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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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

Vol. LXXVIII

No. 23

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2010

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Ukrainian Congress Committee of America begins celebrations of its 70th anniversary

*Ukrainian National Information Service*

WASHINGTON – What began 70 years ago in Washington, on May 24, 1940, with the founding of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, an umbrella organization representing Ukrainian Americans, was commemorated in an elegant manner on Wednesday, May 19, in the halls of the U.S. Congress.

The gala congressional reception was the inaugural commemoration of the UCCA's 70 years of dedicated service to the Ukrainian community. Other activities throughout the year will include celebrations in communities throughout the United States; a short history DVD on highlighting the UCCA's achievements since 1940; and, a culminating banquet gala in New York in May 2011.

Nearly 100 community activists and leaders gathered from throughout the United States for the celebratory fete, which was highlighted by the presence of a host of guests and members of Congress.

Michael Sawkiw, Jr., the current director of the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), the Washington public affairs office of the UCCA, and former UCCA president, served as the master of ceremonies for the evenings.

Archbishop Metropolitan Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia began the proceedings with a prayer of Thanksgiving, followed by greetings from UCCA President Tamara Olexy-Gallo.

In her opening remarks, Ms. Olexy mentioned the UCCA forefathers who, "upon losing themselves in their cause – freedom and justice for Ukraine – found the strength and determination to call the first Congress of Ukrainians in America. Because of their passion and perseverance, they were able to gather all Ukrainian American organizations in our nation's capital and establish the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America."

Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Dr. Oleh Shamshur, congratulated the UCCA and expressed his heartfelt appreciation for the years of cooperation with the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America during his tenure in Washington.

The ambassador also presented the UCCA with an official greeting from Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs Konstantyn Gryshchenko, which read in part: "We recall with gratitude the unwavering support rendered by the UCCA for the nation-building process in Ukraine, your valued advice and active stance in defending Ukraine's interests in international affairs, as well as your tangible input into the development of the U.S.-Ukraine strategic partnership."

Members of Congress joined in the celebration with accolades for the work and ser-

vice of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio), a member of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus and longtime friend of the Ukrainian community in the greater Cleveland area, congratulated the UCCA on its 70 years of service to the Ukrainian community and read remarks submitted earlier that day on the floor of the House of Representatives.

The statement noted: "Throughout the Cold War, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America spoke out against human rights violations and advocated for the liberation of Ukrainian political prisoners in the former USSR. The grassroots efforts of the UCCA continue to focus on encouraging members of Congress to support the process of democratic development in Ukraine and to promote the needs and concerns of Ukrainian Americans."

Other members of Congress who joined in the celebration, all members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, included Rep. Maurice Hinchey (D-N.Y.), who spoke of his Ukrainian heritage, his previous trip to Ukraine as a UCCA election observer, and his commitment to enhancing the bilateral relationship between Ukraine and the United States.

Rep. Allyson Schwartz (D-Pa.) thanked the UCCA for its active work in Congress and mentioned her close ties to the Ukrainian community in her congressional district. As the co-chair of the Georgian Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives, the congresswoman spoke of her recent trip to Ukraine, and how both Ukraine and Georgia need the continued support of the United States to solidify their young democracies.

Two of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus co-chairs, Reps. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio) and Jim Gerlach (R-Pa.), expressed their gratitude for the UCCA's service to the Ukrainian community in advocating its concerns. "We are fortunate to have a close working relationship with the UCCA, in particular its Washington office, in pursuing many projects of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus to forge better relations between us [Congress] and the Ukrainian Parliament and the Ukrainian society," stated Rep. Kaptur. Rep. Gerlach acknowledged the deep commitment of the UCCA in promoting the rich Ukrainian heritage in the United States and making the plight of Ukraine known in the halls of Congress.

Former congressman Don Ritter from Pennsylvania also attended and thanked the UCCA and the entire Ukrainian American community for working so closely with him during his years in Congress in the 1980s through the early 1990s. Mr. Ritter served on the Commission on Security and

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## Farewell receptions, meetings cite Shamshur's contributions

by Yaro Bihun

*Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – Ambassador Oleh Shamshur, who headed Ukraine's diplomatic mission to the United States for more than four years, returned to Kyiv on May 30, following a weeklong series of farewell receptions and meetings here with representatives of private and governmental organizations and officials with whom he had worked in strengthening Ukraine-U.S. bilateral relations.

Ukrainian American organizations honored the ambassador and bid him farewell on May 25 at a special reception held at the downtown Army-Navy Club near the White House. Organized by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), The Washington Group (TWG), the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council (UACC) and the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF), the evening brought together some 40 representatives of these and other local Ukrainian organizations and churches to thank him for his efforts in Washington, bid him farewell and wish him the best in the future.

Opening the evening, TWG President Andrew Bihun thanked Ambassador



Yaro Bihun

**Ambassador Oleh Shamshur of Ukraine.**

Shamshur for his dedication to developing every aspect of relations with the United States as well as with the Ukrainian American community. Representatives of the other participating organizations echoed this theme – Michael Sawkiw of

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## U.S. and Canadian officials react to attempted intimidation of UCU

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The U.S. State Department reacted on June 2 to reports of attempted intimidation on May 18 by the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) of the Ukrainian Catholic University's rector and expressed "concern about actions that could be interpreted as restricting basic freedoms."

Assistant Secretary for State for Public Affairs Philip J. Crowley issued the following brief statement (published here in full): "Today, the State Department raised with the chargé d'affaires of the Ukrainian Embassy issues related to freedom of speech and association in Ukraine, including reports of recent contact between Security Service officials and the rector of Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. We expressed concern about actions that could be interpreted as restricting basic freedoms. We welcome the public offer by the Ukrainian Security Service chief to meet with the university rector. Ukrainians should be proud of their democratic progress, and we hope that progress will continue."

The U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission) also conveyed its misgivings about the Lviv incident to the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington and Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on several occa-

sions – the first being on May 22, Orest Deychakiwsky, policy adviser, told The Ukrainian Weekly. Mr. Deychakiwsky added that the commission's comments were relayed to Kyiv along with concerns about freedom of assembly and media freedom.

In Canada, Member of Parliament Borys Wrzesnewskyj on May 28 delivered a statement on the SBU's actions, referring to "recent attempts to muzzle Ukraine's media and trumped up criminal charges against opposition leaders."

"Incredibly, secret service agents have even attempted to intimidate university rectors. On May 18 Father Borys Gudziak, the rector of the renowned Ukrainian Catholic University, received a call on his cellphone from a security service agent. Twenty minutes later this agent was in the rector's office. What followed was an hour of attempts to co-op and intimidate the rector into spying on student activists and to rat out the names of student protest organizers."

Mr. Wrzesnewskyj emphasized that, "Not since the days of the Soviet Union has the Ukrainian Catholic Church, its institutions, priests and students been menaced in this way."

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## ANALYSIS

## President Yanukovich returns to multi-vector foreign policy

by Pavel Korduban  
Eurasia Daily Monitor

The Ukrainian government has ruled out membership in both the Russian-led Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) and NATO. At the same time, integration with the European Union and cooperation with Russia top the list of foreign policy priorities for President Viktor Yanukovich, and economic matters take overall precedence.

Mr. Yanukovich seems to be reviving the "multi-vector" policy of President Leonid Kuchma (1994-2004) when Ukraine played a balancing act between the West and Russia, trying to use differences between them to its advantage. Mr. Kuchma's policy failed for reasons ranging from domestic opposition to international ostracism following accusations against him of corruption and unproven accusations of illegal arms sales to Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq. It remains to be seen whether Mr. Yanukovich will avoid Mr. Kuchma's mistakes.

Prime Minister Mykola Azarov spoke in favor of the Single Economic Space (SES), a common market planned by Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan, in an interview with several Russian media sources on May 19. However, he said Kyiv would primarily "proceed from its national interest." Earlier, President Yanukovich used the same phrase when he rejected Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's proposal to merge Naftohaz Ukrainy with Gazprom.

Mr. Azarov most likely meant that Ukraine will seek special relations with the nascent union without pursuing membership. Mr. Azarov added that he views the union as primarily "a market of 200 million or more people," although it might prove difficult to resolve conflicts of interest with Russian steel makers and the chemical industry within the SES framework.

The Yanukovich team rejected Russian overtures regarding membership in military and political unions. Kyiv made it clear that the current rapprochement with Russia will

not go beyond certain limits. During his recent visit to Kyiv, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said that he would be "happy" if Ukraine joined the CSTO (Interfax-Ukraine, May 18). The head of Mr. Yanukovich's administration, Serhiy Lyovochkin, flatly ruled out membership in the CSTO for Ukraine (Ukraynska Pravda, May 19).

Foreign Affairs Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, a former ambassador to Moscow, later repeated that Ukraine will not join the CSTO, but would maintain its neutral status instead (2000 weekly, May 28). Moreover, the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry stated immediately after Mr. Medvedev's departure for Moscow that the country would not hurry to change its status in the CIS from observer to full member (UNIAN, May 19).

Kyiv, under Mr. Yanukovich, is also very clear on its attitude to NATO. Visiting the western Ukrainian city of Lviv, where the population is considered pro-NATO, Mr. Yanukovich said it would be unrealistic for Ukraine to aim at joining the alliance because public opinion opposes such a policy. He said Ukraine would remain outside blocs, while developing its partnership with NATO (Interfax-Ukraine, May 27).

Speaking later on the same day, Gryshchenko said NATO membership was no longer on the agenda (Channel 5, May 27).

Similarly, Parliament demonstrated pragmatism by allowing foreign troops to enter Ukraine for the participation in international drills in 2010, including those under the aegis of NATO. Support for a respective motion submitted by Mr. Yanukovich was overwhelming, 394 votes "in favor" in the 450-seat chamber (UNIAN, May 18). Ukraine has cancelled several international military exercises in the past as the Communists and Mr. Yanukovich's Party of the Regions protested against NATO troops' participation. Although the Communists are

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## Yanukovich pays a visit to Lviv

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – President Viktor Yanukovich finally paid a visit to Lviv, where he is scorned as a pro-Russian leader who has betrayed Ukraine's interests. The May 27 visit came three months after he took office and after two previously scheduled trips had been cancelled. It lasted all of five hours.

Natalia Feduschak and Peter Byrne, writing in the May 28 issue of the Kyiv Post, reported:

"As one might expect, more than 1,000 protesters turned up outside [Lviv] Polytechnic University, where a similar number of officers, many of whom were helmeted and armed, forcibly pushed the crowd to a side street for their demonstration. There were, unsurprisingly, conflicting reports over whether unruly protesters were to blame for breaking through securi-

ty lines or whether the officers got overly aggressive and started striking demonstrators with truncheons.

"In either case, Yanukovich barely noticed the demonstrators before he ended the official part of his visit about 3:30 p.m. on May 27. He suggested the protesters had been hired to cause trouble."

Their report quoted the president as saying to a group of oblast government leaders: "I think Lviv Oblast in general positively assesses our work, but the group of people [yelling outside] are paid for political issues. We have a democratic society and this shouldn't get in the way of our decisions and our attitude toward any regions." The president's meeting with oblast officials was the main item on his agenda in Lviv.

President Yanukovich also visited the soccer stadium being built for the Euro 2012 championship as well as a military academy. He announced that Ukraine would make a bid to host the 2022 Winter Olympic Games in the Carpathian Mountains.

The Kyiv Post also reported that Mr. Yanukovich took only four questions from the region's journalists, noting that he "brushed aside one question about whether his Russian-friendly policies are dividing the nation" and spoke instead about economic issues.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### UEFA approves host cities

KYIV – The supervisory board of the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) on June 2 made the decision to approve the holding of the Euro 2012 soccer championship in all four Ukrainian host cities: Kyiv, Donetsk, Lviv and Kharkiv. UEFA experts visited Kyiv and Lviv to look at the construction of "problem sites" and noted the acceleration of reconstruction and construction of infrastructure facilities. Vice Prime Minister Borys Kolesnikov, who is responsible for Euro 2012 and who was present at the meeting of UEFA supervisory board in Switzerland, said after the meeting: "It's in our hands. UEFA was satisfied with the efforts being made by the government of Ukraine to prepare for the championship, and was surprised that over the past two months there was done more than in the previous two years." The next test of preparedness for Kyiv, Donetsk, Lviv and Kharkiv is in September, when the cities should definitely "fit" the timelines for all four cities. At the moment I cannot even see the possibility that one or two cities will lose their chances for the Euro," Mr. Kolesnikov said. (Ukrinform)

### Ombudsman on student's death

KYIV – Ukraine's ombudsman said on June 1 that the death of a student in police custody in Kyiv last week was murder. Twenty-year-old Ihor Indyl died in Kyiv's Shevchenko district police department on May 25 in unclear circumstances. Police said Indyl was brought in an intoxicated state to the station, where he fell down several times, hitting himself. But Mr. Indyl's parents and rights activists disputed that, saying he had been beaten. Speaking with RFE/RL today, Ombudsman Nina Karpachova said that Mr. Indyl's death was the second such fatality this year. She said that in both cases the police insist the deaths were accidental. Ms. Karpachova added that she is personally monitoring the investigations. She urged the minister of internal affairs and the Kyiv city prosecutor to conduct an objective, transparent and unbiased investigation into the deaths. Several protests were held in Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities on June. The participants demanded a clear explanation of

why Mr. Indyl died and insisted that any police officials involved in his beating and death should be punished. Kyiv-based human rights activist Oleh Veremienko told RFE/RL that the protests did not focus only on Mr. Indyl's death, but were staged on behalf of all Ukrainians whose rights are abused on a regular basis by the police. (RFE/RL)

### NUKMA supports UCU

KYIV – Dr. Serhiy Kvit, president of National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NUKMA) issued a statement in support of the stand taken by the rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. According to an English translation of his statement released on May 27, Dr. Kvit said: "The SBU representative's intimidation of Father Boris Gudziak, rector of UCU, has caused great indignation. I am not referring to the disregard of the principles of university autonomy because university autonomy does not exist in Ukraine. We must understand that a university is not merely walls, people and books. A university exists where the spirit of the university lives, based on the principles of freedom – academic freedom, freedom of speech, freedom of conscience, freedom to participate in political and public associations and in various gatherings. We are all different, but a single-minded approach in the conduct of the academic community can be attained only when the community protects these freedoms. We hereby express our support of the Ukrainian Catholic University, a partner of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, and our support of the critical position of our colleagues Rector Borys Gudziak, Pro-Rector Myroslav Marynovych, and Prof. Yaroslav Hrytsak." (NUKMA)

### UWC expresses its concern

KYIV – The Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) will continue to seek the recognition by the United Nations of the Holodomor of 1932-1933 as genocide against the Ukrainian people, WCU Secretary General Stefan Romaniw said on May 28. He expressed the concern of the Ukrainian diaspora that Ukraine's new lead-

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## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.  
Yearly subscription rate: \$55; for UNA members – \$45.

Periodicals postage paid at Caldwell, NJ 07006 and additional mailing offices.  
(ISSN – 0273-9348)

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

Postmaster, send address changes to:  
The Ukrainian Weekly  
2200 Route 10  
P.O. Box 280  
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz  
Editors: Matthew Dubas  
Zenon Zawada (Kyiv)

The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: [www.ukrweekly.com](http://www.ukrweekly.com); e-mail: [staff@ukrweekly.com](mailto:staff@ukrweekly.com)

The Ukrainian Weekly, June 6, 2010, No. 23, Vol. LXXVIII  
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## Correction

Two articles in last week's issue (May 30) were mistakenly attributed to Taras Kuzio due to a technical error. The article "Non-bloc status covers Kyiv's shift to Russian-vector orientation" was by Vladimir Socor, and "Yanukovich rejects Putin's proposal for Gazprom-Naftohaz Ukrainy merger" was by Pavel Korduban.



# One year later: Odesa's Ukrainian patriots remember Chaika murder

by Zenon Zawada  
Kyiv Press Bureau

ODESA – Among the leaders of Odesa's community of Ukrainian patriots community, Volodymyr Musiak's hands bear numerous scars from the fistfights he's been in.

"Every Ukrainian patriot in Odesa goes through three phases," said Mr. Musiak, 26. "First you get beaten up, then you learn to defend yourself, and then you learn to fight back."

However, Mr. Musiak's deepest scar was the loss of his friend and fellow nationalist Maksym Chaika, who was murdered on Good Friday, April 17, 2009, by the Antifas, an international youth gang that claims to fight against nationalism and intolerance, yet has demonstrated its own penchant for violence.

A year since the murder, Chaika has become a symbol – even gaining hero status among ethnically conscious Ukrainians who live in southeastern Ukraine and are increasingly the targets of violence, police abuses and rights violations.

More than 1,200 Ukrainian patriots, nationalists and neo-Nazis marched in Odesa on April 17 to honor Chaika, who was 21 years old at the time. They held plac-

ards that read, "Heroes don't die," chanted slogans such as "We won't forget, we will avenge," sang songs and attended concerts in his honor.

Though local enforcement authorities allowed the demonstration, activists were alarmed by its actions afterwards. Police illegally arrested several leaders of the march, activists claimed. They allegedly tortured Aleksey Makarov, a Russian citizen seeking asylum in Ukraine, who allegedly attempted suicide while in custody.

Two others arrested – Kateryna Ovrarnets and Vitalii Krasnoschok – said they were denied food, drink and sleep while questioned by police the entire night of April 18. A month later, both Messrs. Makarov and Krasnoschok remained in police custody, said Dmytro Linko, chair of the Odesa Bratstvo organization.

The police have denied them access to lawyers and relatives, he said. The police are also using physical and psychological force to gain false confessions to tie them to other alleged crimes.

Also following the march, four nationalists were arrested and two were called into police headquarters in attempt to charge them with "violating civil order," reported Mr. Linko, who was arrested and released,



Maksym Chaika

but is currently in hiding for fear of being arrested again.

Unfortunately for Odesa's ethnically conscious Ukrainians, conditions have gotten worse in the year since the Chaika murder with the emergence of President Viktor Yanukovich, whose administration has shown hostility to those citizens who support the rebirth of Ukrainian language, history and culture.

The Odesa oligarch suspected by the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) of ordering Chaika's murder, Igor Markov, reportedly had one of the criminal charges against him dropped in early March by the Main Administration of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Mykolaiv.

Soon after, Vice Prime Minister of the Military and Police Volodymyr Sivkovich said he intended to re-instate Mr. Markov's Russian chauvinist Rodina party, which was determined by the Ministry of Justice to have been registered illegally.

It remains unclear whether Mr. Sivkovich followed up on his intention, yet Mr. Markov claims his party is legitimate.

Before Mr. Yanukovich came to power, Mr. Markov was wanted for questioning about his involvement in several violent crimes, including Chaika's murder. For several months in 2009, Mr. Markov spent time in the Russian Federation, avoiding an arrest warrant.

Mr. Markov is the main instigator of violence against ethnically conscious Ukrainians in Odesa, having participating in attacks personally.

He owns several local television networks that have periodically called for violence against Ukrainians and Jews, and have slandered leaders of these respective ethnic groups, including Odesa Mayor Eduard Hurvits, who has spoken out against the

activity of Mr. Markov (but done little).

The millionaire oligarch is not only free, but also leads an active public life. Most recently, he was invited to discuss Ukrainian-Romanian relations on June 2 by the Party in Power Analytical Bureau in Kyiv, led by Olena Dachenko. His criminal activity didn't bother her much.

"If law enforcement authorities see it fit for him to be free, I can't influence that," she told The Weekly, ignoring the ethical issues involved of allowing him to speak as a political authority. Moreover, Mr. Markov is also planning to run for mayor of Odesa.

Evidence indicates that Chaika's murder was planned.

"These were two professional strikes to arteries in the armpit and groin, where one suffers a quick loss of large amounts of blood," said Pavlo Kyrylenko, chair of the Odesa Oblast Organization of the Svoboda nationalist party. "These people were trained in knife-fighting and knew where to strike in order for someone to die quickly."

Andrii Dzeban, Chaika's friend who was knifed and hospitalized in the same encounter, said the brawl was no longer than 30 seconds, yet resulted in a murder, offering more evidence it was planned.

"This wasn't a typical brawl because in a 30-second fight it's impossible to get out a knife so quickly," Mr. Dzeban said. "That means they knew ahead of time what they were going to do."

The man believed to be responsible for Chaika's fatal stabbing, the 24-year-old Andrii Dovhan, was never arrested and is believed to be hiding in the Russian Federation, although Odesa's patriots told The Weekly they've confirmed he's been freely traveling throughout southern Ukraine, including Odesa and Crimea.

Mr. Dovhan fled to Moscow immediately following the murder, the SBU reported in May 2009, confirming his ties to Russian networks. The SBU also confirmed that Chaika's murder was planned by Mr. Markov, who finances the Antifas (Anti-Fascist) gang.

The SBU was also investigating Mr. Markov's financing from Russian sources. Last summer, Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry expelled Russian's consul general in Odesa Aleksandr Grachev for actions "unbecoming a diplomat," which veteran observers suspect was related to his support of local Ukrainophobes.

Chaika was no angel, as evidenced by the dozens of digital photos taken that have circulated on the Internet, which depict him drinking and partying, which is nothing unusual for youths. Chaika was also an active soccer hooligan, a subculture that involves partying and street fights, in which he also participated.

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Zenon Zawada

Volodymyr Musiak, a friend of Maksym Chaika, stands next to graffiti on an Odesa street which reads, "We remember Maksym." A self-described nationalist, Chaika was murdered on April 17, 2009, by the local Antifa youth gang.

## INTERVIEW: Alina Chaika on her brother's murder

by Zenon Zawada  
Kyiv Press Bureau

ODESA – Alina Chaika learned about the murder of her older brother Maksym, on her 19th birthday on April 18, 2009. Their family was planning to visit the city outskirts and celebrate, but instead they visited the hospital to claim his corpse.

Few of Chaika's friends and acquaintances wish to speak to the press, which they believe unfairly portrayed him. Ms. Chaika offered The Ukrainian Weekly a rare interview on April 2, in which she discussed her life in Odesa following the tragedy.

Maksym Chaika, 21, was murdered on April 17 apparently for his active role in organizing Ukrainian nationalists in Odesa and holding public events, such as marches honoring the Ukrainian Insurgent Army, which fought for Ukrainian liberation in World War II. No one has been arrested.

**A year has passed since the tragedy. How do you feel and what are your thoughts?**

How to describe it? I simply don't believe it to this day. For me, it's as if it didn't hap-

pen. It's impossible to describe how I felt. It was unexpected and too large a tragedy and loss to believe it and feel something. But time passes. The more time passes, the harder it is to handle, but the more you understand about what happened.

**Do you like the fact that many nationalists remember him and support him?**

Of course, it's very important, because in many cities, marches were held in memory of Maksym. People write poems and songs and everything is being done so he's not forgotten. He's remembered and the matter that he fought for is still alive. Thank God, there are people who support such ideas. Unfortunately, there aren't any people like Maksym in Odesa anymore and I don't think there will be. He was the one person who lived for this, who was fanatically passionate about all of this. It was the main thing in his life, more than anything else.

**For him, what did it mean to be a nationalist? Different people have different understandings of what it means to be**

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## Quotable notes

"...In exchange for Russian cooperation, President [Barack] Obama has killed the Bush administration's planned missile defense installations in Poland and the Czech Republic. Obama has officially declared that Russia's continued illegal military occupation of Georgia is no 'obstacle' to U.S.-Russian civilian nuclear cooperation. The recent deal between Russia and Ukraine granting Russia control of a Crimean naval base through 2042 was shrugged off by Obama officials, as have been [Vladimir] Putin's suggestions for merging Russian and Ukrainian industries in a blatant bid to undermine Ukrainian sovereignty.

"So at least one effect of the administration's 'reset' has been to produce a wave of insecurity throughout Eastern and Central Europe and the Baltics, where people are starting to fear they can no longer count on the United States to protect them from an expansive Russia. And for this the administration has gotten what? Yet another hollow U.N. Security Council resolution [on tightening sanctions against Iran]. Some observers suggest that Iran's leaders are quaking in their boots, confronted by this great unity of the international 'community.' More likely, they are laughing up their sleeves – along with the men in Moscow."

– Robert Kagan, a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, writing On May 25 in his monthly column in The Washington Post. The column was headlined "A hollow 'reset' with Russia."



## THE 37th CONVENTION OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

### Report of Resolutions Committee

*Members: Dr. Wasyl Szeremeta (chairperson), Martha Bilyk, Slavko Tysiak, Eugene Serba, Maya Lew, Al Kachkowski, Michael Luciw, Ewhen Osidacz and Dr. Myron Kuropas.*

1. Whereas, the 33rd, 34th, 35th and 36th Convention Bodies resolved that the bust of the late Patriarch Mstyslav be erected and dedicated on the Soyuzivka Heritage Center within one year from the last convention, and

Whereas, resolutions that are passed by the conventions are binding on the subsequent General Assembly,

Be it resolved that 37th UNA Convention direct the General Assembly as a priority item to create a fund whose purpose is to erect and dedicate a bust of the late Patriarch Mstyslav at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center.

Be it further resolved that the 37th Convention elect a committee for the purpose of implementing this fund-raising project with reporting responsibilities to the General Assembly.

2. Whereas, the official publications of the Ukrainian National Association – Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly – represent a crucial public image for the Ukrainian National Association and are indispensable for the organization in the Ukrainian community at large,

Be it resolved that a UNA Publication Endowment Fund be created to ensure the future of the UNA's official publications – Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly – via

a permanent reserve fund.

3. Whereas, the UNA Charter and By-Laws represent the governing rules for the association, and

Whereas, the convention body represents the highest legislative body of our association, and

Whereas, the convention body may change by-laws on a quadrennial basis,

Be it resolved that the By-Laws Committee shall provide full disclosure in writing concerning all recommended By-Laws changes, including authorship, the key supporting arguments, regardless of whether the committee shall recommend certain recommendations and not others.

4. Whereas, there is a need to encourage and facilitate enrollment of new members,

Be it resolved that the program committee at the next convention include two presentations of up to 15 minutes each by the two of the top producers in the previous four-year period to educate and inform convention delegates on how these producers were able to achieve their specific sales successes.

5. Whereas, time is limited at the convention and many reports need to be reviewed in detail to ensure the continued good of the organization,

Be it resolved that all received reports of non-executive General Assembly members be sent to all delegates at least 30 days in advance of the convention in order to give delegates time to review reports in a timely fashion.

Be it further resolved that the minutes



Members of the Resolutions Committee present their report.

of the current convention of the Ukrainian National Association be distributed to all delegates within 12 months of the conclusion of this convention, and that the minutes be published in both Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly within 12 months.

6. Whereas, it is our duty as a Ukrainian Fraternal Organization to promote and foster a love of the Ukrainian heritage and culture, organizing and educating Ukrainians, especially the youth, providing them with leadership to make them aware of their national origin and cultural heritage,

Be it resolved that we must continue the efforts that were begun over the last four years to return to Cultural Courses for middle and high school students, similar to the ones that were held in previous years at Soyuzivka which teach them language, heritage, geography, history and the arts and be consistent with the mission of the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation.

7. Whereas, it is very important that the Delegates of the UNA Convention understand and are well-informed of who the candidates are for elected offices,

Be it resolved that for the primaries, all candidates running for elected office must present themselves to the Elections Committee chairperson with their intention to run. The Elections Committee will then print a primary ballot with all names printed. Write-in ballots would still be permitted.

8. Whereas, the Charter and By-Laws represent the governing rules for the Association, and

Whereas, the convention body represents the highest legislative body of our association, and

Whereas, the convention body may change By-Laws on a quadrennial basis,

Be it resolved, that a nine-member By-Laws Study Committee be elected by the current convention to study potential by-laws changes between conventions. We strongly recommend that the Executive Committee choose the five-member By-Laws Study Committee to serve at the subsequent convention.

9. Whereas, there is a need to encourage and facilitate enrollment of new members,

and

Whereas, all new technologies should be used to assist both current and future members of the UNA to manage their insurance needs,

Be it resolved that the UNA develop additional online services for its members to be able to manage their entire UNA needs online, including but not limited to viewing their insurance portfolio online, as well as making online payments.

10. Whereas, there is serious trepidation regarding the current political changes in Ukraine, and

Whereas, the current events in Ukraine represent a serious threat to the recent progress toward democracy in Ukraine, and

Whereas, Ukraine is a crucial strategic partner to the future interests of the United States, Canada and Europe,

Be it resolved that the Executive Committee of the UNA immediately contact President of the United States Barack Obama, Prime Minister of Canada Stephen Harper, as well as all members of the U.S. Congress and Canadian Parliament, as well as the Embassies of Ukraine in the U.S.A. and Canada to resolutely counter all the anti-democratic efforts of the current Ukrainian and Russian governments as permitted by current law,

Be it further resolved that the president of the UNA, as well as members of the General Assembly, continue to be an integral member of ongoing delegations meeting with government officials to voice their concerns regarding the future relationship between the U.S.A., Canada and Ukraine as permitted by current law.

11. Whereas, there continues to be a serious deficiency in the appropriate mail delivery of our publications, and

Whereas, we have paid for and fail to receive appropriate service,

Be it resolved that the president of the UNA meet with the postmaster general to strongly protest the discriminatory service that our publications receive and that an immediate resolution to this problem is expected.

Be it further resolved that if these problems continue, that the Executive

(Continued on page 5)

### Report of Secretaries Committee



The Secretaries Committee reports to the convention.

*Members: Eugene Oscislowski, Branch 234 (chairman); Oksana Stanko, Branch 37; Stephanie Majkut, Branch 238; Gregory Vaughn, Branch 452; Lubov Streletsky, Branch 10; Nicholas Fil, Branch 13; Peter Serba, Branch 173; Stephan Welhasch, Branch 172; and Anna Buriy, Branch 402.*

The primary goal of all UNA secretaries for the next four years should be to increase membership and life insurance sales. With this in mind, the following recommendations are proposed:

1) The Home Office should provide branch secretaries at their request, UNA insurance materials with both the Home Office contact information and sufficient room for branch secretary contact information. This will familiarize potential membership with their local secretary.

2) Conservation of endowment policies should be practiced by all secretaries. The Home Office should assist by sending copies of option letters to secretaries. This would give the secretary an opportu-

nity to personally discuss the option with the member.

3) To better keep the Ukrainian public informed about who the secretaries are in their area, the UNA should periodically publish in Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, the photos and contact information for branch secretaries by region.

4) Branch secretaries should be encouraged to become licensed in their states. This would not only raise the professional level of their sales approach but will also give them the proper credentials to sell UNA products and annuities.

5) Branch secretaries should utilize the new life insurance software available online or on CD. The Home Office will be happy to provide assistance in the utilization of the software.

6) Secretaries are encouraged to attend courses organized by the Home Office.

7) Secretaries are encouraged to advertise in their church bulletins where possible. All advertising must be pre-approved by the National Secretary.

### Report of Petitions Committee

*Members: Oksana Trytjak (chair), Donald Horbaty, Lidia Kolodchin, Bohdana Puzyk and Luba Keske.*

The committee acted on 12 petitions and decided to award \$500 to each of the following:

1. Ukrainian Homestead, Leighton Pa.
2. California Association to Aid Ukraine.
3. Ukrainian American Veterans, for the veterans monument in South Bound Brook, N.J.
4. Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic School, Warren, Mich.
5. Ukrainian American Archives and

Museum of Detroit, Hamtramck, Mich.

6. Ukrainian Federation of America, Elkins Park, Pa.

7. Ukrainian Athletic-Educational Association Chornomorska Sitch, Whippany, N.J.

8. Cheremosh Hutsul Society, Jenkintown, Pa.

9. The Ukrainian Museum, New York.

10. Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, for its educational camps.

11. Ukrainian American Youth Association, for its educational camps.

12. Ukrainian National Women's League of America, New York headquarters.



## THE 37th CONVENTION OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

### First-time delegates reflect on convention experience and the UNA

by Matthew Dubas

First-time delegates to the 37th UNA Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association were asked by *The Ukrainian Weekly* to explain their convention experiences, things that they learned while at the convention and areas of improvement for the UNA.

**Gregory Vaughn, 24,  
Munster, Ind., Branch 452**

Gregory has been a UNA member since 1991, and he has become more involved with his local branch, becoming the recording secretary. He noted that with all organizations, even his local parish at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, there is the old versus the young, and the young tend to move away and the old remain. "If you don't do it, who's going to?" he noted. Being matrilineal Ukrainian, Gregory said that his Ukrainian was a bit limited, but luckily he got help from a few "Soyuzivka Babas (grandmas)" who would translate the convention proceedings from Ukrainian into English. This was Gregory's first time to Soyuzivka and he hopes for a bright future for the heritage center. He recommended that "if you're interested in joining the UNA or volunteering, just ask somebody."

*Mr. Vaughn served on the Secretaries Committee during the convention.*

**Andrij Gavdanovich, 23,  
Edison, N.J., Branch 234**

Originally from Lviv and having been in America only three years, Andrij said his first time at the UNA convention has been very educational regarding how the organization functions. He admitted that prior to the convention he did not know that the organization was active in Canada and recently learned about the UNA's scholarship program. As a baritone singer with the Dumka Chorus of New York for more than two years, he first came to Soyuzivka with the chorus during the annual Ukrainian Cultural Festival. He

said it was good to see many working for Ukraine and suggested the possibility of working with other Slavic organizations to do more. In gearing the UNA's products to young people, Andrij commented that he liked the online subscriptions to the newspapers, and the youth-oriented articles on music, sports and other interests.

*Mr. Gavdanovich served on the Election Committee during the convention.*

**Markian Hadzewycz, 26,  
Morristown, N.J., Branch 287**

Markian observed that the delegates are really dedicated to the UNA and its activities. "It's one thing to be involved in a local branch's day-to-day operations, but at a convention you get a bigger picture of what the UNA does and you have an opportunity to really get to know the executives. Getting young people involved guarantees the future of the UNA." The UNA can market its products well, he said, and with scholarships, the newspapers, local festivals and events, the youth have a lot of opportunity to work with their local branches. Markian said that he would return for another UNA convention, and "as you learn, you want to do more, especially in committees."

*Mr. Hadzewycz served on the Election Committee during the convention.*

**Andrew Futey,  
Parma, Ohio, Branch 102**

This was Andrew's first time as a delegate to a UNA convention, but he had been to the convention before, as president of SUSTA (Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations in America) in 1986. His family has a longstanding record of community involvement, including his father, Judge Bohdan Futey. "This multi-national organization can attract youth to the UNA and similar



Gregory Vaughn



Andrij Gavdanovich



Markian Hadzewycz



Andrew Futey

Matthew Dubas

organizations, and I hope to re-energize participation among youth and foster this body to elect and re-elect effective leadership." His role in the UNA has been mostly passive, but Andrew has been more visibly active in organizations such as the UCCA (Ukrainian Congress Committee of America). "UNA members, especially the youth, should pick up a

newspaper like *The Ukrainian Weekly* or *Svoboda* and learn what is going on in their local area and build for the future." The UNA's products, he said, should focus on value, and provide an open comparison against competitive markets.

*Mr. Futey was elected a UNA advisor for the next four-year term.*

### Report of Resolutions...

(Continued from page 4)

Committee be directed to explore any and all legal actions against the United States Postal Service.

12. Whereas, the management of the daily activities of the UNA involve the complex interaction of our insurance business and related fraternal activities, and

Whereas, transparency of the organization's activities are paramount in engendering trust, and

Whereas, more frequent meetings and appropriate updates can motivate the general membership to become even more active in this organization,

Be it resolved that the Executive Committee meet no less than on a quarterly basis to formally discuss the status of the organization and developing plans, and

Be it further resolved that reports of these meetings are issued within 30 days of the meeting and a summary published in our publications.

13. Whereas, the currently named Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation provides the corporate structure that will govern the Soyuzivka Heritage Center going forward, and

Whereas, the foundation needs a full

functioning Board to perform the tasks necessary for the development of the future of the Soyuzivka Heritage Center,

Be it resolved that the UNA Executive Committee encourage the Board of the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation to begin work as a viable organization.

15. Whereas, many discussions regarding Canada have occurred over the last several conventions and General Assemblies, and

Whereas, Canadian laws and regulations preclude the UNA from profitably selling current popular products to Canadians, and

Whereas, the Ukrainian community in Canada is an integral component of the Ukrainian diaspora, and

Whereas, the Ukrainian community in Canada has irreversible ties to the UNA past and present, and

Whereas, Canada is vitally important to the future of the UNA,

Be it resolved that the president and national secretary work with the director for Canada and all Canadian branch secretaries to improve the image branding of the UNA and to find the proper avenues for finding existing products and developing new products that take advantage of Canadian laws and procedures.



Roma Hadzewycz

Members of the convention presidium: (seated from left) Andrij Szul, parliamentarian; Chairman Nestor Olesnycky; (standing) Vice-Chairmen Raymond Komichak and Roman Hawryluk.



## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### The UNA's 37th convention

This week's issue of our newspaper continues coverage of the Ukrainian National Association's recently concluded convention, the quadrennial gathering of delegates representing UNA branches throughout North America and the organization's highest decision-making body.

The UNA, as most of our readers realize, is the publisher of The Ukrainian Weekly and our sister publication, Svoboda. But it is also the largest and strongest Ukrainian fraternal benefit society. What exactly does that mean? That the UNA, as a fraternal insurance society, reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community. And, the UNA's mission statement asserts that the UNA exists: "to promote the principles of fraternalism; to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and to provide quality financial services and products to its members."

That is why news of the UNA's 37th Regular Convention should be of interest not only to UNA members, but also to all the members of our Ukrainian community. Last week's issue reported the top news from the convention (who was elected, major decisions on by-laws changes); this week's issue publishes committee reports – containing resolutions and recommendations – approved by delegates; next week we will present a wrap-up of the doings at the convention by reporting the how and the why.

In this space, our goal is to point to the most salient features of the 37th Convention. For starters, it was notable that UNA executives were able to report stunningly good financial news during a time of worldwide economic crisis. President Stefan Kaczaraj noted: "The UNA has moved in the right direction. ... We have survived the worst the economy could throw at us, and we have thrived."

National Secretary Christine E. Kozak reported that the UNA's net premium income rose from almost \$2.4 million in 2006 to more than \$35.9 million in 2009. The major portion of that income was from sales of annuities, but there was also a marked increase in sales of life insurance – good news indeed for the UNA.

Treasurer Roma Lisovich underscored that UNA assets had reached a new milestone: \$110 million. At the same time, thanks to careful management, the UNA had succeeded in curtailing expenses.

The UNA officially presented its new logo to convention delegates, who with near unanimity approved the UNA's new look, reflecting a modern organization with an illustrious history that is moving forward and stands ready to meet the challenges of the future.

Delegates also chose a new General Assembly, electing by acclamation the six executive officers and the three auditors. It is noteworthy that these nine officers received between 67 and 76 votes each out of the total 77 votes represented at the convention – quite an expression of confidence in the UNA's top leadership. As regards the 11 advisors on the General Assembly, delegates elected six incumbents and five newcomers – a healthy mix of experience and new ideas. What's more, the new advisors are all highly qualified professionals in diverse fields (ranging from law to the movie industry) who can be expected to contribute their knowledge for the benefit of the UNA and its membership.

Perhaps the most significant development at the convention was the discussion and adoption of wide-ranging and well thought-out resolutions (see Resolutions Committee report on page 4) that cover everything from the UNA's official publications and the Soyuzivka Heritage Center, to increasing membership and establishing a By-Laws Study Committee to review the UNA By-Laws and prepare proposals for amendments. In addition, one of the convention resolutions expressed "serious trepidation regarding the current political changes" and the "threat to the recent progress toward democracy" in Ukraine, directing the UNA leadership to voice concern about these developments.

Finally, the convention delegates themselves deserve recognition. They contributed their time and effort to make the convention a success. Indeed, throughout the four days of proceedings, delegates were fully engaged, serving on committees (and sitting in on them even if they were not officially members), participating in discussions, posing pertinent questions, attending Secretarial Courses, and debating and adopting resolutions that set the course for the UNA for the next four-year term and beyond. Also worth noting was the presence – and active involvement – at the convention of a new generation of UNA'ers. (See story on page 5). They can be expected to contribute to the UNA's bright future as all expressed their intentions to remain involved and to promote the UNA's potential.

In short, then, the UNA's 37th Convention was a success and a manifestation of the certainty that the Ukrainian National Association will continue to proudly fulfill its mission for the benefit of us all.

## WINDOW ON EURASIA

### Do Medvedev and Yanukovich plan a 'secret protocol' on Transnistria?

by Paul Goble

Although aides to Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich are denying it, many commentators and politicians in Ukraine, Moldova and Romania are convinced that he and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev have secretly agreed to a course of action that would have Transnistria attached to Ukraine and Moldova brought under tight Russian control.

When they met on May 17, Presidents Medvedev and Yanukovich issued a joint declaration about the resolution of the Transnistria dispute. It contained only general expressions of good will, but an official in the Ukrainian president's protocol service leaked information about the talks of the two presidents that suggested they had agreed on rather more.

Indeed, what some have compared to "the secret protocols" of the 1939 Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, the supposed accord calls for a referendum in Transnistria by the end of the year on its becoming an autonomous republic within Ukraine and pressure on Chisinau to elect a president and form a government more to Moscow's liking.

In the current issue of *Versiya*, Georgy Filin discusses this case, not only detailing the statements of the various sides but also suggesting some of the consequences for Moldova, Ukraine and their neighbors if reports about a secret agreement between Messrs. Medvedev and Yanukovich are even partially true ([versia.ru/articles/2010/may/24/pridnestrovje](http://versia.ru/articles/2010/may/24/pridnestrovje)).

The leak of information about the supposed accord, Mr. Filin says, were "well paid for by functionaries of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc," and the associates of this anti-Yanukovich party immediately handed copies of the document to Oleh Bilorus, a member of that party who heads the Foreign Relations Committee of the Verkhovna Rada.

Immediately, copies were handed over to Chisinau officials where, in Mr. Filin's words, they had "the effect of a bomb going off." Sergey Mogan, the head of the Moldovan People's Action Movement, said the Medvedev-Yanukovich accord "represents an ultimatum to Moldova and is the beginning of a new military-political expansion in the post-Soviet space."

"Kyiv and Moscow have decided to act according to the principle of 'divide and rule.'" Mr. Mogan's comment was expanded upon by Moldovan Prime Minister Vladimir Filat, who said what Messrs. Medvedev and Yanukovich had agreed to was like "the swallowing up" businessmen talk about when they take over companies. And neither asked the Moldovans what they "think."

"What in fact have Russia and Ukraine prepared for Moldova and Transnistria?" Mr. Filin asks rhetorically. The first thing that has to be said, he points out, is that "the protocols that have fallen into the hands of Ukrainian journalists were prepared by the Ukrainian side" rather than being a joint statement or agreement.

Thus, they are, the *Versiya* journalist says, "exclusively 'the Ukrainian vision' of the resolution of the Transnistria question and at the same time of the Moldovan one." That "vision" calls for a referendum in November or December in Transnistria concerning that breakaway territory's inclusion into Ukraine as an autonomous republic.

Why, Mr. Filin asks, did the accord not call for uniting Transnistria to the Russian Federation, as many in Transnistria have proposed? The answer to that question, he continues, is "very simple." Uniting Transnistria to Ukraine makes greater sense economically, and doing so will allow Russia to "begin in Moldova a program of 'an orange counterrevolution.'"

That will allow the Russian powers that be to orchestrate the election by the Moldovan Parliament of a pro-Moscow president sometime next year. "Of course," Mr. Filin continues, "one cannot talk about any Anschluss of Moldova by Russia." In this case, "the technology is different," one that counts on Moldovan wine producers wanting to sell their output in Russia.

According to Ukrainian National Deputy Bilorus, "the new leadership of Ukraine has taken a new position concerning Transnistria, one that in essence is the copy of Russia's position." Two years ago, he continued, Moscow offered Kyiv the same deal: 'You gather in Transnistria and give us Moldova,' an exchange then-President Viktor Yushchenko rejected.

Romania's President Traian Basescu has reacted just as harshly as the Moldovans. "If Kyiv has pretensions concerning the return of Transnistria to Ukraine, then officials there should not forget about the return to Chisinau of Southern Bessarabia and Northern Bukovina, territories which the former Ukrainian SSR received after the second world war."

And Mr. Basescu suggested that "Moscow and now Kyiv are trying to create on the territory which at the end of World War II should have been returned to Romania a pseudo-federation of three political-legal pseudo-subjects. But we will do everything to oppose the Russian-Ukrainian plan for the amputation of Bessarabia."

Although Mr. Filin does not mention it, the possibility that Moldova could become part of Romania if Transnistria were to become an autonomy within Ukraine is not the only way in which such a Russian-Ukrainian plan would send shockwaves through the international system far beyond Transnistria.

If Transnistria were transferred, that would trigger a provision in the 1994 accord between Chisinau and the Gagauz, an Orthodox Christian Turkic-speaking community in southern Moldova. That agreement allows the Gagauz to withdraw from Moldova if the status of Transnistria were ever to change.

Perhaps because of these reactions or perhaps because the supposed agreement between Messrs. Medvedev and Yanukovich never took place, the Ukrainian president's office has been at pains to deny that there is or was any such accord. Anna German, a representative of the Presidential Administration made a public declaration to that effect.

"Transnistria will remain independent and not become part of Ukraine," she said. Suggestions to the contrary are "provocations" by Yulia Tymoshenko in order to cast doubt on "the political and diplomatic successes of Viktor Yanukovich in order to destabilize the situation in the country."

But, Mr. Filin concludes, her words are less than fully convincing, all the more

(Continued on page 22)

June  
6  
2005

### Turning the pages back...

Five years ago, on June 6, 2005, Viktor Yanukovich was summoned to appear for police questioning in connection with the alleged mishandling of government funds. He was to testify as a witness before organized crime investigators about a 2004 government transfer of 4.8 million hrv (at that time \$950,000 U.S.) from the state budget for the overhaul of the airport in Mr. Yanukovich's hometown of Donetsk.

He showed up with his lawyer, Olena Lukash, more than a half-hour late for his scheduled questioning. "Authorities use such methods to distract society's attention from the growing problems in our country," Mr. Yanukovich told reporters as he entered the

(Continued on page 10)



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Stalin fans don't know their history

Dear Editor:

Ukrainians who build monuments to Stalin in the 21st century are not only masochists par excellence but idiots who do not know their own history. In an online comment on the Kyiv Post website, May 8, LES wrote, most sensibly: "June 22, 1944, Stalin's Secret document No. 078/42, over the signatures of NKVD chief Beria, Marshal Zhukov and Federov proposes exile to Siberia of 'all Ukrainians who had lived under the German occupation.' Since all Ukraine was under German occupation this effectively meant every Ukrainian could be exiled except those who had escaped to Russia in 1941. Khrushchev in his Secret Speech condemned Stalin for this decree."

But for the grace of God, the heroic struggle of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) in western Ukraine until the mid-1950s, and more sensible Communist leaders like the part-dictator and part-reformer Nikita S. Khrushchev, there would have been no Ukraine with Ukrainians.

Yaroslav Bilinsky  
Newark, Del.

### Prof. Potichnyj makes valid point

Dear Editor:

I am writing to express my full support for the position taken by Prof. Petro Potichnyj at a recent panel discussion in Chicago. As reported by The Ukrainian Weekly on May 16, Prof. Potichnyj asserted that: "We Ukrainians are a people (narod). We are not yet a nation (natsiya)."

I am assuming that he was referring to the Ukrainians who live in Ukraine, not Chicago (or New York, Detroit, Toronto, etc.). I make that distinction because it raises once again a question that was hotly debated in Ukraine not so long ago but never satisfactorily resolved: How many Ukrainians are there actually?

One group said that there are basically two. Others countered that one could count 22 or even 222 Ukrainians, which was another way of saying that the two Ukrainians crowd didn't really know what they were talking about and were being silly (as opposed to how clever they themselves were).

The unpleasant question of multiple Ukrainians conjures up, in turn, another that is even more to the point: Can one, in fact, speak of a Ukrainian nation as such? (For those who would insist that I define the term "nation" before questioning its existence in Ukraine I will respond by unabashedly plagiarizing from Justice Potter Stewart's take on pornography nearly half a century ago: I may not be able to satisfactorily define it, but I know it when I see it.)

For some time now, social scientists in Ukraine focusing on national identity issues have been raising doubts in the specialized (and largely unread) literature about the existence of a Ukrainian political nation. More recently – in the aftermath of the policies adopted and being implemented by the administration of newly elected President Viktor Yanukovich and his government (and his courts), specifically those that are drawing Ukraine into Russia's orbit – journal-

ists and commentators are increasingly joining in the discussion and ... well, expressing their misgivings as well.

And they are right to do so. It is, after all, the citizens of Ukraine who quite legitimately elected Mr. Yanukovich to the presidency. Even after the aforementioned policies have been roundly criticized (admittedly, in Lviv and Chicago, not in Luhansk) as being pro-Russian and anti-Ukrainian, he is far and away the most popular political figure in the country. The same is true for his Party of Regions. Both are more popular now than they were at the time of the 2007 parliamentary elections. Mr. Yanukovich's popularity is on the rise in ... western Ukraine!

It is quite true that an overwhelming majority of people in Ukraine is proud to be citizens of that country. But it is equally true that less than half (!) of these very same people want Ukraine to be a separate and independent country 20 years from now.

In a lengthy article that should be required reading for anyone interested in these issues, Dzerkalo Tyzhnia (April 24-29), probably the most serious newspaper in Ukraine, tells us that nearly 68 percent of Ukrainians would vote for Ukraine joining in a union (otherwise unspecified) with Russia and Belarus; 61 percent support the prolongation of the Russian Black Sea Fleet's presence in Crimea. One can go on along these lines. But what gives?

How is one to explain all of this? After nearly 20 years of formal independence! Perhaps it is time for our academic centers of Ukrainian studies to turn their attention to these and related issues.

(Full disclosure: for the last several years, including on these pages, I have been suggesting, intimating, hinting, implying and otherwise dancing around the question of whether or not Ukrainians are a nation in the now admittedly naïve hope of provoking some discussion. I must have been doing something wrong because the response was nil, zilch, nada. In this context, Prof. Potichnyj should be congratulated for being totally up front; Maybe his candor will spark some badly needed re-examination of standard and, I daresay, flawed assumptions.)

Roman Solchanyk  
Santa Monica, Calif.

### Time to stand up to Yanukovich

Dear Editor:

Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich is working under the illusion that he received a popular mandate to turn back the clock on Ukraine's progress in forging a lasting Euro-centric democracy. In fact, Mr. Yanukovich is acting more like President Dmitry Medvedev of Russia, with frequent sycophantic travels to Moscow and instructional telephone conversations with Russian handlers Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and Mr. Medvedev.

My advice to President Yanukovich: Get your priorities straight as the president of Ukraine and put Ukraine's national interests first. However, if you feel compelled to subjugate the Ukrainian patriotic population to your wholesale hatred of Ukrainian language, culture, traditions, religions and history, then you should consider resigning your position as president.

Now that a wake-up call has been sounded by President Yanukovich, will

the millions of Ukrainians around the globe stand up to him? We only have a very small window of opportunity! Ukrainians: it is time once again to liberate Ukraine!

Alexander J. Balaban  
Roselle Park, N.J.

### Kuzio responds to CUPP article

Dear Editor:

The write-up of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program (CUPP) alumni conference at George Washington University (May 2) is tendentious when describing me as a "supporter of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko." This was stated again in the article by Roman Tashlitsky when he ignored my entire 90-minute talk and discussion to focus on my alleged difficulties in responding "to some uncomfortable questions" about Ms. Tymoshenko. There were very many questions and most of them were not about Ms. Tymoshenko but these were ignored by the author.

The article is highly biased and not objective in covering a one and a half hour lecture and discussion with one sole purpose of attacking Ms. Tymoshenko.

Let me set the record straight.

During the 2010 presidential elections, one of two candidates would become Ukrainian president on February 7, Viktor Yanukovich or Yulia Tymoshenko. I have a clear conscience in believing that Ms.

Tymoshenko would have been the better choice for many reasons that affect Ukraine's domestic and foreign policies. This standpoint may have been a minority position during the elections, but it has been proven beyond any doubt to have been correct since the elections. Does anyone really challenge this now after Mr. Yanukovich's first 100 days in office?

Those who believed the nationalist and Yushchenko viewpoint, which had widespread support in the diaspora, that both candidates were bad and one should therefore vote no against both are now seen to have been widely mistaken. Some, such as the writer Yuriy Andrukhovych, have publicly regretted their double no vote. Others, such as former Ukrainian World Congress President Askold Lozynskyj, publicly campaigned against such naïve foolhardiness. My 84-year-old father, a Ukrainian citizen since 1998, travelled 500 miles on two occasions to vote at the Consulate of Ukraine in London, against Mr. Yanukovich.

Before our eyes, a counter-revolution is taking place that is dismantling Ukraine's two-decade-long nation-building, independence and democracy, and giving away parts of Ukrainian territory and strategic assets. Those who voted and supported a double no vote on February 7 are indirectly responsible for these developments. I hope they are pleased that their visceral hatred for Ms. Tymoshenko was more important than their love of Ukraine.

Taras Kuzio  
Toronto

## IN THE PRESS: The deal between Kyiv and Moscow

"Moscow, Washington, and the 'Near Abroad,'" by Brian Whitmore, RFE/RL, May 20:

"...Moscow is seeking to forge closer ties with the West while at the same time extending its influence in places like Ukraine, Georgia, and the Baltic states. Is the West – and particularly the United States – on board with this?"

"Writing in Gazeta.ru, political analyst Andrei Ryabov of the Moscow Carnegie Center seems to think so. A key signal, Ryabov writes, was the mute response from the United States following Moscow's recent agreements with Ukraine:

"The moment of truth was the signing of the Kharkiv agreements with Ukraine on deliveries of gas and on extension of the presence of the Black Sea Fleet in Sevastopol. Washington had no reaction to these shifts, considering them to be the domestic matter of Ukraine."

"Ryabov argues that the Kremlin is hoping to use the changing geopolitical environment to do two things: secure the long-term stability of the existing political status quo in Russia and then spread that model of 'managed democracy' as much as possible in the former Soviet area. ...

"Ryabov also sees the Kharkiv agreements as a model for the future spread of Russian influence:

"Today, the discussion centers around the possible domestic political consequences for the entire post-soviet area. The Kharkiv agreements may become the models for all of the CIS. They have shown that conditions are being created for engaging the mechanisms of mutual

support of the post-Soviet elite, who are not interested in continuing systematic market and democratic reforms, but are oriented toward strengthening the present-day social orders.

"And the trade-off is that Russia plays ball with Washington on key issues like Iran's nuclear program (which they have been doing of late to a degree that I did not expect)..."

"The U.S. administration, from President Barack Obama and Vice-President Joe Biden on down have persistently argued that they would never agree to granting Moscow an exclusive sphere of influence in the former Soviet space.

"But the arrangement Ryabov describes (and I consider him to be one of the smartest political analysts in Moscow), looks a lot like a budding de facto sphere of influence to me. The question is less whether the West will give the green light and more whether Russia can pull this off. ..."

"A normal day's debate in Kiev [sic]," *The Economist*, April 29:

"Even a disparager of Ukraine's independence could not have plotted the farce that played out on April 27, when the country's Parliament ratified a deal to keep Russia's Black Sea fleet in Sevastopol [sic] in exchange for cheaper gas. Eggs flew at the speaker, who sheltered under umbrellas. Flares filled the chamber with stinking smoke. Fisticuffs broke out beside a giant national flag stretched over the seats. Electronic voting devices were jammed. On the same day Russia's Parliament ratified the deal in an orderly fashion and with little argument.

(Continued on page 22)



## Ukrainian Congress...

(Continued from page 1)

Cooperation in Europe (the Helsinki Commission) and was the founding chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Baltic States and Ukraine, a precursor of the current Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.

Many special guests were acknowledged and delivered remarks during the jubilee celebration on Capitol Hill. Among them was the first U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, Roman Popadiuk, who recalled the first days of Ukraine's renewed independence in 1991. The ambassador was thankful for the support he received from the UCCA as the first U.S. ambassador to Ukraine and expressed how vital consultations between the community and the new diplomatic corps to Ukraine were.

Ukraine's second ambassador to Ukraine, William Green Miller, also testified to the UCCA's crucial role in forging relations between the United States and Ukraine. As a

longtime supporter of Ukraine, the ambassador stated, "you always have a friend in William and Suzanne [his wife] Miller, and you can count on us to remain active participants in our mutual desire to build a strong and vibrant Ukraine."

A very special acknowledgement during the fete was in memory of long-time UCCA President Dr. Lev Dobriansky who passed in January 2008. Mr. Sawkiw, introduced Paula Dobriansky, former undersecretary of state for global affairs, who spoke on behalf of her mother, Julia, and sister, Larissa, present during the gala celebration. In her very emotional remarks, Ms. Dobriansky mentioned her father's strong dedication and resolve to bring Ukraine and others enslaved by communism in Central and East Europe into the world community of free and democratic nations.

"At times scrutinized for his convictions, he advocated the dissolution of the old Soviet Union and independence for all nations before it was even popular to speak



Members of the Pennsylvania Ukrainian American community and Archbishop-Metropolitan Stefan Soroka (second from right) with members of Congress: second from left is former Rep. Don Ritter; fourth from right is Rep. Jim Gerlach, co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus; third from right is Rep. Allyson Schwartz.



Orysia Hewko

The Dobriansky family (from right) Paula Dobriansky, Larissa Dobriansky and Julia Dobriansky, widow of the late Dr. Lev Dobriansky.

of a free and democratic Ukraine. We now know his resolve was the right road taken," stated Ms. Dobriansky. A long round of applause for the Dobriansky family followed.

A former UCCA President and a former Ukrainian World Congress President, Askold Lozynskyj, joined in the accolades for Dr. Dobriansky. He spoke of UCCA's role in defending the plight of an enslaved Ukraine during the Cold War era, but also about the current critical situation in Ukraine how the UCCA is necessary even more so today in protecting and preserving Ukraine's heritage, history and independence.

Greetings from various Ukrainian organizations were also submitted to the UCCA in honor of its 70th anniversary. Among them were message from the Orthodox Church in the U.S.A.; Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford; Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma, Ohio; Bishop Emeritus of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of

Stamford Basil Losten; Ukrainian World Congress; Ukrainian National Women's League of America; Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine; United Ukrainian American Relief Committee; Providence Association; and the Organization for the Defense of Lemko Western Ukraine.

Since its founding in 1940, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America has represented the concerns of Americans of Ukrainian descent. Its achievements include the formation of the Educational Council, known for its vibrant Ukrainian Saturday school program; its Washington public affairs office, the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS); publication of The Ukrainian Quarterly; major congressional initiatives in Washington, including Captive Nations Week, the erection of the Taras Shevchenko monument and promoting the erection of the Ukrainian Genocide Memorial to the victims of the Holodomor.

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## FOR THE RECORD: New York governor's special citation in honor of UCCA

Following is the text of the special citation issued on May 24 by New York Gov. David A. Paterson on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

Whereas, New Yorkers appreciate the contributions made by citizens of various nationalities – including a large representation of Ukrainian Americans – and we understand the significant role they have in our state and nation as people who value freedom and democracy both here and in the homeland, and Ukrainians have long been integral to the success of America, having worked to build many communities into thriving centers of social, cultural and family activity; and

Whereas, it was 70 years ago, in 1940, that representatives of Ukrainian community organizations had the foresight to call the first Congress of Ukrainians in America in Washington, D.C., at which they laid the foundation for an umbrella organization,

which today represents over 1 million Americans of Ukrainian descent; and

Whereas, that historic conclave created the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), an organization that has grown to over 70 branches nationwide and whose main goal has been to provide authoritative information about the plight of Ukrainians, as well as to represent the interests of the Ukrainian American community; and

Whereas, advocacy of the community's concerns and issues led to the establishment of a publication, The Ukrainian Quarterly, that provides an outlet for the UCCA to disseminate information to U.S. government officials, policy-makers and universities throughout the world, and today the quarterly remains the only English-language scholarly journal in circulation dedicated to Ukrainian affairs since 1944; and

Whereas, the UCCA has a long history of actively pursuing issues which affect the Ukrainian American community, including

such initiatives as ratification of the United Nations Genocide Convention Treaty; the Captive Nations Week Resolution (PL 86-90); and a U.S. Congressional Commission on the Ukraine Famine of 1932-1933; the UCCA was also instrumental in the construction of a monument in Washington, D.C., to the 19th century revered bard of Ukraine, Taras Shevchenko; and

Whereas, understanding the importance of educating our youth, the UCCA established its Educational Council, which today runs Ukrainian Saturday heritage schools throughout the country; and, recognizing the need for the Ukrainian community's advocacy role in Washington, D.C., the leaders of the UCCA established the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), which has been the Ukrainian American community's public liaison office, facilitating interaction with members of Congress, administration officials, think-tank organizations and the mass

media since 1977; and

Whereas, through the efforts of the UCCA, the language, culture and history of Ukraine have not been forgotten but instead have contributed to the mosaic of American life, and with pride in our citizens of Ukrainian heritage, I join to convey gratitude to the achievements of Ukrainian Americans while lauding their wisdom in establishing the Ukrainian American Congress Committee that is such a vital force in championing democratic causes benefiting Ukrainians in the homeland, the United States and around the world;

Now, therefore, I, David A. Paterson, governor of New York State, do hereby confer this special citation in honor of the 70th anniversary of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and extend congratulations and best wishes to its entire membership and all Ukrainian Americans as all citizens of New York State join in this historic anniversary celebration.

## Zbigniew Brzezinski salutes UCCA and its support for Ukraine

Below is the text of a greeting to the UCCA on the occasion of its 70th anniversary received from Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski.

I salute the 70th anniversary reunion of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. I have known you for years, and I know that you have been steadfast in your support for Ukraine's independence and for its democratic development. I have shared your desire for your original homeland to be free, and I have always viewed the future of Ukraine as of decisive importance to the future stability and security of Europe. Hence, I shared your joy when Ukraine became independent some 20 years ago.

During the subsequent 20 years, Ukraine made enormous and impressive progress in the consolidation of its democratic institutions and of its independent statehood. Indeed, as a young democracy Ukraine set an example for its historically younger brother, Russia, in how to institutionalize a genuinely democratic process. Its supreme confirmation has been the fact that Ukraine has now held several presidential elections in which one did not know the outcome until the votes had been cast. We all pray for the day when that will

be true of Russia as well.

Ukraine has also made significant steps in consolidating its independence. There is a genuine sense of national identity today in Ukraine, and most Ukrainians are proud of the fact that their country, and its flag, has earned a place among the nations of Europe. I am particularly impressed by the commitment of younger Ukrainians to the new reality of independence to which they have become accustomed, in spite of the fact that for so many centuries Ukrainians were deprived of that very same independence. I believe that young Ukrainians are genuinely committed to Ukraine's freedom.

But in saluting you and in praising Ukraine's progress, I also want to register fears which I suspect that I share with many of you. Today, Ukraine's democracy is in jeopardy and Ukraine's independence is uncertain. The recently shameful events in the Rada create a most negative image of Ukraine abroad, and they testify to the vulnerability of Ukraine's democratic institutions. There are reasons to fear that these events are just the beginning of a process in which individual freedoms become curtailed and in which a combination of oligarchical-bureaucratic dictatorship may be

in the making.

Moreover, lately there have been tendencies to bargain away Ukraine's independence for financial benefits. While one appreciates Ukraine's internal economic difficulties, one has to be on guard that national independence is a sacred obligation of every Ukrainian ranging from the president to the last citizen. Trading it away for opportunistic reasons places a question mark on Ukraine's long-range future.

In sharing your hopes and partaking of your fears, I do not wish to sound alarmist. But I do wish to reaffirm my deep conviction that Europe needs a Ukraine that is gen-

uinely independent, and whose independence facilitates Russia's movement towards broader European cooperation. The progressive diminution of Ukrainian independence and the attrition of its democracy will contribute to a new dividing line in Europe, something to be feared because of its negative consequences not only for the Ukrainian people themselves, but for Europe as a whole. It is important that the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America remain steadfast in its enduring commitment to a Ukraine that is both genuinely independent and genuinely democratic. In that commitment, I stand with you.

## Demjanjuk hospitalized; trial is once again delayed

MUNICH – John Demjanjuk was sent to a clinic for tests after complaining of heart pain before a May 18 session of his trial on Nazi war crimes charges.

Mr. Demjanjuk, 90, remained hospitalized the next two days. His son, John Demjanjuk Jr., told the Associated Press his father's bone marrow disease had worsened and that continuing his trial is akin to torture.

On May 20, Mr. Demjanjuk's attorney Ulrich Busch argued that the case should be dismissed because the evidence presented either has not been credible or has failed to prove that he was a guard at a Nazi camp. However, the five-judge panel threw out the motions and said "there continues to be

strong suspicion" against Mr. Demjanjuk.

"This confirms my opinion that the court has already reached a judgment," Dr. Busch told the AP after the hearing.

The trial was called off for the third day in a row after the court physician, Dr. Albrecht Stein said that, although Mr. Demjanjuk had not suffered a heart attack, he needed to remain hospitalized with dangerously low blood hemoglobin levels.

Due to the defendant's poor health, court sessions are limited to two 90-minute sessions per day. The usual trial schedule is three days a week for two weeks, followed by a break of two weeks. The AP reported that at least seven trial dates have been canceled due to medical issues.

## Ukrainian Congress...

(Continued from page 8)

The UCCA is responsible also for countless initiatives providing humanitarian and educational assistance to Ukraine both before and after its renewed independence.

Readers may visit the UCCA website at <http://www.ucca.org> and click on the "70th Anniversary" tab for more highlights and photographs from the gala reception, as well as to learn about future events planned during the UCCA's 70th jubilee year.

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## Alina Chaika...

(Continued from page 3)

a nationalist.

It's hard for me to answer that question, because when I posed that question to Maksym in his older years, the answer dragged on for two hours, at minimum. It was an answer with elements of propaganda and lectures (laughing). He said, "I am not a patriot. I am a nationalist." For him, being a nationalist didn't mean simply sitting at home and rooting for the national Ukrainian soccer team. For him, it was more. He lived it. It was a way of life, the life of a nationalist. He said he'd never leave Ukraine, "I will live here all my life, my wife will be Ukrainian, my kids will speak the Ukrainian language!" It's what he aspired to. He said, "I'm not simply a patriot. I am a nationalist, and I will spread this nationalism to the people, influence people and teach them." Maksym led people. He organized the first march, and people continued to organize and do something. That was all Maksym's influence.

**We know that Maksym had many enemies. You probably know that they try to paint a portrait of a horrible fascist or racist with very negative articles on the Internet. Is it hard for you to know that there are such lies about him?**

Only fools and freaks don't have enemies. Every person who stands for something has enemies. Maksym not only stood for things, but he represented himself perhaps too much. Our government doesn't support the ideas of Ukrainian nationalism, to put it mildly. It believes our city is multicultural, and there can be no consideration of nationalism. This was all suppressed immediately.

Maksym organized a Ukrainian march in honor of Roman Shukhevych [Editor's note – the commander-in-chief of the Ukrainian

Insurgent Army]. Our government was against this, tried to suppress it and interfere. Maksym had many enemies, primarily because they understood that if people listened to him, he could lead them and do something. And he did a lot in Odesa.

Of course, it's not pleasant and it's hard. But a lot more good has been done, and people who knew Maksym speak, think and feel better things than all that dirt. Of course, it's done to justify themselves, justify their views.

Ninety percent of the people in our city are ashamed they live in Ukraine. They view themselves as Odesites. I don't know why our city has such a strongly developed contempt for all things Ukrainian. I was in all cities of Ukraine. I love Lviv and Kyiv. In these cities, people are respectful to those who speak the Ukrainian language. If you speak in Ukrainian here, you're a "kolkhoznik" or "Banderivets." [Editor's note: kolkhoznik is a collective farm worker; Banderivets is a follower of nationalist leader Stepan Bandera.]

Few people in our city know the Ukrainian language well. In schools, children decline to study the Ukrainian language. They say, "I live in Odesa and I'll speak Russian. I don't need your Ukrainian language." Teachers even decline to teach in the Ukrainian language, though we live in Ukraine. They try to justify themselves.

But how can you justify a person who killed over views or ideas? How could Maksym have been killed for that? I can't understand that.

**Did you think he could be murdered?**

Yes. I spoke to Maksym about that. He said, "This is the meaning of my life, to achieve everything that I want to achieve." He saw Odesa through the prism of Ukrainian nationalism, that eventually people here would speak the Ukrainian language. Yes of course, he was a romantic to a degree. He believed everything was possible



Zenon Zawada

**Alina Chaika learned of the murder of her brother, Maksym, on her 19th birthday on April 18, 2009.**

and nothing was impossible.

But here, there's a little too many nationalities. There's a mentality of people here, that they'll never speak the Ukrainian language. I don't mean the entire population. I speak the Ukrainian language. But we're used to speaking Russian because Ukrainian is aggressively perceived, or many don't understand or don't want to understand. That was always the case in Odesa.

Odesa was always a city that rejected anything Ukrainian. In the last half year of his life, people started to track Maksym. I noticed it. He noticed it. We spoke about it.

**In what way? They followed him on the street?**

They followed him home and knew where he lived. I asked Maksym to stop his activity for a certain period. He said, "No. I fear nothing, they can't scare me and I will do what I want." We knew this could happen and I always feared it. They threatened Maksym and promised that "his end will find him." And they fulfilled his promise. It was a planned murder. They waited for him. I know it was ordered and planned, and I have proof of that. Our government was interested in his murder.

**How about the investigation?**

Our government is not interested in investigating the murder because they don't want to indict themselves. They know who organized it. A year has passed, yet no one is searching for anyone. The murderer was noticed in Odesa four times in the last half year. He was seen walking the streets. Our government doesn't want to arrest him because it doesn't serve its interests.

**How does it happen that a simple kid, born in a Russian-speaking family in Odesa ...**

...becomes a Ukrainian nationalist? (smiling)

**How does that happen?**

Maksym studied in school, and he had a teacher for six years, from the fifth to the 11th grade. Tamara Volodymyrivna was a teacher sent from God. She was devoted to teaching and had an excellent command of Ukrainian language and literature. She was a devoted Ukrainian nationalist, even though she was older. Maksym respected her deeply. On the first day, when he came home, he spoke about her with such admiration. He loved and studied all of Ukrainian literature. She was an idol for him. She also liked him a lot because Maksym was her best student, wrote his own poetry in Ukrainian, and she saw his love for Ukraine and everything Ukrainian.

During those six years, she imparted in him that love for Ukraine and nationalism. Afterwards, he began to read more history and increased his knowledge. He traveled to Lviv and spoke with Ukrainian nationalists, Ukrainian organizations in Lviv, and developed his love for Ukraine. That was his teacher's service. She's still alive and well, thank God.

**Did Maksym have ties to skinheads or neo-Nazis? There are photos on the Internet in which he raises his arm like the Nazis did. In a video, he speaks negatively about immigrants. On the other hand, a journalist who investigated Maksym's life said he volunteered at a homeless shelter where he interacted with kids of various backgrounds. Was he a young person who simply enjoyed interacting with different people and was experimenting with various ideologies?**

No, Maksym never experimented with different ideologies. (laughing) Maksym called such people political prostitutes and despised such people. He was a true, vivid Ukrainian nationalist. Let's put it this way – skinheads and soccer fanatics are politically active youth. If they're directed in the right channels, they can bring a great deal of benefit to our country. I know many guys who supported ideologies such as national-socialism. When Maksym communicated with them, he set them in the right direction. He cooperated with such people, communicated with them. He never yelled, "You're skinheads, you're Nazis, I won't communicate with you." He always respected them, and he was always interested in their views, and to some degree he imposed his views, and to some degree, he convinced them of his ideas. Many people, thanks to Maksym only, began to support the Ukrainian idea.

There's many people for whom it's convenient to portray Maksym as a fascist, Nazi, skinhead. Maksym was a young guy with a sense of humor. Many photographs on the Internet are just him joking around. And he's accused of being a Nazi, fascist. In Odesa, if you're a Ukrainian nationalist, you're a fascist. To convince someone differently is impossible.

## Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

building, adding that he considered his summons "a political order."

After more than three hours of questioning, he told reporters that he had nothing to fear "because I don't consider myself guilty of anything."

No charges were filed against Mr. Yanukovich, but he acknowledged that he could be summoned again "at any time, on any day." This was Mr. Yanukovich's third summons to appear, as he had ignored the previous two, the first being issued through the media, and the failure to appear was unexplained. But this third time, the request was delivered directly to his attorney and to the headquarters of his Party of Regions.

President Viktor Yushchenko had pointed to Donetsk, where hostility toward him ran the highest, as having one of the worst records of corruption. Investigators had arrested approximately a dozen regional and local officials over the previous two months on suspicion of various crimes, ranging from abuse of office and extortion, to making death threats and plotting assassinations.

In May 2005 Mr. Yanukovich was questioned by prosecutors about the business dealings of Boris Kolesnikov, a jailed regional official from Zakarpattia, but no charges were filed.

Source: "Yanukovich appears for questioning y police, accuses administration of political persecution," by Olga Nuzhinskaya, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 12, 2005.

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## New York roundtable explores religion and ethnicity

by Andrew Sorokowski

NEW YORK – Should our churches preserve the Ukrainian language in liturgy and preaching? Should they welcome non-Ukrainians? Should they primarily serve descendants of the first and second waves of immigration, post-war refugees and their offspring, or Soviet and post-Soviet immigrants, with their varying and sometimes conflicting needs and preferences?

Such issues were confronted at a roundtable titled “Between Ethnocentrism and Assimilation: the Eastern Churches in North America,” held on the afternoon of May 1 at The Ukrainian Museum in New York City, and sponsored by the Ukrainian Patriarchal Society in the USA, Inc.

Attended by close to 50 people, the event brought together three experts on various aspects of Ukrainian religion and ethnicity. The Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak, academic dean at St. Basil College, is writing a biography of Bishop Soter Ortynsky. The Rev. Peter Galadza, Kule Family Professor of Liturgy at the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies, is a graduate faculty member at the University of Ottawa. Historian Dr. Lubomyr Hajda, associate director of the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University, has written on political, social and cultural as well as historical topics.

Before the 1960s, many scholars assumed that ethnic groups would assimilate into American society and that religion would lose influence. In the 1970s and 1980s, however, it was recognized that the United States was not a melting pot, but a mosaic of durable ethnicities. At the same time, scholars began to understand that religion would continue to play an important role in national and international affairs. The interplay of ethnicity and religion was seen as complex and variable; Timothy L. Smith compared it to a kaleidoscope (“Religion and Ethnicity in America,” *American Historical Review* Vol. 83, Pt. 2 (1978): 1155-85).

Yet, just over three decades later, European immigrations have largely assimilated, while mainstream churches have lost membership and influence. At the same time, the influx of Hispanic immigrants, and the growth of evangelical and charismatic religious movements, have transformed the American religious landscape.

What are the prospects for the Eastern Churches – both Catholic and Orthodox, of the Byzantine as well as other Eastern rites – particularly in terms of the opposing tendencies of ethnocentrism and assimilation? Or are these really problems of society rather than of the Churches? These questions have ecclesial, liturgical, historical, and sociological aspects, which the three speakers discussed.

Before their initial presentations, a message was read from Ukrainian Catholic Bishop Paul Chomnycky of Stamford, Conn. Drawing on his experience in Canada and Great Britain, Bishop Paul cited some conflicting views on ethnocentrism and assimilation.

In Western Canada, some view assimilation as the result of the Catholic Church’s loss of its Byzantine and Ukrainian flavor, while others say that by becoming less “different,” it has actually appeared less threatening and thus maintained its appeal.

While some in the United Kingdom hold that the effort to preserve the Catholic Church as an exclusively Ukrainian enclave has condemned it to a slow death, others feel that a strict Ukrainian identity has strengthened its ties to the mother Church in Ukraine and allowed it to assist in its rebirth and development.

Bishop Paul concluded that one must strive to find a happy medium in each individual case: “The uniqueness of our Church must be preserved and celebrated

without it becoming overly rigid and exclusive.”

The Rev. Ivan Kaszczak began the roundtable discussion with a startling observation: if the Latin-Rite Catholic Church is international, so is the Ukrainian Catholic Church. And if this is not yet reflected in canon law, then canon law has to catch up. The biblical injunction to “preach to all nations” applies to Ukrainian as well as to Latin-rite Catholics, giving the diaspora a special role in making theirs a missionary Church. As for assimilation, Father Kaszczak pointed out that it is nothing new: at the very outset, Christianity was assimilated with Greco-Roman culture.

The Ukrainian Catholic Church, noted Father Kaszczak, is often compared with the Latin-rite Church. Such comparisons are hardly fair. Over four centuries passed between the founding of the first Roman Catholic parish in Florida and John F. Kennedy’s successful candidacy for president, while the first Ukrainian parish in the United States was founded only a century and a quarter ago. Roman Catholics have had to deal with what historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr. called one of America’s deepest biases; Ukrainian Catholics must overcome additional obstacles.

The Rev. Peter Galadza addressed the issue of ethnocentrism, asking whether there was any theological basis for this phenomenon in the Church. How, he asked, should it treat people who are not of Ukrainian origin? The Church was not created, after all, for just one ethnic group. We should be concerned not so much with ethnic assimilation, as with spiritual assimilation into an alien rite – the result of a weak understanding of our own tradition on the part of both clergy and laity.

While agreeing with Father Kaszczak that the Church can be both universal and Ukrainian, Father Galadza stressed that its cultural component refers to the tradition of a “local” (“pomisna”) – that is, “sui juris” or autonomous – Church, rather than to a particular ethnic group. The characteristics of such a Church include a distinct theology, liturgical tradition, canon law and spirituality.

He decried religious “sharavarshchyna” – a superficial substitution of ethnic folklore for spirituality – for example, when children participate in Easter Sunday “hahilky” (ritual games) without having even attended the liturgy.

Language, like ethnicity, sometimes becomes an idol. As a result, some parishioners, disappointed by the lack of spiritual nourishment in our Churches, have gone over to the Latin-rite Church. At the same time, non-Ukrainians who are drawn to our Church are not always accepted as equals.

In his remarks, Dr. Hajda drew upon the sociological work of Prof. José Casanova, who had been invited but could not attend because of a prior commitment at the University of Goettingen. Taking a historical perspective, he correlated with Father Kaszczak that the relationship between religion and ethnicity was already an issue in apostolic times.

The Church had to be universal despite its link with ethnicity. The question resurfaced later in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, when Latin-rite Catholicism was associated with Polish nationality, while the Ruthenian identity was tied to Orthodoxy. In 20th century Poland, Ukrainians were identified with the Greek-Catholic Church.

Today, with the rebirth of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in an independent Ukraine, the Church need no longer function as a surrogate for the state. This, in Dr. Hajda’s view, provides opportunities for innovation. In modern Ukraine, ethnic nationalism is being replaced with civic



At the roundtable on Eastern Churches in North America (from left) are: the Rev. Prof. Peter Galadza, moderator Dr. Andrew Sorokowski, Dr. Lubomyr Hajda and the Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak.

nationalism, which treats citizens of other ethnic origins as equals.

At the same time, national identity has become divorced from territory. The Ukrainian Church exists in places like Brazil, France and Kazakhstan. What unites the faithful in these different lands? Their diversity, Dr. Hajda suggested, should be seen as an advantage. At the same time, as Prof. Galadza suggested, they are united by the Byzantine Kyivan rite. Indeed, in its unity through diversity the Church has become a microcosm of today’s world.

Dr. Hajda concluded his remarks with the observation that a religious and spiritual rebirth could give Ukraine’s elites the moral and ethical strength to move the country forward in the task of nation-building.

After these presentations, the speakers briefly responded to each other. Among the striking realities mentioned were cases of non-Ukrainians joining the Ukrainian Catholic Church, as both priests and parishioners, some with large families. This has

become possible with the understanding of “Ukrainian” as an ecclesiological rather than an ethnic category. Similarly, once the Antiochian Church dropped the ethnic designation “Syrian,” it drew many mainstream Americans into its ranks. And even the secular significance of “Ukrainian” has evolved to include people of other ethnic origins.

But it was also recognized that our Churches had done too little for recent immigrants from Ukraine. Their religious orientation ranges from the informed commitment of graduates of the Ukrainian Catholic University, to the remnants of folk piety among former villagers, to the ignorance and indifference of many urbanized, otherwise educated Ukrainians. The Church must also look outward: as one of the speakers noted, the Gospel commands us to turn our attention to issues of social justice such as human rights and trafficking in people.

A coffee break was followed by numer-

(Continued on page 22)

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Session 1 - Jul 25 -31

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# GENERATION UKE

Edited and compiled by Matthew Dubas and Yarema Belej

## Edmonton's "druzhynnyky" welcome leader from Australia

by Yuri S. Broda

EDMONTON, Alberta – The young adult members of the Edmonton branch of the Ukrainian Youth Association had the opportunity on April 16 to meet Stefan Romaniw, the first vice-president of the UYA's World Executive, as well as the general secretary of the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) and the head of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN).

A member of the Ukrainian Youth Association in Australia for over 42 years, Mr. Romaniw is also actively involved in the important work of the Ukrainian World Congress. For the last number of years his main project there has been as chairman of the International Holodomor Committee, whose mission was to raise awareness and disseminate information about this genocide.

When the "druzhynnyky" (young adult members of the UYA) found out that Mr. Romaniw would be coming to Edmonton, they realized his visit was a unique opportunity for them to better understand and appreciate the great contributions their grandparents' generation made to the cause of Ukrainian freedom and to learn about the legendary OUN.

Mr. Romaniw provided an honest evaluation of what is going on in Ukraine today, and how the OUN is doing its part for the good of the nation. For many in the diaspora, including young adults such as us, it sometimes seems that all hope has been lost in Ukraine, that people have given up and are ready to surrender the freedom for which their ancestors paid such a bloody price.

The UYA's discussion with Mr. Romaniw

*Yuri S. Broda is director of young adult membership for the Ukrainian Youth Association in Edmonton, Alberta.*

left members feeling more hopeful for the future of Ukraine. He convinced his young audience that not everything has fallen apart, and that despite the best efforts of the unsavory people in the current presidential administration of Viktor Yanukovich, Ukrainophobes such as Dmytro Tabachnyk and Mykola Azarov, entire sections of society are in fact standing up against this renewed Russification.

"Not everything has fallen apart yet," said Mr. Romaniw. "In fact, the student community in Ukraine's universities is stronger, more active and better organized than it's ever been in the past. This patriotic youth won't let Ukraine crumble. Our movement is engaged with them, because our informational-educational work with students and youth is not going to waste."

Today's anti-Tabachnyk campaign grew out of spontaneous student demonstrations at one university, and quickly spread across the country. This effort to force the minister of education to resign is being spearheaded by young, politically aware individuals who grew up already beyond the grip of the Soviet system.

"Over the coming years, this new generation of students will start forming a new elite, a new echelon of civic and political leaders who are aware and active within the community, and who will initiate the changes needed to save Ukraine," Mr. Romaniw added.

Asked how today's OUN can effect real lasting changes in Ukraine, Mr. Romaniw explained that, first of all, the OUN is not a political party, trying to force its way into government. The OUN, said "is, in fact, that spark which can kindle the public spirit. Today, the OUN in Ukraine and in the diaspora form a global organization; an organization where we complement each other, and in which we need one another.



Members of the Ukrainian Youth Association with Stefan Romaniw (center) in Edmonton

"From the executive's perspective," he continued, "we constantly remind our members, that whilst the OUN is spread around the world, the essence of our existence, our purpose and aim are the same everywhere. That is why the education of young people either in Ukraine or in the Diaspora is a major focus, because young people should know their roots, should love God and Ukraine."

And how can the young adults of Edmonton's Ukrainian Canadian community, undertake to further the cause and support Ukrainian independence and sovereignty? "Very simply," Mr. Romaniw said. "Develop contacts and relationships with your peers, amongst yourselves in the Ukrainian Youth Association, in Ukraine and in the diaspora. Stay in touch, and lead a dialogue with them. Let them know that you

not only think and worry about them and the well-being of Ukraine, but that you want to work cooperatively with them. Prove to them that you are true Ukrainians, and that in the diaspora there exists a Ukrainian spirit, preserving the same culture, traditions and values as those they hold dear. Show them that their efforts impact not just Ukraine, but also the diaspora."

The Edmonton community was pleased to welcome Mr. Romaniw for the celebration of the 55th anniversary of the League of Ukrainian Canadian Women and the 60th anniversary of the League of Ukrainian Canadians in Edmonton. He was the keynote speaker at the honors banquet, and gave a very interesting and thoughtful speech about the current situation in Ukraine, outlining the renewed threat to Ukrainian sovereignty.

## Representing our ancestral homeland at The New York Times Travel Show

by Natalka Lyszyk

NEW YORK – The Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble was cordially invited by the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation to perform at The New York Times Travel Show on February 28 at the Jacob K. Javits Center in New York City. This was a great honor for us and an opportunity that we knew we could not let pass by. The Travel Show Exhibition included countries such as Greece, Morocco, Jamaica, the Bahamas and over 400 other exhibitors that lined the two great halls showing what their countries

and their travel destinations have to offer. In the midst of all these great travel locations, there was one table from the country we were representing – Ukraine.

With an hour to go before the stage was ours, we were asked to dress in our Poltava region costumes and walk around the hall, inviting spectators to come see us perform. We visited different vendors, talked to people, told them which country we represented and posed for pictures. When it was almost time for us to perform, we stepped on stage to walk through the crucial parts in our dances that just had to be perfect.



A view of the rehearsal before the troupe's appearance at The New York Times Travel Show (Seen front and center is Natalka Lyszyk.)

Just by standing on the stage and listening to our instructor, Andriy Cybyk, we already drew a crowd waiting to see what we had to offer.

Though the stage was small and filled with 17 Iskra dancers, we pleased the audience and welcomed them graciously with our "Pryvit" (welcome) dance, entertained them with our boys' "Tambourine Dance" and then closed the set and left them wanting more with our "Hopak."

It is easy to say that it was an honor to

dance at this event. Not only did we represent Iskra and our talent, but we represented our country, Ukraine.

*Natalka Lyszyk is a junior at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, where she is majoring in environmental science and business economics with a minor in French and international relations. She belongs to the Ukrainian Club at Rutgers. She has been dancing with Iskra since her senior year in high school.*



Iskra dancers with their instructor and choreographer Andriy Cybyk (back row, left).



# One year later...

(Continued from page 3)

Several of the most damning photos show him offering a Nazi-style salute. While his friends and nationalist allies said the photos were snapped in coincidental moments, when Chaika was merely raising his arm, it's clear from the photos that Chaika was consciously posing with the salute. Those images were splashed throughout Ukraine's pro-Russian press in order to depict Chaika as a neo-Nazi radical and extremist.

Chaika's friends, including his sister Alina, told The Weekly that he did interact with extremists, such as neo-Nazi youth. However Chaika himself was never a neo-Nazi, and such interactions are only a small part of his extensive network of acquaintances and friends.

In fact, the portrait offered by those who knew him demonstrate that Chaika was a typical young man entering adulthood, trying to learn difficult perspectives and find his place in the world.

Chaika interacted with all types of people and learned their views, acquaintances said. Among those he hung out with were mem-

bers of Odesa's "emo" subculture, or youngsters who are shy, sensitive and angst-ridden.

"Skinheads beat up emos and punks, but Max would defend them against such attacks, telling them not to mess with them," said Mr. Musiak, Chaika's friend. These same punks and emos were present at Chaika's funeral.

Dmytro Bakayev, a journalist with the local Kruh television network, prepared a documentary about ethnic violence in Odesa, during which he learned that Chaika was far from being a typical hooligan. He named the segment about Chaika, "A Portrait from Puzzles" because of Chaika's unique, complex character.

"It was very difficult to create a portrait of him," said Mr. Bakayev, adding that his first impression of Chaika was "very negative," after he viewed the Internet photos of Chaika giving the Nazi salute and Internet videos in which he discusses defending the white race.

Yet, the more he learned about Chaika, the more his perspective changed. Among his activities, Chaika often visited a Catholic charity, Svetlyi Dom, which served as a

shelter for street kids, orphans and the homeless who had nowhere else to go. The kids there represented various nationalities.

"As it turns out, Chaika went there to help out," Mr. Bakayev said. "Father Oleksander told me that 'Sieg Heils' are not the Maksym Chaika that he knew."

When the building's plumbing had trouble, Chaika rolled up his sleeves and began repairing the pipes himself, said Father Oleksander, who directs the shelter. He also spent time with the kids.

"They watched a film about the Holodomor with the kids, and he noticed how Chaika tried to hide his face because tears began to fall," Mr. Bakayev said.

When asked how could someone involved in brawls and harboring extremist viewpoints also play with kids of different backgrounds, the priest replied that Chaika was likely at a crossroads in his life. Like many young adults, he was trying to find his place in the world.

Oleksander Stepanchenko, the chair of Prosvita in Odesa, said Chaika's beliefs were evolving from an immature, radical nationalism to a healthy, natural form of nationalism. Photos of him offering a "Sieg Heil" salute capture his immature adolescence, when he was still forming his ideas, he said.

"He fluctuated between patriotism and nationalism," Mr. Bakayev said. "Ever since the [September 2007] attack by anti-Ukrainian forces against [peaceful] demonstrators, young people like Chaika, who saw the video of the attack, began to take radical methods."

At the time of his murder, Chaika had already become the leader of Odesa's ethnically conscious Ukrainian youth. His generation was born of the Orange Revolution and began to take the first steps in recognizing its Ukrainian heritage and embracing Ukrainian values.

Chaika organized a July 2008 march through Odesa honoring Roman Shukhevych, the commander of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), which fought both the Communists and the Nazi. A few months later he led a march honoring the UPA on October 14, the 66th anniversary of its founding.

"He organized 130 people, all Odesites," wrote an anonymous blogger who eulogized Chaika on the website of Odesa's Autonomous Resistance organization. "Earlier, gathering more than 30 patriots for an event in Odesa, without the support of other cities, was simply impossible. But, thanks to one young Ukrainian, the impossible was accomplished. Suddenly more and more Ukrainians began to awaken in Odesa, who once were ashamed to be descendants of the Kozak kinship."

Public displays of Ukrainian pride were unprecedented for Odesa, a traditionally Russophile city, and stirred outrage among the city's Russian chauvinists. Chaika immediately became their target as a talented leader who threatened their domination of local political and cultural life, activists said.

For the Russian march, which was supposed to occur on February 28, 2009, anti-Ukrainian forces were hoping to include some of Odesa's soccer fans, Mr. Kyrlyenko said. Yet Chaika convinced his peers not to attend.

"He even managed to pull some of them to the pro-Ukrainian platform," he said. "Maksym Chaika was his own original 'Ukrainianizer' of the most radical youth of Odesa. Maksym tried to do in Odesa what the Ukrainian state hasn't done in the last decades."

Chaika's murder became an alarm bell for local activists, who began to organize and unite in an effort to counteract the violent behavior of reckless, dangerous oligarchs who threaten the city's stability in their battles for land, money and power.

"Unfortunately, the tragedy served as a jolt towards consolidation," said Serhii Hutseliak, co-coordinator of the Odesa Defense Committee.



Zenon Zawada

**Odesa journalist Dmytro Bakayev said the slain Maksym Chaika was a complex character, not the typical right-wing extremist his enemies portray him to be.**

In particular, Mr. Markov's support for xenophobic activity has "completely ruined" Odesa's image as a city of diversity and tolerance, said Mr. Bakayev.

Life has become more difficult for ethnically conscious Ukrainians in Odesa. Their children have limited access to Ukrainian cultural institutions and inevitably become Russified.

Andrii Yusov, the chair of the Administration of Youth and Family Policy at the Odesa City Council, said the city offers not a single Ukrainian-language nursery school. "In independent Ukraine, my cultural needs and rights, as a Ukrainian-speaking citizen, are not ensured in the fullest sense," said Mr. Yusov, a native of Odesa. "It's impossible to raise a Ukrainian-speaking child in Odesa."

Meanwhile, local politicians are intent on restricting Ukrainian organizations, without making distinctions between lawful parties and institutions, and extremists who cross into illegal methods and views.

Two days after the first anniversary commemoration Odesa State Administration Deputy Chair for Humanitarian Issues Dmytro Voloshenkov told a press conference that the new government would "root out" the organizations that participated from the oblast's territory in the near future. They include the Svoboda All-Ukrainian Union nationalist party, the Bratstvo party and the Autonomous Resistance extremists.

"I think they don't have a right to exist," said Mr. Voloshenkov, leader of the Odesa city organization of the Party of Regions of Ukraine. "The nation's previous government did everything to allow such extremist youth organizations to gain an unlimited degree of freedom."

In the attempt to root out extremists, however, the police have begun targeting patriots and nationalists that don't violate Ukrainian laws.

Ms. Ovrarnets said she was arrested on April 18 simply for performing patriotic songs during a concert honoring Chaika a week earlier. To arrest her, police broke the door of a friend's apartment.

Meanwhile a local court ruled that Messrs. Linko and Makarov didn't violate any laws to warrant their arrest and were released. As soon as that happened, Mr. Makarov was reportedly re-arrested and remains in custody, while Mr. Linko fled from plainclothes officers and remains in hiding.

"Mud is slung daily against almost all the leaders of active Ukrainian organizations, including me, smearing us as criminals," said Mr. Hutseliak. "Being a Ukrainian patriot in Odesa is a constant struggle for the interests of our people and defending our state."

In Maksym Chaika's case, that struggle cost him his life.

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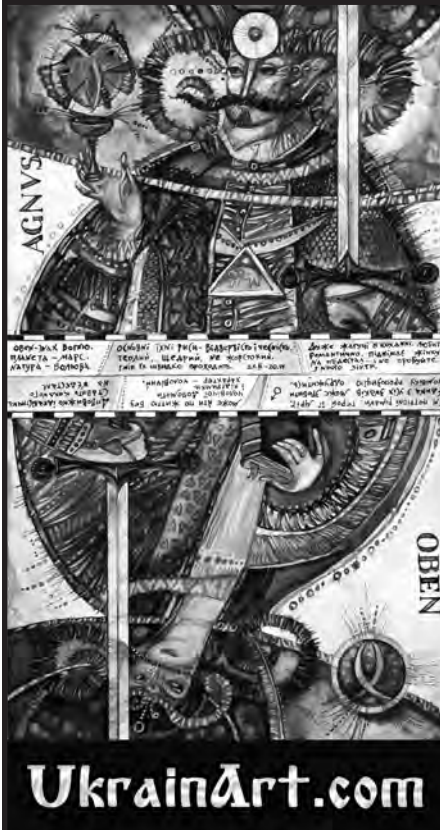
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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

ers had changed the country's approach to the interpretation of the Holodomor. This is reflected in statements by senior officials, including President Viktor Yanukovich, and in the fact that a section on the Holodomor was removed from the presidential website, he added. The WCU will hold an event titled "Let's not allow the candle of memory to be extinguished," in all Ukrainian regions and 20 countries where Ukrainians live. The action will start in Kyiv on June 19. The deputy director of the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory, Vladyslav Verstiuk, said that the institute had prepared a statement in connection with the registration in the Verkhovna Rada of a bill that proposes refraining from recognizing the Great Famine of 1932-1933 as genocide against the Ukrainian people, which was done by Parliament in 2006. On April 27 President Yanukovich said at the PACE session in Strasbourg: "It would be wrong and unfair to recognize the Holodomor as an act of genocide against a certain nation. It was a common tragedy for nations and states that were part of the Soviet Union." Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Volodymyr Semynozhenko said that the subject of the Holodomor would not be a key one in humanitarian policy. Education Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk, in an interview with the Komsomolskaya Pravda v Ukraine newspaper, promised that the curriculum would be altered to teach that the Holodomor was not genocide against the Ukrainian people, but "a common tragedy of the peoples in Ukraine, Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan," which coincides with Russia's position in this issue. (Ukrinform)

### Kyiv will use Eastern Partnership

KYIV – The European Union's Eastern Partnership initiative is one of many formats of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU, and Kyiv intends to fully use it, Foreign Affairs Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko said on May 25. He added that Kyiv considers adopting visa-free regime, setting up a full-fledged free-trade zone and signing an Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU as its priorities in relations with the EU. Speaking during an informal meeting of foreign ministers of Eastern Partnership participant countries in Sopot, Poland, Mr. Gryshchenko said, "Kyiv supports everything that draws us closer to the European Union and the European standards of living. At the same time, Ukrainian diplomacy will place the main accent on achievement of concrete results. In particular, we do not doubt that an EU decision about abolition of visas for Ukrainians would be the more powerful impetus for implementation of European values and norms in Ukraine than any political declarations," he emphasized. (Ukrinform)

### Shamshur and Cardin meet

WASHINGTON – Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Oleh Shamshur met on May 26 with the chairman of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (the Helsinki Commission), Sen. Benjamin Cardin. Their discussion was devoted to the domestic situation in Ukraine, as well as further prospects for U.S.-Ukraine cooperation in the framework of the Charter on a Strategic Partnership. The ambassador expressed appreciation for the commission's as well as Sen. Cardin's long-term commitment to Ukraine's development as a democratic and European nation and thanked Mr. Cardin for fruitful cooperation. (Embassy of Ukraine)

### Motsyk bound for U.S.?

KYIV – Oleksander Motsyk, Ukraine's former ambassador to Poland, is likely to be

appointed the new ambassador to the United States, the UNIAN news agency reported on May 13, quoting a source at the Ukrainian embassy in Warsaw. On May 12 President Viktor Yanukovich ended the terms of 10 Ukrainian ambassadors, with Mr. Motsyk and Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Oleh Shamshur, among them. Mr. Motsyk started his diplomatic career in 1981 after graduating from Taras Shevchenko University in Kyiv. He had served as first vice-minister of foreign affairs and vice-minister of foreign affairs, and was appointed ambassador to Poland in February 2006. (UNIAN, BBC)

### NATO off Kyiv's agenda

KYIV – Ukraine will continue to develop its relations with NATO, but the issue of its joining the alliance is no longer on the agenda, Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko said on May 27. "This is the approach that most of all corresponds to the current state of affairs," he said, while opening the 11th interagency meeting on coordinating the activities of executive government agencies in the sphere of external relations. Mr. Gryshchenko also said that the idea of Ukraine's membership in the alliance is not supported by most Ukrainians and had a destructive effect on the effectiveness of the state's foreign policy. (Ukrinform)

### Moratorium sought on policy change

KYIV – The opposition faction Our Ukraine- People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD), known for its pro-NATO positions, has proposed a moratorium on changing Ukraine's foreign policy until March 15, 2015 (the date of the next presidential election). A draft resolution to that has been tabled in Parliament. Mykola Martynenko, OU-PSD faction leader, explained on June 1 that the idea of removing from national security legislation the provisions about the strategic goal of joining NATO and the European Union could seriously damage the image of Ukraine as a subject of international relations and lead to a split in the society. (Ukrinform)

### Yatsenyuk: moratorium on alliances

KYIV – Front for Change, the opposition party of Arseniy Yatseniuk, is demanding that Ukraine's authorities stop the revision of foreign policy and introduce a five-year moratorium on Ukraine's accession to any military-political alliances. "The attempt to conduct an audit of the foundations and security of national strategy, clearly defining Ukraine's course towards European and Euro-Atlantic integration, proposing instead reintegration in the post-Soviet space, fixation of the non-aligned status, and unstable stay of Ukraine in a gray zone between two powerful military-political blocs, is sure to lead to increasing threats to the national security of Ukraine and its citizens in the short and medium term," reads the party's resolution adopted on May 20. Front for Change also demands that Ukraine's involvement in the CSTO be prevented and that documents referring to NATO membership be amended to add a provision that decisions on this matter shall be taken solely based on the results of a nationwide referendum. (Ukrinform)

### Ukraine to cooperate with NATO

KYIV – Ukraine will continue its cooperation with NATO, while developing a parallel strategic partnership with Russia, Deputy Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council Stepan Havrysh told a meeting of the working group Ukraine-NATO on May 26. "For our country, the issue of cooperation with the alliance remains a priority in foreign policy," he said, adding that the proof of this is the intention of the authorities to adhere to all previously made arrangements with NATO. NATO Assistant Secretary General Jiri Sedivy stated that NATO will continue to assist Ukraine in the sphere of security and defense sector reform. (Ukrinform)

### Russian OKd as regional language

SYMFEROPOL – A majority of Crimean deputies have approved a resolution making Russian the region's official language, it was reported on May 27. "The Russian language, as the language which the majority of people speak and which is applicable for inter-ethnic communication, is used in all areas of public life and is the regional language," the Crimean Parliament resolved. The deputies noted that a recent campaign to bring to an end the usage of Russian in Ukraine had prompted the Crimean Parliament to take measures to protect the language. Crimean deputies also asked Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada to fully implement the European charter of regional languages. (Interfax-Ukraine)

### Yanukovich on Soviet assets

KYIV – President Viktor Yanukovich is for the division of former Soviet property among all the countries that were included in its composition, it was reported on May 25. Commenting on Russia's position, which defends the right to retain all the assets of the USSR itself, he said: "We do not see a solution today. We will never recognize this. We believe that it (the property) should be divided between the countries. And the mechanism how to do this has not yet been found," Mr. Yanukovich stressed. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov earlier said that Russia had paid off all Soviet debts, including \$14 billion of Ukraine's debt. Ukraine's share of the total assets and liabilities, which include foreign property of the former USSR, is over 16 percent. (Ukrinform)

### Ukraine signs 15 CIS documents

KYIV – Most of the issues discussed at the meeting of the Council of Heads of Governments of CIS countries in St. Petersburg were involved in CIS countries' withdrawal from the economic crisis, Prime Minister of Ukraine Mykola Azarov said. It was reported on May 25 that the Ukrainian delegation to the meeting of CIS heads of governments signed 15 documents, including a plan of priority measures to implement the concept of cooperation of CIS member-states, and an agreement on cooperation in training, retraining and advanced training of experts in the use of natural and liquefied gas as motor fuel. An agreement was also signed on the establishment, use and development of an interstate network of information-marketing centers for promoting goods and services on national markets, as well as a documents on the interstate navigation and on activities of the Intergovernmental Council for Agricultural Sector of the CIS countries.

The next meeting of the Council of Heads of Governments of the Commonwealth of Independent States will be held on November 19 in Moscow. (Ukrinform)

### Former SBU chief: visit Solovky

KYIV – Former Chief of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) Valentyn Nalyvaichenko has advised those who supported the erection of a monument to Joseph Stalin in Zaporizhia to visit the Solovky prison. "I would advise all initiators of the erection of the monument to Stalin to go to Solovky and live there for at least one day, 24 hours, in the place where millions and millions of Ukrainians, Russians, and Jews died in hunger and repression. And when you are behind the barbed wire, in the places where people were sent on the instructions of this man, then you will look at reality in a different way," he said at a press conference in Kyiv on May 20. A monument to Stalin was unveiled in Zaporizhia on May 5. (Ukrinform)

### Zaporizhia pensioner protests

KYIV – A 60-year-old pensioner poured white paint on the bust of Stalin unveiled on May 5 in Zaporizhia, it was reported on May 28. The Zaporizhia news agency Reporter.ua. noted that the man explained the reasons for his action were personal: his parents were victims of the Stalinist repression. The pensioner was taken to the October police department; the issue of possible criminal prosecution had not yet been resolved. (Ukrinform)

### Vitali Klitschko to create party

KYIV – Kyiv City Council Deputy Vitali Klitschko, WBO and WBA intercontinental champion, and WBO and WBC champion in the heavyweight category, is creating his own political party, it was reported on May 19. The founding congress of the Ukrainian Democratic Alliance for Reforms (UDAR, which means "blow" in Ukrainian) elected him as the leader of the party, which will adopt its program after discussions in regional organizations. Mr. Klitschko identified the party's main goal as healing the split between society and the authorities. In his view, UDAR can break the wall of corruption, and stop the squandering of national wealth, deception and lawlessness. "Our task is to unite successful, educated and active people. Either we conduct vital reforms right now, or the country falls to the very bottom," he stressed. "The Ukrainian Democratic Alliance for Reforms is our attack on everything that does not allow Ukraine to be successful." (Ukrinform)



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## Vitali Klitschko retains WBC title with 10th round TKO in Germany

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Vitali Klitschko (42-2, 38 KO) retained his WBC title against former European Boxing Union (EBU) champion Albert Sosnowski (45-3, 27 KO) of Poland on May 29 with a 10th round technical knockout (TKO).

Dominating the fight, the 38-year-old Klitschko forced Sosnowski to work the body after failing to connect with head shots. The challenger had a strong third round with three decent connections with the left of Klitschko's head.

Klitschko delivered a beating in the fifth round with three strong lefts to the head, which left the Pole with a bloody nose. In the sixth round, Sosnowski took a stumble after a left hook by Klitschko, but the challenger responded with another left in the seventh round.

Klitschko drove Sosnowski down to the canvas with an explosive left-right combination at the 2 minute, 30 second mark of the 10th round that ended the fight.

"Albert gave everything ... but experience played an important role," Klitschko told some 60,000 spectators at Veltins Arena in Gelsenkirchen, Germany. The location had special meaning for Klitschko, as it is home to German soccer club Schalke, of which Klitschko has been a member since 2001.

Sosnowski, 31, was scheduled to fight



Vitali Klitschko poses with the WBC belt.

Olympic gold medalist Audley Harrison for his first EBU title defense on April 9, but cancelled it for a shot at Klitschko. Now Harrison holds the title.

Klitschko's next bout is undetermined, but he said after the fight that he'd like to face David Haye of Britain, the WBA heavyweight titleholder, or former WBA champion Nikolai Valuev of Russia.

## U.S. and Canadian...

(Continued from page 1)

He added: "Canada has a special relationship with Ukraine and has stood shoulder to shoulder with the people of Ukraine during their journey towards statehood and democracy. We will not stand by and watch as that democracy and statehood are methodically disassembled by the current regime."

Meanwhile, in Lviv, the Rev. Gudziak told the Religious Information Service of Ukraine on May 27 that "this is not only about the rectorate, but also about the overall atmosphere in the university. People are alarmed and are coming up with all sorts of reasons as to why the SBU has focused its attention on us."

He further explained:

"I have come to know that students are worried and are scared to express their opinions even in private blogs for they understand that the SBU controls Internet resources and the blogosphere. We have already seen organized aggressive comments. I have received news that structures of the Security Service are contacting members of our com-

munity, are trying to sow distrust for the leadership of UCU and create an atmosphere of fear. This deeply worries me.

"Fear can be easily sowed in the society because many people still remember the old methods of the security services, when these services would 'pursue cooperation' with people, as if civilly but insistently, using the person's fear. Many priests are witnesses of those times (like Father Matey Havryliv, who was arrested three times), and the laity. After all, Vice-Rector Myroslav Marynovych's troubles began when he refused to become an informer for the KGB."

Marta Kolomayets, chief operating officer for the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, which supports the work of the Ukrainian Catholic University, commented to the Kyiv Post: "Any rollbacks in democracy need to be vigilantly monitored and those people who are rolling back democracy need to be held accountable. The students don't understand the repression of the Soviet times. They grew up in the spirit of the Orange Revolution and a free and independent Ukraine. Now they are actively fearfully that those freedoms can be squelched."

## President Yanukovych...

(Continued from page 2)

part of the ruling coalition, their protests were ignored this time, while their senior partners, the Party of Regions, changed their stance.

Unlike his predecessor Viktor Yushchenko, who prioritized culture, history and geopolitical considerations, President Yanukovych sees economic pragmatism as the cornerstone of his foreign policy. During his visit to Lviv he said that foreign policy would be based primarily on economic considerations and that equal or more attention should be paid to business matters compared to security issues (UNIAN, May 27).

In April Mr. Yanukovych authorized the closure of trade missions at foreign embassies and set up economic departments within embassies instead, which will presumably enjoy a higher status. On May 27, Mr. Gryshchenko told a government meeting that foreign missions would be restructured in order to prioritize economic matters (Ekonomicheskie Izvestia, May 28).

Meanwhile, on June 1, Mr. Yanukovych submitted to Parliament a new bill on foreign policy priorities. The bill lists EU membership and strategic partnership with Russia and the CIS among its top priorities. It also provides for maintaining the country's current neutral status and abandoning the pursuit of NATO membership (Ukrainski Novyny, June 1). NATO membership was officially a goal for both Presidents Kuchma and Yushchenko, however, neither succeeded in explaining to the nation the benefits of such membership. Consequently, public support for NATO membership never exceeded 30 percent in opinion polls.

President Yanukovych asked Parliament to pass the bill on foreign policy priorities as a matter of urgency and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, who is an ally of Mr. Yanukovych, promised to include it on the parliamentary agenda on June 3 (Ukrayinska Pravda, June 1).

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

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## Farewell receptions...

(Continued from page 1)

the UCCA, Ihor Gawdiak of the UACC and Robert McConnell of the USUF.

Mr. Sawkiw recounted how, a week earlier, during the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the UCCA on Capitol Hill, Rep. Marcy Kaptur (R-Ohio), who co-chairs the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, characterized Ambassador Shamshur's work in Washington: It was his "omnipresence in Congress" and eloquence that helped to produce the results the envoy has achieved over the past four years, she said.

While praising the ambassador's "great skills, political acumen" and his "keen grasp of the diplomatic nuances that are very particular in this city," Mr. Gawdiak focused on his relationship with the Ukrainian American community:

"You made us feel welcome in the Embassy," he said. "You made us feel as if we were really partly in Ukraine again every time we visited. You made us feel that in a very small measure we contributed to your work, to your diplomatic activities for the welfare of Ukraine and the betterment of U.S.-Ukrainian relations."

Mr. McConnell added another "unique aspect" of Ambassador Shamshur's work in his dealings with the executive and legislative branches of the U.S. government:

"You've been liked," he said. "People in the [State] Department – in the government – have liked you and wanted to deal with you. And that has been a tremendous benefit to the country and to those of us who have tried to help you in our little ways. And for that we're all very, very appreciative."

Pointing to the "unknowns facing us now," Mr. McConnell added: "We look forward, hoping we will be able to build on the relationships you established."

William Green Miller, who served as the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine in the mid-1990s and is still active in advancing that bilateral relationship through his work at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, thanked Ambassador Shamshur for all that he accomplished here and wished him the best in the future work "as a leader of Ukraine."

"Ukraine will be a great democratic nation because of people like Oleh Shamshur and his wife" (Ukraine's ambassador to the Vatican), he said. "It's people like him that will make the difference."

Despite recent setbacks, the spirit of 2004 lives on, Ambassador Miller said, referring to the Orange Revolution. "Those values persist, and they will be the test of the future quality of leadership."

"There are very few people who have met that test," Ambassador Miller said, adding: "Oleh is one."

In response, Ambassador Shamshur noted that, indeed, many new doors were opened in the U.S.-Ukrainian bilateral agenda and that both sides are glad about the results.

He also expressed his optimism about the future. "Sooner or later Ukraine will be part of the European Union and part of NATO, of the trans-Atlantic community of democratic nations," he said.

There are differences of opinion about some things, of course, he added, "But I think that we share the vision of Ukraine – a Ukraine which should be definitely democratic, definitely prosperous, definitely having a reformed and competitive economy and ... part of Europe – one and free."

Ambassador Shamshur concluded his remarks with a pledge: "I promise that as soon as I have any influence and have anything to do with foreign policy, I will try to pursue this line... and make some impact."

On the following day, May 26, Ukraine's ambassador was honored at two receptions – one hosted by the State Department, the other by the U.S.-Ukraine

Business Council (USUBC).

At the State Department reception, held at the historic Blair House across the street from the White House, the departing ambassador was honored by White House, National Security Council and State Department officials; members of the U.S. Congress; the Ukrainian American community, Washington think-tanks; and other non-governmental organizations.

Later that evening, he was the guest of honor at a special USUBC-hosted dinner at the Metropolitan Club, around the corner from the White House, where more than 75 representatives of corporations, think-tanks, government agencies, Congress, Ukrainian American organizations and other groups came to pay their respect to the Ukrainian ambassador.

Among those expressing their praise of Ambassador Shamshur's achievements in Washington during the program were Rep. Jim Gerlach (R-Pa.), who represents the Philadelphia district that includes thousands of Ukrainian Americans; four former U.S. ambassadors to Ukraine – Mr. Miller, Steven Pifer, John Herbst and William Taylor; senior officials of the U.S. departments of State and Energy; representatives of the USUBC corporate sponsors of the evening – VANCO Exploration Co., Chevron, Halliburton and the SigmaBleyzer Private Equity Investment Management Group.

The evening's master of ceremonies, USUBC President Morgan Williams, noted that Ambassador Shamshur was the first senior Ukrainian government official to strongly urge that USUBC greatly expand its membership and programs of promoting Ukraine as a good place to do business for U.S. companies. Then, in 2007, the USUBC had 22 corporate and organizational members, he said. Now, it has more than 115.

The USUBC membership includes many corporate giants – such as Microsoft, Halliburton, Shell Oil and Boeing – as well as a number of Ukrainian American organizations interested in expanding economic ties between the two countries.

Ukrainian musical interludes during the evening were performed by violinist Solomia Gorokhivska and flutist Andrei Pidkovka.

On May 27, Ambassador Shamshur was honored at a reception hosted by NCSJ: Advocates on Behalf of Jews in Russia, Ukraine, the Baltic States and Eurasia. It was attended by leaders of prominent Jewish American organizations, and diplomatic and political leaders.

During his last week in Washington, Ambassador Shamshur also had separate meetings with Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.), ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Sen. Benjamin Cardin (D-Md.), chairman of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission); Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee; and Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, the former presidential national security advisor who is now counselor and trustee at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

A career diplomat, Ambassador Shamshur was deputy foreign affairs minister when President Viktor Yushchenko appointed him ambassador to the United States in December 2005. Earlier – among other assignments – he headed the ministry's European Union Department, was minister-counselor in Ukraine's Embassy to the Benelux countries and first secretary-counselor at Ukraine's Mission to the United Nations and at international organizations in Geneva.

There has been no official announcement about Ambassador Shamshur's possible future assignment. His replacement, Oleksander Motysyk, until now Ukraine's ambassador to Poland, is expected to arrive in Washington sometime in mid-June.

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## COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

# UCCA's New York City branch convenes annual meeting

NEW YORK – The New York City branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America held its annual meeting on Sunday, April 25, to report on the branch's work and elect a new executive board.

Following a prayer and a moment of silence for those branch members who passed away since the last branch elections, branch President Ivanka Zajac welcomed all present and officially passed over the duties of the meeting to Gregory Shwec, who was chosen to preside over the meeting, and Yaroslav Predko, who served as secretary.

The first to report was Ms. Zajac. To highlight the work of the branch, the president prepared a special slideshow that illuminated the work and events organized by the branch since its revitalization in 2007. Highlights included a Holodomor exhibit prepared for the 75th Anniversary of Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-1933, which was displayed once at Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza during the annual Holodomor Commemoration and once at the United Nations; a program and march during the arrival of the International Holodomor Remembrance Torch and the Branch's cooperation with various other ethnic communities; as well as various presentations of films and guest speakers at events organized by the branch.

Liza Szonyi, the branch's coordinator for the Ukrainian National Fund (UNF), reported on the overall status of membership in the New York Branch. She reported that due to improved communications with individuals, particularly via the Internet, the branch was able to extend its membership by over 20 members in the last three years, and that this number was continuously growing. Ms. Szonyi also thanked the former UNF coordinator, Maria Piatka, who retired from the post

last year, for her many years of hard work and service to the branch in collecting annual dues to the UNF.

Ms. Szonyi also presented the overall financial standing of the branch. Of special note were the fund-raising efforts in support of the Holodomor Memorial in Washington. Ms. Szonyi noted that the branch raised funds by initiating several projects, including the "Voices for Victims" wristbands and the "Walk Against Genocide" T-shirts, which generated over \$16,000 in proceeds, all of which were donated to the National Famine Committee to support the future memorial.

The branch's finances have also grown thanks to generous donations from Self Reliance (New York) Federal Credit Union and the hard work of the executive board. Funds were raised at various events held by the branch and through the sale of such products as the branch-initiated "Ukraine" tote bag.

The head of the branch's Audit Committee, Ihor Dlaboha, recommended that the outgoing board receive a vote of confidence for their work. "In reviewing the financial statements of the UCCA New York Branch, I confirm that the financial records are in good standing. Additionally, judging from numerous community newspaper articles, it is clear that the UCCA New York branch is conducting important and positive work for the betterment of the Ukrainian community in New York City and Ukraine," Dlaboha said.

The branch's external affairs coordinator, Tamara Olexy, who is also national president of the UCCA but takes an active part in her local branch, reported on the various initiatives taken by the branch over the last few years in support of various issues important to the Ukrainian American community. The branch's advo-



Participants of the annual meeting of the New York City branch of the UCCA.

cacy proved successful as members of Congress from the New York City area co-sponsored several important bills before Congress, including HR 1314 marking the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor and HR 997 expressing support for NATO to enter into a Membership Action Plan with Ukraine and Georgia.

Additionally, thanks to the initiative of the branch, two proclamations were issued: Mayor Michael Bloomberg proclaimed August 24, 2009, in the City of New York as "Ukrainian Independence Day," and Gov. David Paterson proclaimed November 2009 as the "76th anniversary of the Ukrainian Genocide and Famine of 1932-1933."

Following the reports of the outgoing executive board members, Olya Hryhorash, chair of the Nominating

Committee, presented the slate of candidates for the 2010-2011.

The following were unanimously elected to serve on the board: Ms. Zajac, president; Andriy Dobriansky, vice-president; Mr. Predko, secretary; Mr. Shwec, treasurer; Ms. Szonyi, UNF coordinator; Adrian Dlaboha, external affairs coordinator; Vasyl Barabash, arts coordinator; Chrystynka Andrushkiw, cultural coordinator; Olya Hryhorash and Ruta Lew, social coordinators; Lesia Orach, technical coordinator; Adia Paska, archivist and UCCA photographer; Romanka Zajac, membership coordinator.

The audit committee includes Ihor Dlaboha, Nadia Tatchin, Lesia Harhaj; members of the arbitration court include Ronya Lozynskiy, Yarko Dobriansky and Lida Kryzhyniwska.

## Catechetical workshop held for Boston Deanery

by Peter T. Woloschuk

BOSTON – The Boston Deanery of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford on Sunday, May 8, hosted a catechetical workshop on "The Divine Liturgy and Catechesis" for the catechists of the various parishes that comprise the deanery, including Christ the King in Boston, St. John the Baptist in Fall River, Mass., Ss. Peter and Paul in Ludlow, Mass., Protection of the Blessed Virgin in Manchester, N.H., St. John the Baptist in Salem, and St. Michael in Woonsocket, R.I.

The daylong workshop was conducted by the Rev. Albert Forlano, director of the Catechetical Department of the eparchy and Rev. Vasyl Colopelnik, the co-director.

Father Colopelnik, a Romanian native who completed his theological studies in

Rome, was the main presenter for the day. He began by looking at the historical aspects of the divine liturgies used by the Ukrainian Catholic Church in daily worship, including those of Ss. Basil, James, John Chrysostom and Mark, and spent a considerable amount of time analyzing the impact of Byzantium with its court and patriarchal usages on the development of the liturgies now commonly in use.

Father Colopelnik then looked at the theological aspects of the liturgy, examining its tripartite division in Prothesis, Liturgy of the Word, and Liturgy of the Faithful and gave an overview of the various functions and purposes of its constituent parts. He then concluded by examining methodology for teaching about the liturgy in the parishes to both adults and young people.



Some of the attendees at the Catechetical Workshop for the Boston Deanery.

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## The deal...

(Continued from page 7)

"The eggs, the smoke and the fighting are a sad reflection on Ukraine's failure to bolster its independence since 1991 with proper reform, mature political debate and a functioning legal system. The contrasting obedience of the Russian Parliament testifies to a lack of political competition and scrutiny of the Kremlin. Zerkalo Nedeli, a Ukrainian weekly, commented that whereas Russian politicians rip off their country in imitation of a strong state, Ukrainian politicians do it in imitation of a democratic one. ...

"...the true value of Sebastopol to the Russians is symbolic. A city of Russian glory built by Catherine the Great, it has a big place in the national psyche. Withdrawal from Sebastopol, which was besieged and suffered grievously in the Crimean and 'great patriotic' wars, would be a humiliation. Russia's presence in the Russian-speaking city is also a symbol of wider influence across the post-Soviet space. ..."

**"Fighting over Moscow's embrace," by Friedbert Pflüger (professor of international relations at King's College, London, and a member of the national board of the Christian Democratic Union in Germany), The New York Times/International Herald Tribune, April 30:**

"...At the start of his presidency, Mr. [Viktor] Yanukovich [sic] appeared to be trying to unify the country and to promote better relations with the West. He made a state visit to Brussels on March 5...

"Now there are signs that the visit to Brussels was really just cosmetic, and that Mr. Yanukovich's real focus has been development of relations with Moscow. Since March 5, there have been at least seven Russia-Ukraine meetings on the level of president or prime minister...

"The Ukrainian-Russian agreement suggests a de facto end to any prospects of NATO membership for Ukraine in the foreseeable future. While NATO and the European Union have hesitated about making any concrete moves toward Ukrainian accession, the Kremlin has known exactly what it wants.

"...it is the Kremlin, at least for now, that decides whether and to what extent Ukraine will be allowed to integrate into European structures. The EU, once again paralyzed by internal battles (now Greece), remains silent."

**"How Russia loses in its Ukraine deal," by Jackson Diehl, deputy editorial page editor, The Washington Post, April 29:**

"Smoke filled the Ukrainian Parliament Tuesday, and the speaker needed an umbrella to shield himself from tossed eggs. From this chaotic scene two conclusions emerged. First: Ukraine is still a democracy, though sometimes a rowdy one. Second: Russia, which has traded freedom for a revived imperialism under Vladimir Putin, will have a chokehold on its neighbor for decades to come. ...

"Still, in pursuit of a superpower status that Russia has irretrievably lost, Putin has committed his country to tens of billions of dollars in costly subsidies to keep a base for a rusting fleet it cannot afford to modernize or maintain. ...

"If Russia were a true democracy, the deal might have prompted some egg tossing in its legislature. Instead, its deputies ratified the treaty an hour after Ukraine acted, with 410 out of 450 voting in favor. That may have looked better than the melee in Ukraine – but the real losers here will be the Russian people."

**"A bad deal for Ukraine and Yanukovich [sic]," by Tomas Valasek (director of foreign policy and defense at the Center for European Reform), Financial Times, April 27:**

"...The presence of the [Russian Black Sea fleet, with its many soldiers and intelligence operatives, allows Moscow to put pressure on Kiev [sic]. ... Ukraine will not be truly independent until it is free to make its own foreign policy choices, and the presence of the fleet guarantees that it will not have that freedom for a few more decades. That is the true cost of the lease.

"Mr. Yanukovich [sic] is also wrong on the potential benefits of the deal.

"... the new president ... could hardly have chosen a worse time to bargain. Ukraine is dealing from a position of unprecedented weakness: not only has its economy contracted dramatically but the country also needs to roll over some \$30 billion in debt this year; it badly needs foreign help.

"...the president should have started by shoring up Ukraine's strengths: reducing its addiction to cheap gas, building a more effective government and undertaking economic reforms to secure help from the International Monetary Fund and the EU with Ukraine's loan burden. Extending the lease does the opposite: it deepens Ukraine's weaknesses and prolongs its dependency on discounted energy from Russia. It gives Mr. Yanukovich fewer options in his future dealings with Moscow and the West. It is a bad deal for Ukraine, and a bad start for his presidency. ..."

## Do Medvedev and...

(Continued from page 6)

because the Verkhovna Rada has already discussed the procedure that would have to be followed for places like Transnistria to join Ukraine. Indeed, he says, Ukrainian national deputies have come up with a slogan: "Transnistria – the first stage of a new Pereyaslavska Rada – neither more nor less!"

*Paul Goble is a long-time specialist on ethnic and religious questions in Eurasia who has served in various capacities in*

*the U.S. State Department, the Central Intelligence Agency and the International Broadcasting Bureau, as well as at the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He has also been director of research and publications at the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy, vice-dean for the social sciences and humanities at Audentes University in Tallinn and a senior research associate at the EuroCollege of the University of Tartu in Estonia. Mr. Goble writes a blog called "Window on Eurasia" (<http://windowoneurasia.blogspot.com/>). This article above is reprinted with permission.*

## New York...

(Continued from page 11)

ous questions from the audience and a lively general discussion, which had to be broken off at 5 p.m. Regarding the ordination of married men, it was pointed out that the theological basis for this is insufficiently understood. Despite a 1929 ban (possibly superceded), several married men have recently been ordained in the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States, and many married priests from Ukraine now serve here. An official proclamation that the Ukrainian Church ordains married men would enlarge the pool of candidates from which to choose. At the same time, our dependence on priests from Ukraine is not a solution to our vocations crisis, because they come from a very different culture.

Other "internal" issues raised by the audience were the role of women in the Church – for some, a question still awaiting its "Eastern" answer – and recognition of a Ukrainian Catholic Patriarchate. One member of the audience called for a thorough sociological survey of the religious attitudes of the Ukrainian diaspora in the U.S., including respondents outside our Churches, as well as those within.

Viewed against the background of mainstream American Catholicism and Protestantism, the Ukrainian Churches have strikingly distinctive features. Yet we sometimes overlook them. In some parishes, for example, neglect of the beauty of our liturgy has contributed to an attitude, typical of those over age 60, of attending church solely from a sense of obligation. On the other hand, people under 60 generally attend because they want to. The beauty of the Byzantine liturgy and church art has drawn many people to the faith. Greater attention to aesthetics in our churches would increase their number. Another contrast with the Latin Church is our emphasis on the love, as opposed to the suffering, expressed in the Passion of Christ.


Today, popular culture reveals a widespread yearning for spirituality. New Age cults are one consequence of American Churches' loss of the transcendent and mystical. Many Americans and Europeans

seek it in exotic practices such as Buddhist monastic meditation or yoga, unaware that the Eastern Christian traditions respond to the same fundamental needs. For Ukrainian Catholics, mysticism is not an addition to their faith, but an integral part of their theology. Similarly, seekers of alternative medicine might take note of Christian healing practices, such as those offered by one Ukrainian pastor who is also a trained physician.

But if Ukrainian Churches have so much to offer, why have they not drawn more converts? Perhaps we are not sufficiently aware of our own religious identity to find our place in America's religious kaleidoscope. As Father Kaszczak said in conclusion, we cannot integrate into American society if we do not know who we are.

Some recent initiatives can help orient the faithful in this journey to ecclesial self-awareness. Courses in Eastern Christian Studies and related subjects for laity are now being offered at St. Basil College in Stamford, Conn. ([www.stbasilcollege.com](http://www.stbasilcollege.com)). The Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies in Ottawa holds public Study Days in late June ([study.days.masi@gmail.com](mailto:study.days.masi@gmail.com)). The Ukrainian Patriarchal Society, which formerly concentrated on Vatican recognition of a Ukrainian Catholic Patriarchate, has now broadened and deepened its approach in order to build a truly patriarchal Church through education, publishing and ecumenical work.

Although the roundtable was framed in terms of the Eastern Churches in general, the discussion was largely limited to the Ukrainian Catholic Church. In the future, the Ukrainian Patriarchal Society hopes to widen the scope of the discussion, bringing in representatives of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, as well as of the various Catholic and Orthodox Eastern Churches of the Byzantine, Armenian, Assyrian, Syrian (Antiochian), and Coptic and Ethiopian (Alexandrine) traditions. Since immigrant Churches share common problems, a comparative and cooperative approach promises to yield new approaches and solutions.

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## Preview...

(Continued from page 24)

ing to discuss "Homegrown Terrorism" in the United States. A documentary will be viewed about Muslim extremists radical-

ized in the United States and plotting against Americans. The meeting takes place at the Palatine Public Library at 2-4 p.m. For more information contact Col. Roman Golash (ret.), 847-910-3532 or [romangolash@sbcglobal.net](mailto:romangolash@sbcglobal.net).

## 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.*

*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.*



# OUT AND ABOUT

Through July 11  
Chicago

Art exhibit, "NeoSymbolism: Bridges to the Unknown," Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 773-227-5522

Foundation of Boston, VFW Post 84,  
508-423-4585 or 508-245-1890

June 10-14  
Edmonton, AB

Canada-Ukraine Business Forum, Canada Ukraine Chamber of Commerce - Alberta Branch, Chateau Louis Conference Center, 780-469-3841 or [www.cucc.ca/cubf](http://www.cucc.ca/cubf)

June 18  
Perry Hall, MD

5th annual Ukrainian Crab Feast, Baltimore Ukrainian Festival Committee, Columbus Gardens Hall, 410-591-7566 or [daria.kaczaniukhauff@verizonwireless.com](mailto:daria.kaczaniukhauff@verizonwireless.com)

June 11  
Washington

Discussion with Capt. Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper, Shevchenko Scientific Society, U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 240-205-1889

*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).*

June 11  
Webster, NY

Pub Night, featuring accordionist Matthew Dubas, Ukrainian Cultural Center of Rochester, 585-872-0240

June 12  
New York

Concert, "Seven Deadly Sins," Ukrainian Women's Voices and the New York Bandura Ensemble, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110

June 12  
Horsham, PA

Golf outing and banquet, Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, 215-343-5412

June 12  
Yonkers, NY

Kozak Tournament, Ukrainian American Youth Association, Ukrainian Youth Center, [Samuel.warycha@ey.com](mailto:Samuel.warycha@ey.com) or 914-476-6781

June 12 - August 7  
Palm Coast, FL

Art exhibit, featuring abstract examples by Pat Zalisko, Hollingsworth Gallery, [www.hollingsworthgallery.com](http://www.hollingsworthgallery.com)

June 13  
Horsham, PA

Youth Day, Ukrainian American Youth Association, Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, 215-627-4519

June 18  
Syracuse, NY

Acoustic Night with Sean and Nick of Vorony, Ukrainian National Home, 315-478-9272

June 18  
Dedham, MA

Fund-raiser, Children - Our Future, And the Future is in Our Hands," Ukrainian American Heritage

## To: Our advertisers

## Re: Upcoming events

Due to the substandard delivery by the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) of The Ukrainian Weekly, we are compelled to advise our advertisers – as well as those who submit listings for our "Preview of Events" and "Out and About" columns – to submit their information well in advance.

We respectfully suggest that events should be advertised in The Ukrainian Weekly three to four weeks in advance (please judge by the newspaper delivery in your area and the location of your target audience) in order to allow readers who subscribe to our print edition enough time to plan on attending or participating in your events.

To be sure, online subscribers of The Ukrainian Weekly will always be able to view information about upcoming events in a timely manner.

In the meantime, please be assured that our administration is in touch with officials of the USPS and is continuing to seek a resolution to the problem of poor mail delivery.

We thank you for your patience and your cooperation.

– Editorial staff and administration of The Ukrainian Weekly

## Bandura and Choral Programs

### Bandura Course

August 7 – 21, 2010

This two-week course focuses on over seven hours of daily group instruction in: the technique of playing bandura, bandura history, solo and ensemble playing and singing, music lectures, elementary music theory (as needed). This course is designed for teenaged children (12 and older) and adults of all ages.

### Junior Bandura Workshop

August 7 – 14, 2010

This one-week workshop covers the basics of playing bandura and bandura history. Participants are introduced to ensemble playing and singing, music lectures, elementary music theory (as needed). This workshop is designed for children ages 9 – 11.

### Ukrainian Sacred Music Workshop

August 11 – 15, 2010

This four-day workshop provides an opportunity to sing sacred works by Ukrainian master composers and provides practical pointers for church singers, cantors, and conductors alike relative to common areas of church singing. Listening lectures will open up many hidden aspects of sacred music tradition. This workshop is designed for older teenagers (ages 15 and older) and adults of all ages.

### Ukrainian Choral Workshop

August 15 – 21, 2010

Directed by Anatoli Avdievsky, this one-week intensive and enjoyable workshop focuses on the singing and performance of Ukrainian folk music. Participants will take part in a various ensembles and private lessons. This one-week workshop is designed for older teenagers (ages 15 and older) and adults of all ages.



## Bandura and Choral Programs

August 7 – 21, 2010

All Saints Camp – Emlenton, Pennsylvania



### SPECIAL GUEST INSTRUCTORS FROM UKRAINE



Oleh Mahlay  
Musical Director



Anatoli Avdievsky  
Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of the world renowned Hryhory Veriovka National Folkloric Ensemble and Hero Of Ukraine



Volodymyr Voyt, Jr.  
Merited Artist of Ukraine and instrumental soloist with the Hryhory Veriovka National Folkloric Ensemble

For more information and for a registration package, please visit [www.bandura.org/bandura\\_school.htm](http://www.bandura.org/bandura_school.htm), or contact the Administrator of Kobzarska Sich, Anatoli Murha, at 734.953.0305 or [ks@bandura.org](mailto:ks@bandura.org)

REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 15, 2010





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P.O. Box 529  
Kerhonkson, NY 12446

1-845-626-5641  
soyuzivka@aol.com

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>June 7-10</b> – Retreat  | <b>Aug 7</b> – Sitch Camp Closing Banquet<br>Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy Recital 1 |
| <b>June 11-13</b> – To be announced                                     | <b>Aug 8-21</b> – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy Camp 2                               |
| <b>June 13-18</b> – UNA Seniors   | <b>Aug 14-21</b> – Club Suzy-Q  |
| <b>June 18-20</b> – Wedding   | <b>Aug 21</b> – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy 2 Recital                              |
| <b>June 20</b> – Father's Day   | <b>Aug 22-28</b> – Joseph's School of Dance   |
| <b>June 21 - July 1</b> – Tennis Camp                                   | <b>Aug 30 - Sep 6</b> – Labor Day week / weekend  |
| <b>June 25-27</b> – Wedding   | <b>Sept 10-12</b> – Salzburg Reunion  |
| <b>June 27 - July 4</b> – Tabir Ptashat 1                               | <b>Sept 13-16</b> – Bayreuth, Berchtesgaden, Regensburg, Karlsfeld, Landshut Reunions       |
| <b>June 28 - July 2</b> – Exploration Day Camp                          | <b>Sept 17-19</b> – KLLK Get-Together   |
| <b>July 4-11</b> – Tabir Ptashat 2                                      | <b>Sept 20-22</b> – Mittenwald Reunion  |
| <b>July 5-9</b> – Exploration Day Camp                                  | <b>Sept 25</b> – To be announced  |
| <b>July 4-17</b> – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy Workshop        | <b>Sept 30 - Oct 3</b> – NEMF Convention  |
| <b>July 16-18</b> – Ukrainian Cultural Festival                         | <b>Oct 8-10</b> – Wedding   |
| <b>July 18-23</b> – Heritage Camp 1                                     | <b>Oct 15-17</b> – Wedding  |
| <b>July 18-24</b> – Discovery Camp                                      | <b>Oct 22-24</b> – To be announced  |
| <b>July 23-25</b> – Adoptive Family Weekend                             | <b>Oct 29-31</b> – Halloween  |
| <b>July 25-30</b> – Heritage Camp 2                                     | <b>Nov 6-7</b> – USCAK Convention   |
| <b>July 25-31</b> – Sitch Camp 1  | <b>Nov 12-14</b> – Plast Orlykiada  |
| <b>July 25 - August 7</b> – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy Camp 1 |   |
| <b>Aug 1-7</b> – Sitch Camp 2   |   |

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

**Friday, June 11, and Sunday, June 13**

**NEW YORK:** In conjunction with its current exhibition "Ukraine-Sweden: At the Crossroads of History (XVII-XVIII Centuries)," The Ukrainian Museum will screen the feature film "Taras Bulba" on Friday, June 11, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, June 13, at 2 p.m. This 1962 Hollywood epic based on the novel by Mykola Hohol was directed by J. Lee Thompson and stars Yul Brynner as Taras Bulba, Tony Curtis as his son Andrei and Sam Wanamaker as Filipenko. On Friday evening, Prof. Alexander Motyl will introduce the film and comment on the historical representation of the characters and period. Sunday's introduction will be pre-recorded. Tickets for Taras Bulba are \$10, and may be purchased in advance at The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St., New York, NY 10003, or online at [www.ukrainianmuseum.org/shop/](http://www.ukrainianmuseum.org/shop/)

**Saturday, June 12**

**NEW YORK:** The Center for Traditional Music and Dance, The Ukrainian Museum and New York Bandura Ensemble/Bandura Dnyni present "Seven Deadly Sins: Traditional Songs of Good and Evil," at the museum, 222 E. Sixth St. (between Second and Third avenues). Ukrainian American singer Nadia Tarnawsky leads the Ukrainian Women's Voices Collective and other special guests in an evening of Ukrainian village polyphony and folk-songs of murder, mischief, mayhem and more. The concert begins at 7 p.m., with reception to follow. Tickets are \$15 (\$10 for members and seniors; \$5 for students). For reservations call 212-228-0110.

**Friday-Sunday, June 18-20**

**YONKERS, N.Y.:** The Yonkers Ukrainian Heritage Festival Committee is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year with another Father's Day Festival on June 18 at 6-10

p.m., June 19 at 1-10 p.m. and June 20 at 1-7 p.m. The festival is held on the grounds of St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church at 21 Shonnard Place. Come and enjoy food, beverages, entertainment, rides and games of chance, and visit our many arts and crafts booths. Admission is free. For more information please visit [www.brama.com/yonkersukrainianfest](http://www.brama.com/yonkersukrainianfest) or call 914-310-0551.

**Sunday, June 20**

**HORSHAM, Pa.:** The popular Father's Day Ukrainian Folk Festival will commence at noon, at Tryzubivka, the Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub, County Line and Lower State roads. A 2 p.m. stage show will feature the Voloshky School of Ukrainian Dance, soloist-singer Julia Stupen and violinist Julia Kourelec. A "zabava" (dance) to the tunes of the Karpaty orchestra will follow. There will be plentiful Ukrainian homemade foods and baked goods, picnic fare and cool refreshments. Admission: \$5 for adults; children 14 and under: free. (That weekend Tryzubivka is also hosting the U.S. Amateur Soccer Association Men's U-23 National Cups Region I Championship Tournament from 10 a.m. through 7 p.m., on both Saturday and Sunday, June 19 and 20. Some of the best amateur soccer teams in America will compete for the U.S. Open and Amateur Region I Cups.) For more information call 215-362-5331, e-mail [eluciw@comcast.net](mailto:eluciw@comcast.net) or visit the websites [www.tryzub.org](http://www.tryzub.org), or [www.Facebook.com/TryzubUkrainianClub](http://www.Facebook.com/TryzubUkrainianClub).

**Saturday, June 26**

**PALATINE, Ill.:** The Ukrainian American Veterans 1 Lt. Ivan Shandor Post 35, ACT for America and Veteran Defenders of America invite the community and especially all veterans to a meet-

(Continued on page 22)

Sunday, June 20, 2010!  
Father's Day is a  
Special Celebration!

Join us at



Father's Day Delicious Buffet and  
Entertaining Musical Show  
12:30 PM

Adults: \$25 all inclusive :

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