

# HERALD ВІСНИК

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## National President at AUUC Welland Branch



Photo: Steve Smoly

Photo: Victor Horon

AUUC National President Gerry Shmyr accepts the traditional bread and salt from Welland Branch President Clara Babiy.

On May 24, AUUC National President Gerry Shmyr, was greeted on his arrival at the Welland Ukrainian Labour Temple by Clara Babiy, President of the Welland Branch. It was a great surprise that the welcome came complete with bread (home made) and salt on an embroidered runner.

Accompanying Gerry to this meeting with the Welland Executive and members was Steve Smoly, AUUC National Treasurer.

After the greeting, Gerry took the opportunity to spend a few minutes talking about what has been taking place within the AUUC since he became President last October. During the presentation, Gerry informed the members about what was happening in

each of the Branches across Canada, talked about the financial situation of the AUUC and its future, spoke about the 90th anniversary celebrations, and brought the members up to date as to what has been happening with the property in Oakville (still referred to as Palermo).

During the talk on the Oakville lands, Gerry took the opportunity to present a slide presentation showing the members what is taking place at the site and the surrounding area. This was a surprise to some of the members as they have not visited the park in some time.

The members who were present who were also members of the Welland orchestra reminisced about their participation in the Centennial Celebrations held in Regina in April, 2005.

Following the meeting at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Clara Babiy, had arranged for a beautiful barbecue lunch at her daughter's home.

Both National Executive Committee members thank the Welland members for their gracious hospitality, and hope to be able to visit with them in the future, possibly with an opportunity to be present at a rehearsal of the outstanding Welland orchestra.

— Gerry Shmyr

**Check your label at left. Is it time to renew? Why not do it now?**



On May 20, the Edmonton AUUC Seniors went on a field trip which included a visit to the Nanaksar Gurdwara Gursikh Temple on the northeast outskirts of Edmonton. A report on their visit to this temple, as well as their stop at an outlet of Kuhlmann's Market Gardens and Greenhouses begins on Page 8.

## Terrified of (Anti)Terror

Whenever I travel by plane these days, I check in a bag, even if I could make do with just a carry-on. The check-in is to carry anything which could conceivably be declared illegal between the time I leave home and the time I go through airport security, and anything which might offend the judgment of a security person. Nevertheless, I never approach security with any confidence that nothing will have to be left behind as a security threat. In particular, I always worry about the pocket-saver-full of pens and pencils I always carry. I put the expensive ones into checked baggage, and carry on the 10-for-a-dollar ones.

Security at airports these days is a totally mindless exercise, with no room for a sense of humour, no room for certain words in any context, and above all zero tolerance for anything resembling sense.

Some readers, no doubt, have "he's paranoid" running through their mind. Marnina Norys, a PhD student at York University near Toronto, might have shared that opinion — until the May day when she approached airport security at Kelowna, British Columbia.

Ms. Norys was wearing a silver pendant in the shape of an antique pistol. Airport security told her that she would have to remove it because it posed a security threat to the passengers on the flight Ms. Norys was about to board.

This was a silver item with,



The offending security threat — so who's paranoid?

no bullets and no moving parts. It was about 5 centimetres long — about the length of your thumb. Nevertheless, it was labelled "replica firearm", and was not allowed as a carry-on.

It was not long before the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority sent an apology by e-mail and by telephone to Ms. Norys. CATSA blamed the screening official, who "made a judgment call".

Ms. Norys, however, was not buying that, and blamed, instead, the rules which do not allow people to exercise any judgment.

So excuse me, but if it's all the same to you, I'll continue to be paranoid, and check a bag even when it is not necessary. And I will never try to board a plane wearing a revolver-shaped belt buckle.

(Sure enough, a letter to the editor by a writer more Catholic than the Pope, ignoring the reaction of CATSA, told us that Ms. Norys should have known better than to try to carry a replica of a gun onto

a plane. That kind of reminded me of a conversation in which I was involved a few years ago, when my interlocutor suggested that tourists who look like they might be Arabs or Muslims should know better than to walk around with cameras or do touristy things like taking pictures of the CN Tower).

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## “Shchero vas vitayem...”

With those traditional words of welcome, the performing arts groups of the Vancouver AUUC invited the capacity audience to join in the celebration of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the AUUC Cultural Centre Hall at 805 East Pender Street. For this historic performance, all the AUUC performing arts groups, representing three generations, proudly entered the auditorium and paraded through the audience joyously singing “Vital’na”.

With the presentation of bread and salt, the audience erupted in applause, recognizing this special occasion.

The “Vital’na” continued with the children’s suite “Vinochok”, in which every member of the School of Dance was featured, before culminating in a joyous mass ending that filled the stage.

The MC then proudly related some of the highlights in the life of the venerable building at 805 East Pender.

1. While the forerunner of our AUUC was formed in Winnipeg in 1918, it was not until almost ten years later that enough members of the AUUC banded together to build a hall in Vancouver. In 1927, progressive Ukrainians were meeting in homes, in an old grocery store behind the Waldorf Hotel, or in the Clinton Hall of the Finnish organization.

With the leadership of conductor and teacher Ramon Nazarkevich, and with money borrowed from forestry workers, this Heritage Hall was built, and opened on December 28, 1928. The small but industrious Vancouver AUUC membership soon retired the mortgage, literally with pennies collected each time they came to the hall.

2. Immediately on opening, the Hall had a full slate of cultural and social programs. There was public dancing every Saturday night, and plays and concerts were performed every Sunday. In that first year, Clifford Odets’ play *Waiting For Lefty* was performed with a troupe that eventually won the Dominion Drama Festival and ended up touring the province. (A cast member of that winning play, Harry Hoshowsky, acknowledged a salute from the audience from his first mandolin chair in the Vancouver Folk Orchestra.)

3. The Hall was home not only to those of Ukrainian descent — it soon became a community centre, the meeting place for many other eth-

nic pioneer groups. For example, the Maxim Gorky Club (which later became the Federation of Russian Canadians), the Canadian Labour Defence League, the Yugoslav Association, Italian Mutual Aid Society, Chinese Protection Association, Unemployed Council, Jewish Dramatic Club and the Estonian Association all used the Hall. It also served as a meeting place for many unions, among them the Bakers and Food Workers, the Fishermen, and the Merchant Marine.

4. When authorities brutally ended the occupation of the Vancouver Post Office by unemployed and striking Canadians in the 1930s, the Hall was turned into a field hospital for the care of those injured in their battle with the callous RCMP. Dr. Lyle Telford, the Mayor of Vancouver, was the chief medical officer in charge. He coordinated all activities, and most of the volunteers came from our hall. The ladies of our association worked as nurses’ aides, prepared and served food, and visited and comforted the men. Many of the unemployed slept in the Hall or in our adjacent yard.

5. In 1935, this Hall was the western starting point for the On To Ottawa Trek, when those hundreds of unemployed men from relief camps travelled to the country’s capital by hopping freight trains.

6. In 1941, this building was closed as a result of a knee jerk reaction by a short sighted Canadian government. While the Hall was closed, our women met in homes and in other neighbourhood buildings to roll band-

ages, to knit for Canadian soldiers, and to participate in other activities for Canada’s war effort. In time, the closure of the AUUC Hall was declared an unnecessary and illegal government intervention, and the building was returned to the very patriotic Canadian AUUC membership.

7. In the 1950s all our school classes were very well attended and our senior groups were excellent teachers and role models. It was a period of awareness — folk music, racial and peace consciousness. The great American activist and folk singer Pete Seeger came to entertain our students of music and dance at 805 East Pender. A wonderful historic performance was enjoyed by all the students and parents who filled the Hall.

8. In 1988, the AUUC built the Lesya Ukrainka Manor and, with BC Housing, now operates a very successful senior citizen’s home where many pioneers of Ukrainian and other ethnic backgrounds enjoy retirement in this vibrant Strathcona neighbourhood.

9. Keeping up with the times, between 2003 and 2004, this AUUC Hall has been a location for both the movie *Miracle On Ice*, the Kurt Russel Lake Placid Olympic Hockey film, and the TV drama *Cold Case*. The Hall didn’t win an Oscar, but she looked great on film.

10. In 2005, 805 East Pender was diagnosed with building envelope failure. Ironically, it was not a failure of the original builders but of improperly installed windows during repairs undertaken in the 1980s. We are grateful to the National Executive of the

(Continued on Page 11.)



The Barvinok Choir was conducted by Beverly Dobrinsky.



The Varna Chamber Choir, conducted by Natalia Alexandrova-Manolov, was appreciatively received.



The Bilka group of the dance school performed a “Polka”.



The Veselka Dancers performed the “Dance with Tambourines”.



The Zirka group of the dance school appeared with “Kozachok”.



The Barvinok group of the School of Dance, with “Hopak kolom”.



The entire dance school combined for the “Vinochok” of the “Finale”.



The Barvinok group of the School of Dance performed “Podilsky kozachok”.

**Nine Decades of Struggle returns in our next issue.**

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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## An Attack on Women

An Editorial by Wilfred Szczesny

A former National President of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians frequently used to say, "If you block a journalist at the front door, he will get in through the back, and if you block the back door he will climb in through a window."

Nobody believes that the saying applies only to journalists. In particular, we know that the behaviour described can also be found among opponents of women's rights to abort their pregnancies.

There are the opponents of abortion rights who go to the extent of claiming that they are not. They are subtle, and they are misleading, and they may well gain the support of people who take them at face value, who see the bait but not the hook, to borrow another metaphor.

An example is Conservative MP Ken Epp, sponsor of private members bill C-484, which has passed first and second reading in the House of Commons and is expected to return in autumn for third reading. If it passes, it may well become law.

The bait is that the law provides yet another charge against a person whose criminal act causes the termination of a pregnancy, the bait which supposedly gained the support of Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Rona Ambrose (believe that if you want).

The hook is that the bill, which Epp and other supporters call "The Unborn Victims of Crime Act", calls a fetus "an unborn child", laying the foundation for granting a fetus all the rights and protections afforded a child, starting with protection against being murdered.

While Mr. Epp says that the bill is intended to give added protection to pregnant women, and disingenuously claims that the bill is not about abortion, because it specifically excludes abortion. However, he is fully aware that the first step is to recognize the fetus as a person, and the second is to protect that person against a murderous abortion by a simple amendment to The Unborn Victims of Crime Act.

Antonia Zerbisias, in the *Toronto Star* on June 6, 2008, quotes writing by MP Ken Epp in the *Ottawa Citizen* in May, 2008, which establishes beyond a reasonable doubt that his purpose is to undermine abortion rights, belying his claim that the bill protects pregnant women and their rights, and establishing that it is an attack on women.

Antonia Zerbisias correctly concludes that bill C-484 is a bill that kills, as it means "goodbye to safe, legal abortions and hello to coat hangers and knitting needles."

## COMMENTARY

## Freedom of Speech and Hate Mongering

In recent time, there has been a lot of discussion about freedom of speech and hate mongering.

There was the case of the cartoons which many Muslims found offensive for religious reasons and many more found offensive because they felt like hate literature.

More recently, there has been the controversy around material which appeared in *Maclean's* in 2006, excerpts from the book *America Alone* by Mark Steyn.

Way back in time, decades ago, Barbara Amiel wrote about being in Angola, having illegally crossed the border from South Africa. She wrote that, being approached by a Cuban patrol, she and her party chewed up and swallowed their credit cards to avoid being identified.

If you try chewing up a credit card, never mind swallowing it, you will understand why my faith in *Maclean's* as objective journalism plum-

meted.

Quite recently, after the Steyn stuff was published and before it became a major public debate, I got a subscription to *Maclean's*. I soon decided that I would let my subscription lapse. There was no discernable reason for me to change my opinion of *Maclean's* as a journal. In my opinion, it is a right-wing rant, an even stronger example of cause journalism than is the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, though from the opposite political viewpoint.

Therefore, I am surprised neither by the fact that *Maclean's* carried the Steyn material nor by the complaint that the magazine declined to give equal coverage to an opposing viewpoint.

Nor do I find it surprising that *Maclean's* resorts to freedom of speech as the defence against the charge that the material is hate literature. The right-wing press insists on its right to print whatever it

wants, to avoid a "chill on journalism", and insists just as strongly that criticism of its own sacred cows be shut down as hate literature.

Was the material hate literature?

The Ontario Human Rights Commission thought it was, and said so, even as it declined to hear, on the grounds that it had no jurisdiction, the complaint against *Maclean's* brought by members of the Canadian Islamic Congress.

The *Toronto Star* thought so, citing phrases to justify calling the material published by *Maclean's* an "Islamophobic polemic". The "Star" thought, nevertheless, that press freedom was at stake.

Did the material stimulate hatred against Muslims? At a hearing in British Columbia, where the Human Rights Tribunal does have jurisdiction, evidence was cited in the form of blog responses to the article which reflected a possible growing hatred of Islam, a phenomenon of growing concern to Muslims.

Publications like the *Toronto Star*, and other institutions which like to think of themselves as liberal, should apply a simple test in determining whether published material is acceptable under the heading of free speech: they should ask how they would react to the material if it were written about Jews or Judaism.

If that test were applied to the infamous cartoons or to the Steyn material, they would be judged (and quite correctly) terrible anti-Semitism. Freedom of speech would not be considered a legitimate justification, nor would there be any concern about any "chill on journalism".

Setting a standard by which to judge hate literature is, for the most part, not difficult (and in the cases under consideration, we are not looking at marginal or moot issues). If we would consider it hate literature should it be directed against us or our friends, then we should consider it hate literature when it is directed against other groups. If it says that an ethnic or a religious group poses a threat to us and its members should be treated as dangerous, then it is hate literature.

We do not tolerate hate literature from the likes of Ernst Zundel and those who print him; nor should we tolerate hate literature from the likes of Mark Steyn and those who print him.

— Wilfred Szczesny

## Hands in Our Pockets

Ministers of the Federal government (and perhaps other Members of Parliament) have been travelling on Conservative Party business, and charging the cost to the public purse.

It has been made public that trips were planned to Conservative fundraising events. Then a bit of government business was thrown in, and the entire cost shifted to government, rather than party, accounts.

The Conservatives have defended themselves in this matter by pointing out that the Liberals did the same thing when in power.

The Conservative countercharge is probably true. However that does not justify their behaviour. It was wrong when the Liberals did it, and it is wrong when the Conservatives do it.

The "they did it too" defence is particularly strange coming from a party that promised that it would practice at a higher ethical level than their Liberal competitors. On the other hand, Canadians have seen enough Tory virtue over the years (not to mention over recent months) that we never did believe any of those claims.

Nothing the Conservatives do, it seems, is so outrageous that nobody will come to its defence. Sure enough, Bill Soles of Hawkestone, Ontario, sent a letter to the editor,

printed in the *Toronto Star*, where the "revelation" originated, asks whether a person travelling on business who does a bit of personal stuff while on the trip should refund part of the travel costs.

"Your so-call scam is sailing in a leaky boat," Mr. Soles concludes.

Mr. Soles, of course, has it backwards. The question is not a bit of personal stuff while on business, but a bit of business while on personal stuff.

Additionally, Mr. Soles must know that there is a limit to how much personal stuff on a business trip can be charged to the company, and getting too far into the trough can have dire consequences.

The *Toronto Star* suggests that the cost of any trip involving both government and party business be evenly split.

I object, as a taxpayer, to paying anything for Tory fundraising — they already get huge amounts under election laws. But I object even more to paying the whole shot under duplicitous arrangements.

— Wilfred Szczesny

## ADVERTISING RATES

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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

### McCartney Rocks Ukraine

Sir Paul McCartney did not let torrential downpours spoil the night for Ukrainian fans as he performed before an audience of more than 350,000 people in Kyiv's Independence Square.

The former Beatle rocked the audience with an astounding 33 hit songs.

Given that abundant amounts of rain had reduced the capital's streets to waterways, it seemed uncertain whether McCartney's concert would go ahead. However, the show did take place, though a couple of hours later than its scheduled time.

McCartney was heard speaking the local lingo, and waving Ukraine's national flag.

"I've waited a long time to play this song here," he told his audience. "It's great to be here. Thank you for coming out in the rain," he added.

The crowd's loudest screams were reserved for an electrifying performance of the James Bond theme tune "Live and Let Die", complete with pyrotechnics and fireworks.

The free concert, organized by Ukrainian billionaire Viktor Pinchuk, was broadcast live on TV across the country, and on giant screens set up in five other cities.

Sir Paul finished the concert with two encores, ending with "Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band".

Ukraine has played host to a number of well-known performers in recent years. In June of last year, Sir Elton John performed to 200,000 people in Independence Square, while the Rolling Stones took centre stage in Kyiv's Olympic Stadium last July.

### Rich Get Richer

According to the Russian-language magazine *Korrespondent*, Ukraine's 50 wealthiest individuals doubled their net worth during the past year. Their net worth now stands at US\$112.7 billion, enough to finance Ukraine's total budget for two years.

The top-heavy wealth concentration, experts say, is also a warning sign that a handful of oligarchs may have co-opted the state. The danger is that the public interest will be subverted, with government adopting policies and laws that favour the elite at the expense of everyone else.

Not many of Ukraine's richest tycoons achieved their current positions based on merit or entrepreneurial creativity. Indeed, at least 20

of the top 50 owned capital in Soviet-built industries. They acquired these assets during the virtually lawless early post-communist era of shady privatization.

"When you have a huge disparity between the 10% richest and 10% poorest in a country, this is an indicator that the country is unstable from the standpoint that society doesn't view those with money as being legitimate, that wealth was acquired dishonestly," said Mykhailo Mischenko of the Kyiv-based Razumkov Center.

### Massive Mine Explosion

The most powerful explosion in the history of the Ukrainian coal industry killed one miner, injured 29 others and trapped 12 more 700 metres (2,300 feet) below ground.

The blast took place at the Karl Marx mine in Yenakiyev, in the Donetsk region in eastern Ukraine. The twelve missing miners were among 42 who were in the mine at the time of the blast.

Few mines in Ukraine have been upgraded since Ukraine went capitalist in 1991.

In fact, just the previous week, the Karl Marx mine had been shut down by government inspectors for safety violations. At the time of the explosion, the mine was operating illegally. Investigators say they have enough evidence to state that negligence was the main cause of the deadly explosion.

Said a spokesman for the President, "The condition of the coal mining industry is deteriorating further and the profession of coal miner is becoming extremely dangerous."

Almost 5000 miners in Ukraine have been killed since 1991. Officials say that for every million tons of coal brought to the surface, three miners lose their lives.

### US Flag Burned

A NATO delegation visiting Ukraine was met on June 17 in Kharkiv, a major industrial centre in eastern Ukraine, by anti-NATO slogans and a burning American flag.

The delegation, led by NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffner, arrived in Ukraine on June 16 on a two-day visit to discuss the expansion of political dialogue between Ukraine and the American military alliance.

A group of about 300 protesters from Ukraine's pro-business Party of Regions, the Communist Party, the Social-

ist Party, and other organizations set up a picket line in front of Kharkiv National University where eight NATO envoys held a propaganda roundtable on Ukraine's prospects of joining the alliance.

Ukraine's pro-Western "Orange" leadership has been ignoring Ukrainian public opinion, and pursuing NATO membership since 2004, when Orange co-leader President Viktor Yushchenko came to power.

A poll conducted in April by the FOM-Ukraine pollster showed that a majority of Ukrainians are against their country joining NATO. The poll revealed that 54.9% of respondents would have voted against joining the military alliance if a referendum had been held then, and that 22.3% would have been in favour of joining NATO.

### Not Trustworthy

The Pew Research Center is a well-known American public opinion organization. It is best known for its very detailed annual Pew Global Attitudes Project.

As an offshoot of its 2007 Global Attitudes Survey, it examined the correlation between trust, crime and corruption in countries around the world. It published its findings in a three-page report on April 15, 2008.

The title of the report is "Where Trust is High, Crime and Corruption are Low." The subtitle of the report is "Since Communism's Fall, Social Trust has Fallen in Eastern Europe."

In the body of the report, it states "The survey also found that in Eastern Europe — a region where concerns about corruption are widespread — the tumultuous changes that followed the fall of communism have taken their toll on social trust. The percentage of Russians, Ukrainians and Bulgarians who believe most people are trustworthy has declined steeply since the early 1990s" (when capitalism took control - **GB**).

"In 1991 solid majorities in all three countries said most people could be trusted, but by 2007 these numbers had slipped to 44% in Bulgaria, 50% in Russia, and 47% in Ukraine.

### Radioactive Cafe

A plan to smuggle a highly radioactive helicopter from the Chernobyl nuclear disaster area and turn it into an eye-catching cafe has been foiled in Ukraine.

Police said several people

were detained after they were found transporting the scrap from the 18-mile exclusion zone around the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station which exploded in 1986.

The helicopter, an Mi-8, was found to emit up to 30 times the legal level of radiation.

According to a statement issued by the elite SBU Special Services, the criminals "tried to take an Mi-8 helicopter out of the exclusion zone to use it as an original coffee shop in one of Ukraine's cities."

A workhorse of the Soviet armed forces, the Mi-8 helicopter is capable of carrying up to 28 troops, although it was not made clear how many customers the gang had been hoping to seat.

Almost 2,000 helicopter sorties were ordered to douse the Chernobyl station after a reactor suffered melt-down. As a result, many of the helicopter pilots received lethal doses of radiation.

### Orthodox Against NATO

The Administrative Court in Kyiv is to consider a petition by Orthodox citizens that the letter (sent early this year) applying for admission to NATO's Membership Action Plan and signed by the President and Prime Minister was illegal.

"When President Yushchenko meets leaders of NATO countries, he never fails to mention that Ukraine will surely join the plan on NATO membership at the upcoming) Alliance December summit," stated Yuri Yegorov, the chairman of the Pravoslavny Vybor (Orthodox Choice) Ukrainian public association. He also referred to the "unprecedented large-scale campaign for promoting this military and political coalition" in Ukraine, a campaign which was being funded by "millions of dollars" from NATO.

Orthodox organizations intend to organize prayer vigils in front of the court's building on Desyatynnaya Street while the court is considering the petition.

### Pew Global Attitudes

In the 2007 world survey carried out by Pew Global Attitudes, an American polling organization, the attitudes of the people of Ukraine, compared to those of Canadians, are interesting.

In 2007, 57% of Ukrainians and 54% of Canadians considered environmental problems as being the top global threat.

Only 20% of Ukrainians and 22% of Canadians consid-

ered the spread of American ideas and customs a good thing.

In response to the question "Does US policy consider interests of countries such as yours?" 65% of Ukrainians and 83% of Canadians said "No."

About 72% of Ukrainians favour removing their troops from both Iraq and Afghanistan (62% of Canadians favour troop removal from Iraq and 49% from Afghanistan).

Global warming is considered to be a very serious problem by 59% of Ukrainians and 58% of Canadians. The US is blamed for world pollution by 37% of Ukrainians (8% blame Russia) and 36% of Canadians (31% blame China). Russia is viewed favourably by 81% of Ukrainians and 52% of Canadians.

Now you know!

### "Orange" Coalition Threatened

Two Members of Parliament resigned recently from the Ukrainian legislature's ruling coalition to shatter the pro-NATO forces' majority control of legislature. Their decision reduced the ruling majority to 225 seats (exactly equal to the anti-NATO opposition) in the 450-member house.

Under the Ukrainian constitution, Ukrainian President (and Orange co-leader) Viktor Yushchenko would be able to call new parliamentary elections in 60 days, if MPs are unable to form a new ruling majority.

Prime Minister (and Orange co-leader) Yulia Tymoshenko has been in open conflict with her ally, President Yushchenko, since her appointment as Prime Minister at the beginning of this year. The flash points between them have been on almost every possible issue, including cabinet appointments, foreign investment, inflation, and government intervention in currency and retail markets.

The fundamental problem between them is that Yulia Tymoshenko wants the President's job, and is making aggressive moves to win the next presidential election.

Yushchenko is pushing back.

Consequently, both Yushchenko and Tymoshenko have been spending too much time preparing for the next presidential election, and not enough time governing the country.

Disputes over the make-up of Ukraine's parliament have sparked constitutional crises in the former Soviet republic every year since the country's Orange Revolution in 2004.

**Ukrainian  
Page  
Submitted  
Separately**

**Ukrainian  
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# “All Aboard!” for Edmonton Adventure!



Over 20 seniors boarded the bus on May 20 to visit a flower centre and a gurdwara (Sikh temple).



Above and below: The seniors were hosted at the gurdwara by Kuldip Singh Lotey, a well-spring of information.



## Edmonton Seniors' Rummage Sale

The month of May's activities for our seniors did not end with the field trip. Many of us seniors complain about the amount of stuff we've accumulated over a lifetime — and therefore a good reason exists for having a rummage sale at the Hall! The boxes of “great stuff” started piling up and everything was displayed to good effect on Saturday, May 24. Everything from Ukrainian trinkets to holiday souvenirs, from good hats, jackets and boots to all sizes of bicycles and even hip-waders was up for sale!

A rummage sale is a lot of work, but working together on a good project is also quite fun. It is so pleasing to see our elders participate in their own very special way. Anne Husar brought some perennials from her garden to the rummage

sale. Along with these plants came many gardening tips! This was successful.

As another example, Peter Zariwny, the outdoors man, brought hip-waders and a cooler for the sale. He then came at the end of the sale in his trusty white van to see how things were going!

Our rummage sale was successful, with the final benefit of a few hundred dollars for our senior's club. We intend to have these funds for the bus trips we take to interesting places such as the Sikh gurdwara we toured this month.

Pauline Warick is in charge, with the help of Paul Greene and Mike Uhryn, to deliver all unsold articles to the charity Mustard Seed, a few blocks from the Ukrainian Centre.

— Shirley Uhryn

On May 20, 2008, the Edmonton AUUC Seniors went on a field trip during which we visited an outlet of Kuhlmann's Market Gardens and Greenhouses and the Nanaksar Gurdwara Gursikh Temple on the outskirts of northeast Edmonton, Alberta.

This most successful day was organized by Mary Tropak for the destinations and by Pauline Warwick for the transportation. We rode in the big yellow school bus!

Just over 20 seniors journeyed for new adventures that day. At the nursery we were given a guided tour of the inter-generational family-owned and -operated nursery. We were also given a 10% discount card which many used as we left with armfuls of plants.

After boarding the bus again, we proceeded to visit the awesome and grand gurdwara (Sikh temple), where we were warmly received by their host, Kuldip Singh Lotey. He introduced us to the gurdwara, which was begun in 1989. It must be emphasized that it is built by volunteers. Its maintenance and everyday operations too are volunteer based.

“The ladies contribute a lot; they are the backbone,” stated Kuldip Singh Lotey proudly.

For an example of sharing and meeting a need, the food is donated to feed daily the volunteers and visitors like us. Each family volunteers for the day. The members take turns. The whole project is a work of love and dedication in progress Lotey shared.

In an interview with our guide, Kuldip Singh Lotey, during lunch, he gave us many insights about his Sikh community.

Sikhism is a 600-year-old faith and a derivative of Hinduism. “Everything comes and goes through volunteering and time. Everyone does his/her part.... Every day is a new talent.”

If one wants to see and experience “caring for each other, go to Third World countries, THAT is where real love is!” reflected Lotey.

Lotey warmly said that his people like to share with everybody. In the future everyone of us is welcome to come again. “This is just the beginning! Come any time!”

Once we boarded the bus to return to our hall in Edmonton, participants shared their impressions of this experi-



Above: Anita MacDonald (nee Kuhlmann) conducted a tour of the facility, a family owned and operated business. Four pictures below: checking out the colourful wares.



ence. Olga Horon said, “Today we were exposed to a different culture. We saw and (Continued on Page 11.)”



The visit to the temple ended with a buffet lunch of food prepared by gurdwara members.

Story photos: Victor Horon



## Doors Open in Winnipeg

In February of 2008, the board of the Canadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research was approached about our participation in an event called Doors Open. This event, which is sponsored by Heritage Winnipeg, takes place every year in May. It is an opportunity for people to tour significant buildings which might not usually be open to the public or which might not normally offer tours. The list includes a wide range of building types: banks, office buildings, museums, churches, theatres—and even a jail, a widely popular site. They are all special buildings, so we were honoured to have been asked to include the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Doors Open.

The weekend of May 24

and 25 was the date chosen. However, since we were already committed to an event on Saturday, we could only agree to doing tours on Sunday, May 25. Heritage Winnipeg was agreeable to this.

Five people from the CSULR board agreed to help with the tours. Myron Shatulsky was the head guide, with Nolan Reilly, Brent Stearns, Lily Stearns and Victor Dobchuk prepared to fill in when Myron's energy flagged (which, incidentally, never happened).

Olga Shatulsky kindly dealt with the new arrivals as the other tours proceeded to different parts of the building.

We awaited the day with trepidation: would anyone come? There were so many interesting buildings to visit,

—Photo: Lily Stearns



Myron Shatulsky (left), the chief tour guide at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, was interviewed by Shaw TV a few days before Doors Open in Winnipeg.

would they think there was anything worth seeing here? Would they be fearful of the North End's reputation as a scene of shootings?

We needn't have worried. The first visitors arrived at 9:50 a.m., and the stream of people continued throughout the day without cessation. In total, there were about 80 to 85 people, although it was impossible to count them.

As for whether our building was "worth" visiting, one person said he passed this "monumental" building many times, and often wondered what it was like inside.

As he began the tour, Myron spoke about the circumstances which led to the building's construction: the need for a theatre, and the need for space for the publishing company and for the Social Democratic Party. He described the multi-ethnic environment of North End Winnipeg.

He described the various hurdles which faced the building committee and which hampered both the fundraising efforts and construction: World War I, which was under way, the perception of Ukrainians and other Eastern Europeans as enemy aliens; the subsequent imposition of the War Measures Act; the outbreak of Spanish influenza; the labour unrest; and so on. The visitors listened with rapt attention.

Myron then described the architectural features of the building and pointed out the changes that have been made.

The tour proceeded to the stage where he showed them the original electrical panels, the fire curtain, the stage rigging, and the various floodlighting. He described how a

set is "struck", using original iron tools, pointed out the "thunder machine", and various other pieces of stagecraft.

A tour of the boys' dressing room followed, with Myron describing the top *garderoba*, where original pots of make-up, false moustaches, etc., can still be found. (We didn't allow the tour groups up to the top level for fear of a fall.)

For the visitors (and the other guides), the stage came alive with Myron's description of the backstage activities which took place before a drama or concert, and the perils of live productions.

As the tour progressed, Myron spoke about the print shop and the newspapers, books and journals which were produced there. Many expressed an interest in seeing the print shop, but they had to be content with the imaginative recreation of it.

The final tour was of the balcony, with its original seats. The hat-racks for the mens' fedoras were pointed out, a reminder of another era.

Since Myron could not handle all the tours simultane-

ously, the other guides pitched in, so at times there were three or four tours proceeding at one time.

It was, I think, an exhilarating experience. The people were attentive, their questions interesting. It gave us the opportunity to be reminded, by the questions they asked and the comments they made, of how unique our building is and how remarkable it was that the Ukrainian Labour Temple should have been built, given the economic, social and political times that prevailed.

We were reminded (if we had forgotten) how it was built without any resources other than volunteer labour, and without any grants, but with a tremendous spirit of optimism.

We have been asked to participate again next year, but this decision will have to await the next meeting of the CSULR. The consensus was that it was a worthwhile undertaking. It was a wonderful opportunity to show off our building, talk about our history, and—to our surprise—was fun.

— Lily Stearns

## Doors Open Banner

Elsewhere I have written about the Doors Open project in Winnipeg in which CSULR members participated. (See page 9 – Ed.) Another component of that event was the production of a banner.

Of the various buildings participating, three were chosen to have banners made for them. Along with the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Government House (the residence of the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba) and Ralph Connor

House were to be given this honour. These banners were to be hung in the building during the Doors Open event, and each group was to have a second banner to be hung outside, from a lamp post or some other structure.

The banners were to be designed and produced by high school students, under the supervision of a student-teacher in the Faculty of Education program at the University of (Continued on Page 14.)

## Labour Songs and May Days

"Labour Songs and May Days" was the title of a talk by Myron Shatulsky which was featured in an evening concert sponsored by the Canadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research (CSULR) on May 24 at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg.

Mr. Shatulsky told stories about the origins of the songs, and set the songs within the context of Ukrainian Labour Temple history. His talk was illustrated by the performance of some of the songs he discussed by the Winnipeg Labour Choir.

Myron Shatulsky began with a summary of events surrounding the building of the Labour Temple in 1918-19, and the subsequent early years of the Ukrainian Labour Temple Association.

He also talked about the folk singing groups which



were developed at the hall in the 1950s and '60s, and then turned to the historical development of some specific familiar songs, such as his personal favourite, "Hold the Fort".

The Labour Choir sang several of the classics, including "Solidarity Forever", "Razom tovaryshi v nohu" (Together

as One, Comrades) and "Commonwealth of Toil".

After a failed attempt to resurrect one of the very good groups which flourished at the hall in the 1960s, the CSULR took steps to create its own group. The result was What's Left, a group of about 16 singers and instrumentalists from AUUC Winnipeg Branch, its choir and orchestra, and members of the labour community.

The concept was to create an audience-participation hootenanny (remember those sing-alongs?) based on familiar songs that are easily harmonized, structurally simple, and having refrains which are highly repetitive and easily learned.

The group had two rehearsals only, beginning after the Festival Choir had finished its season.

What's Left did "We Shall Not Be Moved", "Union Maid", "Last Night I Had the Strangest Dream", and "Roll the Union On".

Nancy Kardash Ursuliak



Shown above are the vocalists of What's Left as Brent Stearns, holding the guitar, introduces one of the songs.

and Tusia Kozub shared a duet on What's Left's adaptation of "Give Back My Factory to Me", a song calling for the organization of workers into one big international union to counter the adverse effects of globalization.

What's Left concluded their set by inviting Labour Choir members, and all others so inclined, to join them at the front of the hall for the singing of "The Internationale". Very nearly the entire audience took part in this.

The What's Left instrumentalists were led by Alan

Popowich on guitar and double bass. Ian Walker played the autoharp, Nancy Walker the guitar, and Brent Stearns the guitar, 5-string banjo and accordion.

Brent Stearns brought the group together, planned the repertoire, and provided background on the music.

The lecture-concert was coordinated by Lily Stearns, CSULR president.

Myron Shatulsky produced a striking and bold red, white, and black poster prominently featuring a stylized clenched fist. — Lily Stearns

—Photo: Lily Stearns

**Submitted  
as a  
separate  
PDF file**

## “Shchero vas vitayem...”

(Continued from Page 3.) AUUC, with whose help the Vancouver Hall has been repaired and renovated, a proud member of historic, heritage Strathcona. Once again, the Vancouver AUUC membership is working to retire a mortgage.

Revered Ukrainian national poet, Taras Hrehorovich Shevchenko, charged Ukraine's people to, “learn from others, but do not forget nor spurn your own”. On Sunday, June 8, 2008, the AUUC Vancouver Branch, proud descendants of our early Ukrainian pioneers, were pleased to present a legacy concert in honour of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the AUUC Ukrainian Cultural Centre. The walls of the auditorium were covered with archival photographs displaying cultural, social and organizational activities from the 1920s to the present. This scholarly and heartfelt tribute to our historic building was orchestrated by AUUC Vancouver Branch archivists, Audrey Moysiuk and Margot Chitrenky.

The concert program was ambitious and reflected the dedicated effort of all performing groups. The Barvinok Choir continues to grow and has developed a full and lusty sound. “*Rospriahayte khloptsi koni*”, “*Khodyla ya po sadochku*” (a trio with choir accompaniment), “*Oi chiy to kin' stoyit*”, “*Oi myi myliy varenechky khoche*” (a duet with choir), were very well delivered and most entertaining.

The Vancouver Folk Orchestra also continues to draw new members and their

pieces, “*Dumka*” and “The Linden Tree” were very well received.

Each group in the School of Dance also had a solo number. All the dancers reflected the work the school did in preparation for the BC Ukrainian Dance Festival. This year, once again, all our groups performed extremely well and won many gold medals and other awards. All levels of the school's performers were comfortable and relaxed on the Hall's stage and happily interacted with the audience.

In keeping with our policy of sharing our stage with other performers, the Cultural Committee invited the Bulgarian Varna Chamber Choir to perform. This choir has an eclectic repertoire from the Renaissance to the present. They sing in a variety of languages, and enjoy exploring the rhythms and musical idioms of many cultures. Under director Natalia Alexandrova-Manolov, they entertained the appreciative crowd, who especially liked the two Bulgarian folk songs.

Our second guest, bandurist Ruta Yawney, was born into a Ukrainian family and raised in northern Ontario. Ruta has played the bandura, a fifty-five string lute-like Ukrainian instrument, since she was eleven years old. Her remarkable voice and soulful playing have touched the spirits of many with its exotic melodies, and our audience was no exception.

The finale of our concert was a unique presentation of “*Mnohaya lita*”, with special adaptation by Beverly Dobrinsky. Barvinok was joined

by the Varna Choir and the Strathcona Choir, who have joined us in the past for special occasions. This ancient, traditional anthem resounded with the echoes of past and present. It was a very stirring moment and an appropriate close to the concert portion of our celebration.

After the concert, guests were invited to view the photos and then make their way down to the banquet hall. A sumptuous buffet table groaned with homemade *pe-*

*rohy, holubtsi*, roast pork and apple sauce, *kolbassa*, dilled cucumber and sour cream salad, coleslaw, Caesar salad and garlic bread. A wonderful 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary cake completed the banquet. This meal, prepared by chef Karen McCrae and her able kitchen crew, took its place in the long list of meals lovingly prepared and served by our members over the last 80 years.

There are several auspicious anniversaries for Vancouverites in 2008 — the prov-

ince of British Columbia is 150 years old, Stanley Park is 120 years old, the University of British Columbia is 100 years old as is local Britannia Secondary School, the AUUC is 90, Lesya Ukrainka Manor is 20. So, our hall at 805 East Pender Street is in very good company as she celebrates her 80 years of vibrant life.

Under Vancouver AUUC President, Dianna Kleparchuk, our Branch is thriving and planning for many other (Continued on Page 16.)

## In the Branches

### Vancouver

On June 1, AUUC Vancouver Branch held its Annual General Meeting. The membership heard reports from various Executive Members and Committees and heard a review of the activities the Branch had been involved in since the last AGM. Elected to the Branch Executive were: Dianna Kleparchuk – President; Bob Chitrenky – Treasurer; Audrey Moysiuk – Recording Secretary; Larry Kleparchuk – Executive Member. Two positions have yet to be filled.

Audrey Skalbania, Sylvia Surette and Margot Chitrenky were elected as Auditors.

Following the meeting, those present were treated to a pasta and salad dinner prepared by some of the Branch members.

### Winnipeg

The spring concert season ended on June 1st with the dance school's recital and participation recognition. The Yunist dancers and the Praetorius Mandolin Ensemble also took part. The choir and orchestra had already completed their seasons and

did not appear on the program. A special feature of the concert was a dance by the combined older girls' classes of the school. Cheryl Ann Carr was mistress of ceremonies, while Justin McGillivray did the design for the concert program.

The Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra held its annual potluck supper at the home of Nan and Martin Colledge on June 2. After supper, some of the group watched their own *Mostly Mandolins* concert, as recorded on video by Leonard Kaminski. Others “jammed” on fiddle and mandolin, on the deck outside, around an open fire.

Floyd Williston delivered the eulogy at the funeral of his mother-in-law, Irene Sawiuk, on May 29 at the Cropo Funeral Chapel. Other speakers were Koren Kaminski, who spoke of her memories as a long-time friend of the family, and Kathy Schubert, the administrator of Ivan Franko Manor where Irene had lived. Harry Stefaniuk sang two Ukrainian folk songs unaccompanied.

The May number of *The Mandolin Journal*, the official newsletter of the Classical Mandolin Society of

America, carried an article about the AUUC's Praetorius Mandolin Ensemble by Barrie Webster, the group's violoncellist and artistic director. The journal also carried the Mandolin I part for the *Faerie Queen Suite*, as adapted for the mandolin ensemble by Ian Walker. “The Journal” used a photograph of the group by Lily Stearns to illustrate the story.

The latest event in the continuing story of the water line break was the complete collapse of the middle two lanes of McGregor Street, precisely at the point where the work on the water line had been done. The two lanes were closed to traffic for two weeks at the end of May and the beginning of June. The delay in replacing the boiler at the hall continues, while the insurance company explores inexpensive options for fixing the problem. The auxiliary electric heaters were removed in early April, when Winnipeg was experiencing an unusual warm spell which Winnipeg Branch erroneously thought meant the beginning of summer. So, for about a month from the middle of April to the middle of May during the height of rehearsal and concert season, temperatures in the hall hovered at about 64°F.

(Files from Dianna Kleparchuk, Brent Stearns)

## “All Aboard!”

(Continued from Page 8.) experienced customs and ideas of which we were unaware.”

Nick Kereliuk said, “I admire the beautiful architecture and admire the fact that everything was hand-cut. We must appreciate the volunteer work that goes with building this beautiful temple.”

“The temple's structure and beauty always intrigued me as I drove by through the years. One can not help but wonder. This visit made us see the tremendous significance of this temple in their and our community. Every member has a purpose and volunteers her/his talents, from the architect to the stone mason, and from the cook to the engineer,” concluded Pauline Warick.

William Uhryn added that this visit very well exemplified Canada's multi-cultural society.

All of our participants were appreciative of this very rich

experience provided by Kul-dip Singh Lotey and his gracious people.

For June, another day trip is planned. As we did last year, we will be descending on the Uhryns. The feature for the noon meal will be a roast pig. For Eva, we will make sure that there is an apple in its mouth! (Maurice wanted a banana!) Hopefully, fresh bread will come from the *peech* (clay oven). Following that, we may journey to the ranch nearby to pet and view the newly born colt!

Recognition must be given to Victor Horon, the unfailing photographer who has, with his trusty camera, captured and shared our experiences with you each month through photography. In return, may his crops in the field yield many a hopper this year!

May the summer of '08 bring each of our readers many joys!

— Shirley Uhryn

## Celebration in Toronto

On Sunday, June 15, the AUUC Toronto Branch held its annual Mothers'/Fathers' Day Celebration in style.

On entering, the 55 or so guests were very pleasantly surprised to experience a warm and inviting “banquet-style” seating arrangement for the event's anticipated concert.

Floral bouquets of soft yellows and greens that decorated the white linen tablecloths were further enhanced by the matching serviettes at each place-setting. The decor gave the guests the feeling that spring was truly here and that summer was just around the corner.

The afternoon commenced with opening remarks by

Branch President and Master of Ceremonies George Borusiewicz, in which he proudly introduced the two performing choirs of the day, the Hahilka Choir of the AUUC and the Beryozka Choir of the Federation of Russian Canadians.

Under the talented direction of Natalka Mochoruk, the Hahilka Choir presented six most entertaining numbers. Among them was a very uplifting rendition of “*Kolomeyky*” with Lorna Clark, Terry Rivest, and Wilfred Szczesny. Much laughter was heard during the very humorous presentation of “The Case of the Missing Chicken”, with Lorna, and Maria Gargal and a surprise comic ending by

Wilfred.

Audience interest was at a peak throughout Natalka's very animated and endearing introductory explanations to all songs and her very entertaining stories about mothers and fathers during the brief intermission between the two choirs.

The Beryozka Choir, under Natalka's direction, continued the day's high level of performance with several captivating songs including a beautiful duet by Vicky Vuksinic and Lorna in a number called “You Can't Tell Your Heart What To Do”. The presentation of “A Gypsy Bonfire Song” with the trio of Nita Miskevich, Vicky and Lorna also pleased the crowd tremendously.

(Continued on Page 16.)

## Irene Sawiuk

With the beautiful recording (CD) of the Volyn Folk Choir of Lutsk playing in the background, a large number of friends of the late Irene Sawiuk gathered together in Winnipeg recently to bid her a fond farewell. Among those in attendance were grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Dan Dobchuk (whose family sponsored her in 1930).

This memorial service was indeed a celebration of a long life, well-lived and oft-times shared with young and old alike.

Irene, a "people's person", was born on the soil of Ukraine (Zemno, a small village near Vladimir Volynsk), on May 10, 1910, to Cenifon and Anna Matviyuk. Mother died on May 24, 2008, seventy-eight years to the very day she and her husband, Peter, arrived in Halifax (Canada) from Poland (Ukraine).



Her first of several visits back to Ukraine was in 1966; the last, in 1997.

Peter and Irene farmed in Plumas, Arden and McCreary areas of Manitoba. They retired to Neepawa in 1970 before joining their daughter in Winnipeg.

A boating accident in 1971 took the life of their son William, their grandsons Donnie and David Williston,

and a neighbour.

Irene was also predeceased by her husband Peter, in 1993; by her parents, as well as her sisters Marysia and Christina; brothers Fedor and Trohem, in Ukraine; and by her brother, Teehon, in Argentina.

In addition to her daughter, Elsie Williston (Floyd) in Winnipeg, *Baba* is survived by a number of relatives in Ukraine and in the USA, to whom she extended considerable support throughout her years in Canada.

The Memorial Service on May 29 at Winnipeg's Cropo Funeral Chapel was presided over by Irene's longtime friend Koren Kaminski. Koren spoke warmly of visiting the Sawiuk farm in McCreary and of later sharing numerous social occasions with Irene and Peter at their respective homes in Winnipeg.

Harry Stefaniuk, an accomplished singer, fellow-farmer and friend, sang two Ukrainian songs, (remembered as favourites of *Baba* Sawiuk).

Kathy Schubert, Administrator of the Ivan Franko Manor, related a number of delightful anecdotes from Mrs. Sawiuk's ten years of residence in the Manor.

Floyd Williston's relatively detailed overview of his mother-in-law's 98 years was well received. Of particular interest was the reference to her difficult crossing of the Atlantic, on the "Frederik VIII" in 1930. He indicated that 20-year-old Irene was expecting her first child, and was more than a bit apprehensive of what lay ahead of her in Canada.

Few of Irene's friends were aware that she and Peter had planned to return to Ukraine immediately following WWII. Fate (a fire destroyed their passports) determined otherwise.

Irene and her husband Peter, as well as their children William and Elsie, were dedicated members of the AUUC and WBA. They were not only activists, but also loyal finan-

cial contributors, and many leaders of both organizations were often hosted by the Sawiuks when travelling in the vicinity of the Sawiuk farm.

A message of condolence was read from great-niece, Mariana Matvychuck, and her family in Vladimir Volynsk (Ukraine).

Mother's memorial service ended with the playing of a selection of recorded musical pieces by the popular Winnipeg Mandolin Quintet of the AUUC.

*Baba* Sawiuk has been cremated, and a private interment service will take place at a later date. She will then become part of the Canadian soil from which she and Peter earned their daily bread for more than 40 years.

We love you and we miss you already, Mom, and we will "see you in our dreams".

Elsie and Floyd Williston have made a donation to the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* in Irene Sawiuk's memory.

— Floyd Williston

## Anne Semak

On March 17, 2008, Anne Semak (nee Korytko), at 80 years old, passed away in Montreal. She had been in declining health for several years.

Anne was born in Montreal on December 23, 1927, along with her twin brother Michael. He was born with a serious heart defect and survived for only 20 years. The twins were very close, and Michael's death was a serious blow to Anne.

Her mother, Frances Zibrowska, and her father, John Korytko, immigrated to Canada from the present territory of the Ukraine in the early '20s. They were married shortly after, and their first child, Sally, was born. Anne and Sally were very close until Sally's death in 1999. Sally was followed by Paul, then Mary, and finally the twins, Anne and Michael.

The parents struggled to cope socially and financially in Canada. Both were active in left-wing politics.

This was a period when there was little union protection — poor or no safety laws, no Medicare, no real social safety net; unions were fight-



ing for their existence or were being born. There was political repression and intimidation of those forces that fought for social justice.

Then the Great Depression started — two years after Anne's birth.

Anne left high school early and worked at a variety of jobs: clerical, secretarial, as a receptionist, etc.

Anne took part in many activities as a child, teenager, and adult in the AUUC. Her largest contribution was with the Workers Benevolent Association. She was WBA financial secretary for the Rosemount district in Montreal for many years. Her contribution to the political life of Quebec and

Canada was as a long-time active member of the Parti Communiste du Quebec.

In 1936, Maurice Duplessis and the Union Nationale came to power in Quebec; they were defeated in 1939, and re-elected in 1944. Duplessis died in 1959, and the Union Nationale was defeated by the Liberals in 1960.

Probably the most important act of Duplessis was the passing of the Padlock Law. Initially, it gave the government the right to arrest anyone without a warrant. The Act was aimed at labour unions and anybody who was in opposition, especially left-wingers, Communists, social democrats and other "peculiar people", as Duplessis put it. Newspapers and literature with which Duplessis disagreed were seized. Progressive persons or organizations like the ULFTA and the AUUC were targeted. All the Labour Temples were closed, opened, and padlocked again on several occasions. The authorities could just padlock your building or blackmail your landlord into evicting you under the threat that they would padlock the building if he or she didn't evict the occupants.

The Duplessis period is known as "The Dark Ages" in Quebec history, or as "The Great Darkness" (La Grande Noirceur). Jean Lesage, a future Liberal premier of Quebec, stated that corruption, blackmail and political immorality were the trademarks of the Union Nationale and Maurice Duplessis.

On June 8, 1940, an order-in-council based on the War Measures Act declared illegal the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association and a number of other organizations, illegal. ULFTA's Labour Tem-

ples were seized by the government. Many in the leadership of the ULFTA were interned like German war prisoners, while many members of the organization were fighting the Nazis. This was what Anne, her siblings, and her parents had to endure. The threat of intimidation was always there, as was police surveillance and the illegal opening of one's mail, etc.

Anne's mother took care of the five children and Anne's father struggled to make a living doing a variety of labouring jobs. He finally landed a job with Canada Cement as a labourer, and there was some economic stability.

Following two years in Calgary as the AUUC cultural director, Roy Semak, her future husband, was sent to Montreal to be the cultural director at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre. He first met Anne at her home in September, 1963, and about six months later, on February 22, 1964, they were married.

That same year, Roy left teaching in the AUUC. They moved to the Kitchener-Waterloo area, and Roy enrolled at the University of Waterloo, in civil engineering.

Their first son, Mark, was born in Kitchener, and there was tremendous pressure financially because Roy could not take a full-time job most

of the time.

Anne felt very socially isolated and longed to return to Montreal to be close to her family and friends, so before Roy had completed his engineering degree, they returned to Montreal.

Shortly after, Eric, their youngest son was born, and Roy, who had enrolled at McGill, completed his last year in civil engineering. He then worked for C. I. Power Services as a civil engineer, and at one point spent four months in Venezuela, where his family joined him.

When the children were growing up, they travelled extensively in Canada. After the boys grew up, Anne, her sister Sally, and Roy travelled widely.

Anne enjoyed a productive, useful, generally happy life.

She leaves her son Mark, his wife Tracy, and their two girls, Katrina and Sydney; and her younger son Eric, his wife Michelle and their daughter Miranda. She also leaves her sister Mary, her husband Wilfred, and their two children, and other nieces and nephews.

To her husband, who did everything possible to make her last years as comfortable as possible, and to the family, we extend our heartfelt condolences.

— Joseph Mazurkiewicz

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[www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum](http://www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum)

# Laurence Edwin (Ed) Tchorzewski

Laurence Edwin (Ed) Tchorzewski was born on April 22, 1943, near Alvena, Saskatchewan, and passed away peacefully with family by his side on June 6, 2008. He was predeceased by his father Isidor and his brother Frank. Ed is survived by his loving wife, of 42 years, Shirley; son Dion (Erin); daughters Raquel (Mark), Sharla (Chris) and Shaunda (Tanner); and his nine grandchildren: Josh, Matt, Alexa, Sydney, Miranda, Tia, Jake, Jelina and Ava.



**Ed Tchorzewski, shown here in 1995, was a Minister of Finance in the Cabinets of Saskatchewan Premiers Allan Blakeney and Roy Romanow.**

Ed grew up on the family farm in the Hudson Bay area. After graduating from high school he attended the University of Saskatchewan, where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in political studies and a teacher's certificate.

Ed worked as a teacher in Humboldt, at St. Dominic Elementary School, before entering politics. In later years, he taught in Regina, at St. Theresa Elementary School.

In recent years, Ed also enjoyed working as a consultant for Rawlco Communications.

Many people come and go in public life, but over the span of four decades few in Sas-

katchewan politics have had as great an impact in as many capacities as Ed Tchorzewski.

Ed was first elected to the Saskatchewan Legislature in 1971 as the MLA for Humboldt at the age of 28 years. He was then re-elected in this seat in both 1975 and 1978.

Ed returned to politics in 1985, winning the Regina Northeast seat in a by-election. He was re-elected in this seat in the 1986 provincial election, and elected in Regina Dewdney in 1991 and 1995. During this time, Ed served in various roles including cabinet minister, deputy premier, opposition critic, provincial campaign manager and party advisor with both the provincial and federal New Democratic

Party and the Government of Saskatchewan.

However, he is perhaps best known for the pivotal role he played as finance minister in the early 1990s, in helping to set the province's fiscal books straight. Within a few years, the NDP government was producing balanced budgets, and the province has never looked back.

Ed dedicated his working life to this province and its people. He loved Saskatchewan. Ed loved to golf and spend time outdoors. He spent endless hours working in his garden and caring for his yard.

Ed's favourite place was the family cabin at Crystal Lake, where family and friends were always welcomed with food, laughter and celebration.

Ed loved to play cards and games and he welcomed any opportunity to dance. He was a die-hard Maple Leafs fan, and a proud Roughrider supporter.

Nothing mattered more to Ed than his family. He was a dedicated father, a constant presence at all of his children's hockey, basketball, and volleyball games, at their Ukrainian dance concerts, recitals, award ceremonies, graduations and convocations.

In later years, his grandchildren were his pride and joy. He cherished every moment he spent with each one of them playing, reading, telling stories, singing and laughing.

Ed's true and forever love was his wife Shirley, with whom he shared his life and built his legacy through his work, friends and family.

Ed Tchorzewski was a great man.

The AUUC Regina Branch will greatly miss Ed Tchorzewski. For more than 20 years, whether it be at Mosaic, *Malanka*, or concerts that were being held, Ed and his wife would always be there, not only to take in the event but also to share in the work. Shirley's love of the kitchen was evident in her many years of dedication to the perogy making that would take place in the months prior to Mosaic. Ed even participated in the last few years, in his semi-retirement, and made himself available to assist handling the perogies, to make them ready for the locker plant.

Over all the years, whether Ed was sitting in government as an MLA and cabinet minister or working as a teacher, Ed would always make himself available to be at the front door of the Poltava Pavilion. Ed's pavilion job was to meet and greet visitors as they entered the building. Ed's constant smile would always be

noticeable to all of the visitors and the pavilion staff alike.

While Ed was working the front door, Ed's wife Shirley was spending many hours each day in the kitchen and his children were busy performing on the stage during the entire evening. Even Ed's grandchildren were performing during the early shows of Mosaic.

The Poltava Pavilion, the Branch members and, mostly, the Executive of the Regina Branch of the AUUC will deeply miss his great smile and his presence at many of the Regina Branch events.

The following was Ed's philosophy:

"... to laugh often and much to win the respect of intelligent people and affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded."

We will miss you Ed!

— Gerry Shmyr

## Who, What, When, Where

**Winnipeg — Lviv Pavilion**, sponsored by the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, will be open as a **Folklorama** site on **Sunday, August 10, through Saturday, August 16**. **Visiting artists** will include Zorya Dancers from Thunder Bay on August 10, and Mohutniy Dancers on August 13. The theme of the pavilion will be the 90th anniversary of the AUUC, with the cultural display showing both continuity over the years and differences from earlier times. The pavilion will be **open from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily, (from 4:00 p.m. on August 10)**. **Show times** are 6:45, 8:15, and 9:45, with an extra show at 5:00 p.m. on August 10.

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.

## PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall

"Ed Tchorzewski had a long and distinguished career serving the people of Saskatchewan in many different capacities, and the province owes him and his family a debt of gratitude for his many years of service," Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall (Saskatchewan Party) said Friday, June 6 2008. Flags at the provincial legislature were flying at half mast on Friday. Wall said that will continue until after Tchorzewski's funeral.

### NDP Federal Leader Jack Layton

"Ed spent more than three decades in political life. First elected to the Saskatchewan legislature in 1971, he served as Cabinet Minister under both Premier Allan Blakeney and Premier Roy Romanow. It was as Finance Minister under Romanow that he faced his biggest challenge, and accomplished perhaps his greatest success, pulling Saskatchewan back from the brink of bankruptcy. It was after this feat that he turned his attention to federal politics, coming to Ottawa to work as Chief of Staff to Alexa McDonough

in her term as leader.

"Ed is remembered by New Democrats in Saskatchewan and across the country not only for his hard work and dedication, but also for his reliable and generous spirit in both public and private life.

"On behalf of New Democrats across Canada, I offer my deepest condolences to Ed's family and friends."

### NDP Saskatchewan Leader Lorne Calvert

"Ed will be remembered as a stalwart individual," Calvert said.

"In every endeavour, whether it be in his personal life, or in his political life, Ed gave 100%. He will go down in the history of Saskatchewan as someone who helped to move this province forward."

"It didn't matter what portfolio Ed was in, he always served with distinction," Calvert said.

"Without a doubt, his most important role was that of finance minister following the 1991 provincial election. It was Ed Tchorzewski, who in a very big way pulled Saskatchewan back from the brink of bankruptcy."



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## Sustaining Fund Donations

Roy Semak, Montreal QC <i>In memory of Anne</i> .....	\$200.00
Myron & Olga Shatulsky, Winnipeg MB <i>In memory of Marie Barko, John Bokla, Steve Mylko, Irene Sawiuk</i> .....	200.00
Elsie & Floyd Williston, Winnipeg MB <i>In loving memory of our mother Irene Sawiuk, who died in Winnipeg on May 24, 2008</i> .....	200.00
AUUC Sudbury Branch, Subury ON <i>Celebrating Patricia Chytuk's milestone birthday</i> .....	100.00
William Hrynchak, Toronto ON .....	50.00
Lucy Nykolshyn, St Andrews MB <i>In memory of Irene Sawiuk</i> .....	50.00
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Sophia Nemis, Winnipeg MB <i>In memory of Irene Sawiuk</i> .....	25.00
Janet Tarasoff, 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.**

Is your sub due to be renewed?

— Photo: Brent Stearns



Lily Stearns, President of the Canadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research, poses with the banner produced by students for Open Doors at the Ukrainian Labour Temple.

## Doors Open Banner

(Continued from Page 9.)  
Winnipeg.

The building representatives were to meet with the students, tell them about their building and its history. In February, Myron Shatulsky, Professor Nolan Reilly, Brent Stearns and I met with the high school students, and gave them an overview of the Ukrainian Labour Temple, and the history of our organization.

CSULR members were to be available for whatever help was required, but we were not to take an active role in the design of the banner.

Subsequently, we were contacted twice. In April, they called to express their frustration at their inability to find photographs of the building. We showed them our photo collection, and gave them copies of what they wanted. In late April they called again, to request the names of seventeen "significant" people in our history. "Why seventeen?" we asked. They replied that the banner had a chain with seventeen links, for which these names were required.

Providing two or three names would have been easy, but when the list was broader, it became more difficult. However, we came up with seventeen names, knowing that no matter whom we listed, there would be criticism. The list was given to the students.

So it was with a sense of nervousness and anticipation that a few weeks later we attended the reception at Government House where the three banners were to be unveiled.

From a distance, the banner appeared quite attractive.

At the top, the students chose to represent the "Workers of the World", which is featured over our building's entrance, the clasped hands over the earth. Below it, the

students added the quotation from Karl Marx, "You have nothing to lose but your chains."

Against a vivid blue background, a golden chain winds from the top of the banner to the bottom. On both sides are stylized depictions of a group of mandolinists, a couple of Ukrainian dancers, a newspaper headline, a drawing of a volunteer with a sign (in Ukrainian) requesting volunteers to help with the construction of the building, and a drawing of the Labour Temple.

A closer examination brought a surprise. Instead of the seventeen names of "significant" leaders of our organization, there were three members' names (chosen from memory, apparently), the name of the building's architect/engineer, the leaders of the Winnipeg General Strike, and the victim of the Strike.

"What happened to the seventeen names?" we asked the students. "We lost the list and we ran out of time," they wailed.

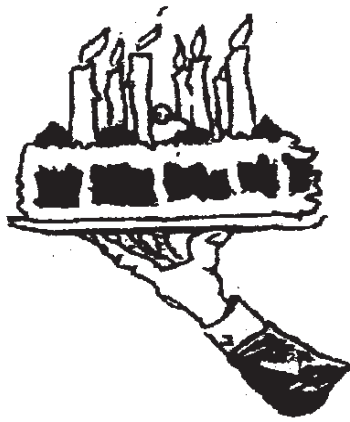
Memories of our own high school days flooded back and prevented our asking the obvious, "Why didn't you phone us?" We swallowed, rolled up the banner and took it back to the Ukrainian Labour Temple, where we hung it from the balcony, as high as we could, hoping no one could read the names, or discover that J.S. Woodsworth was one of the members of the Ukrainian Labour Temple.

We have been assured that the Winnipeg General Strike leaders' names will be removed, and the missing names will be added.

Does this story evoke any memories of similar failed student projects, or attempts to "fake it", hoping the teacher won't notice?

— Lily Stearns

## Happy Birthday, Friends!



The **Edmonton AUUC Senior Citizens Club** wishes a happy birthday to the celebrants of July and August.

Clara Capowski  
Rose Cender  
Edna Chmiliar  
Anne Kawchuk  
Amil Tropak  
Mary Tropak  
Laura Tuomi  
Marion Ursuliak

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

The **Toronto AUUC Senior Citizens Club** extends best birthday wishes to July and August celebrants:

Helen Baker  
George Keniak  
Vic Mihay  
Terry Oraschuk  
Marg Panasiuk  
Sophie Tkach

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

The **Vancouver Seniors Club** extends birthday greetings to July and August celebrants:

Mary Blonar  
Mary Brown  
Alice Chitrenky  
Mary Nehoda  
Dorothy Oreskovich

Hope you have a great day!!

The **Welland Shevchenko Seniors** extend a happy birthday wish to July and August celebrants:

Louise Anger  
Anne Hunka  
Jim Lambert  
Mike Moskal  
Rose Moskalyk  
Rosaline Theoret  
Christine Whatmough  
Lena Worobel

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

**Have a  
happy and  
safe  
summer!**



## JOIN US!

Join us for a new season of 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  
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Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4  
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E-mail: auuckobzar@mts.net

### VANCOUVER BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre  
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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  
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### INNISFREE BRANCH

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Innisfree AB T0B 2G0  
(780) 592-2127

### VEGREVILLE BRANCH

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### REGINA BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre  
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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

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24 Attwood Crescent  
Ottawa ON K2E 5A9  
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### SUDBURY BRANCH

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

### TORONTO BRANCH

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wilfredszczesny@gmail.com

### WELLAND BRANCH

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

**Submitted  
as a  
separate  
PDF file**

# “Shchero vas vitayem...”

(Continued from Page 11.) auspicious anniversaries. Dianna is extremely organized and committed to the organization of her parents and grandparents. She has increased Branch membership as well as our volunteer base. She is present and involved in almost every activity at the Hall. She is a tireless worker and a great role model for our entire Branch.

I was fortunate enough to have been in the historic 1945 parade that reclaimed our AUUC hall. I consider it a great privilege to have been part of the hall and its many activities for these last 63 years. I salute the early members of the AUUC for all their guidance and hopes for a better future for all in their adopted country, Canada. Today’s celebration would certainly have justified all their efforts and made them proud indeed.

— Audrey Skalbania

Starting at top right, and moving clockwise: All the dancers, and their instructors, on the steps of the Hall; AUUC Vancouver Branch President Dianna Kleparchuk cuts the 80th anniversary cake; Vancouver Folk Orchestra, conducted by Steven Ho; concert finale “Mnohaya lita”; “Malenkiy tanets” with a couple from the Zaychyky group; guest performer Ruta Yawney plays the bandura. Story photos are by Dan Fung.



The Hahilka Choir of the AUUC and the Beryozka Choir of the FRC, both conducted by Nataka Mochoruk, performed their own sets before combining (above) to end the concert.

## Celebration in Toronto

(Continued from Page 11.)

The two very talented choirs ended the concert together with the wonderful selections of “My Dear Mother” and “Why, Why This Land of Mine, You Are So Dear to Me?”

As guests helped themselves to coffee and a choice of delectable carrot cake or decadent Black Forest cake, the winners of the grand raf-

fle were announced. This raffle was managed by Helen Banville and featured lovely embroidery items by Nataka Mochoruk and a beautiful Afghan by Sophie Mihay.

Hopefully everyone left peacefully inspired by the musical experience with a little reflection on the importance of our mothers and fathers yesterday and today.

— Bernardine Dobrowolsky



Terry Rivest (left), Wilfred Szczesny and Lorna Clark, supported by the Hahilka Choir, sang and danced their way through a “Kolomeyky”.

— Story photos: Jerry Dobrowolsky



Conductor Nataka Mochoruk’s comedic imagination was well displayed, as Maria Gargal, left, and Lorna Clark, with the Hahilka Choir, squabbled over a missing chicken.



Presenting “A Gypsy Campfire Song” with the Beryozka Choir were (left to right) Lorna Clark, Nita Miskevich and Vicky Vuksinic.