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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Plast members in United States receive Bethlehem Peace Light



George Kuzmowycz

Members of the "Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut" sorority of Plast with Austrian Air representatives at Our Lady of the Skies Chapel at John F. Kennedy International Airport.

by Marta Kuzmowycz

NEW YORK – Representatives of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization joined American and Latvian scouts at a ceremony at John F. Kennedy International Airport to welcome the arrival of the Bethlehem Peace Light in the United States.

Flown here from Vienna on December 4 courtesy of Austrian Air, the Peace Light was presented to U.S.-based scouts at the airport's Our Lady of the Skies Chapel.

Several scouting groups were in attendance at this ceremony – among them, Boy Scouts of America, Girls Scouts of America, Latvian scouts and members of Plast's "Ti, Scho Hrebli Rvut" sorority.

After a brief but very moving ceremony at the chapel, the Bethlehem Peace Light is now being distributed throughout the United States by scouts. Plast members are actively engaged in this program and making efforts to share the Bethlehem Peace Light via their local chapters.

The Peace Light of Bethlehem program dates back over 24 years, when

local radio station ORF in Linz, Austria, was part of the charitable relief mission called Light into Darkness that benefited needy children in Austria and abroad. Since then, each year a child from Linz is flown to Bethlehem to retrieve the Peace Light from the place of Jesus Christ's birth. The flame is then flown back to Vienna and distributed throughout Europe.

This initiative has grown into a worldwide movement and is a scouting initiative. This is the 23rd year that scouts and guides from various countries are participating in the distribution of the Peace Light.

Plast in Ukraine has been part of this movement for 12 years. In the past, Plast scouts would meet Polish scouts at the border to receive the flame and then distribute it throughout Ukraine. More recently Plast members have taken to riding their bikes in relays throughout Ukraine to share the light with other "plastuny" and anyone who stops them along the way. People line the streets in

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Marta Kuzmowycz

Members of the Newark Plast branch during a ceremony at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, N.J., at which the Bethlehem Peace Light was shared with local pastors and other branches of Plast.

## Physician fights real estate raiders seeking Kyiv hospital's territory

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Dr. Vadym Berezovskyi served as the flight surgeon for Ukrainian astronaut Leonid Kadenyuk in 1997 for the STS-87 space shuttle mission in Houston. He earned the State Prize of Ukraine in 2000 for developing Col. Kadenyuk's preparation regimen after the data in Kyiv was lost to Moscow.

Local police officers couldn't care less about those distinctions, allowing black-jacketed thugs, hired by real estate raiders, to intimidate and repeatedly beat Dr. Berezovskyi for attempting to defend the lands of the Bohomolets Institute and neighboring Oleksandrivska Hospital from illegal construction.

"We don't have politicians – we have businessmen who sit in the Verkhovna Rada and the Kyiv City Council," Dr.

(Continued on page 9)



Zenon Zawada

Dr. Vadym Berezovskyi, flight surgeon for astronaut Leonid Kadenyuk, is fighting real estate raiders from building on the territory of Kyiv's historic Oleksandrivska Hospital.

## Bahriany Foundation donates \$2,000 to archives project

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Bahriany Foundation Inc., based in Arlington Heights, Ill., has donated \$2,000 toward the ongoing digital archives project of The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda.

The foundation's treasurer, Alex Konowal, noted in a letter addressed to the Ukrainian National Association that the Bahriany Foundation wanted to support the digitization of the UNA's publications, Svoboda, The Ukrainian Weekly and the annual UNA Almanac.

At present, visitors to Svoboda's website (www.svoboda-news.com), can read all issues released since 1986, plus issues from 1893 and 1894. Most of the issues are in DjVu format. Issues for the years 2008 and 2009 in are in Flash format, which is easily viewable on virtually any computer, and PDF format, which is suitable for downloads.

On The Weekly's website (www.ukrweekly.com) readers will find all issues published since the newspaper's founding in 1933 in PDF format. Copies of these issues in the Flash format, which are best suited for on-screen reading, are under development.

Currently, UNA Almanacs for years 1903, 1915, 1996-2008, and Veselka for years 1954-1965 and 1994 are available for reading online.

Eventually, all issues of Svoboda, which began publication in 1893, will be available online, along with UNA Almanacs (published since 1903) and

issues of the children's magazine Veselka (1954-1995), both published by Svoboda Press.

The Weekly's website also includes the two-volume compilation of the most significant stories published from 1933 through 2000 titled "The Ukrainian Weekly 2000" and the collection of articles chronicling Ukraine's drive toward independent statehood and the first 10 years of its independence titled "Ukraine Lives!"

### Supporters of archives project

Previous donors to the Svoboda/The Ukrainian Weekly digitization project were: the Shevchenko Scientific Society, U.S.A. (\$15,000), Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union (\$50,000), the Heritage Foundation of 1st Security Savings Bank (\$5,000), Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union (\$10,000) and a donor who wished to remain anonymous (\$10,000).

Svoboda and The Weekly are seeking additional donors for this project. Contributions may be sent to: Svoboda/The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Donations are tax-deductible and checks may be made out to the Ukrainian National Foundation (the Ukrainian National Association's charitable arm), with the notation "Digital Archives Project." For information readers may call 973-292-9800, ext. 3049.



## ANALYSIS

**Yushchenko's foreign policy agenda**by **Taras Kuzio***Eurasia Daily Monitor*

Viktor Yushchenko has trailed badly in opinion polls in the last year with ratings of less than 5 percent, but has benefitted from the collapse of Arseniy Yatsenyuk's election campaign (rankings of candidates in 2008-2009: [www.uceps.org/ukr/poll.php?poll\\_id=91](http://www.uceps.org/ukr/poll.php?poll_id=91)). Mr. Yushchenko is now the main "Orange" competitor to Yulia Tymoshenko in western Ukraine (*Eurasia Daily Monitor*, October 16, November 3, 16, 20).

In foreign policy terms, Mr. Yushchenko is a different candidate than he was five years ago, when he presented himself as a centrist (patriotic) politician to broaden the appeal of national democrats like himself beyond their western Ukrainian heartland (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, November 24). This strategy won Mr. Yushchenko the crucial swing region of central Ukraine and the presidency.

Mr. Yushchenko's move away from centrist patriotism to nationalism in the 2010 elections echoes the retreat of Our Ukraine from central Ukraine, which won the Lviv, Ternopil, Ivano-Frankivsk and Zakarpattia oblasts in 2006 and only Zakarpattia in 2007. Mr. Yushchenko's nationalist platform is a threat to Ms. Tymoshenko only in the three Halychyna oblasts (Lviv, Ternopil, Ivano-Frankivsk), and to a lesser degree in the four other western Ukrainian oblasts. Mr. Yushchenko will compete with the rising contender Serhii Tihipko, Viktor Yanukovich's election manager in 2004, for third and fourth place in the first round of the election.

In the 2004 election Mr. Yushchenko's "Ten Steps to the People" election program never mentioned NATO, Trans-Atlantic integration or even the European Union. (Our Ukraine also did not refer to NATO in any of its election programs.) The only mention of foreign policy was a vague reference to Russia and Belarus (but nothing on the Commonwealth of Independent States). This unwillingness to highlight Mr. Yushchenko's pro-Western orientation was an outcome of his 2004 centrist-patriotic platform that sought to appeal beyond western Ukraine ([www.president.gov.ua/docs/10krokiv.pdf](http://www.president.gov.ua/docs/10krokiv.pdf)).

Mr. Yushchenko's 2010 election program also makes no reference to NATO but does, unlike in 2004, state: "Together with European neighbors, we will strengthen the Euro-Atlantic system of collective security" ([www.cvk.gov.ua/pls/vp2010/WP0011](http://www.cvk.gov.ua/pls/vp2010/WP0011)). On the European Union, Mr. Yushchenko's 2010 election program calls for a visa-free regime and membership in the EU. The program overlooks the free-trade zone between Ukraine and the EU that will be signed next year.

Mr. Yushchenko has at least supported Ukraine's integration into NATO and the EU. Under the 1996 and 2006 constitutions, the president can appoint the foreign affairs and defense ministers, National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) secretary and Security Service chairman, providing him with institutional control over Ukraine's security policy.

Four problems bedevil Mr. Yushchenko's foreign policy:

1. The translation of Kuchma-era rhetoric on trans-Atlantic integration into action requires a president to work together with a parliamentary coalition and government of like mind. Addressing Mr. Yushchenko at the recent EU-Ukraine summit, European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said, "I will speak

honestly with you, Mr. President. It often seems to us that commitments on reform are only partly implemented and words are not always accompanied by action. Reforms are the only way to establish stability, and build closer ties with the EU" (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, December 4).

During President Yushchenko's five years in office there have been four governments, three of which have been "Orange." Mr. Yushchenko has had good relations with only one of the four governments and with only one of the three Orange governments led by Yuriy Yekhanurov in 2005-2006.

2. The successful implementation of trans-Atlantic integration requires an understanding of the interconnection between domestic and foreign policies, which Mr. Yushchenko has never understood. The consequences have been a domination of rhetoric over substance, as in the Kuchma era.

3. Mr. Yushchenko has taken one step backwards compared to Leonid Kuchma with regard to his misuse of the NSDC, whose four secretaries were chosen not for their experience in trans-Atlantic integration, but for their value in battling unfriendly governments. All four pale in comparison with Mr. Kuchma's NSDC secretaries, Volodymyr Horbulin and Yevhen Marchuk. The NSDC under President Yushchenko has been used not to coordinate Ukrainian institutions on national security, but as an alternative government to Prime Ministers Tymoshenko and Viktor Yanukovich.

4. In 2005-2006 the EU failed to rise to Ukraine's democratic breakthrough because of a lack of strategic vision, enlargement fatigue and constitutional chaos. The United States and NATO did rise to the occasion and a Membership Action Plan (MAP) could have been offered to Ukraine in Riga in November 2006. The U.S. and other NATO members sympathetic to Ukrainian membership pushed for an Orange coalition to be established quickly after the March 2006 elections, which would have been followed by President George W. Bush's visit to Ukraine in June and a MAP in November. President Yushchenko's hostility to the return of Ms. Tymoshenko as prime minister undermined this plan, which was ultimately undone when an anti-Orange and anti-crisis coalition was established in July.

Prime Minister Yanukovich told NATO in Brussels two months later that Ukraine was not interested in receiving a MAP. From 2007 onward Ukraine's trans-Atlantic integration was hamstrung by a combination of Ukraine-fatigue and Yushchenko-fatigue, and Germany's increasingly independent line in the EU and NATO and a Russia-first foreign policy.

Three Ukrainian factors led to skepticism in Western Europe regarding Mr. Yushchenko's rhetoric on trans-Atlantic integration. Frequent government turnovers negatively impacted upon the ability of three "Orange" governments to launch information campaigns in support of NATO membership which has remained at 20 percent throughout the Yushchenko presidency (polls conducted between 2002-2009: [www.uceps.org/ukr/poll.php?poll\\_id=46](http://www.uceps.org/ukr/poll.php?poll_id=46)). Moreover, political instability and elite infighting was repeatedly raised by Germany as a concern.

During the election campaign Mr. Yushchenko continues to hurl insults at Ms. Tymoshenko on a daily basis, calling her "homeless" and a "bum." Finally, the

(Continued on page 26)

**NEWSBRIEFS****Christmas tree lit in Kyiv**

KYIV – Ukraine's main Christmas tree was lit in Kyiv on Saturday, December 19. Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko participated in the Christmas tree-lighting ceremony. In his speech on the occasion, the president wished prosperity and success to the Ukrainian state. (Ukrinform)

**Yushchenko, European Parliament leader meet**

KYIV – European integration is a key strategy for Ukraine, the way to develop an independent and democratic European state, and a stimulus for domestic reforms, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said at a tête-à-tête meeting with European Parliament President Jerzy Buzek in Kyiv on December 21. Mr. Yushchenko highlighted the results of the Ukraine-European Union summit in Kyiv on December 4 and the course of talks on an association agreement between Ukraine and the EU. "We have resolved 95 percent of the issues in the political part of the agreement," he said. Mr. Yushchenko also praised the further simplification of the visa regime by the EU for Ukrainian citizens, the development of a visa-free dialogue between Ukraine and the EU, Ukraine's integration with the European education space, and cooperation in the energy sector, in particular, based on the Brussels declaration on modernizing Ukraine's gas transit system. He stressed the importance of Ukraine's cooperation with the European Parliament (EP) and called on a mission of EP representatives to take an active part in monitoring the presidential election in Ukraine. "It's very important that the mission of observers from the European Parliament is active as much as possible during the election," President Yushchenko said. (Ukrinform)

**Yeliseyev speaks on Ukraine and EU**

KYIV – Ukraine is currently the only European state – and this has been clearly recognized in the European Union – that has declared its Euro-integration ambitions but has not yet received real EU membership prospects, said Ukraine's Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Kostiantyn Yeliseyev. He was speaking at a conference titled "The World Crisis: Security Consequences and

Challenges to a Wider Europe" in Kyiv on December 17. Mr. Yeliseyev said he is planning to publish a collection of arguments presented by EU representatives regarding the obstacles to Ukraine's EU membership. "I want to show the great imagination of our European partners, aimed at fencing off Ukraine and preventing it from restoring our European historical justice. We've already been in our European home," he said. Commenting on Ukraine's relations with NATO, Mr. Yeliseyev said that it is already necessary to stop "any talk of whether Ukraine will join NATO or not." He said that the decision to grant NATO membership to Ukraine in future had been taken at the Bucharest summit and that the door to NATO is open for Ukraine. "We have clear guarantees and we should meet only our domestic commitments," he underscored. (Ukrinform)

**Ukraine is donor to U.N. food program**

KYIV – Ukraine has become a donor to the United Nations World Food Program, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Kostiantyn Yeliseyev said at an international conference titled "The World Crisis: The Security Consequences and Challenges to a Wider Europe," it was reported on December 18. "I see that Ukraine has a significant role in assisting the mitigation of the negative effects of the food crisis," he said. "I say this deliberately to show once again that, no matter how the EU rejects Ukraine, it should understand sooner or later that there cannot be a competitive European Union without Ukraine," Mr. Yeliseyev added. In 2009 Ukraine became a donor to the U.N. World Food Program for the first time after transferring 1,000 tons of wheat to Ethiopia on July 22. (Ukrinform)

**President signs law on fighting flu**

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko has signed a law allocating 608.2 million hrv to fight the flu epidemic in the country, the presidential press service reported on December 22. The law foresees the financing of measures to prevent and treat the H1N1 flu and acute respiratory infections, using an excess of the National

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## NEWS ANALYSIS: Medvedev submits draft treaty on European security

by Vladimir Socor  
Eurasia Daily Monitor

On November 30 Russian President Dmitry Medvedev submitted a "Draft Treaty on European Security" for consideration to the heads of state and government of "all states of the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian space from Vancouver to Vladivostok," as well as to selected international organizations: NATO, the European Union, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), and the Russian-led Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO).

Under the draft treaty's Article 10, all the addressee states and organizations are eligible to sign the proposed security treaty (the full text appears on Russia's presidential website, [www.kremlin.ru](http://www.kremlin.ru), November 30).

In an accompanying message, Mr. Medvedev in effect proposes the opening of negotiations on the Russian draft. Russia's Foreign Ministry wanted an immediate start to discussions, using the December 4 session of the NATO-Russia Council as a kickoff (Interfax, December 1).

The Kremlin had intensified the drafting of such a treaty in the wake of its August 2008 invasion of Georgia. Consistent with past Soviet logic, it argued that an invasion that it had itself undertaken necessitated corrections to the existing security arrangements in line with Moscow's views. Russia presented a general outline of its "security architecture" concept in Mr. Medvedev's June 5 speech, presaging the submission of an actual draft treaty. The Kremlin timed the draft's submission to the OSCE's year-end ministerial conference and the reconvened NATO-Russia Council at ministerial level.

The draft treaty's title, which speaks of "European security," stands in some discrepancy with the content and the roster of eligible participants, which correspond with the "Vancouver to Vladivostok" political slogan. The document uses the concept of "treaty participant" to cover states, as well as international organizations, that would accede to the would-be treaty. The preamble announces Russia's goal to "create an interaction mechanism for resolving issues and differences as they arise."

The document makes clear that the proposed mechanism is intended to disorganize, sideline and potentially override NATO. Under Article 1, "security measures undertaken by any participant, whether individually or in the framework of an alliance or coalition, shall be implemented with account taken of all the participants' security interests in conformity with this treaty." Such limitations would give Russia the possibility to claim a droit de regard over NATO decisions.

Article 2 stipulates, "Treaty participants shall not undertake actions or steps that substantially affect the security of other treaty participants." Participants that are members of alliances and coalitions shall "strive to ensure that decisions by those alliances and coalitions would not substantially affect the security of other treaty participants." Furthermore, "no treaty participant shall allow the use of its own territory, and shall not itself use another participant's territory... for any actions that substantially affect the security of other treaty participant."

This proposal appears designed to encourage divisive debates within NATO over measures that Moscow and, potentially, Russia-first circles deem insuffi-

ciently accommodating of Russian interests, particularly in Europe's East and the South Caucasus. The multiple use of the word "substantial" seems intended to draw NATO into negotiations with Russia about defining that term, not only in this context, but in another one of considerably greater practical significance.

Under the 1997 NATO-Russia Founding Act, NATO declares that it does not intend to station "substantial" military forces on the territories of new member-countries. Meanwhile, the Kremlin wants a joint NATO-Russia definition of that term, so as to constrict any hypothetical NATO deployments in Central European countries and the Baltic States (all of which are practically denuded of a NATO presence now). Negotiating with Russia about the admissible level of a hypothetical NATO presence would turn those countries into second-class members.

NATO has avoided getting into such a situation thus far. If, however, negotiations begin to define "substantial" for the purposes of Article 2 in the Medvedev draft, NATO would then hardly be able to avoid the trap of discussing with Russia what the alliance may or may not do on the territories of certain member-countries.

Under Article 3, "A treaty participant... may address other participants with requests to provide information about... any substantial steps of a legal, administrative or organizational nature that, in the inquiring participant's view, affect its security interests." This stipulation looks like a less-than-poor substitute for the transparency and confidence-building measures enshrined in the Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE). Since 2008, Russia has largely suspended its compliance with the CFE Treaty (force ceilings, inspections, pre-notification of military movements) and wants a wholesale re-negotiation of the document. Article 3 of the Medvedev draft treaty awkwardly attempts to deflect concerns and attention away from that problem.

Article 4 of the draft treaty would create mechanisms to "examine differences and disputes that may arise over this treaty's interpretation and implementation." The proposed mechanisms would operate on three levels: first, consultations in variable formats among treaty participants (states and international security organizations such as NATO, the EU, OSCE, CSTO); second, the full-fledged conference of treaty participants; and, third, their extraordinary conference.

This multi-format concept is designed to counterbalance, supplant, and splinter NATO's own formats, including the North Atlantic Council (NAC) and Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC), with regard to debate and decision-making on topical security issues in the NATO area and its immediate Eastern neighborhood.

Any treaty participant could "initiate consultations with one or more participants, if the initiating participant deems that a violation or threat of violation of this treaty's provisions has occurred or is imminent, or if it deems necessary to raise any issue related to this treaty's contents." In that case, the initiating participant may "address any treaty participant(s), whom it deems interested in examining that issue, with proposals to hold consultations" (Article 5).

Furthermore, any participant in consultations may subsequently propose holding a full-fledged conference [presumably, if the consultations turn out to be inconclu-

(Continued on page 12)

## CANDIDATE PROFILE: Viktor Fedorovich Yanukovich

Compiled by Zenon Zawada

This week, *The Ukrainian Weekly* begins its series of profiles of Ukraine's top presidential candidates.

**Name:** Viktor Fedorovich Yanukovich  
**Born:** July 9, 1950.

**Birthplace:** Yenakiyev, Donetsk Oblast.

**Highest academic degree:** Alleged master's degree in international law, earned from the Ukrainian Academy of Foreign Trade in Kyiv in April 2001. The validity of this degree is widely questioned by Ukrainian journalists.

**Career:** Starting as an electrician and mechanic, Mr. Yanukovich rose through the ranks of the Donbas transport industry before becoming chairman of the Donetsk State Oblast Administration under former President Leonid Kuchma between 1996 and 2002. He became prime minister of Ukraine in 2002, a post he held until the Orange Revolution. He returned as prime minister in August 2006, holding the post for 17 months.

**Government service:** 13 years.

**Time spent in publicly elected office:** Three years.

**Party:** Party of Regions of Ukraine.

**Advisers:** Former State Tax Administration chair Mykola Azarov, Donbas industrial kingpin Rinat Akhmetov, Donbas mining executive Anton Pryhodskyi, and Andrii and Serhii Kliuyev, Donbas metallurgy and machine-building magnates.

**Prime minister:** November 2002-December 2004; August 2006-December 2007.

**Officially declared assets:** 4.9 million hrv (\$607,000) gross income in 2008; 224,000 hrv (\$28,000) salary as national deputy; 6,674 square foot home (the Mezhyhiria complex), 2,573-square-foot apartment; two 215-square-foot garages.

**Confirmed undeclared assets:** During his second term as prime minister, Mr. Yanukovich privatized for himself, at no cost, the Mezhyhiria complex, a state-owned retreat for Soviet officials,



yanukovich.com.ua

Viktor Yanukovich

Ukrayinska Pravda reported. Mr. Yanukovich claimed he sold apartments in Kyiv and Donetsk to buy the residence, for which he acknowledges ownership in his 2008 declaration. Yet he never declared a Donetsk apartment, and he wouldn't have been able to afford Mezhyhiria by selling his Kyiv apartment. Mr. Yanukovich owns a seafront mansion in Yalta, whose formal owners also include Messrs. Pryhodskyi and Akhmetov. Mr. Yanukovich is a two-digit millionaire at minimum, observers said.

**Governing approach:** Mr. Yanukovich applied a neo-Soviet model of authoritarian-administrative control when he was prime minister, in which his inner circle of Donbas oligarchs and executives had the priority in policy-making, decision-making and rewards. His policies are also geared towards satisfying the needs and wishes of the industrial oligarchs that finance his party.

**Reforms as prime minister:** Mr. Yanukovich achieved no significant reforms during his second term as prime

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## Rada hears preliminary report on 2004 Yushchenko poisoning

Ukrinform

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada has heard a report by its temporary investigative commission investigating the circumstances of Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko's poisoning, clarifying its causes and identifying individuals guilty of delaying the investigation of a criminal case and the submission of documents to courts.

The commission's chairman, Volodymyr Sivkovich, said from the Parliament's rostrum on December 16, "There's currently no evidence that Yushchenko was poisoned." He added, "The commission found during its work that a criminal case was opened on September 21, 2004, in order to investigate the circumstances of Viktor Yushchenko's poisoning with dioxin. However, the Procurator's Office found no data indicating that Viktor Yushchenko was poisoned with dioxin in September 2004. In this connection, on October 22, 2004, the criminal case was closed under Clause 1, Part 1, Article 6 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine due to the absence of any ele-

ments of crime."

The Verkhovna Rada refused to support National Deputy Yuri Karmazin's proposal to hear a report by the procurator general, and it rejected a proposal to end the commission's work.

According to Verkhovna Rada regulations, the investigative commission must present a final report in Parliament in a year.

According to official reports, then-presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko was poisoned with dioxin on September 5, 2004, during a dinner at the villa of Volodymyr Satsiuk, the former first deputy chief of the Security Service of Ukraine.

Procurator General Oleksander Medvedko said on October 9 that the Rada's investigative commission on the Yushchenko poisoning had failed to provide his office with documents confirming allegations by the commission that the poisoning was allegedly falsified. He added that, despite statements by the president that he knows the identity of the people who poisoned him, that information has not been disclosed and charges have not been brought.



# Italian historian Andrea Graziosi speaks on the Holodomor

by Thomas M. Prymak

TORONTO – The Great Famine of 1932-1933 was an epoch-making event in the history of Ukraine and had far-reaching consequences for modern European history as a whole. However, until the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, whenever the question was raised, fierce politically motivated debates about this famine dominated both the academic and public spheres. Those teaching Russian history in North American universities generally did not want to talk about it, and the very occurrence of the Holodomor, about which there existed numerous eyewitness testimonies, was still questioned by many.

As the prominent Italian historian, Andrea Graziosi of the University of Naples, pointed out in his lively and well-attended November 17 lecture at the University of Toronto on “The Holodomor and the Soviet Famines, 1931-1933,” such denials are no longer possible in respectable and educated company.

With the publication over the last 20 years of hundreds of thousands of new documents and tens of thousands of new testimonies, the debate has now shifted to the reasons for the Famine, the intentions of Stalin and his ruling circle, the relationship of the Famine to other events then occurring in the USSR, and its consequences for later Ukrainian history.

To a packed audience in the University of Toronto's Trinity College, Prof. Graziosi explained that there is now general agreement among scholars that the famine actually occurred and that the Soviet government and Stalin himself were primarily responsible for it. Similarly, there is agreement that several million perished. (The speaker favored a figure of 4 million victims, a figure which, coincidentally, agrees with the

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conclusions of the distinguished Cold War-era Ukrainian demographer, Volodymyr Kubiivych.) In other words, this very important Famine was a result of deliberate Soviet political and social policy, namely, collectivization and the forced requisitioning of grain from the peasantry. Basically, Communist Party activists simply seized whatever food there was from the defenseless peasants. Prof. Graziosi, therefore, felt that the relatively new term “Holodomor,” which connotes some intention regarding “death by hunger,” is quite appropriate.

He went on to say that debate about the causes of the Famine and Soviet policy, which focuses on the division between economic, peasant-oriented explanations (Stalin was anti-peasant) and political, nationally oriented explanations (Stalin was anti-Ukrainian) are off the mark. Stalin, who was actually Lenin's point-man on the “national question,” thought that in “non-imperialist countries” like those in Eastern Europe, specifically Ukraine, and also in the contemporary Third World, the national question was practically synonymous with, and in fact, was, the peasant question. After all, in these countries most “nationalists” were actually of peasant origin or sympathies.

Extrapolating on this, the speaker pointed out that Prof. Terry Martin of Harvard was essentially right when he suggested that the Great Ukrainian Famine did not start out as a national question – a weapon to break the back of the Ukrainian nation, which was overwhelmingly peasant in nature and ambience – but rather became so only in 1932, when Stalin received alarming and exaggerated secret police reports about nationalist “wreckers” and “Petliurists” infiltrating the Ukrainian SSR and the Ukrainian Communist Party.

Thus, while other famines had occurred elsewhere in the USSR from 1931 onward, and like in Ukraine before 1932 the causes were primarily economic and peasant-oriented, and the deaths in the tens or hundreds of thousands, they were quantitatively and qualitatively different from those in Ukraine and the Kuban in 1932-1933, which numbered in the millions and came to be directed specifically

against Ukrainians.

Prof. Graziosi took pains to point out that others also suffered greatly during these years, especially in Kazakhstan, which lost some one-third of its population, proportionately greater than Ukraine, which lost 15 to 20 percent. But he maintained that, while this too was a result of deliberate Soviet policy (settling nomads), it was inadvertent, and Stalin had not been out to destroy the Kazakhs as a people, whereas he did come to think that the growing Ukrainian nation had to be somehow stopped.

The difference here was in intention. But it was also in result, for after 1933 Kazakh nationalism was encouraged and a new Kazakh republic was founded in central Asia, while the Ukrainian republic in Europe was purged of its national leadership and taken over by ethnic Russians who proceeded to suppress Ukrainian nationalism as much as possible. This situation lasted throughout the war of 1941-1945 and continued until Stalin's death, when secret police chief Lavrenti Beria, in an attempt to outmaneuver his rivals for power in Moscow, re-installed an ethnic Ukrainian leadership in the republic.

Turning to the question of whether the Famine constituted “genocide,” Prof. Graziosi pointed out that the official definition of genocide accepted by the United Nations is enormously broad. It is generally considered to involve an attempt to destroy in whole or in part, either physically or culturally, any national, ethnic, religious or certain other kind of group. Only political groups were excluded from the United Nations definition. This exclusion was done at the insistence of the USSR for obvious reasons. Thus, according to the speaker, the Ukrainian Famine easily fits the category of “genocide.”

But Prof. Graziosi was uneasy with the entire concept of genocide which he thought too broad and too legalistic to be of use to historians seeking factual explanations. After all, if the definition is so broad, what meaning does it actually have? And does it not cheapen the enormity of the suffering of the victims of the famine by setting it along-side much lesser events?

Prof. Graziosi's lecture was followed by a stimulating question period in which researcher Oleksander Melnyk asked about Lenin's responsibility for what happened in Ukraine, Prof. Wsevolod Isajiw asked about Petirim Sorokin's thesis about hunger as a weapon that had already been used by the Communists in the early 1920s and by the tsarist government before 1917. Prof. Paul Magocsi asked whether in view of the losses of German and Greek colonists in 1933 Ukraine, the relevant term should be “the Great Famine in Ukraine” rather than

“the Great Ukrainian Famine,” and a representative of the Ukrainian Research and Documentation Centre in Toronto stated that it had acquired a death certificate from that time that clearly stated that the cause of death was that the deceased was a “Ukrainian” (Ukrainets), thus clinching the peasant/national debate in favor of a national explanation.

The speaker replied that Lenin had advised absolute ruthlessness as a political tool to crush enemies and that Stalin was his “pupil,” but also that Lenin himself had changed his policies when he saw that they were causing famine along the Volga in the early 1920s. Thus, his responsibility for the 1933 Ukrainian Famine was equivocal.

Prof. Graziosi thought Sorokin's thesis to be brilliant, but also pointed out that the British had used hunger as a weapon to starve Germany into submission by means of a blockade during the first world war. To Prof. Magocsi, the speaker replied that the Famine might have been considered as a “Famine in Ukraine” rather than a “Ukrainian Famine” by certain of its victims, but that this was definitely not the view of Stalin who at that time came to see the Ukrainians as the greatest threat to his regime. When asked whom the Ukrainians themselves viewed as the perpetrators of the Famine, the speaker replied simply “the Communists.”

Prof. Graziosi pointed out, however, that Russians in general cannot be held responsible for the Famine since the USSR of the 1930s was not the same as Russia today and that Stalin, of course, was not a Russian and actually, in the professor's own words, “did not like Russians” until 1941, when the USSR was suddenly attacked by Germany and Russian nationalism was substantially rehabilitated.

As an aside, the speaker stated that he believed that even a decent Russian government (never mind that of Vladimir Putin, whom he did not like) would never admit that the Famine was “genocide” because of its legal-political, rather than historical, implications. These legal-political implications would most certainly imply reparations to Ukraine for harm done by Russia as the legal heir of the USSR, a status which Russian President Boris Yeltsin did not want in 1991 but which was foisted on him by the Western allies who were worried about the future validity of arms-control and other treaties once signed by the USSR.

Thus, the contemporary political concerns of these Western allies, which seemingly gave no thought to the question of reparations for Soviet crimes against humanity, are still affecting relations between Russian and other historians and this debate is unlikely to end soon.

## Helsinki Commission leaders hail new legislation on human rights

WASHINGTON – Sen. Benjamin L. Cardin (D-Md.), chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (U.S. Helsinki Commission) and Rep. Alcee L. Hastings (D-Fla.), co-chairman, on December 16 hailed House passage of bipartisan legislation designed to strengthen the federal government's role in investigating and prosecuting human rights violators taking refuge in the United States.

The Senate approved the measure on November 21. The bill was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 416-3. It now awaits the president's signature to become law.

“The passage of this bill sends a message to the world about the U.S. commitment to upholding human rights and the rule of law, and signals to human rights abusers that they will not find safe haven in our country,” said Sen. Cardin, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee and a co-sponsor of the Human Rights Enforcement Act of 2009 (S. 1472).

The bill would direct the U.S. attorney general to establish a section within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice with a mandate to enforce human

rights laws. Under the bill, serious human rights offenses include genocide, torture, war crimes or the use or recruitment of child soldiers.

“By creating a human rights division at the Department of Justice, we put institutional force and action behind our words and say to the world that the protection of basic freedoms is a real priority not just rhetoric,” said Rep. Hastings.

Two entities in the Department of Justice are currently responsible for ensuring that perpetrators of human rights violations are brought to justice. The Office of Special Investigations (OSI) identifies suspected human rights violators who have entered the United States and seeks to prosecute, deport or extradite them for prosecution abroad. The Domestic Security Section (DSS) investigates and prosecutes major human rights violators, particularly those implicated in genocide, torture and war crimes.

This bill provides the Attorney General discretion with respect to merging the offices into one subdivision with the resources, expertise and jurisdiction to investigate, prosecute, denaturalize or remove perpetrators of serious human rights crimes.

## UCCLA to Canadian government: KGB veteran must be deported

OTTAWA – Canada's Ukrainian community is calling on the federal minister of citizenship and immigration, Jason Kenney, and the minister of public safety, Peter Van Loan, to reject calls for “a Christmas miracle” that would allow a self-confessed veteran of the KGB, Mikhail Lennikov, to stay in Canada.

The Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA) responded to Vancouver New Democrat MP Ujjal Dosanjh, who at a December 21 news conference suggested Christmas is a time for “giving and forgiveness, the season of generosity.” Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk of the

UCCLA said: “Why ignore Mr. Lennikov's admitted membership in one of the most notorious secret police forces the world has ever known? What mercy were the KGB's victims ever shown? It's remarkable how ignorant some NDP'ers are of history.”

Both the Immigration and Refugee Board, as well as a judge of the Federal Court of Canada, confirmed that it is against the law for former members of the KGB to immigrate to Canada and then ordered Mr. Lennikov's removal.

He has since defied those decisions,

(Continued on page 13)



# HURI conference marks 300th anniversary of the Battle of Poltava

by Peter T. Woloschuk

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) with support from the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta, the Ukrainian Studies Fund and the Kennan Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, sponsored a two-day, international, multi-disciplinary scholarly conference “Poltava 2009: Revisiting a Turning Point in European History” on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of the historic battle, as well as the October 1709 death of Hetman Ivan Mazepa.

The aim of the conference was to utilize new historiographic approaches to reassess the Battle of Poltava as a crucial military event in the geopolitical development of Europe.

The conference, the only major scholarly event dealing with the anniversary in North America, drew 34 scholars from nine countries, including Austria, Canada, Germany, Italy, Russia, Scotland, Sweden, Ukraine and the United States, as well as more than 80 auditors from Harvard, other major East Coast universities in Boston, Philadelphia, Washington and even Izmir, Turkey.

The November 10-11 conference coincided with the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) and the American Association for Ukrainian Studies (AAUS), which increased its audience, visibility and impact. Many of the participants at HURI's conference also delivered papers at the AAASS conference and participated in a ceremony that honored the memory of long-time HURI colleague Prof. Anna Lisa Crone of the University of Chicago.

The conference featured eight sessions over a two-day period and the presentation of 25 research papers. At each session three to four scholars presented new research on a specific aspect of the Poltava battle in broad historical context and its aftermath. These were followed by a specialist, acting as discussant, who made comments on the papers, posed questions, and made suggestions for further areas of exploration and research. At the end of each session, general comments and questions were taken from the audience.

Topics for the sessions ranged from placing Poltava in an international context to the Ukrainian context of the language, literature, art, architecture and music of the period, and reviewing the actual recorded history of the event, as well as the battle's impact on long-term memory and literary imagination.

HURI's director, Oleksandr Potebnja Professor of Ukrainian Philology Michael S. Flier, opened the conference, welcomed all of the participants, thanked co-organizers Mykhailo S. Hrushevsky Professor of Ukrainian History Serhii Plokhii and HURI Associate Director Dr. Lubomyr Hajda for their efforts, and then

clearly stated the aims and goals of the undertaking.

“It is clear that the Battle of Poltava is one of the major turning points in European history,” Prof. Flier pointed out. “It eclipsed the power of Sweden in the north, gave impetus to the rise of the Russian Empire as a major power of the day, and also had a major impact on the future history of Poland and Ukraine. It also impacted the culture of the time and impacted its future course of development.”

“Because of all of the archival evidence that has recently been unearthed as a result of the geopolitical changes in Eastern Europe and the new light that it shines on the battle, its significance, and its aftermath and ongoing impact, even to our own day,” Prof. Flier continued, “it is important to re-evaluate our traditional interpretations, to re-conceptualize their meaning and to examine the new perspectives that recent scholarship has revealed.”

The director of the Kennan Institute and chair of the Comparative Urban Studies Project at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, Blair Ruble, said, “We had wanted to commemorate Poltava at the center in Washington but were unable to do so and we are very grateful to HURI for being able to pull a first-rate international conference together.”

“One of HURI's less known functions,” Dr. Ruble added, “is that of catalyst. By doing its own work in Ukrainian studies and by doing it so well, it has repeatedly forced Russian scholars the world over to stop and reassess their accepted canons of belief and revisit them from new perspectives.”

“The battle of Poltava itself, for example,” Dr. Ruble said, “is only a small part of the whole picture. The impact that it had on its times and the subsequent history of Europe is more significant and the fact that distinguished scholars from nine countries had taken two days to look at an event that occurred on a hot, muggy summer day three centuries ago and almost half a world away in an obscure corner of Europe, indicates the real impact of the battle.”

“The history of 19th and 20th century Europe is not intelligible without an understanding of Poltava, the ongoing development of relations between Russia and Ukraine is not intelligible without an understanding of Poltava, and even the Orange Revolution, and contemporary Ukrainian approaches to their own history and culture are not intelligible without an understanding of Poltava,” Dr. Ruble emphasized.

“The discussions, views and new research presented at the conference were not only enlightening but led to lively discussion and even heated debate,” Dr. Ruble said, “and they point the work to future areas of work and re-evaluation. Because of this, the conference will have significant impact on future understanding of the role of Poltava and its ongoing impact.”

### Three different contexts

The first day's three sessions looked respectively at the international, Russian and Ukrainian contexts of the Battle of Poltava, and concluded with an evening session in Cambridge's Swedenborg Chapel where Dr. Hajda, and Prof. Yakiv Gubanov of the Berklee College of Music looked at the presentation of Mazepa in European musical culture, discussing and playing selections from a number of operas and other works, primarily of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Among the topics explored were the impact of Poltava on Poland, particularly

of its puppet king who had been placed on the throne by Charles XII, the impact on the geopolitics of Western Europe – Poland had a population of 10 million, Sweden had a population of only 1 million and Russian Empire now had a population of more than 15 million, for example; and the fact that the newly acquired Baltic ports gave Russia the ability to use its fleets to strike at Turkey by sailing around the continent.

A number of presenters looked at the changes in military configurations, particularly the use of dragoons, that impacted Poltava and Prof. Brian Boeck of DePaul University looked at the suppression of the Don Cossacks in 1707 by a second-string Russian army which Prof. Boeck stressed is as a clear indication that the day of the Cossack formations had passed and that the Cossack model was no match for the modern professional armies that were developing in Europe in the 18th century. He also pointed out that the Cossacks had begun to lose their supremacy on the Black Sea as early as the 1660s.

Tatiana Tairova-Iakovlevna, professor of history and director of the Center for Ukrainian Studies at St. Petersburg University, looked at the Russian administrative reforms implemented before, during and after the Great Northern War and said that her research indicates that Tsar Peter had begun his reforms of the administration and territorial configuration of the lands of the Hetmanate as early as the beginning of 1707 and that Hetman Mazepa was required to respond to them and deal with them and slowly saw his autonomy and direct access to the tsar being curtailed. The governor of Kyiv demanded a register of the Cossacks' entire general staff, a list of their salaries, and a justification for the money paid, for example.

Prof. Tairova-Iakovlevna said that Hrushevsky had insisted that the elimination of Cossack autonomy was a result of Poltava. She maintains that the documents show that Mazepa's moves leading to Poltava were in fact dictated by the Russian moves curtailing that autonomy. She also emphasized the fact that the extant records show that Peter did not understand Hetmanate autonomy or the unique position of Hetman Mazepa, but viewed him simply as another line servant of the czar and the state.

Perhaps the leading Mazepa scholar working today, during the course of her research over the past few years Prof. Tairova-Iakovlevna discovered a significant archive of material that belonged to Hetman Mazepa containing agreements, correspondence, literature, and even copies of missing and unknown treaties that were thought to have been destroyed during the siege and destruction of Baturyn but was in fact taken as part of the spoils by Gen. Aleksandr Menshikov and included in his papers. As a result of her discovery, Prof. Tairova-Iakovlevna has called for a thorough reassessment of the historical role and interpretation of Hetman Mazepa in both Ukrainian and Russian history as well as the lingering stereotypes from Russian Imperial and Soviet historiographies.

Prof. Volodymyr Mezentsev of the University of Alberta looked at the Hetmanate capital of Baturyn and the architecture of the hetman's palace, and discussed the fact that the synthesis of Western and Ukrainian elements in the baroque architecture reflected a world view and a culture that were clearly distinct and reflected powerful local traditions. He even looked at the use of heraldic elements that have been recently excavated and pointed out that such things would never be incorporated in

Russian buildings, thereby stressing that the culture of the Hetmanate capital differed from that of Russia and in fact looked more to the West than the East.

Prof. Andrii Bovgyria of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine looked at the punitive actions and exiling of Mazepa's family and followers as well as the ongoing suppression of any manifestation of Ukrainian separatism and he emphasized the fact that most actions were taken as the result of denunciations turned in by informants who stood to gain a portion of anything confiscated as a reward.

Finally Prof. Plokhii looked at the ambiguous attitudes toward Mazepa as portrayed in the seminal anonymous work “Istoria Rusov,” which made its first appearance at the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th centuries. The writer, while maintaining the uniqueness of the Ukrainians, nevertheless made clear his loyalty to the tsar, dynasty and empire. At the same time Mazepa was sympathetically, even patriotically, portrayed as caring for his people and trying to protect their rights and privileges.

### Broadening Poltava's context

The second day's sessions sought to further broaden the context of Poltava by looking at the language, literature, art, and architecture of the period. An overview was then given of the history and memory of Poltava and the sessions were concluded with the role that fact and fiction played on the literary imagination.

The morning was devoted to looking at the literary language used by the ruling circles of the Hetmanate and the impact Poltava had on its development. All presenters noted that there was change after Poltava that impacted the whole range of literary production from government documents to belles lettres and even to homiletic works and sermons.

Prof. Flier began the session by analyzing the language that Hetman Mazepa used in a series of private love letters to his significantly younger goddaughter Motria Kochubei beginning in 1702, and conclusively showed that although the letters were written in Cyrillic, they contained very few Russicisms in their style and grammatic formulation and even fewer direct borrowings from the contemporary Russian.

“The bulk of all the letters are clearly written in a north central Ukrainian dialect that was prevalent in the area around the Hetmanate capital of Baturyn in left

(Continued on page 20)

## Addendum re Northern NJ District

In the story about the fall organization meeting of the Northern New Jersey District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association (December 13), it should have been noted that our district sold close to \$3.2 million in annuities in the first nine months of 2009, definitely a record-setting year for us.

On behalf of our District Committee, I commend Oksana Stanko for her outstanding performance. Ms. Stanko sold 28 annuity policies and brought in close to \$1.93 million to the UNA, making her this year's top producer. Also deserving of honorable mention is Steven Woch, who is in second place for selling 19 policies worth well over \$670,000.

– Stephan Welhasch, chairman of the Northern New Jersey District Committee of the UNA.

## “Kozak” or “Cossack”

Although The Ukrainian Weekly consistently uses the term “Kozak” based on the Ukrainian transliteration of the word, the scholarly community – including Ukrainian experts on the era and the Hrushevsky Translation Project – employ the more widely used term “Cossack.” Thus, in the article above, “Cossack” is used throughout.



## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

# Gareth Jones and the Holodomor

This year, while our communities worldwide were commemorating the 76th anniversary of the Holodomor, a young Welsh reporter of the 1930s was remembered with an exhibit of his fascinating diaries at Trinity College, University of Cambridge. Gareth Jones (1905-1935) has become well-known among Ukrainians as the courageous reporter who secretly traveled to Ukraine and reported on the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 via which Stalin and his cohorts murdered millions of our kin. His achievements are now being recognized more and more by the international community.

Last year at this time, readers may recall, Jones and another journalist, Malcolm Muggeridge, were posthumously honored by President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine with the country's Order of Freedom. Both journalists reported the truth about the Famine in Ukraine at a time when others – most notably Walter Duranty of The New York Times – chose to conceal it.

This year, Jones was in the spotlight at the University of Cambridge, where he had been a student, and the subject of stories in 180 newspapers worldwide that noted his remarkable travels in Ukraine in the early 1930s and his achievements in journalism. Jones, you see, had traveled to Ukraine in 1930 and 1931, reporting on political developments and the Stalin regime's attempts to crush Ukrainian nationalism, and warning of extreme hardship and starvation due to Soviet policies. In 1932, based on information from his sources, he wrote about the Famine that was already affecting Ukraine at a time when the regime was censoring the Moscow-based foreign press.

In 1933 Jones managed to enter Ukraine, sneaking across the border from Russia, although the country was closed to visitors like him. He chronicled what he saw in his diaries. "Everywhere I talked to peasants... they all had the same story: There is no bread – we haven't had bread for over two months – a lot are dying." Leaving the USSR, Jones held a press conference in Berlin, where he exposed the Famine. His news reports about the Famine appeared in British, American and German newspapers. In fact, in an article published in the Heart newspapers, Jones apparently became the first to use the phrase "man-made famine" to describe what happened in Ukraine in 1932-1933.

Nigel Colley, a grand-nephew of Jones, pointed out in a speech delivered at a Holodomor commemoration at the United Nations (see text on page 8) that the journalist's diaries are probably the only surviving contemporaneous and independent Western verification of the Holodomor. (There have been discussions about taking the exhibit to other venues around the world and having the diaries translated.) A Cambridge University news release about the exhibit called Jones "the man who knew too much" and said he "unmasked one of Stalin's greatest atrocities," while "sacrific[ing] his reputation and perhaps his life." Concurrent with the exhibit, the university hosted the British premiere of "The Living," Serhiy Bukovsky's feature-length documentary about Jones and the Holodomor.

Rory Finnin, lecturer in Ukrainian studies at the University of Cambridge, quite rightly underscored in an interview with the Kyiv-based newspaper Den (The Day), that "Gareth Jones was the only journalist who staked his name and reputation for the sake of telling the truth about the Famine." Sadly, it was this young journalist's quest for the truth that ultimately led to his death in mysterious circumstances, just short of his 30th birthday, allegedly at the hands of Chinese bandits in Mongolia. As one Scottish publication put it, "The truth was everything to Gareth Jones." And for that he shall always be remembered.

Dec.  
28  
2005

## Turning the pages back...

Four years ago, on December 28, 2005, chief immigration Judge Michael J. Creppy ordered that John Demjanjuk, who the U.S. Justice Department claimed was a guard at Nazi concentration camps in Sobibor, Majdanek and Flossenberg, be deported from the United States to his native Ukraine, or Germany or Poland, if they would accept him.

Mr. Demjanjuk was stripped of his U.S. citizenship in 2002, at the age of 86, because he allegedly lied on his application to enter the United States after the second world war. He admitted to giving false statements when entering the United States in order to escape repatriation to the Soviet Union. Mr. Demjanjuk was a Red Army conscript captured by the Nazis during the war.

The legal battle has continued for more than 30 years. In 1977 the Justice Department accused Mr. Demjanjuk of being the notorious prison guard "Ivan the Terrible" at Treblinka. He was cleared of this accusation after another man, Ivan Marchenko, was found to be the notorious "Ivan the Terrible."

Mr. Demjanjuk had been a naturalized citizen, but was stripped of this status in 1981 by the courts before he was extradited in 1986 to Israel to face trial on Nazi war crimes. His conviction and death sentence were overturned in 1993 by Israel's Supreme Court and Mr. Demjanjuk returned to his home in Seven Hills, Ohio. His citizenship was restored in 1998.

Judge Paul R. Matia, a federal judge in the Northern District of Ohio, cited fraud on the part of the U.S. government prosecutors and wrote that attorneys of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) "acted with reckless disregard for their duty to the court and their discovery obligations" in failing to disclose potentially exculpatory evidence to the Demjanjuk defense. In 1999 the Justice Department filed suit to once again revoke Mr. Demjanjuk's U.S. citizenship and in February 2002 Judge Matia said there was enough evidence that Mr. Demjanjuk was a guard at Nazi death and forced labor camps without eyewitness corroboration. The decision was upheld by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th District.

Mr. Demjanjuk, now 89, was deported from the United States to Germany on May 11, 2009. He is charged with being an accessory to the deaths of 27,900 Jews at Sobibor.

Source: "Immigration judge orders deportation of Demjanjuk," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, January 8, 2006.

## ELECTION NOTEBOOK

BY ZENON ZAWADA

KYIV PRESS BUREAU



# Could Yushchenko remain?

It was early September when I first heard the theory that Viktor Yushchenko would remain as president following the 2010 elections. Either the first- or second-round results won't be established because of the many technical and legal maneuvers to cast doubt, said Kostiantyn Matviyenko, a Kyiv political consultant. I laughed.

But as the elections draw closer, it appears that the most likely outcome does indeed involve the unpopular Mr. Yushchenko remaining as president. A stalemate is in the making. This scenario is based on three axioms to keep in mind for these elections.

**Axiom No. 1:** Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko will not allow Viktor Yanukovich to win the presidential elections. No way, no how. She controls the Supreme Court of Ukraine (chaired by Vasyl Onopenko), the Security Service of Ukraine (led by Valentyn Nalyvaichenko), the Internal Affairs Ministry (the 400,000-strong national police force led by Yuriy Lutsenko), and is now waging war for the Higher Administrative Court. From an "adminresurs" (administrative resources) point of view, she's got the most control and won't surrender it easily.

**Axiom No. 2:** Mr. Yanukovich will not allow Ms. Tymoshenko to win the presidential elections. Defeat will spell the end of Mr. Yanukovich's political career, and most likely the end to the Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU). Meanwhile, most election polls indicate that Mr. Yanukovich would handily defeat Ms. Tymoshenko in the second-round.

The International Foundation for Electoral Systems, financed by the U.S. Agency for International Development, released polling results on December 15 indicating that Mr. Yanukovich would earn 42 percent in a run-off, compared with 28 percent for Ms. Tymoshenko. The poll was conducted on November 21-31.

Another poll, conducted in October by Kyiv's Razumkov Center, reported 41 percent support for Mr. Yanukovich, compared with 33 percent for Ms. Tymoshenko. Given such data, PRU leaders won't allow "another election to be stolen."

**Axiom No. 3:** President Yushchenko will not allow Ms. Tymoshenko to win the presidential elections. The contempt the president has for the prime minister exceeds all rational bounds. He has opposed Ms. Tymoshenko even at the expense of his own popularity and career. Psychologists analyzing Mr. Yushchenko believe it's rooted in a patriarchal worldview that rejects women who lead and fight. The president's supporters say it has nothing to do with that – he's protecting Ukraine from corruption and a return to colonial status under Moscow.

Given that Mr. Yushchenko has demonstrated he will go to extreme lengths to prevent Ms. Tymoshenko from taking power (demonstrated when he nominated Mr. Yanukovich as his prime minister in 2006 and attempted to derail Ms. Tymoshenko's election as prime minister in 2007), we can expect the same this time around.

While it's nice to think that it's the people of Ukraine who will decide their next president through voting, that won't

be the case if the election results are called into question by enough powerful institutions.

The groundwork for not recognizing the election results is already being laid by all three players involved: the Tymoshenko Bloc, the Party of Regions and the Presidential Secretariat and its allies, such as the Institute of Foreign Policy led by Oleksander Paliy and the Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU) led by Oleksander Chernenko.

Mr. Paliy has been arguing for months that the Party of Regions and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) are planning mass falsifications for the election. Meanwhile, Mr. Chernenko has adopted a curious position, stating that the campaigning is satisfactory but that the Verkhovna Rada's ongoing refusal to revise the election rules threatens the vote's legitimacy.

He stated in late November that falsifications have the potential of skewing the election results by as much as 5 percent, citing the small difference he expects in the run-off between Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovich.

Presidential Secretariat Vice-Chair Ihor Popov, plucked from the CVU chairmanship in March, declared on December 3 that the election results will be falsified by as much as 15 to 20 percent if Parliament fails to amend the election rules law.

Such announcements are geared toward psychologically preparing the Ukrainian electorate and the international community for rejecting the legitimacy of the election results.

Meanwhile, the PRU is very concerned about the YTB's influence on two critical judicial institutions – the Higher Administrative Court and the Supreme Court led by Mr. Onopenko, chair of the Social Democratic Party of Ukraine, which is one of three parties that form the Tymoshenko Bloc.

In early December Mr. Onopenko launched a campaign to dismiss Oleksander Pasiuk, chair of the Higher Administrative Court, who could play a critical role in these elections by having the authority to overturn the Central Election Commission's ruling.

The PRU accused the prime minister of already starting to bribe judges by recently earmarking 10 million hryv (\$1.25 million) for the construction and renovation of administrative courts. "It's entirely obvious that during the remaining days of the year it's not only impossible to draw up a list of sites, schedule the work, and hold tenders, but it's also physically impossible to start construction," the December 11 statement said.

That same week, the PRU accused Mr. Lutsenko of planning to falsify the elections on behalf of Ms. Tymoshenko, alleging that he has a contract to do so. And, Mr. Yanukovich told election observers from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) that Ms. Tymoshenko will falsify results.

In response, Ms. Tymoshenko announced on December 14 that she thinks vote fraud is possible in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, both strongholds of the Party of Regions. She's made similar statements throughout the campaign regarding falsifications.

(Continued on page 26)





## The things we do...

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

### Religious vs. folk koliadky

The following instructions are found in a small (4 by 5.25 inch), 158 page book published in 1930: "Koliadnyk: Tserkovni Koliady z Dodatkom Narodnykh Koliadok i Schedrivok, Yak Takozh Naipopuliarnishykh Koliad Angliyskykh. (Koliady/Carols: Church Carols with the Addition of Folk Carols and New Year's Songs, as well as the most Popular English Carols), published by the Ukrainian Book Store, 656 Main St., Winnipeg, Manitoba, based on the collection by O.M. Kinash.

"Attention, Carolers!"

"Apart from the church carols (koliady), there are also the folk koliadky of the people, which it is not proper to sing in church. The Ukrainian people created for themselves an abundant number of their own, shall we say, domestic carols, with set-up and melody based on the church ones, and these survived and were passed by word of mouth with various changes to the present. After the singing of a respectable ecclesiastical carol, often the master of the house invited the merry company for refreshments, and the invited and honored carolers, of course, during such a reception, show off their merry and humorous carols. But even though these carols are funny, they are not sinful, and for this reason it will not hurt to include them in this 'Koliadnyk' (carol songbook).

"After finishing the koliada, the carolers sing good wishes to the whole household; and then there are the folk carols that are sung in honor of a particular person, for example, the priest, the husband, the wife, the boy, the girl, a child. For this reason each koliada ends with a particular greeting, called a 'pokoliad' [after the koliada] to that person. We include a few as an example, and the leader [of the carolers] will know himself how to compose a greeting as necessary."

Well, that explains it, doesn't it? This introduction to the folk carols is condescending, and quite inaccurate but adamant. After reviewing the liturgical and the folk koliady to find the supposedly respectable and acceptable ones listed in this koliadnyk, one finds little difference between them, for the most part.

A number of the "acceptable" religious ones sing about Mary and Joseph swaddling the Baby, bathing Him, and changing His diapers, just as the folk ones do. The first 96 pages include the church/liturgical koliady, such as "Boh Predvichnyi," "Vo Vyfleyemi," "Na Nebi Zirka" and "Boh Sia Razhdaye."

In the 36 pages of Part II, "Koliady I Shchedrivky Chysto Narodni" – the folk ones – there seems to be little difference between the church-categorized ones and a folk koliada such as "Vo Vyfleyemi Radost Premnoha," which also sings about Mary giving birth to God without sin. The other koliady in this section are about the birth, Joseph and Mary, the shepherds, Herod, the Three Kings, Christ sitting down to supper and the flight into Egypt. If the refrains make the difference, one in this section is "Hey, hey, hey," which may make it a folk. Yet another refrain is "Hey dai Bozhe!" [Hey, may God grant it].

The schedrivky in this section are the usual ones, about Schedryi Vechir (Generous Eve, i.e., the new year), Mary bathing Jesus in the River Jordan, "parubky" (young men) building a church, and angels glorifying the new Baby.

Some refrains of the schedrivky are ancient, such as "Lado, Lado, Lado, vse na sviti rado! Shchedryi vechir na zemly!" (Lado – ancient spring spirit – all is joyful in the world! The Generous Eve is on earth). The verses of this schedrivka sing about the Birth, Mary, the shepherds and the kings.

Another one, "Z Neba Anhely Letiat" (the angels are flying from the sky), is all about the Birth, and has the refrain: "Slava v nebi, myr nam tut, bo Khrystos spasaye liud" (Glory in the heavens, peace to us here on earth, because Christ is saving the people). In this one, the only possible "folk" element is the line "ukraintsi yak ody zaspivaimo slavy hymn" (Ukrainians, as one, let us sing the hymn of praise), but to call it "folk" is a stretch.

To set the record straight, the original koliady were pre-Christian, from very long ago when our ancestors and their ancestors celebrated the winter solstice. The koliady had many themes: philosophical – creation, as they understood it; celestial/mythological/nature; historical – soldiers, battles, kings; the beginnings of Christianity; the period of dualism – blending pre-Christian and Christian themes; apocryphal; Biblical; and religious/patriotic.

The dualistic koliady seamlessly blend the sun, moon and stars and Christ and Mary building a church, ending with the refrain "Oy, Dazhbozhe!" (Dazhboh – the god who gives, the sun-god).

The apocryphal are sort of religious, but naïve in that they describe the Nativity and other stories as the people imagined the events and the Holy Family to be – just like everyone else in the village.

According to Stepan Kylymnyk, one historical koliada is from the times of Prince Sviatoslav the Conqueror, c.942-972, because the refrain is "More-Dunayu, Dunayu-more, Kniaziu nash zore, Dunayu" (the sea-the Danube, the Danube-the sea, our kniaz' is a star, the Danube). Sviatoslav had planned to conquer the lands beyond the Danube towards the Mediterranean. This is reflected in the refrain.

In no way were the early koliady "based on the church ones," but very clearly the other way around. This is neither good nor bad, this is just the way it happened. You can't fight chronology. The immense wealth of Ukrainian koliady from across all ethnographic regions of Ukraine shows just how rich and prolific were the imaginations and beliefs of our ancestors.

As I read this koliadnyk, I thought of an incident at one of my lectures on traditions. During the conversation before my talk, someone from the parish where I was speaking whispered that maybe I should say something about our koliady, because the parish priest very clearly stated that only some koliady are to be sung in church, and the rest in the church hall in the basement. Maybe he had read the instructions from this 1930 book?

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## On second thought

by Alex Kuzma



### A small parish with a lion's heart

On November 8, the Ukrainian Catholic parish of St. Michael the Archangel in New Haven, Conn., celebrated its centennial jubilee.

It was 1909 when the first Ukrainian Catholic emigres began holding their first Eastern rite services in a city known as a stronghold of Roman Catholicism. New Haven harbors the national headquarters of the Knights of Columbus, the fraternal organization created in the 1880s to provide financial aid and defend Catholic immigrants against the bigotry of the Protestant elite. Historian Arthur Schlesinger called anti-Catholic prejudice "the deepest held bias in the history of the American people." If Irish and Italians felt the need to unite against discrimination, we can imagine the prejudices suffered by the first Ukrainian Catholics who not only aroused the ire of Protestant neighbors, but also Roman Catholics who could not understand this strange breed with its married clergy, its haunting icons and its liturgy sung in Church Slavonic.

Parishioners in our lifetime still remember the tiny church on Park Street, built in the shadow of Yale University. By the time the post-World War II generation settled in New Haven, the chapel was too small to accommodate its swelling population and the parish built its new home on George Street near St. Raphael's Hospital. In its heyday, the parish ran a Catholic day school, spawned a Ukrainian National Home and a Ukrainian Cultural Center. Like many parishes, St. Michael's has seen a decline in church attendance and other trends that have many worried about its long-term survival.

Still, the November 8 celebration brought together hundreds of current and former parishioners, reminding us of the important contributions this parish has made to the Ukrainian cause, both on a local, national and even on an international level.

Some of its illustrious alumni include Gen. Yaropolk Hladkyj, Prof. George Grabowicz of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, musicians Orysia and Nestor Cybriwsky, and Tamara Gallo-Olexy, the current president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. There are other, less prominent parishioners who have risen to important positions in government, academia and the business world, who have quietly but effectively applied their professional skills to advance the Ukrainian cause.

Among those who returned to New Haven for the centennial was Jurij Dobczansky, a long-time human rights activist and archivist at the U.S. Library of Congress who served as a translator and helped organize some of the groundbreaking U.S. Congressional hearings for Ukrainian dissidents in the 1970s and '80s. Jurij is now working on new projects to document the Ukrainian Famine and to expose the inherent contradictions in the Russian Federation's attempts to cover up this genocide.

Also attending were brothers Roman and Orest Kyzyk, who have worked with major corporate clients and Wall Street firms. Their brother Andrew served as managing director of the New York Stock Exchange for Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and as head of the NYSE's London Office. The brothers have applied their prodigious experience to bolster fund-raising efforts for the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv and the Ukrainian Catholic Educational Foundation. For many years, I had the plea-

sure of working with the Kyzyks' sisters Ksenia Salewycz and Marta Popovich at the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund. As cargo coordinator and office administrator, Ksenia helped CCRDF deliver millions of dollars worth of medical technology to Ukrainian hospitals.

Like so many gifted youngsters who grew up in New Haven, the Kyzyks learned the importance of leveraging resources and personal contacts to maximize the impact of Ukrainian projects. Even in large Ukrainian American communities like Chicago and Philadelphia, many complain about the limited resources we have available to achieve our goals. The advantage of growing up in smaller parishes like St. Michael's is the gut-level understanding that everyone has to pitch in, that we cannot depend on anyone but ourselves. With sound strategy, creativity and chutzpah, even a handful of people can get the job done. As anthropologist Margaret Meade suggested: never underestimate the power of a small group of determined people to change the world.

Thanks to the leadership of parishioners like Orest Dubno, Roman and Mary Hezzy, Myron and Christina Melnyk, Gloria and Donald Horbaty, and dynamic priests like Msgrs. Steven Chomko and John Terlecky, the New Haven community has been remarkably effective in compounding its clout by reaching out boldly to the local press, to public officials, to Yale and other local institutions. As a former State Commissioner of Revenue and Democratic Party activist, Mr. Dubno has on many occasions recruited Congressional representatives and mayors to participate in Ukrainian initiatives. The parish has also been smart to welcome the talents of non-Ukrainian members like the Rev. Robert Forlano, Max Thibodeau and Andy Bamber.

Every centennial has its share of poignant memories. When a frightened 11-year-old Chernobyl victim named Marianka Romanych arrived in 1991 seeking treatment for leukemia, Maria and Bohdan Antonyshyn embraced her like a member of their own family. They mobilized a fund-raising campaign that made Marianka a cause celebre for non-Ukrainians and Yale-New Haven Hospital. Tragically, Marianka died last year. At the age of 28, she had grown into a stunning beauty. She was engaged to be married, but did not survive a relapse in her illness. Nonetheless, the Antonyshyns helped prolong her life. Working with the Ukrainian National Home and its visionary co-chairs Paul Paluha and Pavlo Czerepacha, they helped save countless other children through CCRDF and the Ukrainian National Women's League of America.

Never was the New Haven community's organizing ability more evident than during last year's commemoration of the Ukrainian Famine at the Connecticut State Capitol. Committee chair Lida Choma and press coordinator Myron Melnyk made sure the media were informed well in advance. Their committee secured front-page coverage in the Hartford News and extensive articles in other newspapers.

We cannot know what challenges the next 100 years will bring, but the St. Michael's Parish has set an inspiring example for even larger Ukrainian communities to make full use of their human potential and never doubt their power to work miracles.



## FOR THE RECORD: Nigel Colley's speech about journalist Gareth Jones

*Below is the text of the speech delivered by Nigel Colley, grandnephew of journalist Gareth Jones, at the opening on November 23 at the United Nations of an archival photo exhibit dedicated to the 76th anniversary of the Holodomor.*

Last week, 180 newspapers across the world, from The Washington Post to the Moscow Times, reported the remarkable story of Gareth Jones and his graphic eyewitness accounts of his off-limits trek into Ukraine during the height of Moscow's starvation of that country. Today, we call it the "Holodomor."

Gareth's accounts are preserved in his journalist's diaries, which probably now represent the only surviving contemporaneous independent Western verification of that genocide. These precious diaries are currently on display in the Wren Library at Cambridge University, where Gareth had been a student. They sit side by side with memorabilia of other illustrious alumni, including Sir Isaac Newton's personal annotated copy of "The Principia," in which he proposed his fundamental mathematical Laws of Motion.

When I came to the U.N. in 2003 with my mother [Dr. Siriol Colley] to attend the first exhibition commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Holodomor, few had heard of the great man-made Famine in Ukraine and even fewer knew of Gareth's role in telling the world about it. Gareth Jones was born in Barry, South Wales, in 1905, the son of a school headmaster. After graduating from Cambridge in 1929 with a first-class honors' degree in Russian, German and French, he was employed by David Lloyd George, the British prime minister during World War I, as his foreign affairs advisor.

In 1930 he went to the Soviet Union on behalf of Lloyd George. Following an unescorted pilgrimage to the Ukrainian city of Donetsk, where his mother had been a governess in the 1890s, he returned disillusioned at the brutality of the Stalinist regime against the Ukrainian people and was invited to write three articles about the subject for the London Times.

In London, in September of 1932, Gareth learned through several informed sources of reports emanating from Moscow of a severe famine in the southern part of the Soviet Union. Prof. Jules Menken (of the London School of Economics), an eminent economist of the time, told Gareth that he "dreaded this winter, when he thought millions would die of hunger" and finally stated that "There was already famine in Ukraine." Due to the censorship of the press in Moscow the world was unaware of the ongoing plight of the Ukrainians.

In light of this information, Gareth wrote two prophetic articles published in the Cardiff Western Mail in October

1932, titled: "Will There be Soup?" where he painted a very bleak picture of the coming Soviet winter. However, he knew that in order to expose this Famine in Ukraine he needed to see it first-hand. Otherwise the Soviet sources would continue to deny its existence.

He arrived in Moscow on March 5, 1933, and privately interviewed diplomats and journalists. After five days Gareth quietly left by train for Ukraine with a rucksack full of loaves of white bread, butter, cheese, meat and chocolate, which he had bought at the foreign-currency stores.

On his journey Gareth wrote of an episode. "Boy on train asking for bread. I dropped a small piece of bread on floor and put it in a spittoon. Peasant came and picked it up and ate it." Later he noted, "Man speaking German, same story. 'Tell them in England, Starving, bellies extended. Hunger.'"

Without official papers he had to leave the train at the Russian-Ukrainian border and sneak across. He stopped off in villages along the way, talking to the inhabitants and sleeping on the bug-infested floors of their homes.

In his diaries he wrote:

"Everywhere I talked to peasants who walked past – they all had the same story:

'There is no bread – we haven't had bread for over two months – a lot are dying.'

"The first village had no more potatoes left and the store of beetroots was running out. They all said 'The cattle are dying. Nothing to feed them.'

"Then I caught up with a bearded peasant who was walking along. His feet were covered with sacking. We started talking. He spoke in Ukrainian Russian. [sic] I gave him [a] lump of bread and of cheese. [He said:] 'You could not buy that anywhere for 20 roubles. There just is no food.'

"We walked along and talked [he told me]: 'Before the war this was all gold. We had horses and cows and pigs and chickens. Now we are ruined. [We are] (the living dead). Before the war we could have boots and meat and butter. We were the richest country in the world for grain. We fed the world. Now they have taken all away from us. Now people steal much more. Four days ago, they stole my horse. A horse is better than a tractor. A tractor goes and stops, but a horse goes all the time. A tractor cannot give manure, but a horse can.'

"He took me along to his cottage. His daughter and three little children [were there]. Two of the smaller children were swollen. 'If you had come before the Revolution we would have given you chicken and eggs and milk and fine bread. Now we have no bread in the house. They are killing us. People are dying of hunger.'

"There was in the hut a spindle, and



Russ Chelak

Nigel Colley at the United Nations.

the daughter showed me how to make thread. The peasant showed me his shirt, which was home-made, and some fine sacking, which had been home-made. [He explained] 'But the Bolsheviks are crushing that. They won't take it. They want the factory to make everything.' The peasant then ate some very thin soup with a scrap of potato. No bread in house.

The white bread [Gareth's] they thought was wonderful."

In Kharkiv, he noted in his diary:

"Queues for bread. Erika [from the German Consulate] and I walked along about a hundred ragged pale people. Militiaman came out of shop whose windows had been battered in and were covered with wood and said: 'There is no bread' and 'There will be no bread today.' Shouts from angry peasants also there. 'But citizens, there is no bread.' 'How long here?' I asked a man. 'Two days.' They would not go away but remained. [because] sometimes the cart came with bread. Waiting with forlorn hope."

On March 29, 1933, Gareth exposed the Holodomor at a press conference in Berlin. However, within 24 hours he was personally denigrated by the then world's highest paid correspondent at that time, Pulitzer prize winner Walter Duranty in an article in The New York Times headlined "Russians hungry but not starving."

We know that this was intentional and wilfully misleading of the American public. The U.S. Embassy in Berlin reported to the U.S. State Department that in discussions with Duranty he admitted that The New York Times had entered into an

agreement with Moscow to publish only the official Moscow party line.

Duranty made his outrageous and prompt rebuttal to Gareth's press release stating: "Since I talked with Mr. Jones I have made exhaustive inquiries about this alleged famine situation. ... There is serious food shortage throughout the country with occasional cases of well-managed state or collective farms. The big cities and the army are adequately supplied with food. There is no actual starvation or death from starvation, but there is widespread mortality from diseases due to malnutrition..."

He went on to explain the Soviet determination for the five-year plan to succeed; "But – to put it brutally – you can't make an omelette without breaking eggs."

Gareth had embarrassed both the Americans and the Soviets who were engaged in delicate negotiations towards establishing diplomatic recognition between the two countries. His reward was to be banished from the international journalistic scene for more than a year.

On the opposite end, Duranty wrote that Maxim Litvinov, the Soviet commissar of foreign affairs, was going home to Moscow with a "pretty fat turkey for Thanksgiving."

On November 16, 1933, some eight months after Gareth's revelations, Litvinov, whom Gareth had privately interviewed in March 1933, managed to secure American diplomatic recognition of the USSR. He also banned Gareth from returning to the Soviet Union.

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## NEWS AND VIEWS: The Germans' house of cards

by John Demjanjuk Jr.

The Munich prosecution of my father, John Demjanjuk, is collaborating with and shielding known German citizens from prosecution when evidence exists that they directly participated in murder. As part of their strategy, members of the prosecution team went to Holland and advertised in Jewish circles to actively recruit Jewish survivors and victims' families to join them as "Nebenkläger," or co-plaintiffs, with the hope that filling the courtroom gallery with the emotion of the Holocaust will cause the judges to ignore their lack of evidence.

Of course, none of the Nebenkläger

can provide direct evidence regarding John Demjanjuk as no Sobibor survivor has ever recognized him as someone they remember. Nevertheless, the Munich prosecutor brings them to court to sit on the same side with those German citizens who should be prosecuted for murder.

Instead of looking in their Nazi backyard, consistent with their past failure to try German Nazi war criminals, they instead go 7,000 miles to bring to trial a sick and dying Ukrainian POW on a weak accessory charge that is going to collapse. Germany has acquitted the Germans who ran Sobibor, they have excused their past as mistakes not to be repeated now.

The fact is that Germany today is still covering up for its own citizens in order to prosecute a Ukrainian POW for the deeds of the Germans.

Some of the media appear blinded by the emotional subject matter of the Munich proceedings. They have written that my father has admitted being in Sobibor or has neither confirmed nor denied the allegations. In fact, throughout the past 30 years of legal proceedings he has consistently denied, and continues to deny through his attorney, any allegations regarding participation in the Holocaust. It remains the prosecutor's burden to once again try and prove otherwise. As the world knows, he was acquitted in the first

criminal proceeding held in Israel.

His defense attorney in Germany, Dr. Ulrich Busch, has urged that the case be closed in opening motions and, in making multi-layered arguments for dismissing the case also referred to evidence of POW "Trawniki" being coerced into service by fear of death, as were the Jewish death camp workers. Some have condemned the comparison of a POW Trawniki to a Jewish death camp worker. They are ignorant of the case files that support Dr. Busch's arguments and hold information from investigations conducted over the last 60 years. The comparison is not legal

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## Physician fights...

(Continued from page 1)

Berezovskyi said. "They know how to count money, but they don't like to earn it with their hands or brains. And they're systematically destroying all the city's historic monuments."

Dr. Berezovskyi's battle with real estate raiders is among hundreds of conflicts that unfolded during the anarchic Orange era in which Kyiv developers, eager to earn a big profit from downtown construction, have brazenly ignored the law and launched projects without any permits.

The most recent episode in Dr. Berezovskyi's five-year battle was on December 15, while he attended a court trial in which he stands accused by a 28-year-old guard of injuring him in a February 2008 assault. Dr. Berezovskyi was 75 years old at the time, himself beaten and hospitalized from that incident.

"Defending the right of your own land, a political matter, is being treated as hooliganism, an absolutely criminal matter," said Dr. Olha Bohomolets, the daughter of Dr. Berezovskyi (who took the surname of her great-grandfather, for whom the Bohomolets Institute of Physiology is named). "That's the next sign of what's taking place in the country."

The Oleksandrivska Hospital is among the landmarks on the city's register of historic structures, built in 1875 after the City Council asked all of Kyiv's residents to donate for the construction of a central hospital.

Situated a few hundred meters south of the Bessarabian Market, the hospital was named in honor of Russian Tsar Aleksandr II. Dr. Mykola Strazhesko made medical history there when diagnosing the first myocardial infarction without any electric equipment in 1938, Dr. Berezovskyi said.

The hospital is important to him on a personal level as well, "I conducted all medical internship in this hospital and it's where I learned to be a doctor." He spent more than a half century performing lung and liver research at the neighboring Bohomolets Institute.

Dr. Berezovskyi said his struggle isn't only about history or nostalgia, but defending the law. The real estate developers have no permits to build on the site and have broken numerous laws in the construction they've already done.

Laws are in place to ensure a clean environment for the hospital's 600-plus patients, including a requirement of 25 square feet meters (269 square feet) of green space per patient.

Yet on December 1, 2007, Dr. Berezovskyi was shocked to find that 228 poplar and acacia trees were torn from the hospital's green space.

The construction company cut and hauled the trees the prior evening, on a Friday when government and civil service workers typically leave their offices early for the weekend.

"When they cut these trees, they created the possibility of shutting down the hospital because it no longer had the green space required for hospitals," he said. "We learned they didn't have the right to do it when we went to the city's forest administration. But they paid a meager, formal fine and brought their equipment to dig and build."

Recognizing the severe threat posed, Dr. Berezovskyi began mobilizing protests involving staff members and local residents immediately after the trees were cut. He soon had his first brutal encounter with the black-jacketed brigades of private enforcers hired by the real estate developers.

A guard gave him a shove to the chest that sent him flying into a pile of rocks, upon which he bumped his head and suffered a concussion. He was taken to a

hospital by paramedics, yet didn't stay the night because he was compelled to return to defend the hospital lands.

"I helped the partisans in the woods near Bila Tserkva, taking food to them when I was a boy growing up," said Dr. Berezovskyi, who was nine years old when the Nazis reached the Kyiv Oblast. "I remember what you need to do and I don't fear them."

Undeterred, Dr. Berezovskyi gathered more than 5,000 signatures against the construction. He organized a 24-hour patrol to ensure the developers wouldn't enter the site with their vehicles. The defenders re-installed a metal fence that the developers tore down earlier. They put their lives on the line.

"We didn't allow the transport by lying under their wheels," he said. "Many of our people suffered traumas."

Dr. Berezovskyi eventually confirmed that two-thirds of the hospital's 13 hectares (32 acres) were illegally given to three real estate developers in exchange for handsome bribes. The hospital's land is owned by the Kyiv City Council, easing the illegal transfers.

The first two land plots, located at the bottom of the slope upon that the hospital sits, were secretly given in 2002 to two developers, among them the notorious Elita-Center crew which fled Ukraine after ripping off hundreds of millions of dollars from investors in a residential project gone bust.

The land plot at the top of the slope, where the 228 trees were cut, was given secretly in 2003 to Ivan Kurovskyi, a national deputy of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

Mr. Kurovskyi happens to be the "kum" (parent of a godchild) of the Oleksandrivska Hospital's former director, Valerii Bidnyi, who accepted a post to become the Kyiv City Council's deputy chair of medical issues in 1996.

"He went to work for [former Kyiv Mayor Oleksander] Omelchenko to trade land, including the land of his own hospital," he said of Mr. Bidnyi, who took a position as assistant health minister in 2006.

"Bidnyi was the intermediary who made all the documents. They're written in such a way that experts confirmed they're legally worthless. Yet the Kyiv City Council allowed for [the illegal sale] based on these documents."

Dr. Berezovskyi's second beating was on February 21, 2008, yet in Ukraine's legal nihilism, Mr. Kurovskyi's black-jacket thugs are prosecuting him for assault. The court recently heard tenuous testimony from a construction worker who wasn't even present.

By then, Mr. Kurovskyi had waged an intimidation campaign against Dr. Berezovskyi as his lawyers called him at 3 a.m., waking him with questions.

They informed him they were suing for 280,000 hrv (\$56,000 at the time) in losses resulting from the demonstrations he organized, putting his car and apartment under arrest. Three court hearings dismissed the claims.

The most recent attack occurred on November 27, 2008, when the black-jacketed guards pulled Dr. Berezovskyi from his car as he was manning the defenders' 6:30 a.m. shift. Video evidence revealed Pechersk district police standing by, one officer even laughing, as the guards brigades beat Dr. Berezovskyi and choked his colleague.

"They broke my father's hand in front of my eyes and I heard how his bones were crushed," said Dr. Bohomolets, his daughter. "That's exceptionally difficult."

The same day, Dr. Berezovskyi filed a complaint with main police administration against Pechersk District Chief Serhii Holubenko and Maj. Volodymyr Sotskyi, who did nothing to protect citizens and their constitutional rights.

The city police office sent the complaint for review to the Pechersk district chief, of all people, who replied that he saw no police misconduct in the incident. Prosecutors overturned that decision in February of this year yet the complaint remains buried in Ukraine's notorious bureaucracy.

"The powerful builders association in Kyiv has a powerful influence on the courts, but no less influence on the police as well," said Dr. Berezovskyi, who has suffered two concussions and a broken arm, among five injuries sustained in his battles.

He's also taken the fight to the courts, launching appeals in 2007. "But the builders have more money than us," he said. "That's why people are afraid to pursue legal action, because our court organs are a horrible torment. You need to spend a lot of money and worry about being assaulted somewhere at night."

Detractors claim that Dr. Bohomolets is protesting the construction because she wants to build her own clinic at the site. She rents five rooms downtown for her dermatology clinic. She dismisses the accusations.

"It's impossible for some people to believe that I simply want to do it to preserve the memory of my forefather," Dr. Bohomolets said, referring to her great-

grandfather Oleksander Bohomolets, the legendary medical researcher who founded in 1931 Kyiv's Institute of Experimental Biology and Pathology and Institute of Clinical Physiology, located next to the hospital.

Their cause is about defending the city's inherited historical wealth from crass politicians and real estate developers, who have no appreciation the city's rich history, they said.

Former Mayor Omelchenko grew up in a Kyiv Oblast village and based politics strictly on payments and bribes, Dr. Berezovskyi said. Meanwhile the current mayor, Leonid Chernovetskyi, has extended that policy, enabling real estate developers to ruin the city's historical architecture.

The historic Oleksandrivska Hospital survived the Bolshevik Revolution (when it was renamed the October Hospital) and the Nazi invasion, but now faces its greatest threat from the anarchy of Ukraine's Orange era.

"These are signs of degradation in society, when a sickness in the government ruins the psychology of its leaders to the extent they begin to pressure and injure other people, their right to life, and their private property rights," Dr. Bohomolets said "This has already begun in Ukraine today."

## Candidate profile...

(Continued from page 3)

minister, political observers said. His second term was preoccupied with forming a constitutional majority in the Verkhovna Rada of 300 votes, which would have given him enough power to override all presidential vetoes and rendered President Viktor Yushchenko impotent. This attempt, which involved buying deputies from the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, led to the demise of his prime ministership when President Yushchenko dismissed Parliament, claiming defecting deputies were violating the Constitution of Ukraine.

### 2010 CAMPAIGN

**Official economic policy:** Mr. Yanukovych's 2010 presidential campaign is based on simple, populist economic policies, most notably the effort to increase government wages and pensions. The Party of Regions led Parliament in October in approving wage and pension increases which were supposed to take effect November 1, but Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko has ignored the amendment passed to the 2009 budget. In response, Mr. Yanukovych vowed that his first move if elected president would be to implement the wage and pension increases as outlined in the approved legislation. Other populist economic proposals include aligning pensions with an improved minimum living standard, canceling taxation for small business during the next five years and guaranteeing jobs to all college graduates – promises that are highly unlikely to be fulfilled, observers said.

**De facto economic policy:** Mr. Yanukovych's primary economic goal is to enhance the power and wealth of the Donbas industrial elite, led by Mr. Akhmetov and the Kliuyev brothers, observers said. Just as Mr. Akhmetov and his clan control most aspects of life in the Donbas region, they would like to see that power projected on a national scale, said Ivan Lozowy, a Kyiv political observer. "Under President Yanukovych, we would see attempts to subsume other financial industrial groupings under the Donetsk group, and reprivatization and privatization of enterprises into Akhmetov's hands," he said. Mr. Yanukovych also has to satisfy other eastern and southern Ukraine oligarchs who provide significant support for the Party

of Regions, such as Motor Sich Chairman Viacheslav Bohuslayev, whose automotive and aircraft parts business is highly integrated with Russia.

**Social policies:** Mr. Yanukovych has no evident policy on health care reform, and virtually no ideas on reforming or restructuring the nation's system of education and academia, observers said. Mr. Yanukovych's most popular social policy has been his repeated vow to make Russian an official state language in Ukraine, which would require 300 votes in Parliament to amend the Ukrainian Constitution. Among his populist slogans is boosting Ukraine's population to 50 million from the current 46 million, without detailing how. Mr. Yanukovych favors a Putinist interpretation of history that libels and slanders the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) as Nazi collaborators rather than freedom fighters. Stepan Bandera isn't a Ukrainian hero and doesn't deserve Hero of Ukraine status, in his view. Mr. Yanukovych supports a positive historical interpretation of Ukraine's Soviet experience and opposes removing Soviet-era monuments. The Holodomor of 1932-1933 was not genocide, in Mr. Yanukovych's view. Regarding education, he would make standardized college entrance exams optional for university admissions, as well as introduce a Russian-language option for the exams.

**Foreign policy:** Economic and military integration with the Russian Federation is Mr. Yanukovych's top foreign policy goal. Mr. Yanukovych led the Party of Regions in July 2005 in signing a Memorandum on Cooperation and Interaction with the United Russia party founded by Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. Mr. Yanukovych has spoken at United Russia events in Russia numerous times in recent years. He supports Ukraine joining Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan in forming the Single Economic Space. Those three countries expect to form their economic union by 2012. Mr. Yanukovych said he supports Ukraine's integration into the European Union, possibly for campaign rhetoric. Yet the Party of Regions never expressed interest in fulfilling the Copenhagen criteria required for EU integration and never joined with a party in the European Parliament, said Dr. Taras Kuzio, professor at Carleton University in Ottawa. Mr. Yanukovych opposes Ukraine's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.



## Organization for the Defense of Lemko Western Ukraine holds convention

PASSAIC, N.J. – The Ukrainian Center here was decorated festively on November 7 in preparation for the 28th national convention of the Organization for the Defense of Lemko Western Ukraine Inc. (known by its Ukrainian-based acronym OOL).

The stage was adorned with a coat-of-arms bearing a trident and oak leaves, symbolizing the might, strength and invincibility of the Lemkos. A portrait of the distinguished Ukrainian poet Bohdan-Ihor Antonych was set on the presidium's table, given that the conclave was dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the birth of this great son of Lemkivschyna.

The president of the OOL national board, Zenon Halkowycz, commenced the convention. He greeted the delegates and guests, and suggested a moment of silence to honor the memory of Julian Kotlar, a former president of the national board, as well as other members of OOL who recently passed away.

The honor of leading the convention then fell to the presidium, comprising Marie Duplak, Zenon Wojtowych (vice-chair, Bohdan Kikta (secretary) and Steven Howansky (member). Members were selected for the convention's verification, resolution, and nominating committees.

As president, Mr. Halkowycz, reported on the state of affairs within each branch, about the achievements of the OOL during the previous report period, and about the possibilities for developing the organization in the future. Mr. Halkowycz's report was supplemented by the reports of board members and the presidents of the organization's branches.

During the discussion of reports, delegates made suggestions about financial and organizational issues, including: the dis-



Participants of 28th National Convention of the Organization for the Defense of Lemko Western Ukraine.

semination of holiday cards, preparations for Christmas caroling (this is the main source of revenue for the organization's relief fund), attracting new Ukrainian immigrants to the organization, the Ukrainian Lemko museum in Stamford, Conn., increasing the participation of Lemkos in organizing Christmas Eve dinners, and publication of English-language materials regarding the history and culture of the Lemko region.

The question of publishing the OOL's magazine, Lemkivschyna, received particular attention. For 30 years the magazine has inhabited a unique place in the lives of Ukrainian Lemkos, whose fate has forced

them to become immigrants and to search in foreign worlds for a better future for themselves and their families. Within this magazine they have been able to find information about current affairs, art, memoirs, the bulletin of World Federation of Ukrainian Lemko Organizations, organizational news and reviews. Thanks to the tireless work of Ms. Duplak, the magazine is popular around the world. The magazine is also read with pleasure in Ukrainian schools in Ukraine and Poland.

The delegates enthusiastically welcomed the creation of a website devoted to Lemkivschyna and Lemkos. The development of this website was possible thanks to the efforts of a group of OOL members under the direction of Mr. Howansky and like-minded colleagues. The committee members included: Andriy Khomyk, Diana and Lena Howansky, Mr. Halkowycz, and Ms. Duplak.

The website includes information about the history and culture, towns and villages, and the famous as well as lesser-known people who have made Lemkivschyna known around the world. This archive of national memory is located at <http://www.lemko-ool.com>.

The delegates also spoke about the need to conduct research among their native people, so that Lemkos can share the yellowing, historical pictures from their grandmothers' keepsake boxes, so that a chronicle of their lives remains available to their grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and future generations for years to come.

The so-called question of "self-identification" was also specifically raised for discussion. The deputies confirmed their stand against the efforts of certain pro-Russian separatists to designate the Lemkos as a separate nation of Rusyns in order to attack the unity of Ukraine, and maintained that the name "Rusyn" is tied to Lemkos in the same way that it is to every other Ukrainian. "We are, first and foremost, Ukrainians, and then Lemkos," the delegates stated in solidarity concerning their readiness to rebuff the separatist movement in the Zakarpattia region and with regard to all matters relating to the defense of Lemkos and Lemkivschyna.

Later, the delegates elected members of OOL National Board. The following people were elected for a 3-year term: President Zenon Halkowycz; First Vice-President and Museum Administrator Steven Howansky; Second Vice-President Ivan Fil; Secretary Thomas Puz; Treasurer Stefan Kosciolk; Marie Duplak, external relations; Vasyl Harhaj, organizational; Ivan Zavada, social welfare; Andriy Khomyk, cultural-educational; Diana Howansky, press; Petro Wislocki, economic issues; National Auditing Commission members are: Stefan

Kapitula (chair) Pavlo Hyra and Bohdan Kikta. National Arbitration Committee members are: Petro Rusynko (chair), Stefan Maliniak and Ivan Wasiczko.

The National Convention's resolutions covered a variety of issues and concerns.

"In the 62nd year after the deportation operations and the completion of Akcja Wisla," read the first resolution, "the National Convention demands from the government of Poland: The complete rehabilitation of the Ukrainian people of Lemkivschyna and all of the Zakerzonnia region who were the victims of the inhumane policies of the authorities of 1944-1947; the return of the Ukrainians' churches and other communal properties (such as Ukrainian national homes) in Lemkivschyna and other Ukrainian lands; the teaching of Ukrainian languages in those Polish schools where there is an appropriate number of children of Ukrainian descent.

The national convention also appealed to the President and Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to defend the rights of the Ukrainian minority in Poland and to define the status of those deported from the Ukrainian lands of Poland in 1944-1947.

Noted among the ongoing priorities of the OOL were: assistance to Ukrainian churches, civic organizations, schools, and individuals who require it; the re-establishment and strengthening of declining branches of OOL; and support for the development of the Ukrainian Lemko Museum in Stamford.

Present at the national convention were representatives of numerous diaspora organizations and dignitaries, among them Ukraine's Consul General Serhiy Pohoreltsev of New York; Stefan Hladyk, president of the Union of Lemkos; Tamara Gallo-Olexy, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA); Kvitka Semanyshyn, vice-president of the Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics; Michael Koziupa, president of the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine; and Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Archeparchy of Philadelphia.

At the end of the convention, President Halkowycz thanked all of those present for their active cooperation. An inspired rendition of the Ukrainian national anthem marked the conclusion of the convention.

In the evening, in honor of the 28th national convention, the participants and guests gathered as a large Lemko family for a banquet in the festively decorated hall of the Ukrainian Center. Adding to the solemnity of the affair was the attendance of highly-esteemed guests, including the Bishop Paul Patrick Chomnycky,

(Continued on page 26)

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## Ukrainian American Youth Association holds national plenum

by Oxana Bartkiv

NEW YORK – As 2009 draws to an end, so do the 60th anniversary celebrations of the Ukrainian American Youth Association. Throughout the year the UAYA has celebrated this anniversary in many ways; among the festivities have been a national plenum in Chicago, and a banquet and “Zdvih” in Ellenville, N.Y.

In addition UAYA members came together once more to celebrate the 60th anniversary of their organization and the 60th anniversary of the Mykola Pavlushkov Branch in Chicago at a banquet held at the Ukrainian Culture Center on November 14.

As UAYA President Andriy Bihun took his place behind the podium in the auditorium of the UAYA building in Chicago, 78 delegates joined hands in welcome. Members of the national executive were present, along with representatives of nearly every branch in America. Everyone listened tentatively as Mr. Bihun reported on the accomplishments of UAYA nationwide since the last major gathering in 2008.

At the start of the plenary sessions, the head of the organization’s Educational Council, Maria Polishchuk, presented the delegates with a list of discussions that would be held. The discussions centered on the organization’s teenage membership (“starshe yunatstvo”) and methods for engaging and meeting the needs of these up-and-coming members. Topics included present-day Ukraine, how to convince UAYA members to help their community and Ukraine’s vast culture.

In the second part of the day, Ihor Diaczun spoke about the Wilderness (Mandrivnyi) Camp that will be held for UAYA teens during the summer of 2010. He gave details about the the camp, which will begin at UAYA’s Khortytsia campground in Cleveland before traveling to West Virginia.

On Sunday, Lesya Harhaj and Jurij Symchyk spoke about UAYA’s adult membership, known as “Druzhynnyky.” They described what had been accomplished throughout the year and what was planned for the upcoming one. A discussion followed on the problems faced by the new generation of membership. The schedule of future leadership camps was discussed at length, along with how to better prepare UAYA youth for their role as Druzhynnyky.

One of the most anticipated events of the weekend was the jubilee banquet in celebration of the 60th anniversary of Chicago branch that was held in the hall of the Ukrainian Cultural Center.

Masters of ceremonies Pavlo Kulas and Irena Overko-Chernyuk greeted the



Victoria Kavka

Participants of the Ukrainian American Youth Association’s National Plenum.

audience and asked the president of the branch, Yaroslava Abramiuk, to welcome attendees. What followed was one of the most interesting and exciting parts of the evening, a performance by the local UAYA youth. First, the youngest children marched in and gave an outstanding performance. Older members added to the stunning presentation by marching in after them, with a drum corps and flag-bearers flags.

Chrystya Wereszczak then rose to recite the roster all of the former presidents of the national executive, followed by a similar accounting of presidents of the Chicago branch. A moment of silence allowed those present to give their respects to leaders who have passed away. Mr. Bihun, president of the National Executive greeted everyone, while Andrij Luczak-Glubisz of the Chicago Branch spoke passionately about his feelings for the organization that helped form the person that he is today.

Afterwards more than 400 guests had the opportunity to view a video montage of the history of the Mykola Pavlushkov Branch produced by Roman Pylypchak and Stefan Pylypchak.

During the dinner, the hosts introduced honored guests who had arrived for the jubilee, and greetings from various Ukrainian organizations and from individuals were read. Donations were generously awarded from the national board of the Women’s Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms of Ukraine, as well as from the Heritage Foundation. Roman Zavadovych, a representative of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, presented the branch with plaque commemorating the 60th Anniversary.



Chicago UAYA members march at the banquet.



UAYA Chicago branch President Yaroslava Abramiuk accepts a plaque from Plast representative Roman Zavadovych.



Keynote speaker Andriy Luczak-Glubisz.



UAYA President Andriy Bihun gives his report at the plenum.



Chicago youths perform at the banquet.



## Pinchuk Foundation announces prize in support of new generation of artists

KYIV – The Victor Pinchuk Foundation on December 8 announced the inauguration of the Future Generation Art Prize, a major new international competition for artists up to age 35.

Established to discover and provide long-term support for a generation of emerging artists wherever they may live and work, this unique artist-focused prize aims to make a major contribution toward the production of new work by young artists.

The biennial prize is distinguished by: its global dimension; its focus on a young generation of artists; its open and democratic Internet application process; the long-term commitment of leading artists; and a distinguished board, jury and selection committee.

Shortlisted artists will have their works exhibit at the PinchukArtCentre in Kyiv, one of the largest and most active new contemporary art institutions in Europe. The winner of the Future Generation Art Prize will receive an award of \$100,000 – \$60,000 as a cash prize and \$40,000 toward the production of new work.

Applications for the prize will become available online on January 18, 2010, on the competition's website, [www.future-generationartprize.org](http://www.future-generationartprize.org), and may be submitted through April 18, 2010. The exhibition of as many as 20 shortlisted artists will open at the PinchukArtCentre (PAC) in October 2010; the jury will announce the winner of the main prize in December 2010. In addition, there will be up to five special prizes for artists who will be provided with various forms of support.

According to Victor Pinchuk, "This worldwide contemporary art prize will be an important contribution to the open participation of younger artists in the dynamic cultural development of societies in global transition."

To encourage the assistance of one generation of artists to the next, a group of renowned Mentor Artists has committed to long-term participation in the project and will provide in-person counsel and support to prize winners. One of the Mentor Artists will have a parallel show at the same time as the shortlisted artists. The Mentor Artists are Andreas Gursky, Damien Hirst, Jeff Koons and Takashi Murakami.

A distinguished international Board oversees the Future Generation Art Prize. In addition to Chairman Pinchuk and the four Mentor Artists, the board's members are: Eli Broad, Dakis Joannou, Elton John, Miuccia Prada and art museum directors Richard Armstrong (Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation and Museum), Glenn D. Lowry (The Museum of Modern Art), Alfred Pacquement (Musée Nationale d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou) and Nicholas Serota (Tate).

An invited group of approximately 100 arts professionals from around the world will nominate artists for consideration. By combining the open application process with these nominations, PAC aspires to achieve the participation of a true global cross-section of the under-35 generation.

The Victor Pinchuk Foundation was established in 2006 by Mr. Pinchuk, a Ukrainian businessman and public figure. It is the largest international, private, non-partisan, philanthropic foundation based in Ukraine. Its goal is to empower future generations to become the change-makers of tomorrow. To achieve this goal, the Foundation develops projects, builds partnerships in Ukraine and worldwide, and invests in people, to boost human capital; in society, to promote social responsibility; and in the world, to foster a more inte-

grated world.

Located in the historic architectural complex of Kyiv's Besarabska quarter, which has undergone a major renovation in the past decade, the six-story, 43,000-square-foot PAC opened in September 2006 as one of the largest contemporary art institutions in Europe. Dedicated to presenting exhibitions by leading Ukrainian and international artists, PAC to date has presented solo exhibitions of artists including Damien Hirst and Sam Taylor-Wood, and group exhibitions such as "21 Russia" (works created

by 21 Russian artists during the first years of the 21st century), "Reflection" (a group exhibition with a selection of international artists), and "Red Forest" (works by seminal Ukrainian artists of the 1990s, shown in an exhibition named after a wooded area adjacent to the Chernobyl nuclear station).

PAC was also responsible for presenting the Ukrainian Pavilion at the Venice Biennale in 2007 and 2009, and in 2005 it exhibited the first acquisitions of the Victor Pinchuk Foundation at the Venice Biennale.

## Medvedev submits...

(Continued from page 3)

sive]. The conference shall be deemed legally constituted if at least two-thirds of all treaty participants attend this forum. The conference shall operate under its own rules of procedure. Its decisions shall be "taken by consensus and binding" (Article 6).

A treaty participant that has been the object of an armed attack or is threatened with such an attack can call for an "extraordinary conference, to be held immediately for determining the necessary collective measures." The extraordinary conference shall also operate under its own rules of procedure. This forum shall be deemed legally constituted if at least four or five treaty participants [the number seems negotiable in the draft] attend. The extraordinary conference's decisions shall be "taken by unanimity and binding" (Article 8).

Articles 5, 6, and 8 of the draft treaty would wreak havoc on NATO's own decision-making processes and its procedures by grouping allied countries with Russia and its loyalists in some ad-hoc, unpredictable, arbitrarily created forums. This would result in parallel structures and potentially conflicting decisions. These articles are a prescription for chaos in NATO and instability in the NATO area and neighborhood.

By seeking to promote such fragmentation, President Medvedev's draft unwittingly exposes the real meaning of Russia's concept of "indivisible Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security." That concept is intended to justify Russia's intrusion into NATO's decision-making processes while at the same time maintaining a Russian-led Eurasian bloc and potential sphere of influence.

Moreover, Article 8 seems custom-made for Russia to initiate or threaten military action under a CSTO flag of convenience. This is why Mr. Medvedev wants to empower an "extraordinary conference" of even "four or five" countries to authorize collective defense measures against an attack or threat of attack on a member-country. Moscow would be delighted to receive a stamp of approval for CSTO-flagged actions from a NATO-approved forum, in the unlikely event that NATO accepts Mr. Medvedev's proposal.

Under Mr. Medvedev's Article 7, "A treaty participant is entitled to regard an

armed attack on another participant as an attack on itself;" and "it has the right to provide the necessary assistance, including military, before such time as the United Nations Security Council takes the necessary measures."

The implications are at least threefold. First, this procedure can justify a purely unilateral Russian military intervention, outside the CSTO's nominal umbrella. Secondly, such intervention could preempt a decision by the "extraordinary conference" envisaged in Article 8. Thus, Moscow claims a right to having its cake and eating it too, in terms of military intervention. And, thirdly, Moscow would breezily bypass the U.N. Security Council, even as it wants to hold the United States and others accountable to that same body.

Under the draft treaty's Article 9, "Treaty participants confirm that their obligations, stemming from other international security agreements, do not contradict the present treaty. The treaty participants shall not undertake international obligations incompatible with the present treaty."

This formulation reverses entirely the standard clause whereby signatories to a new treaty declare that it does not prejudice their pre-existing commitments. Instead, Russia would stipulate that previous obligations should not contradict the new treaty. Thus, the Medvedev-proposed treaty would supersede NATO commitments – presumably including even the crucial Article Five – in Moscow's interpretation. And it would also preclude future decisions that Moscow would deem "incompatible" with Medvedev's treaty.

Medvedev's draft treaty focuses overwhelmingly on issues of process and procedure, rather than substance. As such, it seeks to disorganize and fragment the NATO alliance, insert Moscow into NATO's decision-making arrangements, and build a Russian sphere of predominant influence at the same time. All this could be seen as carrying NATO's passive consent, if President Medvedev's document gains acceptance even as a basis for further discussions between Russia and NATO.

*The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, [www.jamestown.org](http://www.jamestown.org). (It originally appeared in two parts.)*

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# Soprano Stefania Dovhan debuts at New York City Opera

by Helen Smindak

NEW YORK – As a child just old enough to speak, Stefania Dovhan liked to make believe she was an opera singer. Mimicking performing artists, she whiled away many hours singing and dancing at her grandmother's home in Mukachiv in Ukraine's Zakarpattia region.

Fantasy became reality last month, when the Kyiv-born soprano made her New York and New York City Opera debuts in one role, that of Donna Anna, in Mozart's "Don Giovanni." The opera tells the story of the legendary Spanish lover and rake whose relentless pursuit of the ladies and insolent conduct eventually result in the dramatic punishment he deserves.

The part of Donna Anna calls for a solemn demeanor, for a characterization embodying the deep sadness of a young woman grieving for her murdered father, Don Pedro, the commendatore of Seville. Donna Anna declares she loves her fiancé, Don Ottavio, but until Don Giovanni is punished for her father's murder, she cannot think of marrying Ottavio.

Donna Anna grieves not only for her father, but also for herself, the latest victim of Don Giovanni's debauchery. Giovanni entered her room at night and ravished her; as she ran after him, screaming, trying to catch a look at his face, her father ran out to help and was mortally wounded by Giovanni's sword.

Ms. Dovhan's portrayal of Donna Anna received praise from The New York Times' critic Anthony Tomassini, who described her voice as "bright and clear." James Jordan of the New York Post, noting that the renovated hall [at Lincoln Center] still tends to muffle men's voices but allows the higher soprano tones to ring out brilliantly, said that Ms. Dovhan's voice sounded clean and true.

Ms. Dovhan has the distinction of being part of a young and appealing cast in a revised version of "Don Giovanni" that is described as dark, erotic and vividly theatrical. This contemporary production of a standard repertory work, directed by Christopher Alden, was the New York City Opera's first presentation after a year's hiatus for renovation and reorganization.

With her first NYCO stint, Ms. Dovhan joined the ranks of Ukrainian singers who have performed at the City Opera – sopranos Oksana Krovych, Mary Lesawyer, Marta Kokolska-Musijchuk and Anna Shafajinskaia, baritone George Bohachevsky, basses Stefan Szkafarowsky and Sergei Zadornyy, and tenor Vladimir Grishko.

The list could probably be amended to include Canadian bass-baritone Daniel Okulitch, who sang the title role in "Don Giovanni." Mr. Okulitch, who happened to drop by Ms. Dovhan's dressing room when this writer was visiting her after a performance, explained that his Slavic-sounding surname came from his Russian-Ukrainian background, adding, "my grandparents were from Ukraine."

## A child at heart

Away from the stage, Ms. Dovhan

retains the youthful spirit she showed as a young girl. "I'm a child at heart," she says. But when it comes to stage performances, she is serious, dedicated to her art, intent on giving a role everything she can.

Although an intensive, five-week rehearsal period was enjoyable, she admits that before the November 8 opening of "Don Giovanni" (her first Donna Anna) she was quite nervous – "it's a huge stage, a tougher public, tougher critics."

"But after the first performance, I had absolutely no qualms about singing Anna," she commented.

Her rise from childhood fantasies to major league stardom can be attributed to innate talent, perseverance and a little bit of luck. The turning point in her career came in June at the 2009 Spoleto Festival USA, when she sang the title role in Gustave Charpentier's opera "Louise." Rarely performed in the U.S., the opera is a portrayal of the struggles and problems of working-class people in turn-of-the-century Paris.

Learning of her triumph in the role from professional friends, NYCO's director of music administration, Kevin Murphy, rushed to South Carolina to hear Ms. Dovhan and brought her to New York for an audition.

Her selection for the role of Donna Anna inspired two articles in NYCO's November Playbill. One spotlighted her reaction to debuting as Donna Anna in "Don Giovanni" – "I'm ecstatic; it's the dream of every singer. Who could ask for a better debut role than Donna Anna?"

The other, an article by Eric Myers titled "Star Search – The Quest for New Voices at New York City Opera," focused on six "Giovanni" cast members who were making their City Opera debuts, including Ms. Dovhan. Mr. Myers said she has already spent a great deal of time on the operatic stage, particularly at Theater Hagen in Germany, where she has been a resident artist since 2005.

Critics' reviews and feature articles identify her as a Ukrainian American soprano, a designation that pleases her greatly, since she is quite proud of her Ukrainian ancestry.

## Family inspired her

Ms. Dovhan credits her mother, Kateryna Dovhan-Mychajlyshyn, a college professor and conservation specialist, her grandfather Borys Dovhan, a sculptor, and grandmother Ruta, a journalist, with "playing a large part in my upbringing from the time I was 5 years old, when my parents divorced."

"My grandparents and my mom inspired me and exposed me to music and visual art from a very early age," she told me at the Ukrainian Institute of America after she gave a solo recital there during the run of "Don Giovanni." Despite a demanding program of operatic arias that concluded with the Ukrainian folk song "Oy Ne Svity Misiachenku" (Do Not Shine, O moon), she was eager to talk about her career.

The recital, her second performance at

eral court judge and yet, inexplicably, he remains here. Why isn't the Canada Border Services Agency doing its job? They have a judge's order and they know where he is.

"While we agree that Canada should give haven to real refugees," Dr. Luciuk said, "we certainly shouldn't to those who, indirectly or directly, were responsible for the enslavement and mass murder of millions of innocents between 1917-1991. What Canada's Ukrainians and many others want for Christmas, frankly, is a Canada free of the KGB."



Carol Rosegg

Daniel Okulitch as Don Giovanni, and Stefania Dovhan as Donna Anna, in "Don Giovanni," with members of the New York City Opera chorus.



Stefania Dovhan, as Donna Anna, grieves for her murdered father.

the institute – she sang there with Mr. Szkafarowsky a few years ago – was attended by a group of relatives from Boston, among them her father, sculptor Ihor Chaban, and her paternal grandmother, Maria Chaban.

Ms. Dovhan said she began voice studies at age 15 at the Baltimore School of Arts, attended the University of Maryland (College Park campus), and later studied at the Academy of Music in Augsburg, Austria, and the Staatstheater Nuremberg in Germany.

Her professional debut came with the role of Musetta in "La Boheme" at the Opera Studio in Nuremberg. An audition at Theater Hagen in 2005 earned her the position of resident artist at that institu-

tion.

Her Theater Hagen roles have included Gilda in "Rigoletto," Nedda in "Pagliacci," Cleopatra in "Giulio Cesare," Adina in "L'Elisir d'Amore" and Pamina in "Die Zauberflote." She has also appeared for Staatstheater Nuremberg, Theater Magdeburg and Staatstheater Saarbruecken.

Among numerous honors she has won are the Rosa Ponselle Competition, the Emmerich Smola Prize, the Operalia Competition and the Belvedere Competition.

As a parting thought, Ms. Dovhan said she was already preparing her next role – Violetta in "La Traviata" – to be sung at Theater Hagen in the near future.

## UCCLA to Canadian...

(Continued from page 4)

claiming a (non-existent) "right of sanctuary." Mr. Lennikov even told a reporter from The Vancouver Sun that he will spend Christmas enjoying a yuletide dinner with family and friends in the Lutheran Church where he now sits, evading Canadian authorities.

"Did Gulag prisoners have it that good?" wondered Dr. Luciuk. "Mr. Lennikov was ordered deported by a fed-

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Bank of Ukraine's (NBU) income over its  
expenditure. The president sent letters to  
the head of the NBU council, the NBU  
governor and the prime minister demand-  
ing that talks be held within five days on  
the mechanism for ensuring the proper  
use of the funds for immediate expendi-  
tures. A total of 3.123 million people have  
contracted the flu and flu-like illnesses in  
Ukraine since the outbreak of the epi-  
demic (October 29). A total of 556  
Ukrainians have died of the flu and acute  
respiratory infections from October 29 to  
December 21. (Ukrinform)

#### Flu epidemic situation worsens

KYIV— The flu epidemic has worsened  
in a number of Ukrainian regions, Ukraine's  
Health Ministry reported on December 22.  
The number of regions that exceeded the  
epidemic threshold for flu and flu-like  
illnesses has grown to 22. The number of  
such regions was 13 as of December 15.  
The epidemic threshold was exceeded in  
Crimea and the Vinnytsia, Volyn, Dnipropetrovsk,  
Donetsk, Zhytomyr, Zaporizhia, Kyiv,  
Kirovohrad, Luhansk, Mykolaiv, Odesa,  
Poltava, Rivne, Sumy, Ternopil, Kharkiv,  
Kherson, Cherkasy and Chernihiv oblasts,  
and in the cities of Sevastopol and Kyiv.  
Moreover, the Zakarpattia, Lviv,  
Khmelnitsky and Chernivtsi oblasts are  
in the zone close to the epidemic thresh-  
old. (Ukrinform)

#### Over 3,700 schools remain closed

KYIV — As of December 18, classes  
are not being held at 3,745 general educa-  
tional schools (19 percent of the country's  
schools), 1.349 million pupils are not  
studying (1.1 percent of the total contin-  
gent), the Education and Science Ministry  
reported. On instruction from local sani-  
tary and epidemiological stations and in  
compliance with decisions of local execu-  
tive power bodies, due to the outbreak of  
flu and acute respiratory infections among  
children, the educational process was sus-  
pended in some educational establish-  
ments in the Volyn, Vinnytsia,  
Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Zhytomyr,  
Zaporizhia, Kirovohrad, Kyiv, Luhansk,  
Lviv, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Poltava, Rivne,  
Sumy, Ternopil, Kharkiv, Kherson,  
Khmelnitsky, Cherkasy oblasts, Crimea  
and the city of Sevastopol. (Ukrinform)

#### Bukovel opens winter season

KYIV — The 2009-2010 winter sea-  
son has been inaugurated at the Bukovel  
tourist complex in the Ivano-Frankivsk  
region, it was reported on December 22.  
The first guests of the complex were met  
at the VIP residence — a new hotel with  
21 luxury-class apartments ranging in  
size from 52 to 86 square meters. The  
stock of Fischer and Rossignol ski equip-  
ment available for rental has been  
increased. An entertainment complex for  
450 people will also open on the New  
Year's Eve. The ski resort is located in  
the Carpathians at over 900 meters above  
sea level. This season Bukovel is plan-  
ning to host about 1 million Alpine skiers.  
(Ukrinform)

#### Over 350 trafficking victims returned

KYIV — More than 350 victims of  
human trafficking were returned to  
Ukraine in 2009, the Internal Affairs  
Ministry press service said on December  
21. In the first 11 months of this year law  
enforcement agencies registered 290 inci-  
dents of human trafficking or related  
crimes. A total of 353 human trafficking  
victims have been returned to Ukraine (45  
of them under age), and 10 organized  
crime groups involved in human traffick-  
ing have been destroyed. (Ukrinform)

#### Documents on 1968 Soviet invasion

KYIV — The State Archive of the  
Security Service of Ukraine (known by its  
Ukrainian acronym as SBU) has presented  
electronic copies of 311 documents related  
to the 1968 Soviet invasion of  
Czechoslovakia as part of its cooperation  
with the Czech Institute for the Study of  
Totalitarian Regimes and the State Security  
Archive. The documents include almost  
1,000 pages reflecting people's perception  
of the 1968 events in Ukraine and  
Czechoslovakia, the SBU said on  
December 17. The documents present  
information and special reports, as well as  
reports by the State Security Committee of  
the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic  
and the Central Committee of the  
Communist Party of the Ukrainian SSR.  
They all were declassified only recently.  
The documents also include statements  
about the events by people living in  
Ukraine and Czechoslovakia, correspon-  
dence of Ukrainians and Czechoslovaks,  
and reports on the behavior of certain indi-  
viduals. The documents reveal that official  
Soviet claims that "an overwhelming  
majority of the people approve of these  
measures by the Soviet authorities" radi-  
cally contrasted with their actual percep-  
tion by citizens of Czechoslovakia. One of  
the memos cites foreign tourists saying  
that most locals were quite hostile to the  
Soviet forces. (Interfax)

#### Book premiere blocked in Kyiv

KYIV — The presentation of a book by  
Russian opposition figure Mikhail  
Kasyanov has been blocked in Kyiv,  
RFE/RL's Ukrainian and Russian services  
reported on December 18. "Without  
Putin" was written by Mr. Kasyanov, the  
former Russian prime minister who is  
currently the leader of the opposition  
Popular Democratic Union, and promi-  
nent Russian journalist Yevgeny Kiselev.  
Mr. Kasyanov's press secretary, Yelena  
Dikun, told RFE/RL that the electricity  
went out in the Premier Palace Hotel min-  
utes before the presentation was to start.  
She said that at the same time some 20  
young men blocked the entrance to the  
hotel to keep attendees from entering.  
Ms. Dikun said more than 100 well-  
known people had been invited to the  
presentation, which was then canceled.  
Mr. Kasyanov was Russia's prime minis-  
ter in 2000-2004. (RFE/RL)

#### PACE won't call it genocide

PARIS — The Political Affairs Committee  
of the Parliamentary Assembly of the  
Council of Europe (PACE) approved  
Russian amendments to the report on the  
Great Famine of the 1930s in the former  
Soviet Union and rejected Ukrainian  
amendments, the deputy head of the  
Russian delegation to the PACE and the  
first deputy chairman of the State Duma's  
International Affairs Committee, Leonid  
Slutsky, told Interfax on December 17.  
"The amendments of Ukrainian parliamen-  
tarians, which applied the notion of geno-  
cide to Ukrainians who died in the Great  
Famine years, were rejected by the majority  
of committee members," he said. All the  
Russian amendments gained support, he  
said. "Thus, the Ukrainian attempt to use  
the tragedy to start anti-Russian rhetoric in  
the assembly failed," he commented.  
Assembly Vice-President Mevlut Cavusoglu  
(Turkey) will make a report on the Great  
Famine of the 1930s at the January session.  
He visited a number of Russian, Ukrainian,  
Belarusian and Kazakh regions in fall to  
prepare his report. The Ukrainian delega-  
tion raised the issue at PACE in April 2008.  
(Interfax)

#### Holodomor film screened in Ukraine

KYIV — A pre-premiere screening of  
"Holodomor: Ukraine's Genocide of

(Continued on page 17)



## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 16)

1932-33," a full-length documentary feature film produced in Hollywood, took place at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv with the assistance of the Ukrainian National Memory Institute, it was reported on November 27. The camera crew led by Hollywood film director Bobby Leigh, including U.S., Canadian and Ukrainian experts, worked in Ukraine and the United States in 2008-2009. The crew, along with Tomkiw Entertainment and Moksha Films, is producing a full-length documentary film about the Great Famine in Ukraine. The film was shot in the Kyiv, Cherkasy, Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Mykolaiv and Dnipropetrovsk regions – the areas hardest hit by the Holodomor. The film is based on the archives, documentary videos and photos of the 1930s, as well as stories by survivors and comments by scholars from Ukraine, the United States and Canada. The film was produced in English, using the funds collected among the Ukrainian diaspora in the United States. Film copies are later to be passed to the libraries of secondary and higher educational institutions in Ukraine and leading foreign universities. The producer of "Holodomor: Ukraine's Genocide" is Marta Tomkiw; Maya Lew is co-producer. The executive producers are Luba Keske and Nestor Popowych. Ms. Keske and Ms. Lew, assisted by Viktoriya Hubska, production coordinator from Kyiv, were in Ukraine for special screenings of the film in November. (Ukrinform, Luba Keske)

### Holodomor monument unveiled in Brazil

KYIV – The Ukrainian diaspora in Brazil has unveiled a monument to the victims of the 1932-1933 Great Famine. The memorial is in the city of Curitiba, the press service of the Culture and Tourism Ministry of Ukraine reported on December 21. (Ukrinform)

### Ukraine eighth among steel producers

KYIV – Ukraine increased its steel production by 67.1 percent in November compared to the same month in 2008, producing a total of 2.668 million tons. Ukraine is in eighth place in the ranking of the world's 66 main steel producers compiled by the World Steel Association, formerly known as the International Iron and Steel Institute. Ukraine produced 27.008 million tons of steel in the first 11 months of 2009, or 23.4 percent less than during the same period last year. (Ukrinform)

### Ukrainian House at Olympics

KYIV – During the 2010 Winter Olympic Games, a Ukrainian House will be functioning in Vancouver, British Columbia, Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada Ihor Ostash told a press conference in Lviv on December 18. He said the house would be opened at the expense of the Ukrainian community. (Ukrinform)

### Top businessmen-philanthropists named

KYIV – Kontrakty Business Weekly has released a rating of Ukraine's largest businessmen-philanthropists based on open sources and experts' estimates, it was reported on December 18. In first place is Rinat Akhmetov, president of the

Foundation For Development of Ukraine, who donated \$29 million (U.S.) to charity in 2008. Next in line is Victor Pinchuk, founder of the Victor Pinchuk Foundation (\$25.7 million); Oleksander Feldman, president of the Oleksander Feldman Foundation (\$5.9 million); Yevhen Cherniak, Zaporizhzhia Charitable Foundation (\$5 million); and Serhii Taruta (no data available). Also in the top 10 are Petro Poroshenko, Petro Pysarchuk, Petro Bahryi and Vadym Novynskyi. The No.10 spot, according to Kontrakty magazine, went to Mister X – symbolizing the businessmen who do not advertise their philanthropy. (Ukrinform)

### Prime minister is most influential

KYIV – Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko has topped a rating of "200 Most Influential Ukrainians," according to Focus magazine. Viktor Yanukovich ranks second, moving up two places from the previous year. Next is President Viktor Yushchenko. In fourth place is the co-owner of the SCM Co., Rinat Akhmetov; fifth – the founder of the East One Co., Victor Pinchuk; sixth – the co-owner of the Privat group, Igor Kolomoysky. Also in the top 10 are Vira Ulianchenko, Volodymyr Lytvyn, Leonid Chernovetskyi and Serhii Tihipko. Five candidates for president of Ukraine are in the top 10 of the most influential Ukrainians. The Party of the Regions has the most influential persons in the ranking – 32; Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense – 17; and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc – 12. There are 27 women among the list of most influential Ukrainians. (Ukrinform)

### IMF appoints new head of mission

KYIV – The International Monetary Fund reported on December 18 that Ceyla Pazarbasioglu, who currently heads the IMF mission to Ukraine, in January will take the post of an assistant director of the money and capital market department, and will be in charge of financial supervision. The IMF mission to Ukraine will be headed by Athanasios Arvanitis, currently adviser with the IMF department for Europe, and head of the IMF mission to Croatia. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine is making efforts to obtain about \$2 billion of an IMF loan before the end of the year. A government and central bank delegation was holding regular talks in Washington about securing the loan. (Ukrinform)

### Elton John will support boy

LONDON – The partner of Elton John told the news media that the 62-year-old pop star was devastated that he wasn't allowed to adopt an HIV-positive toddler from Ukraine but that he has decided to support the boy anyway. Mr. John met the 14-year-old boy named Lev at a home for HIV-positive children in September. He was refused permission to adopt the boy because he is too old and not married. Mr. John's partner, David Furnish, said on December 8 that the couple was "massively gutted" by the rejection. He told BBC radio that he and Mr. John were working to ensure that Lev and his brother "have the best health care, education and family options available to them." Messrs. John and Furnish have been in a civil union since 2005. Ukrainian law does not recognize gay unions as marriage. (Associated Press)

## CAMPAIGN WATCH

### Council of Churches releases statement

KYIV – The All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations of Ukraine (ACCROU) has called on the believers and clergymen of all confessions not to participate in political agitation on behalf of churches and religious organizations, it was reported on December 21. In a statement to the Ukrainian people on the election of the Ukrainian president, the council said: "The place for prayer and gathering of the faithful should be open to the supporters of various political forces, while the political creed should not become a drive for separation among the faithful." The council also called for everybody on whom fair and transparent elections depend – members of election commissions, politicians, judges and law enforcers – "to remember their responsibility before God and the Ukrainian people." (Ukrinform)

### Front-runners have 45% support

KYIV – Forty-five percent of Ukraine's population are ready to vote for the front-runners in the current presidential race, Viktor Yanukovich and Yulia Tymoshenko, it was reported on December 21. A month before the 2004 election, 75 percent of the population were ready to support the election race leaders. These figures were made public at a press conference on the political challenges of 2009 by Oleksander Palij, an expert with the External Policy Institute of the Diplomatic Academy of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Ukraine. He offered his opinion that this situation is due to the fact that the majority of the current presidential candidates are holding "money" campaigns. Mr. Palij pointed out that the allies of many political leaders adhere to purely mercantile principles, whereby they have certain material benefits for their support, and then desert to another political camp as soon as their leader leaves the field. There is also a great dependence on the part of the current presidential candidates on business ties, which may be broken when they transfer to opposition, the expert noted. (Ukrinform)

### 100 Canadian observers expected

KYIV – Around 100 Canadian observers will monitor the January 17, 2010, presidential election in Ukraine, Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada Ihor Ostash said on December 17. He noted that Canadian election observers would come to Ukraine from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Ambassador Ostash also said that the Ukrainian diaspora in Canada would vote at polling stations in Ottawa and Toronto. He added that up to 2,000 Ukrainians out of more than 7,000 registered at the Consulates of the Ukrainian Embassy in Canada are expected participate in the vote. (Ukrinform)

### ODIHR to closely monitor election

KYIV – Ambassador Heidi Tagliavini, the head of the election observation mission of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and Jerzy Buzek, the president of the European Parliament, on December 22 stressed their commitment to closely cooperate during the observation of Ukraine's presidential election. "We agreed that we will work together in partnership, also with other parliamentary partners, in order to provide an honest and impartial assessment of this election," said Ms. Tagliavini. Ms. Tagliavini informed Mr. Buzek about the initial findings of the ODIHR election observation mission, which has been operating in Ukraine since late November. ODIHR has deployed 77 election experts and long-term observers, based in the capital and throughout the entire country. In addition, ODIHR has requested from the OSCE participating states 600 short-term observers for election day. In line with established practice, ODIHR plans to join forces with the delegation of the European Parliament and other parliamentary partners, including the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, with the aim of developing a joint assessment of the election process. (OSCE)



## Maria Stojko née Zacharchenko

of Pompton Plains, NJ, formerly of Montville, NJ, died Friday, December 11, 2009. She was 78.

Born in the Poltava Region of Ukraine, Mrs. Stojko immigrated to the United States in August of 1951 and settled in New York City. Before moving to Pompton Plains two years ago, Mrs. Stojko had lived in Montville for 24 years. She was a parishioner of Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Clifton, N.J.

Mrs. Stojko was predeceased by her husband, John Stojko, in 2007, and her sister Dasha Hrycenko.

Survivors include her daughter Irene Huhner with her husband Kurt of New York City; and her niece Natalie Phillips with her husband Tom of Trumbull, Connecticut.

Private funeral services were held. Memorial contributions may be made to Doctors without Borders USA, PO Box 5030, Hagerstown, Maryland 21741-5030 (doctorswithoutborders.org). Arrangements were made by the Bizub-Quinlan Funeral Home, 1313 Van Houten Avenue, Clifton, NJ 07013. Please visit [www.Bizub.com](http://www.Bizub.com) for online condolences.

## DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 214**

Please be advised Branch 214 will merge with Branch 37 as of January 1, 2010. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Oksana Stanko.

Mrs. Oksana Stanko  
2200 Route 10  
P.O. BOX 280  
Parsippany, NJ 07054  
(973) 292- 9800 Ext. 3039

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 66**

Please be advised Branch 66 will merge with Branch 367 as of January 1, 2010. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Christine Dziuba.

Mrs. Christine Dziuba  
36 Cloverdale Road  
Rochester, NY 14616  
(585) 621-5230

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 178**

Please be advised Branch 178 will merge with Branch 238 as of January 1, 2010. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Stephania Majkut.

Mrs. Stephania Majkut  
51 Hartford St  
Dover, MA 02030  
(508) 785-2064

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 456**

Please be advised Branch 456 will merge with Branch 461 as of January 1, 2010. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Mr. Myron Groch.

Mr. Myron Groch  
16 Kevin Dr.  
Fonthill, ON  
Canada L0S 1E4  
(905) 892-4336

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 200**

Please be advised Branch 200 will merge with Branch 88 as of January 1, 2010. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Stephanie Hawryluk.

Mrs. Stephanie Hawryluk  
53 Michael Dr.  
P.O. BOX 174  
Cottekill, NY 12419  
(845) 687-7033

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 358**

Please be advised Branch 358 will merge with Branch 102 as of January 1, 2010. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Dr. Zenon M. Holubec.

Dr. Zenon M. Holubec  
5566 Pearl Road  
Parma, OH 44129-2541  
(440) 888-9995

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 343**

Please be advised Branch 343 will merge with Branch 316 as of January 1, 2010. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Mary Sweryda.

Mrs. Mary Sweryda  
90 Kaplan Dr.  
Rochester, NY 14617-5247  
(585) 342-2089

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 307**

Please be advised Branch 307 will merge with Branch 238 as of January 1, 2010. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Stephania Majkut.

Mrs. Stephania Majkut  
51 Hartford St  
Dover, MA 02030  
(508) 785-2064

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 37**

As of January 1, 2010, the secretary's duties of Branch 37 will be assumed by Mrs. Oksana Stanko. We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance to the address listed below:

Mrs. Oksana Stanko  
2200 Route 10  
P.O. BOX 280  
Parsippany, NJ 07054  
(973) 292- 9800 Ext. 3039

**Nigel Colley's speech...**

(Continued from page 8)

In a letter written to a friend in 1934, Gareth wrote: "Alas! You will be very amused to hear that the inoffensive little 'Joneski' has achieved the dignity of being a marked man on the black list of the OGPU and is barred from entering the Soviet Union. I hear that there is a long list of crimes which I have committed under my name in the secret police file in Moscow and, funnily enough, espionage is said to be among them. As a matter of fact Litvinoff sent a special cable from Moscow, to the Soviet Embassy in London, to tell them to make the strongest of complaints to Mr. Lloyd George about me."

Gareth was tragically murdered little more than two years later in 1935, supposedly at the hands of Chinese bandit kidnappers in Inner Mongolia, though there is much circumstantial evidence to link his murder with the Soviet secret police. The trading company he was traveling with was Wostwag, a trading front for the NKVD.

Thus, one of the very few Western witnesses of the Holodomor was effectively silenced.

Gareth's story would have ended there if it weren't for serendipity or maybe fate. Except perhaps for oblique references to Jones in a couple of George Orwell's writings, for almost 70 years his memory and role in exposing the Holodomor were forgotten, not just by the world but also by the Ukrainian diaspora.

Thanks to the interest generated in 2003, much of the world has been made aware of the true circumstances of the Holodomor, but it saddens me to report that although the world press ran the story last week, including a whole page in the London Times, conspicuous by its absence was The New York Times.

All The New York Times Pulitzer prize winners are being besmirched by the infamous acts of one rogue journalist. Isn't it time, Mr. Sulzberger, that as publisher of The Times you should do the decent thing and return Duranty's Pulitzer? You owe it to your own paper's reputation, and your readership, to live by your famous motto and publish "all the news that's fit to print."

Ladies and gentlemen: What does all this mean, today? Well, let me first take you back even further to the past. One hundred and seventy years ago, a Frenchman, Marquis de Custine, published a book detailing his travels in Russia. Among the observations was this: "Russian despotism not only pays little respect to ideas and sentiments, it will also deny facts; it will struggle against evidence, and triumph in the struggle!"

Truth, and an informed public, are the linchpin of a free society. The campaign in Russia to resurrect Stalin, to whitewash his inhuman crimes, is well under way. There are disturbing signs that his rehabilitation will not only be poorly opposed but may even be facilitated by certain media around the world.

Gareth Jones is a shining example of honest journalism, a benchmark to be aspired to by today's media. It is thanks to efforts of many around us that the Holodomor is slowly, but surely, being accepted as the apogee of Stalin's terror. I believe that Gareth was viciously murdered by the Soviet secret police. It was what the Frenchman Custine warned about, the Russian struggle against evidence. Just as decades later journalists and others who sought to uncover Moscow's crimes before a trusting world, would also be murdered.

No one is asking you to risk your lives. But do risk a little of your time and energy to uphold principle, honor and the truth, to make sure that despotism does not triumph. Thank you very much.



# SPORTSLINE

## Soccer

• Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) President Michael Platini, Polish Football Association President Grzegorz Lato and Football Federation of Ukraine President Grigoriy Surkis unveiled the official logo and slogan for the Euro-2012 soccer championships on December 14 at Kyiv's St. Michael Square. The logo is a design of two tulips – one red-and-white and the other blue-and-yellow – featuring the colors of the Polish and Ukrainian flags and a soccer ball, and the slogan is "Creating History Together."

• Shakhtar Donetsk leads Group J of the Europa League group stage with 13 points after six matches played. The team won the 2008 UEFA League Cup (now called the Europa League), and has four wins, one draw and one loss, with 14 goals for and three against. Shakhtar's group includes Brugge (Belgium), Toulouse (France) and Partizan (Serbia). The Ukrainian club lost its first match of the group stage against Partizan on December 16 in Belgrade, Serbia, after an early score by Diarra in the sixth minute on a snow-dusted field. Partizan collected four yellow cards during the tightly contested match.

• Dynamo Kyiv has been eliminated from the UEFA Champions League group stage after its loss to Barcelona (2-1) on December 9 in Kyiv. Ukraine finished in Group F in last place with five points after six matches played. Along the way, Dynamo finished with one win, two draws and three losses, with seven goals for and nine goals against. Dynamo's group included Internazionale Milano, Rubin Kazan and Barcelona.

• Andriy Shevchenko was rated 13th among the "World Players of the Decade" by British World Soccer magazine in December. In 2004 Shevchenko was awarded the Golden Ball, for being the best European soccer player of the year. The Ukrainian striker plays for his home club, Dynamo Kyiv.

• The Football Federation of Ukraine (FFU) was fined 50,000 euros on December 3 by the Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA) after Ukraine's fans attacked England's goalkeepers Robert Green and David James with flares at the Dnipro Arena in Dnipropetrovsk on October 10.

• Shakhtar Donetsk is ranked in fourth place among 350 soccer clubs, according to the International Federation of Football History and Statistics (IFFHS) release of December 2. Shakhtar shares its fourth-place standing with Germany's Hamburg. Other ranked Ukrainian teams included Dynamo Kyiv in 29th place, Metalist Kharkiv in 63rd, Metalurg Donetsk in 105th, Tavaria Symferopol in 329th and Vorskla Poltava in 342nd place.

• Oleksiy Mykhailychenko voiced his readiness to work with the Ukrainian National Team until the Euro-2012 soccer championships. This came following Ukraine's elimination from the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa. "My contract expires this month. If I am proposed to extend it, I will be ready to work. I am not going to give up. If it is to look at the whole qualification cycle, [Greece] was the first team we have yielded to after two legs. We have yielded neither to England, nor Croatia, nor even Belarus and Kazakhstan," Mykhailychenko said. Ukraine lost to Greece 0-1 and tied (0-0) in the first leg.

• Dynamo Kyiv striker Andriy Shevchenko was ranked in second place by the Zvezda poll in the Sport-Express newspaper in October. Anatoliy Tymoshchuk, who plays for Bayern and Ukraine's national team, was ranked in fifth place by the poll, while Serhiy Nazarenko, who plays for Dnipro, was ranked in seventh place.

## Boxing

• Vitali Klitschko retained his WBC heavyweight title against Kevin Johnson in front of a sell-out crowd of 17,000 on December 12 at PostFinance Arena in Berne, Switzerland, by unanimous decision, 120-108, 120-108 and 119-109. "He moved very well and was not easy to hit," Klitschko commented at ringside. "I'm disappointed because I would have preferred a knockout, but I'm happy that I won all 12 rounds." Klitschko set a new CompuBox record for the number of jabs thrown (749) in one bout. The previous record was held by Owen Beck (600 jabs). Johnson landed five power shots during the fight, while Klitschko landed 264 power shots with 141 telling punches. President Viktor Yushchenko congratulated the Ukrainian on his victory. Klitschko has reached a preliminary agreement to fight British challenger David Haye, who holds the WBA heavyweight title. No other details on the upcoming match have been released.

• Wladimir Klitschko is scheduled to defend his WBO title against mandatory challenger Eddie Chambers on March 20, 2010, in Germany. Klitschko holds the IBF, IBO and WBO heavyweight titles. The fight was initially slated for December 2009, but was postponed due to Klitschko's injury to his arm.

• Vitali and Wladimir Klitschko received the Bambi media award on November 30 from Germany, recognizing them as the most popular sports stars in Germany.

• Andriy Fedchuk, who won the bronze medal at the 1998 Junior World Boxing Championships, a bronze medal at the 2004 European Amateur Boxing Championships and a bronze medal at the 2000 Olympic Summer Games in Sydney, was killed in a vehicle accident on November 15.

## Tennis

• Kateryna Bondarenko and her sister Alona hold the 32nd and 33rd spots in the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour Singles Rankings released on November 30. Viktoria Kutuzova was ranked in 88th place. In doubles, the Bondarenko sisters were ranked 39th (Alona) and 41st (Kateryna), while Maria Korytseva was in 62nd place and Olha Savchuk was ranked 80th.

• Alona and Kateryna Bondarenko will for the first time be seeded players at the 2010 Australian Open based on their performances in 2009.

## Weightlifting

Ukraine won five medals at the 2009 World Weightlifting Championships in Goyang, South Korea, on November 17-29. Artem Udachyn (+105 kg) won the silver medal in the snatch (200 kg), clean and jerk (245 kg) and overall (445 kg) events. Ihor Shemchenko won gold in the snatch (202 kg) bronze in the overall (427 kg).

## Swimming

Ihor Borysyk won the silver in the



The logo for the Euro-2012 soccer championship.

200-meter breaststroke and bronze in the 100-meter breaststroke on November 10-11 in Stockholm, Sweden, and Daryna Zevina won the silver medal in the 200-meter backstroke in Moscow on November 6-7 at the FINA (Federation Internationale de Natation) Arena Swimming World Cup that was held during a series of five short-course meets in October and November in various locations around the world.

## Triathlon

Yuliya Sapunova won the 2009 Eilat International Triathlon Union European Premium Cup in Israel on November 21. Sapunova, who topped the Under-23 ranking, finished with a time of 2:08:36.

## Heptathlon

Nataliya Dobrynska won the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) women's World Combined Events Challenge in Talence, France, on September 19 with 6,485

points after seven events. Lyudmyla Yosypenko won second place (6,423) and Hanna Melnychenko claimed fourth place (6,056). Events included the 100-meter hurdles, high jump, shot put, 200 meters, long jump, javelin throw and 800 meters.

## Decathlon

Oleksiy Kasyanov won first place with 8,291 points at the IAAF men's World Combined Events Challenge, held in Talence, France, on September 19. The ten events included the 100 meters, long jump, shot put, high jump, 400 meters, 110-meter hurdles, discus throw, pole vault, javelin throw and 1,500 meters.

## Track and field

Serhiy Lebid won the bronze medal at the 16th Spar European Cross Country Championships in Dublin, Ireland, on December 14. Lebid is an eight-time medalist at these championship games.

– compiled by Matthew Dubas



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## HURI conference...

(Continued from page 5)

bank Ukraine," Prof. Flier emphasized. "However, it is interesting to note that when Mazepa dealt with concepts or the realm of the imagination or romance, he regularly used Polish words, ideas and constructs. This should not be surprising," Prof. Flier said, "since Mazepa was educated at the Mohyla Academy in Kyiv, which at the time took followed Western European models and then continued his education in a Jesuit University in Poland. He also served at the Polish Court in Warsaw for a number of years and regularly went on diplomatic missions for the Polish king."

Michael Moser, University of Vienna associate professor of Slavic philology and linguistics at the Institute for Slavic Studies and professor at the Ukrainian Free University in Munich, continued the topic by looking at Mazepa's public correspondence as formulated in the Hetmanate's chancery and represented by two universals and correspondence with the Russian tsars and a number of high Russian noble officials.

"It is clear from the internal evidence of the documents themselves, that the chancery used contemporary Left Bank Ukrainian in its work and that documents intended for Russian readers were then translated," Prof. Moser said. "It is interesting that there is almost no use of Russian or Russian constructs, and that in the few cases where it does occur, usually in titulature, it merely transcribes the Russian original."

"Again, the chancery documents show many Polonisms, Polish thoughts, and, in a number of cases, Polish words," Prof. Moser added. "However, a short time before the battle of Poltava, there was a major change in style but not in favor of Russian as might be expected but to archaic Church Slavonic and this shift reflects the appointment of Pylyp Orlyk as chancellor. Before his appointment, Orlyk had served as chancellor for the metropolitan of Kyiv and carried out all ecclesial correspondence with Moscow Church officials in that language, and, as a result, viewed it as the natural language of diplomacy."

Giovanna Brogi, University of Milan professor of Slavistics and director of the Department of Linguistic, Literary and Philological Studies, then looked at the impact that Battle of Poltava had on the linguistic styles of high churchmen, particularly Stefan Javorskyj and Teofan Prokopovyc, and found that with the progression of time Russian style and literary practice slowly became the norm, although some clearly Ukrainian elements continued to be utilized, especially in works aimed exclusively at Ukrainian audiences.

Harvard's Dmytro Čyževskyj Professor of Ukrainian Literature George G. Grabowicz brought the session to a close with an in-depth analysis of the school play, written in the traditional Western scholastic Baroque style in 1728 by a faculty member of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy, "Mylost Bozhiiia Ukrainu..."

Svobodyshaia," its significance in light of Poltava and what it showed about the development of Ukrainian literature in the century after the battle.

"The true measure and deeper significance of the work," Prof. Grabowicz pointed out, "is the way that it fits into, and, in fact, supplies a missing link for the continuum of Ukrainian literature as seen from the perspective of an ideal or trans-temporal order. The work is nothing less than a deft conflation of historical time. It deals with Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky, the events leading up to 1648 and the liberation of Ukraine from Polish rule, and, then, in the fifth act projects 20 years into the future after Poltava and Tsar Peter's death and looks to the accession to the throne of Peter II with great hope for a new era in Ukraine and a successful hetmancy of Danylo Apostol."

"It also shows the clear thematic and rhetorical continuation of a number of works of early modern Ukrainian literature and forms a remarkably powerful bond across more than a century," Prof. Grabowicz continued. "Finally, it posits Ukraine as a special numinous place, blessed by God by virtue of its past heroism and, even more importantly, by reason of its past and present suffering. It is a deep paradigm of Ukraine as both fallen and degraded and yet endowed with a Divine promise of resurrection."

Art, and particularly the art of Ukraine, was also impacted and the production of icons and wall sized tapestries was harnessed for propaganda purposes. Russian imperial regalia and the personage of the tsar became the focus of much of this work and they were portrayed as larger than life and as part of the divine order. Prof. Elena Boeck of DePaul University looked at icons that were produced in Russia and Ukraine after the battle and the subtle, and not so subtle messages that they were meant to convey.

Prof. Tatiana Senkevitch of the University of Toronto examined the post Poltava monumental wall hangings that were produced in the Russian Imperial factory and analyzed their use of imagery and message.

Noted Ukrainian Canadian architect Radoslav Zuk of McGill University closely examined the architecture of the Hetmanate and showed that it was closely related to high Baroque examples current in Italy. He argued that the architecture of the time, particularly church architecture, reflected a philosophy of man, his destiny and of the universe, and that the architecture of Hetmanate Ukraine was clearly Western in both its appearance and its philosophical underpinnings.

Prof. Olenka Pevny of the University of Richmond looked at the subsequent fate of Hetmanate buildings in the Ukrainian Baroque style and emphasized the fact that not only do victors get to write history to suit themselves but they also get to manipulate the architectural record. From the first third of the 19th century onward, at the direction of the Russian Imperial Court, concerted efforts were made to restore all ecclesiastical buildings dating from the time of Kyivan Rus' to their original form defined as a modification of the Byzantine models as

elaborated in Suzdal and a number of other towns of the Principality of Moscow.

In keeping with this decision most of the additions and rebuilding of churches and monasteries done in the Ukrainian Baroque style and funded by Hetman Mazepa were removed. The same happened with the iconography and other art work. Secular buildings were not spared and most of the historic examples of the vibrant and distinctive 18th century art and architecture of Ukraine were destroyed. What was left adhered to the pan Slavic models as defined by Moscow, she noted.

Prof. Pevny concluded by looking at contemporary restorations of major ecclesial buildings in Kyiv undertaken by the Ukrainian government since independence in the Ukrainian Baroque style architecturally, and artistically and pointed out that the choice clearly reflected a philosophical and political perception of the historic past.

During the session dealing with history and memory, Prof. Alexander Kamenskii of the Russian State University for the Humanities pointed out that the Russians were slow to come to terms with Poltava and that no histories of the battle were written for more than 60 years. While the Swedish participants wrote volumes, the Russian sources are almost completely silent. Accordingly, the Russian accounts of Poltava when finally written in the late 18th century reflect the needs and perceptions of the Russian administration and bureaucracy of the late 1780s, rather than what actually happened on the field.

Prof. Kamenskii also looked at the popular memory of Poltava in Russia and showed that there is little interest or understanding among today's Russian populace of what happened: "It happened in Ukraine;" "It was far away;" "It had little direct impact." He also talked about the fact that Russian state television gave extensive coverage to commemorations of the 300th anniversary of Poltava and yet informal polling of the general population, particularly the youth, showed that there was almost no understanding of the event or why it was being commemorated.

Volodymyr Kravchenko, professor of history, chair of the Department of Ukrainian Studies, and Director of the Kowalsky Eastern Ukrainian Institute at the V.N. Karazin National University of Kharkiv, looked at Poltava in Ukrainian historiography and emphasized the fact that Ukrainian historians have been ambivalent toward Poltava and that there have been two major approaches – the Ukrainian and the Little Russian. The first has consistently portrayed Mazepa as a Ukrainian patriot seeking to free his country from the dictates of the tsar and the encroachment of the Russian empire; as an astute political leader and as the embodiment of traditional Ukrainian European culture, while the latter maintains that Mazepa was immoral, a traitor, an outdated politician and that he violated the estate liberties of the Cossack leadership and the Little Russian nobility.

Prof. Kravchenko concluded by pointing out that both these attitudes are very

much alive today among the Ukrainian political elite and that the Battle of Poltava was not yet over.

The final session, chaired by Dr. Hajda and composed of panelists Taras Koznarsky, associate professor at the University of Toronto; Ksenya Kiebuuzinki, Slavic resources coordinator and the head of the Petro Jacyk Central and East European Resource Center at the University of Toronto; and Alois Woldan, professor of Slavic literatures at the Institute for Slavic Studies at the University of Vienna; looked at the impact of Mazepa and Poltava on European art and literature with special reference to developments in 19th France, England, Germany and the United States, ranging from serious art, history and music to kitsch.

For many, the panel revealed, the two themes came to represent stereotypes of swashbuckling freedom, the mysterious, the unknown and even the erotic. As a result some of the artistic production was rooted in reality, while a good portion of it was symbolic and had nothing to do either with the Hetman or the 1709 battle.

In his keynote address at the close of the conference, Paul Bushkovitch, professor of history and Religious Studies at Yale University, made several observations on the impact that the battle of Poltava had on geopolitics. After analyzing the roles played by Sweden, Russia and Ukraine, Prof. Bushkovitch observed that the Battle of Poltava enabled Tsar Peter I to use the issue of local autonomy in the broader context of international affairs in order to better position Russia.

"Peter ruthlessly suppressed Cossack autonomy both in the Don region and in the Hetmanate," Prof. Bushkovitch pointed out, "[but] he positioned himself as [the] champion [of local autonomy] in the Baltics, in Poland and, ultimately, in Sweden itself." Because of this strategy of Peter's, Sweden was eclipsed as a first-rate European power and the Russian empire was able to expand to the Baltic Sea.

"It can be argued that these outcomes had the greatest impact on the future because they made Russia a major power in Europe, and they opened up the Russian court and the Russian bureaucracy to the Baltic Germans and by doing so converted Russia into a multi-ethnic, multiconfessional empire," Prof. Bushkovitch concluded.

In addition to contributions from colleague institutions, costs of the conference were also underwritten by a number of Harvard University endowed gifts: the Walter Bacad Fund, the Michael and Alexandra Lysyj Fund in Ukrainian Studies, the Irena Lubchak Fund, the Alex Woskob Family Foundation Fund, the Ihor and Oksana Humeniuk Ukrainian Studies Fund, the Oksana Czeredarczuk Folwarkiw Ukrainian Studies Fund, the Orest Hladky and Maria Lubomyra Hladky Ukrainian Studies Fund, and the Julian and Myroslawa Salisnjak Ukrainian Studies Fund.

Audio of all of the presentations made at the conference will be available on HURI's website, <http://www.huri.harvard.edu>.

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## Plast members...

(Continued from page 1)

small villages in Ukraine in anticipation of the Peace Light's arrival, waiting eagerly with candles and lanterns to receive the light from Bethlehem.

In the last few years, Plast Ukraine has sent delegates to Vienna to retrieve the flame, participating with other international scouting groups in a larger ceremony.

For Plast members in the United States, participation in the Peace Light movement started in the winter of 2007-2008. Stephen Szyszka, leader of the local Plast chapter in Washington, had witnessed the Peace Light ceremonies while living in Great Britain. The District of Columbia boys' troop Akuly began to do some research in hopes of starting up this tradition in their chapter. At the traditional Christmastime "Svichechka," they sang the beautiful and meaningful Peace Light song written by Solomiya Keyvan of Ukraine and prepared an informative poster.

The following winter the Akuly got in touch with the Boy Scouts of America and made arrangements to receive the flame from them. In the meantime, the National Council of Plast U.S.A. had made arrangements to join the other scouting groups at JFK Airport in receiving the Peace Light. Thus, Motriya Waters, vice-president of Plast U.S.A., distributed the flame to seven chapters throughout the country in 2008.

This year, Alexandra Lebed chairs Plast's Peace Light program with the assistance of other members of the Ti, Scho Hrebli Rvut sorority of senior Plast members.

After members of the sorority received the Peace Light at JFK Airport, the official passing of the light ceremony began on December 6 at St. John the Baptist

Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, located in the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey. Plast National President Petro Stawnychy began the ceremony, passing the flame on to young plastuny, as well as to leaders of local Plast chapters, including Passaic, N.J., and New York City, who were in attendance. Also present were four representatives of Plast Argentina, who received the flame and will be taking it back to Argentina.

The Rt. Rev. Mitred Protopresbyter Roman Mirchuk, pastor of St. John's in Whippany, shared his reflections on the Bethlehem Peace Light. The pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in nearby Newark, the Rev. Leonid Malkov, was present to take the Peace Light back to his parish.

Since then the Bethlehem Peace Light has also been passed along to Plast branches in Philadelphia, Cleveland, Washington, Chicago, Boston, Hartford, Conn., and Kerhonkson, Rochester, Syracuse, Buffalo and Yonkers, N.Y., with other U.S. branches to follow in short succession.

The Bethlehem Peace Light is reaching not only Plast's local chapters, but also many churches and civic organizations.

In South Bound Brook, N.J., at the Metropolia Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., the Peace Light was received by Archbishop Antony during a beautiful ceremony at St. Andrew Memorial Church. Washington's Plast members delivered the Peace Light to the U.S. military at Fort Bragg, N.C., presenting it to Lt. Col. David L. Druckenmiller of the U.S. Army.

Plans are also being made to pass the light on to Plast Canada to Toronto, Montreal and Winnipeg.

Readers may visit the website [www.peacelightplastusa.org](http://www.peacelightplastusa.org) to view videos, pictures and summaries of this year's events.



George Kuzmowycz

Representatives of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Latvian Scouts and Boy Scouts of America with crewmembers of Austrian Air who flew the Bethlehem Peace Light from Vienna to New York.



Mary Kolodij

At St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Memorial Church, the Very Rev. Yurij Siwko (left) and Archbishop Antony receive the Bethlehem Peace Light.

## The Germans'...

(Continued from page 8)

conjecture but based on historical evidence that will stand the test of litigation.

The events of the Holocaust are shocking and indisputable; however, the Munich trial is a travesty of justice. To be sure, the survivors and families are not responsible for what is being perpetrated by the Munich prosecution, co-prosecuting attorneys and judiciary. As history has proven, it is Germany that is to blame for their suffering and also my father's, since he was captured as a Red Army POW.

The Munich prosecutor has documentary evidence from over 50 witnesses who gave testimony independently during the past 60 years to German, Polish, Canadian and Soviet investigators that collectively validate as historical truth that Soviet POWs like my father were treated inhumanely and murdered by starvation. Additional testimonies individually and collectively validate that POW Trawniki were coerced under fear of death into service and shot for planning desertion, attempting escape, theft of valuables, etc.

The co-prosecuting attorneys representing the Jewish co-plaintiffs should be aware that among the witnesses to be called by them are two German citizens who did not serve in Sobibor but in other Nazi death camps, including Belzec and Treblinka (prosecution witnesses listed as No. 4 Nagorny and No. 5 Kunz). The Munich prosecutor has multiple investigative reports about these German citizens having committed specific murders, yet to date they have not been prosecuted. Thus, the true Nazi murderers are being shielded by the prosecutors while they try to convict a Ukrainian POW against

whom there is admittedly no evidence of a single murder, not even a simple assault. The evidence against the prosecutors' living Nazi witnesses is specific to the crimes of murder. Here are two excerpts from the testimonies:

Testimony of Bronov, September 5, 1950, pages 2, 3: "Because of poor shooting, many of the people doomed to death were only wounded. Kunts [sic] saw their suffering, approached Pichulyak, and took his rifle, as he was only armed with a pistol. Then, while saying the words 'that is not how we shoot them,' he fired several times at the prisoners lying in the pit."

Testimony of Knysh, January 29, 1948, page 8: "Aleskej Nagornyj [sic] ... He served as an SS Wachmann in the detachment of the Travniki [sic] concentration camp from the first days when the camp was established. He then served as an SS Wachmann in the Treblinka concentration camp and in the Ostarbeiter camp in Rostok. From his statements to me, I know that he participated in a shooting of 3,000 prisoners."

For the Sobibor survivors attending the trial, families of the victims and the gallery of media reporting to the world to be unaware of the investigative material is understandable. However, the attorneys who are co-prosecuting with the Munich team must be aware of their own investigative files.

The German court, which acts as part of the investigation and is required to be familiar with the case file, the prosecutors and the attorneys of the Nebenkläger are shamefully exploiting the Jewish survivors and victims' families for the purpose of showing the world that Germany is not guilty. For Germany, the motive for convicting John Demjanjuk is to acquit Germany.

## Bethlehem Peace Light arrives in Ukraine

KYIV – Lviv members of Plast National Scout Organization of Ukraine on December 15 accepted the Bethlehem Peace Light from Polish scouts, Harzery, on the Ukraine-Poland border.

Three days earlier, representatives of Plast Ukraine participated in public prayer services in Vienna, where the Peace Light was delivered from Bethlehem. From there the light was disseminated to other countries. It arrived in Ukraine from Poland, which received the Peace Light from Austria.

Plast members from Ukraine will deliver the Peace Light to scouts from

Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Moldova.

On December 21 it was reported that the Bethlehem Peace Light had arrived in Kyiv. At the Ivan Honchar Museum the Peace Light was presented to representatives of four Churches: the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church, the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and the Roman Catholic Church.

On December 20 Plast members from Lviv brought the Bethlehem Peace Light to Ukraine's highest peak, Hoverlia, in the Carpathian Mountains.

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# General meeting of Ukrainian school teachers held in Ellenville

by George Gajecy

ELLENVILLE, N.Y. – During Columbus Day weekend, October 9-11, over 60 teachers from 15 schools met at the Ukrainian American Youth Association estate to elect officers for the 2009-2012 term and consider new approaches and methods to teaching children in schools of Ukrainian studies.

On Friday, October 9, principals and inspectors discussed the status of their schools, achievements and problems during the year. They reported on the number of students and faculty, programs, graduates, school activities, cooperation with parents and use of the Internet for communications.

There are now 41 schools affiliated with the Educational Council encompassing over 300 teachers and over 2,500 – students. Most of the teachers are from the Fourth Wave of immigrants. To help them improve their readiness and teaching skills, they attend Summer school programs held at Soyuzivka.

Saturday was devoted to reports. Dr. Eugene Fedorenko, Educational Council president, noted activities during the 2006-2009 term: new programs for the upper grades in history, geography, culture, Ukrainian literature and language; and a new program for the lower grades. A textbook on culture was published by Ihor Mirchuk in two volumes.

He also reported that schools took part in the Holodomor commemorations and letters were sent to the New York State Senate and Assembly to pass legislation to include teaching about the Famine-Genocide in the New York public school curriculum.

A story about the Holodomor called "Burzhuika" by Mykola Ponedilok was published as required reading for the upper grades. Students in the schools of New York



Volodymyr Bodnar

Participants of the general meeting of teachers of schools of Ukrainian studies.

state are encouraged to take the Board of Regents exams for extra credit, Dr. Fedorenko noted.

Treasurer Maria Reshitnyk presented the financial report for the three-year period, while other reports, were presented in printed form.

George Gajecy, vice-president, addressed the assembly and called attention to some important dates in Ukrainian history that teachers should concentrate on in the coming year: the 360th anniversary of the founding of the Hetmanate (1649), the 350th anniversary of the Battle of Zboriv (1649), The battle of Konotop (1659) when the Kozaks destroyed a huge Muscovite army

that invaded Ukraine and the 300th anniversary of Hetman Ivan Mazepa's rule (1687-1709).

Elected to the new executive were Dr. Fedorenko, president; Stephan Patrylyak, Dr. Gajecy and Volodymyr Kryvonos, vice-presidents; Valentyna Kaploun and Roman Dubenko, secretaries; Ms. Reshitnyk, treasurer; Volodymyr Bodnar, Roman Brukh and Olha Kostiv, members.

Auditing Committee members are: Teodor Caryk, Orest Polishchuk, Ivanka Omeliash, Mykola Duplak and Oksana Kulynych. The Arbitration Board comprises Yurii Kosachevych, Svitlana Khmurkivska, Olha Kekish, Andrii Pereklita and George Iaskiv.

On Sunday there was a panel discussion

during which Volodymyr Bodnar of the Parma, Ohio, school gave a succinct presentation on the use of the Internet in Ukrainian schools. There is a wealth of material for teachers preparing lessons; the Internet can also be used for administrative purposes, giving students their assignments and communicating with teachers. All schools should have websites and should use the Internet, the speaker emphasized.

Dr. Fedorenko voiced his hope that schools would be able to organize students to take advantage of the summer schools and camp programs in Ukraine.

Dr. Gajecy pointed out the opportunity presented by charter schools legislation to organize one with a Ukrainian program.



The conference presidium (from left): Dr. Eugene Fedorenko, Prof. George Gajecy and Yuri Kosachevych.



Olha Kavun, representative of Ukraine's Mission to the United Nations, is flanked by Maria Reshitnyk and Dr. Eugene Fedorenko.

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**COMMUNITY CHRONICLE**

**American and Brazilian troupes present Ukrainian folk dance concert**



Christine Syzonenko

**Vesselka (above) and Iskra (below) in concert at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey.**

WHIPPANY, N.J. – The Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and Academy of Whippany, N.J., and the Vesselka Ukrainian-Brazilian Folk Group of Prudentopolis, Brazil, joined forces recently to present a gala concert of Ukrainian folk dance at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (UACCNJ).

Iskra, founded over 10 years ago as one of the dance studios of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky, is under the artistic direction of Andriy Cybyk. It encompasses more than 70 students ranging in age from 6 to 20 in three dance groups based on ability and age.

Vesselka, founded in 1958 by the Rev. Efraim Krevey, today the bishop of Ukrainian Catholics in Brazil, is based in Prudentopolis, in an area of the state of Parana where about 80 percent of residents are descendants of Ukrainian immigrants. The group's artistic director and choreographer is Paulo Guimaraes Boiko.

A portion of the proceeds from the October 9 concert benefited the UACCNJ.



**Ukrainian community members meet with Virsky Dance Company's director**



Roma Hadzewycz

MORRISTOWN, N.J. – During the recent North American tour of the Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company, a group of Ukrainian American community members from Morris County had an opportunity to meet with the general and artistic director of the famed ensemble, Myroslav Vantukh. Above, after the troupe's performance at the Community Theater at the Mayo Center for the Performing Arts in Morristown, N.J., on November 19, Mr. Vantukh (center) is seen with local Ukrainians, among them Christine Syzonenko, an administrator of the Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Whippany, N.J., Anna Denysyk, a member of the Arts, Culture and Education Committee of the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, Stefan Kaczaraj, president of the Ukrainian National Association, and Michael Koziupa of the Morris County branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

**Ukrainian designs in spotlight at World Fashion Chicago**



Vera Eliashevsky

**At the exclusive after party at Cuvée Lounge (from left) are Orysia Cardoso, Vera Eliashevsky, Petrusia Watral, Chrystia Hryhorczuk, Luba Skubiak, Diana Minkowycz and Olya Popowych.**

by Vera Eliashevsky

CHICAGO – World Fashion Chicago returned to Millennium Park on September 30 for its fourth turn on the runway. Building upon the tremendous success of the past three shows, the Chicago Sister Cities International Program (CSCIP) once again featured some of the hottest international fashions, showcasing high-end designers that represent each of Chicago's 28 sister cities, and whose work can be found here in Chicago.

"Chicago Sister Cities International embraces our cultural diversity through its people-to-people initiatives," said Mayor

*Vera Eliashevsky is chair of Chicago's Kyiv Committee of the Chicago Sister Cities International Program.*

Richard M. Daley. "World Fashion Chicago not only showcases our 28 Sister Cities, but also the internationally-inspired fashion designers who live and work in our city."

More than 35 local fashion designers were featured alongside international designers from sister cities such as Milan, Italy, Shanghai, China, and Durban, South Africa.

Kyiv was represented by designer Vika Brown (www.electica.com). Originally from the Poltava region of Ukraine, Ms. Brown moved to Chicago in 1998 and has been one of Chicago's most stylish labels since 2002. In 2006 she received the Macy's Distinction in Design Award for her couture-quality work.

The pre-show reception brought together fashion industry professionals, as well as community and business leaders from across Chicago's widely diverse ethnic citizenship.



**Designer Vika Brown, originally of the Poltava region in Ukraine.**



**Vera Eliashevsky (left), chair of the Kyiv Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International, with Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas.**

**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.



## COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

### Kule Folklore Center sponsors workshops highlighting Ukrainian dolls

EDMONTON, Alberta – The Kule Folklore Center sponsored two “motanky” workshops in November. Natalie Kononenko, Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography at the University of Alberta, organized both events. Motanky are Ukrainian dolls built from scraps of cloth wound (the verb “motaty” means to wind) around a cloth, birch bark, or wooden base.

The first workshop took place at St. Anthony’s Ukrainian Orthodox Church and was part of “Super Saturday,” a festival for the children of the parish. The second was in the newly re-located Bohdan Medwisky Folklore Archives at the University of Alberta. The archive has moved to more spacious quarters in the Arts Building, Room 250, which allows for the hosting of public events. The first such event was the screening of the Ukrainian horror film *Shtol’nia* in time for Halloween. The motanky workshop was



An example of a “motanka,” a Ukrainian doll constructed from scraps of cloth.

the first in a folk art instructional series.

Traditionally, motanky had a dual function. They were playthings for children and they were also talismans, made to ward off illness and the evil eye. In more recent times, such dolls were made by lower-income children whose parents could not afford “store-bought” dolls.

Prof. Kononenko remembered that when she was a newly immigrated child in New Jersey her grandfather gave her scraps of wood, while her mother provided the leftover pieces of fabric that she used to make her own dolls.

With the independence of Ukraine and the revival of interest in Ukrainian traditional culture, motanky are again popular emblems of Ukrainian culture. They are sold at festivals, and Ukrainians buy them for their beauty and also for use as talismans (oberehy). They are also popular souvenirs for tourists.

The focus of the two workshops was to make small versions of motanky dolls which would be suitable as Christmas-tree ornaments. Although the first workshop was aimed at children, in fact the making of the dolls requires quite a bit of manual dexterity and is more suitable for older children or adults.

Before the hands-on session Prof. Kononenko gave an illustrated talk on Christmas traditions and the association of them with crops and the harvest. The participants then watched a short movie from 1942 about Christmas on the Canadian Prairies, specifically Manitoba. The presentation concluded with a series of illustrations of classical motanky from the literature.



Natalie Kononenko (left) helps Jiaying You and Svitlana Kukharenko (standing) help Maryna Chernyavska.

In the “hands-on” section, the participants first made an angel. This is made from a pre-cut square of fabric with a cotton-ball inserted in the center for the head. The head, wings and waist are made by tying embroidery floss around the body of the angel.

In both sessions the participants then made other dolls. The bodies were either built on pre-rolled tubes of paper or on thick fabric rolled up to form the body and arms of the dolls. In both cases colored fabric was then added to generate clothing. Possible items included the skirt

(the wide “spidnytsia” or the narrow “plakhta”), the kerchiefs (“khustka”), the vest (“keptar”), the apron (“khvartukh”), and the hat (“kapeliukh”) etc.

Students Genia Boivin and Svitlana Kukharenko assisted in the session held at the Folklore Archive.

The Kule Folklore Center plans to make the motanka workshop an annual event and to offer a series of workshops. A gerdan (beadwork) workshop co-sponsored with AUA, the Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts, is planned for February.

### Battle of Konotop is re-enacted at Ukrainian Homestead

by Teresa Livingston

LEHIGHTON, Pa. – In the midst of some of the most beautiful autumn weather that Pennsylvania has to offer, the sounds of swords clashing and the booms of canons broke the serenity of the day. The Ukrainian Homestead, off Route 209 outside of Lehigh, was the scene on October 3-4 for the re-enactment of the Battle of Konotop – which the Kozak and Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth armies battled the forces of Muscovy (Russia).

Ulana Prociuk, organizer and promoter for the Ukrainian Homestead, and her husband invited troops of talented artists to perform re-enactments of various wars and conflicts from Ukrainian, Polish and Russian history. The troops represented numerous countries that were at war during the 17th century, and demonstrated how certain war strategies were utilized to conquer enemy forces.

The Battle of Konotop (also known as the Battle of Sosnivka) was a battle fought between Ukraine, with Polish and Tatar allies, and the armies of tsarist Russia on June 29, 1659, near the town of Konotop, Ukraine. Guests were invited to attend and be witnesses to “conflicts” that were staged throughout the day and to examine handmade swords, knives, guns and other weapons of the period, as

well as replica camp tents. There were varied cultural displays, games and fencing practice areas for kids with guided instruction.

Artisans were proud to show and explain in great detail, not only their weaponry, but their other artifacts as well, such as bowls, pots and cooking utensils, as men and women alike helped cook their meals over an open fire. Their clothing was elaborate, yet functional, as performers explained in detail how pieces were created and for what purpose.

Lucky guests who were fortunate enough to share in the warmth and camaraderie of the outdoor campfire with the performers, later shared some fancy footwork with these entertainers in the dance hall.

Onlookers of all ages who witnessed the re-enactments throughout the weekend were pleased with the weather and the visitors who came to share in the program, and organizers intend to incorporate more such events into the Ukrainian Homestead calendar.

The Ukrainian Homestead is located at 1230 Beaver Run Drive in Lehigh, PA 18235. For more information, directions, or to see upcoming events, readers may call 610-377-4621 or log on to <http://www.ukrhomestead.com/>.



Scenes from the re-enactment of the Battle of Konotop of 1659.

To subscribe to The Ukrainian Weekly,  
call 973-292-9800, ext. 3042



## COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

### Chicago Sister Cities inaugurate Medical Initiative Program

by Vera Eliashevsky

CHICAGO – Earlier this year, Chicago Sister Cities International announced the launch of the Chicago Sister Cities Medical Initiative Program, designed to develop health care initiatives that benefit Chicago and all 28 of its international sister cities. The inaugural program was held in conjunction with the 11th Annual Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium, hosted by the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, on October 1-4.

This annual symposium attracts approximately 800 clinicians to Chicago to learn

*Vera Eliashevsky is chair of Chicago-Kyiv Committee of the Chicago Sister Cities International Program.*

about recent clinical and scientific advances in breast cancer research from international experts. As part of this year's event, the Lurie Cancer Center awarded one physician from each of Chicago's 28 sister cities with the opportunity to participate in this symposium.

Dr. Igor Galaychuk, M.D., Ph.D., a professor at Ternopil State Medical University, was the award recipient representing Ukraine. Dr. Galaychuk is the chairman of the Department of Oncology and Radiology.

This program provides an incredible opportunity for Chicago Sister Cities International to partner with Northwestern University and their world-renowned cancer center. Candice Rosen, chair of the Belgrade Committee, was responsible for making this program a reality.



Vera Eliashevsky

At the Chicago Sister Cities Medical Initiative Program (from left) are: Lida Truchly, chair, Medical Subcommittee of the Chicago-Kyiv Committee; Dr. Igor Galaychuk, of Ternopil State Medical University; and Vera Eliashevsky, chair, Kyiv Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International.

### "Okradena Zemlya" premieres in Ottawa



OTTAWA – As part of its commemorations of the Holodomor, the Ottawa branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) sponsored a screening of the recently released documentary about the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Ukraine "Okradena Zemlya." Filmmaker Yuriy Luhovy was present at the Ottawa premiere and received an emotional standing ovation from the audience gathered on November 29 at the Ukrainian National Home. Also introduced to the audience were Mr. Luhovy's daughter Adriana, his main cameraperson, and Zorianna Hrychenko, the film's co-producer. Among those present at the showing were Holodomor survivors and children of survivors, as well as the first secretary for cultural affairs at the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada, Olena Zakharova. Seen in the photo above (from left) are: Dr. Julia Woychysyn, president of the Ottawa chapter of the Shevchenko Scientific Society; Adriana Buyniak-Willson, UCC Ottawa president; Mr. Luhovy; and Ms. Zakharova. (For information about the film or to arrange for a screening, readers may e-mail [mmlinc@hotmail.com](mailto:mmlinc@hotmail.com).)

### Donation made to orphans from proceeds of "Ukrainians of Greater Philadelphia"

by Ulana Prociuk

PHILADELPHIA – A committee to promote the Alexander Lushnycky's book "Ukrainians of Greater Philadelphia" was formed in the fall of 2007 and decided to donate profits to benefit needy Ukrainian orphans in Brazil.

Sister Lukyj Tzalkovsky, OSBM, of the orphanage in Reserve-Parana, Brazil, and Sister Elijana Melnitsky of the Sisters Servants of the Orphanage in Irata-Parana, Brazil, each received \$5,000 to help their noble and blessed cause.

The committee has received letters expressing heartfelt gratitude from the orphans, who promised prayers asking the Lord's blessings on the author and all who contributed to this cause.

The committee comprises: Vera Andryczyk, Petro Husky, Yaroslav Zalipsky, Ihor Kushnir, Eryna Cvikula-Korchynska, Christina Kulchckyj (secretary), Roman Levvitsky, Roksolana Luciw (treasurer), Ulana Mazurkevich, Borys Pawluk, Ulana Prociuk (chair), Nicholas Rudnytsky, Ihor Smolij, Christia Senyk and Ihor Czyzhovytch.



Orphans in Irata-Parana, Brazil.



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## Credit union supports Philadelphia's Ukrainian community

by Andrea Zharovsky

PHILADELPHIA, PA – One of the main objectives of the Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union of Philadelphia is to serve the interests and needs of its members and to give back to its community.

Recently the USFCU did just that by donating to two local Ukrainian youth organizations at their recent anniversary celebrations and launching a "Student Savers Program" for the Ukrainian Heritage School of Philadelphia.

The Philadelphia branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA), celebrated its 60th anniversary on Saturday, October 24, with a jubilee banquet and ball at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Jenkintown, Pa. UAYA is an organization whose mission is to organize, nurture and educate youth in the spirit invoked by the ideals "God and Ukraine."

The Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union, recognizing the UAYA's commitment and dedication to Ukrainian

youth of Philadelphia, donated a check for \$5,000 at the banquet. Mary Kolodij, chairman of the USFCU Board, presented the donation to branch President John Midzak.

The Philadelphia branch of Plast, Ukrainian Scouting Organization celebrated its 60th Year Anniversary on Saturday, November 21 at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center with a program, archives display and ceremonial campfire. Plast is an organization built on exemplary international scouting principles with Ukrainian characteristics. The ideological foundations of Plast, outlined by its founder Dr. Oleksander Tysovsky and expanded during Plast's early development, are built on a Christian worldview and the idea of loyalty to the Ukrainian nation.

The Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union, recognizing Plast's role for the last 60 years in the Ukrainian community in Philadelphia, donated a check for \$5,000 at the celebration. Roman Petyk, vice-chairman of the USFCU board, presented the check, emphasizing that the

donation is not only from the USFCU, but from its members – people in the local community.

In September 2009 of this year the USFCU launched a program, a program designed to help children learn to save with an opportunity for the Ukrainian Heritage School in Philadelphia and the Ukrainian School in Trenton to raise funds. The first 100 students to register in the Student Savers Program in each school received a backpack filled with back-to-school supplies just for enrolling.

Throughout the year, participating students became eligible for prize drawings to win prizes including laptops, MP3 players, I-Pod, and flash drives. Each Ukrainian School then, based on student participation levels, will be eligible at the end of the school year for a cash donation.

Since 1952, the Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union of Philadelphia has

been a financial institution that has served the interests of its members. Ukrainian Selfreliance FCU provides its members with professional and up-to-date financial services, while working to create a caring environment for its members. It fosters the ideals of cooperation, promotes ethnic strength and interest, and provides long-term stability for the Ukrainian American community.

Unlike a bank, which exists for only one purpose, to make profits for its stockholders, Ukrainian Selfreliance FCU's profits go back to its members and to support Ukrainian institutions and organizations.

Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union's main branch is located at 1729 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111 and can be reached at 215-725-4430 or 1-888-765-8282. The credit union's website at [www.ukrfcu.com](http://www.ukrfcu.com) has information, hours of operation and the newest rates.

## Organization...

(Continued from page 10)

OSBM (Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy in Stamford); the Rev. Andriy Dudkevych (St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, Passaic, N.J.); the Rev. Oleh Zhovnirovych (Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Clifton, N.J.); Ms. Tamara Gallo-Olexy (UCCA); Genia Blaha (Ukrainian American Youth Association Inc.); Maria Liber (Women's Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine); Ivan Burtyk (Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine); and Bohdan Harhaj (President of Volya Foundation).

Bishop Chomnycky blessed those present to commence the celebration. Convention chairman Harhaj introduced Halyna Semenyak, who led the concert program, which was filled with cultural performances and produced memories of the homeland.

The convention also honored Stepan

Bandera. A speech about the Ukrainian national hero was presented by Mr. Burtyk. A literary-musical composition, by which members of the Jersey City, N.J., branch of the UAYA marked the 100th anniversary of Bandera's birth and the 50th anniversary of the day of his assassination.

The Pavlyshyn sisters performed and, together with all those present, inspiringly sang the Lemko national songs "Hory Nashi, Hory" and "Vershe Miy, Vershe," as well as other songs filled with love for the native Ukrainian homeland. In her speech, The keynote speaker, Vira Pavlyshyn, spoke about the poet Antonych and his unique ability to depict the beauty of the Lemko land, mountains and valleys in his poems.

Representatives of government and civic organizations, as well as local organizations and institutions delivered brief messages to the festive gathering.

– Written in Ukrainian by Nadia Burmaka, translated into English by Diana Reilly and Steven Howansky.

## Could Yushchenko...

(Continued from page 6)

All these conditions give rise to a Axiom No. 4: Amidst the election chaos, President Yushchenko will not relinquish his post unless he guarantees himself political immunity (as former President Leonid Kuchma did), likely in the form of an amended Constitution and a seat in the Verkhovna Rada.

For months, President Yushchenko has been heavily promoting his plan to amend the Constitution of Ukraine, recruiting Ukrainians who are frustrated with corruption and lawlessness in supporting his draft. Observers viewed it as a poor campaign tactic, but Mr. Yushchenko saw the bigger picture unfolding.

Mutual refusals to recognize the election results will lead to a stalemate between Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovich. In that case, President Yushchenko will have to remain as president until a compromise is reached, likely to be an amended Constitution that redistributes power.

"Barring any force majeure, the most likely candidates to reach the second round in the presidential elections are Tymoshenko and Yanukovich," said Dr. Oleh Soskin, director of the Institute of Society Transformation in Kyiv. "They will compete for the presidential post and earn about the same vote results. The difference won't be significant. And either

of them, in the case of defeat, will appeal his/her opponent's victory in the courts. And Yushchenko, who won't earn more than 5 percent, will say that until you resolve this among yourselves, I can't allow an inauguration to be held."

Among the reforms could be President Yushchenko's proposal of a 350-member Verkhovna Rada (instead of the current 450 members) with an upper and lower chamber, possibly an open-list voting system and the conversion to a parliamentary republic (which he opposes).

The wild card in the elections will be Volodymyr Shapoval, the chair of the Central Election Commission – the institution that ultimately establishes who's the winner. Mr. Shapoval is considered an ally to President Yushchenko, having served as the Presidential Secretariat's representative to the Constitutional Court. If that's still the case, Ms. Tymoshenko is in trouble.

However, observers said it's possible (that with enough money) Mr. Shapoval might follow the path taken by Mr. Lutsenko and Mr. Nalyvaichenko, who defected from the president's entourage to the Tymoshenko clan.

This exemplifies what this pre-election period is boiling down to – a window of time to amass power and leverage ahead of the negotiations likely to emerge in February, perhaps again under the supervision of the international community, after the election results are rejected.

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## Yushchenko's...

(Continued from page 2)

Party of Regions alliance with Russian nationalist-separatists in the For Yanukovich Bloc in the Crimean Parliament led to the first ever violent anti-American/anti-NATO protests in Crimea. These derailed joint military exercises with NATO that had peacefully occurred for a decade under President Kuchma.

Mr. Yushchenko's 2010 election program is more pro-Western than in 2004, but following five years of a widening gulf between rhetoric and substance, few Ukrainians believe in his ability to deliver

on foreign (or domestic) policies. When giving their support to Yushchenko, Halychyna's Ukrainians do so out of a misplaced fear that Ms. Tymoshenko's mix of pragmatism and ideology means she has sold out to Russia ([www.day.kiev.ua](http://www.day.kiev.ua), November 12).

In reaching this conclusion, they forget that Ms. Tymoshenko's 2010 centrist-patriotic election program is not fundamentally different from the platform upon which Mr. Yushchenko won the presidency five years ago.

The article above is reprinted from *Eurasia Daily Monitor* with permission from its publisher, the *Jamestown Foundation*, [www.jamestown.org](http://www.jamestown.org).



In the spirit of Christmas, we ask you to consider giving a tax-free donation to the Ukrainian National Foundation for the support of Soyuzivka Heritage Center, the newspapers Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, or the general fund, providing scholarships and funding for various community endeavors here and in Ukraine.






# OUT AND ABOUT

- |                                 |  |                               |   |
|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|
| December 31<br>Stamford, CT     | New Year's Eve Gala, featuring music by Hrim, St. Vladimir Organization of Young Adults, St. Basil College, 203-329-8693 or UkiMandM@aol.com | January 6<br>Hartford, CT     | Christmas Eve Dinner "Sviat Vechir," Ukrainian National Home, 860-296-5702  |
| December 31<br>Chicago          | New Year's Eve Gala, featuring music by Klopit, St. Joseph Ukrainian Catholic Church, 773-625-4805   | January 9<br>Hartford, CT     | Malanka, featuring music by Halychany, Ukrainian National Home, 860-296-6955  |
| December 31<br>Whippany, NJ     | New Year's Eve, featuring music by Tempo, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-585-7175                                     | January 10<br>Winnipeg, MB    | Concert, "Festival of Carols," Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center, 204-942-0218   |
| December 31<br>Rochester, NY    | New Year's Gala, featuring music by Svitanok, Ukrainian Cultural Center of Rochester, 585-872-0240   | January 15<br>Scranton, PA    | Sixth annual Malanka, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic parish center, 570-563-2275   |
| December 31<br>Syracuse, NY     | New Year's Eve, featuring music by Vorony, Ukrainian National Home, 315-478-9272   | January 16<br>Dedham, MA      | Malanka, featuring music by Na Zdorov'ya, Ukrainian American Educational Center of Boston, St. John of Damascus Church hall, 508-245-1890     |
| December 31<br>Jenkintown, PA   | New Year's Eve, featuring music by Fata Morgana, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-663-1166                                     | January 16<br>Ansonia, CT     | Malanka, featuring music by Vox Ethnika, John J. Sullivan's, 203-735-8233 (no tickets sold at door)   |
| December 31<br>Hillsborough, NJ | New Year's Eve, featuring music by Anna-Maria Ukrainian Band, St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church, 908-725-5089              | January 16<br>Mississauga, ON | Malanka, Ukrainian American Youth Association - Mississauga Branch, Mississauga Convention Center, www.cymmissmalanka.com                     |
| December 31<br>Jersey City, NJ  | New Year's Eve Gala, Ukrainian National Home, 201-982-4967   | January 16<br>Ottawa          | Malanka, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Ukrainian Orthodox Church, ottmalanka@gmail.com   |
| December 31<br>Uniondale, NY    | New Year's Eve dinner and dance, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Parish center, 516-293-7861 or 516-481-7717                                 | January 22<br>Warren, MI      | Malanka, featuring music by Svitanok, Ukrainian Youth Organizations of Metro Detroit, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 586-757-8130 or 586-558-8508 |
| January 2<br>Miami, FL          | Concert, "Carol of the Bells," Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 954-434-4635                                 | January 23<br>Montreal        | Malanka, Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and Ukrainian Youth Association in Canada, Crown Plaza Hotel - Montreal Airport, 514-502-6237  |
| January 3<br>Scranton, PA       | Christmas concert, The Byzantine Male Cantors Choir of Northeastern Pennsylvania, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church, 570-563-2275       |                               |   |

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 send e-mail to [mdubas@ukrweekly.com](mailto:mdubas@ukrweekly.com).

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## Soyuzivka's Datebook

December 31 New Year's Eve



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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday December 27

**KERHONKSON, N.Y.:** A Ukrainian holiday marionette program titled "Baba Liuba and the Spider" will be presented at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church hall, 211 Foordmore Road (across the street from Soyuzivka), at 11:30 a.m. The program will be in Ukrainian. The Korinya Ukrainian Folk Band is presenting a Ukrainian holiday folk tale adapted by Halyna Shepko about a lonely woman who is visited by a special spider who brings her good fortune. Join the Shepko-Hamilton children - Roxolyana, 15, Zoya, 13, Stefan, 12, Alexandra, 11, and Zorian, 5 - as they perform a Ukrainian holiday musical tale combined with Ukrainian traditions and carols with marionettes they made using clay and sheep's wool from their farm. After the show join the kids to make good-luck spiders to take home. Admission is free; donations graciously accepted. The event is sponsored by Korinya Ukrainian Folk Band and Shawangunk Ridge Farm of Gardiner, N.Y. The presentation will be repeated on January 2, 2010, at 11:30 a.m. at the Gardiner Library. For information call Halyna, 845-255-5936, or check Korinya's fanpage on Facebook.

Saturday, January 2

**MIAMI:** The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church Choir presents its first annual Christmas choral program featuring "Carol of the Bells" and other traditional Ukrainian Christmas and holiday songs of the season. Admission is free. Donations go toward the church building fund. The concert begins at 7 p.m. at the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 38 NW 57th Ave. (Flagler Street and 57th Avenue). For more

information call Choir Director Donna Maksymowich-Waskiewicz, 954 434 4635, or visit the church website at <http://www.uccm.us>.

Wednesday-Thursday, January 6-7

**PARMA, Ohio:** St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral will sponsor its 23rd annual Christmas radio program for its sick and elderly shut-in parishioners. The entire Christmas divine liturgy will be broadcast live at 9-11 a.m. over radio station WJMO, 1300 AM. The liturgy will be celebrated by cathedral clergy, with responses sung by the Ukrainian and English choirs of the cathedral. Also at St. Vladimir's, Great Complines and Matins will be celebrated at 7:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve. For information call the parish office, 440-886-3223.

Saturday, January 30

**CARTERET, N.J.:** St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church are co-sponsoring a Malanka, which will be held at the St. Demetrius Community Center, 681 Roosevelt Ave. Entertainment will be provided by Fata Morgana. Tickets are \$55, which includes admission, choice of sirloin beef or chicken capon dinner, open bar, midnight hors d'oeuvres and a champagne toast. The St. Demetrius Center is located just blocks from Exit 12 of the New Jersey Turnpike. There is a Holiday Inn right off the exit. Doors will open at 6 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. and music starts at 8 p.m. For table and tickets reservations contact Peter Prociuk, 609-655-4468 or [pprociuk@aol.com](mailto:pprociuk@aol.com). Tickets will not be sold at the door. Outside liquor is prohibited. Deadline for tickets is January 24. For more information visit [www.stdemetriusuc.org](http://www.stdemetriusuc.org).

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

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

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

Information should be sent to: [preview@ukrweekly.com](mailto:preview@ukrweekly.com) or Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, 973-644-9510. **NB: If e-mailing, please do not send items as attachments; simply type the text into the body of the e-mail message.**

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