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Six rounds of voting produce no chairman for Verkhovna Rada

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — After two more failed attempts to elect a chairman and with that process now into its second month, Ukraine's new Parliament finally decided on June 11 that compromise is the only way out of its leadership crisis.

Leaders of the legislature's eight political factions agreed during a meeting of a special conciliatory committee to take up the proposal set forth by a group of four centrist factions that the Verkhovna Rada chairman must be proposed and voted upon in a package with the two vice-chairs, which had been put forth in the first days after Ukraine's newly elected legislature had convened.

National Deputy Yurii Kostenko said the only way out of the crisis is to allow for representation on the presidium by all the forces in Parliament. "There needs to be a representative from the center, the right and the left for a leadership to be elected," said Mr. Kostenko.

The legislative body has tried six times to elect a chairman because its membership, aligned for the first time into political parties, has split into two ideological camps.

The leftist bloc had resisted a package vote because it believed it could take the chairmanship without a compromise candidate. It nominated Communist faction leader Petro Symonenko four times without success. But after its second strong contender, Socialist Center faction leader Oleksander Moroz, the chairman of the last Parliament, failed in the fifth and sixth rounds to attain the 226 votes needed to elect a chairman, the leftists agreed to the compromise move.

The four centrist factions, Rukh, the National Democrats, the Social-Democrats (United) and the Greens, forged a temporary coalition after they decided the only strategy that would prevent a parliamentary presidium of leftists would be to boycott voting for the leadership until an agreed-upon package of nominees had been worked out between the left and right.

They boycotted four of the six votes. But, more importantly, the two times they did vote the results showed that candidates of the left could not get the needed votes, even with a full complement of national deputies taking part.

Mr. Moroz, who many thought might win the chairmanship as a last-choice candidate, could muster only 177 votes in the fifth round of voting, which was boycotted by the coalition of four centrist factions. In the sixth round, with everybody participating, he still received only 197 votes.

Now, with many of the strongest potential candidates having spent themselves during the Parliament's monthlong politi-

cal chess game, the question is: who might the factions agree upon for the presidium?

Although all the nominees who failed to get elected — including Mr. Kostenko, a leading Rukh figure, and Leonid Kravchuk, co-leader of the Socialist Democrat faction, as well as Messrs. Symonenko and Moroz — could be re-nominated, the feeling is that a person who has not taken part in the political wars has the best chance.

"Right now they are looking for a neutral choice," said National Deputy Mykhailo Ratushnyi, an independent.

He suggested that Mykhailo Syrota, who guided the vote on the ratification of the Constitution in 1996, is a strong contender. "This would be a very normal and objective choice," said Mr. Ratushnyi.

There are also hints that the Rukh and NDP centrist factions are willing to look at a package slate that would include a Communist in one of the vice-chair seats. National Deputy Roman Zvarych suggested before the fifth round of voting that such a move is not out of the question.

"There could be an agreement between

(Continued on page 4)

Angry miners tell Kyiv officials: we're not gonna take it anymore

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Stating that they will not leave until the money is in the bank, some 1,000 coal miners — participants of a 500-kilometer (310-mile) march from the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, entered Kyiv on June 11 to demand unpaid wages owed them by Ukraine's government and the reduction of coal imports.

The coal miners said they are determined to stay until all their demands are met, and that this time rhetoric will not suffice. "This time we will not be satisfied with promises by the government," said 32-year-old Nikolai Passirov of Pavlohrad, Dnipropetrovsk Oblast. "We want to see the money in the salary accounts of every mine. We will demonstrate until they fulfill our demands."

The 1,000 miners spent 17 days on the road during a heat wave that has given Ukraine record temperatures for this time of year. At night they camped out in fields or at the homes of friends and sympathizers. They said they persisted on the good will of people they met on their journey, although some rumors have circulated that the

Hromada Party, a staunch critic of the Kuchma administration, financed the march. Hromada's leader, Pavlo Lazarenko, hails from Dnipropetrovsk.

One coal miner, who said he had not bathed properly in three weeks and had lost 7 kilograms (15 pounds) during the march, remarked, "Do you think we would have arrived in this condition if we had that kind of financing?"

The miners have been battling the government for wages since 1992 and have organized strikes several times a year. Each time, however, either the demands have been fulfilled only partially, or wage payments have been halted after a brief resumption.

Ukraine's coal miners have been caught in the political game between the country's executive and legislative branches. While the government says it cannot release money to pay the wages owed without approval by the Verkhovna Rada, the Verkhovna Rada accuses the government of shortchanging the miners in its budget funding.

Last week the legislature passed a resolu-

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Patriarch Bartholomew feted in Winnipeg

by Natalka Chomiak

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WINNIPEG — Grey skies and smiling faces greeted the arrival of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople here on the afternoon of May 27. Church hierarchs, clergy, laity and children, dressed in Ukrainian and Greek national costumes, spilled onto the tarmac at Winnipeg International Airport as the patriarch alighted from an airplane specially chartered for his seven-city Canadian tour.

As cameras whirred and security personnel discretely patrolled the perimeter, an estimated crowd of 150 pressed closer to hear the delegation welcoming the patriarch. Saffron yellow flags emblazoned with the patriarchal seal fluttered in the breeze, rose petals covered the ground and bouquets were exchanged in honor of the occasion. Words of welcome were accompanied with the traditional greeting "Khrystos Voskres" sung in Ukrainian, and similar incantations in Greek and English.

The warm greetings at the airport set the tone for the 24-hour visit. Civic authorities marked the occasion with a special flag-raising ceremony at City Hall. Main Street, site of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, was renamed in honor of the patriarch.



Markian Yereniuk

Metropolitan Wasyly of the UOC-Canada (left) and the Rt. Rev. Dr. Stephan Jarmus (right) receive an icon for the chapel given as a gift by Patriarch Bartholomew (center) to the College of St. Andrew.

Later that evening, Mayor Susan Thompson conferred an honorary scroll on the patriarch on behalf of the city.

The highlight of the afternoon program was a special convocation held at St. Andrew's College on the University

of Manitoba campus. In recognition of Patriarch Bartholomew's leadership on matters relating to Church unity and the environment, as well as his contribution to theological issues and matters

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ANALYSIS: Uncertainty persists about Ukraine's economic prospects

by Viktor Luhovyk
RFE/RL Newsline

The Ukrainian government recently announced its intention to cut the planned budget deficit for 1998, saying the move marks the beginning of a new wave of reforms. But the announcement stopped short of providing details, leading to doubt about whether the measures will ever be fully implemented.

The May 29 announcement said the deficit will be cut to 2.3 percent, down from the 3.3 percent level approved by the Verkhovna Rada in December. Officials said more reforms will follow immediately, as the cash-strapped government tries to qualify for a three-year \$2.5 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund.

The decision to cut the deficit was prompted by the rapidly worsening financial situation. The IMF and the World Bank suspended their aid programs in April, after the budget deficit in the first three months of this year doubled the planned target of 3 percent.

Most affected has been the market for treasury bills (T-bills), issued by the Finance Ministry to finance the budget deficit. The ministry's payments for maturing T-bills have exceeded the funds raised from issuing the new debt this year, reflecting foreign investors' reluctance to purchase the T-bills. Last year, foreign investors had held half of Ukraine's T-bill market, but were purchasing only 10-25 percent of the securities in recent months.

Unable to restore foreign investors' interest in the T-bill market, the government borrowed more than \$1 billion internationally in February and March at a high 16 percent interest rate to cover budget losses and pay off some wage arrears in the run-up to March 29 parliamentary elections. The exodus of foreign investors from the T-bill market forced the National Bank of Ukraine to spend up to \$1 billion to prevent the hryvnia from falling.

But many observers say the government must now start raising more than \$2.5 billion to pay off mature T-bills and foreign debt in the next three months. This could lead to a drop in the value of the hryvnia

Victor Luhovyk is a Kyiv-based correspondent for RFE/RL.

after June 20, when first debt payments have to be made. The Finance Ministry can now sell only T-bills whose maturity period does not go beyond 1998, and analysts say that the government may again try to borrow at a high interest rate to cover its outstanding obligations amid growing concerns that the country may eventually go bankrupt.

"The government behaves like the passengers of the 'Titanic,'" said Volodymyr Dubrovsky of the Harvard Institute for International Development, alluding to the government's persistent policy of acquiring new loans to pay off old debt.

Meanwhile, serious structural reforms are still only being talked about. "We started talking about liberalization of foreign trade, bankruptcy regulations, and new taxation policies five years ago," said Vitali Migashko of ING Bank Ukraine, who then added, "Can anyone say today that at least some of these measures were introduced adequately?"

At the beginning of the year, the government announced plans to lay off thousands of government employees by the end of the year to reduce budget expenditures and implement a number of deregulation measures. However, many of these measures are still to be put into effect months after they were first discussed.

"What dominates the current Cabinet is concern with its own interests," said former Minister of the Economy Viktor Suslov. Having won election to the Verkhovna Rada, Mr. Suslov resigned from the cabinet last month, after criticizing the anti-reform stance of its many departments.

The situation may be further exacerbated by tense relations between the government and the legislature. "The newly elected Parliament is not likely to be more friendly toward the government than the previous one," said liberal lawmaker Serhii Teriokhin, who was among the proponents of a radical tax reform discussed by the previous legislature. "And with the government being politically and professionally weak, there are no reasons to believe in financial stability," he added.

The government measures aimed at averting the financial crisis have to be approved by the Parliament. But the legislature thus far seems unwilling to do anything of the kind.

NEWSBRIEFS

Ukraine has 150,000 millionaires

KYIV – The chief of the State Tax Administration, Mykola Azarov, has said only seven persons declared incomes exceeding 1 million hryvni (\$500,000 U.S.) in Ukraine last year, Ukrainian Television reported. According to Mr. Azarov, the number of millionaires who made false declarations totals some 150,000. He also estimated that some 10 billion to 12 billion hrv are circulating in Ukraine's shadow economy. Mr. Azarov said the tax authorities will be able to collect some 3.5 billion hrv from that sector by the end of this year if the Verkhovna Rada adopts a package of new tax legislation. (RFE/RL Newsline)

EU lukewarm toward Ukraine's bid

LUXEMBOURG – At the first session of the Ukraine-European Union Cooperation Council in Luxembourg on June 9, Ukraine's Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko requested that Ukraine be granted associate membership in order to pave the way for full-fledged membership in the future, Ukrainian Television reported. According to Reuters, the EU reacted unenthusiastically to Ukraine's association bid, saying it is "premature" to look further than the current accord on Ukraine-EU cooperation and partnership, which took effect on March 1. "I'm sure that in the medium term Ukraine will arrive at that point which in our view, at the present time, it has not arrived at yet," Reuters quoted EU Commissioner for Foreign Relations Hans van den Broek as saying. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Berezovskii denies plans to move CIS HQ

MOSCOW – CIS Executive Secretary Boris Berezovskii told journalists on June 4 allegations that he plans to transfer the headquarters of the Commonwealth of Independent States from Minsk to Moscow are untrue, Interfax reported. Belarusian envoy to the CIS Sergei Posokhov had claimed on June 3 that Mr. Berezovskii and his staff had made preparations for such a move. Mr. Posokhov had expressed Belarus's strong opposition to such an intention. He added that Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Armenia and Tajikistan had similarly expressed objections to that intention. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainian miners continue protest

KYIV – Miners continue to picket the buildings of the Presidential Administration, the Verkhovna Rada, and the Cabinet of Ministers in Kyiv, Ukrainian Television reported on June 4. Trade unionists have announced the pickets will remain until the authorities meet the coal miners' demands

that all wage arrears be paid. Miners picketing the oblast administration building in Luhansk blocked the traffic in the city center for one hour. The Coal Miners Independent Trade Union said on June 4 that 45 mines are on strike, while the Ministry of Coal Mining put the figure at 30. Meanwhile, the Parliament has passed a resolution ordering the government to increase subsidies to the coal industry by 400 million hrv (about \$200 million U.S.). According to a government official quoted by ITAR-TASS, the government is now drafting a resolution on reducing coal imports from Russia and Poland. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kyiv daily loses libel case against minister

KYIV – The opposition daily *Kievskiy Viedomosti* has lost a libel case filed by Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Kravchenko, Ukrainian Television reported on June 4. The court ruled that the newspaper has to pay 5 million hrv (\$2.5 million U.S.) in damages to the minister for falsely accusing him of corruption. In addition, two journalists are to pay the minister 27,000 hrv in damages for writing "incriminating articles." A *Kievskiy Viedomosti* representative told Ukrainian Television: "This is simply another attempt to stifle the independent press," adding that the newspaper will appeal the verdict in the Supreme Court. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Brzezinski: Ukraine NATO-ready by 2010

KYIV – Ukraine will meet all necessary criteria for NATO-membership by 2010, American foreign policy expert Zbigniew Brzezinski said on June 1. He added that Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasiuk has a "more optimistic" timeline for eligibility. Dr. Brzezinski mentioned four criteria for membership: a stable, democratic government; an effective free-market economy; civilian control of the military; and limited, manageable ethnic and territorial problems. Without being specific, Dr. Brzezinski said, "Today Ukraine meets two criteria, and Russia none." Citing its democratic elections and tolerance in language and ethnic issues, he praised Ukrainian successes in the political sphere. However, he pointed to the divided Verkhovna Rada as an obstacle to a fully functioning market economy. During his meeting with President Leonid Kuchma, he said election of a centrist Parliament chairman would help increase international financial assistance and investment in Ukraine. (Eastern Economist)

Nazi victims receive compensation

KYIV – Ukrainian victims of Nazi persecution have received a total of 333 mil-

(Continued on page 13)

The Rada's permanent committees

Embassy of Ukraine

WASHINGTON – On May 14, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine approved the establishment of the following permanent committees:

- on Legal Reform;
- on State-building, Local Self-Governance, and Local Rada Activities;
- on Social Policy and Labor Affairs;
- on Issues of Health Care, Motherhood and Childhood;
- on Youth Policy, Physical Culture and Sports;
- on Science and Education;
- on Culture and Spirituality;
- on Economic Policy, Economy Management, Property and Investment Affairs;
- on Finance and Banking Activities;
- on Industrial Policy;
- on Energy Sector, Nuclear Policy and Nuclear Safety;
- on Construction, Transportation and Telecommunications;
- on Policy in Agriculture, and Land Relations;
- on Foreign Relations and the CIS;
- on Environmental Policy and Use of Natural Resources;
- on Legal Basis for Law-enforcement Activities, and Fight Against Organized Crime and Corruption;
- on National Security and Defense;
- on Rules, Deputies' Ethics and Organization of the Verkhovna Rada;
- on Issues of Freedom of Speech and Information;
- on Human Rights, National Minorities and Inter-ethnic Relations;
- on Issues of Pensioners', Veterans' and Disabled People.

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Montreal community recalls Famine-Genocide of 65 years ago

by Fran Ponomarenko

MONTREAL – This city's Ukrainian community recently set in motion a series of events commemorating the 65th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide of 1933 in Ukraine.

On Saturday, May 9, at 1 p.m. more than 500 people gathered at the Roddick Gates of McGill University for the Memorial March organized by the Montreal section of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. Under grey skies and intermittent drizzle, the march left the university gates. It went along Sherbrooke Street, one of Montreal's main boulevards, then turned down Peel Street through the commercial center of the city and finally came to the cenotaph of the Unknown Soldier at Place du Canada.

At the head of the march was a wide banner with the words "Famine-Genocide Ukraine 1933." In the procession one could see a white wooden willow cross with a small black wreath and two black ribbons. Three flag bearers carried the flags of Ukraine, Canada and Quebec. Marchers carried several dozen placards with messages in French, English and Ukrainian, and some marchers carried placards with enlargements of famine photos. These posters and placards were designed by Orest and Darka Hummeny.

Children from schools of Ukrainian studies and youth organizations carried flowers. In attendance at the march were famine survivors, their children and grandchildren, five priests from the Ukrainian Orthodox and Catholic Churches, Ukrainian veterans of various military formations, representatives of Ukrainian organizations and members of the Ukrainian community at large. There were also a number of non-Ukrainians who learned about the march from friends or from the media.

At the cenotaph, a wreath-laying ceremony was conducted by Hryhoriy Kostyuk. One wreath was laid by Ukraine's ambassador to Canada and the other by the president of the local Ukrainian Canadian Congress. A panakhyda (memorial service), officiated by the five priests and accompanied by singers from various Ukrainian church choirs, followed. An address in three languages by the president of UCC, Evhen Choliy, and another one in Ukrainian by Ambassador Furkalo followed.

A eulogy in honor of the famine victims was read by two recent immigrants from Ukraine, Lesia Bobyk and Taras Koval. Montreal famine survivors and their children who were in attendance were called out by name. The ceremony ended with the singing of the Ukrainian anthem and the laying of flowers by the children and the rest of the community.

On May 1 an exhibit of photographs and books about the three famines in Soviet Ukraine (1921-1933, 1932-1933, 1946-1947) opened in the Patriarch Josyf Slipyj Ukrainian Museum. Among the dignitaries representing the Ukrainian Embassy at the opening were Taras Malashevsky, Ihor Zahlada and his wife, Alina, as well as Natalka Skorobohata, secretary to Ambassador Volodymyr Furkalo. Representatives of Ukrainian community organizations and churches also were present.

During the evening Tania Nosko-Oboroniw and Valentyna Vasyliwa, a recent immigrant from Ukraine, gave descriptions of what their families endured during the Famine-Genocide. The exhibit was open for the entire month of May.

Media coverage was extensive on the eve of the opening of the photo and book exhibit. It began on April 30 in La Presse, Montreal's largest French daily and intensified on the Thursday and Friday preceding the march, with interviews on both English and French radio and TV stations. There



Children of Ukrainian schools and youth organizations participate in the Memorial March recalling the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine.

was also an article in Info-Bulletin, a biweekly published by recent Russian-speaking immigrants.

TV crews from Radio Canada and CTV and Global stayed for most of the Memorial March, interviewed survivors and commentators, and aired reports on the 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. news programs. On Sunday, May 10, two articles with photos appeared in the Montreal Gazette and La Presse.

Although Global news confused the reasons for the Famine-Genocide, most of the other media noted that the famine was man-made and the result of the deliberate policy of the Communist regime, and that it occurred after Soviet Ukraine had been dekulakized and collectivized.

The news media were most interested in interviewing survivors and there were at least four present: Michael Hayduk, Ms. Nosko-Oboroniw, Olha Humeniuk and Mr. Zahoruyko. Although there are still a few

other famine survivors in Montreal, they were not able to attend as they are elderly and frail.

The success of these events was due entirely to the indefatigable efforts of the organizing committee members who contacted all the mainstream Montreal media, including suburban newspapers, organized buses for the children and the elderly, wrote brochures and fliers, and did a host of other jobs that were required in order for the march to work smoothly.

Members of the organizing committee were: Roman Serbyn (chairman), Zorianna Hrycenko-Luhova (media coordinator), Donald Ivanski, Maria Putko, Mr. Kostyuk, Orest Pawliw, Khrystia Sukhotska, Iaroslav Lytvinski, Bill Pawlowsky, Yarema Kelebay and others.

Every Saturday for several weeks prior to the commemorative march, the Ukrainian Radio Station in Montreal played segments

about the famine, such as excerpts from memoirs, and literary and historical documents. Special classes were conducted in Ukrainian schools to teach children about the genocide.

Other ongoing remembrance activities included a lecture delivered by Prof. Serbyn at McGill University. This lecture was presented on March 25 and was part of the second annual conference on 20th century genocides organized by Armenian students at McGill University. The film "Harvest of Despair," made by Yuriy Luhovy and Slavko Nowytski, was shown at that time.

Other events planned for Montreal this year include two illustrated lectures on the three Ukrainian famines. These will be presented at the museum; one talk will be in French and the other in English. A book exhibit on the 1933 famine is slated for September at the Université du Québec à Montréal.

Eurasia Foundation grantees played role in recent elections

WASHINGTON – On March 29, for the second time since their country's independence in 1991, Ukrainian voters cast their ballots and ushered into power a new Verkhovna Rada. The devotion and hard work of many international and Ukrainian non-governmental, non-political organizations helped pave the way to a smooth and active round of elections. With no major violations reported by international and domestic observers at the polling stations (in contrast to the 1994 parliamentary elections), proponents of a democratic Ukraine can rejoice at the free and fair manner of the March elections.

Despite reports of a prevailing apathetic attitude around the country, close to 70 percent of the population voted. A consortium of U.S. and Ukrainian organizations spearheaded by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), with funding from the Eurasia Foundation, which contributed to the impressive voter turnout. Their three-month "Focus: Ukraine" voter awareness program targeted the country's population between the ages of 18 and 30.

The consortium used a multimedia program of civic education to encourage young voters to take responsibility for their future, including weekly voter education programs, public service announcements (radio, television and newspaper) and innovative meetings with candidates and party representatives, which took place directly prior to "Rock the Vote" music festivals.

Another Eurasia Foundation grantee worked to ensure that votes were cast and counted properly. "In the 1994 parliamentary elections," remarked Eurasia Foundation grantee Ihor Popov, "intimidation of voters and irregularities in the balloting process were widespread. Unfortunately, this helped undermine public faith in the elections and in some

cases, the entire government structure. Our goal was to rebuild people's faith in the democratic process and increase voter confidence in the outcome of the March 29 elections."

Mr. Popov's organization, the Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU), was able to do just that by conducting the most reliable and extensive non-partisan elections monitoring throughout Ukraine. With help from the American organization National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI), CVU recruited, trained, equipped and deployed over 17,000 volunteers as independent election monitors in every oblast in Ukraine. The monitors called CVU headquarters and reported any violations that they had witnessed during election day. Reported violations were followed up with the Central Election Commission. One international election monitor, brought in by NDI, explained: "In many cases, the very presence of monitors at polling stations and during the balloting process helped discourage illegal election activities. Violations that were noticed by CVU monitors during the day were quickly called in, and in many cases, taken care of at that time."

To many people around the world, the results of the 1998 Verkhovna Rada elections are viewed with some pessimism for the future of Ukraine's reform movement. However, 10 years from now, long after the actual 1998 parliamentary elections have been over and forgotten, the process will be remembered for being free and fair.

Created by the U.S. government in 1993 and currently funded by a mix of public and private donors, the Eurasia Foundation is an independently managed grant and loan making organization headquartered in Washington, with field offices in 12 of the republics of the former Soviet Union.

Patriarch Bartholomew...

(Continued from page 1)

of canon law, the patriarch was presented with an honorary Doctorate of Divinity. St. Andrew's College bestows the "doctor, honoris causa" upon distinguished leaders and scholars for their contributions to Orthodoxy and the Ukrainian Canadian community.

The special convocation podium included representatives of the university community, the board of directors and faculty of theology at St. Andrew's College, the Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies and hierarchs of the Orthodox Church.

The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada was represented by its primate, Metropolitan Wasyly Fedak, as well as Archbishop John Stinka of Edmonton and Bishop Yuriy Kalistchuk of Toronto. Representing the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. were Metropolitan Constantine, Archbishop Vsevolod and Archbishop Antony.

Representing the Greek Orthodox Church were Metropolitan Panteleimon of Beroia and Naoussa (Turkey), Metropolitan Photios of Imvros and Tenedos (Turkey), Bishop Dionysios of Synada (Turkey), Metropolitan Sotirios of Toronto and Archbishop Spyridon, primate of the American Church.

The presence of Bishop Picenti of the Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria (Egypt) on the podium underscored the relationship that has developed between this Church and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Stephan Jarmus and the Rt. Rev. Dr. Oleh Krawchenko delivered introductory remarks. Metropolitan Wasyly presented the Doctorate of Divinity to the patriarch. In his acceptance speech Patriarch Bartholomew noted that St. Andrew is the protector of both Constantinople and the college.

His commentary focused on the nature of knowledge and the truth. He noted that the path to the truth needs to be negotiated using Biblical texts that often are contradictory. To decipher the message of "the Book of Knowledge," he recommended

Six rounds...

(Continued from page 1)

Rukh, the National Democrats and the Communists for a package vote that would put Hromada and the Socialists on the outside," said Mr. Zvarych. "This process could also include the Social Democrats, but that would complicate matters."

The Communists, National Democrats and Rukh are the three largest factions in the Verkhovna Rada.

Mr. Ratushnyi said that, although an agreement may be in the works between the three largest political groupings, it will still come down to personalities and that could pose further problems.

"It is absolutely a realistic possibility, but then they would have to agree on who would take the chairmanship and the first and second chairs," observed Mr. Ratushnyi.



Markian Yereniuk

During benediction at the luncheon held in the patriarch's honor (from left) are: Metropolitan Constantine of the UOC-U.S.A. Metropolitan Wasyly of the UOC-Canada and Patriarch Bartholomew.

delving deeper into the text, for it is the repository of spiritual riches.

Patriarch Bartholomew then donated an icon for use in the college chapel. In addition, he presented Metropolitan Wasyly with a jewel-encrusted panergia (religious medalion). Dr. Natalia Aponiuk, director of the college's Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies, presented the patriarch with a copy of the Ostrih Bible (reprinted in 1981). Tim Sus and Tom Dusher, representing the seminarians, presented an artistic rendering of St. Andrew's College to the patriarch.

Before attending a banquet that evening, the patriarch conducted a holy communion service at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church. The church was filled with faithful from the 3,000-strong Greek community and the 10,000-strong Ukrainian Orthodox community of Winnipeg.

All levels of government sent representatives to the banquet held at the Winnipeg Convention Center. Dr. Rey Pagtakhan, member of Parliament for Winnipeg North - St. Paul represented the prime minister of Canada. Gary Filmon, premier of the province of Manitoba, spoke on behalf of the provincial government. Mayor Thompson represented the city. The Liberal, New Democratic and Conservative parties were represented and a number of civic politicians were in attendance. The judiciary was represented by Chief Justice Benjamin Hewak of the Manitoba Court of Queens Bench.

The ecumenical nature of the patriarchal visit was underlined by the composition of the head table. Metropolitan Michael Bzdel and Bishop Stefan Soroka represented the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Winnipeg. The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Winnipeg was represented by Archbishop Leonard Wall.

In addition, representatives of the Anglican, Evangelical Lutheran and other mainstream Protestant denominations were part of the estimated crowd of 550. Hierarchs of the Ukrainian Orthodox Churches and the Greek Orthodox Churches were joined by Bishop Picenti of the Coptic Orthodox jurisdiction.

Drs. Krawchenko and Ernest Cholakis ably handled the duties of masters of ceremonies. During the banquet, guests were entertained by two troupes of Ukrainian and Greek folk dancers. To honor the occasion, the patriarch was presented with an Canadian Inuit sculpture by the Greek community, an inlaid ivory cross by the Coptic Church and a beautiful icon by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

The speeches at the banquet, and at the luncheon the following day, underlined the importance of the dialogue that has opened up as a result of the decision taken in 1990 by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada to enter into eucharistic communion with the Patriarchate of Constantinople.

Metropolitan Wasyly spoke of the long and often tragic history of the Ukrainian Church. He noted the many Ukrainian martyrs for the faith and asked that the victims of the 1933 famine and of

the Chernobyl nuclear accident be remembered in the faithful's prayers. Reference was made also to the desire of the faithful to see an independent and unified Church in Ukraine. This theme was echoed in comments made by Bishop Yuriy the next day.

Patriarch Bartholomew spoke of the bonds between Constantinople and the pious of Ukraine. Identifying the 20th century as a "sinful and murderous century par excellence," he spoke of the suffering unleashed during these years. He said that "human weakness and the mistakes of the Orthodox themselves" are to blame for the disunity that exists in the Ukrainian Church. Repentance and reconciliation will pave the way to unity, he intoned, adding, "we pray that the problems will soon be overcome."

On the morning of May 28, the Feast of the Ascension was celebrated with a divine liturgy at the Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of the Holy Trinity.

The liturgy was attended by representatives of numerous inter-faith denominations and the Orthodox faithful. Dr. John Mayba directed the cathedral choir. Throughout the morning the themes of unity, reconciliation and spiritual renewal echoed in the church.

At the luncheon that followed, thanks were expressed to all those who had contributed to the success of the visit. Bishop Yuriy's comments underscored the desire of the Orthodox faithful for Church unity. In his parting remarks the patriarch recognized Dr. Roman Yereniuk, rector of St. Andrew's College, for his efforts on behalf of the Church. Dr. Yereniuk's formal induction as a patriarchal scholar has been scheduled for presentation later this summer.

Many present agreed that this visit was the highlight of the celebrations taking place to mark the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada.

10,000 gather for patriarchal liturgy

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj

Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO - As thunderstorms broke and tornado watches were issued in Canada's largest metropolitan area, Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople wrapped up his seven-city tour of Canada with a full-scale patriarchal divine liturgy conducted before about 10,000 faithful at Maple Leaf Gardens here on May 31.

Bishop Yuriy Kalistchuk of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church concelebrated the liturgy with the patriarch, 14 other Orthodox hierarchs and about 50 senior clergymen and officials of the Orthodox Church. Judging from the frequency of Ukrainian spoken in the halls at the event, many Ukrainian Orthodox faithful also attended the service, although their exact numbers were difficult to estimate.

The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom was conducted in its original Greek, with occasional replies, Ektenias and

other passages intoned in Ukrainian, Serbian, Russian and other languages by clergymen of the respective congregations. They were assisted by an impressive Greek male choir, whose chants underscored the Church's millennially distant roots, as well as by a local Greek youth choir, which reflected the Church's contact with the modern world.

The music mirrored the concerns expressed in the patriarch's homilies. He first addressed the assembly in Greek, then focused on issues pertaining to youth in accented but flawlessly eloquent English, speaking of "the awesome task of preserving thousand-year traditions" amid the pressures exerted by a globalized culture.

The main homily was then translated into English, making plain Patriarch Bartholomew's mention that May 31 was the Feast Day of the Church's Holy Fathers, and his call to the faithful to struggle against passions, as did the Fathers, to find the truth.



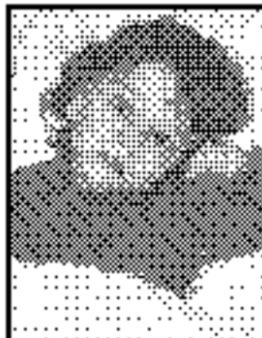
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THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

14th annual Fathers' Day to be celebrated at Soyuzivka

by Andre Worobec

Fraternal Activities Coordinator

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – On Sunday, June 21, the Ukrainian National Association will celebrate its 14th annual Fathers' Day at Soyuzivka. Divine liturgies for the intentions of all fathers will be celebrated at the Ukrainian Catholic church and the Ukrainian Orthodox chapel.

In the afternoon there will be a program of song and dance, featuring the renowned Troyanda Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Montreal, Ukrainian flamenco guitarist Andrey Kutash and Liuba Shchibchik, lyric soprano of Kyiv.

Troyanda, founded in 1989 by students of the late dancemaster, choreographer and dance instructor Petro Marunchak, who had last performed at Soyuzivka in 1989, has been in existence since 1989. It is directed by Tanya Harasymowycz and Bohdan Klymchuk.

Mr. Kutash, who has been closely associated with Troyanda, has performed on local radio stations in Montreal and Quebec.

Ms. Shchibchik, a graduate of the Lviv Conservatory of Music, is a talented lyric soprano with the agility of a coloratura. She recently made her American debut with the New Rochelle Opera and has performed leading roles in numerous operas in Ukraine. Ms. Shchibchik sang leading roles in Rachmaninoff's "Aleko," Verdi's "Rigoletto" and "La Traviata,"



Guitarist Andrey Kutash

Bortniansky's "Alcid," Tchaikovsky's "Eugene Onegin," as well as Mozart's "The Impresario."

As in previous years, UNA members and non-members alike are welcome to attend the Fathers' Day weekend events. UNA branches and districts are encouraged to organize trips to Soyuzivka and participate in the UNA's celebration to honor all fathers.

For further information and reservations, call Soyuzivka at (914) 626-5641.



The Troyanda dance troupe of Montreal.

OBITUARY: Anne K. Dubas, former advisor of the UNA

LANOKA HARBOR, N.J. – Anne K. Dubas, an accountant and banker as well as a former UNA advisor, passed away here at age 80 on March 26. Mrs. Dubas graduated from New York University and the Stern School of Business in New York. Until her retirement in 1983, Mrs. Dubas worked as a self-employed accountant and was a director at the Trident Federal Savings and Loan in Newark. She also served on the Irvington Board of Education for eight years and was its president for two terms.

Mrs. Dubas was a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 133 of Newark. She was also a member of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, the Rosary Altar Society of St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Newark, and St. Stephen's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Toms River.

Born in Newark, Mrs. Dubas was a resident of Irvington for 46 years and of Toms River for 13 years before moving to Lanoka Harbor in 1997.

The UNA and you

Refinancing or buying a home: the time is right

by Stephan Welhasch

This may be the best time in many years to buy a new home. A major reason for this is very low mortgage interest rates, among the lowest in the last 25 years. In most parts of the country, fixed-rate mortgages have now dropped below 7 percent. Financial experts in the industry feel that interest rates will probably not drop any lower.

Needless to say, it is also a great time to consider refinancing your existing home mortgage loan, if you have not already done so. If you are now paying two or more percentage points above the current rate of interest and you're not planning to move in the near future, now is definitely the time you should consider refinancing.

Borrowing smart means getting the best possible repayment schedule, the lowest possible interest rate, and the smallest possible additional costs and fees. Even though most people understand that in the long run they can save themselves much money by refinancing, many are still afraid of the costs connected with the loan process. True, the borrower must pay a list of charges and fees when closing the loan – there is no way of avoiding it, short of paying a higher interest rate. However, with proper preparation and good research, a wise borrower can save thousands of dollars over the life of the loan.

Strange as it may seem, many people don't know how to get started when buying or refinancing a home. Much of the process happens behind the scenes. The most important step is that first phone call.

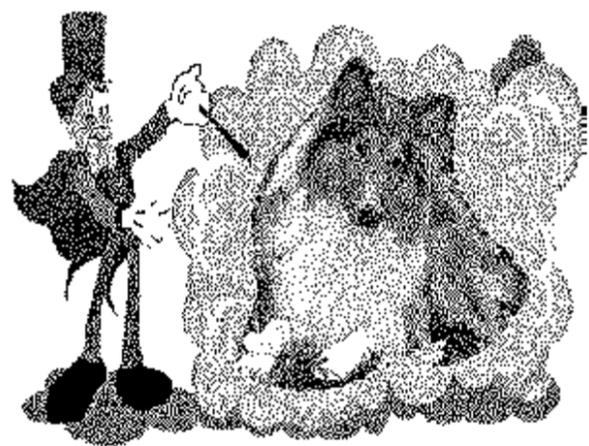
For example, when you call the Ukrainian National Association, our representative will take the time to ask you the appropriate questions and then suggest a financing program best suited for your needs. Practically the only thing you'll need to do is sign the documentation. What follows is paying less and saving more.

If you are ready to take these steps by refinancing your existing mortgage loan or are ready to buy a new home, then start by calling the UNA. We offer our members low-cost financing for owner-occupied one- two- and three-family homes throughout the United States and Canada.

The UNA's First Mortgage Loan Program offers interest rates that are competitive with the prevailing rates in your area. The UNA offers its members five-year adjustable and 15-year fixed-rate mortgage loans with 15- to 25-year payouts, including an option of refinancing at maturity. We also offer a Jumbo Mortgage Loan Program to Ukrainian churches and organizations at a preferred rate.

Members can enjoy peace of mind in knowing they're getting the best possible mortgage loan value available, along with first-class service. "Good service" is our motto. To find out more, contact us at 1 (800) 253-9862.


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FROM OUR PUBLISHER

On the path toward unity

by **Ulana Diachuk**
UNA President

Tomorrow (June 15), the Ukrainian Fraternal Association begins its 24th Convention, at which delegates will make decisions of great importance for the membership of that organization. Delegates will decide the fate of their organization: whether to merge with the Ukrainian National Association, or to continue on its own path and thereby prevent a merger from taking place in the future.

The Ukrainian National Aid Association of America held its convention back on May 2 in Windsor, Ontario. Delegates voted unanimously to merge with the Ukrainian National Association.

What has the UNA itself done regarding these mergers?

The UNA's 34th Convention, which was held on May 15-19 in Toronto, had to decide many very significant matters, one of which was the question of mergers with two Ukrainian fraternal institutions, the Ukrainian Fraternal Association and the Ukrainian National Aid Association.

The first steps toward agreement on a merger were taken years ago. The UNA discussed a merger with the UFA back in 1982, and even many years earlier; the idea of a merger consistently came up at nearly every convention of the UNA. Laws regulating the fraternal system provide no way to bring about unity of two organizations other than a merger. In response, the UNA established a special committee composed of three members of the Executive Committee (the president, the secretary and the treasurer), plus one honorary member of the UNA General Assembly, which was charged with the task of conducting negotiations toward an agreement of merger.

On the basis of several personal meetings of UNA representatives with representatives of the UFA and the UNAAA, and subsequent agreements, our attorney, Nestor Olesnycky, prepared two separate agreements of merger, which were reviewed by the attorney for the UNAAA and the Executive Committee of the UFA. These two documents were approved by the UNA General Assembly at its annual meeting in November 1997; afterwards, in accordance with legal requirements of the state of New Jersey as well as Pennsylvania, where the two other fraternal societies are based, the proposed agreements were published 60 days before the UNA Convention in our official publications, *Svoboda* and *The Ukrainian Weekly*. Each member of our organization had 60 days to react to these proposed agreements, to pose questions and to seek clarification. At all spring meetings of UNA district committees, branch representatives had an opportunity to discuss the mergers and to take

(Continued on page 14)

June
10
1884

Turning the pages back...

Florian Zapletal, a Czech scholar and journalist, was born in Bochor, Moravia, on June 10, 1884. In 1905-1910 he studied journalism at Charles University in Prague and then art history at

the University of Vienna. At the outbreak of World War I in August 1914, he was drafted into the Austro-Hungarian Army and, stationed in the Presov (Priashiv) region, was sent off to fight Russia's imperial forces (viewed sympathetically by many Czechs), who had made incursions into the northern Carpathians.

In November 1914 Zapletal surrendered to the Russians along with his unit and spent the rest of the war studying in Moscow and Petrograd, as well as writing polemics in support of Czech and Slovak independence. He returned to Prague at war's end.

The loosening of imperial Austrian fetters prompted a flurry of activity throughout its former territories, including the building of schools, publication of books and establishment of newspapers, and the new Czecho-Slovakian government aimed to foster this development in the Pan-Slavic ethos of its President Tomas Masaryk.

After Transcarpathia, including Presov, was made part of the new Czecho-Slovak state, a number of officials were dispatched to establish an administration for the newly acquired territories. Zapletal was appointed chief of the region's governmental press office. He renewed his interest, piqued in the fall of 1914, in the local folk customs, art and architecture, and collected historical and ethnographical materials.

His reports became increasingly critical of the Prague government's policy in the region, and in July 1921 he resigned his post and returned to the Czech capital and became associated with the country's military establishment, first as an advisor to the General Staff and in 1929-1939 working in the military archives.

However, Zapletal retained an abiding interest in Transcarpathia's people, amassing a priceless archive on their history and culture, and wrote over 160 articles on the history, culture, architecture and politics of Transcarpathia. He published monographs on the history of Transcarpathian Ukrainians including, "Rusini a Nasi Buditele" (Ruthenians and Our Awakeners, 1921), and a study of Austria's Ukrainian vice-regent in Transcarpathia, Adolf Dobriansky (1929).

In 1967 he turned over part of his priceless archive and library to the Svydnyk Museum of Ukrainian Culture. Mr. Zapletal died in Prague on October 16, 1969. In 1973 Mr. Zapletal's widow entrusted over 500 of his photographic glass plates documenting his research in Transcarpathia in the 1920s to Presov-based Ukrainian activist and scholar Mykola Mushynka, and nine years later a book based on these plates was published in Austria through the efforts of Dr. Paul R. Magocsi of the University of Toronto Chair of Ukrainian Studies.

Sources: "Zapletal, Florian," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 5 (University of Toronto Press, 1993); Florian Zapletal, "Wooden Churches in the Carpathians" (Vienna: W. Braumüller, 1982).

NEWS AND VIEWS: Association of Ukrainian educators makes strides

by **Dzvinka T. Hayda**

A child who is healthy in mind and spirit will create a healthy society, which in turn creates a healthy country. This has long been denied the children of Ukraine. Now that Ukraine has won its freedom, children have the possibility to learn in their native Ukrainian language all subjects that are relevant to step into the world arena. Unfortunately, this is not the case in most schools in Ukraine. Yet, great strides are being made, such as the opening of the first all-Ukrainian school in Alupka, Crimea. Much praise goes to the initiators, especially Ivanna Hradyska, who under great hardships were able to accomplish this commendable task.

Last summer the Ukrainian World Association of Professional Educators (UWAPE) held its fifth convention in the Teachers' Building in Kyiv. Participants came from Ukraine, Poland, Bashkortostan, Russia, Lithuania, Romania, Moldova, Slovakia, Kazakstan, Autonomous Tumen, Kuban, Brazil, Hungary, France, Canada, the United States and Australia. There were many speakers on various subjects, all with a focus on how to help Ukrainian children of the world receive the best possible education to help them enter the 21st century. The motto of the conference was: "Learn, Teach and Educate."

Under the auspices of UWAPE, the Association for Promoting the Ukrainian Language (APUL) held its first world gathering for children at the same time in Kyiv. This youth group has worldwide chapters who meet with the purpose of encouraging children to speak in the Ukrainian language. There were over 100 children who attended, some of whom came from as far as Kazakstan. During their one-week stay in Kyiv, the children were chaperoned by teachers for a full program of events, one of which was a two-hour meeting with the mayor of Kyiv, Oleksander Omelchenko. At this meeting with the APUL children and teachers, Mr. Omelchenko announced a decree that at the beginning of the 1998 school year all first graders in Kyiv will be instructed in the Ukrainian language.

Zynowij Kwit is the founder and president of the UWAPE Association, now in existence for 17 years. Mr. Kwit is a chemistry and language teacher in the Philadelphia public school system, holds two master's degrees and is a Ph.D. candidate. Mr. Kwit's commitment and efforts are geared towards the well-being of Ukrainian children, and his total dedication is remarkable.

The association now boasts a membership close to 3,000 worldwide. One of the

project that was spearheaded by Mr. Kwit is the Adopt-a-School Project. Each Canadian and American chapter adopts a school in Ukraine, and sends much-needed supplies to their designated school. The teachers of Ukraine have such limited resources that it has become very difficult to carry on daily, routine lessons. With this aid children receive pencils, erasers, crayons, tablets, chalk, writing and construction paper, glue as well as other necessary supplies. As their letters indicate, the gratitude on the part of the recipients in Ukraine is immense.

There are many schools that do not have a sponsoring chapter, yet their needs are just as urgent, with children being short-changed on a daily basis. The children cannot wait. They are the future of Ukraine and should be privy to the best education possible. Teachers purchase supplies with their own funds, but since they have not been receiving their salaries for six months or more, it has become impossible for them to continue to provide the needed items.

Teacher-to-teacher correspondence also has been implemented. Ukrainian teachers worldwide share their ideas and concerns with each other. This has been most rewarding for all those who participate, for sharing widens a teacher's knowledge and scope.

Through the initiative of the UWAPE, Ukrainian children also correspond with each other. Their letters are heartwarming, as they find similarities among themselves. In this way the children in North America and other countries improve their Ukrainian writing skills.

One of the greatest needs in Ukrainian schools is Ukrainian primers. There is an effort to have these printed, but again, lack of funding prevents this from going forward. School libraries are asking for Ukrainian books so that students can do research as well as read Ukrainian classics. Without Ukrainian books and without supplies, Ukrainian schools border on third-world country status. There is an ongoing gathering of Ukrainian books to be sent to these school libraries, so if anyone in the reading audience has Ukrainian books to contribute, they are asked to contact the UWAPE at one of the numbers below.

The Ukrainian World Association of Professional Educators is announcing a drive to increase membership in the United States and Canada. With more chapters, more aid could be offered to schools in Ukraine. If you are a teacher of Ukrainian descent, in any subject or discipline, an invitation is extended to you to join the UWAPE by writing to Zynowij Kwit at:

(Continued on page 20)



Children of the Association for Promoting the Ukrainian Language take an oath to remain faithful to the Ukrainian language during the organization's first conference in August 1997.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Merger should benefit both UNA and UFA

Dear Editor:

The Ukrainian community in the United States and Canada is currently in the midst of the serious process of merging two great fraternal organizations. By the way, merger talks between the Ukrainian National Association and the Ukrainian Fraternal Association, began more than 30 to 35 years ago.

Regarding this union, The Ukrainian Weekly of May 14, 1966 wrote an editorial that stated: "... the mergers would create a mighty Ukrainian force – organizational, financial, and moral – one that would have to be reckoned with. Such a union would be in the interests of our (UNA) long-range plans and endeavors ... in union is our strength." This was a very profound and noble quote.

Many of us who gave leadership to this movement have tried to adhere to that guiding precept. Today, instead of building blocs of Ukrainian power and strength, both fraternal organizations are caught in a frenzy of arguments, mostly about who has the greatest organization, a name change that already has been rejected at the recent UNA Convention, and how administrative personnel should be apportioned. From what I have been digesting in The Ukrainian Weekly, the merger talks appear to have a unilateral complexion, with the UNA calling all the shots.

One point is certain. The UNA, like the UFA, (and the financially weak Ukrainian National Aid Association of America), is having fiscal difficulties. Millions of reserve dollars have evaporated, dividends have been suspended, Svoboda is no longer the "only" Ukrainian daily in North America, Soyuzivka will now have a limited season, membership is declining at an alarming rate, and so on. Is the UNA's official establishment, which claims "historical Ukrainian greatness," also prepared or willing to assume responsibility for these losses and shortcomings?

I believe the Ukrainian Fraternal Association has failed to properly promote its role within the Ukrainian community. It has a poor image on both the local and national levels. This is their problem. By the same token, I am weary of the redundancy of "major accomplishments," of "Ukrainian power," and other often exaggerated statements about the UNA. There is always a suggestion that the UNA has been the exclusive agent for organizing Ukrainian life in America – "The Great Citadel." By all means, the UNA deserves a lot of credit and applause for its valuable contributions. Most, but not all of it.

I had to chuckle about one letter. A writer to The Weekly wanted to know about "these alphabet soup fraternal."

Errata

In The Weekly's letters to the editor section (May 17), an editing error on Victor Rud's letter led to a misstatement. Reference was made to Andrew Estocin, a feature writer in The Orthodox Word. It was in his letter to The Ukrainian Weekly, not in the Word, that Mr. Estocin wrote that we are to develop a "common vision" with the Moscow Patriarchate who "cares for Ukrainian Orthodox Christians and contributes to Ukrainian Orthodox life." In addition, Mr. Rud's last name was misspelled as Rus, and his address was given as Upper Saddle River (his former address), while it should have been listed as Ridgefield Park, N.J.

He added: "Why are they looking to merge with the UNA? Financial solvency, I guess." Another writer noted that "he is aware of the UNA name and all these great things the organization has done ... but has not heard much about the UFA." Give me a break. Before these skeptics go on with these preconceived judgments, it would make more sense to learn the ABCs of the Ukrainian fraternal movement in America and Canada that began more than 10 decades ago.

Like the UNA, the UFA was a key player – proud, patriotic and dedicated to the democratic principles that guide fraternal brotherhoods. The UFA's roots run deep. Using only basic hindsight, one can accept the Herculean role that this fraternal played in the development of the Ukrainian community – socially, culturally and politically.

No doubt about it. I believe my fraternal colleagues on both sides of the aisle want an ultimate merger, but not in a "take-over" environment. Not by using negative rhetoric to influence misguided directions. The UFA cannot help but look with some trepidation at what a merger would mean for its own organization. A merger should not mean obliteration. I believe Ukrainians still have a long way to go in appreciating the strengths and weaknesses in our society. Look at the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, for example.

The UFA has had a remarkable fraternal record in America and Canada. Like the UNA, UFA brethren have distinguished themselves over and over again.

The UFA's focus on youth is well-known through several scholarship programs via which hundreds of thousands of dollars have been awarded toward education. The annual UFA Youth Festival, now in its 22nd consecutive year has become the mecca of Ukrainian entertainment in New York's Catskill Mountains – the only Ukrainian festival listed in travel guides. Other youth programs include the well-known Sitch Sports School at Verkhovyna, and the famous Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky Dance Workshop, a training center for dancers and dance instructors.

The UFA publishes a bilingual weekly newspaper called Narodna Volya and the popular Forum Magazine. On the national front, the UFA must be remembered as one of the "originals" in the establishment of the UCCA in 1940, a cadre organizer of the UACC, a co-founder of the Ukrainian American War Relief Committee, and an executive member of the World Congress of Free Ukrainians. The UFA was on the planning board of the Taras Shevchenko Monument Committee in Washington. Along with other national organizations, the UFA took an active part in mass rallies commemorating the anniversaries of the Great Famine in Ukraine and actions to protest the Russification of Ukraine. Between the world wars, the UFA assisted the victims of Polish terror in western Ukraine, founded numerous libraries in Ukrainian villages, helped in the financing of reading halls, national homes, schools and care for war invalids and on and on. There were literally hundreds of other projects on both the lodge and national levels. Today, the UFA supervises a Hospital Fund that supports many victims of the Chernobyl disaster.

The bottom line: we must challenge the status quo. To make this merger a reality, the UFA and the UNA must be smart, aggressive, and even lucky. There must also be fairness and intelligence, of course. As for me, I'm for the ultimate merger, but with compatible and complementary advantages for both sides.

Stephen M. Wichar Sr.
Clinton Township, Mich.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Phase one of NIU/Ostroh project completed

Imagine coming to the United States from Ukraine, becoming a graduate assistant in the faculty of leadership and educational foundations at Northern Illinois University, teaching undergraduates, completing 24 graduate hours (in addition to the six NIU hours earned in Ukraine), spending 60 internship hours in American elementary and secondary schools, and writing and defending a thesis.

This is what Ostroh professor Natalia Lominska accomplished in her nine months at NIU. Her thesis was titled "Language Education and National Identity in Ukraine: A Historical Analysis." She now holds an M.Ed. degree from an American university.

Vasyl Zhukovsky, another Ostroh professor, will receive his M.Ed. degree in August, having completed the same rigorous program. His thesis title was: "Moral Values: Education in American and Ukrainian Schools 1970-1980."

Both professors are now in Ukraine and, if all goes well, will soon be preparing Ukrainian-language manuscripts for publication.

Thus concludes phase one of the NIU/Ostroh project, which has as its ultimate goal the creation of a faculty of educational foundations at Ostroh Academy that can eventually offer a master's degree in education.

As anyone familiar with the present situation in Ukraine knows, the future of that country will depend on a young, intelligent, nationally conscious, morally incorruptible cadre of dynamic leaders dedicated to a free, strong, democratic, Ukrainian nation-state. Developing such cadres depends on teachers who are not only aware of, but committed to, civic education as a vehicle of school reform. Unless education becomes an agent of change in Ukraine, the future is bleak.

Ukrainian teachers appear to be well-trained in the physical sciences. It is in the social sciences that they fall short, largely the result of Soviet indoctrination, which remains a part of many pedagogical institutions. It is in the fields of educational philosophy (the collectivist ideals of Anton Makarenko still cast a long shadow), history, sociology and psychology that Ukrainian teachers appear ill-prepared.

Social change is a long and arduous process, especially since Ukraine, like the rest of the former USSR, has never been

de-Sovietized. Bringing teachers to the United States for a tour and a "quickie course" in pedagogy is not the answer. Long-term planning is required, and that is exactly what the NIU/Ostroh project is all about.

Textbooks in philosophy, moral education, sociology, history and psychology are in short supply in Ukraine. That is why Northern Illinois has been preparing a collection of theses on Ukrainian topics for future translation and publication. In addition to the two theses mentioned above, recent works include: "Svoboda and the Education of Rusyn-Ukrainians in America, 1893-1914: A Study of an Ethnic Newspaper" by Lesia W. Kuropas, and "A Comparative Analysis of Selected West European/American and Ukrainian Women-Centered Thinkers: Implications for Women's Education" by Antonina Lukenchuk.

Thus far the Ukrainian American community has responded very positively to the NIU/Ostroh Project. As of May 30, a total of \$10,643 has been collected by mail and through fund-raisers in Chicago, Silver Spring, Md., and Warren, Mich.

Phase two of the project has already begun. NIU Prof. David Ripley is presently in Ukraine teaching a three-hour course titled "Historical Foundations of American Education." Some 15 English-speaking teachers are enrolled. Beginning June 8, Lesia and I will team teach with Mrs. Lominska, offering another three-hour course, titled "Social Foundations of Education" to the same teachers. All of them will receive an NIU certificate of participation, and three of the best teachers will then come to NIU to complete their degree requirements.

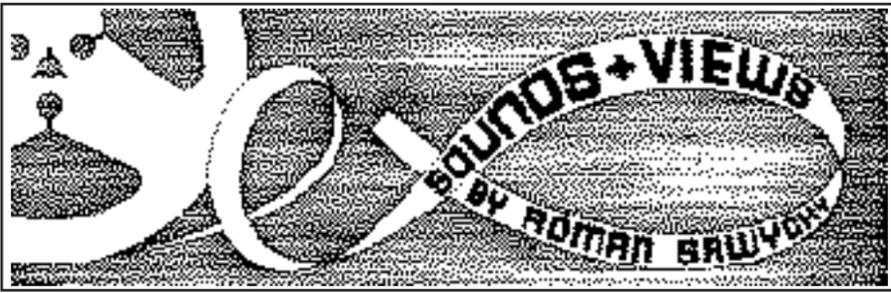
As in the past, Northern Illinois University is providing tuition waivers and teaching stipends. The Eurasia Foundation is assisting with round-trip transportation and living expenses.

Those who believe in the validity of the NIU/Ostroh Project and would like to help can write a check to the Ukrainian National Foundation/Ostroh Fund and send it to: Ukrainian Educational Associates, 107 Ileshamwood Drive, DeKalb, IL 60115. All donations are tax-deductible.

Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com



Myron B. Kuropas, Natalia V. Lominska and Vasyl Zhukovsky on graduation day.



The unsinkable Titanic

Has anyone ever been completely taken with a Ukrainian feature film, one that would run over three hours yet seems much shorter and, throughout, keep one glued to the edge of one's seat? If so, kindly let me know so that I, too, may share in the experience.

As it is, I have suffered through many productions by Ukrainian film studios that despite the standard length seemed to drag on interminably. My late father was an avid film buff, but he avoided Ukrainian films of the 1950s, which he dismissed with one word — "khaltura" (kitsch).

Having listened to some of my dad's historical piano recordings, the accomplished contemporary conductor Adrian Bryttan noted that he was a "performer with technique to spare." Maestro Bryttan's own recent project quite successfully merged brilliant silent screen elements of "Flesh and the Devil" with live and lush symphonics; it proved to be a creative exercise in synchronized art and a technological achievement.

What I am saying is that motion pictures are a marriage of inspiration and technique that together make the art of film possible. If one of the partners is found wanting, such an embraceless marriage does not work.

In his timely column (The Weekly, January 25) columnist Andrew Fedynsky urged that a comprehensive overview be undertaken of the achievements made by Ukrainians throughout this century. What better way to do this than to run a series in The Weekly that would review significant contributions in the field of music, theater and film?

As far as Ukrainian motion pictures are concerned, few works have achieved and maintained an international reputation. Some may say success is contingent on a big budget. While this may be true in some cases, until recently Ukrainian projects have, for the most part, been hampered by lack of talent, imagination and proper organization of available assets.

On the other hand, in the past, when truly gifted and industrious individuals took the helm, the course led to international success. Such renowned directors as Alexander Dovzhenko and Sergei Paradjanov clearly did not have exorbitant funds at their disposal when they created such films as "Earth" and "Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors," respectively. Two more films stand out from the war years era: the film "Bohdan Khmelnytsky," directed by Ihor Sawchenko and "Rayduha" (The Rainbow), the sole film produced by Kyiv's Studios that won an Academy Award in Hollywood and a personal endorsement by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The year 1964 was a good one; apart from Paradjanov's masterpiece that starred Ivan Mykolaychuk, there was "The Dream," featuring the same superb actor. This highly creative portrayal of Ukraine's national bard, Taras Shevchenko, served as a welcome respite from the standard fare of tedious, ideologically informed films reflecting the party line.

The years 1964-1965 also ushered in notable changes on the diaspora scene. The film "Shevchenko in Washington," as

directed by George Tamarsky and Slavko Nowytski, set new standards in émigré documentary production. Also at this time, Walter Wasik in Canada began his work on dramatic features with exciting screen versions of Stepan Liubomyrsky's novels. On the whole, however, the lack of professional directors continued to present the major stumbling block.

High points continued to be scored in the documentary genre when Mr. Nowytski assembled a top notch crew and produced "Pysanka: The Ukrainian Easter Egg." The film took more American and European awards than any other project by a Ukrainian director.

As I have stated earlier, the crucial factor for a film's success is not funding per se but a combination of creativity, technical wizardry, money and luck. Like Mel Gibson's "Braveheart," "Titanic" is a result of such a sure-fire formula. A joint production of 20th Century Fox and Paramount Studios, "Titanic" is the latest and grandest installment in a whole series of books, films (10 features, including two from Germany), television documentaries and a musical that have

(Continued on page 17)

Museum acknowledges contributions of Steckiw collection of Ukrainian art

by Marta Baczynsky

NEW YORK — The desire to preserve what is close to the heart from one's own culture stems from genuine interest and requires determination and dedication. In many instances it is a lifelong project. Within The Ukrainian Museum's circle of members, friends and supporters there are individuals whose cultural quests have resulted in substantive collections that exhibit the artistic range and achievements of Ukrainian artists, past and contemporary.

The collection of Dr. Eugene and Neonila Steckiw includes many paintings, drawings, etchings and sculptures created by Ukrainian artists from 1960 through the 1980s. Featured are artists such as Myron Levytsky, Edward Kozak, Jacques Hnizdovsky, Mykola Nedilko, Halyna Mazepa, Ludmyla Morozova, William Kurelek, Bohdan Mykola Muchyn, Mirtala, Mykola Hlushchenko and Volodymyr Patyk, among many others.

The Steckiw family enjoyed collecting paintings and sculptures, but their interest in art also extended to the welfare of the artists as well. Over the years many Ukrainian artists, working under difficult economic conditions in order to establish themselves in their professional capacity in the United States, benefited greatly from the assistance and promotional efforts of Dr. Steckiw. Acting on the artists' behalf, he urged his medical colleagues to pur-

chase their work and was instrumental in arranging art shows within the Ukrainian community.

In 1992, 94 works from the Steckiw collection were compiled in a representative, illustrated color publication titled "The Art Collection of Dr. and Mrs. Steckiw." Published by the couple, the book opens with the statement that, "all proceeds from sale of this publication benefit The Ukrainian Museum in New York City." The elegantly bound book, with the Steckiw ex libris by artist Tyrs Venhrynovych as its enhancement, is yet another expression of the Steckiw's continued devotion and support of Ukrainian art and culture.

On March 10, Mrs. Steckiw died in Sarasota, Fla., where the couple had retired. Dr. Steckiw requested that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to The Ukrainian Museum in memory of his wife. No doubt such support of the museum would have pleased Neonila Steckiw, since in their book both addressed the future of their collection: "After we are gone, these works of art will become the property of our children, but a large number of them have already been deeded to The Ukrainian Museum in New York City."

"The Art Collection of Dr. and Mrs. Steckiw" is available at the museum's gift shop or by mail order for \$20 plus postage and handling. The Ukrainian Museum's address is: 203 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003; telephone: (212) 228-0110; e-mail: Ukr.Mus.@aol.com.

OBITUARY: Neonila Steckiw, 77, OUN member, community activist

SARASOTA, Fla. — Neonila Steckiw, an active member of the Ukrainian communities in Buffalo, N.Y. and North Port, Fla., in the area of cultural affairs, died here March 10 at the age of 77.

Mrs. Steckiw was born in Ternopil on June 27, 1921, the daughter of composer Vasylyl Bezkorovainy and Stefania Stebnytska.

She attended the gymnasiums of Zolochiv, Ternopil and Lviv, completing her secondary education at the latter in 1939. Mrs. Steckiw studied Ukrainian philology at Ivan Franko University in Lviv as well as music at the Mykola Lysenko Institute and dramatic arts with such leading directors as Bendersky, Blavatsky and Hirniak.



A portrait of Neonila Steckiw by Leon Kosko, 1972.

In 1941, she was arrested by the NKVD for membership in the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN). She was among the students and OUN leaders sentenced at the infamous "Trial of the 59" in Lviv, (after which 15 of the 59 were executed), but subsequently was able to escape from prison.

Fleeing Soviet occupation in western Ukraine, she came to Austria as a displaced person in 1944. She continued her studies at the university in Innsbruck and also became involved in the expatriate student community. She founded and directed the amateur women's quartet Soloviy and joined the Landeck-based theater studio of Yosyp Hirniak and Olimpiia Dobrovolska, which toured Austria and Bavaria.

While on tour in Mittenwald, Germany, she met Yevhen Steckiw, her future husband. The couple was married in 1949 and that same year emigrated to the U.S., settling in Buffalo.

From then on Mrs. Steckiw devoted her life to her family, with concurrent involvement in Ukrainian community affairs. Among the highlights of her work was the founding, together with Yuriy and Iryna Lavrivsky, of the drama group Chaika, which apart from putting on numerous plays made frequent appearances on the local Ukrainian radio program. Mrs. Steckiw also was a longtime teacher as well as director of the Ridna Shkola, the school of Ukrainian studies, in Buffalo and a contributor to the Svoboda daily and the UNWLA's publication Nashe Zhyttia (Our Life).

Mrs. Steckiw was an active member of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA), St. Andrew's Ukrainian Religious and Cultural Center in North Port, Fla., the Ukrainian American Club of Southwest Florida and a member of UNA Branch 304.

Upon the retirement of her husband, the Steckiw family moved in 1989 to Sarasota, where Mrs. Steckiw continued her involvement in the Ukrainian community of North Port, especially in UNWLA activities.

In order to generate funds for such causes as humanitarian aid to Ukraine and The Ukrainian Museum in New York, Mrs. Steckiw, along with her husband, held evenings of poetry and humor, that took them beyond North Port to Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Bound Brook, N.J. and Hunter, N.Y.

An avid collector, with her husband, of works by Ukrainian artists, she was instrumental in the 1992 publication of "The Art Collection of Dr. and Mrs. Steckiw." Apart from deeding some of the artwork to The Ukrainian Museum in New York, proceeds from the sale of the book are to benefit the museum (see separate article).

Among Mrs. Steckiw's last projects was the compilation of the musical oeuvre of her father, which she donated to music libraries in Ternopil, Lviv and Kyiv.

Funeral services for Mrs. Steckiw were held on March 14 at St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in North Port with burial in Venice Memorial Gardens. Mrs. Steckiw is survived by her husband, Yevhen, a retired physician; son, Andrew, a lawyer in Philadelphia; and daughter, Roma Long, of North Port, Fla.

As a token of the love and esteem in which Mrs. Steckiw was held, \$8,920 was donated in her memory, in lieu of flowers, to various Ukrainian causes. Upon her death, poems dedicated to her were penned by Hanna Cherin, Yaryna Zoryana and the humorist Pavlo Hlazovy.

D.C. exhibit chronicles socialist realism



"Harvest" (1959) by Eugeny Luchenko.

WASHINGTON – An exhibit of socialist realism paintings from Ukraine opened at the Georgetown Art Guild May 19. The exhibit presents works from the late 1940s through the 1960s, and reflects the changing ideals of socialism in the Soviet Union from the Stalin era through more politically liberal and economically abundant times. The exhibit includes portraits, landscapes and large-scale genre paintings.

"This era was marked by a sense of optimism in the future, more than any other time in Soviet history," remarked Orysia Pylyshenko, curator of the exhibit. "It was a time of great upward mobility, a time when the children of peasants and workers became scientists and white collar workers – the war had ended, Stalin died soon thereafter and the Soviet Union put the first man in space. It seemed in those years that anything was possible. It is this optimism that drew me to this period and which makes the paintings of this era so appealing. Now that the Iron Curtain has lifted, it is time to re-evaluate this period of 20th century Ukrainian painting and recognize its place in Ukraine's history," she continued.

In his remarks at the exhibit opening, Ambassador William Green Miller, former ambassador to Ukraine, conveyed his feeling that this unique painting genre was a product of its era, combining rigid government control over content and style with highly-developed technical mastery. Ambassador Miller was quick to add that the paintings did not reflect any of the horrors visited upon Ukraine in the 20th century by the Soviet government, such as the famines

and severe political oppression against "nationalists" and intellectuals.

Volodymyr Belashov, deputy chief of mission of the Ukrainian Embassy noted that while socialist realism painting has been maligned because of its political character, the talent of Ukrainian painters and their ability to create beauty within the narrow confines of the socialist system cannot be denied. He further added that this exhibit is the first in the United States that is devoted specifically to Ukrainian socialist realism painting and is an excellent opportunity for an American audience to become acquainted with this aspect of Ukrainian history and culture.

The opening exhibit was shared with the neighboring Alla Rogers Gallery, which, since 1990, has specialized in contemporary Eastern European art. As a contrast to the exhibit of socialist realism, the Alla Rogers Gallery assembled a group of recent paintings and works on paper by Ukrainian artists, Oleh Nedoshytko, Roman Romanyshyn and Roman Harasuta to demonstrate the current plunge into formerly "forbidden" artistic territory such as symbolism, surrealism and highly personal painting style. This juxtaposition of historic and modern Ukrainian art provided a unique perspective regarding the evolution of painting in Ukraine.

The exhibit of socialist realism painting will run through July 31 at the Georgetown Art Guild, in the heart of Georgetown at 1054 31st St., NW (202) 625-1470. The exhibit at the Alla Rogers Gallery will run until June 17.



Exhibit curator Orysia Pylyshenko stands next to "Antonov Airplane Factory" (1961) by Volodymyr Sytnyk.

Dzyga tops off anniversary with an exhibition of painting

by Marko Andryczyk

LVIV – On the mythically ominous night of Friday the 13th, with a full moon illuminating the midnight blue March sky, the Art Cultural Center Dzyga (ACC Dzyga) kicked off a three-day celebration of its first anniversary.

The festivities centered around an exhibition of painting-on-glass, a largely forgotten art form dating back to the 17th century, indigenous to the Hutsul and Pokutia regions. These paintings, depicting saints in primitive representations of traditional poses, were created by village folk and were displayed in their homes in order to ward off evil spirits and to offer protection.

The exhibition displayed at Lviv's National Museum on this night was titled "Three Dimensions: Past, Present and Future" and featured paintings on glass by artists of centuries past, by contemporary artists and by children aged 4 to 12. The primary goal of this exhibition was to raise awareness about and rehabilitate this art form. Perhaps subconsciously the exhibit was staged to protect Dzyga's anniversary celebration from being spoiled by any evil spirits that roamed Lviv's narrow, cobblestone streets on this night.

The Art Association Dzyga was formed in 1993 by Markian Ivaschyshyn, Volodymyr Kaufman, Adrian Klisch, Yaroslav Ruschynskyi and Roksolana Ivaschyshyn.

Since that time, the organization steadily developed various projects in art, music and literature from its rented space on the second floor of the 16th century tower in which gunpowder was stored, known as Porokhova Vezha. As the scope of projects grew, the need for a larger space stimulated the organization to rent and reconstruct two floors of a four-story building at 35 Virmenska Street.

The building, built in the Gothic style, dates back to the 15th century and once served as a Dominican monastery. It now seals off one end of this ancient street.

After more than a year of remodeling, Dzyga officially opened the doors to its new Art Cultural Center in March 1997. On its first floor, the complex houses a 207 square-meter contemporary art gallery (exhibits rotate every three weeks), a 120-seat concert hall, a salon-shop, and a children's art studio. Upstairs one finds ACC Dzyga's administrative offices and a cat walk that overlooks the first floor.

In this perspective, ACC Dzyga has organized five projects (one international), 19 exhibitions, 21 concerts, 10 poetry readings, 14 music and literary presentations, 18 literary soirées, two theater experiments and one all-Ukrainian festival of metal-art.

Other events presented by ACC Dzyga during its anniversary celebration included a concert by the poetry/music project Vohni Velykoho Mista (which featured a collaboration between writer Yurii Pokalchuk and three prominent Lviv musicians), concerts by the groups Dyvni and Pikardiiska Tertsia, a fashion show at the Lviv Opera Theater and the official formation of the Lviv Blacksmith's Association. An awards ceremony banquet offered various tasty treats many of which doubled as "food art" exhibitions before being devoured by ravenous guests.

On the third day of celebrations, Lviv artist Vlodko Kaufman presented a performance. His act of smashing and subsequently sweeping away the very same paintings on glass that he exhibited and created with artist Natalka Shymyn a week earlier symbolized the historic destruction and disappearance of several Ukrainian art forms – among them painting on glass.

Lviv's cultural scene is full of interesting ideas, but the lengthy wish list of potential projects unfortunately remains just that – a wish list – that is never realized due to lack of organization, support and of course, money.

In this perspective, ACC Dzyga's considerable accomplishments of the last year, in addressing at least a portion of these ideas, is truly commendable and worthy of the party it threw for itself.

KYIV DAYS FOCUS ON TREASURED MONUMENTS



Roman Woronowycz

Historic figures Prince Volodymyr and Princess Olha stand before the belltower of St. Michael's Golden-Domed Monastery. In the background is the St. Sophia complex.

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – In connection with Kyiv Days celebrations the weekend of May 29, Ukraine began a long overdue resurrection of two treasured monuments, one a historical landmark, the other a contemporary music legend.

St. Michael's Golden-Domed Monastery, the 12th century cathedral demolished in 1936 by Soviet authorities, and Volodymyr Ivasiuk, the young Ukrainian songwriter who had achieved fame throughout the

Soviet Union and the Ukrainian diaspora before being murdered in 1979, share a common but tragic trait: both were destroyed by the Soviet regime because they represented the greatest threats to communism – religion and freedom of thought.

Seven years after the collapse of the Soviet Union, both are being restored to their rightful place in Ukrainian culture.

For the works and memory of composer Volodymyr Ivasiuk, best known for penning the popular song "Chervona Ruta," it is a figurative restoration – one that had not been extended to him after his murder in

1979.

After being officially ignored during Soviet times and never honored on a large scale after Ukraine's independence, the composer received a degree of recognition for his musical accomplishments in a memorial concert on May 29, the first time he was honored in such a way in Kyiv. The concert featured performances by a wide array of entertainers from Ukraine's music scene, from the avant-garde pop genre to classical music, and a greeting from Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma that included a statement recognizing his contri-

bution to Ukrainian culture.

Ivasiuk's compositions, some of which are so widely known and sung that they are considered folk songs, launched the careers of several Soviet singers, including Sofia Rotaru, the Bukovyna-born songstress still in Moscow. In the 1970s his songs were popular "from Khabarovsk to the Carpathian Mountains," as singer Vasyl Zinkevych said during the memorial concert.

However, Soviet authorities increasingly saw his popularity as a threat to their rule, as his songs and his public statements became more political. The 30-year-old songwriter was found brutally murdered in May 1979, his mutilated body discovered in the forests outside of Lviv three weeks after his disappearance.

Ukrainians have long held that the Soviet KGB was responsible for the beloved composer's brutal death, although officially his murder remains unsolved to this day. Tens of thousands of people attended the funeral at the Lychakiv Cemetery in Lviv.

Although the songs of Ivasiuk remained popular in Ukraine and the Soviet Union after his murder and are sung by many contemporary artists to this day, not a single concert honoring the songwriter had taken place in Kyiv on a large scale until the May 29 concert.

Sponsored by Coca-Cola Ukraine, the concert was a fund-raiser in preparation for more wide-scale commemorations of Ivasiuk's legacy that are planned for next year in connection with the 20th anniversary of his death and the 50th anniversary of his birth. Plans are in the works to establish a museum in Chernivtsi in the house where Ivasiuk lived and for a monument to the composer in Kitsman, Bukovyna, the village of his birth.

Among the notable Ukrainian stars that entertained a packed auditorium at the Palats Ukraina in Kyiv were vocalists Any Lorak, a fellow Bukovynian who informed the crowd that she was born in the building where Ivasiuk lived in the city of Chernivtsi; and Pavlo Dvorskyi, well-known in the Ukrainian diaspora for his versions of Ivasiuk songs; as well as young artists who are helping to create a Ukrainian pop music scene independent of Moscow, such as Viktor Pavlyk, Maryna Odolska, Oleksander Ponomariov, and the bands Plach Yeremii and Komu Vnyz.

The concert was held on the first day of Kyiv Days, a cultural event held annually in Kyiv on the last weekend of May, which includes free open-air concerts on Kyiv's central plaza, Independence Square, boat regattas on the Dnipro and bicycle races on the city's main thoroughfare, the Khreschatyk.

Whereas the Ivasiuk concert can be taken as a figurative restoration of a great Ukrainian composer, the blessing of the rebuilt bell tower of St. Michael's Golden-Domed Monastery is literally the completion of the first stage of the reconstruction of one of Ukraine's most historic religious monuments.

The bell tower and the entire monastery complex, including a five-domed cathedral, were destroyed at the command of Communist authorities in 1936. The church is thought to have been built by Grand Prince Sviatopolk II around 1110, and first destroyed during the Tatar invasion in 1240.

By 1496 it had been rebuilt, and by the 16th century it was one of the most wealthy and popular monasteries in Ukraine. Through the ages its benefactors included Hetmans Ivan Mazepa and Ivan Skoropadsky.

The church was closed after the Communists came to power; it was destroyed in 1936.

The decree to rebuild the church was



Druzhynnyky of Kyivan Rus' march into the square.



Patriarch Filaret blesses the belltower.



The newly reconstructed belltower of St. Michael of the Golden Domes.

signed in 1995 by President Leonid Kuchma, who was present at the blessing ceremony, along with Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko, Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko, Cabinet officials, Parliament deputies and sports stars, including Ukraine's two boxing brothers, Olympic champion heavyweight boxer Volodymyr Klychko and former world kick-boxing champion Vitalii Klychko.

More than 3,000 onlookers were in attendance. Historical figures of Ss. Volodymyr and Olha, the mother and son rulers of Kyivan Rus' who brought Christianity to Ukraine in 988, as well as Hetman Mazepa and a variety of kozaks and Kyivan Rus' druzhynnyky (soldiers) were represented by actors dressed in period costumes.

The colorful ceremony that predated the blessing of the bell tower by Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church - Kyiv Patriarchate, included traditional Ukrainian dances and a performance by Kyiv's Tchaikovsky Conservatory Choir.

The reconstruction of St. Michael's Golden-Domed Monastery also has included renovation of the square before it and the development of a plaza that joins the St. Michael's Belltower with St. Sophia Sobor, about 300 meters to the north.

Along the plaza stands a three-part memorial to St. Olha, who introduced Christianity to her son, Grand Prince Volodymyr; Ss. Cyril and Methodius, the developers of the Slavic alphabet; and St. Andrew, the apostle who, according to legend, first saw the hills of Kyiv along the Dnipro River and foresaw the future establishment of the city.

With the reworking of the square, the Great Famine Memorial honoring the victims of Stalin's artificially induced genocide of 1932-1933 - which upon its construction in 1993 was criticized by many for being hidden away in a secluded spot, now stands at the foot of the bell tower to

the left of the main entryway into the monastery.

The construction of the monastery complex and the church itself, which will be built to look as it did in the 16th century, also has begun. The target date for the completion of renovations of the monastery complex is the year 2000, in time for the celebrations of the second millennium of Christianity.



Handmaidens of the court of Prince Volodymyr carry the banner of St. Michael's Sobor.

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BILINGUAL HOME APPOINTMENTS

Concert pianist Roman Rudnytsky departs for around-the-world trip

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio – Concert pianist Roman Rudnytsky will very soon depart for an around-the-world concert trip. This trip will last from June 10 until August 5. It will be the fifth time that Mr. Rudnytsky will have traveled around the world on a continuous concert trip.

He will begin the tour in Britain, where he will play several recitals in mid-June. He will then proceed to the Sultanate of Brunei in Southeast Asia, where he will play two recitals: in the capital, Bandar Seri Begawan, and in the town of Seria.

After that, Mr. Rudnytsky will spend the month of July in New Zealand where he will fulfill his sixth, and largest, concert tour there, with 21 recitals on both the North and South Islands. He last played in New Zealand in 1995. After a brief visit to Hawaii, he will return home in August.

Three days later he will leave for Britain again to join the flagship Oriana of the British P & O cruise line, where he will play six recitals. This cruise will go

from Southampton to Madeira, the Canary Islands (Tenerife, Gran Canaria and Lanzarote), plus Portuguese and Spanish ports. This cruise is scheduled for August 9 and 21.

Later in 1998 there will be concerts in Tunisia and Venezuela in October, in Britain and Chile in November, and another P & O cruise in December – from Barbados to various Caribbean islands.

Mr. Rudnytsky's November tour of Chile (his sixth there) will also be his largest there to date.

In 1998, Mr. Rudnytsky has played recitals in Hawaii (the "Big Island") in January, in the United Kingdom in February, in Canada (Kingston, Ontario) in March, and in the United Kingdom and Malta in early May. His recital in Malta on May 5 was attended by the president of Malta.

Mr. Rudnytsky remains a member of the piano faculty of the Dana School of Music of Youngstown State University, where he has been since 1972.

Angry miners...

(Continued from page 1)

tion that demands that the government raise state subsidies to the coal industry by 600 million hrv from the 2.3 billion allocated.

However, with the Verkhovna Rada leaderless and deadlocked in its attempt to elect a chairman, little movement on paying the back wages is expected soon.

As the coal miners neared Kyiv on June 5, the government of Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko offered to immediately release 25 percent of the money owed – an offer that the Independent Miners Union of Ukraine, which represents the demonstrators, refused. The union is demanding payment of 75 percent of the overdue wages as a starting point for negotiations.

The latest strike began on May 15, when hundreds of miners from the coal-rich area of Pavlohrad, gathered in the oblast capital of Dnipropetrovsk to demand repayment of back wages. After their demands were not met by local officials, the miners set off on May 24 on their trek to Ukraine's capital city.

The marching miners entered Kyiv in the early morning of June 11 after camping at the city limits the previous night. After washing up on the banks of Dnipro River, they entered the city center and stopped at the ancient Monastery of the Caves (Pecherska Lavra) to receive a

blessing before moving to the Verkhovna Rada building.

Beating plastic water bottles and helmets against the ground in the 90 degree heat, the sun-scorched and obviously road-weary miners chanted "zar-pla-ta" (wages) and waved banners as curious national deputies and clerks peered out the windows of Ukraine's Parliament. After briefly meeting with members of a special parliamentary committee set up to review their demands, they moved on to the Cabinet of Ministers building and then the Presidential Administration offices.

The coal miners are due a total of 2.2 billion hrv (\$1.1 billion U.S.). Some have not been paid for 18 months and rely on subsidies from friends and relatives.

"[The government] gives us 50 hrv (\$25) and some foodstuffs to appease us, and I'm supposed to live on that. My family helps me, and my wife speculates at the marketplace," said Oleksander Promarenko, 58, of Donetsk, one of approximately 300 coal miners from mines in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts who have been demonstrating daily in Kyiv for two weeks in moral support of their Dnipropetrovsk union brothers.

The coal miners are also demanding that Ukraine stop importing cheaper coal from Poland and Russia and that safety conditions of the mines be upgraded. "Our tools and machinery are run down or broken," explained coal miner Raul Vakhitov. "The directors have sold off the good stuff."

The miners have called their latest action a step up from their more passive previous attempts, in which they would strike for several days and demonstrate before the offices of local coal mining officials, or travel to Kyiv for one day of demonstrations in front of central government offices. This time they are ready for an extended stay and more.

"If they don't pay our wages, this time we will not leave so quietly. There has been talk of blocking the railroad lines into the city," said Mr. Passirov, a coal miner from Pavlohrad.

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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

lion DM in compensation payments, the chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine, Viktor Yuschenko, announced on May 20. He said that, as of May 1, a total of 616,000 Ukrainians had applied for compensation. The size of payments depends on the category of victim and is an average 600 DM. Thus far, 370 million DM in compensation has already been allocated from German funds. Mr. Yuschenko said the outstanding funds would be disbursed by the end of the first half of 1998. (Eastern Economist)

Passengers want their money back

KYIV – The Ukrainian cruiser Taras Shevchenko, owned by the Odesa-based Black Sea Shipping Co., is returning home with more than 500 passengers aboard after a canceled Mediterranean cruise, Ukrainian Television reported on June 8. The passengers had strongly protested the previous day after realizing that the ship had changed its route and was returning from Piraeus to the Black Sea. Greek authorities had tried to impound the vessel because of the shipping company's debts, which total \$125 million. The passengers, who paid \$1,500 to \$7,000 for the trip, are to file suit against the company to obtain "moral and material compensation" amounting to \$2 million. (RFE/RL Newsline)

32,000 fictitious firms in Ukraine

KYIV – Approximately 32,000 fictitious firms are operating in Ukraine – 1,500 of them in Kyiv. Their total turnover equals 200 million to 400 million hryv and their activities mainly involve transfer of funds abroad, according to the chairman of the State Tax Administration, Mykola Azarov. (Eastern Economist)

Bumper sunflower crop is predicted

KYIV – The 1998 sunflower harvest is expected to be 2.5 million to 3 million tons. Last year's harvest was 2.2 million tons. According to the State Statistics Committee, 2.0 million to 2.1 million hectares were planted with sunflowers this year – 200,000 hectares more than in 1997. Experts predict that, given favorable weather conditions and yield of at least 13 centners per hectare, growers should gather the biggest sunflower harvest of recent years. Ukrainian Grain Association President Mykola Kompanets said that domestic processing enterprises could process up to 2.5 million tons of sunflower seeds. The domestic market requires around 1 million tons of seeds for production of 450,000 to 500,000 tons of sun-

flower oil. The remainder can be exported. (Eastern Economist)

U.S. plane to conduct fly-overs in Ukraine

KYIV – A specially equipped OS 135B plane from the U.S. On-Site Inspection Agency will conduct a flight inspecting Ukrainian military bases on June 16. According to the agency, the flight is in accord with the implementation of the Open Skies Treaty signed by 27 countries in Helsinki in 1992. Deputy Chairman of the Armed Forces Verification Center Oleksander Sherstiuk said "the verification flights will inspect the country's military activities from the air." After arrival of the American plane, representatives of the Ukrainian military will be informed about the mission's flight plan and the specific objects chosen for U.S.-inspection. He said that the flight will be conducted jointly with Ukrainian military personnel. Mr. Sherstiuk said representatives of the Ukrainian Verification Center have already conducted two similar flights over U.S. territory and are preparing for a third one. He also expressed regret over the fact that Ukraine has not yet ratified the Open Skies Treaty. (Eastern Economist)

Kuchma meets Vatican secretary of state

KYIV – The Ukrainian president on June 3 met with Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Vatican secretary of state, who is currently on an official visit to Ukraine, Ukrainian Television reported. Both officials noted "the deepening of relations between the two states." Ukraine has 4.5 million Uniates (Eastern rite Catholics loyal to Rome) and 500,000 Roman Catholics. One of Cardinal Sodano's goals was to discuss a possible visit by Pope John Paul II to Ukraine. The cardinal told Ukrainian Television that the pope's visit is "a question of the future. ... I am sure that the pope will come because he wants to and he continually mentions Ukraine in his prayers." (RFE/RL Newsline)

BMW introduces new sedan

KYIV – ABT Bavaria, official importer of BMW and Land Rover in Ukraine, officially introduced its new BMW model on June 4. Valerii Ilchenko, general director of ABT Bavaria, presented the new model at a press conference, which was followed by a reception sponsored by Smirnoff, BMW's partner in the latest James Bond movie, "Tomorrow Never Dies." The new sedan had its debut this March in Geneva. This model comes with a "bad road package," developed by BMW for countries in which road conditions are below Western standards. ABT Bavaria is currently taking orders for its new model. (Eastern Economist)



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As of June 1, 1998, the secretary's duties of Branch 226 were assumed by Mr. Marko Zawadowych. We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance, as well as their membership premiums to the address listed below:

Mr. Marko Zawadowych
637 Marion St.
Denver, CO 80206
(303) 832-5502

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 445

As of June 15, 1998, the secretary's duties of Branch 445 will be assumed by Mrs. Halyna Petryk. We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance, as well as their membership premiums to the address listed below:

Mrs. Halyna Petryk
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On the path toward unity

(Continued from page 6)

positions on the issue in order to prepare themselves for the final decision that had to be made at the 34th Convention of the UNA.

Merger with the UFA and the proposed name change

Representatives of the UFA demanded that after the merger of our two organizations the new entity be called Ukrainian National Fraternal Association, i.e., that the word "Fraternal" be added to the name Ukrainian National Association. The UFA representatives said they were seeking this name change because, though their organization would cease to exist after the merger, the name of the new organization would retain at least a part of their name, which would encourage UFA activists to continue to work devotedly and faithfully toward the growth of membership in the united fraternal society.

The proposed name change was considered by delegates to the 34th Convention of the UNA as the first point in the discussion about mergers with the UFA and the UNAAA. Those who supported the name change were allotted 20 minutes to make their case; another 20 minutes were allotted to opponents of this idea.

Since the name change is an amendment to the UNA By-Laws, in order for the change to be legal the measure had to pass by a two-thirds majority, or 66.6 percent of the votes. In a secret-ballot vote utilizing voting machines 137 delegates voted for the change, while 87 voted against. Thus, the name change was approved by 61.2 percent of the voters and did not pass because it did not have the required two-thirds support.

We should underline the fact that we were only 12 votes short of approving the name change. The convention delegates approached the issue of the name change very seriously, conducting a well-reasoned and equitable debate about this very important matter.

Approval of the agreements of merger

At the beginning of the discussion about the mergers, first regarding the Ukrainian Fraternal Association and then the Ukrainian National Aid Association, delegates received copies of the proposed agreements of merger that had been published in our press. Attorney Olesnycky explained that each agreement could either be accepted or rejected in its entirety; individual provisions of the agreement could not be changed as they were approved by the designated representatives of both parties and approved after debate by the UNA General Assembly.

Afterwards I reported to the delegates about the financial status of both fraternal associations involved in merger negotiations with the UNA, offering a comparison with the UNA's standing as regards assets, liabilities, reserves, membership, branches and investments.

Following a question and answer session and a discussion, the delegates voted on the merger agreements, once again using voting machines. The merger with the Ukrainian Fraternal Association received 196 votes for and 22 against. The vote regarding the Ukrainian National Aid Association was 192 for and 25 against. In both instances the vote was more than the required two-thirds; thus, the UNA delegates approved both mergers.

Although the final decision on both mergers is subject to the approval of the insurance authorities of New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Canada, the UNA fulfilled all its legal requirements to bring about the mergers.

The UNA hopes that the 24th Convention of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association will follow in the footsteps of the Ukrainian National Association's 34th Convention and, taking into consideration all points pro and con, will approve the merger and at the same time elect its representatives to the joint leadership of our merged fraternal society: one representative each on the Executive Committee and the Auditing Committee, and three advisors. They will become members of the General Assembly and will represent the interests of the united membership during the next four years.

The union of our fraternal societies will have a very beneficial effect on the Ukrainian community and no doubt will stimulate increased activity to organize new members, which is very important to the growth of any organization. We hope that delegates will realize this is a time of mergers involving large businesses throughout the world which unite for their own good. That is why now is time for us also to unite for the good of our membership and in order to maintain all those fraternal activities that our organizations so generously provided throughout their long years of service to their members and the entire Ukrainian community.



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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Named Aviator of the Year 1997

YOKOSUKA, Japan – Lt. Cmdr. Yarema "Yarko" Sos was named 1997 Aviator of the Year by the Commander, Naval Air Pacific (COMNAVAIRPAC).

"I was surprised and shocked," said Lt. Cmdr. Sos, a pilot and operations officer from Fighter Squadron 154 (VF 154). "I didn't expect to win the award."

A native of Washington, he earned his commission in 1985 after graduating from Vanderbilt University. He joined his first fleet squadron in 1988 after completing F-14 flight training. He reported to the Black Knights of VF-154 in March 1996.

As the operations officer, Lt. Cmdr. Sos is responsible for scheduling, training and flight-hour management for his squadron. The squadron's executive officer, Cmdr. Stuart Bailey, said Lt. Cmdr. Sos plays a very vital role in the squadron.

"He instills a professional spirit and that eagerness to do better in the air throughout the squadron," said Cmdr. Bailey from Virginia Beach, Va.

Lt. Cmdr. Sos said it's a job he enjoys and finds very satisfying. "I enjoy watching the newer pilots mature, grow and learn," he said. "I like being able to teach. I enjoy the satisfaction of helping people become better pilots, better officers and just better members of the Navy."

Lt. Cmdr. Sos will have the opportunity to use his training talents when he departs the Black Knights and returns to the U.S. to become a "Top Gun" instructor at the naval air facility in Fallon, Nev. Though he was chosen as the Aviator of the Year and received orders to "Top Gun," Lt. Cmdr. Sos said he can't nail down one specific experience in the Navy that stands above the rest.

Through all the experiences, Lt. Cmdr. Sos said the never-ending challenge of being a fighter pilot is what keeps him in the Navy.

"Certainly this cruise has been challenging and there has been a lot of excitement," Lt. Cmdr. Sos said, "but it's a lot different than a 9-to-5 job, and that's what keeps me in."

His executive officer also sees that Lt. Cmdr. Sos still enjoys flying.

"He still loves it," Cmdr. Bailey said. "You see it in his face every day in his approach to flying, the way he briefs, how he works with the younger pilots and radar intercept officers, and the way he makes better aviators out of all of us."

Cmdr. Bailey added that he believes this is one of the factors that led to Lt. Cmdr. Sos' selection as Aviator of the Year.

"I've seen a lot of guys that have talent similar to his, but it's that day-in-day-out enthusiasm, that level of professionalism, and the dedication to do the job right that sets Sos apart," Cmdr. Bailey said. "There is a moral courage in there, too, that you don't see every day in today's Navy."

Lt. Cmdr. Sos was a little more humble in his assessment of his selection. "It just comes down to hard work, the understanding of what is required and trying to do your best," he said, "and for some reason, someone figured out that was good enough to win, and I appreciate that."

The USS Independence, on which Lt. Cmdr. Sos served, was deployed to the Persian Gulf on January 12 and was expected to return to its home port of Yokosuka, Japan, by the end of May. Lt. Cmdr. Sos and his wife, Lydia Nimylowycz Sos, were stationed in Japan for more than two years. They are scheduled to go to Fallon in July. Both are members of Branches 15 and 216.

Notes on People is a feature geared toward reporting on the achievements of members of the Ukrainian National Association. All submissions should be concise due to space limitations and must include the person's UNA branch number. Items will be published as soon as possible after their receipt, when space permits.

Graduates from auctioneering school

HOOKSET, N.H. – Orest Paul Kopanycia of Levittown, Pa., was among the 15 students to graduate from Yankee School of Auctioneering held at New Hampshire College. Graduation from the Yankee School qualifies students to obtain auctioneering licenses in most regions of the country.

Mr. Kopanycia will be conducting auctions of quality antiques, collectibles and estates in the central New Jersey and Pennsylvania areas under the company name Rossini Auction Gallery. An auction is planned for September. Interested parties may call (215) 946-3555.

Mr. Kopanycia is a member of UNA Branch 245.

Correction

In the April 26 "Notes on People" section of The Weekly, in an item about the engagement of Natalie Marie Dudynsky and Zenon Volodar Keske, the grandparents of Ms. Dudynsky should have been listed as Marie Wakiriak and the late John Wakiriak.

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Manor Junior College graduates largest class ever: 144 students

JENKINTOWN, Pa. – Manor Junior College concluded its golden anniversary year by graduating 144 students – its largest graduating class ever – on Thursday, May 14, at the college's 50th annual commencement exercises.

Manor conferred 28 associate in arts degrees and 116 associate in science degrees on May 14.

Dr. Bobby Doscher, recently chosen as one of Manor's "Top Ten Alumni" for its 50th anniversary year, was the guest speaker. Dr. Doscher is the president and chief executive officer of the non-profit Oklahaven Children's Chiropractic Center in Oklahoma City.

During her 20-year tenure with the clinic, the center has received national and international recognition for its suc-

cess with severely disabled children. In 1992, Oklahoma honored Dr. Doscher with a proclamation designating a special day as "Dr. Bobby Doscher Day" in recognition of her relentless commitment to providing children with natural drug-free health care.

Dr. Doscher received her doctorate of chiropractic medicine from Palmer College and later became a doctor of naturopathy. For the Chiropractic Centennial Year in 1995, she was chosen the WCWC as one of the 12 great Women in Chiropractic and the Woman Chiropractic of the Year. In 1996, Dr. Doscher received the Dr. Mabel Health Palmer Award that honored her as Outstanding Lady Chiropractic of the Year.

Academic Excellence Award presented



Oxana Radchencko received the Academic Excellence Award at Manor Junior College's 50th anniversary commencement exercises. This award is given to full-time students achieving the highest cumulative grade point average. Ms. Radchencko graduated with a 4.0 G.P.A. A National Dean's List student and member of the Phi Theta Kappa and Alpha Beta Gamma national honor societies, Ms. Radchencko is listed in Who's Who in American Junior Colleges based on her academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success. Ms. Radchencko graduated with an associate degree in health care management. Pictured with Ms. Radchencko is Dean of Admissions Ihor J. Czenstuch.

Wowk Memorial Scholarships awarded



Manor Junior College students (from left) Lena Ivashina, Oleg Dashko and Roman Chevtshouk pose with Therese Wowk (second from right) at Manor Junior College. Ms. Wowk was on campus to represent her father, Alexander Wowk, whose family donates a scholarship in his name to international and Ukrainian American students at Manor. All three students were recipients of the Alexander Wowk Memorial Scholarship.

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Basilian Center breaks ground

FOX CHASE MANOR, Pa. — State Representative Ellen Bard and Abington Township Commissioner Michael O'Connor were among the honored guests on May 10, when the Sisters of St. Basil the Great held groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Holy Trinity Chapel and Basilian Spirituality Center, to be constructed on the grounds of the Motherhouse at Fox Chase Manor.

The groundbreaking ceremony coincided with the Sisters' Pilgrimage to the Mother of God, an annual Mothers' Day event.

Following the morning's pontifical divine liturgy, Archbishop Stephen Sulyk, metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States, officiated at the groundbreaking, assisted by Bishops Basil Losten, Robert Moskal and Walter Paska, Msgr. George Appleyard, and the Revs. Christopher Woytyna, Basil Savinsky and Peter Waslo.

It has been over a year since the Sisters launched their capital campaign to raise the funds for the project.

"We're thrilled to see work beginning on the center," said Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski OSBM, provincial superior. "The Chapel and Spirituality Center will serve as a place where the faithful can come to deepen their relationship with God and explore and expand their spirituality."

The unsinkable...

(Continued from page 8)

dealt with the tragic event. The subject not only refuses to founder, but continues to gain in significance, especially after Robert Ballard's expeditions to the site where the ship went down. The tragic incident has now become immortalized in the imagination of millions of readers and spectators. And so the gold lost on the Titanic has now been recouped by virtue of an Oscar and at the box office.

The Titanic was a symbol of both man's triumph and man's blind ambition. The ship went down before its time and took with it dreams that would never be realized.

The movie has an unobtrusive yet pervasive, haunting score that is used to convey a subtle message, one that was aptly reiterated by the film's director at the Oscar ceremonies: Don't pass away before your death, never let go if you still have something or someone to cling to.

The romance in the film is not portrayed merely as a passing interlude but rather as an essential expression of love's life-giving magical power. The young couple in the film is characterized by charm and a natural quality; acted with a refined simplicity by Leonardo DiCaprio. The newest film version of the "Titanic" (1997) has come a long way since the film of 1953, that starred the dashing Robert Wagner and the sultry Audrey Dalton in the comparatively innocent love scenes.

Hollywood's current blockbuster simply has no match in terms of its high tech visual effects.

Despite the difficult times for struggling studios in Ukraine, there are new names and talents, fresh ideas, and improved equipment that give reason to hope for better times, when studios in Kyiv, Odesa or Lviv will not only stay afloat but may look forward to virtually unsinkable projects.

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Tryzub holds spring tennis tourney



The Tryzub tourney's top competitors: (from left) Alex Olynech, George Sawchak, Ihor Buhaj and Jerry Tymkiw.

HORSHAM, Pa. – The Ukrainian Sports Organization Tryzub's Spring Tennis Tournament was held during the very wet and soggy weekend of May 2-3. Even though the complete East Coast was affected by the inclement weather, with some weather breaks and luck the whole tournament was played outdoors: Saturday at the nearby tennis club and Sunday at Tryzubivka.

The tournament was played in the men's division only in a round-robin format within the groups. Qualifying for the finals were Ihor Buhaj and George Sawchak, both winning all of the matches within their respective groups. Mr. Sawchak won the tournament with a 6-2, 64 victory over Mr.

Buhaj in the finals. Jerry Tymkiw took third place, winning over Alex Olynech. Out of 14 total matches, others of interest were Mr. Buhaj's grueling three-set victory over Mr. Tymkiw, 2-6, 6-3, 6-3, Boris Tatunchak's win over George Popel, 6-4, 7-6 and Alex Mychaluk's win over Bohdan Krawchuk, 6-4, 6-3.

At the conclusion of play, trophies were presented to the winner, finalist and the consolation winners. The next Ukrainian tennis tournament will be the USCAK-East held at Soyuzivka during July 4 weekend. Tryzub's 1998 Fall Tennis Tournament is planned for October 3-4. All Ukrainian tennis players are invited to participate in these athletic events.

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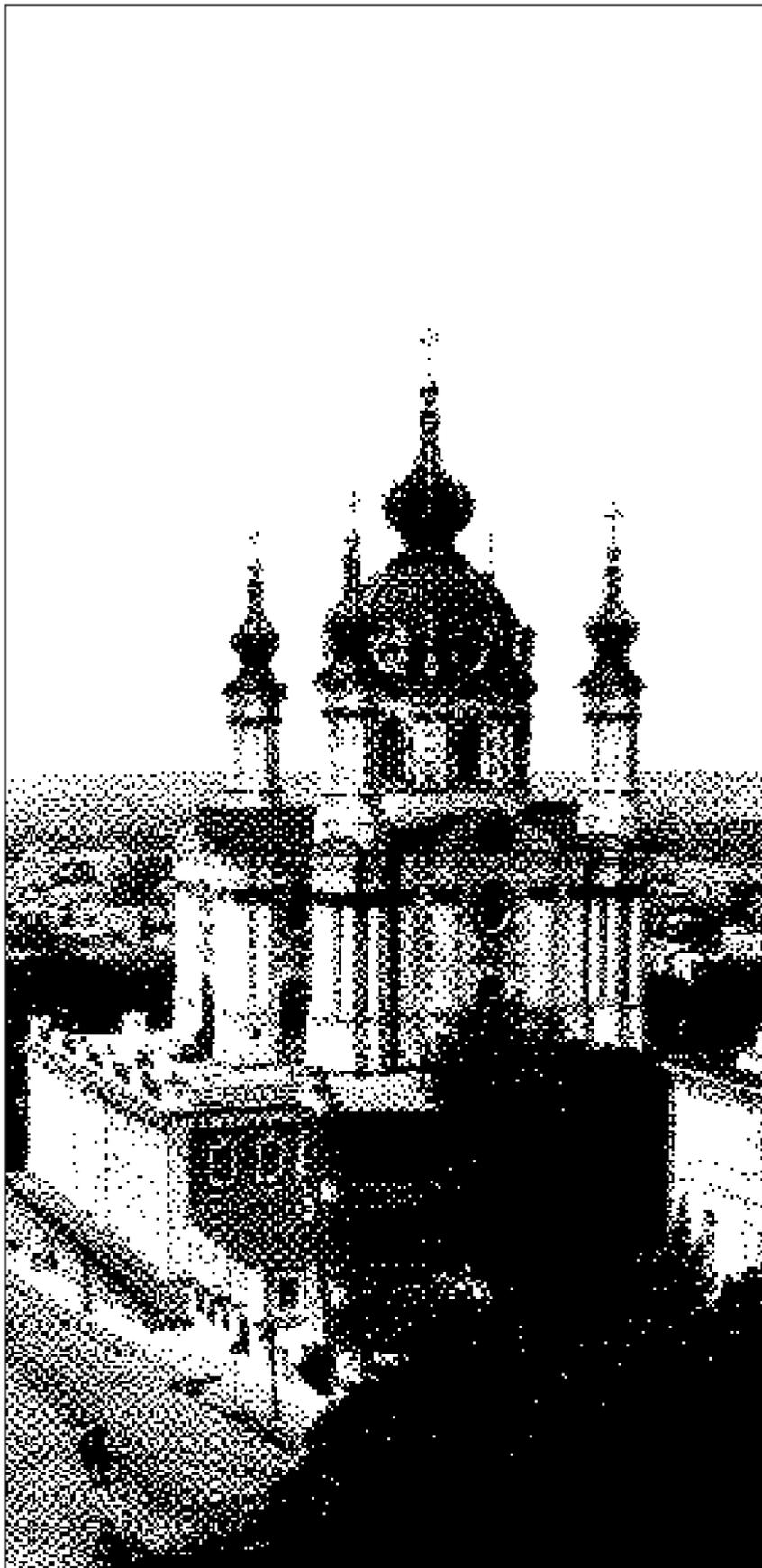
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, June 14

CHERRY HILL, N.J.: The Committee to Aid Ukraine and Children of Chernobyl invite parishioners and friends of St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church and St. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Williamstown to hear Nadia Matkiwsky, executive director of CCRF, speak about the state of children's health since the disaster at Chernobyl. The program will begin at 11:30 a.m. after liturgy at St. Michael's. Light refreshments will be available. No admission charge. For more information call Olga Prychka, (609) 783-7348.

Sunday, June 21

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.: The Ukrainian American Society of Daytona Beach and Vicinity will host its annual Fathers' Day dinner at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center, 1328 Hurst St., starting at 2 p.m. Donation: \$10 per person. The public is welcome. For more information, call George A. Miziuk, (904) 756-2824; e-mail: GAM@Orbiter.com For directions, visit the society's web site: <http://www.orbiter.com/uasdbfl/index.htm>.

ADVANCE NOTICE
Friday-Sunday, July 9-19

FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS, Ill.: The Ukraine 16 and Under National Baseball Team will be competing in the AA World Baseball Championships. This is the first time that a Ukraine National Team has qualified to compete in a World Baseball Championship and this is the team's first trip to the U.S. Admission to the championships is free for the general public. Opening ceremonies will be held on Saturday, July 11. Ukraine will face Korea in its first opening round game at 3 p.m. For more information, call Basil P. Tarasko, head baseball coach, National Team of Ukraine, (718) 428-8592, evenings, or leave a message at (718) 830-7744, the Ukraine Baseball Hotline.

Friday-Sunday, June 19-21

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Museum will participate in "New York City 100: Centennial Weekend" by joining fellow New Yorkers in a party to celebrate the one hundredth birthday of New York City. The event will be officially proclaimed as Centennial Weekend by Mayor Rudy Giuliani. To commemorate the occasion, the museum will open its doors to the public for free during the entire weekend. Also, on Sunday, June 21, at 2-4 p.m., visitors to the museum will be invited to sample traditional Ukrainian baked goods. The pastries will be offered in lieu of a traditional birthday cake for our City.

PLEASE NOTE PREVIEW REQUIREMENTS:

- To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information written in Preview format (date, place, type of event, admission, sponsor, etc., in the English language, providing full names of persons and/or organizations mentioned, and listing a contact person for additional information). Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published. Please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours.

UFA's Verkhovyna resort to host annual Ukrainian Youth Festival

GLEN SPEY, N.J. - The Ukrainian Fraternal Association's Verkhovyna Resort and Youth Center, nestled in the heart of the picturesque Catskill Mountains of New York, is located at the confluence of three states: New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Purchased in 1955, with the intention of providing a vacation spot for the UFA membership, this 142-acre resort is known as a center for youth activities.

One such activity is the annual Ukrainian Youth Festival, which draws close to 8,000 people every year. Billed as the biggest three-day ethnic festival in the tri-state area, it had its beginnings in 1976 when a group of young UFA members decided to mark the U.S. Bicentennial. The 1998 Ukrainian Youth Festival is scheduled for July 17-19 (as has become tradition, the third weekend in July).

The UFA also sponsors a Dance Workshop for advanced dancers age 17

and older on June 28-July 19 under the direction of Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky. The workshop ends the weekend of the festival with a gala performance by participants during the grandstand shows.

The Chornomorska Sich Sports Camp begins the week after the festival. The camp is open to all age groups from 8 to 18. There is group and personalized instruction in soccer, swimming, volleyball, and track and field by a professional staff of trainers. For information contact Omelan Twardowsky, (908) 688-8223.

From July 26 to August 9, Dance Camp is held for beginners and advanced dancers age 7-16 under the direction of Ms. Pryma-Bohachevsky. Interested parties should call Ms. Pryma-Bohachevsky, (212) 677-7187.

For general information about all activities at Verkhovyna contact the resort's manager, Jaroslav Gawur, at (914) 856-1323.

Association...

(Continued from page 6)

804 N. Woodstock St., Philadelphia, PA 19130; telephone, (215) 769-0889; or Dzvinka Nykorak Hayda at: 2582 Otter, Warren, MI 48092; fax, (810) 268-4768; telephone, (810) 268-4729; e-mail, Dzvinka Bell@Juno.com

The third North American Ukrainian teachers' conference is going to take place in Toronto on July 4-5. We invite all teachers to take part in this conference. There will be many speakers on subjects of interest, and all teachers are invited to take part

in the planning of future endeavors to help Ukrainian children throughout the world. The sixth World Convention of Ukrainian Teachers, as well as the second APUL convention will take place in Kyiv in 1999. If anyone should have an interest to speak on an educational subject at this conference, please contact the organization at the above numbers.

Teachers have a great impact on children's future. With a united teachers' association the possibilities are endless. So please join this rewarding work of sharing your knowledge and talents with others of the teaching profession, and, in turn, helping a Ukrainian child.