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Best Wishes of the Season!

The publishers and staff of the
Ukrainian Canadian Herald
extend best season's greetings
to our readers and supporters,
and to their families
and friends.



May you enjoy
the festive season in
happiness, safety
and good health,



and may the new year bring
all that you truly desire!

Security Concerns Cause Insecurity

Remember when Canada and the United States boasted about sharing the world's longest undefended border? In those days, slipping into the United States for a few hours to do some shopping or enjoy an evening out was something Canadians did regularly and easily.

In those days, too, border towns in the two countries acted as good neighbours, helping each other out with emergency services, and oth-

erwise cooperating to enhance the quality of life of their residents.

Those days are long gone. Today the story is long delays for cross-border shopping, for commercial carriers, and other international traffic.

As for emergency services, the delays may not sound long, but in an emergency they could be crucial. And they are becoming more frequent, apparently, as the demands of the US Homeland Security Agency become more far-reaching.

Thus, in November, a day apart, there were at least two instances when Homeland Security made border dwellers less secure.

One occurred on November 11. This involved a delay in crossing the border into the United States from the Quebec town of Lacolle of a six-man team of volunteer firefighters. While they were delayed at the border for about 15 minutes, the Anchorage Inn in Rouses Point, NY, burned to the ground. Did the delay make a difference? Maybe not, but we'll never know.

The next day, an ambulance was delayed for a few minutes, in spite of being pre-cleared, heading from Windsor to a Detroit hospital. No-body died — this time.

Police Kill an Immigrant

In the early morning hours of October 14, 2007, Robert Dziekanski was killed by police at Vancouver International Airport, after being hit twice, and perhaps three times, by 50,000 volts from a taser.

A bystander with a camera recorded the events, and turned his recording over to the police at their request, with their promise to return the videotape.

Eventually they returned videotape to him — without the images he had recorded. He had to exercise a great deal of tenacity to finally retrieve his images, which he then put on the internet.

About a month after the death of the Polish immigrant who never made it out of the airport, the news became public. People in Canada and around the world were able to judge the actions of officers of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Many of those who saw the actions of the police were shocked by the behaviour of four trained police officers facing one hungry, tired and upset individual who was known to be unarmed. The police appeared to make no effort, and show no interest in making any effort, to defuse the situation before resorting to a high level of violence, not once but repeatedly, and then applying restraints on the individual which were contrary to recommended procedures. The behaviour of the police was found wanting.

Questions were asked about security procedures which failed to notice an individual who spent hours in an area normally vacated quickly by passengers retrieving luggage. This was especially strange given that in this day and age any departure from "normal" behaviour draws instant attention at airports.

Questions were also raised about procedures which made it impossible for his mother to learn that he had arrived and was at the airport. These days, that is one of the facts of life at the arrivals level of airports, though it is unclear why people should be kept in the dark whether the passenger they came to meet has arrived.

A few questions were even raised about what may be the scariest aspect of this story: RCMP efforts to conceal the truth about events at the airport on October 14.

If the young man who recorded the events had not used his camera, if he had not demanded the return of his images (as he had been promised would happen) and refused to accept a replacement videotape, and if he had not made the videotape public, the whole episode would have passed into history as told by the RCMP.

As the "UCH" was nearing its press deadline, and article appeared in *The Toronto Star* discussing an analysis by The Canadian Press of police use of tasers from March, 2002, to March 2005. In the overwhelming number — 79% — of the 563 cases in which Tasers were used, they were used against people who were unarmed.

The suggestion is, and the Vancouver airport incident would seem to support this, that police are resorting to Tasers not as an alternative to the use of deadly force, but as a fast and safe (at least for the officers) way of taking control of a situation even when the threat of violence is very low.

While Tasers make life easier for the police, they sometimes make life shorter for their victims. In Canada, according to Amnesty International, 17 people are known (how many are unknown?) to have died as victims of "electro-shock weapons".

In recent times, recordings by passers-by, like the one made at Vancouver International Airport, have several times revealed the use of excessive force by police officers, sometimes contradicting official police reports on events. The official police reaction to such discrepancies is to warn against judging actions of police on the basis of one piece of evidence, and to advise against second guessing officers' decisions made in split seconds under stressful circumstances.

Sooner or later the voices start to be heard counting the number of police officers killed in the line of duty, and warning us that we must support the police if we do not want to become helpless victims of violent criminals.

Yes, police work is dangerous. But there are a dozen jobs that are even more dangerous. Nurses, construction workers, firefighters, and others, have higher rates of death and injury on the job, but none of

them uses on-the-job danger as a justification of violence.

Yes, police officers some times have to make decisions quickly in difficult circumstances. Too often, however, recorded events show them acting with unnecessary haste, not taking time to consider their actions and choosing less violent options. That certainly appears to have been the case at Vancouver International Airport.

It is not a good idea to judge on the basis of only a movie, let alone just a photograph, which can be very misleading. On the other hand, when the police try to suppress such evidence, and present versions of events which are at utter variance with what is recorded, then the public certainly has a right, as a minimum, to expect an unbiased investigation, with a sceptical approach to police explanations of "errors" in their reports.

The fact is that police officers are the only group in our society who are allowed to kill, assault and detain civilians as part of their job. These rights are not absolute. Theoretically, application of these powers has to be justified by circumstances and should not be arbitrary.

Routine resort to potentially lethal force when other safe options are available is a violation of a public trust.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR — 3 HOBBIM POKOM!

The National Executive Committee
of the
Association of United Ukrainian Canadians
extends best wishes for a
Happy, Healthy and Peaceful 2008
to all members and friends of the AUUC
and readers and supporters of
The Ukrainian Canadian Herald!

Comparing Two Strikes

Stephen L. Endicott, *Bienfait, the Saskatchewan Miners' Strike of '31* (University of Toronto Press, 2002).

Edward McCourt, *Music at the Close* (Toronto, Ryerson Press, 1947).

The CBC's most recent documentary on the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike implies considerable impact on the strike by Ukrainian Labour Temple Association people. The film includes an interview with Myron Shatulsky, board member of the Canadian So-

ciety for Ukrainian Labour Research (CSULR) and extensive conversations with Nolan Reilly, past president of the CSULR, as well as exterior and interior shots of the Winnipeg Ukrainian Labour Temple. Also there were some brief moments with the Win-

niepeg Mandolin Orchestra under the direction of Annis Kozub, once again on the stage of the Labour Temple with busts of Matthew Popowich and Matthew Shatulsky in the foreground.

As for the role of the Ukrainian Labour Temple movement in the strike itself nothing was said in the documentary, and in fact the known facts are tantalizingly few.

The admonition, "Workers of the World Unite", had only recently been engraved on the facade of the building. Meanwhile, the right to organize was one of the main issues of the strike and the solidarity of Winnipeg labour was perhaps the most noteworthy feature of the strike. Persistence in trying to flesh out the connection between the Ukrainian Labour Temple movement and the strike is both understandable and frustrating.

By contrast, the role of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association (ULFTA) is well documented in another momentous confrontation in Canadian labour history: the coal miners' strike of 1931 in Bienfait, Saskatchewan.

Stephen L. Endicott's *Bienfait, the Saskatchewan Miners' Struggle of '31* has been in print five years and is probably well known to many Saskatchewan readers of the

Ukrainian Canadian Herald. Not until this year, however, has it been making the rounds in Winnipeg Branch.

The book deserves wider readership in the AUUC, because Mr. Endicott credits the ULFTA with a leading and possibly dominant role in the strike, and shows in detail the part the ULFTA played.

The local institutional support for the strike was provided by the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Bienfait. Certainly, the Communist Party of Canada and the Workers Unity League, both of which sent organizers to the town, were also involved and deserve credit, but it was the ULFTA which provided the local meeting space and the local leadership.

Mr. Endicott's research relies heavily on oral histories recorded in the 1970s and kept at the Saskatchewan Archives Board in Regina, with copies held at the CSULR archives in Winnipeg, as well as on his own interviews conducted in Bienfait and Estevan in 1995 to 1998. From these personal memories, supplemented by newspaper and court records, as well as the author's background reading, he was able to reconstruct the scene quite vividly.

Especially important are the memories of the ULFTA's Peter Gemby, a local strike leader and founding member of Bienfait ULFTA Branch. A transcript of his reminiscences in the oral history project of the 1970s is available from the CSULR in Winnipeg. He lived long enough into the 1990's to be interviewed again by Mr. Endicott.

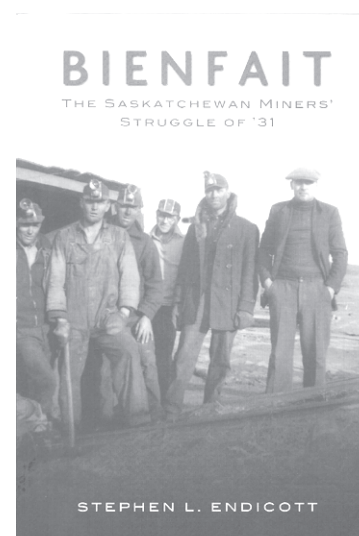
The strike issues in Bienfait were similar to those in Winnipeg in 1919: the right to organize, wages, living conditions, job security, etc. In addition, price gouging at the company store was a widely-voiced complaint in Bienfait.

Another similarity to the Winnipeg strike was the fact that the authorities never tired of saying that the Bolsheviks were the cause of all the trou-

(Continued on Page 4.)



Amelia Budris, widow of Peter Markunas, unveiling a plaque honouring the Labour Heroes presented by the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour (SFL) in May, 1997. In the background, right of cameraman, are Stella and Peter Gemby. Far right with microphone is Barbara Byers, president of the SFL.



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Thoughts on Policing

An Editorial by Wilfred Szczesny

I have known several police officers, and even been related by blood or by marriage to a few. Most of those in my circle of acquaintance have been more or less ordinary people doing a job; a few, however, were just as well suited to Black Diamond Riders colours as to police blue. The latter included young men who, before joining the ranks of the police, amused themselves on occasion by rolling tavern clients in parking lots.

Most police forces nowadays will claim that new, improved recruiting procedures weed out the bad apples. Any such improvements notwithstanding, the fact is that police officers continue to use unnecessary force and/or excessive levels of force against innocent bystanders, people really posing a violent threat, and a broad range of people between those two extremes. Frequently, those officers then commit perjury to justify their actions.

On one day in November, nine cops were in Toronto courtrooms facing charges of such behaviour, and others were scheduled to appear on other days.

Courts have traditionally accepted the word of a police officer over that of a civilian, when either one was accused of assaulting the other. When people have died in police custody, investigators (often police) and the courts have bent over backwards to accept the most outrageous explanations other than excessive police violence.

Historically, police have strongly resisted civilian oversight or other forms of public control which would either limit their freedom to commit gratuitous violence or ensure unbiased investigation of complaints by citizens.

In Toronto, for example, in recent times this resistance has included unwarranted surveillance of proponents or agents of such oversight, like Susan Eng, who was at one time chair of the Toronto Police Services Board, and even efforts to intimidate supporters of controls or civilian complainants, as happened in the not-to-distant past in the greater Toronto area.

But a new factor has entered the equation: ubiquitous cameras. Officers can no longer feel invulnerable as they just whip out their guns or their tasers and attack their victim. Like the police at Vancouver airport, they may be being watched. Increasingly, police claims concerning use of force, including deadly force, are being challenged by evidence over which they have little or no control.

Of course, there are still many places without cameras or witnesses, where abuse can still be meted out, and police are still able sometimes to suppress evidence. But the tendency to always support the cop is being eroded, which can only lead to better police practices.

Comparing Two Strikes

(Continued from Page 3.) ble. This made little sense in Winnipeg in 1919, since the Communist Party of Canada was not even founded until 1921 and no evidence of foreign agitators has ever been found. In Bienfait, in 1931, there was more truth to the charge, since the Canadian Communist Party and the Communist-dominated Workers Unity League were helping to organize the strike. As well, Matthew Popowich, the charismatic ULFTA leader who promoted a close cooperation between the ULFTA and the Communist Party in 1931, had visited Bienfait to speak in the lead up to the strike.

Furthermore, the local designation of the ULFTA hall as the "Red Hall" (in distinction from the "Green Hall" which was the "home" of the other Ukrainian immigrants), was to some degree appropriate, because 1931 saw the height of Communist influence in the ULFTA. The 1931 convention adopted a resolution calling on the cultural forces to reflect in their plays, etc., the interests and struggles of the working class. (Some of the attempts to do this are preserved in the archives in Winnipeg.) The convention also called on ULFTA members to join the Communist Party of Canada. We must understand that these were desperate times indeed for the working class, and especially for immigrant families.

Also, we must note that the ULFTA soon tired of seeing nothing but Soviet style plays and concerts in their halls. At the 1934 convention Matthew Shatulsky said that the best thing the progressive Ukrainian theatre can do for the working class is to provide opportunities for them to laugh and cry, not, as the Communist Party would have preferred, to organize them into political movements. (For details on this period, see Peter Krawchuk's *Our Stage* and

his *Our History*. Another book that has good coverage on the developing conflicts in the 1930s between the ULFTA and the Communist Party is Jim Mochoruk's *The People's Co-op*.)

As happened in Winnipeg, the Bienfait-Estevan confrontation culminated in a parade of strikers, the violent quelling of the demonstration by the RCMP, and casualties — three deaths by shooting and an unknown number of injuries.

Endicott's book contains details of the funeral of the slain miners and the procession to the graveyard north of the town, a narrative which is in itself an important contribution to our understanding of Ukrainian Canadian culture.

The memorial stone, which was not to allow anyone to forget that it was the RCMP who killed the miners, has been from time to time mutilated and restored, showing that the old animosities kept resurfacing year after year, long after the occasion for the anger had passed.

The Bienfait miners' strike finds its place in classic Canadian prairie fiction in Edward McCourt's *Music at the Close*. Neil Frazer, the novel's protagonist, is the quintessential shy farm boy, who wants to establish himself as a writer but is held back by economic necessity in the 1930s. He ends by dying in the Normandy invasion with the thought that meaning in life comes from living and dying for a cause.

The dramatic climax of the book is reached at the point where Neil, recently employed as a strike breaker, comes across his boyhood chum Gil in a fictional Bienfait. Neil learns from Gil what the strike is about, as well as what it means to be consumed by dedication to a cause. He then watches Gil die at the hands of the police.

Gil gives Neil an earful of sarcasm: "Chase all the Reds like me back to Russia — restore the industrial economy — and the price of wheat will go up! And if the strikers live on the thin borderline of starvation — and if their wives are old at thirty, and their kids rickety and half-starved and half-frozen — what's the difference as long as the Bolshies are driven out and the price of wheat goes up! Neil — you make me sick."

Neil had been told by his employers that the strike was a result of Communist agitation. This idea strikes Gil as absurd. For Gil the strike had little to do with ideology and absolutely nothing to do with the Russian revolution. It was cooperative action taken by miners and their families desperate for a livelihood.

Mr. McCourt properly puts the focus on the real story of the Bienfait strike, which in human terms remains uncoloured by the ideology and political affiliation of some of those who helped organize the workers.

1919 in Winnipeg and 1931 in Bienfait have become oft-told stories in Canadian labour history, helping to focus and inspire the labour movement. There has been much debate on what the strikes in fact accomplished.

The case for the strikes' actually doing something to help the condition and rights of the workers is stronger in the case of Bienfait than with the Winnipeg strike. The Bienfait mine fields were successfully unionized by the end of the 1930s. Furthermore, Tommy Douglas visited Bienfait at the time of the strike, and what he saw radicalized and moved him into a political career which was to produce a body of labour legislation.

In the case of the Winnipeg General Strike, one has to take a longer view of history. However, the importance of the Winnipeg strike, and to some degree the Bienfait strike as well, lies less in what it accomplished than in what it was in itself. The Winnipeg strike acted out in real history what was, and is, the central myth of labour. By "myth" I do not mean a story that is not true. I mean a story which has the power to motivate and inspire.

In the case of labour, the greatest story that can be told is the story of working people from all occupations, unionized and not unionized, uniting in a common struggle for the good and welfare of all. It helps if the story leads to good consequences, but whatever the consequences the story stands by itself with a power of its own.

— Brent Stearns

From Our Readers

Wishing you all good health and a "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy New Year".

— Anne and Joe
Bobrovitz
Brantford ON

SEE US ON THE WEB!

Edmonton AUUC, Trembita Ensemble
www.ukrainiancentre-edm.ca

Regina AUUC, Poltava Ensemble
<http://www.poltava.ca/>

Taras Shevchenko Museum:
www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum

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We invite readers to submit their views in letters to the editor. Letters must be signed. Letters may be edited, but their sense will not be changed.

Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewicz

Bullet-Proof Armour

A research centre in eastern Ukraine has just completed the development of technology to produce transparent light armour that can stop an armour-piercing bullet.

The armour is undergoing final tests in Russia, which is also part of the project. It is expected that the armour would be used in planes, helicopters, and soldiers' helmets.

A senior researcher at the Kharkiv Mono-Crystal Institute said the armour was a kind of "three-layer sandwich" made of glass, plastic, and sapphire. "Sapphire is designed to turn a cone-shaped bullet into a cylinder shape, which will then get stuck in the other two layers," said Leonid Lytvynov. "The bullet will be flattened by the sapphire, which will reduce the strength of the shot."

Artificial sapphires are extremely tough, being only slightly less tough than diamonds.

Leading car makers have also shown an interest in this new Ukrainian invention.

Ukraine Linked to CIA

The European Parliament's appointee to investigate the alleged cases of illegal CIA (American spy organization) prisons in Europe and extraordinary rendition (kidnapping) flights over European Union territory has called for an inquiry into evidence that he has linking Ukraine to the CIA operations.

There is "strong and very specific evidence that a military base in Ukraine was made available for the CIA," said Claudio Fava, Member of European Parliament.

Along with his fellow deputy Giulietto Chiesa, he made reference to a secret Ukrainian government document they had both seen. The secret document appeared to show Kyiv's authorization of the landing on the country's territory of a CIA-operated Gulfstream jet plane five times in August, 2005.

The two Members of European Parliament suggested that the same plane was used by the CIA in several previously highlighted cases, including the kidnapping of Egyptian cleric Abu Omar in Milan (Italy) and his transfer to US bases in Italy and Germany for interrogation.

Moreover, additional sources have claimed that they had seen or participated in building the prison within a military base in Ukraine, close to Poland, which was used for

ten prisoners and ten guards.

Earlier this year, the European Union legislature adopted Mr. Fava's report which stated that there had been over 1,000 secret CIA flights with stopovers on European Union territory since 2001.

The Council of Europe report published in June concluded that there was "enough evidence to state that secret detention facilities run by the CIA (existed) in Europe from 2003 to 2005, in particular in Poland and Romania."

Cirque du Soleil

Twenty years ago the original performers of Cirque du Soleil (translation: Circus of the Sun) were street performers in the Canadian province of Quebec walking on stilts, juggling, and playing music. From these humble beginnings, their circus has grown to be one of the largest and most famous in the world.

The performers are now part of the nearly one thousand artists performing with Cirque du Soleil in more than a dozen simultaneous shows around the world. Unlike traditional circuses, each unique show is a synthesis of international circus styles built around its own central theme and story line.

Tetiana Vorozhko recently attended one of the shows, and spoke to some of the show's stars.

Victoria Zherdeva is an acrobatic gymnast from Ukraine who grew up dreaming of performing with Cirque du Soleil. Four years ago Zherdeva and her husband videotaped their routine and sent it to the troupe. She says, "We lost our hope. All of a sudden, we received the offer. First, we didn't believe it and thought it didn't mean anything."

Ms. Vorozhko also spoke with Taisiya and Ruslana Bazaliy, 21-year old twin sisters from Ukraine. The twins have been performing with the circus since they were 14 years old. In fearless fashion, they enjoy performing their breathtaking stunts in front of a live audience. Both say, "We are not afraid. Our viewers, yes, they are scared. It is fun for us to hear them scream 'Ooooh!', and 'Aaaaah!'"

The Cirque du Soleil shows continue to pack venues around the world, inspiring young performers to dream of becoming tomorrow's stars.

"Independence" Scorecard

As you all know, Ukraine declared "independence" (switch from socialism to capitalism) on August 24,

1991. Since then, how have the ordinary people of Ukraine fared?

According to a recent report in *Ukrainska Pravda*, a Ukrainian daily newspaper which generally supports right-wing "Orange Revolution" co-leader President Viktor Yushchenko, approximately 70 percent of Ukrainian citizens state that since 1989 (the last year of Socialist Ukraine), the political and economic state of the country (and as a consequence the living conditions) have deteriorated. More than half of Ukrainians believe that their personal welfare has worsened during the years of capitalist independence.

According to a recent report in *Unian*, a Ukrainian news service, more than half of Ukrainians are afraid to openly speak against authorities in the press, at rallies and at meetings because of the fear of retribution (so much for freedom of speech).

According to United Nations statistics, Ukraine's Gross Domestic Product (a measure of all goods and services produced by a country's economy) dropped by almost 50% after "independence" and returned to 1990 levels only in 2005.

According to a poll taken last September by the Gorshenim Kyiv Institute of Management, only 47.1% of Ukrainians like living in Ukraine. Over 27% do not want to live in Ukraine and would prefer the European Union or Russia.

Capitalists worldwide condemned and ridiculed the collective farm system practised by the Soviet Union. In the last 5 years of Socialist Ukraine's existence, Ukraine produced an average of 48 million tons of grain per year. In the 15 years of capitalist/independent Ukraine's existence, grain production was an average 34 million tons per year.

It just proves that slick, American-style propaganda can sell anything!

Long-Distance Love

Charming Brides, a Kyiv-based international marriage agency, helps Western men meet Ukrainian ladies for romance and marriage. To help people who are in long-distance relationships, Charming Brides also offers a gift delivery service.

As administrator Olga Bulyga explains, "Nowadays there are a lot of marriage agencies and international dating sites that organize gift delivery. Usually these are flowers, sweets, jewellery, perfumes, or soft toys. But what

present to choose to impress her most? It should be something unusual, something extraordinary".

To fill this need for uniqueness, Charming Brides has announced a brand new gift a man can order for his lady — a visit to a spa salon!

The lady gets a spa gift card which she can use at her convenience. At the salon, attentive, professional staff will meet her and offer massage, sauna, oils therapy and other spa procedures.

Olga continues, "We already got very positive responses from our clients who ordered this service for their ladies — they were so excited and happy."

(Maybe "us guys" should think about doing this for our wives.)

Ukrainian Book Market

In 1991, there were 140 bookstores in Kyiv. After 16 years of capitalism, there are now only 36. In 1991, there were 3,000 bookstores in Ukraine. After 16 years of capitalism, there are now only 500.

These statistics were printed recently in the American-financed English-language *Kyiv Post*.

No reasons were given for the near-collapse of the Ukrainian book market.

Cuban Five

A dozen social organizations in the Kharkiv region of Ukrainian have created a committee for the release of the five Cuban heroes incarcerated in US prisons. The founding meeting also led to the creation in Kharkiv of an Association of Friendship and Solidarity with the Cuban People.

There are already more than a dozen committees in Ukraine for the liberation of Rene Gonzalez, Gerardo Hernandez, Ramon Labanino, Antonio Guerrero, and Fernando Gonzalez, and at least 106 such committees in some 30 European countries.

The Five, as these Cuban anti-terrorist fighters are internationally known, averted a number of violent acts by extremist groups in the south of Florida.

At least 3,500 people have been killed and another 2,100 wounded by attacks perpetrated by those violent groups, which have also caused losses to Cuba of \$57 million.

It was the work of Gerardo, Antonio, Rene, Fernando, and Ramon that precisely prevented around 170 acts of terrorism.

One of the aims of the liberation committees for the

Five is to alert public opinion to the American double standards in the fight against terrorism and the problems of American justice.

Russia Trade Up

During the 2004 presidential election, the Orange Revolutionaries accused their opponents of being under Russia's thumb. They vowed that if they won the election, they would push Ukraine towards the West and into the arms of the American NATO military alliance.

According to recent statistics, Ukraine's trade with Russia increased from about \$20 billion in 2005 (when Orange co-leader Viktor Yushchenko became president) to \$22.4 billion in 2006, to an expected \$28 billion in 2007.

Global Attitudes

According to its web site home page, The Pew Research Center (an American public opinion polling organization) is a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues. Since 2001, it has conducted an annual Global Attitudes survey.

The last such survey, conducted in 46 countries, was released in June, 2007, and contained some interesting statistics. For example, while Americans think that religious hatred is the biggest threat to the world, Russians and Ukrainians think that the growing gap between the rich and the poor is the biggest threat to the world.

About 54% of Ukrainians have a favourable opinion of the United States, while 81% of Ukrainians have a favourable opinion of Russia.

About 50% of Ukrainians think that American policies increase the gap between rich and poor countries, while 12% believe that American policies decrease that gap.

About 68% of Ukrainians and 76% of Russians think that it's bad that American ideas and customs are spreading to Ukraine and Russia.

About 19% of Ukrainians have confidence in American President George Bush, while 56% of Ukrainians have confidence in Russian President Vladimir Putin.

About 72% of Ukrainians and 76% of Russians think that the United States should remove its troops from Iraq.

Both Ukrainians and Russians believe that the worst polluter in the world is the United States.

Lots to think about.

**Ukrainian
Page
Submitted
Separately**

**Ukrainian
Page
Submitted
Separately**

Oktoberfest in Toronto AUUC Style

“*Ein Prosit, ein Prosit....*” This festive refrain rang out cheerfully during the wonderful Oktoberfest celebration that was held by the AUUC Toronto Branch on Saturday, October 20 at the AUUC Cultural Centre.

The main entrance, accentuated by an autumn flavour of pumpkins, gourds, chrysanthemums, vines and hay bales, gave everyone a warm “*Willkommen*” as they entered the hall on Bloor Street West.

Continuing through the next doorway, the guests were instantly immersed into the atmosphere of an authentic German beer garden. Grapes and flowing vines with brilliant fall colours hung over the main buffet table while white picket fences, also draped with

vines, lined the walls, creating a refreshing outdoor feeling.

Tables were covered with the Bavarian colours — white and blue — and were beautifully decorated with centrepieces of beer steins adorned with tufts of wheat and stalks of sunflowers. One stein was actually from the Hofbrauhaus in Munich, the birthplace of Oktoberfest.

As “oom-pah-pah” music played in the background, the guests mingled and enjoyed drinks and the traditional Bavarian fare of pretzels. But all eyes were on the larger-than-life pretzel sculptures suspended from the ceiling, the ingenious creation of Connie Prince.

To further enhance the

“Wiesn” mood, some of the working volunteers tried to emulate the traditional German costume as they went about their tasks. Aprons, blouses, cleavage and raffia braids were chosen to create the *Dirndl*-clad barmaid. Shorts, suspenders, vests, good-looking legs and Tyrolean hats were used to generate the *Lederhosen*-clad male.

Following a ceremonial raising of the glass to the sounds of the “*Ein Prosit*” chant, everyone was most enthusiastic about partaking in a traditional Bavarian meal. Weisswurst and Bratwurst were prepared by Jerry Dobrowolsky, delicious sauerkraut (*kapusta*) was created by Natalka Mochoruk and a beet salad and a potato salad were prepared by Baby Point Lounge. Cheers and thanks to the cooks and to the fine dessert bakers who provided wonderful pastries to top off the meal. Thanks to Helen Banville for coordinating these sweets.

After being physically satisfied by an excellent buffet, the guests were treated to an after-dinner menu of humorous food for the spirit. A 30-minute video featuring the antics and quick wit of such old time comedians as Jackie Gleason, Lucille Ball and Sid Caesar was shown, much to everyone’s amusement and sense of nostalgia.

The entire afternoon was an amazing success, thanks to the team of many volunteers who contributed leadership, time and talent. Thanks to Nancy and Mark Stewart for



Attendance was good, leading to a cozy and friendly atmosphere. The suspended pretzels were a great success.



Greeter Otti Nicolai, standing beside the welcoming display at the entrance to the Oktoberfest celebration.

their organization and direction; to Connie Prince and Bernie Dobrowolsky for their collaborative decorating skills; to Mike Stefiuk and Otti Nicolai as admission greeters; to Anne Bobyk as bartender; to Vera Borusiewich for man-

aging the rummage sale as part of the day’s attractions; and again to Jerry, Natalka and Helen, and her bakers, for making the luncheon so wonderful.

Guten Tag und Danke!
— A Participant



Bernardine Dobrowolsky (left) and Nancy Stewart model their Oktoberfest finery.

The Hallowe'en Dance

It was a dark and stormy night.....well, it wasn't that dark yet, and it wasn't stormy either, but rather nice, really, a beautiful fall evening with twinkling stars, and soft warm breezes. It was Saturday, October 27th, just a few days before Hallowe'en.

The doors to the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg opened and in came witches, ghosts, goblins, princesses, a hula girl that looked strangely like a boy and a variety of other characters. To every *body's* utter amazement in

came a pink flying pig to host the party and to join in the fun.

Was this a dream, maybe a nightmare? No, it was the Winnipeg AUUC School of Folk Dancing's annual family Hallowe'en dance.

To start the evening off, a yummy supper of boiled eye balls (pyrohy) covered with slime (fried onions), chunks of baked arms and legs (kovbassa) mixed in a vat of fried worms (sauerkraut), and a refreshing dish of fresh caterpillars mixed with a bouquet of seasonal insects (coleslaw)

was served to all who were brave enough to eat. All of this marvellous food was washed down with gallons and gallons of swamp water. For desert, a mountain of baked goodies supplied by the parents of the dance school.

With tummies full, it was time to party! The lights were turned down, the music turned up and the dancing began. Then it was time for the fun to begin! The pink flying pig started out the evening with the dreaded Bunny Hop. Just imagine a line of monsters, ghouls, unrecognizable char-

(Continued on page 11.)



Above, the Coffin of Candy. Below, the strange collection of weird and wonderful creatures attending the Hallowe'en party on October 27.



Season's Greetings!

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Vancouver Festival Concert

—Story photos: Dan Fung



Terry Hunter, Executive Artistic Producer of the Festival, and Dianna Kleparchuk, President of the AUUC Vancouver Branch, extended a welcome to the audience.



The concert was opened by AUUC performing arts groups and the presentation of the traditional bread and salt.



The Veselka and Bilka dancers of the AUUC performed the character dance "Malyna".



The Veselka Dancers performed "Hutsulka".



To end the concert program, all the singers, led by Dalannah Bowen of Dalannah Bowen and Friends, combined voices in the gospel standard "Down By The Riverside".

Once again, AUUC Vancouver opened its cultural season with a concert in which all performing groups — the Vancouver Folk Orchestra, Barvinok Choir and the Vancouver School of Dancing — performed before a standing-room-only crowd. Once again, our Ukrainian Cultural Centre hosted the unique and spectacular Heart of the City Festival Community Concert.

Vancouver's Downtown Eastside is receiving much negative and sensationalist press recently. However, the mission of the festival is to "promote, present, profile and encourage development of artists, art forms, cultural traditions, history, activism, people and great stories about Vancouver's Downtown Eastside." The 4th Heart of the City met its mandate.

This immigrant, working-class community, with its extraordinary history, lives and thrives in spite of the oft-reported tales of neighbourhood woe, poverty and addiction.

The AUUC Ukrainian Cultural Centre has been an active participant in this community since 1928. As we approach the 80th anniversary of the building of our hall, we are extremely proud of our continuing contribution to this unique neighbourhood. Many positive things are regularly happening in our neighbourhood and the AUUC will continue to see that we dispel the sensational negativity by continuing our participation in community events like the Heart of the City Festival.

On Sunday, November 4, the celebration started, once again, with a variety concert anchored by the AUUC cultural forces. This year the special guest artists were the Strathcona Chinese Dance Company, jazz pianist Stan Hudac and gospel performers Dalannah Bowen and Friends.

All Vancouver AUUC performing arts groups opened the concert with a traditional welcome, and introduced an afternoon of exceptional entertainment.

The Barvinok Choir presented a pair of the nonsense folk songs that abound in the Ukrainian repertoire: "Ishov Kozak Bez Lis" and "Dala Meni Maty Korivon'ky".

The lilting melodies set a good mood and the choir was in fine form.

In the choir's second appearance with the number "Za Horodom Kachky Plyvut", they were joined by Strathcona Sings of the Strathcona Community Centre for a

cheery rendition of a popular story song. The choirs next collaborated on the Israeli folk song of peace "Lo Yisa Goy", and received thunderous applause from the audience.

The School of Dance, fresh (Continued on Page 11.)



Dalannah Bowen & Friends (Phyllis and Nadine States) sang a set of gospel tunes.



The Strathcona Chinese Dance Company performed the Mongolian Bowl Dance.



Guests enjoy a Ukrainian dinner of borsch, holubtsi and varenyky, among other things, prepared under the direction of Chef Sylvia Surette.



Stan Hudac, jazz pianist and composer, performed an original blues selection called "What's Tomorrow Morning?"



The Three Potato Band supplied the music for the Urban Barn Dance.

**Submitted
separately
as a .pdf**

Vancouver Concert

(Continued from Page 9.) from their Ukrainian dance competition gold medal laurels, presented their numbers with style and infectious energy.

Veselka and Bilka groups joined to perform the charming "Malyna", a berry-picking dance.

Veselka's "Hutsulka" sparkled and their performance enjoyment was obvious.

The Vancouver Folk Orchestra presented a varied program including the Shostakovich "Sentimental Waltz", "Kursk Vesnyanka" by Voyevodin, and "Fantasia" by Shatalov. This talented ensemble also joyfully accompanies the dance groups, a wonderful opportunity for the dancers to experience the thrill of performing to live music.

Guest performers, the Strathcona Chinese Dance Company, resplendent in vibrantly colourful and intricate costumes presented two numbers. The first, "Mongolian

Bowl Dance", was a very traditional number that charmed the audience. The second number, "Love of Kang Ding", was a contemporary dance with very current and modern choreography. Formed in 1989, the company has blossomed into a world renowned folkloric dance troupe, and the Festival audience applauded their accomplishments.

The second guest artist, Stan Hudac, returning to the Heart of the City, was given a very warm welcome. Mr. Hudac is an exhilarating pianist whose career has taken him throughout most parts of North America and Europe.

Born in what is today the Slovakian Republic, he finished his education at a Conservatory in Rome, and found himself playing in jazz clubs in Greenwich Village in the early '70s. He moved to Montreal, and then made his way across Canada to Vancouver, and to the Downtown Eastside, where he now makes his home.

As well as the immediately recognized classics *Honey-suckle Rose* and *Take Five*, Mr. Hudac played an original

blues composition: "What's Tomorrow Morning?"

Mr. Hudac is just one of the many artists that find inspiration and expression in the Strathcona neighbourhood.

The third guest artists, Dalannah Bowen and Friends, brought the rousing and inspirational sounds of gospel music to the Ukrainian Cultural Centre. Dalannah Gail Bowen has been making music on the Vancouver scene for the past forty years. A jazz/blues/gospel vocalist, Dalannah has performed in a variety of settings and is releasing a new CD late in November, 2007. Two of the Friends of the group include mother and daughter team Phyllis and Nadine States, both of whom are well known on the Vancouver club scene, working in various groups and presenting the best of R&B music.

Grammy nominated producer, composer, and piano player Michael Creber, the third Friend, is in high demand in the Vancouver musical community. He is considered a musician's musician and moves between live performances and writing scores for

film and television.

Needless to say, these collaborative sets were greeted enthusiastically by the appreciative Festival crowd.

The entertainment portion of the afternoon ended with all vocal groups, accompanied by Michael Creber, delivering a rousing rendition of the old gospel standard "Down By The Riverside" that almost blew the roof off the newly renovated Ukrainian Cultural Centre!

After sating their appetite for music, the overflow crowd made their way to the lower hall to sate their appetites on the wonderful dinner prepared by Chef Sylvia Surette, billed as a Traditional Ukrainian Supper.

The buffet tabled groaned with *borshch*, rye bread, *pyrohy*, *holubtsi*, meatballs and gravy, coleslaw and a gourmet salad of mescaline greens with toasted pecans and oranges, a speciality of Chef Sylvia, albeit not necessarily a traditional Ukrainian staple! A delectable apple crisp made with fresh B.C. apples crowned the meal. The entire kitchen crew received many cheers and thanks for preparing yet another memorable meal at our Hall.

As part of the Heart of the

City Festival closing events, supper was followed by an Urban Barn Dance, with Three Potato Band. This event is so popular and so much fun each year that it has become a festival tradition.

Friends, neighbours and families, young and old, returned to the main hall for this toe tappin' dance with DTES resident Russell Shumsky and his Three Potato Band cohorts and dance caller Marlin Prowl. Think of line dancing without cowboy hats and square dancing without petticoats. A great time was had by all!

Vancouver AUUC president Dianna Kleparchuk accepted thanks and ovations from Heart of the City producers on behalf of the Vancouver Cultural Committee, AUUC Vancouver Branch Executive and the Vancouver Cultural Directors and Instructors. Dianna expressed the desire of the AUUC Vancouver Branch to participate in the 5th annual Heart of the City Festival in 2008, the year that coincides with the 80th Anniversary of the venerable AUUC Ukrainian Cultural Centre at 805 East Pender Street in Strathcona, in the heart of the Downtown Eastside. Come and visit us and help us celebrate!

— Audrey Skalbania

The Hallowe'en Dance

(Continued from page 8.) actors, princes and princesses hopping and weaving their way around the vast cavern called the Ukrainian Labour Temple. Where the line began and where the line ended no one knew for sure.

This was followed by many other classics of demonic ritual, including the Hokey Pokey, the Chicken Dance, the Butterfly and the YMCA. A couple of diabolical games were played as well.

For those who needed to keep up the blood sugar levels, tucked away in a dark corner, guarded by the parents, was the "Coffin of Candy".

Throughout the evening, hopeful participants dropped numbered tickets into deep, dark, brown bags, hoping to win prizes fit for the tenor of the evening, wonderful prizes including two MP3 players, a pink one for the girls and a silver one for the boys. The dark and scary evening ended with a silent auction, producing a lot of happy winners.



The haggard parents picked up their sugar-charged smiling wards, and headed home. Another successful event had come to an end.

Some of the guests were asked what their favourite thing about the Hallowe'en party was and here are their responses:

"The dancing and the food. The food was excellent. There was lots of prizes."

Michelle (10)

"I liked my costume — I was a Hula Girl! I liked the music and all the candy."

Clayton (12)

"Lots of fun. I liked all the dancing and candy and food."

Janelle (7)

"Seeing everyone's different costumes...even if some were a little out there...and dancing of course, the polka!"

Robyn (13)

One of my favourite things about the party was the food. Another thing is the dances. Another thing is the costumes. I had so much fun."

Jonathan (9)

"The Hallowe'en party on

October 27 was a lot of fun. The music and food was really good and the things that we could have won in the silent auction. It was also really great because a lot of my friends were there and I know they had fun too. Thanks for the fun time.

Johanna (14)

"The music and the candy."

Kelly (6)

"My favourite thing about the Hallowe'en party was the dancing and the music."

Jennifer (13)

"The dances were my favourite thing about the Hallowe'en party. And the music."

Jade (8)

"I enjoyed teaching the dances and watching all the kids have such a great time. I danced my hooves off!"

The Flying Pig (??)

Everyone had a great time! Many thanks to the Dance School parents and all volunteers for their hard work.

See you all next year!
— **Kathy Schubert with a file from Kim Boss**



MARIADUNN

The Troublemakers

On Saturday, October 13, I had the pleasure of witnessing another concert performance by the Notre Dame des Bananes, Edmonton's famous labour choir directed by Blyth Nuttall. The concert was co-sponsored by Edmonton's AUUC Branch 07, and performed at our Ukrainian Centre.

The choir usually performs with some sort of theme and this time was no different. At first glance, Notre Dame des Bananes Concert "The Troublemakers" was a little disconcerting to me. I wondered with anxiety what awaited me.

As it turned out, the theme was very appropriate because, in this case, the troublemakers were those workers and immigrants who searched for a better world in which to live but found that capitalist

Canada had similarities to those countries whence they came — in this case, Ukraine. They were troublemakers to the authorities.

The first half of the concert included many traditional, well known, labour songs: some songs of labour adversity and tragedy in the Canadian mining industry and Spanish labour songs in the Spanish language which demonstrated the diversity of the choir.

The second half featured Maria Dunn, a well-known Edmonton labour singer, musician and song writer, who chose the story telling method in relating Canadian labour history. She was accompanied by Shannon and Jeremiah McDade, recent Juno award winners in Regina. In some of her songs, she was supported by the choir.

Maria Dunn's songs are based on actual and factual Canadian labour events such as the famous "On to Ottawa" trek led by Slim Evans. This peaceful trek for food and jobs was stopped in Regina, Saskatchewan, with violent action instigated by the police. Many trekkers were arrested, some were injured, and a few were shot and killed by the police — simply for being out of work and hungry.

A song she sang was titled, "We Were Good People", based on the statement by Bill

(Continued on Page 12.)



Welland AUUC Orchestra at Heidehof

After several postponements, the Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra of the AUUC made it to Heidehof Long Term Home in St. Catharines on November 6.

A highlight of the concert was the appearance of alto Connie Prince, a lovely lady with a beautiful voice, in her debut with the orchestra. For her first number, Connie sang "Autumn Gold" (*Osinye zoloto* — words by Dmytro Lutsenko, music by Ihor Shamo). She followed up later in the program with "Red Rue" (*Chervona ruta* —

words and music by Volodymyr Ivasiuk), and as usual, Connie captured the audience with this megahit for Ukrainian superstar Sofia Rotaru, which was chosen the best song in the whole USSR in 1971.

For this appearance at Heidehof, which serves mainly the German community, the orchestra repeated "*Oktoberfest*" and "*In Rudesheim*", two medleys of German songs, arranged for orchestra.

For this appearance, too, new numbers with at least some German connection

were added to the repertoire. These included Elvis Presley's "Wooden Heart", based on the German folk song "*Muess Ich Denn*", and Vera Lynn's 1952 hit "*Auf Wiedersehen*", which ended the program. The vocal solo in both was performed by baritone Wilfred Szczesny, who was also the Master of Ceremonies for the concert and played in the mandocello section of the orchestra when he was not otherwise engaged.

Yiddish being close to German, the Andrews Sisters hit "*Bei Mir Bist Du Schoen*" was also added to the repertoire, though Wilfred sang it with a German accent.

The Jewish theme was also

carried by an instrumental arrangement of "Sunrise, Sunset" from the Broadway musical *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Rounding out the *Oktoberfest* motif were "Beer Barrel Polka" and "Oom Pah Pah Polka", with Rudy and Wilfred combining on the vocals.

The orchestra has been adding numbers from the repertoire of the Ukrainian group Volyn to its own play list, and on this occasion performed the two-song medley "Sad Evening, Sad Morning", arranged for orchestra, and the vocal (Rudy and Wilfred, again) "Gypsies on a Hill".

The fifth Ukrainian item on the program was the medley "Ukrainian Melodies", which draws on material from the Shevchenko Musical Ensemble with dances from the AUUC National Millennium Festival staged in Edmonton in the year 2000.

Rounding out the program were the instrumental medley "Melodies from Russia", the vocal "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (sung by Ken Speck), "Sing-Along Medley #1" (with the singing led by Bud Speck, Wayne Hosick and Frank Panetta), and Bobby Vinton's hit "Just Because" (sung by Rudy, Wilfred, the orchestra and some members of the audience).

In final remarks, the MC thanked guest musician Mary

Kuzyk for joining us once again, soloist Connie Prince, Concert Master John Kukoly, accordionist Joy Edwards and bassist Wally Hunka (the bedrocks on which the orchestra stands secure), and of course, the audience (without whom the concert would be merely another rehearsal.

Heidehof is a challenging venue. Its small stage makes crowded playing conditions for an orchestra our size, and its large hall (compared to the size of the audience) poses acoustical issues. It did not help that the anticipated two microphones turned out to be one, and that without an on/off switch.

Problems, however, do not decide the quality of a concert. The key thing is the pleasure of the participants.

Did the audience enjoy this presentation? If toe tapping, hand clapping, head nodding, and singing along are any indication, they sure did.

Did the orchestra enjoy this appearance? We always do.

— Volodymyr Lucky

The Troublemakers

(Continued from Page 11.) Dolinsky, a ULFTA/AUUC activist. This song told of the 1932 "Hunger March" in Edmonton, in which many of our members and supporters participated because they lacked the essentials for life.

This solemn song brought tears to my eyes because my father, Peter Greene, also participated in this march just four years after arriving in Canada, where he hoped for a better, more humane, lot in life.

He had believed that Canada would be a better place to live, and this action completely devastated him. He was attacked, beaten up, and jailed for being hungry. He was mistreated for three months while in the Fort Saskatchewan Jail, where he survived on bread, water and turnips.

This brutal, unjustified treatment by the authorities completely solidified his political beliefs, which he passed onto us. He became an avid reader of our progressive Ukrainian press, as well as a strong supporter of social justice, peace and workers' rights. He believed that only socialism would create a better life for the people of the world.

Thank you, Mary Dunn, for conveying beautifully in music and words, the story of the unknown little guy, whose only power lay in demonstrating against the authorities, and whose only claim to glory was to have been conscripted into the Austrian army twice, unknowingly helping to enrich the Austrian wealthy class while causing harm to himself.

He reiterated to us, "Capitalism is brutal, wherever you live."

— Paul Greene

— File photo



CONNIEPRINCE

Ukrainian Canadian Herald Season's Greetings

Remember your family and friends with a message! We invite you to express seasonal greetings through an ad in the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* in the January, 2008, issue. One line (name and city) on two columns is only \$10.00. A five-line ad as shown is only \$35.00. See the diagram on this page for sizes. Larger ads are \$5.00/col./cm.

Deadline: December 10, 2006, for January, 2008.

Send your request to:

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Greeting in: English _____ Ukrainian _____

Request sent by:

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Name: _____
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MESSAGE:

Date: _____ Signature: _____
Cheque enclosed _____
Invoice required _____ Office receipt # _____

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(up to 10 words) \$20.00

Name and city

(up to 15 words) \$25.00

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Name and city

(up to 20 words)..... \$30.00

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Edmonton Seniors' Fall Programs

The activity of Edmonton AUUC Seniors' Club has in the past year evolved into monthly gatherings that are both enjoyable and educational, much of this due to the dynamic leadership of Shirley Uhryn, a very able program

co-ordinator.

The lunches served, prepared by different groups of seniors quarterly, are tasty and often unusual — sauerkraut, sausages and white beans, for example, or soup and buns rather than ordinary

sandwiches and coffee. Each meeting begins with a half-hour of exercises suitable for seniors; excursions are organized to interesting local sites; and programs often include musical entertainment or speakers on topics pertinent to Seniors' membership.

The Seniors meet on the third Tuesday afternoon of each month (September through June) to celebrate the birthdays of the month and enjoy the camaraderie of those present.

At the meeting on September 7, the executive for the new season was elected: President — William S. Uhryn; Vice-President — Pauline Warick; Recording Secretary — Lucy Antoniwi; Treasurer — Maurice Warick; Program Committee — Shirley Uhryn (Chair), Mary Tropak and Pauline Warick. (The other positions — vice-recording secretary and auditors — are yet to be filled.)

At this same September meeting, the program featured Peter Zariwny, a life-long member of the AUUC and well known in Alberta for his many years of tireless service and devotion to Camp Kaminyar at Sylvan Lake.

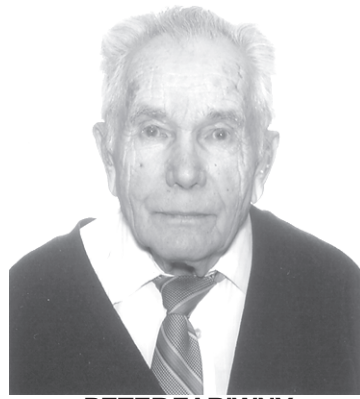
Peter wanted to share a project he had completed and of which he was justly proud. He brought with him for display, a two-meter-wide chart showing his family tree, going back four generations in Canada. He had spent two years gathering this data and charting his family roots and branches starting with his grandparents, the Holowatys.

Peter Zariwny's observation, certainly understood by most of us, was that in "The first generation in Canada, all the new immigrants spoke Ukrainian; the second generation, everyone still spoke and read Ukrainian, but also knew some English; third generation spoke mostly English and only about 20% spoke or understood Ukrainian; by the present generation of descendants of these Holowaty pioneers of this family tree, no one speaks Ukrainian any more."

Consequently, Mr. Zariwny feels that "The future of Ukrainian culture here is in peril and a serious study even into the future of our organization is urgently needed."

At the October meeting, we were pleased to have two very interesting and knowledgeable speakers on the diverse topics of identity theft and loss of vision through aging in seniors.

Carol Schmidt spoke on identity theft. This is a crime that has become very prevalent in our society, and one that has apparently very little protection for victims. Only



PETERZARIWNY

the physical theft of documents is covered by law, but nothing else. Identity theft is not yet taken seriously by our law makers, even though one of every six Canadians is affected.

Identity theft and fraud can be low tech, such as stealing wallets or purses for bank card and credit card information, or very high tech serious identity theft through computers and electronics. Perpetrators range from petty criminals to organized crime networks. Drug culture is sometime involved.

Some techniques include "dumpster diving", "shoulder surfing" at bank machines, and mail theft. These techniques give criminals enough info to do anything in your name. Bank accounts can be cleaned out or credit cards used up to your credit limit.

Your information is everywhere. Government documents, bank statements, and medical records are among the rich sources for identity thieves.

Don't give out personal information, Carol Schmidt advised, especially bank and credit card information or your social insurance numbers.

If you do become a victim of identity theft, fraud, or some scam, get professional help to sort it out. Licensed investigators will work with you to help correct identity theft issues.

The topic of vision loss in seniors was presented by Leona Burkey of CNIB. The Canadian National Institute for the Blind is a national charity to help people live productive

lives when loss of vision to any extent becomes a problem.

Leona pointed out that at about 40 years of age people begin to notice changes in our eyesight, possibly requiring glasses or changes such as bifocals. As we get to be over 70, cataracts become a normal part of aging eyes, and surgery will likely be required. Glaucoma may develop, which may be controlled to some extent by medication. As we age even further, macular degeneration will occur in a large percentage of seniors. This affects the very centre of the retina, but side vision remains.

It is very important to have regular eye exams. Nutrition can be of some benefit in preserving eyesight and keeping eyes moist. Green leafy vegetables, deep-coloured vegetables, fruits and berries, and fatty acids such as those found in fish and olive oil may be helpful.

CNIB can provide seniors with much information about their eyesight, as well as offer such aids as canes, cassettes, talking books and clocks that can tell you the time!

Both Leona and Carol were excellent presenters, sharing valuable information with anecdotes and humour, as well as answering questions and discussing concerns. They had a very appreciative audience in the Edmonton AUUC Seniors.

Scheduled for the November gathering of our Seniors is entertainment by our own musicians: Edna Chmiliar, Paul Greene, Mike and Bill Uhryn, and Maurice Warick on his happy button accordion.

To each and all of you, the Edmonton Seniors extend their best wishes for the season and a hope for good health to thoroughly enjoy the gifts of each day of the coming year. *Веселих Свят і Щасливого Нового Року!* Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

— An Edmonton Senior

Who, What, When, Where

Calgary — The **Winter Concert**, sponsored by the Calgary Hopak Ensemble of the AUUC, will be held on Monday, **December 17, 2007, at 7:30 p.m.**, in the **University Theatre** of the University of Calgary, 230 University Court NW. **Admission** is \$12.00 in advance, and \$15.00 at the door. Children 12 and under pay \$5.00. **For tickets**, phone 403-246-1231, or June at 403-288-8470.

Calgary — **New Year's Eve Gala** will be held at the **Ukrainian Cultural Centre**, 3316 - 28 Avenue SW, Calgary, on Monday, **December 31, 2007. Cocktails: 7:00 p.m.; Dinner: 8:00 p.m.**, followed by dancing. **Admission** is \$50.00/person. **For tickets**, phone 403-246-1231, or Walter at 403-861-8090. *Proceeds toward the AUUC Camp Kum-in-Yar at Sylvan Lake, for children's playground equipment.*

Calgary — **Malanka** will be held on Saturday, **January 19, 2008**, at the **Ukrainian Cultural Centre**, 3316 - 28 Avenue SW, Calgary. **Cocktails** at 6:00 p.m., **Ukrainian traditional food** at 7:00 p.m., a **concert program** at 8:15 p.m., and **dancing** to a live band from 9:00 p.m. **For tickets**, phone the Ukrainian Cultural Centre at 403-246-1231, or Kay at 403-289-4792. **Admission** is \$40.00/person; AUUC members — \$30.00/person.

Edmonton — The **Trembita Dance School's Christmas Concert** will be staged at the Ukrainian Centre, **11018-97 Street**, from **2:00 p.m.** on Sunday, **December 16**. For more information, leave a message at **(780) 424-2037**.

Edmonton — **AUUC Annual Malanka** will be held at the **Ukrainian Centre, 11018-97 Street**, on Saturday, **January 12. Cocktails** at 5:30 p.m., **dinner** at 6:00 p.m., with a **floor show and dancing** to live music to follow. **Admission: \$30.00/person. Call (780) 424-2037.**

Regina — The **Poltava Ensemble** of Song, Music and Dance will host **Malanka Ukrainian New Year's Celebration** at the Regina Performing Arts Centre, **1077 Angus Street**, on Saturday, **January 19. Cocktails and appetizers at 5:00 p.m., supper with a Poltava Ensemble performance at 6:30 p.m., dance to The Ficor Show at 9:00 p.m. Admission — \$35.00; dance only — \$15.00.** 18 years and under must be accompanied by an adult. **For tickets call** the Regina Performing Arts Box Office at **(306) 779-2277**.

Vancouver — The **Vancouver AUUC School of Dancing** will hold its **Christmas Recital and Tea** at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, **805 East Pender Street**, at **2:00 p.m.** on Sunday, **December 9**.

Vancouver — **Vancouver AUUC Branch** presents an "Old Fashioned Malanka" Ukrainian New Year's Celebration at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, **805 East Pender Street**, on Saturday, **January 19**, with **cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m.**, followed by **dancing to a live band from 9:00 p.m.** Admission is **\$37.00/person**, with limited seating available. for information and/or tickets, call **Dianna at (604) 879-2089**.

Winnipeg — The **Winnipeg AUUC Festival Choir** presents **Songs of My People**, its first choral concert, featuring Ukrainian, Canadian, Scottish, Aboriginal, and French Canadian folk, classical and contemporary songs performed by the choir and soloists, plus an appearance by a **surprise instrumental group**, on Sunday, **December 2, 2007, at 2:00 p.m.**, at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, corner of **Pritchard & McGregor Streets**.

Readers of the Ukrainian Canadian Herald are invited to submit items of interest to the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community for free listing in this column. The deadline for material is the 10th of the month preceding the month of publication.

Remembrance Day in Toronto AUUC

At 1:30 p.m. on November 11, at the AUUC Cultural Centre in Toronto, George Borusiewicz opened the afternoon with comments about Remembrance Day.

Then the Hahilka Choir sang a number of songs, the first (*Моє Полісся голубе*) and second (*А льон цвіте синьо-синьо*) dedicated to Byelorussian partisans. The choir continued with the song "Ой вербиченько", a duet by Terry Rivest and Mary Kallis with choir, the comical song "Ой підємо жінко" by Mary Gargal and Wilfred

Szczesny, Helen Baker and Mary Kallis singing "Два голуби пили води" with choir, and "Ой чий то кінь стоїть?" and "Барвінок щастя".

A sing-song with the audience of a few of the most popular songs from World War II, including "White Cliffs of Dover" and a number of other pieces generated enthusiastic participation.

The main speaker, John Eleen, recounted his family's wartime experiences.

The video **The Great Bat-** (Continued on Page 14.)

Mary Stanchuk

Mary Stanchuk (nee Pavliuk), aged 94 years, passed away peacefully on Saturday, October 20, 2007, at her Grandview Lodge residence in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Mary was born December 15, 1912, in Bukovina, Ukraine, and came to Canada with her parents in 1924, settling in Westfort.

In 1931 she married John Stanchuk. John ran a shoe repair business and Mary began a sewing career. She designed many garments including wedding gowns, and bridesmaid dresses. She was well known for her beautiful beadwork and excellent workmanship.

Mary's artistic talent was also displayed in her culinary creations, which she shared with family and friends.

In her active years, Mary was a hardworking participant in the activities of the Ukrainian Labour Temple. As a member of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, she sang in the woman's choir and in the mixed choir. Mary had a powerful alto voice and performed frequently as a soloist. She participated in the group's concert tours to small northwestern Ontario communities and to Winnipeg.

Mary also performed in the Labour Temple's drama productions and operettas.

She worked as a cook in the kitchen for banquets and weddings. She represented the organization at provincial and



national conventions.

To support the war effort, Mary used her sewing and knitting skills to produce care packages for the troops. Mary was also a long time member of the Workers Benevolent Association.

Mary enjoyed gardening, fishing, picking wild mushrooms, and making perogies and cabbage rolls and sharing this bounty with friends and family.

She loved being with her

grandchildren and had many play days and sleep overs with them. She instilled in them Ukrainian traditions and customs.

A celebration of Mary's life was held on October 25 at Grandview Lodge. Margaret Dychko, a close friend of the family, was master of ceremonies and she recounted the important events of Mary's life. Mary's granddaughter, Lisa Stanchuk, with the support of her sisters, Laurie Biggar and Wendy Hancharik, described the incredible impact grandma had on their lives. Mary's son, Bill, expressed thanks to the many in attendance, his family, and the staff at Grandview lodge.

Mary was predeceased by her husband, John, in 1996. She is survived by her sisters, Jean Newcombe of Chapleau and Dania Pavliuk of Toronto, her son Bill and daughter-in-law Joan, and grandchildren, Laurie, Wendy, and Lisa and their families.

— Diane Garrett

З Новим Роком!

Хай біда і горе обмина
Ваш дім,
Доброго здоров'я
Зичим Вам усім!
В Новим Році, друзі,
Будем Вам співати
І як ноги схочуть —
Бчдем танцювати!

Хор "Гагілка" (ТОУК)
і Наталка Мохорук, дерегент

Sustaining Fund Donations

Anne & Joe Bobrovitz & Family, Brantford ON <i>In memory of dear brother & uncle</i> <i>Bill Galange</i>	\$100.00
Lucy Nykolyshyn, St. Andrews MB	100.00
Len Sedun, Toronto ON	100.00
Michael & Catherine Ukas, Toronto ON	97.00
Mary Skrypnyk, Toronto ON	75.00
Kirilo Fesiak, Ajax ON	40.00
AUUC Branch 327, Thunder Bay ON	
<i>In memory of Mary Stanchuk</i>	25.00
Anastasia Slobodian, Stoney Creek ON	20.00
Mary & Don Klewchuk, Calgary AB	20.00

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THESE CONTRIBUTIONS AND THANK THE DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY. IF YOUR DONATION HAS NOT APPEARED ON THE PAGES OF THE "UCH", WATCH FOR IT IN FUTURE ISSUES.

CROPO Funeral Chapel

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Sir Thomas B. Cropo, K.C.S.G.
Founder
1925-1998

Remembrance Day

(Continued from Page 13.)
tle of the Volga was screened, showing the horrors of the Eastern front, the heroism of the soldiers of the Red Army, and the hardships suffered by civilians in that episode of the war. Everyone was quite shocked by the footage of the film because not much has ever been shown of that aspect of the war previously.

A raffle of six items donated by N. Mochoruk and a seventh donated by Mary Hulaszko raised \$80.00.

Then all had coffee and the sweets that also were donated by our choir members, along with sweets which were bought by the Branch.

Thanks to Nancy and Mark Stewart for preparing our hall for this sombre, but warm, commemoration.

There was no admission charged, but donations to the Branch came in from our generous audience.

We did not glorify war, but remembered all those men and women who gave their lives so we might live in peace.

Let us hope that peace will prevail!

— Natalka Mochoruk



JOIN US!

Join us for AUUC activities! Each Branch has a unique schedule of events and activities. To discover what we have to offer, contact the AUUC in your area:

AUUC NATIONAL OFFICE

National Executive Committee AUUC
595 Pritchard Avenue
Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4
Phone: 800-856-8242 Fax: (204) 589-3404
E-mail: auuckobzar@mts.net

VANCOUVER BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
805 East Pender Street
Vancouver BC V6A 1V9
Phone: (604) 254-3436; Fax: (604) 254-3436
E-mail: auucvancouver@telus.net

CALGARY BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
3316-28 Avenue SW
Calgary AB T3E 0R8
Phone: (403) 246-1231

EDMONTON BRANCH

Ukrainian Centre
11018-97 Street
Edmonton AB T5H 2M9
Phone: (780) 424-2037; Fax: (780) 424-2013
E-mail: auucedm@telus.net

INNISFREE BRANCH

c/o Mike Feschuk
Box 216
Innisfree AB T0B 2G0
(780) 592-2127

VEGREVILLE BRANCH

c/o Lil Humeniuk
Box 481
Vegreville AB T9C 1R6
Phone: (780) 632-3021

REGINA BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
1809 Toronto Street
Regina SK S4P 1M7
Phone: (306) 522-1188

WINNIPEG BRANCH

Ukrainian Labour Temple
591 Pritchard Avenue
Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4
Phone: (204) 582-9269; Fax 589-3404

OTTAWA BRANCH

c/o Robert Seychuk
24 Attwood Crescent
Ottawa ON K2E 5A9
Phone: (613) 228-0990

SUDBURY BRANCH

Jubilee Centre
195 Applegrove Street
Sudbury ON P3C 1N4
Phone: (705) 674-5534

TORONTO BRANCH

AUUC Cultural Centre
1604 Bloor Street West
Toronto ON M6P 1A7
Phone: (416) 588-1639; Fax 588-9180
wilfredsz@gmail.com

WELLAND BRANCH

Ukrainian Labour Temple
342 Ontario Road
Welland ON L3B 5C5
Phone: (905) 732-5656

**Submitted
separately
as a .pdf**

We greet our AUUC family members,
friends and supporters
throughout Canada and Ukraine.

Peace, Health and Happiness
To all in the New Year!
Vancouver AUUC Branch



The Edmonton AUUC Senior Citizens Club wishes a happy birthday to the celebrants of December:

- Carol Bagan
- Irene Kingsmith
- Barbara Melnyk
- Steve Sakal
- Mary Skolski
- Nina Uhryn

May you have good health, happiness and a daily sense of accomplishment as you go through life.

The Toronto Senior Citizens Club extends best birthday wishes to December celebrants:

- Mary Dmytryshyn
- Kay Keniak
- Lydia Kit
- Mary Skrypnyk
- Mary Yaworski

May good health and happiness be yours in the coming year!

The Welland Shevchenko Seniors extend a happy birthday wish to December celebrants:

- Ann Blair
- Bill Rawski

May the coming year bring you all the best in health and happiness!

The real difference between fat and thin people is that thin people:

- avoid eating popcorn in the movies because it gets their hands greasy;
- read books they have to hold with both hands;
- fill the candy dish with paper clips;

PEACE AND
HAPPINESS
IN 2008!

Semanowich Family

Victor & Mary
Eugene & Sharon
Kathy & Wilf & Family
Susan & Rick
Michele & Family

May the New Year
bring
Peace, Happiness and Joy
to all our friends.

Olga and Myron Shatulsky

May the message of PEACE
touch all our Friends
this HOLIDAY SEASON.

Lucy, Vadim, Lisa, Anatole, Jaime, Sean
Nykolyshyn, Rudiger and Lydia Hedrich &
their families

IVAN FRANKO MANOR
200 McGregor Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Extends Best Wishes
To All Its Tenants
and
AUUC Members

A HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR



Best wishes for the holiday season
and the coming year. May all
your aspirations be fulfilled, all
your hopes be met, and all your
dreams come true.

Wilfred and Jennifer Szczesny
Mississauga, Ontario

**To All AUUC
Members and Friends**



Best Wishes for Health,
Happiness and Prosperity
in a World of Peace!

Winnipeg AUUC Branch

IVAN FRANKO MUSEUM
200 McGregor Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba

The Board of Directors
extends wishes for the
Best of Health
to all AUUC members
in the New Year
A HAPPY 2008 TO ALL



**BEST WISHES
FOR 2008!**

from Olga Pawlychyn
Winnipeg, MB



Happy New Year!



To the members of the AUUC, and
their cultural forces, supporters, and friends
across Canada, United States and Ukraine.

We wish all
good fortune, health and happiness
in the New Year!

AUUC Regina Branch
Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and Dance



To our friends across Canada
and in Ukraine,
May the New Year bring
Good Health, Happiness,
Peace and Prosperity.
Larry and Dianna Kleparchuk
Vancouver, BC

