numerically reduce our parliament and increase the powers of the regions. ...I demand guarantees of the strictest accountability of parliamentary parties before the electorate and introduction of the "open-list" principle, which will allow the election of both a party and separate deputies.

...I am signing the decree on holding a nationwide discussion of the draft Constitution submitted by the president of Ukraine. I am ready to hear the opinion of every Ukrainian. I believe that such discussions produce a broad public reaction, which will force members of the Parliament to begin caring for their people, rather than for their seats.

(Continued on page 18)

Sept.
16
2008

Turning the pages back...

Last year, on September 16, 2008, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's Cabinet unveiled its proposed minimum wage for the 2009 budget of 770 hrv per month (\$152 U.S.), and provided an increase to 807 hrv (\$159) by the end of 2008. This was the first time since independence that such increases were proposed.

"I believe the 2009 budget will be passed in a timely manner with a constructive discussion in Parliament, and we will offer hope for serious economic improvement in the country," said Ms. Tymoshenko, who submitted the budget for review by a parliamentary committee on the same day it was unveiled.

The budget factored in a standard pay scale for all government employees in all departments, known as a tariff network. Wages for government employees were expected to increase by 700 hrv (\$138) to 2,500 hrv (\$494).

Other proposals in Ms. Tymoshenko's 2009 budget included increases in social payments. Pensions were expected to get a boost of 20 percent, said Serhii Kyseliov, an expert at the School of Political Analysis at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. Ms. Tymoshenko also wanted to stay true to her promise of repaying bank deposits to voters who lost their savings during the collapse of the Soviet Union, with earmarks approaching 10 billion hrv (\$2 billion).

Government spending also was expected to increase in preparation for the Euro-2012 soccer championship, as well as for the coal, aviation and aerospace industries.

Opponents of the proposed budget highlighted the threat of inflation as a result of the increased social payments. "The rate of growth of social expenses considerably surpasses the rate of GDP growth," said Iryna Akimova, a national deputy with the Party of Regions of Ukraine. "The government continues to propose social initiatives, the realization of which will increase inflationary pressures."

President Viktor Yushchenko pointed out that the proposed budget neglected to earmark funds to repay Ukraine's outstanding debt to Russia, and to finance critical energy projects, and denied funds for affordable housing programs.

Government agencies also disagreed on the projected inflation rate for Ukraine in 2009, as estimates varied from 9.5 percent to 14 percent. Another highly debated variable in planning the 2009 budget included the unpredictable surge in the price of natural gas from Russia, which was speculated to sway from \$79.5 per 1,000 cubic meters to as much as \$360 per 1,000 cubic meters.

The proposed 2009 budget failed in the Verkhovna Rada on December 25, 2008.

Source: "Ukrainian government proposes budget that provides minimum standard of living," by Zenon Zawada, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, September 28, 2008.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This is no time for trivialities

Dear Editor:

I have been reading with disgust for some time now the juvenile polemics around Myron Kuropas on the pages of The Ukrainian Weekly in the letters to the editor section. The subjects and topics of dispute appear to be immaterial and sophomoric in nature at a time when we face the major crisis of rising Russian imperialism directed against Ukraine. More to the point is the election of the next president of Ukraine in a few months, and that will indeed determine the future of independent Ukraine.

Currently, the dark shadows of Russian aggression are spreading over the skies of Ukraine. One can see this menace in recent public pronouncements by Russian President Dmitriy Medvedev regarding Ukraine, as well as in the legal groundwork that is being advanced in the Russian Duma to justify pre-emptive military action by Russian forces outside Russia's borders. And this is not just idle talk. Military action by Russia against Ukraine might be around the corner, as Ukraine's former Ambassador to the U.S. Yuri Shcherbak suggests.

There is also a high probability that Viktor Yanukovich, a pro-Russian hood from the Donbas and the current leader in the polls will be elected the next president of Ukraine. As Taras Kuzio suggests in the August 30 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, that would lead to a takeover of the Ukrainian government by the criminal clans of the Donbas and the gradual demise of Ukrainian independence.

That, rather than Dr. Kuropas and his columns, should be of principal concern to the diaspora. This is no time for trivialities.

Ihor Lysyj
Austin, Texas

Myron Kuropas and the Mau Mau

Dear Editor:

Readers have been writing with complaints about columnist Myron Kuropas because once again he has gone off topic with an illogical rant. There are plenty of places where he can write whatever he wants, so this is not about censorship. It is instead about the integrity of The Ukrainian Weekly, a valuable community resource that Dr. Kuropas often debases with comments that are offensive to specific ethnic groups, hateful toward favorite targets such as academe, the media, anyone anywhere to the left of far-right, and downright incorrect with respect to facts. Whenever he is especially inappropriate, I and others feel a need to complain for the record in order to distance ourselves from his words as we maintain our subscriptions to the newspaper.

Several of the most recent letters have taken issue with Dr. Kuropas's unfair attacks against President Barack Obama, (June 28). There would be no criticisms if he could confine his opposition to Mr. Obama's policies and positions, particularly as they might affect Ukrainian Americans specifically, but he has instead used his privileged community platform to spew unsubstantiated nonsense. For the sake of brevity, I'll select just one example for comment, the one in which Dr. Kuropas warns that Mr. Obama's grandfather was "reportedly a Mau Mau supporter." At least two other writers mentioned this particular point in their letters but did not elaborate, so I take that task upon myself.

It probably does not matter one way or another whether the president's grandfather supported the Mau Mau or not. But for the sake of argument, let's assume that it does and that Dr. Kuropas has secured insider information from colonial Kenya about the political leanings of individual citizens. That raises the question of what would be wrong with being a supporter of the Mau Mau.

I was taught in my Ukrainian upbringing that partisans who fight against foreign colonial oppressors for freedom for their own homeland are heroes. Perhaps Dr. Kuropas knows little about Africa and has rooted his opinions not in the totality of the 1952-1960 Mau Mau Uprising, but mainly on the outcries that swept Europe in early 1953 after the murder of a white family by Kikuyu tribesmen. While that incident was indeed an atrocity, there were many gruesome killings on both sides during the Kenyan independence struggle, with demonstrably more atrocities committed by British forces against Kikuyu civilians than by Africans against the British.

While some still think of the Mau Mau as anti-white terrorists, the more accepted judgment of history is that the Mau Mau Movement was, in fact, a legitimate struggle for freedom by economically disadvantaged and politically powerless peasants against uninvited colonial masters. Their term for themselves was "Land and Freedom Army." Most of them died in the struggle, but Kenyan independence prevailed nonetheless, inspiring colonized people elsewhere to seek freedom too.

I say hooray for the Mau Mau, hooray for their descendants, and hooray if this particular president of the United States understands the costs of colonialism and the price of freedom.

Roman Cybriwsky
Philadelphia

The rule of law must prevail

Dear Editor:

I do enjoy your publication, as it was a gift to my wife from my father. I was very disappointed in Zenon Zawada's report on the destruction of public art by Mykola Kokhanivskiy (August 9).

The destruction of public property is a crime and should not go unpunished. Everyone understands the feelings of national sentiment at any given time, but the rule of law must prevail. Individuals in a free society have no right to take the law into their own hands under any circumstances. Chaos is the result of such unpunished actions.

In these times of national sentiment, political unrest and political intrigue, I think it wise to keep the rule of law utmost at hand. You must remember, there are citizens of Ukraine who still feel that Russia is a close ally, have relatives and friends there, and understand its trade relations – each with its own incredible importance to the future of a free and independent Ukraine.

Michael J. Ducey
Michigan City, Ind.

We welcome your opinion

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

CROSSCURRENTS

by Andrew Sorokowski

Crimea II?

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's recent introduction of a bill to facilitate his sending troops to defend Russian citizens or soldiers abroad may be a consequence of last year's intervention in Georgia. Three recent statements by Russian leaders, however, suggest that it may be aimed principally at Ukraine.

During his July-August visit to Ukraine, Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirill (Gundyaev) emphasized the unity of Orthodox believers in Rus' – that is, Russia, Belarus and Ukraine. His criticism of Ukrainian support for an independent Orthodox Church was ostensibly a call to depoliticize East Slavic Orthodoxy. At the same time, he asserted that the republic was part of his Church's canonical territory (Europaica Bulletin No. 173, August 12, 2009).

Depoliticizing religion is usually a good thing. Perhaps President Viktor Yushchenko's support of a Ukrainian national Church is misguided. Historically, nationalism – or, to use the theological term, phyletism – has long been a danger to Orthodoxy, where the absence of a strong central ecclesiastical authority, and the constant threat of Islam, contributed to the formation of close ties between Church and state in countries like Bulgaria, Romania and Serbia. While the Byzantine ideal of "symphonia" calls for cooperation between the sacred and secular power, in practice it has often degenerated to state control over the Church. This is notably the case in Russia.

Thus, if Patriarch Kirill truly wishes to depoliticize Orthodoxy, he will start at home. He will cancel all the politically motivated steps that have been taken throughout Russian Church history, such as the transfer of the metropolitanate of Kyiv to the Moscow Patriarchate in 1686, which the Ecumenical Patriarchate denounced in 1924. And if he truly wishes to restore the unity and glory of Kyivan Rus', he should support a single Orthodox Patriarchate of Kyiv for Ukraine, Russia and Belarus. The Kyivan patriarch would be elected by a council of bishops, clergy and laity from all those lands. Any reasonably representative assembly might have a majority, or at least a plurality, of Ukrainians. But that should not trouble the Russian churchman, since in a depoliticized Rus' Church, nationalism would play no role.

Patriarch Kirill's claim of canonical jurisdiction over Ukraine is questionable. While serving as metropolitan of Smolensk and Kaliningrad, he presumably considered these cities to be Russian Orthodox canonical territory. But before Soviet annexation in 1945, Kaliningrad was Koenigsberg in East Prussia, once the domain of the Catholic Teutonic Knights and later the Protestant homeland of philosopher Immanuel Kant. Evidently, canons follow cannon.

The second significant statement was made by President Dmitry Medvedev in two parts: first, in an August 6 letter to President Yushchenko informing him that Russia was withholding its ambassador to Kyiv because of the Ukrainian government's anti-Russian behavior, and second, in a follow-up speech on August 11. Among the Yushchenko government's allegedly unfriendly acts was its unwillingness to extend Russia's lease on the naval base at Sevastopol in Crimea after

it expires in 2017. Ukraine was also accused of selling arms to Georgia, which Russia invaded in August 2008, and of interfering with operations of Russia's Black Sea Fleet. Mr. Medvedev evidently believes that while Russia had a right to use its fleet's Ukrainian base to support its invasion of Ukraine's ally, Ukraine had no right to help its Georgian friends resist aggression.

Furthermore, Mr. Medvedev denounced President Yushchenko's characterization of the Holodomor of 1932-1933 as genocide. It was as if Angela Merkel had protested that calling the Holocaust genocide was anti-German. President Medvedev also objected to Ukraine's bid to join NATO – even though that is hardly imminent.

This broadside was followed by a shot across the bow from Aleksandr Dugin, head of the International Eurasian Movement (Korrespondent.net, August 11, 2009). Dugin speculated that Mr. Medvedev's statements heralded a Russian-American war, to be fought in Crimea and eastern Ukraine.

Now Mr. Dugin is certainly a loose cannon and does not represent Russian state policy, though he obviously serves a purpose. Patriarch Kirill may have been speaking in purely spiritual terms, though his canons are equally loose. And Mr. Medvedev may merely have been trying to influence Ukraine's January 17, 2010, elections, though that is hardly necessary: it is certain that the winner will be much more pro-Russian than President Yushchenko.

Yet Mr. Dugin's comment is revealing. This may be as much about the United States as it is about Ukraine. Russia and its neighbors can hardly be faulted for being skittish about a country that gives its voters a choice between a president who supports one foreign war and one who supports two. We denounce spheres of influence, only to project our own power worldwide. If a neo-Stalinist Russia were to lead a coalition in an invasion of Colombia (to put down the drug clans, stabilize the economy and defend democracy, of course), no one would be surprised if we tightened our embrace of Mexico or even sent a pre-emptive expedition to Cuba. Like it or not, in some ways Georgia and Ukraine are Russia's Cuba and Mexico. It's a bit inconsistent to support our adventures in Central Asia yet cry foul when Russia rattles the saber over Ukraine.

Those who oppose imperialism from any quarter, however, can only hope that by the time you are reading this, Russia will not have started a war. It could, for example, provoke an attack on Russian sailors in Sevastopol in order to justify an armed seizure of Crimea. Yet Ukraine is not Georgia. A second Crimean War might end as badly for Russia as the first.

What, then, is Russia up to? Is it testing the Black Sea waters? Is it trying to cow the Ukrainians into submission? Is it sending a warning shot to America? Or is it, as last year in Georgia, slowly and methodically laying the groundwork for an invasion and biding its time until the right moment? Perhaps, in the Russian tradition of complex and well-thought-out strategy, it is doing all of the above.

Andrew Sorokowski can be reached at samboritanus@hotmail.com.

Kyiv Mohyla journalism program expands international collaboration

by Marta Farion

CHICAGO – Since its founding in 2001, the Mohyla School of Journalism at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy has established itself as a leader in journalism education reform, offering an M.A. and a Ph.D. degree program, as well as the Digital Future of Journalism, a non-degree program for journalists that was founded in 2007 with generous support from Rinat Akhmetov's "Development of Ukraine" Fund.

New approaches in journalism

In a mere nine years the J-school developed a new approach to journalism education emphasizing integrity, credibility and journalistic reputation, accuracy, objectivity, impartiality, fairness and public accountability. Professional integrity is the cornerstone of a journalist's credibility. As a post-Soviet space, Ukraine is still undergoing a transition period in this regard.

With more than 15 faculty members and an average of 80 graduate and post-graduate students, the Mohyla School of Journalism offers myriad courses. With a mission to serve Ukrainian society in the academic sector, the school undertook new approaches by challenging the media industry in Ukraine through analysis, critique, practical training, professional discussions, mass media communications, public media literacy, investigative reporting, and international collaborations and internships. The school has developed a specialty in news and current affairs in broadcasting in what is currently known new media, which includes the Internet.

Partners and supporters

Mr. Akhmetov's Foundation for Development of Ukraine sponsored the

implementation of two joint projects: the Digital Future of Journalism Program (post-diploma course on Internet and online journalism for journalists from leading Ukrainian media outlets) and the Ph.D. program in mass communication.

The Akhmetov Foundation financed an entire floor of modules that recreate adjacent radio and television newsrooms, graphics, photography and editorial facilities, as well as conference rooms built in the remodeled space of a building at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. In addition, the foundation provided funding for international faculty and student training.

The Mohyla J-school developed a series of collaborative programs with various foreign educational entities. In 2002-2006 British journalists and experts from the Institute of Communications Studies at the University of Leeds participated as faculty; concurrently a three-year grant from the U.S. State Department is supporting a faculty exchange program with Ohio University in both directions, which resulted in five new academic courses; in addition, a three-year regional seminar for excellence in teaching of media studies was held with the cooperation of Towson University of Maryland and sponsorship of the Open Society Institute in Budapest; and one-month internships were held in 2005-2006 at La Croix newspaper and Radio France International with a grant from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ph.D. in mass communication

February marked the official opening of a joint Ph.D. program in journalism with the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Joint workshops such as "Media Transformation(s) during

Transition(s) to Democracy" took place with the financial assistance of the Rinat Akhmetov Foundation for Development of Ukraine. This first Ph.D. program in Ukraine of Western accreditation and standards is also a result of the Akhmetov Foundation's sponsorship for faculty and student exchanges.

In the spring of 2009 the director of the J-school, Yevhen Fedchenko, travelled to the United States and met with editors of leading media outlets in New York, Washington and Chicago, and deputy director Ruslan Deynichenko visited the University of Southern California (USC, Los Angeles) and attended the annual Broadcast Education Association Convention in Las Vegas. The visit was co-sponsored by the Akhmetov Foundation and U.S. Embassy Media Development Fund.

Further funding from the Foundation for Development of Ukraine was obtained for a month-long research internship in May-June of the first Ph.D. candidates of the program: Daria Taradai and Anastasia Grynko at Northwestern University Library and Medill School of Journalism, and Darya Orlova at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. The Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America assisted with these arrangements.

The Former director of the Northwestern University Library, David Bishop, and the current Library director, Sarah Pritchard, not only facilitated full access to electronic resources but opened the door for collaboration on the Electronic Library of Ukraine project.

In addition to new opportunities created by these exchanges, Ms. Taradai and Ms. Grynko also attended the annual conference of the International Communication Association. As a result of the visit, where both journalists represented Ukraine, Ms. Grynko was invited to present her research paper at next year's convention

of the National Communication Association, the largest national organization dedicated to communication.

The three Ph.D. candidates are journalists and faculty members at the Mohyla School of Journalism. Of great interest were courses on Media Ethics and Methods of Media Research. All visitors commented on the dramatic contrast between Ukraine and the United States in the area of access to digital research and academic information. The world's information is literally at one's fingertips in the Western world's libraries. Ukraine is still faced with the challenge of reaching the same level of digital access.

The Electronic Library of Ukraine Project (ELibUkr), launched in January with assistance from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), is the initiative of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy and the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America as a response to Ukraine's need to close this serious digital gap. Equal access to information is the key to Ukraine's ability to become a partner and not a supplicant with other developed nations.

Kyiv Mohyla Academy's mission is to help build Ukraine as a modern, democratic nation by providing the best education to future leaders.

For further information readers may contact Yevhen Fedchenko, Ph.D., director, Mohyla School of Journalism at fedchenko@ukma.kiev.ua, or j-school.kiev.ua.

To donate to the work and mission of Kyiv Mohyla Academy readers may contact the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America at 773-685-1828 or mail.kmfoundation.com or send mail to: KMFoundation, P.O. Box 46009, Chicago, IL 60646-0009.

Marta Farion is president of the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation.

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Shukhevych and the Nachtigall Battalion: Moscow's fabrications

by Taras Hunczak

CONCLUSION

In view of the criticisms that have been leveled at Shukhevych as an officer in the Nachtigall Battalion, which is accused of allegedly participating in the killings of Jews and Polish intellectuals in Lviv in July 1941, I propose to examine historical records in order to establish the truth.

After the Soviets reoccupied Lviv in the fall of 1944 an Extraordinary State Commission on German atrocities perpetrated on the territory of Lviv region was created by the Soviet government. The commission consisted of members of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and other influential members of the Soviet government. The results of their investigation were published in booklet form in Kyiv in 1945.¹ On the basis of the investigation, which consisted of research, eyewitness accounts, and medical reports, the commission concluded that Gestapo detachments had prepared lists of Lviv intellectuals who were slated for destruction even before the Germans entered the city.² The findings of the Extraordinary State Commission served as the basis for arguments advanced by General Roman Rudenko, who served as Chief Prosecutor for the USSR at the Nuremberg Trials. Addressing the Lviv problem, Rudenko stated: "Immediately after the occupation of Lvov by the Germans, mass arrests and shooting of professors, physicians, lawyers, writers, and artists started... An investigation ... showed that over 70 prominent scientists, technicians, and artists had been killed by the Germans, their bodies being subsequently burned by the Gestapo."³ The tragic deaths of Lviv's outstanding intellectuals were also discussed in Nuremberg by Chief Counselor of Justice (USSR) Lev N. Smirnov, who provided some details about the victims.⁴

In its published report the Extraordinary State Commission not only drew up a list of victims with some descriptions of their sufferings, but also provided a record of individuals from various branches of the German security services, who had participated in the criminal activities in Lviv.⁵ It should be noted that neither the report of the Extraordinary State Commission nor Rudenko or Smirnov – nor anyone else, for that matter – mentioned anything during the Nuremberg Trials about any criminal acts perpetrated by Nachtigall or Roman Shukhevych. This fabrication was created later. The campaign to besmirch both was launched on October 2, 1959, when an instruction was issued by the Second Chief Directorate of the KGB of the USSR requesting a search for documents as well as witnesses in connection with Theodor Oberländer, the Minister for Displaced Persons, Refugees and Victims of War for the Federal Republic of Germany, who was accused of organ-

izing the mass extermination of the civilian population in Lviv in 1941.⁶ On November 16, 1959, a second directive was sent from Moscow by Lieutenant-General Fedor Shcherbak, deputy head of the Second Chief Directorate of the KGB of the USSR, urging that eyewitnesses be prepared for interrogation about Nachtigall.⁷

The real objective of the KGB in pursuing the matter of Oberländer and the Nachtigall Battalion was stated in a letter sent from the KGB office of the Lviv region to the chairman of the KGB of the Ukrainian SSR, Vitalii Nikitchenko. The letter clearly states that the instructions had been fulfilled with respect to gathering "evidence about the criminal acts in Lviv and on the territory of its region, which were committed by Oberländer and the Nachtigall Battalion. With the objective of compromising Oberländer and the Ukrainian nationalists, the documents gathered by the UKGB have been widely used in the local and central press, movie chronicles, and at a press conference in Moscow."⁸

Having thus established a prefabricated documentary basis, Moscow was ready to launch international condemnation of Ukrainian nationalism for the alleged murder of Polish intellectuals and members of the Jewish community of Lviv by linking the Nachtigall Battalion with Theodor Oberländer. Using Nachtigall and Oberländer as background, what the KGB was preparing was part of the Kremlin's diabolical scheme whose objective was the assassination of Stepan Bandera, the leader of the OUN(B), which was preceded by the murder of Professor Lev Rebet, the head of the OUN Abroad.⁹ In January 1959 Bohdan Stashynsky, a well trained KGB assassin, who had already demonstrated his talents on October 12, 1957, when he assassinated Lev Rebet in Munich, was instructed by his KGB handler Sergei A. Demon to go to Munich and determine the whereabouts of Stepan Bandera.¹⁰ In October 1959 Stashynsky was told by his handler to travel to Munich and carry out Moscow's order by killing Bandera. On October 15 he executed his mission. In December Stashynsky was summoned to Moscow, where Aleksandr Shelepin, the head of the KGB, "awarded him the Order of the Red Banner for fulfilling an important government mission."¹¹

What a strange series of interconnected events: in Munich, the Ukrainians were mourning the death of their leader, not realizing that he had been assassinated by a KGB agent, while in Moscow, Shelepin and his KGB subordinates were celebrating their success in Munich. On October 22, 1959, Professor Albert Norden held a press conference in East Berlin, which marked the beginning of a campaign against the members of the Nachtigall Battalion and Professor Oberländer, who were accused of the mass murder of Jews and Poles in Lviv in July 1941. These well orchestrated events

melded the Ukrainian tragedy with Moscow's political objectives.¹²

Immediately after Bandera's assassination both Moscow and Soviet-controlled East Germany accused Oberländer of having committed the crime in Lviv. The official organ of the Soviet Ministry of Defense, the newspaper *Krasnaia Zvezda*, declared that because Bandera had entered Lviv with Nachtigall, he knew too much about Oberländer's criminal acts and was therefore killed.¹³ The accusation leveled by the German Democratic Republic stated:

"Jointly with the notorious fascist and racial ideologist, Professor Hans Koch, Oberländer, in the beginning organized the Nachtigall battalion, using for this purpose the units of the Ukrainian terrorist and chauvinist, Bandera. As its military commanding officer, he drilled this battalion in the service of fascist ideology, indoctrinating it with anti-communism, and hatred against the intellectual strata of the East European nations..."

Oberländer headed the murder battalion Nachtigall when this unit attacked the Soviet university town of Lwow during the hours of the morning of June 30, 1941. Under his leadership, the members of the Nachtigall battalion started pogroms against the Jewish population, and a systematic extermination campaign against the leading representatives of the town's intelligentsia, using for this purpose lists of names which had been prepared in advance.¹⁴

For these alleged criminal acts Oberländer was found guilty by the East German court, which handed down its decision on April 29, 1960. The ruling was widely publicized throughout the communist bloc. A book about Oberländer was published in Poland, slandering Oberländer, Bandera, and Ukrainian nationalists.¹⁵ The attacks against Oberländer continued within the Ukrainian context of the Nachtigall Battalion, but in reality the Soviet communists were seeking to defame his high position as a minister of the West German government, as well as Chancellor Adenauer, argues Hermann Raschhofer, who had been a professor of International Law in German-occupied Prague in 1941.¹⁶ The high point of this prefabricated slander was reached when the left wing of the Association of Victims of the Nazi Regime (VVN) delivered evidence against Oberländer to the Public Prosecutor of West Germany, charging him with crimes committed in Lviv in 1941.¹⁷ Thus, the same person was the central figure to be tried in three courts of law for the same crimes that he had allegedly committed. The first took place in East Germany during a show trial, where he was found guilty in absentia by the Supreme Court of the German Democratic Republic. The next two times Oberländer was ready to testify before the Chief Public Prosecutor of District Courts in Bonn and Munich.

The war of slander waged by VVN

functionaries was successful, and by May 1960 Oberländer resigned his position as minister of the West German government. But this was only the beginning of a long trial in Bonn during which all the charges were carefully re-examined. It should be noted that while Oberländer was the central figure in those legal proceedings, he was always judged as the commanding officer of the Nachtigall Battalion within the context of the events in Lviv. Therefore, Ukrainians were never left out of the picture.

As a result of the careful examination of various eyewitnesses, both military and civilian, the court came to the conclusion that there were no grounds for accusing Nachtigall of any criminal acts against Jews or Polish professors in Lviv in July 1941.¹⁸ Similarly, all accusations against Professor Oberländer's conduct were rejected as baseless.¹⁹ The international community learned the details about the false accusations against Oberländer only during the trial of Bandera's assassin Bohdan Stashynsky, which took place in Karlsruhe on October 8-19, 1962.²⁰ During the trial the presiding judge, Dr. Heinrich Jagusch, stated that "the Soviet Secret Service no longer commits murder at its own discretion. Murder is now carried out on express government orders. Political murder has, so to speak, now become institutionalized."²¹

During the investigation of the crimes in Lviv, the court established that it was the German Security Service (SD), the Security Police, and the Einsatzkommando 5 that had perpetrated the mass murder of Jews and Polish professors.²² During the discussion of these tragic events the court also addressed the terrible mass murders of prisoners that the Soviets committed in the prisons of Lviv before the German troops entered the city.²³ After his trial began, Oberländer approached Wolfgang Müller, the General Secretary of the German Section of the URPE, the "Union de la Résistance pour une Europe unie" (an organization consisting of prominent World War II anti-Nazi resistance fighters and intellectuals) in Düsseldorf, with a proposal to form an independent international commission to ascertain the truth of what really happened in Lviv in 1941.²⁴ The commission members included the Norwegian lawyer Hans Cappelen, former Danish foreign minister and president of the Danish parliament Ole Bjørn Kraft, the Dutch socialist Karel van Staal, the Belgian law professor Flor Peeters, and the Swiss jurist and Member of Parliament Kurt Schoch.²⁵

In order to be free of German or any other influence, the members of the commission, who met on November 27-28, 1959, decided that all their work would be conducted in The Hague (the Netherlands).²⁶ The commission interviewed witnesses and re-examined vari-

(Continued on page 18)

1 "Pro zlochynstva nimtsiv na terytorii Lvivskoi oblasti. Povidomlennia Nadzvychainoi Derzhavnoi Komisii po vstanovlenniu i rozsliduvanniu zlochynstv nimetsko-fashystrykykh zaharbynykiv" (Kyiv: Ukrainske derzhavne vydavnytstvo, 1945).

2 Ibid., pp. 4-7. See also "Niurnbergskii protsess nad glavnyimi nemetskimi voennymi prestupnikami," 7 vols., ed. R. A. Rudenko, vol. 4 (Moscow: Gosudarstvennoe izdatelstvo iuridicheskoi literatury, 1959), pp. 67-82.

3 "Trial of the Major War Criminals before the International Military Tribunal" (Nuremberg, 14 November-1 October 1946), vol. XXII (Nuremberg, 1946), pp. 341-45.

4 Ibid., vol. VII, pp. 490-91.

5 "Pro zlochynstva nimtsiv, pp." 32-35.

6 Haluzevyi Derzhavnyi Arkhiv Sluzhby

Bezpeky Ukrainy (henceforward HDA SBU), fond 1, list 4, file 3, vol. 5, fol. 55.

7 HDA SBU, fond 1, list 4, file 3, vol. 5, fol. 88.

8 HDA SBU, fond 1, list 4, file 3, vol. 5, fols. 195-196.

9 Karl Anders, "Murder to Order" (London: Ampersand, 1965), p. 92.

10 Danylo Chaikovskiy, et al. *Moskovski vbyvti Bandery pered sudom* (Munich: Ukr. vyd-vo, 1965), p. 11.

11 Chaikovskiy, "Moskovski vbyvti Bandery," p. 205. See also Anders, *Murder to Order*, p. 93.

12 The German journalist Claus Larass wrote a fascinating article dealing with the details and complexities of the problem. See "Im Ostberliner Kino überkam den Mörder die Reue," *Welt* am Sonntag, 14 October 1984

(no. 42), p. 27.

13 Hermann Raschhofer, "Political Assassination: The Legal Background of the Oberländer and Stashynsky Cases," trans. Ernst Schlosser (Tübingen: F. Schlichtenmayer, 1964), p. 8.

14 Ibid., p. 21.

15 Aleksander Drozdzyński and Jan Zaborowski, "Oberländer przez 'Ostforschung' wywiad i NSDAP do rządu NRF" (Poznan-Warsaw: Wydawnictwo Zachodnie, 1960).

16 Raschhofer, "Political Assassination," pp. 6-7.

17 Ibid., p. 3.

18 I was fortunate to obtain copies of the original documents of the judicial proceedings in Bonn and Munich. See Landgericht Fulda, "In der Sache Oberländer," 63/64 (Fu), pp. 8-15, 53.

19 Landgericht Fulda., pp. 16-17.

20 Anders, "Murder to Order," pp. 86-87.

21 Ibid., p. 107.

22 Landgericht Fulda, "In der Sache Oberländer," pp. 55-57. The court findings basically restated the findings of the Soviet Extraordinary State Commission on German Atrocities in Lviv Region, pp. 32-35.

23 Ibid., p. 58. "...die Sowjetrussen vor dem Einmarsch der deutschen Truppen in Lemberg ungeheure Greuelthaten begangen hatten. Es lagen mehrere Tausend Leichen in den Gefängnissen der Stadt..."

24 "Lemberg 1941 und Oberländer: Das Ergebnis einer Untersuchung," Preface by Joop Zwart (Amstelveen, NL, 1960), p. 19.

25 Ibid., p. 24.

26 Ibid., pp. 20-21.

To find the missing "G": My trip to the Sanok lands

by Michael Buryk

PART I

At the end of the late 1970s, after spending many enjoyable days learning Ukrainian dance at the Ukrainian Community Center on Fleet Street in Jersey City, I developed an unquenchable thirst to know who my Ukrainian ancestors were. Two summers spent in the Soviet Union studying Russian during college further fueled this interest.

Back then, I knew very little: my family had come to America during the beginning of the 20th century from Rosilna in the Bohorodchany region of Halychyna near Ivano-Frankivsk, and Siemuszowa in the Sanok region in what is now southeastern Poland. My paternal grandfather, Mike Buryk, died in 1924 from injuries in a coalmine accident near Minersville, Pa. His wife, Julia Czerepaniak, remarried soon after, to a Polish co-worker of grandpa, Stanley Marchowsky. Occasionally over the years, Baba Julia did mention "Sianik" in passing to her oldest son, Wally, but never gave any details about her past.

Julia died in 1972. Six years later my dad's sister, Aunt Helen, sent me a photo copy of her baptismal certificate. The black piece of paper with white letters had listed on it the names of her parents, grandparents and great-grandparents, and the village of Siemuszowa with comments in Latin.

This piece of paper was the crucial clue that began my 30-year quest leading to my trip to the Sanok area at the end of May this year.

For a third-generation Ukrainian American, finding the pieces to the family puzzle was quite a challenge. Putting them together after they were painstakingly found proved to be even more difficult. There were lots of dead ends, false starts and endless circular wanderings. But with the help of the LDS (Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints) reading room and their microfilm archives of civil records collected worldwide, the internet and the good offices of the International Red Cross, by 2004 I had tracked down many of my living Czerepaniak and Buryk relations. Now, it was time to visit them.

And so, in 2004 I made my first trip and trekked off to Gorszow Wielkopolski in the so-called "recovered lands" of Poland to meet the descendants of my grandfather's youngest sister, Katarzyna Gburyk.

That's not a typo: the name was originally "Gburyk." Along the road from Siemuszowa to Minersville, grandpa

Mike had lost his "G". Not so hard to imagine since Gburyk is virtually impossible to pronounce for any red-blooded, native-born American.

And even in the old country, they couldn't make up their minds about their own name. Sometimes it was Gbur and sometimes Gburyk or Gburik, and it even morphed at least once into Burek, written in Cyrillic on the tombstone of one family member that stands among the tall grass and wildflowers in the old cemetery up on the hill beyond the church in Siemuszowa.

Our family, like many other Ukrainians and Lemkos, was resettled from the Sanok lands before and during the Polish Government's Operation Vistula (Akcja Wisla) in 1947. Some of the Czerepaniaks headed east into Ukraine and eventually settled in the Lviv area. The remainder of our family was shipped into northern, northwestern and western Poland. While visiting my Hlib relatives (Katarzyna Gburyk had married Michael Hlib in Siemuszowa in 1926) in Gorszow in 2004 had been an unforgettable experience, Gorszow was not our ancestral homeland.

I had dreamed about going to Sanok and Siemuszowa ever since my Gorszow visit. It's not that I didn't want to go, but part of me was challenged by the fact that I speak no Polish and that my Ukrainian can only be used for basic survival to ward off starvation or a sudden emergency. Then there were some minor events like my quadruple heart bypass surgery in 2007 and my wife Rosemary's sudden stroke in the fall of 2008. We both recovered enough by the spring of 2009 that I considered the trip again. The spirit was willing and the "G" forces were strong and kept pulling me back toward the adventure of my dreams.

In May I scheduled a business trip to Germany and planned to leave for Poland from Munich at the end of it. Even as the Polish LOT airlines plane sat on the runway the night of May 29 on the way to Rzeszow via Warsaw, I didn't believe it would really happen. I finally landed and went by taxi to the Dwor Ostoya in Jasienska just outside the airport grounds at 1 a.m. Saturday morning.

When the taxi driver pulled up to the estate of some former Polish nobleman and the gate was locked, I suspected that someone had called ahead to tell the innkeeper that Buryk the Ukrainian peasant should not be allowed to spend the night. However, I was eventually let in to spend the night.

I awoke early Saturday to the sound of pounding rain, which would be a continuing theme throughout my four-day



Dwor Ostoya, Jasienska, Poland.

Michael Buryk

adventure in Podkarpaska. The Dwor, like most things associated with the old nobility in Poland, had seen better days, although it retained a certain ancient charm. After breakfast it was back to the airport to pick up my tiny Avis Opel rental car. Soon I was off on my stick-shift ramble through southeastern Poland.

First stop: Przemysl (Peremyszl, according to the Ukrainian transliteration). I had convinced Volodya Cherepanyak, the son of my second cousin Myron who lives in Lviv, to come along. Volodya and I go back a few years when I first stumbled across him on the Internet in 2001. Since then, he's visited me once in New Jersey during a business trip to the U.S. and hosted my daughter Alexis twice and my son Steve once in Lviv.

Volodya's fluency in English and Ukrainian and working knowledge of Polish would prove to be an invaluable asset during the trip. Volodya is a technology entrepreneur with his own Internet programming company in Lviv. We share a passion for our family and Ukrainian history, which made him the perfect companion for my first journey to our ancestral homeland.

Through the mountains to Sanok

On the map, the road to Przemysl from Rzeszow looks like an easy drive. But half the time it's one lane due to continuous construction and the other half the traffic crawls at a snail's pace through Lancut, Jaroslaw and other ancient towns. Volodya was standing at the train station in Przemysl waiting for me after his morning trip from Lviv. The exact location of the train station is a well-kept secret, since there are no signs to tell you exactly where it is or how to get there.

After a lot of trial and error and dropped cell calls, we were reunited. Finally, he squeezed into my tiny car wearing his familiar orange windbreaker topped by a very large backpack. We drove off together south from Przemysl down Route 28 on the road to Sanok.

The road became steeper as we reached Bircza and more winding as we climbed through the Pogorze Dynowskie (Dynow foothills) near Kuzmina. Soon we reached Tyrawa Woloska. Volodya and I continued along the winding road that was now descending from the Slone (Salt) Mountains through the village of Zaluz toward Sanok.

We were on our way to the home of Katarzyna Czerepaniak-Tympczak, his great aunt and my father's first cousin. Katarzyna's father, Michal (a.k.a the miller), and my Baba Julia were brother and sister. After losing our way a few

times on Ulitsa Przemyska and a few cell calls to Katarzyna's grandson Pawel, we found the place.

Katarzyna's home was a relatively new two-story house that her son-in-law Volodymyr (Walter) Patulak had built for the family. The outside was stucco and freshly painted. There was an old garage-barn in the back, and the sound of a rooster periodically pierced the air. But, this was no village house. No picturesque thatched roof or white-washed walls here. The house looked like any you might find in Germany today. And yet, it was a kind of a blend between the old and the new. You reached the house from a dirt road that branched off Przemyska to several other houses in the back. The area reminded me of the coal patch in Primrose where my dad had grown up near Minersville.

An old woman came out, embraced Volodya and then began chatting slowly in Ukrainian. Her hair was covered in a traditional kerchief and it reminded me of the older Ukrainian women who would gather with my mom's mother near a corner store in Jersey City to chat for a while to pass away an afternoon in the late 1950s.

Her conversation ran from aches and pains, to life in Siemuszowa, to the whereabouts of her daughter Melaniya, her son-in-law and the grandchildren. We declined her invitation to enter the house, but agreed to come back at 4 p.m. since she wanted to accompany us to Siemuszowa. It made sense since she was born on the Czerepaniak homestead there in 1922 and would know a lot about the village. Volodya and I drove to the Hotel Jagiellonska in Sanok. We dropped our bags, had some lunch and then headed back to Aunt Katarzyna for our trip to Siemuszowa.

My first taste of Siemuszowa

We gathered up Aunt Katarzyna, squeezed her into the tiny car and headed out for Siemuszowa. This time we didn't take the serpentine road that snaked its way tediously over the Slone Mountains through Tyrawa Woloska to our village. Instead we followed the wide, muddy brown San (Sian) river through the ancient area of Trepcza and on to Mrzgodol. At that point there was an old steel bridge that sat precariously over the river. No load limit was listed, but I'm sure if you had two buses and a car cross at the same time their fate would be sealed suddenly with a swift drop into the dark waters below. But, it didn't happen that day.

(Continued on page 22)



Former "tserkva" in Siemuszowa, Poland, Epiphany of Our Lord.

UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY 2009

Binghamton, N.Y.

by Lubomyr K. Zobniw

BINGHAMTON, N.Y. – The annual celebration of Ukrainian Independence Day in the Binghamton, N.Y., area took place on Monday, August 24, with a flag raising ceremony at Binghamton City Hall.

Mayor Matthew Ryan hosted the ceremony and issued a proclamation honoring Ukrainian independence. The flag-raising ceremony in Binghamton is one of the oldest in United States, dating back to the early 1950s.

The ceremony was preceded by a short program at Binghamton City Hall. The Rev. Teodor Czabala, pastor of Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church, and the Rev. Zenoviy Zharsky, pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox Church, opened the program with a prayer of thanksgiving.

Mayor Ryan read the Ukrainian Independence Day Proclamation. Oresta Zobniw Lisowsky spoke on the significance of Ukrainian Independence Day and the need to continue to celebrate this date wherever Ukrainians live.

Americans of Ukrainian descent celebrate Ukrainian Independence Day to express their pride that Ukrainians are a distinctly unique people who are finally able to take their rightful place in the community of free and independent nations of the world, she noted.

The mayor paid tribute to Maria Zobniw, a shooting victim at the American Civic Association. Oresta Z. Lisowsky, daughter of Mrs. Zobniw said that this event was especially important to her mother, who took personal pride in helping to organize this annual Ukrainian Independence Day commemoration at Binghamton City Hall.

It was an emotional event, especially for the family of Mrs. Zobniw, who often gave an uplifting message during this event. She believed that Ukrainian history teaches that national independence is precious and hard-earned, and that the Ukrainian heritage should be shared within the local community.

Many people contributed to the 2009 Ukrainian Independence Day celebrations, which began on Sunday, August 29, with divine liturgies, followed by a



Andrew Block

Participants of the flag-raising ceremony at Binghamton City Hall.

cake celebration organized by Zenon and Christine Ivanonko. Participants were dressed in embroidered shirts for the cel-

ebrations and the flag-raising.

This event was covered by three local TV stations.

San Francisco

by Nestor Wolansky

SAN FRANCISCO – Undaunted by the chilly weather – typical of San Francisco this time of the year – Ukrainians came out in large numbers on August 30 to Golden Gate Park to enjoy a superb program of Ukrainian song and dance, and show once again that they are proud of their culture.

The Kalyna Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and the Sonechko Children's Ensemble from Sacramento, under the



Ukraine's acting consul general in San Francisco, Taras Barniak, addresses the crowd.

direction of Irina and George Arabagi, and the Zhuravlyky Children's Dance Group opened with the traditional Ukrainian welcome of bread and salt.

Svyatoslav Stus, tenor, and Andriy Danylyshyn, baritone, performed the "Lord's Prayer," by K. Mykolaychuk. The Kalyna Ensemble followed with a folk dance, "Vinochok," and the Trembita Choir sang "Kozaks Rose Before Dawn."

Zhuravlyky gave a charming performance of an old Ukrainian folk dance, the "Dancing Wind." Ola Herasymenko, the Merited Artist of Ukraine, and no stranger to the Ukrainian American community, captivated the audience on the bandura, and another children's ensemble, Hutsuliata, performed a "Kolomyika."

The acting consul general of the Ukraine in San Francisco, Taras Barniak, warmly greeted the Ukrainian community.

Special guests from Ukraine – Antychka, and Valeriy and Oksana Krychenko – wowed the audience with a medley of contemporary Ukrainian pop songs. The Vocal Ensemble Choir, with the well-known Bay Area activist Ivanna Taratula-Filipenko as artistic director, performed the popular Ukrainian Insurgent Army song, "In the Forest Clearing."

The renowned Golden Gate Park Band – one of the oldest municipal bands in the country, now in its 127th year –



The Sonechko Children's ensemble performs a Ukrainian folk dance.

performed a Ukrainian piece, "Zaporozhian Kozak Beyond the Danube," to a standing ovation. The band is under the direction of Michael Wirgler.

The festive program closed with the national dance of Ukraine, "Hopak," with Zhuravlyky, Sonechko and Kalyna thrilling the crowd.

This year's program was sponsored by

the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council in cooperation with the Ukrainian Heritage Club of Northern California, and Bay Area churches, organizations and clubs. Alex Hrynewycz served as master of ceremonies. Two dedicated Bay Area activists, Jinny Nazaruk, production assistant, and Maria Iskiw, financial officer, provided generous assistance.

New York City

NEW YORK – At the initiative of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, New York City Branch, Mayor Michael Bloomberg issued a proclamation in commemoration of Ukraine's 18th anniversary of Independence.

The proclamation reads in part:

"...Eighteen years ago, Ukrainian men and women came together to declare their independence from the Soviet Union and establish the democratic state of Ukraine. Their struggle captured the imagination of the world, and their perseverance in the face of long years of repression continues to inspire us all. To this day, the values of freedom and democracy being the movement for Ukraine's independence help drive the collective spirit of Ukrainian men and women around the world – espe-

cially here in New York City. ...

"...New York City has benefitted tremendously from the innovative spirit, rich culture, and determined work ethic of our Ukrainian residents. These men and women continually demonstrate their dedication to the betterment of our great city, and make tremendous contributions to our economic vitality, cultural vibrancy, and civic progress. This month, New Yorkers of all backgrounds can unfurl their yellow and blue flags as they join their Ukrainian neighbors in celebrating the birth of an independent Ukraine and applauding the outstanding accomplishments of the Ukrainian people. ...

Mayor Bloomberg proclaimed Monday, August 24, as Ukrainian Independence Day in the city of New York.

Philadelphia

by Metodij Boretsky

PHILADELPHIA – The 18th anniversary of the independence of Ukraine was celebrated in Philadelphia on Monday, August 24, at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Jenkintown near Philadelphia.

The program included: opening remarks by Ivan Yaworsky, chairman of the Philadelphia community committee; an honor guard composed by Ukrainian youth and veterans' organizations; national anthems sung by Ihor Stasiuk; a reading of the Proclamation of Independence Act by Zenya Zacharczuk; and an opening prayer by Metropolitan Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Performers included: the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Artistic Director Taras Lewyckyj); Holubka Women's Vocal Ensemble soprano Lida Bychko; orator Vira Hubitska; and the Prometheus Ukrainian Male Chorus

(Music Director Roman Kucharsky).

The closing prayer was offered by Archbishop Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A.

The Philadelphia Ukrainian Community committee that organized the program was composed of Ivan Yaworsky, president, Ihor Kusznir, Natalia Pazuniak and Borys Pawluk, vice presidents; Larysa Stebly, treasurer; Metodij Boretsky, press secretary; Petro Kluk, corresponding secretary; and Petro Hursky, recording secretary.

Ukraine's Consul General in New York Serhii Pohoreltsev greeted the Philadelphia community and read a letter from the acting foreign affairs minister of Ukraine.

Also were present were Congressman Joe Sestak, former Congressman John Fox and Congresswoman Allison Shwartz. Margaret Hughes, representing the mayor of Philadelphia read a city of Philadelphia proclamation.

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The Recovery Act also provides a deduction for State and Local sales and excise taxes paid on the purchase of new cars, light trucks, motor homes and motorcycles through 2009. Complete information, including eligibility requirements can be found at: www.irs.gov.

PHOTO REPORT FROM UKRAINE

Ukraine's National Flag Day, August 23

KYIV – On the occasion of National Flag Day, which is marked on August 23, President Viktor Yushchenko, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and other Ukrainian leaders participated in the ceremonial raising of the flag of Ukraine at Constitution Square near the Mariyinsky Palace. As part of the ceremony, the president presented passports to young citizens of Ukraine from all regions of the country. In keeping with tradition started by President Yushchenko, young people also received flags of Ukraine as a gift on this national holiday.



Official Website of Ukraine's President

Ukrainian Independence Day, August 24

KYIV – Ukrainian Independence Day was celebrated in Kyiv on August 24 with a parade down the capital city's main thoroughfare, the Khreschatyk. Prior to that, Ukraine's first family and government leaders attended a prayer service for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people at St. Sophia Cathedral. After reviewing a parade of Ukraine's military, President Yushchenko delivered an address to the nation on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of Ukraine's independence.



Official Website of Ukraine's President



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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Kyiv may get \$3.7 B from IMF

KYIV – The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is planning to allocate over \$3.7 billion U.S. as part of the fourth tranche under the Stand-By Arrangement (SBA) with Ukraine on November 15, following the third review of a program on cooperation between Ukraine and the IMF. The fifth tranche worth over \$590 million is to be allocated to Ukraine in mid-February 2010. These terms were included in the tables of the revised Technical Memorandum of Understanding posted on the official website of the IMF on September 8. The first deputy chair of the Presidential Secretariat, Oleksander Shlapak, said earlier that the IMF could refuse to allocate the fourth disbursement under its SBA with Ukraine. He said that IMF Mission Chief in Ukraine Ceyla Pazarbasioğlu had expressed concern during her latest visit to Ukraine that Ukraine is failing to fulfill the conditions of its stand-by program and is also proving the IMF with misleading information about the conditions of the program that have not been actually fulfilled. The IMF approved the SBA with Ukraine on November 5, 2008, in an amount equivalent to about \$16.4 billion to tackle the consequences of the global financial crisis. The first disbursement of \$4.5 billion under the SBA was allocated last November, while the release of the second tranche worth \$2.8 billion was approved on May 8. On July 29 the IMF Executive Board approved the release of the third tranche worth \$ 3.3 billion under the two-year SBA. (Ukrinform)

Minister cites currency market abuse

KYIV – Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko on September 8 revealed information about abuse on the part of leaders of the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU). He said that during the investigation of a number of criminal cases, abuse has been revealed on the part of the NBU's high officials. The matter concerns theft of the funds by commercial banks, financial fraud during banks' refinancing, as well as financial abuse during currency auctions, the minister said. Mr. Lutsenko refused to answer a question about who exactly of the NBU's leaders and for which abuses will be brought to account. He accused the NBU as a whole, saying that it is carrying out a scenario of destabilization of the economy on instruction from the Presidential Secretariat. "Using immunity and thanks to the president's support, the National Bank leaders cover an organization of abuses and speculations on the part of commercial banks. And, therefore, the currency rate became a factor for destabilization of the situation on the scenario of the Presidential Secretariat," Mr. Lutsenko stated. "A direct swindle has been developed before our eyes." (Ukrinform)

Dissolution of Rada is discussed

KYIV – The dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada and the holding of early parliamentary elections are ineffective steps, the leader of the opposition Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU), Viktor Yanukovich, said on the Inter television channel late on September 6. Mr. Yanukovich, who earlier called for snap parliamentary elections, said that these steps would "bring only a worsening of the situation." In an interview with the ICTV channel, he described Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn's statement on the possible dissolution of Parliament as "emotional." He said, "Lytvyn is an experienced politician, and he understands quite well that a further

destabilization is impossible in our country's current situation." President Viktor Yushchenko raised the question of the Verkhovna Rada's dissolution on September 2. On September 6 he told Inter that the Parliament's dissolution was one of the ways to settle the parliamentary crisis. Mr. Yushchenko said that the country does not need a Parliament unable to function, because "this is a very expensive show organized by the two leading political forces [the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Party of Regions]." Mr. Yushchenko said that he currently had no grounds to dissolve the Parliament. "If there were such grounds, believe me, I would not wait a day to submit this decision for implementation," he said. (Ukrinform)

Discussion of draft Constitution begins

KYIV – An interactive discussion of draft amendments to the Constitution proposed by President Viktor Yushchenko began on September 3, according to the Main Information Policy Service of the Presidential Secretariat. This is being done to fulfill the president's decree on the national discussion of amendments to the Constitution. Everybody is able to express his/her opinion regarding constitutional reform and answer five questions about the main provisions of the Constitution. (Ukrinform)

Deputies docked a day's wages

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Speaker Volodymyr Lytvyn, saying he is tired of the continuing blockade of Parliament by the Party of Regions, decided to deprive national deputies of their wages for September 8. Mr. Lytvyn also said that he is preparing an address to krainian citizens on the current developments in the Verkhovna Rada and the country. He said current events in Ukraine "are extremely dangerous for the county, for the people." Mr. Lytvyn also said that he had sent a letter to the National Academy of Sciences with the suggestion that the academy prepare a report on the socio-economic status of Ukraine and its consequences for the nation and the state. Mr. Lytvyn also reiterated that there is no possibility for a voluntary dissolution of the Parliament, as "this is an illegal way." (Ukrinform)

Yanukovich supports Russian language

KYIV – The leader of the Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) Viktor Yanukovich said on September 7 that the question of creating comfortable conditions for the development of the Russian language would be resolved after the presidential election. He was speaking at a rally at the Saur-Mohyla memorial in the Donetsk region on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the liberation of Donbas from the occupying Nazis. Mr. Yanukovich said he would do all he can for the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages to be implemented by Ukraine as soon as possible. "The failure to resolve this issue currently violates the rights of the Russian-speaking population. I'm sure that this question will be resolved after the presidential election," Mr. Yanukovich added. (Ukrinform)

Yanukovich blasts IMF demands

KYIV – Viktor Yanukovich, leader of the Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU), said on September 7 that the International Monetary Fund's demands could lead to "famine for millions." The IMF said that the Ukraine's Cabinet must increase the price of gas for domestic consumers, and this will lead to millions of people having no money to buy food, said Mr. Yanukovich. "The Cabinet must say

(Continued on page 15)

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

straightforwardly and honestly that the IMF wants gas prices for the population to increase by 20 percent and also all social payments to be frozen. Given today's growth of prices on everything one needs for living and the fall of the hryvnia, such conditions from the IMF are famine for millions of Ukrainians in the direct meaning of this word," Mr. Yanukovich said on the Ukrainian channel ICTV. The Cabinet is expected to raise gas prices beginning on October 1. (ICTV, BBC)

EC envoy on Association Agreement

KYIV – The European Commission's ambassador to Ukraine, Jose Manuel Pinto Teixeira, said on September 3 that he hopes the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union will be signed this year. Speaking at a press conference, the official said that the EU has the desire to do this and the EC adheres to all schedules relative to the mentioned instrument. Mr. Teixeira also said that the main point is that Ukraine has such aspirations, and it does not matter when the Association Agreement is signed. He added that he assumes the signing of the agreement will be a New Year or Christmas gift. (Ukrinform)

PGO to test skull fragments in U.S.

KYIV – The Procurator General's Office of Ukraine (PGO) said on September 7 that it hopes DNA testing on the fragments of a skull that might belong to journalist Heorhii Gongadze will be conducted by U.S. experts. Gongadze's widow, Myroslava, who resides in the United States, has insisted on this. Procurator General Oleksander Medvedko revealed this information but did not specify which American institution would be conducting the tests. As reported earlier, an investigative group found the fragments of a skull that might belong to Gongadze in the Bila Tserkva district of the Kyiv region on July 28. The fragments were found at the scene mentioned during questioning by Oleksii Pukach, the former chief of the main criminal investigation office of the Ukrainian Internal Affairs Ministry's foreign surveillance unit. Gen. Pukach was arrested in the Zhytomyr region on July 21. He had been on the wanted list for almost six years. After the arrest, he admitted complicity in the murder of Gongadze. According to investigators,

Mr. Pukach had organized the shadowing of Gongadze, led a group of police officers who kidnapped the journalist and strangled Gongadze with his own hands. The journalist went missing on September 16, 2000. Later, a headless body was found in the Tarascha woods near Kyiv. According to experts, the body was the journalist's. In 2006 judicial proceedings began against three former employees of the Internal Affairs Ministry, namely Mykola Protasov, Oleksander Popovych and Valerii Kostenko. They were accused of the journalist's kidnapping and murder. (Ukrinform)

Ukrainian language for pupils in Poland

KYIV – Almost 80 Ukrainian children residing in Poland started a new academic year studying in the Ukrainian language at the interschool center that functions at one of the general education schools in the Polish capital. This Ukrainian center of education has been functioning for three years with the active promotion of the Ukrainian Embassy in Poland and the Warsaw parish of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church. Three-hour lessons are held on Saturdays. Two hours are dedicated to geography, culture, have history and national traditions; the third focuses on developing active communication in the native language. In all, five general education schools now function in Poland, along with 100 centers for study in the Ukrainian language. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine asks Canada to simplify travel

KYIV – Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko is asking Canada to simplify the visa regime for Ukrainian citizens. She said this at a September 7 meeting with House of Commons Speaker Peter Milliken, currently on an official visit to Ukraine. Ms. Tymoshenko noted that Ukraine had introduced a visa-free regime for Canadians and hopes that Canada will reciprocate. Ms. Tymoshenko also called on Canada to speed up work with Ukraine to create a free-trade zone. For his part, Mr. Milliken said Canada's minister of the economy plans to visit Ukraine on September 23-24 to intensify, in particular, the preparation of all necessary documents to create a free-trade zone between Ukraine and Canada. In addition, Mr. Milliken proposed that Ukraine and Canada elaborate a special program of cooperation in tourism. (Ukrinform)

Kyiv conference...

(Continued from page 1)

television. The only time within the very full three-day conference was overnight."

The conference's key financial sponsors are the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory; the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies in Edmonton, Alberta; the Kennan Institute in Washington, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington; the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs; and the Polish Embassy in Ukraine.

The organizing committee consisted of

its co-chairs, Mr. Stachiw and Mr. Hrynevych; Dr. Shapoval, director of the Center of Historical Political Science at the Kuras Institute of Political and Ethnonational Studies at the National Academy of Sciences; Olha Hnatiuk, head of the cultural and education section at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Ukraine; Vladyslav Verstiuk, assistant director of the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory; Andriy Mokrousov, managing editor of the Krytyka publishing house and journal; Lyudmyla Hrynevych, research associate at the Institute of History of Ukraine at the National Academy of Sciences; and Karin Liebhart of the University of Vienna.



It is with great sorrow that we notify our family, friends and acquaintances of the death of our dear Husband, Father and Brother

BOHDAN HANUSZCZAK

who passed away to the Heavenly Father on the 64th year of his life,
August 14, 2009

He was born on March 29, 1945 in Bayreuth, Germany, and immigrated to the United States in 1950 with his parents, the late Dmytro and Ewa Hanuszczyk, and his late sister Ann (Hanuszczyk) Tupyckyj. He was a parishioner and active member of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Buffalo, N.Y., where he served as a church trustee for twenty years. The funeral service was held on Tuesday, August 18 at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, in Buffalo, N.Y., followed by the interment at St. Matthew's Cemetery.

In deep sorrow remain:

Wife: Mary (née Hrynczak) Hanuszczyk
Children: Ann Marie Hanuszczyk, Lana Hanuszczyk
Brother: Hon. Michael Hanuszczyk

He also leaves behind grieving nieces and nephews as well as may relatives in Ukraine, England and Australia, including "special" cousin Irene (Hamiwka) Duncan in Perth, Australia.

Eternal memory



With great sorrow, we announce that

Sophia Lebed Boretsky

née Hunczak
passed away on Sunday, September 6, 2009

A panakhyda was held on Thursday, September 10, 2009, at the Lytwyn Funeral Home in Union, N.J. Funeral services took place on Friday, September 11, 2009, at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N.J., followed by interment at St. Andrew's Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

In deep sorrow remain:

Daughter – Motria Deluca and husband David
Son – Orest Lebed with wife Lesia and daughters Andrea and Arianna
Sisters – Natalka Melnyk, Orysia Paslawsky
Brother – Taras Hunczak and wife Olia
Sister-in-law – Slava Hunczak
"Svakha" – Natalka Duma
Nieces – Laryssa Dyrszka and family, Olena Paslawsky, Irene Paslawsky, Lydia Kriak and family, Halya Kapelewsky and family, Adrienne Dantas and husband
Nephews – Peter Melnyk and family, Nestor Paslawsky and family, Markian Paslawsky, Paul Hunczak and family, Danylo Hunczak and family
Closer and more distant family in the United States and Ukraine

Eternal memory!

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deadline: Tuesday noon before the newspaper's date of issue.
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внуки – АНДРІЙ, НАТАЛЯ і ТАНЯ ТЕРПЛЯК
ближча і дальша родина в Україні.

ПАНАХИДА була відправлена 27 серпня у Kucko-Anthony Funeral Home, Akron, Ohio.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися 28 серпня в греко-католицькій церкві св. Андрія, Севен Гілс, Огайо.

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Вічна Їйому пам'ять!

Sitch Sports School celebrates its 40th anniversary

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – More than 200 people, including parents, guests and campers attended the 40th anniversary banquet for the Chornomorska Sitch Ukrainian Athletic Educational Association Sports School held on August 8 at Soyuzivka's Main House.

More than 120 boys and girls attended the two-week camp, with 55 campers at the first session and 66 campers at the second session.

Omelan Twardowsky, president of Chornomorska Sitch and director of the Sports School, welcomed the attendees and recalled the early beginnings and the initiatives of Sitch's pioneers in forming this institution for training Ukrainian youth in athletics.

Special guests in attendance at the anniversary banquet included Stefan Kaczaraj, president of the Ukrainian National Association (UNA), Myron Stebelsky, director of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK), and the various instructors and functionaries of this year's Sitch Sports School.

Roman Hirniak, who was the camp's swim instructor and head supervisor of boys, continued the anniversary program, which included performances by the campers in song, on musical instruments and poetry readings. Mr. Kaczaraj offered congratulatory statements, and Mr. Stebelsky read a letter of greeting from UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich.

Mr. Kaczaraj was awarded a plaque in recognition of the UNA's support of the Sports School and Chornomorska Sitch. The plaque is named in honor of Ihor Laszok, vice-president of Self-Reliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union. A cup was also named in honor of Mr. Laszok and is awarded to the most

talented participants of the Sports School. After the official program, trophies were awarded to participants of the second session of camp.

Volodymyr Perozhak and Irene Chajkivsky received the "Best Camper" awards. The Ihor Laszok Cup was awarded to Mark Perkowsky.

Awards in various categories were distributed to the following boys: Nicholas Dacyk, Alexander Dale, Mark Dashkevich, Sean Fahey, Artem Gerashchenko, George Guran, Alexander Hirniak, Arthur Kardash, Pavlo Kozak, Erick Kusmirek, Brandyn Lupe, Peter Nysch, Pavlo Orlowsky, Adam Oscislawsky, Alexander Polanskyj, Ihor Polugasky, Ihor Rozkovic, Dmytro Shevchenko, Armen Skulsky, Maxim Soloninka, Daniel Wanio, Stefan Wozniak, Philip Wykowski, Matthew Zeikel, Yarema Ganushchak, Darrick Girardi, Jozef Janek, Paul Maczaj, Mark Mychajluk, Christian Petrenko, Orest Pyndus, Stefan Shepko, Andrew Soleiman.

Among the girls, the following were recognized: Adriana Hirniak, Sara Bonnie, Yuliana Hirniak, Laura Bonnie, Samantha Bonnie, Sofia Janek, Larissa Klufas, Alexandra Klufas, Natalka Malarczuk, Natalia Nysch, Nadia Olesnycky, Danielle Prociuk, Kalyna Reda, Brianna Rivera, Kalyna Rondiak, Sophia Shabelnik, Maria Siryj, Ariaena Stockert, Sophia Stockert, Adrianna Terlecky, Larissa Terlecky, Lesia Wanio, Larissa Wozniak, Lindsay Zeikel, Andrea Janek, Yuliana Maczaj and Sofia Polishchuk.

Messrs. Stebelsky and Twardowsky, who helped to organize this camp from its beginnings, along with Marika Bokalo, who has served many years as camp secretary, were awarded plaques

(Continued on page 22)



Soccer participants during the first session of camp with their instructors Andrew Kudryk (left) and Andrew Panas (right).



Swim instructor Roman Hirniak (left) with camp swimmers.



Tennis instructors Nadia Matkiwsky and Zenia Olesnycky (left) and Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky (right) with campers.



Volleyball instructor Bohdan Siryj (right) with campers.



85th KLK ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FALL GALA WEEKEND

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Ukrainian Days Festival draws crowd in Chicago



Walter Tun

The Hromovytsia Dance Ensemble dances the "Hopak."

by Dora Turula

CHICAGO – Chicago’s annual Ukrainian Days Festival took place Saturday and Sunday, August 22-23, in Smith Park. The weather was picture-perfect, and as a result the festival drew a huge crowd. Seating for Sunday’s performance was at a premium, and the area between the vendor’s tents was teeming with visitors in embroidered dress, holding blue and yellow balloons.

The event was organized by the Illinois branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, which is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year. The event committee made sure there would be something of interest for everyone at the festival.

The official portion of the program took place at noon on Sunday. UCCA-Illinois President Oles Strilchuk greeted the audience, and Ukraine’s Consul General in Chicago Kostiantyn Kudryk extended best wishes on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of Ukraine’s independence. The keynote speech was given by Larysa Kuchar, editor of Chas and Podii.

The festival also commemorated the 100th anniversary of the birth of Stepan Bandera, and his grandson Stefko Bandera addressed the assembly in English. He also spoke in Ukrainian about the current situation in Ukraine, where he has been living and working these past three years.

Among the distinguished guests at the event were U.S. Rep. Danny Davis, Illinois Treasurer Maria Pappas and Chicago Aldermen Manny Flores and Walter Burnett.

Many performers entertained the audience from the Festival stage. Several dance ensembles, including visiting groups Cheremosh from Minneapolis and Barvinok from Manitoba and Chicago’s Ukraina, Hromovytsia as well as Boyovyi Hopak ensembles enchanted onlookers with their colorful performances.

Between the various dance numbers the audience was treated to a variety of musical entertainment – vocal and instrumental solo performances, duets, choirs, small ensembles and orchestras, as well as dramatic readings and comedians. The most delightful performers were most likely the children of the Barvinok

Ukrainian Artistic School and the vocal studio of Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Parish.

Festival-goers could select from a number of food vendors: the standard varenyky, holubtsi or “shashlyk,” kovbasa and kapusta, or “chebureky,” or even pizza. Folks with a sweet tooth could choose ice cream, “nalysnyky,” tortes or gelato.

There were also various vendor tents set up at the festival, selling Ukrainian CDs and other interesting items. Ukrainian organizations showcased their activities, media groups showed off their services, and financial institutions encouraged visitors to “bank with them.”

Other festival attractions included a soccer tournament, pony rides, a petting

zoo and bounce castle for the younger crowd. The dance platform in front of the main stage also served as a gathering point for pint-sized performers, whose antics were as entertaining as the on-stage activities.

The primary sponsor of the Ukrainian Days Festival was Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union.



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President...

(Continued from page 6)

Third. I propose a holistic plan for economic recovery of Ukraine. ...Its main priorities are simple, clear and specific.

First is the restoration of financial stability. ...Next thing is reduction of business taxation, simplifying tax administration. Next thing is promotion of external and domestic investment, particularly in the context of Euro 2012.

I mean tens of billions of dollars of

investments for which we should create a proper climate through professional system of government. I mean support of a competitive Ukrainian manufacturer, concentration of the authorities on potential points of economic growth and thus on the support of small and medium businesses. I mean establishment and introduction of a fully functioning land market, lifting the moratorium, transformation of the agricultural sector into one of the foundations of our country's export potential. I mean the concerted implementation of reforms in pensions care, health care, children and maternity pro-

tection. ...

My plan is realistic and its goal is absolutely attainable.

In a few months there will be new presidential elections in Ukraine. ...these elections will decide not only political life but also our great civilization choice: where do we go – back into the past or into the future?

Our safe and prosperous future is at one scale and conservation of clans that again divide the country into two is at the other.

I choose a strong national state. I choose the strength and dignity, which will put in their place not only local "feudal lords," but also the external "masters" who want to determine how we are sup-

posed to live. I choose equal and full participation of our country in the life of Europe. ?I choose freedom and our national interests.

I calmly and confidently look into the future. Our new state is 18 years old. We have our millennial history of the state of Ukraine-Rus' behind us. The future ahead is great.

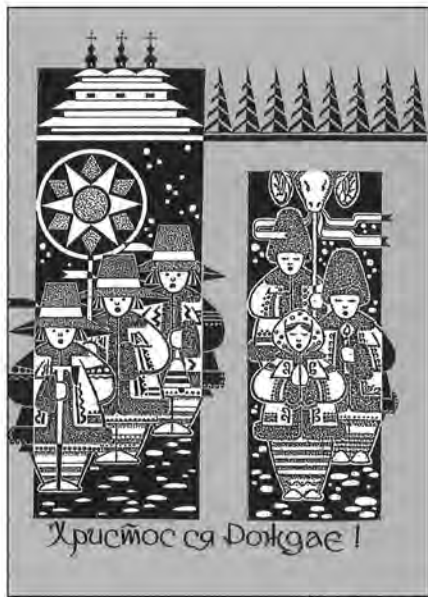
I am proud that I am Ukrainian. I am proud of our state. I am proud of our people.

Hail to you, dear brothers and sisters! Hail to thee, the Ukrainian state! Let the great banner of freedom always fly over us, protected by our troops and our hearts.

Glory to Ukraine!

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Olvin Vladyka



Pavlo Lopata

ATTENTION ARTISTS

by Oksana Trytjak, UNA National Organizer

It does seem a little early to be thinking about Christmas cards, when we are just entering the glorious summer season and just experienced a very successful 3rd Annual Ukrainian Cultural Festival at Soyuzivka. But the Ukrainian National Association is already preparing for the next Christmas card project. As you well know this project is multifaceted- it encourages and popularizes Ukrainian artists, the proceeds are allocated to support the renaissance of Soyuzivka, and last but not least it promotes and recognizes the spirit of Christmas and goodwill. In the past few years the community has been very supportive and this UNA project has received funds averaging \$40,000 a year that have been allocated to Soyuzivka and its rebirth, specific donations to Svoboda, The Ukrainian Weekly and the UNF foundation. UNA will continue this project as long as we are fortunate enough to have artists participate and the community share in supporting the project.

We encourage and invite Ukrainian artists to join in this year's UNA Christmas Card Project. Over the years, UNA was very pleased to have had very many talented Ukrainian artists participate such as: Jaroslav Adamovych, Anatoli Balukh, Krystyna Baransky - Nana, Bohdan Borzemsky, Anatolij Burtovyy, Marta Cisyk, Mykhajlo Dmytrenko, Tatianna Gajecy, Maria Harasowska-Daczyszyn, Jacques Hnizdovsky, Petro Holovatyj, John Jaciw, Natalia Josypchuk, Oleksander Kaniuka, Andriy Khomyk, Moki Kokoris, Danylo Koshtyra, Natalia Kovalenko, George Kozak, Yarema Kozak, Zenowia Kulynych, Zoya Lisowska, Pavlo Lopata, Oksana Lukaszewycz-Polon, Vitaliy Lytvyn, Andriy Maday, Roman Markovych, Marta Anna Shramenko-Rondazzo, Luba Maksymchuk, Liudmyla Mosijchuk, Leo Mol, Natalka, Chrystyna Nykorak, Lydia Palij, Rev. Serhij Pastukhiv, Aka Pereyma, Lidia Piaseckyj, Orest Poliszczuk, Myron Ryzhula, Christina Saj, Martha Savchak, Ilona Shyjiuk, Ivan Skolozdra, Roman Smetaniuk, Christine Sobol Jaroslav Stadnyk, Olena Stasiuk, Youlia Tkatchouk, Yuriy Trytjak, Irene Twerdochlib, Halyna Tytla, Markijan Vitruk, Yuriy, Viktiuk, Olvin Vladyka.

This year, again, the UNA will be publishing approximately 150,000 cards. We encourage artists to submit their works. The theme of the art should be Ukrainian Christmas in diversified genres; oil, watercolor, tempera, computer graphics, gouache, woodcuts, mixed media or others. Please participate and submit either a slide, photo, original work or forward copy of art by e-mail that can be reproduced by September 30, 2009 to:

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054
Attn. Oksana Trytjak
OKSANAUNA@COMCAST.NET
973-292-9800 x3071

Shukhevych...

(Continued from page 9)

ous records from November 1959 to March 1960, and came to the following conclusion: "After four months of inquiries and the evaluation of 232 statements by witnesses from all circles involved, it can be established that the accusations against the Battalion Nachtigall and against the then Lieutenant and currently Federal Minister Oberländer have no foundation in fact."²⁷ Having thoroughly documented the mass murder in Lviv by the communists,²⁸ the commission also rejected as unfounded²⁹ the accusation that Oberländer and Ukrainian nationalists were responsible for murdering Jews and Polish professors, as was stated by Alexander Dallin in his book, *German Rule in Russia, 1941-1945*.³⁰

The international commission also tried to make sense of "the deeper cause for the Kremlin's defamation campaign against the Ukrainian unit connected with the German Wehrmacht."³¹ The commission members treated Minister Oberländer only as a side issue in the overall significance of the case. In their opinion, the KGB, in planning to murder Stepan Bandera, wanted to turn public attention away from itself and connect the murder with the Germans through Oberländer. Thus, Bandera's assassination was prepared in such a way as to make Oberländer guilty of this crime.³² The commission also stated that by slandering Nachtigall, the Kremlin tried to defame the symbol of the Ukrainians' armed struggle for freedom and General Roman Shukhevych/Taras Chuprynka, the heroic Commander in Chief of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army, "which became an immortal banner carrier of the Ukrainian fight for freedom."³³

The Oberländer trial and the subsequent findings of the International Commission, which declared Lieutenant Oberländer and the members of the Nachtigall Battalion innocent of the crimes committed in Lviv in July 1941, did not stop the communists and various irresponsible individuals from spreading calumny about them. In one case, Oberländer sued his slanderer, the writer Bernt Engelmann, who was found guilty since he could not prove that the stories

he was spreading about Oberländer and Nachtigall were true. As punishment, the writer had to pay monetary damages for character defamation.³⁴

Neither the investigations that were carried out during the court proceedings in Bonn, Karlsruhe, and Munich, nor the research compiled by the international commission at The Hague or the materials of the Nuremberg trials (42 volumes) even once mentioned any criminal act by the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists or any of its leaders. Despite the overwhelming evidence exonerating the OUN and Roman Shukhevych, there are still individuals, particularly those with communist leanings or followers of the Moscow trend to condemn the Ukrainians' struggle for independence, who continue to slander the leaders of the Ukrainian resistance movement.

Of course, one can always learn more about the past. In order to facilitate this process, the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) has opened its archives to all historians, and, in cooperation with the Institute of National Memory, it has established the Social Historical Hearings, which include lectures and exhibitions of documents. The goal of this project, as stated by Valentyn Nalyvaichenko, the head of the SBU, is to learn the truth. During the opening of an exhibit of SBU archival documents and photographs devoted to the Ukrainian Insurgent Army Nalyvaichenko declared that the various speculations, myths, and stereotypes created about the OUN and UPA have prevented the Ukrainian people from learning the truth about their historical past.³⁵

The Historical Hearings held on February 6, 2008, which were dedicated to "the accusations against Nachtigall – historical truth or political technology," are extremely appropriate for our discussion. The Ukrainian historian Ivan Patryliak, who teaches at Kyiv University, gave an extensive lecture on the history of the Nachtigall Battalion, which provided the hearing participants with an excellent foundation for a scholarly discussion of the problem.³⁶ This commendable action underscores the need always to seek out the truth and to refrain from making off-the-cuff statements that reinforce stereotypes and create animosity.

27 Ibid., p. 31. For more details, see also Alfred M. de Zayas, "The Wehrmacht War Crimes Bureau, 1939- 1945" (Rockport, ME: Picton Press, 2000).

28 Lemberg 1941 und Oberländer, pp. 28, 38-50.

29 Ibid., pp. 10-15.

30 Alexander Dallin, "German Rule in Russia, 1941-1945: A Study of Occupation Policies," 1st ed. (London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1957).

31 Ibid., p. 86. "Worin liegt die tiefere Ursache der Verleumdungskampagne des Kreml gegen die in die deutsche Wehrmacht

eingegliederte ukrainische Einheit Nachtigall?"

32 Ibid., p. 87.

33 Ibid., pp. 86-87.

34 For details pertaining to the decision, see "Oberlandesgericht München Im Namen des Volkes Urteil." Verkündet am 19 September 1983.

3

5 http://www.pravda.com.ua/news_print/2008/5/28/76650.htm. See also

http://www.ssu.gov.ua/sbu/control/uk/publish/printable_article?art_id=78839

36 <http://www.ssu.gov.ua> 6 February 2008.

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Detroit area's Ukrainian Village to mark 25th anniversary

by Zenon Wasylykevych

WARREN, Mich. – Twenty-five years ago the Ukrainian American community in Michigan proved that it cares about the well-being of its seniors by building a seniors' residence in Warren.

Originated by the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Detroit chapter, specifically Anastasia Volker and a few other ladies, a special committee was created in 1979 which included members of the area's Ukrainian American community. In 1984 this idea became a reality and a beautiful new building for senior citizens with 145 units was completed.

Each independent apartment has a kitchenette, a living room and a bedroom. The building includes a chapel where liturgies are served on a weekly basis.

The committee consisted of about 15 members with Ms. Volker as president and Zenon Wasylykevych as chairman of the board. The first president was Ms. Volker, who served only one year. The second president was Stephan Wichar, who served for 14 years. The third president, who has been serving since 1998, is Dr. Nicholas Palmer.

The board of directors hired Wingate Management Co. to provide the necessary services. In 2006 the Ukrainian Village Corp. finally got permission from the federal government (HUD) to refinance its original loan of approximately \$6 million from a federal to a private company, Love Founding Co., at much lower rates.

After 23 years of existence, the present board of directors under the leadership of Dr. Palmer decided to improve the life-style of residents by adding therapy, a library and computer rooms. In addition, there is a van that takes resi-

dents to doctor's visits or shopping in specific stores.

There also is the Wellness Center, where residents can consult with medical personnel. The manager of this center is Dr. Larry Palmer, second vice-president. Jaroslav Karpinskyj, an attorney, is also available for residents if needed. The manager of this service is Judy Harm and her assistant is Helen Derkach-Terner.

Over the past 25 years all the units at the seniors' residence have been continuously occupied.

The Ukrainian Village Corp. now has 14 board members. The executive board consists of Nicholas Palmer, M.D., president; Mr. Wasylykevych, first vice-president, Larry Palmer, M.D., second vice-president; Olga Mayer, secretary; and Rosemary Dyel, treasurer.

On Sunday, September 20, the 25th anniversary of the Ukrainian Village will be celebrated. Many official representatives of the government and the entire community have been invited to see this beautiful facility on Ryan Road that will continue to serve residents for many years to come.



The entrance to the Ukrainian Village.



The Ukrainian Village marker with a rendition of Jerry Kozak's mosaic "Vitayemo" carved in wood at the entrance to the complex.

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Hryvnia's plunge...

(Continued from page 1)

particularly during the presidential elections which are expected to be tense and bear the potential for conflict, he said.

President Yushchenko also believes the Tymoshenko government is trying to pressure Mr. Stelmakh, but cited a different reason: his ability to print more hryvni to cover debt and pay for government spending. For the first time, the president said he will consider dismissing Mr. Stelmakh.

"Literally today, I warned Stelmakh that if another 1 or 2 billion hrv emerge in circulation, then I'll employ extreme measures without waiting until the end of his term," the president said during a September 4 press briefing with Ukrainian business reporters, as reported by the Kommersant newspaper.

Mr. Stelmakh is a longtime colleague of President Yushchenko who worked with him at the NBU since 1993. The president refused to dismiss him during the hryvnia's devaluation in 2008 when his political opponents demanded Mr. Stelmakh's resignation.

The president has maintained a strategy of blaming the hryvnia's ongoing devaluation on the prime minister's fiscal policy.

Ukraine's state debt is 185 billion hrv (\$22 billion U.S.) and growing, he said, and this is a bigger factor in the hryvnia's decline.

"The National Bank can only regulate episodes, but not the general tendency of the national currency's exchange rate, which is determined by the government's budgetary, fiscal and investment policies," President Yushchenko said at the September 4 briefing.

However, economists such as Dr. Soskin said corruption in the National Bank is a key factor, with numerous top officials involved in enabling currency speculators.

Bohdan Hawrylyshyn, president of the Renaissance Foundation in Switzerland, told Radio Liberty he believes speculators are earning money for the presidential election campaign from the hryvnia's fluctuations.

The Internal Affairs Ministry is investigating evidence of commercial banks stealing funds with the support of NBU officials, financial fraud in the refinancing of commercial banks and financial fraud during the NBU's currency auctions, Mr. Lutsenko said.

"Furthermore, we have reliable facts about concrete acts committed by concrete officials within the higher management of the National Bank regarding all these financial affairs," he said.



UNIAN/Mykola Lazarenko

National Bank of Ukraine First Deputy Chair Anatolii Shapovalov (right) was called in for questioning by the Internal Affairs Ministry on September 10 as part of corruption investigations. The hryvnia's 8 percent decline since August 6 has renewed calls for the resignation of NBU Chair Volodymyr Stelmakh (left).

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OUT AND ABOUT

Current through October 31 Rocky River, OH	Art exhibit, "Art & Interiors," featuring works by AniziaKarmazyn, Kevin Steffanni Interior Design Studio, 440-333-3630 (by appointment)	Ottawa	Ukrainian Canadian Professionals and Businesspersons Association, Mambo Ristaurante, 613-523-7952
Current through October 2 Cleveland	Fall Art Show/Sale, Ukrainian Museum-Archives, 216-781-4329	September 25 Toronto	Lvivsky Ball, featuring Burya and Kavalery, Trident Banquet and Convention Center, 416-253-6002
September 18-20 Toronto	Ukrainian Festival in the Bloor West Village, 416-410-9965	September 26 Chicago	Uketoberfest, St. Joseph Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral hall, klopitband@yahoo.com
September 19 New York	Diaspora forum, "Welcome to Ukrainian New York," Ukrainian Institute of America, www.welcomeukrainianny.com or 212-288-8660	September 26 New York	Harvest Season Vechornytsi, Ukrainian Wave Community Cultural Initiative, East Village Ukrainian Restaurant, 212-571-1555 ext. 35
September 19 Parma, OH	Ukrainian Festival, dedication of Parma's Ukrainian Village, St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, 440-888-8761	September 26 Syracuse, NY	Annual pig roast, Ukrainian National Home, 315-478-9272
September 19 Lehighton, PA	Potato bake and pig roast, Ukrainian Homestead, 610-377-4621 or 215-235-3709	September 26 Edmonton	Dance performance, "Razom," featuring the Cheremosh Ukrainian Dance Company, the Rusalka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and the Tryzub Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium, www.ticketmaster.ca
September 19 Lansdale, PA	"A Traditional Ukrainian Dinner," Presentation of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church, 215-808-5603	September 26 through November 14 New York	Embroidery workshop, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110
September 19-20 Silver Spring, MD	Ukrainian Festival, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church, standrewuoc.org	September 27 Alexandria, VA	Concert featuring harpist Odarka Polanskyj Stockert, The Washington Group Cultural Fund, The Lyceum, 301-299-2615 or 703-838-4994
September 20 Jamaica Plain, MA	German-themed picnic, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church, www.ukrainianorthodox.org/st.andrew		
September 24 Kansas City, MO	Film screening, "Folk!" by Roxy Toporowych, Harriman-Jewell Performing Arts Series, Tivoli Theater, 816-415-5025 or www.harriman-jewell.org/education.htm		
September 25	Cocktail evening, "Mambo Ukraniiano,"		

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

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Sitch Sports...

(Continued from page 16)

for their years of tireless service to the Chornomorska Sitch Sports School.

This year's Sports School was conducted with efficiency and fun, thanks to the great team of camp instructors and supervisors. The camp provided instruction in four sports disciplines: soccer, tennis, swimming and volleyball.

Special thanks were expressed to: soccer instructors Andrew Panas and Andrew

Kudryk for the first session, and Gregory Serheev and Yaroslav Twardowsky for the second session; tennis instructors Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky, Nadia Matkiwsky and Zenia Olesnycky; swim instructors Mr. Hirniak; and volleyball instructors Bohdan Siryj and Andrea Mak.

Over the course of the camp, these instructors improved the skills of young athletes who demonstrated what they had learned at the Ukrainian Youth Sports Games held at the Ukrainian American Youth Association resort in Ellenville, N.Y., on August 7.

To find the missing...

(Continued from page 10)

Once across, I followed the sign that pointed to Tyrawa Solna and its ancient "tserkva" (a Ukrainian Catholic church).

Although neither Volodya nor I had been here before, I already knew the place like the back of my hand. Years of studying various maps helped me know the local geography well. As we drove along the road, we came suddenly to a wooden planked bridge in even worse shape than the one across the San. There was a large sign in front that warned ominously in Polish it was dangerous to cross there. So, we slipped down the low hill and ended up next to the Tyrawa Solna church.

Volodya and I both realized at once that the bridge was the only way across the Tyrawa river at this point. After a brief conversation with Aunt Katarzyna, who gave her blessing, we headed back toward the bridge. At that point a teenage boy came flying across in what appeared to be a small American car and zoomed down the road back to the San river. Volodya and I looked at each other and decided to go for it. We inched across the rickety bridge to the sound of clanking planks and made it to the other side without incident.

Soon, Siemuszowa unfolded ahead of us in all its pastoral glory, nestled between dark green mountains and brown hills. The rain had finally stopped and the late afternoon sun was poking through the grey clouds, which were opening up to reveal a very clear, blue sky. You could smell and feel the freshness of the mountain air. We passed several long fields - some of which appeared to be planted with one crop or another.

As we came to the main road that would wind through the village, Aunt Katarzyna told us to go right up along it and then right again up the small paved path that led to the early 19th century church. We were finally here. My long tedious mental journey of 30 years and physical travel of several thousand miles had now led me to my ancestral village and its very old wooden church built in 1841.

The small church, originally named "Epiphany of Our Lord," was built on the land of an earlier church. At that time, the population of Siemuszowa was predominately Greek-Catholic and Ruthenian, and numbered around 470. By the 1930s, there were more than 1,000 people who used this church. But after 1947 and the final expulsion of Lemkos and Ukrainians, the tserkva became a "kosciol" (a Roman Catholic church). Today, the village population is mostly Polish and numbers about 220 residents.

I had seen the old weather-beaten exterior walls of the church many times in photos and its metal roof as well. Two unique Lemko crosses topped its two small cupolas. Tomorrow we planned to

return with my cousin Vladek Romaniuk and his wife, Zofia, to explore the interior, so I took a few photos outside and tried to imagine how my ancestors had climbed the steep hill to church on Sundays and for various feast days and family events.

I was very curious about the tiny cemetery that lay at the front door of the church. Apparently, the "new" cemetery used for burials in the second half of the 20th century and beyond did not contain many of the original inhabitants who might be considered Ukrainian or Lemko. It was told to me years ago that only Poles were buried in this cemetery since the tserkva was now a kosciol. This information proved to be not entirely true. As I wandered around the cemetery I found quite a few names of residents that I knew were not Polish: Stadnyk, Jadchysyn and even one Iwan Czerepaniak. But there were some Polish names as well. Even Aunt Katarzyna's husband was buried here, and he was a Ukrainian.

Aunt Katarzyna, Volodya and I climbed back into the car and drove slowly up a dirt road covered by tall weeds and wildflowers leaving the church behind us. I pulled alongside the old cemetery high up on the hill overlooking the church and parked in an open field. I wasn't sure how Katarzyna would be able to walk through the cemetery since it was overgrown with high grass and wildflowers despite the valiant efforts of a Polish-Ukrainian volunteer group that had done a thorough clean up the previous August. Before that time, I'm told it was completely impassable.

As we waded through the high grass, it quickly became apparent that there was no Czerepaniak or Gburyk monument anywhere on site. But I did find the grave of a Thecla Burek whose name was inscribed in Cyrillic. We also found some random Szwaylyk and Hlib family monuments in the cemetery along with some curious humps in the ground that only supported blank wooden crosses. I later found out from Volodya that Aunt Katarzyna told him these were the remains of various UPA (Ukrainian Insurgent Army) members from the village. The memory of their guerrilla war against both the Polish and Soviet governments was still not easily honored locally even in death.

We got back in the car and begin to drive down the hill. It was time to find the Czerepaniak homestead as two young boys sped by on a muddy ATV. The 19th century had just met the 21st century head on.

This article is an excerpt from my much longer Sanok/Siemuszowa 2009 travelogue. I would like to hear from readers with family and ancestors from this area of Poland. Please contact me at: Michael.buryk@verizon.net. Copyright Michael J. Buryk 2009. All rights reserved.

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847 N. Franklin St. Phila., PA

2009

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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Beach party rocks like a hurricane



A view of the fun during "Party Ptashat" in Wildwood Crest, N.J.

by Adrian Horodecky

WILDWOOD CREST, N.J. – Over 300 beach-goers braved a torrential downpour by Hurricane Danny for a night of dancing and interactive entertainment at the Wildwood Crest Pier Recreation Center on Friday, August 28.

MC Levko Wolansky and Melasia Lesiuk led the "Party Ptashat" kids' dance (zabava) to rousing renditions of the "Limbo," "Chicken Dance," "YMCA" and a host of other Ukrainian and American children's favorites.

Bo Iwaskiw announced the winner of the 50/50 drawing that was won by Alex Gnoy, who immediately donated the \$450 back to the evening's sponsor, the Khmelnychenky fraternity of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. Plast's Spartanky sorority held a charity raffle led by Ivanka Iwaskiw.

The "Wildwood Idol" dance contest began with a performance by Ania Bohachevsky Lonkevych's dancers. Ms. Lonkevych served as a judge, along with Nina and George Kobrin, and Roma Odulak served as MC. Nine separate teams competed for cash prizes of \$100, \$50 and \$25.

Topping off the evening was the "Club Crest" disco and karaoke party, during which dozens of teens danced and sang the night away to the music of the Destiny DJs.

The Khmelnychenky zabava is an annual fund-raising event, with the proceeds going toward two Plast campgrounds in New York state: Vovcha Tropa in East Chatham and Novyi Sokil in Buffalo.



MC Levko Wolansky leads the dancing.

Mishanyna

We hate to remind you, but... it's back-to-school time. Therefore, you'll soon be hitting the books to study a variety of subjects, some of which may be on the list below. Find the subjects hidden in the Mishanyna grid.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------|----------------|
| ART | HISTORY | PRE-ALGEBRA |
| COMPUTER SCIENCE | LATIN | SCIENCE |
| ENGLISH | MATH | SOCIAL STUDIES |
| FRENCH | MUSIC | SPANISH |
| GEOGRAPHY | PHOTOGRAPHY | |
| GERMAN | PHYS ED | |

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

U.S. Army award for Ksenia Komarnyckyj

PHOENIX, Ariz. – Ksenia Oresta Komarnyckyj, a sixth grader at St. Thomas the Apostle School in Phoenix, Ariz., was recently recognized by the U.S. Army for excellence in the application of science, math and technology to improve our world.

Ksenia and the other three members of her team were among the 12,000 students registered for eCybermission, a U.S. Army-sponsored, web-based, science, math and technology competition that allows students in grades 6 through 9 to compete for regional and national awards while working to solve problems in their communities.

Ksenia and her fellow team members were each awarded a \$2,000 U.S. EE Savings Bond for their work on the connection between backpack weight and scol-



Ksenia Komarnyckyj

iosis. They were mentored by their teacher, Linda Martinez Goodnetter.

Ksenia is the daughter of Orest and Oksana Komarnyckyj, and the granddaughter of Irena Komarnyckyj and Jaroslaw and Iryna Kurowyckyj. She is a member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and Ukrainian National Association Branch 184.

UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated October 11, please send in your materials by October 2. Call us at 973-292-9800; or send e-mail to staff@ukrweekly.com.

Soyuzivka's Datebook

- | | |
|---|---|
| September 11-13 Salzburg Reunion | October 2-4 KLK 85th Anniversary celebration |
| September 14-17 Berchtesgaden, Karsfeld, Landshut, Regensburg, Bayreuth Reunions | October 9-11 Wedding weekend |
| September 18-19 Wedding weekend | October 16-18 Plast USA (KP Zyizd) |
| September 25-27 Wedding weekend | October 24 to be announced |
| September 28-30 Mittenwald Reunion | October 30-November 1 Halloween weekend |



To book a room or event call: (845) 626-5641, ext. 140
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 E-mail: Soyuzivka@aol.com
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STUDENT'S NAME: _____
(please type or print)

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE (optional): _____

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UNA Branch number _____

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, September 19

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a roundtable discussion dedicated to the 300th anniversary of the death of Hetman Ivan Mazepa. The scheduled participants are: Dr. Andrew Sorokowski, Dr. Lubomyr Hajda, Dr. Larissa Onyshkevych and Prof. Yuri Shevchuk. The program will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For information call 212-254-5130.

LANSDALE, Pa.: The Presentation of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church will host "A Traditional Ukrainian Dinner." Enjoy generous portions of tasty homemade Ukrainian ethnic foods and baked goods: varenyky; holubtsi, kovbasa, sauerkraut, breads, beverages and desserts. Also, listen to traditional and contemporary Ukrainian folk and pop music. This family-friendly event will be held, at 4-7 p.m. at the church's social hall, 1564 Allentown Road, Lansdale (Towamencin Township), Pa. Dinner tickets are \$10 per person at the door with seating. For advance tickets, reservations or more information call 215-808-5603. Take-outs are available.

Saturday-Sunday, September 19-20

SILVER SPRING, Md.: The seventh annual Washington Ukrainian Festival will be held on the grounds of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 15100 New Hampshire Ave. Doors open at noon; parking and admission are free. All-day concerts and performances (main stage by the lake) will feature performances by: Barvinok Dance Ensemble of New Jersey; the Eurasia Dance Society of New York and the District of Columbia; Fantazia Dance Ensemble; Lyman Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Baltimore; Veseli Kozachata Junior Dance Group; vocalist Olya Chodoba Fryz; violinist Solomiya Horokhivska; bandurist Larisa Pastuchiv Martin; vocalist Solomia Dutkewych and the Chetverta Khvyliya vocal-instrumental ensemble. Festival highlights include: a bountiful marketplace; children's activities (pony rides, magician, face-painting, etc.); Ukrainian and American food concessions; and the Kozak Beer Garden. Come and experience Washington's Ukrainian hospitality. For more information call Andree Filipov, 301-622-0838.

Thursday, September 24

NEW YORK, N.Y.: The Ukrainian

Institute of America will open its film series with a screening of "Fatal Promises," a documentary on human trafficking told through the personal stories of young Ukrainians and others fallen victim to white slavery, as well as interviews with government officials, experts, activists and reports from the 2008 U.N. GIFT (Global Initiative to Fight Trafficking). The screening will begin at 8 p.m., concluding with conversations with the filmmakers, followed by a reception. General admission: \$15; \$10 for UIA members, seniors and students. The Ukrainian Institute of America is located at 2 E. 79th St. (on the corner of Fifth Avenue). For more information call 212-288-8660.

Saturday, September 26

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, Illinois Chapter, will host the 2010 Traditional Banquet and Charity Ball with presentation of debutantes on Saturday, January 30, 2010, in the Grand Ballroom of the Palmer House Hilton Hotel in Chicago. UMANA invites those interested in participating in this event, parents and debutantes, to attend an informational meeting that will be held on Saturday, September 26, at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave. at 10 a.m. For additional information readers may contact UMANA at 1-888-RxUMANA (1-888-798-6262) or e-mail UMANADeb@aol.com.

Sunday, September 27

ALEXANDRIA, Va.: The Washington Group Cultural Fund Sunday Music Series presents Odarka Polanskyj Stockert, an accomplished harpist, in an enchanting solo performance on her concert pedal harp, followed by a repertoire of poignant as well as light-hearted Celtic, Ukrainian and Czech ballads/songs on her Celtic harp, with voice accompaniment. Meet the artist at a reception immediately following the program. The event takes place at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., at 3 p.m. Suggested donation: \$20; students — free; seating is unreserved. For information call 301-229-2615.

ASTORIA, N.Y.: Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church will sponsor the Ukrainian Heritage Day Festival (picnic) at noon-6 p.m. at 31st Avenue and 30th Street, Astoria, NY 11106. The festival will feature Ukrainian food, entertainment and a lottery. Admission is free. For further information call 718-932-4060.

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.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. 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.

Want to see your name in print?

Then why not become a correspondent of The Ukrainian Weekly in your community?

We welcome submissions from all our Ukrainian communities, no matter where they are located. Let the rest of us know what you're up to in your corner of the Ukrainian diaspora!

Any questions? Call The Weekly, 973-292-9800, ext. 3049.