

# HERALD ВІСНИК

ЖОВТЕНЬ, 2007р. HOMEР 195 PIK XVI

OCTOBER 2007 NO. 195 VOL. XVI Price \$2.25

## Greetings and Best Wishes To Participants in the 43rd AUUC National Convention!

The *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* extends best wishes to the 43rd AUUC National Convention, and all its participants, for productive work in resolving the challenges facing the AUUC and setting a direction into the future for the organization as it prepares to celebrate its 90th anniversary.

The period since the 42nd AUUC National Convention, held in 2004, has been an eventful time with substantial achievements, such as the National Ukrainian Centennial Celebration. This tremendous event, staged in Regina to mark the provincial centenaries of Alberta and Saskatchewan, included such historic elements as the simultaneous attendance of the Lieutenant-Governors of the two provinces. The benefits generated by that event continue to reverberate through the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians.

In these last three years, there have also been times of sorrow, including the death in office of AUUC National President Zenovy Nykolyshyn. Mr. Nykolyshyn had been a leader with a vision and an energetic determination in its pursuit. His sudden, unexpected departure created significant demands on the coping abilities of the AUUC national leadership.

Among the significant developments which the AUUC faced in these recent years was the termination of the Workers Benevolent Association as a financial institution. The AUUC gave birth to the WBA, and assumed a number of additional responsibilities when the WBA passed from the scene.

Much else has been part of the AUUC tapestry since the last convention, and as the organization moves past the 43rd AUUC National Convention life will present new opportunities to the AUUC. Immediately on the horizon, for example, is the celebration of the 90th anniversary of the AUUC itself.

This convention will help determine the preparedness of the AUUC to seize those opportunities and to overcome the challenges inherent in every change. In this sense, this convention, like all those which preceded it, is indeed uniquely significant. We are confident that convention participants will find the strength to do what needs to be done to navigate the future successfully, and the wisdom to act in the best long-term interests of the AUUC. Our best wishes go to each and every one of you!

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PUBLICATIONS MAIL 40009476  
POSTMASTER: IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO  
KOBZAR PUBLISHING CO. LTD 602, 9903-104 STREET  
EDMONTON AB T5K 0E4

### Election Speculation

With Prime Minister Harper scheduled to make a Throne Speech on October 16, speculation is already widespread about the prospects for a federal election later this year. There are those who believe that Prime Minister Harper will make a Throne

Speech, and then introduce legislation, which none of the other parliamentary parties will be able to support. Others believe that the opposition parties will bring down the government whatever might be in the Throne Speech or legislation because continuing to support the government may now be costing the Bloc Quebecois, say, too much in popular support.

At this time, then, it seems the pundits are more or less agreed that there will be a federal election within a few months.

That opinion may be correct, but then again, it may not.

The Liberals will not be in a great hurry to bring down the government because they have not settled their accounts from the last leadership convention. Until they are ready to unite behind Stepan Dion or (not inconceivably) some other leader, they will not be

in a position to challenge for power. They are not likely to precipitate an election until they sense the possibility of winning at least a minority government.

Similarly, it is hard to see, at this time, what the New Democratic Party might gain if an election were held soon. It is more probable that, given a choice, the NDP would prefer to wait.

Will the Conservative government make that impossible? Conceivably. Still, there is little reason to believe that the Conservatives could significantly improve their parliamentary position in an election this year.

That could change, but until, and unless, it does I would expect more of the same game that has been played so far. Probably that the Conservative government will try to hang on until their position in the polls starts to improve, and then go as soon as the change is clearly more than a blip.

— Wilfred Szczesny

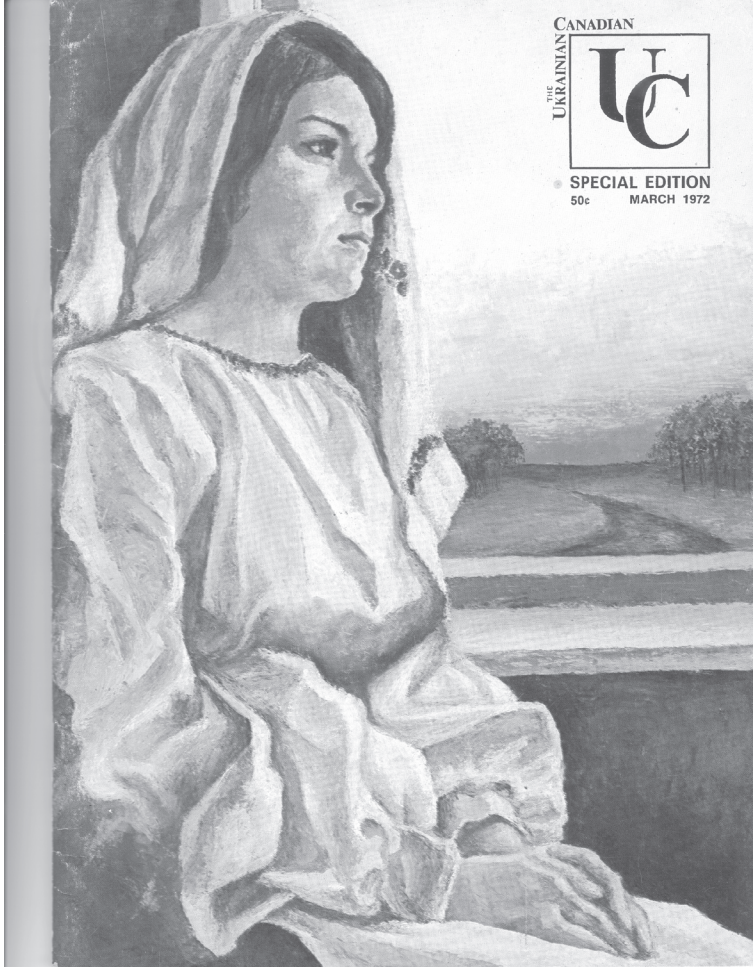
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**Submitted  
as a  
separate  
PDF file**

# Looking Back on 50 Years

**The Ukrainian Canadian published this article in its March, 1972, issue, when the AUUC celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Women's Branches. The last AUUC Women's Branch passed into history many years ago, but the important role these Branches played in the lives of our women, and their invaluable contribution to the life and activities of the AUUC, should never be forgotten. We reprint these materials in tribute to the women delegates to the 43rd AUUC National National convention, in recognition of their place in the historical line of AUUC women, and in appreciation of their continuing contribution.**



**This, in full colour was the cover of the March, 1972, issue of *The Ukrainian Canadian*. The cover blurb, on page 3, read, "Our March cover is in tribute to the women of the AUUC on the golden jubilee (1922-1972) of their organization. Canadian artist Jeanette Loeden of Saskatoon was commissioned to create a symbolic figure on canvas which would represent the young woman of the pioneer period and her daughter or granddaughter of today."**

Last year the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, together with the progressive community in Canada, marked the 80th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration and settlement on Canadian soil.

To commemorate this historic occasion in the life of the Ukrainian Canadian community — its contribution to the economic, cultural and political life of the country — the AUUC, as part of its celebrations, created a monument to the outstanding Ukrainian writer and public figure, Wasyl Stefanyk.

The monument — in the form of a bust of Stefanyk, the work of the Lviv sculptor, V. Skolozdra, and the gift of the Ukraina Society of Kiev, Ukraine, was unveiled in Edmonton, Alberta where, comparatively, the largest number of Wasyl Stefanyk's fellow-countrymen settled, among them Ivan Didukh and his family, the leading characters of his novel *The Stone Cross*.

The occasion was a memorable one for all generations of Ukrainian Canadians. The Stefanyk monument was revealed to the festive gathering as a symbol of the undy-

ing ties of friendship between Canadian Ukrainians and their kin in the native land, Ukraine, and their unity in the struggle for a better life, for peace, progress and friendship.

This year, the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians greets yet another jubilee, one of the greatest in a sense, in the 80-year history of Ukrainian life in Canada, the 50th anniversary, since its inception in 1922, of the Women's Section, ULFTA (The Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association), today the Women's Branches of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians. It was this important step, 50 years ago, of organizing the working and farm women of the Ukrainian Canadian community into their own branches as an integral part of the general Ukrainian worker's organization that began a new page in the life of Ukrainian women in Canada. Step by step the many-sided activities of the Women's Section revealed the potentially mighty role played by women in the struggle for a better life, democratic rights, for progress, friendship and peace.

The organizing of women

who had so recently arrived from the "old country" and who had belonged to the social strata of the most neglected and oppressed section of the population in their native land, was not an easy task. At that time it was almost generally accepted that education for women, their right to schooling, equality with men, and even more so — their right to belong to an organization — was not obligatory. The question of their own organization was still a far-off goal for women workers. Life itself, however, dictated the move and forced the changes.

Mathew Popovich, the outstanding public worker and leader in the Ukrainian and general progressive movement of Canada at the time, commenting on the move, indicated that the main thrust to the change in attitude and feeling on the question was evoked by the October Revolution in Russia. "The October Revolution," he wrote, "also aroused our women in Canada..."

The nucleus for the formation of a women's organization within the ULFTA, however, was established around women's committees which were formed in 1921 around the Ukrainian Labour Temple Association (now the AUUC) for the campaign to provide aid for the starving in areas of Southern Ukraine and along the Volga which had been hit by a destructive drought. These women's committees developed a broad humanitarian campaign, revealing considerable ingenuity in the practical effort of raising finances. It is from these committees that in the following year, 1922, the women's organization was born, branches of which exist and are active to the present day as an integral part of the other branches that comprise the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians.

It would be well to mention at this point that, having emerged as the result of work in the humanitarian field, the women members of AUUC throughout all the years of their existence, including the present day, have always been among the first to participate in humanitarian and



**The AUUC National Women's Committee in 1972: Left to right, standing: Mary Kaludger, Mary Skrypynyk, Helen Hale, Ann Andreyko (Chair) and Helen Hrynchshyn; seated, Olga Valdo, Mary Prokop (Secretary), Helen Kasian (Recording Secretary) and Sophie Hryban (Griban). The photo appeared in the "UC" in March, 1972.**

benevolent causes in support of progressive and people's liberation movements. As an example of what has been mentioned above, we can recall the many financial campaigns in aid of various philanthropic purposes — the help given the western areas of Ukraine after the heavy floods of the late '20s; aid to the political prisoners and their families in Western Ukraine, victims of fascism; aid to the Spanish orphans during the Spanish war of 1938; to children-orphans in Ukraine after World War II, the Cuban children, the children of Vietnam, and many others. This work became a characteristic feature of the activity of the women's branches of the AUUC.

It must be stated of course, that in order to play their proper role in the daily life and struggle in the Canadian community, it was first of all necessary to rid themselves, so to speak, of a whole number of superstitions and cultural-educational backwardness. Having established their own organization as an integral part of the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association 50 years ago, the women immediately set about the task of eliminating illiteracy and semi-literacy (pre-world war I Ukrainian settlers to Canada were, with small exception, semi-literate or completely illiterate, having come from a semi-feudal peasant environment). On the curriculum also was the study of the elementary principles of the working class movement and involvement in the current struggles of the general Canadian progressive movement as an organized force.

Their cultural-educational backwardness was eliminated through a broad program of cultural activities — the development of theatre and drama, choirs, Ukrainian schools, special educational courses, lectures, meetings, the establishment of their own magazine *Robitnitsya* (The Workingwoman) and, along with this, participation in the practical day-to-day work of the organization in the community. In a comparatively, short period of time the Women's Section produced its own organizers, speakers, organizational and community workers which were then, and continue to be, the pride of the progressive movement.

So our organization became, for our women, a school in the broadest sense of the word. It helped us to rid ourselves of the humiliating heritage of inequality from the past. Together, in organized fashion, we acquainted ourselves with the freedom-loving traditions and cultural heritage of the Ukrainian people, acquired ideological, national and social consciousness, (and) an understanding of the mutual interests of all who labour. We learned to live and to struggle for our dignity as human beings, for equality in the general struggle for human rights, for democracy, peace and progress. While on this path we cultivated our cultural heritage, our love for the people from which we came and respect for other people. In this spirit we brought up and continue to bring up our children.

As an integral part of the Ukrainian progressive movement which is, in turn, an in-

**(Continued on Page 13.)**



**Members of the first Women's Branch of the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association. The Branch was organized in March, 1922. The picture is taken from an image in the March, 1972, issue of *The Ukrainian Canadian*, which got it from *Holos robitnitsi* (Voice of the Workingwoman.)**

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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595 Pritchard Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 2K4  
Phone: (800) 856-8242; Fax: (204) 589-3404  
E-mail: auuckobzar@mts.netUkrainian Canadian Herald editorial offices are located  
at 1604 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6P 1A7  
Phone: 416-588-1639; Fax: 416-588-9180  
E-mail: kobzar1@on.aibn.comSubscription price: \$30.00 annually (including GST)  
\$40.00 Foreign subscriptions.  
Advertising rates available on request.

PUBLICATIONS MAIL REGISTRATION No. 40009476

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## About Truth and Knowledge

An Editorial by Wilfred Szczesny

On September 16, there was an interesting article in *The New York Times*, called "Do We Really Know What Makes Us Healthy?" For the most part, the article discussed lessons from the history of epidemiology, with particular reference to oestrogen therapy, which evolved into hormone-replacement therapy, then into a health hazard, and may now be returning in more restrictive packaging.

While the article dealt with the problems and dangers of drawing conclusions in the field of public health from statistical correlations (one analysis, for example, showed that oestrogen therapy effectively reduced heart disease deaths, but even more effectively reduced deaths by homicide, accident, or suicide), underlying the entire discussion was the nature of knowledge and truth.

How do we know that what we "know" is true? This is becoming an increasingly important question, because advances in knowledge across the scope of human consciousness and activity, which present an ever-more complex reality, are increasingly accompanied by both deliberate and natural impediments to evaluation of truth.

Is there objective truth? Is there absolute truth? Or is truth subjective? Is truth relative? Paradoxically, the answer to each of those four questions is "Yes." That is why knowledge is always incomplete, and why the quest for truth is unending.

That does not mean, however, that we must forever be at a loss or at sea. The key is to know the conditions and limits which apply to our knowledge. Determining in any circumstance what is certain, what is probable, and what is merely possible may be very easy or very difficult but it is necessary, particularly in such areas as public health or economic policy, which affect the lives of millions of people.

It is seldom possible to establish the degree of confidence attaching to many physical systems (if throwing this switch does not produce light, then there is a problem which can be found in the circuit), but if we can not trace all the steps of the mechanism which produces a particular health effect, then we do not have knowledge that is complete or certain.

Jumping onto a "common sense" bandwagon, especially concerning public policy on many issues, may be tempting, but a touch of scepticism can often deliver us from error.

## COMMENTARY

### Discussing the Ontario Referendum

Recently I became involved in a discussion with a friend which has been on my mind ever since. I have not been able to understand the position expressed by my friend, a position I find problematic.

The topic was the Ontario provincial election. My friend is one of the electors known as a strategic voter — she normally votes Liberal as the best way to defeat the Conservative candidate, though she might vote for another party if defeating the Conservatives did not rank as such a high priority.

My friend told me that she was considering not voting this time. The NDP candidate, she said, could not win, but she was finding it almost impossible to vote Liberal, given their record since the last election.

When I suggested that she at least go to the polls to vote in the referendum on the voting system, her response was that the proposal for change would probably fail, and in any event, she was not certain that she would support the proposal for change to a system of mixed member proportional representation.

For those who are not informed about the proposed change, here is a broad outline.

Ontario, like the rest of Canada, has been using a first-past-the-post electoral system.

In this system, parties select candidates in the electoral districts in a variety of ways, ranging from nomination at a meeting of the party (which may be a handful of party members, or a gathering of hundreds) to an appointment (sometimes in opposition to the wishes of the majority of party members in the electoral district) by the party leader.

The names of the candidates of the various parties, along with the occasional independent, appear on the ballot, and the one who gets the most votes in each of the 107 electoral districts is elected.

The mixed-member-proportional-representation system, the alternative offered to Ontario voters, would leave 90 electoral districts in which seats would continue to be filled by first-past-the-post method. An additional 39 seats (for a total of 129) would be filled from party lists on the basis of voters' expressed party preferences.

This is a mixed member system because it combines representatives elected on a first-past-the-post basis in electoral districts with representatives selected in propor-

tion to the party preferences expressed by voters. It is proportional, because the representation of parties in the legislative assembly would be roughly proportional to their popular support.

Each voter, under the new system, would be able to vote for a local candidate and, in a separate vote, for the elector's party of choice.

My friend is not a member of any political party and, therefore, has absolutely no input into the selection of local candidates. When she votes, she can not choose the candidate or party she actually prefers, because her overriding consideration is to defeat the Tories. She is so alienated from the electoral process at this election that she is considering not voting.

So, what is her objection to the proposed change? That it would deprive her of choice! It seems that the party lists, into which she would have no input, are her insurmountable concern.

I know many people who will, I suspect, vote against the change. While I disagree with their choices, I can understand them.

For example, one person I know believes that the best system of government would be a benevolent dictatorship, which would be cheap, if the dictator had modest tastes, and beneficial if the dictator controlled the oil companies, but not the banks. This person recognizes both the selfishness of his preference, and the improbability of such a government in Canada.

Would it be surprising if this person voted against any system proposing to pay more politicians? Not to me, it wouldn't. Nor would that vote be a puzzle.

I am not surprised that John Tory, leader of the Progressive Conservatives in Ontario is opposed to the proposed change, nor that Liberal leader Dalton McGuinty has set such high standards for the adoption of the change. They both head parties which in an election can win 30% of the votes, 60% of the seats and 100% of the power.

Green Party support for the change is not unexpected, because it would mean legislative seats for that party.

Many of the columnists for the *Toronto Star* and the *Globe and Mail* and the rest of the commercial press who have written against the proposed change have a lifelong commitment to the two biggest parties. They can be expected to support the system

which keeps those two parties entrenched.

These positions, and many others, are easy to understand and explain.

What is incomprehensible to me is that a voter whose choice in this election seems to boil down to not voting, or voting for something she can barely tolerate, would reject a change to a system which would give her more, not less, choice. Under the proposed system, she would be able to vote against the Progressive Conservative local candidate and also to vote for the party she prefers, which seems to me, but apparently not to her, like a gain for her, an added choice with greater power.

My friend finally said that we were arguing about something that probably won't happen. About that, she may be right. I have not sensed a powerful current of support for the change, and would not be surprised to learn that most voters are not quite aware of the referendum issue.

Nevertheless, I expect that change will have a lot of support.

Most voters who want to vote NDP, but vote Liberal to defeat the Conservatives, will support the change. So will the much smaller number of Liberals who vote NDP for the same reason.

NDP voters who vote NDP will, for the most part support the change, expecting that it will improve the position of the NDP, both by giving the NDP more seats and depriving the other parties of majorities.

Green Party voters will support the change, which would encourage more support at the ballot box, give their supporters a legislative voice, and bring them many of the perquisites reserved for parties with parliamentary seats.

Most supporters of the other four parties contesting this election and of other registered parties, who haven't a chance of electing anyone, even under the proposed new system, with its threshold of 3% of the popular vote, will support the change. Reasons include the enhancement of democratic fairness and the promise MMP represents.

— Wilfred Szczesny

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## Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewich

### Borshch Prices High

Agricultural experts reported that the cost of all components of Ukrainian *borshch* have exceeded all previous records.

The prices for potatoes, cabbage, beets and carrots reached record highs in September. Retail prices for potatoes were often more than US\$0.70/kg in large cities. Cabbage prices beat all records, and are expected to continue to increase because of a poor harvest. The price of carrots was several times higher than it was a year ago.

Taking into account the steadily increasing prices for meat, the experts flatly say that Ukrainian *borshch* will be more expensive than ever for the average Ukrainian housewife.

### For Women Only

According to Ukraine's State Statistics Committee, there were 657,000 births and 630,000 deaths recorded in Ukraine in 1990 (the last year of Socialist Ukraine's existence). In 1991, there were 631,000 births and 670,000 deaths. In 2001, there were 746,000 deaths and 376,000 births.

Under socialism, Ukraine's population continued to increase until it reached a peak in 1990 of about 52 million. After 15 years of capitalist independence, Ukraine's population has dropped (alarmingly) to its present level of 46.5 million.

According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the priority attention in Ukraine should now be on how to save the country's males. Within the 30-44 age bracket, male mortality is six times higher than for females. Within the 45-59 age bracket, male mortality is five times higher.

If this trend continues, says UNFPA, Ukraine will become a women-only country.

### "Na Zdorovya"

The world is full of sanatoria and clinics which will help you to drink less. Ukraine has a clinic which will help you to drink more!

Located in Crimea, the Crimean Stars Sanatorium in Alushta has devised a treatment called wine therapy. It claims the treatment can help alleviate a range of medical problems including stress, impotence, and heart disease.

On arrival at the clinic, new patients are given a consultation with a medical specialist. Depending on the patient's particular health problems, the

specialist will then prescribe an appropriate blend of wine and herbs.

Patients are then required to take their "medicine" several times a day.

Especially difficult cases will receive a booster prescription of vodka.

Dr. Alexander Sheludko, who developed this treatment, points out that medical research has shown that moderate consumption of wine can have beneficial effects on health.

"Wine is a live product which contains vitamins. It has lots of compounds which are biologically active," he says.

He boasts that hundreds of people have benefited from his treatments.

### Ukraine Still Shut Out

Just days before a recent summit meeting with top European Union officials, Ukraine's prime minister bemoaned the state of relations with the EU, criticizing the bloc's moves on trade and its visa policies.

Addressing his cabinet, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich said that the state of ties with the 27-nation European Union "is not, to some extent, to our liking. There is the visa regime which we feel is too tough. And as for trade, we see that a system is being introduced which worsens the position of our producers on the European market."

The prime minister said, "We see that new anti-dumping cases are being opened, customs duties are rising. We would not like the preparation of a 10-year agreement with the EU to take place against a background of a worsening in some areas of cooperation."

European Union Commission spokeswoman Christiane Hohmann made clear that the EU was sticking to its policy of "intensifying" links with Ukraine while offering no timetable for one day joining the bloc. "At the moment it is not on the agenda," she said. "We have been clear on this right from the beginning."

### Vasyl Kuk Dies

Vasyl Kuk, the last commander of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) has died.

According to the President's press office, President Viktor Yushchenko sent his condolences to Kuk's family and friends. He said that Kuk struggled for Ukraine until his last breath, and had been a personification of Ukraine.

Yushchenko described his life as a symbol of victory.

"Ukraine's faithful son, Vasyl Kuk, will forever stay in our memory as a paragon of loyalty to the people and selfless service to our state," he said.

Vasyl Kuk died at the age of 95 on September 9. He commanded the Ukrainian Insurgent Army until his arrest on May 23, 1954.

### Weddings For The Rich

A recent article on the internet underlined the extremely large gap in income that has now opened up in Ukraine between the ordinary man-in-the-street and the *nouveaux riches* (the small percentage of people who have hugely benefited from the switch from socialism to capitalism).

The article was titled "The Modern Ukraine Wedding: The Fatter, The Better". Some excerpts are as follows:

The sky's the limit in modern Ukraine, a country long proud of traditional marriage celebrations engulfing whole villages for days... This season, in Ukraine all the rage is a strapless one-piece pale beige (the dress shoppes call it champagne) dress, hand-made with full skirts and thick beadwork.

During a recent Saturday afternoon at Kyiv's Laura Salon, four future brides each demanded that very dress, and none batted a mascaraed eye at a listed price equivalent to three months' gross income for a middle-class Ukrainian family.

Ukraine's publishing industry sells full-dress wedding books at US\$2000 a copy.

The Odessa-based Sviabakino company will make a full-length wedding film for a minimum of US\$15,000.

The exchange of vows is no longer always at the city registration office. A full-length service in a 12th century church is possible after a donation of several thousand dollars.

A flourishing rental industry offers a dizzying variety of transport options for the wedding party, including Hummers, Mercedes sedans (Ukrainian mobsters are reported to prefer black-tinted windows), helicopters and trains (a six-car train to hold the wedding party and 100 guests rents at a mere US\$10,000 a day).

[I believe the average monthly wage in Ukraine (if you have a job) is US\$300.]

### Chornobyl Coffin

The damaged nuclear reactor at Chornobyl will be en-

cased in a new metal coffin. Ukraine has just signed an agreement with the French consortium Novarka to construct a massive new shield around the reactor.

The project is expected to take 4 to 5 years to complete, at a projected cost of US\$500 million.

The existing coffin, hastily constructed in the months following the April 26, 1986, accident, has shown signs of leakage. The new covering will be arch-shaped. Made of metal, it will measure 105 metres tall and 150 metres long.

When complete, the new coffin will completely enclose the old.

Meant to last 100 years, the shield will provide an environment suitable for the disassembly of the nuclear power plant within.

By the end of the new shell's life span, "Chornobyl will not exist any more", said Yves-Thibault de Silguy, chairman of one of the French firms in the Novarka group.

### World's Dirtiest Cities

A recent report puts cities in Russia, Ukraine, and Azerbaijan on a list of the ten most polluted places in the world.

Six other cities in Russia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan made the "Dirty 30" list compiled by the New York-based Blacksmith Institute, an independent environmental group.

The authors of the lists say that the levels of pollution in these cities are putting millions of people at risk. They say that simple engineering projects could make many of the cities safe, but that money and political will are often lacking. One of the top 10 is Dzerzhinsk, a city in western Russia. According to official figures, almost 300,000 tons of chemical waste were improperly disposed of in and around the city. As a consequence, drinking water supplies in surrounding towns and villages are now heavily polluted.

Other cities on the "Top Ten" list are the Russian city of Norilsk, the Ukrainian city of Chornobyl, and the Azerbaijanian city of Sumgayit.

Kazakh environmental writer Bakhtyar Albani says that "The situation is even worse than it was during the Soviet Union."

### Cuban Five Solidarity

As this is being written, Ukraine is the site of an intense campaign of solidarity with the five Cuban anti-terrorists jailed in the United States and a show of solidarity with the Cuban Revolution.

Vasili Tereshiuk, vice-presi-

dent of the Ukraine-Cuba Friendship Society, said the September 12 to October 8 drive in Ukraine would include meetings, contests, and showings of a film explaining the cause of the Cuban Five.

The National Aviation Institute (in Kharkiv, Ukraine), where Antonio Guerrero studied, was to rally to urge the United States to release him along with the other four Cuban anti-terrorists: Ramon Labanino, Fernando Gonzalez, Gerardo Hernandez, and Rene Gonzalez.

Tereshiuk expressed the hope that the example of the Cuban Five would mobilize youth, reinforcing their patriotism and internationalist spirit to fight against terrorism and for humanity and social development.

### "Orange" Refund

Boris Berezovsky, the fugitive Russian oligarch, is suing Ukrainian politicians for the nearly US\$23 million he says he provided to fund the country's 2004 "Orange Revolution".

The London-based businessman, who has a British passport, has filed suit against Oleksandr Tretyakov and David Zhvaniya, *Rada* parliamentarians from pro-President Yushchenko's Our Ukraine bloc. Berezovsky, 61, accused the two politicians of misusing the money he allocated for what he called the development of democracy.

The Ukrainian Justice Ministry said that Tretyakov and Zhvaniya have been summoned to court to receive the subpoenas.

The "Orange Revolution" was an uprising in Ukraine in 2004 which brought pro-American President Viktor Yushchenko to power. Tretyakov is a former presidential aide, and Zhvaniya was Minister of Emergencies in 2005.

Berezovsky, who is wanted in Russia on charges of fraud, said he transferred the money to the accounts of (now) President Yushchenko's relatives, who have denied the allegations.

Berezovsky said he would sue them as well.

### Seven Wonders

The Seven Wonders of Ukraine campaign that was launched this spring has ended, and the list of official wonders was recently announced.

The Seven Wonders are: (1) Kamyanets State Park, containing fortresses, churches, bridges, and other ancient architecture;

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# National Dance Instructors' Seminar



Photo: Kim Boss

Participants and directors at the AUUC National Dance Instructors' Seminar: Jordan Allison, Calgary; Roy Andrichuk, National Committee; Kim Boss, Winnipeg; Marissa Boss, Winnipeg; Alexandra Beck, Vancouver; Janice Beck, Vancouver; Tatiana Beck, Vancouver; Lisa Doyle, Calgary; Nicholas Hachey, Edmonton; Mykola Hedrich, Winnipeg; Danya Karras, Vancouver; Deb Karras, Vancouver; Taralyn Karras, Vancouver; Vasyl Kanevets, Calgary; Nykol Kroeker, Calgary; Kristina Kyaushas, Edmonton; Stepan Lavrinenko, Edmonton; Kelsey Murray, Calgary; Joanne Nichol, Calgary; Elise Pierre, Winnipeg; Sam Penner, Winnipeg; Carol Rosiewich, Edmonton; Lara Rosiewich, Edmonton; Merina Rosiewich, Edmonton; Kirsten Schubert, Winnipeg.



Photo: Kim Boss

Barre exercises were an important component of instruction at the seminar.



Photo: Kim Boss

What is a camping experience without a campfire?



Photo: Kim Boss

Enjoying the moment are Elise Pierre, Sam Penner, Kirsten Schubert, Mykola Hedrich and Marissa Boss.

The AUUC National Dance Instructors' Seminar was held at Camp Kum-in-Yar, near Sylvan Lake, Alberta, from August 29 to September 3, 2007.

Participants provided comments about their experiences at the seminar.

I sat on the floor in the Dancing Hall at Camp Kum-in-yar. It was cold, but I was sweating nervously, wondering what the Ukrainian dance lesson was going to be like with an instructor that I had never worked with before. That was three days ago. Now I look forward to another class where we turn, jump, flex and kick.

The paragraph above by Taralyn Karras (age 12) expresses many of our feelings about this new experience.

We — Debbie Karras, Janice Beck, Danya Karras, Alexandra Beck, Tatyana Beck, Taralyn Karras — are from British Columbia, and we dance with the AUUC School of Dance in Vancouver. We thought it would be a great opportunity to expand our knowledge of Ukrainian Dancing and learn to instruct others.

Below, Alexandra Beck (age 13) puts her feelings into words.

At first I didn't want to come to Camp Kum-in-Yar. I wanted to stay at home and relax for the rest of the summer.

When I got here I was doubtful. I saw the schedule and didn't think it would be fun. Four hours of dancing a day? Three hours of theory? And after that there would be a lot of practice.

But the food was really good!

Then the dancing started. (Continued on Page 11.)

## Roy Andrichuk

—Photo: Kim Boss



Roy Andrichuk, Chair of the AUUC National Performing Arts Committee, served as a cook, with Merina Rosiewich, at the seminar.

The NEC of the AUUC has sponsored another successful National Dance Instructors Seminar at Camp Kum-in-Yar in Sylvan Lake, Alberta.

The workshop provided valuable tools for our dance school directors, instructors and assistants.

The 20 participants under the instruction of Carol Rosiewich and Vasyl Kanevets learned new and old techniques in Ukrainian dancing, barre exercises, lesson planning, choreography, regions of Ukraine, costumes, steps, dances etc.

Sharing ideas and experiences of each of the localities was also a highlight. The camaraderie and dedication of the participants of our organization was inspiring.

I know everyone returned to their localities rejuvenated, excited and looking forward

to the new cultural season. It is vital for the future of our organization to grow and prosper by offering more such projects.

— Roy Andrichuk  
Chairman,  
National Performing  
Arts Committee

## Carol Rosiewich

—UCH file photo:



Carol Rosiewich, Cultural Coordinator of the Trembita Ensemble, Trembita Dance School Director & Teacher, participant Trembita Choral Ensemble and AUUC Edmonton Branch #2 Vice-President.

The existence of Ukrainian dance in Canada spans many generations.

Efforts to maintain Ukrainian folk dance in its true form have been an ongoing process. The willingness to acquire knowledge by today's youth and children has kept the momentum to perpetuate the opportunity to preserve, enhance and forge ahead to higher plains in the presentation of staged Ukrainian dance for children and up to the adult ensembles. The strengths of the individual instructors are carefully nurtured and brought forth in the presentation of teaching material that has been shared with them.

We wish to continue work-

ing together in peace, friendship and promoting the rich Ukrainian Heritage.

— Carol Rosiewich  
Administrative &  
Theoretical Director

## Vasyl Kanevets

For the second summer in a row, for five days in August at Camp Kum-in-Yar, I had the opportunity to hold a seminar for the Ukrainian dance instructors of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, an organization which is spread across the country from Toronto to Vancouver. The well-chosen time of the seminar assured a good attendance with representation from Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg and Edmonton.

I want to comment on the organization of the seminar. Taking into account all requests, the administration of the camp resolved various issues quickly and ably. This positive approach to the organization of the seminar shows the great experience of those responsible, Carol Rosiewich and Roy Andri-

chuk, and their great desire to carry through the teaching by the instructors to best effect.

The practical lessons were held in a spacious hall with a special covering on the floor, which allowed the inclusion of more complex movements in the study of the course materials.

This time, the students mastered the pattern of a characteristic lesson. They had the opportunity to experience the burden of leadership of a group, to test their ability to teach and to help one another correct possible errors in one or another movement. The seminar included various approaches to combining various movements and the teaching of the basic movements and combinations of Ukrainian dance. We were also able to touch on questions of longer

term work with a group.

The students were able to learn to works from the Polissya and Hutsul regions of Ukraine.

I also want to comment on the responsible attitude of the students to the lessons. The large number of questions about various aspects of the seminar is evidence of the real interest of the young people in Ukrainian dance. The seminar materials were videotaped, and special notes were made about their details.

I must thank the seminar organizers for the opportunity to share with the young and talented instructors my experience gained in many years of work in the field of Ukrainian dance.

We share our love of Ukrainian dance, which means that we increase it.

— Vasyl Kanevets



# Toronto AUUC Season Opener



Photo: Connie Prince

Did they enjoy the afternoon? It definitely looks like it.

The AUUC Toronto Branch held its Season Opener Social with an Italian flavour this year.

The festive occasion took place on Sunday, September 9, with approximately 60



Photo: Mike Stefiuk

Branch President George Borusiewich served as Master of Ceremonies.

guests taking part at the Cultural Centre on Bloor Street West.

As each person entered the hall, there was an immediate feeling of stepping into an authentic Italian caffè because of the *bella décor* created by Connie Prince.

Red and white tablecloths covered the tables. Wine bottles with lit candles, each one adorned by a decorative cluster of grapes, were arranged throughout the room and vines hung graciously over the buffet serving table. Decorative Italian accessories, such as baskets with vegetables and vines, flowers, pitchers of dry pasta, olive oil bottles and animated graphics depicting scenes from Italy accentuated

— Photo: Connie Prince



Above, revellers, celebrating the start of a new season of activity.

— Photo: Mike Stefiuk



Good food eaten with friends heightens the pleasure of starting a new season of activity.

— Photo: Mike Stefiuk



Starting a new season of activity includes resuming contact with friends and collaborators.



— Photo: Mike Stefiuk

Jerry Dobrowolsky helped serve the Baby Point Lounge lasagna.

the caffè atmosphere.

After being greeted at the door by Otti Nicolai and Mike Stefiuk, each guest had the opportunity to mingle with friends while enjoying light refreshments and listening to the background Italian music.

One could also survey the rummage sale table and strike a bargain with the ever-dedicated salesperson, Vera Borusiewich.

Raffle tickets were sold by Nataalka Mochoruk and her daughter Bobbi McKellar. Prizes included a selection of Nataalka's beautiful embroidery, an Italian gift basket donated by the Stewart family and Connie Prince, and a clock donated by Mary Prokop.

Another popular attraction was the bar, with Anne Bobyk selling tickets and Krys Rejdak pouring drinks.

While awaiting the arrival of the traditional Italian lunch, the guests were addressed by Branch President George Borusiewich, who acted as the day's MC and spoke about the history and significance of the annual September celebration of Pioneer Day.

As George was completing his speech, the room filled with the aroma of a real trattoria, as the sumptuous meal prepared by Baby Point Lounge was laid out.

The guests were treated to a delicious choice of vegetarian lasagna or meat lasagna, Caesar salad and an assortment of crispy rolls.

The dessert table was overflowing as usual, thanks to the talent and generosity of the group's many fine bakers.

The grand finale of the day was the showing of the video *Sounds of the Carpathians*.

When all was over, the satisfied guests, including seven happy raffle prize winners, sauntered home — probably with "That's Amore" playing in their heads and, hopefully, anticipating the next social event.

— B. Dobrowolsky

Right: Kay and George Keniak took home a prize.

Far right: Nina and Walter Rasiuk put their heads together.



— Photo: Connie Prince

Some of the key workers in the success of the event: Jerry Dobrowolsky, Bernardine Dobrowolsky, Mark Stewart, Nancy Stewart and Connie Prince.

— Photo: Mike Stefiuk



Nataalka Mochoruk and her daughter Bobbi McKellar staffed the draw table, which featured Nataalka's embroidery, a basket donated by the Stewart family and Connie Prince, and a clock donated by Mary Prokop.

— Photo: Mike Stefiuk



A rummage sale table, visited by Nancy Stewart, was one of the attractions.

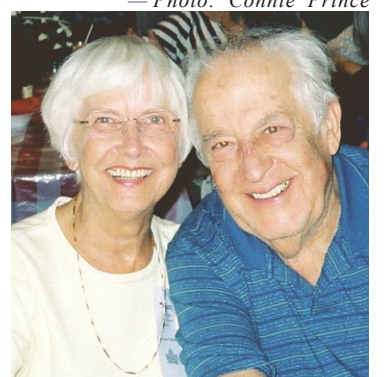
— Photo: Connie Prince



John Boyd and Rose Manning shared a table.

— Photo: Connie Prince

— Photo: Connie Prince



**Submitted  
separately  
as a .pdf**

## Moncada Day Marked in Edmonton

On July 28, an event sponsored by the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians (Branch 07) and the Edmonton Cuba Solidarity Committee was held at the Ukrainian Centre in Edmonton to celebrate Moncada Day.

The main speaker at the event was Dr. Roger Milbrandt, a professor at Augustana University College in Camrose, who regularly takes students to Cuba.

In a gripping speech, he said that on July 26, 1953, Fidel Castro's army tried to take the weapons from the Mon-

cada Barracks, intending to distribute the weapons to the people in the city of Santiago de Cuba. After this effort failed, Fidel Castro was caught and put in solitary confinement.

The government of Cuba said that the men who carried out the Moncada attack were mercenaries for Fidel Castro.

Roger Milbrandt gave some good examples of how Fidel Castro gave good leadership to the revolutionaries. Within five years, five months and five days, President Batista realized he could not win, and

the Cuban Revolution came to power.

After this speech a woman from Cuba, Carmen Imanina Diez Rayes, sang a few traditional songs.

This was followed by a PowerPoint presentation about Cuban doctors. According to the presentation there have been 132,000 doctors, nurses, and health technicians sent from Cuba to 120 countries.

After this presentation about Cuban doctors, a CBC documentary about the children of Chernobyl was shown. This half-hour documentary, originally a CBC news show, told how Cuba helped the children of Chorno-

byl in Ukraine by treating them for cancer in Cuba. This documentary showed how Cuba was willing to help internationally in the field of health care.

Also at the event, a small

group of musicians from AUUC Branch 07 sang four traditional Ukrainian tunes to their own accompaniment.

The event was successful overall.

— Virginia Nuttall



Left to right: Blyth Nuttall, Victor Horon, Mike Uhryn, Paul Greene, and Bill Uhryn were part of a quintet which performed Ukrainian folk songs.

## National Dance Instructors' Seminar

(Continued from Page 8.) The exercises were a bit harder than I expected and I kept making mistakes. But now that I have practised, I can do the exercises much better and have fun doing them.

Tatyana Beck wrote:

I had expected the other dancers who were coming to Camp Kum-in-Yar to be around the same age as me, 13. When everyone got here, I saw that there were a lot of people who were different than I had expected. These were people who came from different places, and some spoke languages that I didn't understand, but I made lots of friends who were fun to be around and who helped me out a lot.

The lessons taught by Vasyl Kanevets were definitely some of the toughest Ukrainian dancing we'd ever done, but what we have gained from them is beyond belief!

The theoretical portion of the classes, taught by Carol Rosiewich, seemed to not be as challenging, probably because we weren't panting and sweating. But by the end, we had learned just as much.

All in all, this was a great experience that got us all working both mentally and

physically. Our expectations, that we would expand our knowledge of Ukrainian dancing and learn to instruct others proved correct.

It was also nice to meet with others who share common ground, and to make new friends as we worked, sweated and laughed together.

From Calgary, Alberta:

The Calgary Hopak Ensemble would like to thank the National Executive Committee for putting on the 2007 instructors' seminar at Camp Kum-in-Yar.

We had five people attend from our centre — Joanne Nichol, Jordan Allison, Kelsey Murray, Lisa Doyle and Nykol Kroeker — who greatly benefited from the experience.

From teaching Ukrainian steps to learning about the various regions of Ukraine, all this will be shared and used in the coming dance season.

The five-day workshop was great, as we had the opportunity to meet people from other centres and exchange information that will benefit each of us.

Camp Kum-in-Yar was the perfect place for this seminar: it is central to all attending, and the facilities met our



Instructor Carol Rosiewich makes a point at a theory session.

— Photo: Debbie Karras

needs.

This workshop was a great way to start the season.

Thank-you.

From Edmonton:

The weather changed from pouring rain to brilliant sunshine, but that didn't affect our camp because we were busy working and meeting indoors. We benefited from Vasyl and Carol's experience in the practice and theory of teaching Ukrainian dance.

All of us enjoyed meeting people from British Columbia, Alberta, and Manitoba, and having fun together.

Delicious and hearty meals prepared by Roy Andrichuk and Merina Rosiewich were more than adequate compensation for waking early and working hard.

It is important for us, living far apart to meet as often as possible.

Kristina Kyaushas, Stepan Lavrinenko, and Lara Rosiewich of Winnipeg Manitoba:

We left Winnipeg at 6:30 a.m., and arrived at Camp Kum-in-Yar near midnight on Thursday, August 30.

We started our experience here early the next morning, under the careful instruction of Vasyl Kanevets and Carol Rosiewich.

Our practices were challenging and vigorous, working on an intricate character barre. Although we were tired, the next morning we were excited to go into another class to gain more experiences. As the weekend wore



Some of the dancers from Vancouver enjoy a moment of rest taken from their busy day.

— Photo: Debbie Karras



A round of appreciative applause brings a practical session to an end.

on, we developed new friendships with the people from other AUUC centres.

We learned new barre exercises that we would never have been able to learn at home.

We would not have been able to survive the weekend

without our wonderful chefs Roy and Merina who fed us delicious meals.

With the weekend coming to an end, we are all glad that we came to Camp Kum-in-Yar to gain the experience and to prepare to share our knowledge with our own students.



Between classes, Kirsten Schubert, Kelsey Murray, Lara Rosiewich, and Marissa Boss enjoy the good weather.

Photo: Debbie Karras

# Who, What, When, Where

**Toronto**—On Sunday, **October 20**, AUUC Toronto Branch will host an **Oktoberfest** social at the AUUC Cultural Centre, **1604 Bloor Street West**. **Doors open at noon** for 12:30. For more information, see the flyer about this event. Admission: **\$10.00**.

**Edmonton** — On Saturday, **October 13**, at **7:00 p.m.**, the **Notre Dame des Bananes** choir, with **Maria Dunn**, will present a program of **labour related songs** at the Ukrainian Centre, **11018 - 97 Street**. A limited number of tickets are available. Members and friends are welcome.

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.

## CROPO

### Funeral Chapel

1442 Main Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
**586-8044**  
www.cropo.com

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

# JoKe TiMe

An elderly couple were killed in an accident and found themselves being given a tour of heaven by Saint Peter. "Here is your oceanside condo, over there are the ten-

nis courts, swimming pool, and two golf courses. If you need any refreshments, just stop by any of the many bars located throughout the area."

"Heck, Gloria," the old man complained after Saint Peter walked off, "we could have been here ten years ago if you hadn't heard about all that stu-

pid oat bran, wheat germ, and low-fat diets!"

\* \* \*

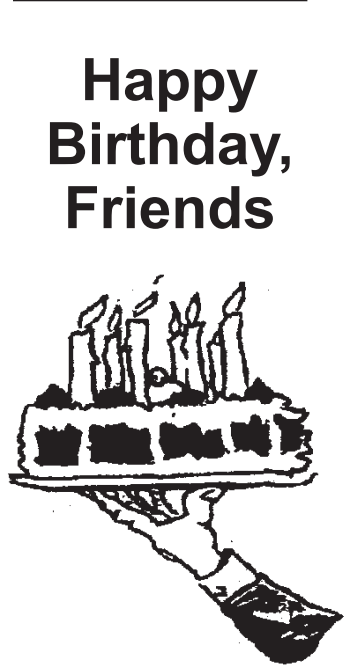
The maharajah of an Indian province issued a royal decree. He ordered that no one was to kill any wild animals while he was the country's leader.

The decree was honoured until there were so many Bengal tigers running loose that the people revolted and threw the maharajah from power. This is the first known instance of a reign being called on account of the game.

# Sustaining Fund Donations

Susan, Ron, Terry & Darrell Boyko, Naughton ON <i>In memory of Helen, Dmytro, Eugene &amp; Borys Boyko</i> .....	\$200.00
George & Vera Borusiewich, Toronto ON .....	100.00
Fred Kozlo, Victoria BC .....	70.00
Lesya Ukrainka Manor, Vancouver BC .....	70.00
Fred Antoniow, Edmonton AB <i>In memory of our Dad and Dido, William P. Antoniow</i> .....	50.00
Jeanne Romanoski & David Mackling, Winnipeg MB <i>In memory of Nikki Sciak, former director of the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra</i> .....	25.00
Robert & Rose Gregory, Edmonton AB .....	20.00
Kathleen Schubert, Winnipeg MB .....	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.**



# Happy Birthday, Friends

## Contact us!

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Phone: (705) 674-5534

**TORONTO BRANCH**  
AUUC Cultural Centre  
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Toronto ON M6P 1A7  
Phone: 416-588-1639 Fax 416-588-9180  
wilfreds@3web.net

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

The **Edmonton AUUC Senior Citizens' Club** wishes a happy birthday to the celebrants of October:

Sherry Capowski  
Alex Rawda

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 October celebrants:

Helen Banville  
Rose Manning

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

\*\*\*\*\*

The **Vancouver Seniors Club** wishes the best of health and happiness in the coming year to October celebrants:

Stella Moroz  
Audrey Moysiuk

Enjoy your day with family and friends!

\*\*\*\*\*

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

Clara Babiy  
Bert Braun  
Alex Moskalyk  
Janice Robins  
Adam Sesto  
Rudy Wasylenky

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

## Ukrainian News Briefs

(Continued from Page 5.)

(2) Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra, the best known historical monument in Kyiv;

(3) Sofiyivka Park in Uman, one of the world's masterpieces of garden park art;

(4) Sofiya Kyivska, the world famous 11th century cathedral in Kyiv;

(5) Khersones Tavriyskiy, the most notable monument of Greek culture in Ukraine, founded over 2,500 years ago;

(6) Hotyn Fortress, a 1,000-year-old fortress in Cherni-

vetska Region;

(7) Khortitsa, the biggest island on the Dnipro River and Ukraine's biggest monument of Cossack culture.

Over 77,000 Ukrainians voted by visiting the internet site [www.7chudes.in.ua](http://www.7chudes.in.ua).

## Bush and Clinton

A zoo in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, has named the country's only pair

of skunks after two American presidents, (George W.) Bush and (Bill) Clinton.

A zoo spokesman explained that their names were chosen to reflect the species' geographic origin — North America.

The skunks, known for their ability to excrete a foul-smelling odour when alarmed, are the last captive pair remaining in a Ukrainian zoo.

The animals were presented to the zoo as a gift at the beginning of September and, so far, have not excreted their trademark odour.

## Alberta Ukrainian Dance Camp

7:00 a.m. mornings, to 10:00 p.m. nights.

Walking in the rain and dancing our hearts out.

Missing our families but not wanting to go home.

The Techno Dance, and great meals.

From making new friends to getting closer to the old ones.

Playing the mandolin, to having a great time singing in the choir.

Giving nicknames to everyone, which created the McGang.

Gathering e-mail addresses so that you will be able to talk to everyone once you leave.

Hugging people and saying goodbye. Hoping to see them all again next year.

From all the memories to the extreme expressions in our dance.

Wanting to go back once you get home.

All the inside jokes which are priceless.

Waking up to an alarm clock on someone's phone.

Listening to Aqua over and over again and not getting sick of the song.

Wanting to fall back to sleep, but knowing the day will be great, so you just can't.

At the performance, my father crying, so I knew I made him proud.

Not wanting to say goodbye, but knowing I had to.

The week went by way too fast. I would love to go back.

I will never forget the memories. I miss you all!

— Sam Semotiuk



A dance camp has many needs, among them good food to fuel the active bodies.



Evening campfires are indispensable to the complete camping experience.



In case the dancing does not use up the energy, activities like volleyball can help keep everyone at dancing weight.



A group photograph of participants in the Alberta Ukrainian Dance Camp, held in mid-August at Camp Kum-in-Yar near Sylvan Lake.

## Looking Back on 50 Years

(Continued from Page 3.)

tegral part of the general democratic and progressive movement in Canada, we acted and worked, both in the past and today, for our own (benefit) and for the general welfare of all.

From the very beginning there has been no political, economic or community struggle of importance in which we haven't participated, nor any inner organizational activity in the AUUC in which we haven't — to a greater or lesser degree — played a vital part. Today, when we mark the 50th anniversary of our organization, we can proudly affirm that every aspect of our cultural, educational and community work was tightly bound to the general struggle for progress, and that in this struggle we grew and strengthened, winning recognition from the democratic forces in our society.

Space does not permit the thorough detailing of our involvement. Nevertheless, the main direction of the struggles of the period and our participation in them should be clearly defined. These were the struggles against exploitation and discrimination, particularly as this applied to immigrant women; for democratic and citizenship rights; for the right of women to work and equal pay for the same work; for an earlier pension age for women (a struggle that still hasn't been resolved); for better conditions of work, for higher wages, for the recognition of unions of our own choice; for social security in the form of unemployment insurance, medicare and free hospitalization; the general struggle for peace — against war and fascism; for collective security, and after World War II for the abolition of the atom bomb and testing of nuclear weapons, for general and complete disarmament. In

short — for peace and friendship among peoples, and especially for friendly relations between Canada and the Soviet Union as well as other socialist nations, for trade and cultural exchange.

In these activities we formed alliances and cooperated with other organizations of similar aims, women's organizations in particular — the Congress of Canadian Women, Voice of Women, the Women's International Democratic Federation — and most important, with peace organizations, participating together with them in local, national and international congresses for peace and security.

This is a very concise history of our activities in the past and in the present day. It is far from complete. It does not include the day-to-day work in various campaigns conducted by our own association — for its financial support and support for our press; for the development of leadership, schools, courses, the upkeep of our cultural centres, etc. There is also our participation in various committees and support for local, district and national festivals of music, song and dance, mass gatherings and other so-called inner activities, without which no organization can exist and fulfil its aims.

On the threshold of our second 50 years one wants to voice the hope that they will be no less fruitful; that they will be crowned with victory for lasting peace and friendship, with the triumph of bright intellect, justice and prosperity.

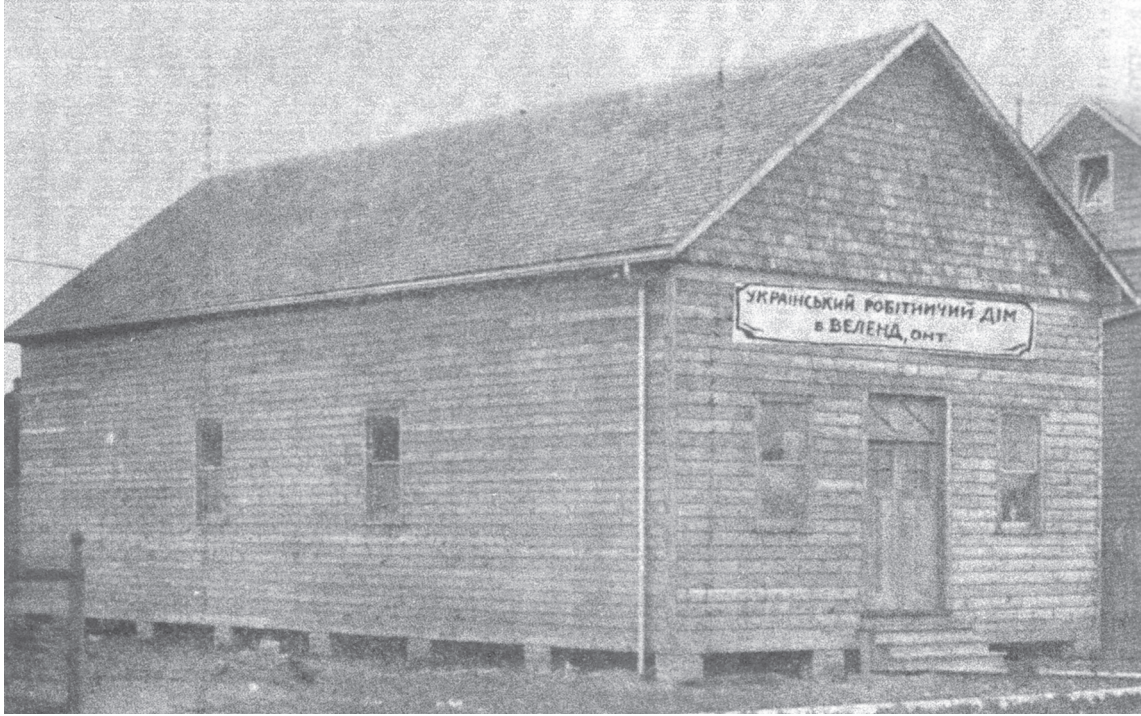
— Mary Prokop  
(In March, 1972, Mary Prokop was, among her various roles, an AUUC National Vice-President, and National Secretary of the Women's Branches of the AUUC.)



Members of the AUUC Women's Branch in Toronto in 1944, like thousands of women across Canada, participated in the Canadian Aid to the USSR campaign.

## The First Ukrainian Labour Temple in Canada

The AUUC is about to embark on a year-long celebration of the 90th anniversary of the organization, beginning with the Ukrainian Labour Temple Association which was established in March, 1918, as the owner of the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg. A year earlier, however, a Ukrainian Labour Temple was established in Welland, Ontario. The AUUC Welland Branch is celebrating the 90th anniversary of its building this year. The article printed below was published in *The Ukrainian Canadian* in October, 1977, 25 years ago.



This photo of the Ukrainian Labour Temple on Sixth Street in Crowland (Welland), Ontario, as it appeared in 1917, was printed in *The Ukrainian Canadian* in October, 1977.

Sixty years ago, a group of progressive Ukrainians in Welland, Ontario, built the first Ukrainian Labour Temple on Canadian soil. The plan to build the hall was reported in a 1917 spring issue of the newspaper *The Working People* (Robochy narod) and in later issues of that year another article by Yakim Pomeychuk and Mike Charyk appealed to the Ukrainian people of Canada to send monetary donations to help pay for this first Ukrainian workers' hall which was then nearly completed.

Already in 1913, there were enough Ukrainians in the Welland-Crowland area to organize a chapter of the Ukrainian Social Democratic Party, and it was through the initiative of the members of this association that the build-

ing was built. Fred Pychel, in a letter to the anniversary committee, wrote that living in Welland in 1915, he remembers the Ukrainian people gathering near the Plymouth Cordage factory and in an open area near the corner of Ontario Road and Deere Street, where they discussed matters of social, political and economic import. The association also rented a room in a home on Fourth Street as a meeting place. It was this need for a more convenient meeting place that prompted the membership in their decision to build a hall.

Some of the original members are still alive — among them Nick Charyk, and it is hoped that he will be able to attend the anniversary celebrations which are set for October 7—10 of this year

(Thanksgiving weekend, 1977). Much work was done by these early members in the social and cultural field as well as by succeeding members who belonged to the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association and more recently the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians.

The first Ukrainians arrived in Welland to improve their material conditions and because of Canadian Government policy to encourage immigration to Canada to help develop the vast territories of this new land. Although the local newspapers of the time refer to them as "foreigners" and reported only fights, accidents and other such matters, the newcomers were active in areas which were not reported. They began to develop and extend the Ukrainian language and their cultural heritage.

Parallel with these activities, schools of Ukrainian language were organized. Former pupils, among them Annie Hunka, recall "Professor" Dmytro Ivanchuk and Mrs. Hyshka. With the arrival of Gregory Smuk, the first mandolin orchestra was formed. It was the forerunner of five or six new groups that were subsequently put together. Who can forget the years of work that John Strush put into the teaching of language and music and who through his efforts put these activities on a solid foundation? Others who contributed greatly to the cultural program were Dennis Kucherawy, Bill Shtogrin, Bill Chytrrenki, Hazel Andreychuk, Kaz Shtogrin, Rose Stacey, Manya Bosnich and Nick Petrachenko.



In a ceremony on November 12, 2005, the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Welland, at its current location at Ontario Road and Beatrice Street, was given a Heritage Designation. Welland AUUC Branch President Clara Babiy unveiled the Heritage Designation Plaque at the door to the building, under the watchful eye of John Mastroianni, Niagara Regional Councillor and member of Heritage Welland.

## Twenty-five Years Ago

The first Ukrainian Labour Temple was moved from its original site on Sixth Street to its present location on the corner of Ontario Road and Beatrice Street, where it is presently located, in 1926. There were several reasons for the move. The railroad tracks and bridge were about 100 ft. away from the hall and the Welland Canal was just a few hundred yards away. The tooting and rumble of the locomotives and steamships were so loud that the audience could not hear the actors during a performance. Also, the majority of the children who attended the language school lived in the general area of the new location.

At the new location, the members of the ULFTA extended the building. A larger stage was built, and a basement where the Ukrainian school and orchestra practices were held. Organizations located here were the Men's Association of the ULFTA, Women's Section, Youth Section, Workers' Benevolent Association, Todovernazu (association to help the freedom movement in Western Ukraine under Poland), Sports Clubs, School of Dance, a Marching Band and an Orchestra for Public Dancing. The program of activities included a Ukrainian school, a school of English language for adults, lectures on economics, plays in Ukrainian and in English, operettas, and mass meetings. The young people participated in district picnics and concerts as well as in the National Festivals held in Toronto and Winnipeg.

In the area of public activities, the Association put in its share of effort and resources. During the depression period in Crowland (the southern suburb of Welland where the factories are located and where the Ukrainian Labour Temple is found), because of the unfeeling attitude of the local Township Council and the Provincial Government, the conditions of the unemployed were so intolerable that the relief (welfare) workers who were working on the sewer line (a job creating project) went on strike for better living conditions. The Ukrainian Labour Temple became the headquarters for the strikers. Immediately after the strike, the Ukrainian Labour Temple burned from unknown causes.

Again, the members and friends of the ULFTA gathered and built a new building. It was larger and more convenient. It was planned by Adrian Vandenburg, a young unemployed architect, who later lost his life in the Spanish Civil War. The construction was in charge of Yakim Pomeychuk, who was also the

builder of the original building.

Members of the ULFTA were also among those helping to organize unions in the area. Some were dismissed from their jobs because of their union efforts. One of these was William Hunka. During the strikes in the Pipe Mill, the Electro Metals, and in the Seamen's strike (C.S.U.), the Ukrainian Labour Temple was open to all of them for their use.

During World War II when the authorities closed the Ukrainian Labour Temple, the orchestra and choir continued their rehearsals in other premises — the All People's United Church and the Polish Hall — and gave concerts during the campaigns for War Bonds in order to help win the war. Several members joined the armed forces, among them Bill Petrachenko, Bill Chlypawka and Mike Moskalyk. After the war, members of the progressive Ukrainian community walked the streets with petitions to preserve peace and to prevent the use of the atom bomb.

The Association also has a very good record in Municipal Government. Nick Zenchuk was a member of Crowland Council for more than 10 years, and was elected Deputy-Reeve during this period. He defended the rights of the unemployed and all other workers to help improve their living standards. John Petrachenko was a school trustee for more than 26 years. During this time he convinced the School Board to supply free text books and other school materials, and constantly worked toward raising the level of education for the children of the community.

This is why the present members of the AUUC took it upon themselves as an honourable task to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the construction of the first Ukrainian Labour Temple in Canada.

The four-day celebrations include a display of photos and craft work on Friday, Oct. 7th; a banquet on Saturday, Oct. 8th where pioneer members will be honoured with Civic and Association dignitaries present; a concert on Sunday, Oct. 9th at the Centennial Secondary School by the Shevchenko Ensemble, and continuing the photo and craft work display and meeting of friends at the Ukrainian Labour Temple on Monday, Oct. 10th.

The committee has extended invitations to the people of Welland and district with the hope that they will honour the occasion with their presence on this historic occasion.

— Nick Petrachenko

**Submitted  
separately  
as a .pdf**

# AUUC Memories

## ...our hall was a beehive of bubbling children...

I was born Marie Mae Demers, the sixth generation of a French Canadian family with original roots in France.

In 1956, I married Jerry Prociw, a Ukrainian Canadian boy. My life with him opened

a new world to me — the world of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians and Ukrainian culture.

Through Jerry I became part of the cross-Canada AUUC family. Very quickly



**Jerry Prociw as he appeared around 1973.**

he drew me into AUUC activities.

For 30 years he and I ran the AUUC children's school in Toronto. We were responsible not only for the planning and organization of the school, but also for the teaching of the various classes.

Our school taught gymnastics, dancing (Ukrainian and French Canadian), Ukrainian language, and mandolin.

At our peak enrolment, over 200 students attended our school. On weekends our hall was a beehive of bubbling children involved in classes, rehearsals, costume-sewing, and other activity.

Concerts showcased the children's talent and dedication, and their performances always drew applause and appreciation from packed auditoria.

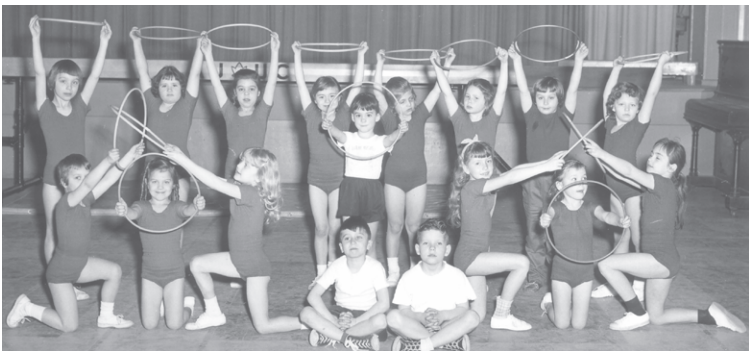
I say a very sincere "Thank You" to all those parents, who for so long allowed me to share in the education and growth of their precious children during their formative and most impressionable years. The pleasure I received from seeing their smiles and sparkling eyes during classes was my reward. The wealth of these memories will always be vivid in my mind.

October is the month in which Jerry was born, and also the month in which he died twenty years ago. I dedicate this modest tribute to his memory, both as a reminder of his devotion to the AUUC, and in loving memory of the many happy years that he and I shared together.

— Marie Prociw



**This lively French Canadian dance was performed at the Ukrainian Labour Temple at 300 Bathurst Street in Toronto.**



**Gymnastics included rhythmic gymnastics, including work with hoops.**



**Tiny tots of the early 1980s, at the Toronto Ukrainian Labour Temple.**



**Jerry Prociw struck a dance pose for this publicity photo for the Shevchenko Ensemble of the AUUC in front of Toronto's (then) new city hall.**



**Older gymnasts were Santa's elves at this 1981 Christmas party at "The Hall" on Bathurst Street in Toronto**



**Marie Prociw provides some individual attention on the balance beam at the Ukrainian Labour Temple on Bathurst Street in Toronto in the early 1980s.**



**A rhythmic gymnastics routine with ribbons was part of the Canada Day program at Camp Palermo in 1981.**



**Marie Prociw lines up her gymnastics squad in preparation for a Canada Day performance at the Ukrainian Summer Camp in Oakville/Palermo.**