

# HERALD BICHIK

БЕРЕЗЕНЬ, 2008р. HOMEР 200 PIK XVII

MARCH 2008 NO. 200 VOL. XVII Price \$2.25

## AUUC Celebrates *Malankas*



In January, many Branches of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians celebrate *Malanka*, with a dinner, a floor show and dancing. In Regina, the eclectic floor show included the fiery "Gypsies of Moldova", pictured above. For more about the Regina AUUC *Malanka*, see page 16. Reports on Vancouver, Winnipeg and Edmonton *Malankas* appear on pages 8 and 9.

## AUUC NC Reviews Branch Conditions

The National Committee of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians met in Winnipeg on February 2-4, with an agenda that included, among other matters, a review of the state of the organization at the Branch level and a lot of housekeeping and leftover business.

Branch Presidents were invited to participate (or send a representative) on the first day, which began with reports from each locality and discussion on the future of the AUUC as the Presidents saw it.

The day reflected, for the most part, confidence in the future of the organization, based on active performing arts programs.

The centres seemed confident that their resources were adequate, except for the knotty problem of maintaining

and upgrading their aging and deteriorating halls.

The example of the Vancouver hall stands out as a glaring illustration of what could happen in a number of places. The start of work on a relatively minor upgrade revealed serious problems which had been worsening undetected for decades. The result was a huge project with serious consequences for both local and national treasuries.

As for the road ahead, Branch Presidents appear optimistic that the AUUC will continue to be an institution of continuing importance into the foreseeable future. They are far from complacency or resting on their laurels, however. In each locality thought is being given to the changes that might be needed to ensure continuing vitality.

These considerations include ideas for the renewal of leadership to the organizational aspects of programming, thoughts about ways to reach more potential participants, and ideas about finances.

## China Becomes Top US Import Source

Mark Drajem reported on February 14 in the *Bloomberg News*, a financial information network, that China had overtaken Canada to become the largest source of products shipped into the US in 2007, capping a six-year period when its exports to the US more than tripled.

Led by items such as flat-panel televisions and computers, household appliances,

toys and clothing, American imports from China surged to US\$321.5 billion in 2007, according to a Commerce Department statement.

China's success may lead to a backlash in Congress, Mr. Drajem writes, where lawmakers accuse China of undervaluing its currency, producing unsafe products and providing its industries with subsidies that allow them to undercut American-made goods.

On the other hand, the burgeoning Chinese imports have benefited the US by lowering prices and expanding choice, advocates say.

"Consumers are getting lower prices for a wider variety of goods," said former US Trade Representative Rob Portman.

The rise of China doesn't mean trade with Canada is falling: imports from Canada increased 3 percent last year, despite the rise in the Canadian dollar. Imports from

China jumped 12 percent compared with 2006.

Chinese exports to the US were rising steadily through the 1990s. They spiked after China entered the World Trade Organization in December 2001 and after global caps on apparel trade expired at the end of 2004.

Even the architect of China's WTO entry is surprised by the speed of its ascent as an economic powerhouse.

Former US Trade Representative Charlene Barshef-

sky said, "You will see China continue to rise, ...."

Lawmakers say the pressure from industrial states, presidential election dynamics and the growing trade imbalance with China make it likely that Congress will approve legislation this year aimed at China.

"This is a major issue in a lot of districts across the country," according to Ohio Democratic Representative Tim Ryan, a primary co-sponsor of currency legislation.

## I'm All Right, Jack!

Just a few days before leaving his job as the Governor of the Bank of Canada, David Dodge took the trouble to reassure us that Canada's economy was about to start rebounding, would be humming right along by 2009 — thanks to the bank rate cuts he had put into place.

Oh, sure, the economy was stagnant as he gave his last pre-retirement press conference, but it was as bad as it would get — a recession was not in the picture.

It was possible, he said, that the US could still go into a recession, but Canada would not be dragged down to that level.

Not that we are in the clear. Exports and financial markets still have to deal with "substantial pain" because of the US

sub-prime meltdown.

To put it another way, 2008 will be fine, but it may not feel fine.

Not everyone is as confident as Mr. Dodge that the Canadian economy is safe from further decline, and possible even recession (the real pessimists — or are they? — are even saying "depression").

In particular, if exports suffer "substantial pain", then production in Canada will be cut back, which means lost jobs. That is the picture of an economy in continuing decline.

Mr. Dodge said that it would be "years before we know exactly what happened". We do know that he'll be fine, with his golden handshake, and good prospects.

## In This Issue

88 Years Ago! .....	10
Afghanistan — Oil and Other Things .....	15
Commentary .....	4
Concerning Police Misconduct .....	4
Editorial .....	4
Edmonton Seniors .....	9
From Our Readers .....	4
Happy Birthday, Friends .	12
Join Us! .....	12
Anna Lesya Lapchuk .....	16
Nine Decades of Struggle	3
Sonia Ostash Celebrates 90th .....	13
Elizabeth Paluck .....	14
Reginas's <i>Malanka</i> .....	16
Myron Shatulsky .....	2, 10
Shevchenko the Artist .....	11
Sustaining Fund .....	12
Thank You, Neo-Cons! .....	4
Trembita Celebrates <i>Malanka</i> .....	9
The Fellow Traveller .....	15
This Is How It Began .....	2
Ukrainian News Briefs .....	5
<b>Ukrainian Pages</b> .....	<b>6, 7</b>
Vancouver's Modern <i>Malanka</i> Celebrations .....	8
Who, What, When, Where .....	12
Winnipeg <i>Malanka</i> .....	8

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

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

**Submitted  
as a  
separate  
PDF file**

## Nine Decades of Struggle

The 1920s were a decade of growth and achievement for the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association, a decade during which significant institutions were established. These included the Workers Benevolent Association and People's Co-op in Winnipeg, the Students Institute in Edmonton, and a publishing company with an active publishing program.

The organization itself, across Canada, had drama groups, orchestras, and dance groups in its performing arts, with a component of song. A youth section and women's branches were widespread and active.

The renewal of Ukrainian immigration into Canada following World War One introduced people into the ULFTA who were interested in community activity, politically engaged, and rich in skills and talent. Together with the pioneers of the first wave of immigration and the growing number of Canadian-born community members, they developed a powerful left force in the Ukrainian Canadian community.

Then, in 1929, came The Great Depression.

For the ULFTA, this new circumstance had two fundamental realities with long-term significance, with effects that were felt long after the Dirty Thirties were history.

One was the almost total end, once again, to Ukrainian immigration. The Ukrainian Canadian population had soared from the initial two immigrants to about 170,000 between 1891 and 1914.

In the 1920s an additional 70,000 or so Ukrainian immigrants came, joining the growing original population of immigrants and native-born Ukrainian Canadians.

In contrast, the Ukrainian Canadian population reported had a net growth of only about 36,000 individuals in the decade 1931-1941. This included immigrants and Canadian-born, decreased by emigration from Canada (in search of better economic prospects), a large number of deportations, and deaths (not only by accidents, but increasingly from natural causes as individuals aged).

This meant that membership in the ULFTA was increasingly Canadian as the '30s wore on, both in the sense of an increasing proportion of Canadian-born members and in the sense of immigrants with a longer Canadian experience and a higher level of integration into Canadian society.

It also meant that the development of leadership was largely an internal process. Among the positive aspects of this new reality were organi-

zational stability and growing competency based on accumulation of experience. The negative aspects which grew out of this circumstance, it can be argued, did not become pronounced until later decades.

The other fundamental reality with long-term impact on the ULFTA was, of course, the rapid growth of impoverishment among Ukrainian Canadians as well as among the general population.

As Canada entered The Great Depression, the Ukrainian Canadian community was, for the most part, divided into three parts: The ULFTA, the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church with its secular arm, and the Ukrainian Catholic Church with its secular organization.

The secular arm of the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church was the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League, formed in 1927. It tended to support the Liberal Party in Canada and the Ukrainian National Republic government-in-exile.

The Ukrainian Sich Organization, which can trace its roots through various incarnations to 1924 and became the United Hetman Organization in 1934, was part of the Catholic structure. It was military in structure and discipline, Conservative in Canadian politics and monarchist (supporting the aspirations to Danylo Skoropadsky) vis-à-vis Ukraine.

(In 1932, the Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood, with a broader appeal than the Sich, was formed as the Catholic secular organization.)

There was also a fourth centre, not aligned with the other three, which came into being in 1928 as the Ukrainian War Veterans Association, composed exclusively of veterans of the Ukrainian Galician Army and the army of the Ukrainian National Republic. It failed to gain control of the other organizations to turn their focus exclusively to the struggle in Ukraine, so it formed a broader organization in 1932 — the Ukrainian National Federation — which had 50 branches when WWII broke out, with another 19 branches in the UWVA, and additional affiliates in autonomous women's, youth and student organizations. It was influenced by the (eventual) Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists.

These, essentially, were the organizations which not only survived the challenges of the 1930s, but were also able to grow in that period. They each had a network of institutions which served various functions, just as the ULFTA had the Workers Benevolent Association and so on.

As is obvious, the ULFTA

was the only significant centre on the Ukrainian Canadian left. While the other organizations might be united in attacking the ULFTA, they would just as energetically attack each other in the struggle over conflicting policies on questions ranging from religion to Canadian politics, to Ukrainian politics, to a broad range of other matters, including the correct interpretation of the writings of Taras Shevchenko.

*Wikipedia* reports that, "By 1933, 30% of the labour force was out of work, and one fifth of the population became dependent on government assistance. Wages fell as did prices. Gross National Expenditure had declined 42% from the 1929 levels. In some areas, the decline was far worse. In the rural areas of the prairies two thirds of the population were on relief. .... Crime rates increased, and a new class of unemployed vagrants appeared."

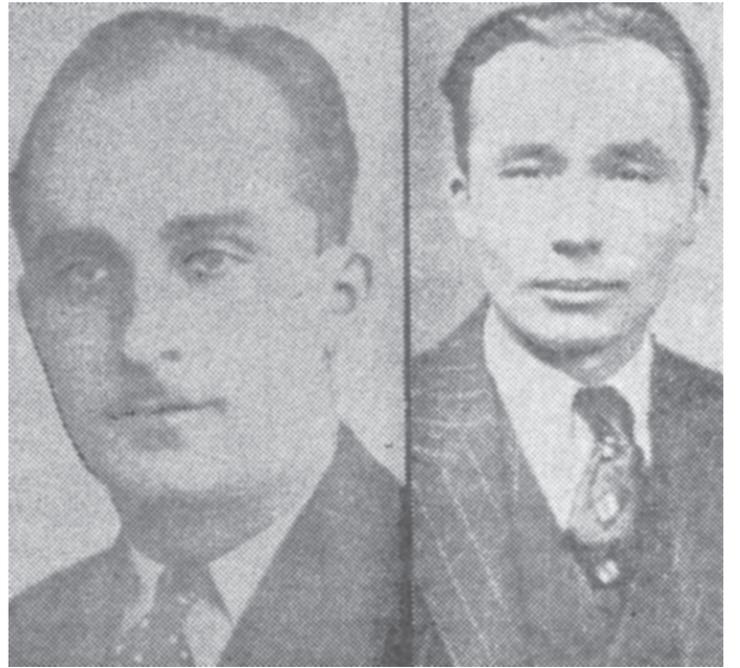
The report could have mentioned, among other possible additions, that farmers were severely devastated because of depressed prices for agricultural products.

Ukrainian Canadians were not immune from this reality. Clearly, there was a broad field available to an organization which championed the struggles of the victims of the Great Depression, which provided assistance to the needy, which operated programs to benefit the entire family, and which projected a perspective which raised hope for the future and restored a sense of human dignity. The ULFTA did that, and more, on a grand scale.

The ULFTA was very widespread by 1933, and still growing. In 1933, it had 75 Ukrainian Labour and Ukrainian Farmer temples from coast to coast, each a hive of activity. Those halls housed 60 libraries, 75 orchestras and drama groups, Ukrainian classes for 2000 children, classes for adults, 50 Women's Branches and 55 Youth Branches. There were an additional 40 or so centres without halls, where activities were carried out in rented premises or in other facilities.

Plus, there were still four periodicals being published. Plus, the Ukrainian Students Institute. Plus the WBA, which also had the home for the aged and orphanage in Parkdale, Manitoba. Plus the Peoples Co-op in Winnipeg. And a lot more. A substantial network indeed!

It was toward the end of The Great Depression, and just before the outbreak of World War Two, that the ULFTA demonstrated its strength in the performing arts by staging the First National



**Mitch Sago (left), who later became editor of *The Ukrainian Canadian*, and Mikhailo Lenartovich, were active in the struggles of the unemployed in the 1930s. Sago was interned in Headingly jail and then Hull.**

Festival of Ukrainian Song, Music and Dance on July 15, 1939.

As reported in Peter Krawchuk's *Our Stage* (English translation by Mary Skrypnyk), the 10,000 seats in Toronto's Mutual Arena were sold out. The 1,500 performers included 38 string orchestras, 32 choirs, a brass band, 70 dancers and an unspecified number of soloists.

Brass bands, another facet of ULFTA activity, led the parade through the streets of Toronto to the concert venue.

It is reported that 15,000 people attended the picnic in Woodbridge, near Toronto, the next day.

At that time, the ULFTA had grown to 352 Branches, with 87 halls. There were 210 string orchestras, 120 choirs and 170 drama groups.

As Carl Honour wrote in *The Ukrainian Canadian* (May, 1991), "The first such festival, whether in concept or scale, by any organization in Canada, this event was an effective refutation of the charge that the ULFTA had no interest in Ukrainian national culture. It showed that, quite contrary to this politically motivated accusation, the ULFTA was at the forefront in maintaining, developing and promoting Ukrainian and Ukrainian Canadian culture."

The performing arts were, nevertheless, just one component of the activity of the ULFTA. Like the performing arts, which had been one component in the original decision to build a Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg, so left-wing social and political activism, which had been the decisive factor in that decision also had impressive development.

The ULFTA was active, along with a great many other organizations, in the Workers Unity League and organizations of the unemployed. In this arena, it helped in the struggle for social programs, and for social assistance to the destitute. It provided facilities

for the work of trade unions, staging areas for demonstrations, including such major projects as the Trek-to-Ottawa, and halls for public meetings.

As an organization, it operated soup kitchens, and provided shelter for the travellers crisscrossing the country in search of work.

In rural areas, the ULFTA cooperated with others in the work of the Farmer's Unity League, which helped farmers stave off foreclosures on their land and provided other help.

In the "UC" spin-off *The Ukrainians in Winnipeg's First Century*, written by Peter Krawchuk and translated by Mary Skrypnyk into English, one can glean a good idea of the level of the ULFTA and its members in the 1930s in Winnipeg. The picture presented in that publication reflects what was happening throughout Canada.

Before 1929, as has been mentioned in previous instalments in this series, the ULFTA was active in providing assistance to the homeland in a variety of circumstances. These circumstances included natural disasters like flooding in the Precarpathians, political issues like the defence of Myroslav Sichensky, and other occasions.

Demands for aid to Ukraine did not stop with the arrival of the 1930s. So great was the need that, in 1931, the ULFTA set up a separate organization, the Association to Aid the Liberation Movement in Western Ukraine, for this work. Composed mainly of immigrants who arrived in Canada after WWI, many of whom had been active in the liberation movements against Poland, Romania and Czechoslovakia, "TODOVIRNAZU" as it was known by its Ukrainian acronym, provided assistance to political prisoners and their destitute families in Eastern Galicia, Bukovina, Transcarpathia and Volyn.

The Association to Aid the  
**(Continued on Page 14.)**

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

**HERALD**

**Editor-in-Chief**  
Wilfred Szczesny

**Editorial Board**  
Myron Shatulsky                      Lucy Antoniw

**Bureaux**

Ottawa — Bob Seychuk  
Regina — Al Lapchuk  
Sudbury — Vicki Gilhula  
Toronto — George Borusiewich  
Vancouver — Dianna Kleparchuk  
Winnipeg — Brent Stearns

Published monthly by Kobzar Publishing Company Ltd.  
595 Pritchard Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 2K4  
Phone: (800) 856-8242; Fax: (204) 589-3404  
E-mail: auuckobzar@mts.net

Ukrainian 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.com

Subscription price: \$30.00 annually (including GST)  
\$40.00 Foreign subscriptions.  
Advertising rates available on request.

PUBLICATIONS MAIL REGISTRATION No. 40009476

Signed articles represent the viewpoint of the author, and do not  
necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board.

**Thank You, Neo-Cons!**

An Editorial by Wilfred Szczesny

Canadian families are struggling under tremendous debt loads, with an average indebtedness of \$80,000, including mortgages, according to a report by the Vanier Institute of the Family. Accumulated debt is at 131% of household income, up from 91% in 1990, after income tax and transfers. Middle-income Canadians have almost doubled their debt since 1990. Bankruptcies ("consumer insolvencies") and similar events at about 100,000 annually, compared to 90,000 in 2001 and 43,000 in 1990.

With incomes flat, people living from pay day to pay day are incurring higher debts. Their prospects in the event of an economic down turn are becoming ever more bleak — and there are increasing expressions of concern that Canada is on the verge of a recession, or even a depression.

It should not be as bad as it will be in the United States, we are told, but there will be a downturn.

The governments have great advice for Canadians caught in the crunch between their debt load and the coming recession.

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty suggests that we go out there and buy, buy, buy. Never mind the debt load; never mind looming recession; never mind that your factory may close, leaving you in the lurch for your last pay cheque or two, with minimal chances of collecting employment insurance (more double-speak, brought to you by the conservatives in all parties). The companies of this province need you to go deeper into debt, and further out on the limb, in a futile effort single-handedly to reverse reduced American demand.

Federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty had more than a little to do, when he was provincial Minister of Finance, with reducing Ontario to its current sorry state. Now, having emptied the federal treasury with corporate tax cuts and gifts to the coupon clippers, he tells Canadians that there is no money with which to protect Canadian jobs and Canadian incomes. The market will correct itself, and all will be well again.

No doubt this will all make the 60 plus Kitchener, Ontario, workers formerly employed by Ledco Ltd., who are losing about \$1.2 million in severance pay while banks and other secured creditors pick at \$7 million in assets (\$14.5 million in liabilities) feel much better. Some of them have been with the company for 40 years — won't their families be elated to see them come home empty-handed to early retirement!

Thank you, New Government of Canada! Thank you, neo-conservatives in every major party!

**COMMENTARY****Concerning Police Misconduct**

Writing about an event in New York City which happened on May 21, 2007, but had not been completed on February 15, 2008, *The New York Times* columnist Bob Herbert wrote;

"... It was not the kids who were out of control, it was the criminal justice system, which can't seem to tell the difference between right and wrong, between truth and deliberate lies, or between justice on the one hand and gratuitously cruel behavior (sic) by public officials on the other."

My perception may be wrong, but it does seem that Mr. Herbert's observation reflects a reality that is becoming more widespread, and that should be of growing concern to Americans.

It should also be of growing concern to Canadians. It should be of growing concern to us if we generally support and favour the rule of law and limits to the behaviour of police everywhere. It should also be of specific concern to us because it is relevant to our safety when we visit the United States, as so many Canadians do so often.

Most of all, perhaps, it should be of concern to us because the growth of police misconduct, and public sup-

port for it, appears to be spreading into, and in, Canada.

Lest I be accused of naïvete, allow me to grant that police misconduct is nothing new in the history of Canada, nor is the propensity of the legal system to forgive it, either by totally ignoring it or by finding the charged officers innocent.

It does seem to me, however, that the public attitude has changed. Whereas the public, in earlier times, would be at least disappointed and possibly even enraged (not to mention a gamut of possible disapproving attitudes in between) by blatant police misconduct or failure by the courts to convict the miscreants, since September 11, 2001, there is an increasing acceptance of illegal police behaviour.

Several factors, it seems to me, have contributed, and continue to contribute, to this change in attitude.

One is the growing number of American television shows we view which glorify violence by the "hero", and justify torturing suspects to save the world or to catch really nasty criminals. A show which I watched recently even stated that the US Supreme Court, which is now stacked with President Bush's appointees,

**From Our Readers**

Recently, I had a conversation with Lillian Humeniuk, the President of the Vegreville AUUC Branch. During that conversation, I learned that she was instrumental in getting their local movie theatre to put on a showing of Michael Moore's film *Sicko*.

As many people will remember, this film is an expose

of American capitalism's brutal indifference to the plight of people who are unlucky enough to fall sick in the world's richest country.

Lillian also mentioned the names of two other movie films that she persuaded the local movie theatre manager to screen.

Although I now can't remember the names of those two films, I do remember recognizing that all three films were socially progressive.

As a member of the AUUC, I would like to commend Lillian on her efforts to bring progressive political thought to fellow citizens in her community

This is a kind of social activism of which our founding fathers would have been proud!

**George Borusiewich**  
Toronto ON

**ADVERTISING RATES**

**1 page \$600.00**  
**1/2 \$350.00**  
**Smaller Ads:**  
**\$5.00 per col./cm**  
(or \$12.50 per col./inch)  
**Plus G.S.T.**

**SEE US ON THE WEB!**

**Edmonton AUUC, Trembita Ensemble**  
[www.ukrainiancentre-edm.ca](http://www.ukrainiancentre-edm.ca)

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

**Taras Shevchenko Museum:**  
[www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum](http://www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum)

recently ruled that evidence obtained by torture was admissible in American courts.

Another factor encouraging acceptance of police misconduct is the attitude of the "new" Conservative government of Canada, which is constantly hammering in the message, reality notwithstanding, that terrorism and crime are a growing threat to the safety of Canadians, requiring harsher laws and fewer limitations on police power. The result is growing, though unfounded, public fear.

A third factor is the shortsighted and irrational belief, given the lie by the subject of Bob Herbert's article (and many other examples, like Maher Arar), that laws limiting police powers and establishing rules for police conduct, including the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, just protects criminals and the innocent have nothing to fear.

For these and other reasons, police misconduct, even when heavily documented, can be excused by the courts and, increasingly, accepted by the public.

Now, apparently, the courts in Canada, or at least the Ontario Court of Appeal (beyond that, the question remains to be tested), are ready to set aside laws, including the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, to accept "evidence obtained through flagrant police misconduct", as Tracey Tyler reported in the *Toronto Star* on February 13, 2008, referring to one of a "line of recent decisions in which the court has been accused of weakening Charter protections by refusing to exclude evidence obtained unlawfully".

This particular case involved a car being stopped without legal cause, an illegal search of the vehicle, and the arresting police officer's lying to the court in an effort to justify his actions. In the course of illegal activity, the officer found "77 pounds of cocaine, with a street value of several millions of dollars and the potential to cause serious grief and misery to many".

The original trial judge recognized that misconduct by the officer, but decided to admit the cocaine into evidence. In a split decision, the Ontario Court of Appeal upheld the trial judge's ruling on the grounds that barring the evidence would have less public support ("bring the administration of justice into greater disrepute") than would accepting the Charter violations.

(Continued on page 14.)

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

### Admitted To WTO

Most Ukrainian politicians and businessmen welcomed the admission of Ukraine to the World Trade Organization (WTO) on February 5, 2008. Many Ukrainians believe that membership in WTO will significantly boost the country's economy.

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and World Trade Organization Director General Pascal Lamy signed a protocol on Ukraine's accession to the WTO in Geneva after more than 14 gruelling years of negotiations.

Most Ukrainian lawmakers spoke positively of the accession, saying they would vote for ratifying the agreement. However, deputy of the Communist Party Oleksandr Holub said that his party won't support the ratification of the agreement, arguing the document doesn't protect farmers' interests.

The Communists' concerns are shared and supported by the agricultural industry in Ukraine. The Ukrainian Agrarian Confederation, voice of the agricultural industry, has stated that Ukrainian farmers will lose 10% of their market immediately, followed by a further loss of 10% once Ukraine is fully integrated into WTO.

Ukraine's auto industry will also suffer because of membership in WTO.

### Am I Pretty?

In the whole world, Ukraine is the second-largest market for women's colour cosmetics. About 84% of Ukrainian women use cosmetics.

In Ukraine, over 66% of women can not start their day without applying lipstick, and 53% believe mascara application is an obligatory daily routine. Eyeliner is used once or several times a day by 36% of respondents, while 34% of women claim to use eye shadow. About 35% of respondents line their lips with a pencil. One third of all women use lip gloss several times a day.

### Pop Star Madonna

Having been panned for most of her efforts in front of the movie camera, pop star Madonna makes her debut in the director's chair at the Berlin Film Festival.

Critics have already begun sharpening their pencils at the prospect of *Filth and Wisdom*, which revolves around a Ukrainian immigrant, who finances his dreams of rock

stardom by moonlighting as a cross-dressing dominatrix, and his two female roommates.

Madonna, who will add some welcome star power to this film festival, has been less than timid about her ambitions as a filmmaker.

"I have always been inspired by the films of Godard, Visconti, Pasolini, and Fellini, and hope that I may one day make something that comes close to their genius," she said.

Billed as a London-based comedy, *Filth and Wisdom* stars Eugene Hutz, the Ukrainian front man for Gypsy punk rock band Gogol Bordello.

### Ukrainian Vodka To Be Made In Russia

According to the Russian newspaper *Kommersant*, the Ukrainian company Image Holding is set to build a plant with a capacity of 18 million decalitres of liqueur and vodka products annually near the Russian city of Leningrad.

The company is the manufacturer of the well-known Ukrainian vodka brand named Hortitsya.

In the start-up year, the company is planning to make 7 million decalitres of vodka.

Expansion to Russia will cost US\$60 million, while US\$20—25 million will be spent on advertising and brand promotion each year.

### Parliament Paralysed

As of mid-February (when this page was being written), Ukraine was in the midst of another political crisis. The newly-installed "Orange Revolution" government, without consulting Parliament or the public, sent a letter in January to NATO requesting admission to NATO's Membership Action Plan (MAP).

Participation in MAP is a preliminary step to full membership in NATO.

The letter was signed by Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko (Orange co-leader), Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko (Orange co-leader), and Parliamentary Speaker Arseniy Yatsenyuk.

The parliamentary opposition, composed of Viktor Yanukovich's Party of Regions and the Communist Party, objected to the letter on many grounds, including (1) joining a military alliance is prohibited by the Constitution, (2) through countless polls, the people of Ukraine have steadfastly indicated their overwhelming opposition to joining NATO, and (3) the letter of application was signed by the Parliamentary Speaker (a

member of Yushchenko's party), which signifies Parliamentary approval, when, in fact, Parliament was kept in the dark about the letter, and was not even given an opportunity to debate the sending of the letter.

The parliamentary opposition, which controls 224 parliamentary seats to the Orangists 226 seats, demanded that (1) the Orangists delete the Parliamentary Speaker's signature from the letter, and (2) a country-wide referendum be held regarding membership in NATO.

The Orangists have refused these demands. In response, the opposition has blockaded Parliament, and no parliamentary business has been conducted since the opening of this session of parliament (February 5).

Two separate polls taken in January indicate that 55% - 60% of Ukrainian people oppose membership in NATO, while 17% - 24% are in favour.

Representatives of the Ukrainian Orthodox community issued a letter stating "The Orthodox community considers NATO a Western military civilization structure that directly threatens East Slavic people and spreads unprecedented expansion to the East."

They state further that they intend to call for the resignation of all of the signatories of the letter to NATO, including "the Supreme Council's Chairman Arseny Yatsenyuk, who signed it without the Supreme Council's approval, and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who deceived her electorate when she signed it".

### Railway Car Now a Church

For the elderly residents of a village in western Ukraine, church is where they find peace and harmony — even if it's an old railway tanker car painted pink.

Until several years ago, the chapel nearest to Perekhody, a Roman Catholic community, was in a town several kilometres away, and the aging villagers found it hard to trudge through snow or mud to get there.

Then a local priest had an idea. Father Jan Piontkovski converted an old tanker car, purchased from a worker who had brought it from Siberia, into a cosy chapel lined with wooden benches and decorated with icons.

Together, the villagers painted the tanker car a soft pink colour, built an elegant entrance and crowned the chapel with a cross.

"Here, everybody is fam-

ily," said Reverend Dmytro Andriychyn, a bespectacled, soft-spoken priest who now serves Perekhody.

### Ukrainians Like Russia and Putin

In a poll taken by FOM-Ukraine, 72% of Ukrainians had a positive opinion of Russia, compared to 11% who had a negative opinion. In the same poll, 50% of Ukrainians said that they trusted Russian President Vladimir Putin, while 26% said that they did not.

The poll was conducted from January 25 to February 2, 2008. It involved 2000 respondents in 160 localities in Ukraine.

### Siberian Tigers Found in Kyiv

Ukrainian health inspectors found a pair of adult Siberian tigers confined inside a Ukrainian military base.

The big cats were in relatively good condition, although suffering somewhat from confinement.

The installation housing the animals was near the residential Darnitsa district of the Ukrainian capital, Kyiv. Kyiv's Darnitsa district is a densely-populated residential region.

According to a city health spokesperson, the tiger pen "did not guarantee the animals would not escape".

Police were searching for the tigers' owners, and conducting an investigation on how the carnivores wound up on a military base.

Ukraine's cash-strapped military is riddled with corruption, and illegal use of army property for commercial ends by commanders and private soldiers is a regular occurrence.

Management at the Kyiv city zoo volunteered to house the tigers once the criminal investigation was complete.

### No Dubbing

More than half of Ukrainians do not approve of a recent Constitutional Court decision to dub foreign films in Ukrainian. These are the results of a poll carried out by Public Opinion Fund — Ukraine Centre.

The results of the poll show that 61.9% of Ukrainians do not approve of the compulsory dubbing of foreign films into Ukrainian. At the same time, 28.5% of those interviewed agreed with the Constitutional Court.

The poll was carried out from January 25 to February

2, 2008. About 2000 people aged 18 years and older, from 160 localities in all regions of Ukraine, were questioned.

### Bond Girl Wants To Strip

It was reported in last month's issue of this page that a new 007 James Bond film was in production, and that the female lead in the movie was Ukrainian model and movie star Olga Kurylenko.

Naturally she has been besieged by the press, and evidently has had no difficulty in giving reporters plenty to write about.

She recently stated that she has no problem going nude and would have no hesitation in baring all opposite Daniel Craig (the actor playing James Bond) in the upcoming 007 film *Quantum of Solace*.

She said, "I've never had a problem going topless or being naked for a film. When you're on the beach you're almost naked anyway. It was the same with my naked scenes in the film *The Hit Man* which I did last year. I sent my body double away because I wanted to do the scenes myself. If they want me to strip off for Bond, that's fine."

The new James Bond film *Quantum of Solace* is the 22nd film in the Bond series, and will be screened in North America in November, 2008.

### "Orange" Rivalries

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and newly-appointed Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko carried out the "Orange Revolution" in December 2004 as co-leaders.

With her very strong help (she's charismatic, beautiful, and a fiery orator) Yushchenko was elected president. He, in turn, appointed her prime minister early in 2005.

However, in addition to her other attributes, she is also headstrong, very determined, and overwhelmingly ambitious. She wants to be president, and everyone knows it!

These characteristics make it very difficult for her to be a team player, and after she had been in office about seven months in 2005 as prime minister, Yushchenko fired her.

After the fall, 2007, parliamentary elections, neither Yushchenko's party nor Tymoshenko's party won enough seats to form a government. However, if they pooled their forces, they would control 228 seats in the 450-seat parliament.

So they formed a coalition, and in January, 2008, Yushchenko appointed her as

(Continued on Page 12.)

**Ukrainian  
Page  
Submitted  
Separately**

**Ukrainian  
Page  
Submitted  
Separately**

## Vancouver's Modern Malanka Celebration

On Saturday, January 19, 2008, Vancouver heralded the new year with a modern celebration of the ancient, traditional *Malanka*. Once again, repeating past successful *Malankas*, we enjoyed a full crowd. Under the experienced direction of *Malanka* coordinator and AUUC Vancouver Branch President, Dianna Kleparchuk, a large group of enthusiastic volunteers worked tirelessly to make the evening a winner.

While the guests enjoyed a variety of Ukrainian and Canadian *zakusky* or appetizers chased down with *Chervona Kalynas* (our special *Malanka* cocktail), the Barvinok

— Story photos: Dan Fung



Adding to party spirits, bartenders Michelle Surette and Grant Bunker added to the festivities.



MC Gordon Hobbis and his wife Nina shared a moment on the dance floor.

choir, under the direction of Beverly Dobrinsky, offered a short program of *shchedrivky*, the New Year carols of good wishes that are sung to begin the *Malanka* event. Barvinok, with twenty-five voices, is developing a lusty village sound. Their numbers were beautifully executed and met with thunderous applause.

Between the choir numbers, the guests were treated to the very polished Veselka dancers. These young performers have won many top prizes at the British Columbia Ukrainian dance competitions over the last few years. Under the direction of Debbie Karras, the group is cohesive, and continues to improve and impress.

A very important part of *Malanka* is the dinner that features many traditional

dishes. The standard *perohy* and *holubtsi* were accompanied by *kutya*, *hrechana kasha* and *kulesha nachynka* as part of a full turkey dinner. Chef Karen McCrae and her crew of kitchen magicians produced a sumptuous banquet that was heartily consumed and enjoyed by all.

This year, a new talent joined the *Malanka* team as Gordon Hobbis, father of two talented young musicians and dancers, accepted the job of MC. Hobbis entertained the guests with information and a line of humour that would vie with the offerings of any stand-up comic. All those present responded to his enthusiasm and efforts to keep the evening moving along.

Each year the crowd anxiously awaits the start of the dance. Within a very short time, volunteers and guests cleared away the banquet hall to produce a dance hall.

Joe Tessla and his band of bilingual musicians returned to ring in a Ukrainian 2008. The newly renovated and restored 1928 wooden dance floor was at capacity all evening.

The band moved from contemporary to Ukrainian music with practised ease. A rousing *kolomeyka*, featuring many expert solos in the circle, preceded the enthusiastic countdown at midnight.

*Malanka* 2008 was indeed a *shchedriy vechir*, a truly wondrous evening.

— Audrey Skalbania



On a return engagement, Joe Tessla's band provided the music for the evening.



School of Dance Director Debbie Karras and teacher Taralyn Karras jived to Joe Tessla's music. The band moved easily between modern and traditional Ukrainian dances.



The newly restored dance floor was full all evening.

## Winnipeg Malanka

On Saturday, January 12, Winnipeg's Yunist Dance Ensemble was proud to host yet another exciting and successful *Malanka*. This was the third *Malanka* to be organized and staged by members of the Yunist Dance Ensemble and their families. In attendance was a primarily young and energetic crowd who filled our hall late into the night.

*Malanka* took place amidst a mass of red, black and silver streamers and balloons that gave the event a special atmosphere. Attendees were dressed in semi-formal fashion while they danced and drank the night away.

The night was full of energetic dancing and laughing, encouraged by the loud music streaming from the DJ on stage.

The event was again held in the style of a Manitoba Social, with a successful silent auction followed by a profitable 50/50 draw.

A late lunch was served, a delicious traditional Ukrainian spread of *perogies*, *kubasa* and meatballs that were prepared in our own kitchen and acclaimed by all. More than one hungry guest was seen making repeated trips to the

long food line!

One of the highlights of the evening was the energetic performance of a *kolomeyka* by members of the Yunist Dance Ensemble, who soon had other attending dancers eagerly joining in. A large circle gathered around the dancers as they showed off the best of their tricks, jumps, lifts

and spins. It proved to be great fun for the participating dancers and also lively and exciting entertainment for all in attendance.

I would like to extend my warmest appreciation for the generosity of all the dancers and volunteers who made the event such a success for the Winnipeg branch. Thanks also to the wonderful crowd in attendance, many who are already eagerly awaiting next year's tickets.



In Winnipeg, the *Malanka* celebration draws a quite young group. Above: Preparing the decorations can be half the fun. Right: Some of the many young women who had a great time. Top right: Waiting to be served at a ticket table.



## Trembita Celebrates Malanka!

On Saturday, January 12, 2008, the Trembita Performing Ensemble was the highlight at the annual Ukrainian New Year's celebration *Malanka* at the Ukrainian Centre in Edmonton. The Ensemble started the new year with a great success, and the audience was treated to many Ukrainian cultural flavours until the early morning hours.

The evening started with a gourmet buffet dinner, as friends and family enjoyed choosing from a wide selection of foods that filled the air with those traditional smells of perogies, *varenyky*, and many other delights.

But this was only a small bite of what the evening had to offer!

After the dinner, singers and dancers from the Trembita Ensemble showcased a wonderful selection of the amazing artistic talent that the

ensemble has to offer. The evening's performance, presented by the Trembita Ensemble together with the Nadiya Choreographic Ensemble, Trembita Moloda, and members of the Trembita Choral Ensemble, entertained more than 250 people in the hall. Demonstrating the excellent and ongoing cultural activity in Edmonton, the Trembita Ensemble left everyone wanting to see and hear more.

The first dance of the night, performed by the Trembita Moloda dancers, was the famous "Hopak". These upcoming dancers, over 20 in number, showed the crowd an amazing display of teamwork and talent. Filled with spins, jumps, and solos, the dance started the concert with a spark of energy, and drew a roar of applause from the audience.

Between the dance num-

bers, entertainment was presented by members of Edmonton's Trembita Choral Ensemble, conducted by Yuliya Martishuk. They performed several Ukrainian vocal arrangements, completing the spirit of *Malanka* for everyone in attendance.

The senior Trembita Dancers performed the second dance, a Transcarpathian number. With the combination of new costumes and music, this dance showed how dedicated these dancers are, and left the crowd cheering. This was the perfect selection to lead into the night's finale.

For just the second time in Canada, the concert's finale was a brand-new dance called "*Chornomorka*", a Ukrainian-Kuban combination. The crowd was amazed; no one could have expected this dance to be as spectacular as it was! With "*Chornomorka*", choreographed by Bohdan Tkachishyn, with music and costumes also direct from Ukraine, the dancers closed the show with a breathtaking display! From the women's stamping combinations to the men's rhythmic clapping sections, Trembita filled the eyes and ears of parents, friends, and family, and received the best compliments that could be given.

After the concert, the Cimarrons played live music for everyone's dancing pleasure. Playing everything from the *kolomeyka* to the waltz, the band never stopped until midnight and the final countdown to 2008! After the wine, hugs, and kisses, the music once again filled the hall.

*Malanka* at the Ukrainian Centre was an evening full of success and entertainment. The annual celebration, from its food, dancing, and singing to its friendship, is always a warm and welcome evening for everyone who comes.

— Curtis A. Scally



In the "Hopak" which drew a "roar of applause", Yuna boys do their steps as Yuna and Trembita Moloda girls admire their skill.



Hopak na kablook: the heels become the focus in these "Hopak" steps.



Boris and Stepan do a *zhaba* (frog) leap in the "Hopak".



Head to toes goes Stepan Lavrinenkov in a "Hopak" jump



"Chornomorka", a Ukrainian-Kuban combination had its second Canadian performance at *Malanka*.



Sasha, Jennifer, Maria and Curtis strut their stuff in "Chornomorka".



Lara and Jeff in "Chornomorka" at the Trembita *Malanka* in Edmonton.

## Edmonton Seniors

At an Edmonton Seniors Birthday Party held in the Ukrainian Centre on January 15, 2008, the seniors enjoyed a nourishing meal, and were provided with an opportunity to hear a knowledgeable person speak on the sweeping developments taking place in South America.

Enrique Reye, an Edmontonian with dual Chilean and Canadian citizenship, spoke eloquently, and highlighted several issues regarding South American nations.

He made reference to a trend evident in South America, where most nations are opting for left-wing or left-of-centre governments. While great diversity permeates South American nations

in that they all possess their own unique histories, the common denominator is that the majority of people are clamouring for substantial economic and social reforms.

The speaker cautioned the audience about being overly optimistic as to the prospect (Continued on page 12.)

— Photo: Victor Horon



Following the enlightening presentation on South America by Enrique Reye (right), Mike Uhryn presented him with a token of appreciation from the seniors in the Edmonton club.

**Submitted  
separately  
as a .pdf**

# Shevchenko the Artist

The article printed below, edited for print was delivered at the Taras Shevchenko Museum and Library in Toronto by Lyudmyla Pogoryelov at the reception on January 20, 2008, highlighting the display of Shevchenko's art.

Taras Shevchenko, the great poet, patriot, thinker and humanist, was an outstanding master of Ukrainian painting and graphic art, and the founder of critical realism and the folk element in Ukrainian fine arts.

The creative work of Shevchenko was closely tied with the reality of that period. The value of Shevchenko's art heritage is that it expressed the interests of the people living in his own era.

Shevchenko, simultaneously with Fedotov, affirmed critical realism as a new, progressive trend in Russian fine arts of that time.

During his first years as a pupil, Shevchenko, turned to themes from the history of his homeland. He strived to convey, in his compositions, the aspirations and deeds of the people, to portray their everyday life and reproduce the images of their heroic past.

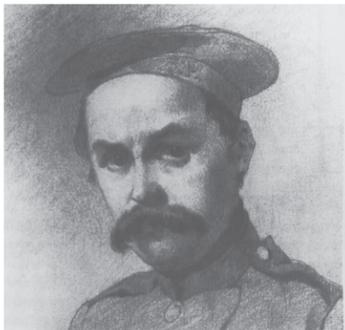
Shevchenko wrote, "The history of my life is a part of the history of my homeland." These words are the key to understanding the creative work of Shevchenko the artist and poet.

The themes of Shevchenko's works, depicting life in Ukraine at that time, are very diverse indeed. Among them we can single out the watercolour composition of 1841, "Gypsy Fortune-Teller", which was awarded a silver medal by the Council of the Academy of Arts.

These led to the still greater canvas "Kateryna", in which the acute social-exposing theme sounded out in full voice.

The poem by the same name served as the basis for this painting. In the poem, Shevchenko presented the tragic fate of a Ukrainian serf girl who was seduced, and then abandoned and disgraced, by a Russian officer.

This painting is an important



Self-portrait in exile.

page in the history of Ukrainian art, a new statement in the formation of the folk element and critical realism.

In the spring of 1843, Shevchenko visited his native Ukraine. In Ukraine, under the influence of everything he saw and experienced, the idea of a periodical art edition entitled *Picturesque Ukraine* came to Shevchenko, and he enthusiastically commenced this work.

Shevchenko divided the edition into three parts: Ukrainian landscapes, showing the beauty of the country or expressing its historical meaning, were included in the first part; the second part included scenes from the everyday life of that period; the third consisted of etchings depicting the historical past of the Ukrainian people.

He wanted to acquaint the progressive people with the everyday life of the Ukrainians, their past, as well as with the enchanting beauty of Ukrainian nature.

However, he was unable to accomplish this completely; soon, he was arrested and sentenced to exile. In 1844 the first and only edition of *Picturesque Ukraine*, consisting of six etchings, came out in print. The artist depicted many themes from the life of the oppressed and suffering people.

He painted what was most dear to his heart, such as "The Paternal Hut of T. H. Shevchenko in the Village of Kyryl-



"Self-Portrait in Hat and Sheepskin Coat" is one of Shevchenko's notable etchings.

ivka". It was here that the little orphan, Taras, spent his gloomy and joyless childhood. Here, his heart was first stung by human injustice, founded on the rule of the rich over poor.

The painting "A Peasant Family" is warmed by the poet's great love for the people, and you can almost sense the compassion and lyrical peacefulness radiating from it.

Among the paintings of this period is a great number of portraits, including those of Mayevska, Olexandre Lukyanovich, Illya Lizogub, Gorklenko, Elizabeth Keyuatova and others.

In these portraits, especially in those of the women, you can easily trace the influence of Bryullov. Shevchenko was delicate not only in the manner of painting, but also in the way he revealed the images, when traditional idealization united with the desire to convey the personality of a subject.

While still a student at the Academy of Arts, Shevchenko created the magnificent watercolour painting "Maria" on the theme of Pushkin's poem "Poltava". In the spring of 1841, Shevchenko's name could already be found alongside such names as Karl and Olexandre Bryullov, Fedor Tolstoy, Andrei Saplozhnikov, and other outstanding artists.

In the spring of 1845, Shevchenko completed his studies at the Academy of Arts and returned to Ukraine. However, he did not stay in Ukraine for long.

On April 5, 1847, he was arrested and, without a trial, he was exiled as a rank-and-file soldier to the far-off Caspian steppes.

During his first year in exile, Shevchenko portrayed himself in a uniform. Shevchenko's famous words "I am punished, I suffer... but I do not repent!..." belong to this period.

In the period of ten years in his "prison without doors", as he himself called it, Shevchenko created the greater part of his wonderful works. They raised Shevchenko to a still higher level. His mastery became even more exact and thorough, and the meaning be-

hind the pieces became even more acute and profound.

The works of the exile period can be divided into three groups: portraits, landscapes and compositions.

Of the portraits, the most interesting are Shevchenko's self-portraits. Taken as a whole, they comprise one of the most valuable sources of learning about the artist's life.

Having been sent as a soldier-guard on the Butakov expedition, and also having joined a few other expeditions as expedition's artist, Shevchenko created a great number of watercolour landscape paintings. They attract us by their maturity. Here, we see none of the conventionality which was so typical of the academic school of landscape painting.

The genre themes in the creative work of Shevchenko, during the period of exile are also of great importance. The artist saw that which he had known and experienced from childhood in Ukraine — social and national oppression.

An example is the sepia "Punishment in the Stocks". We see a man with a wooden block in his mouth, portrayed on the background of the Novopetrovsky barracks. This figure signified the people, who had no freedom of speech. In the right-hand corner of the painting, we see Shevchenko's profile, as if conveying that he himself was a witness to these inhuman tortures. Prior to Shevchenko, and even in the following years, none of the artists of Ukraine or Russia ever rose to such a height of social protest.

Sharply criticizing idealism, he resolutely opposed the blind



The sepia "Kazakh Katia" is one of the many pieces showing that Shevchenko considered human beings as the main object in art.

copying of landscapes, i.e. naturalism.

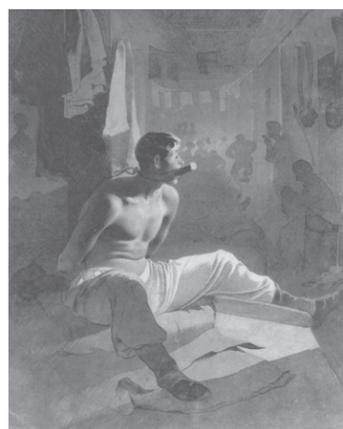
Shevchenko looked upon nature's highest creation — the human being — as the main object in art.

In the sepia "Kazakh Katia", Shevchenko portrayed a girl holding a candle in front of a tombstone. In the brightly candlelit face of the girl, the artist lovingly and with deep sympathy conveyed her spiritual purity.

The best works of Shevchenko after his exile were those done in the technique of etching with aquatint.

The exceptions are some of the self-portraits and portraits in paints and pencil. Among the latter are the wonderful portraits of the actor Shchepkin and of the outstanding Negro actor Ira Aldridge. Easy strokes, and the profound psychological depictions in these portraits, placed them on a par with the best portraits of the masters of the late XIX century.

In the art of etching, Shevchenko achieved such great success that the Imperial Academy of Arts was obliged (Continued on page 16.)



The sepia work "Punishment in the Stocks" represented a new level of social protest in Russian and Ukrainian art.



This 1858 portrait depicts Vice-President of the Academy of Arts F. P. Tolstoy, who played a great role in freeing Shevchenko from exile.



"A Village Family" was a work done during a brief visit to Ukraine, when Shevchenko painted images dearest to his heart.

Taras H. Shevchenko Museum & Memorial Park Foundation Presents:

## Exhibition of Taras Shevchenko's Art

...The father of Ukrainian realistic art...



Taras Shevchenko Museum and Library:  
1614 Bloor St. West, Toronto, tel: 416-534-8662  
Open Monday to Friday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Weekends and holidays by appointment

- \* Shevchenko art works in oil, pencil, watercolour, engraving, Shevchenko philatelic collection,
- \* And many unique, one-of-a-kind exhibits.

Supported by the Noble Institution for Environmental Peace

Donations Appreciated

1814 - 1861

## Edmonton Seniors

(Continued from page 9.) of reforms materializing in the near future. He pointed out that electoral victories and winning political power are necessary and important; however, using the increasing political power to introduce the required social and economic reforms is another matter, in that it involves profound and agonizing political struggle.

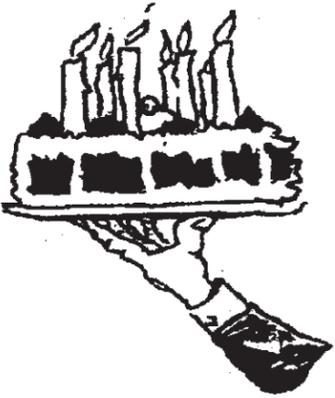
It is understandable that the propertied social class characteristic of South American nations is deeply entrenched, and poses a major obstacle for the realization of reforms.

A questions and discussion period followed the speaker's presentation.

At the end of the question period, the speaker was thanked and presented with a small token of appreciation.

— Mike Uhryn

## Happy Birthday, Friends!



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

Lucy Antoniow  
Lillian Koshelek  
Mike Ursuliak

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 March celebrants:

Mary Hulaszko  
Mary Mihay

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 March celebrant:

Margaret Hallstrom

Enjoy your day with family and friends!

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

Mike Sikorski  
Alex Worobel

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

## Sustaining Fund Donations

John & Clifford Paluck, Castlegar BC <i>In loving memory of wife and mother Elizabeth (Mickey) Paluck</i> .....	\$1000.00
Boris Ply, Toronto ON <i>In memory of Michael &amp; Mary Ply</i> .....	100.00
Miro Procajlo, Winnipeg MB .....	100.00
Michael Stefiuk & Otti Nicolai, Mississauga ON .....	100.00
Sylvia Surette, Richmond BC .....	100.00
Helen Hrynchyshyn, Toronto ON .....	75.00
Gene Oliarnyk, Thunder Bay ON .....	75.00
Anne Koivu, Chelmsford ON .....	70.00
Irene Sawiuk, Winnipeg MB .....	70.00
Shevchenko Senior Citizens Club, Welland ON .	70.00
Sasha & Wanda Lapchuk, Regina SK .....	25.00
Walter & Kay Skrabek, Calgary AB .....	25.00
Ludwig Kowalski, Vernon BC .....	20.00
Pauline & Maurice Warick, Edmonton AB .....	20.00
A. Tolmie, Vancouver BC .....	15.00

**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.**

## Who, What, When, Where

**Calgary** — The **Calgary Hopak Ensemble** of the AUUC is sponsoring the **90th Anniversary Celebration Concert** at the **University Theatre** of the University of Calgary, starting at **7:30 p.m.** on **Friday, April 25, 2008**. Tickets: **In advance — \$12.00 ; at the door — \$15.00 ; children 12 and under — \$5.00.** For tickets, phone **403-246-1231** or **June at 403-288-8470**.

**Toronto** — **Toronto AUUC Branch** will present **Adam Timoon** at the **AUUC Cultural Centre**, 1604 Bloor Street West in Toronto, on **Sunday, March 2**, from **1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** For more information, call **416-588-1639**.

**Toronto** — **Toronto AUUC Branch** and the **Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra (AUUC)** will stage **two concerts** at the **AUUC Cultural Centre**, 1604 Bloor Street West in Toronto, on **Saturday, March 29**, at **1:00 and 3:30 p.m.** **Seating is very limited**, so reserve your tickets early (**Mike at 905-275-7299**). Admission **\$15.00**.

**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.**

## Ukrainian News Briefs

(Continued from Page 5.) prime minister (again).

Unfortunately (for "Orange" supporters), the two co-leaders are already hacking at and undermining each other, each trying to get the upperhand in the battle for the real prize, the presidential election in 2010.

Petro Symonenko (Communist Party) recently said, "After 40 days (in office), the opposition between the presidential and prime ministerial branches is so colossal that they hold no confidence."

Yaroslav Mendus (Socialist Party of Ukraine) stated, "The Cabinet of Ministers is not a

centre for administering the economy and strategic planning, but it's Yulia Tymoshenko's (presidential) campaign headquarters. The Presidential Secretariat is the (presidential) campaign headquarters of Viktor Andriyovych (Yushchenko). And they don't decide long-term tasks, but pre-election tasks."

As written in the February 14, 2008, issue of the American-funded *Kyiv Post*, "The rivalry drives each leader to offer competing, sometimes conflicting, governmental initiatives, then trade criticism whenever an opportunity presents itself."

**Renew Today!**



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

### VANCOUVER BRANCH

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

### CALGARY BRANCH

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

### EDMONTON BRANCH

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

### INNISFREE BRANCH

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

### VEGREVILLE BRANCH

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

### REGINA BRANCH

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

### WINNIPEG BRANCH

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

### OTTAWA BRANCH

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

### SUDBURY BRANCH

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

### TORONTO BRANCH

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

### WELLAND BRANCH

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

# Sonia Ostash Celebrates 90<sup>th</sup>

On October 21, 2007, at the Ukrainian hall at 805 East Pender Street, over 100 guests helped to celebrate Sonia Ostash's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Both friends and family enjoyed the afternoon luncheon and entertainment. Tom Hawken, a well known folk singer, who has graced our stage many times over the years, played background music throughout the afternoon, and then did a beautiful concert with renditions of some old and new songs.

Sonia's grandson Allan Surette was the master of ceremonies throughout the afternoon, and his sister Michelle Surette read all the greetings from family, friends, heads of state, etc. Sonia's great grandchildren Eric and Veronica Surette helped her blow out the candles on her cake and led the singing of the happy birthday song.

Sylvia Surette spoke about her mother's activities within the AUUC, and related some of the family's history. It was fitting that at the end of her tribute she gave her mother a 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary pin of the AUUC.

Sonia (Wishinski) Ostash started her life as a first-generation Canadian of Ukrainian heritage in the town of P'rudhomme, Saskatchewan. She was the second child in a family of three brothers and two sisters.

Starting school in a French

community taught her the French language, while her peers taught her English, and her parents maintained the Ukrainian language at home.

Being trilingual has helped her throughout her life to do many varied and interesting jobs, even though her formal schooling ended in grade 10.

Sonia grew up in the AUUC and some of its predecessors, in the MUD hall, which was built with help of her parents and grandparents and some of her mother's siblings. Plays, concerts and much music were the entertainment and education of the family, but the political struggle was strong on the agenda.



**Folk singer Tom Hawken, no stranger to the Vancouver AUUC, played background music throughout the afternoon, ending with a concert of old songs and new.**



**Audrey Skalbania and Dianna Kleparchuk collected donations to the Vancouver renovation fund.**



**Some family and friends, enjoying the afternoon. Over 100 guests helped celebrate this 90th birthday.**



**Sylvia Surette (nee Rutka), spoke about her mother's activities in the AUUC and about family history.**

In 1940, Sonia married Dave Rutka, and after a short stint on the farm in Calder, Saskatchewan, they moved to Winnipeg. Soon, they moved to the west coast, following her brothers Peter and Mike, and there took residence at the Cook's cafe, a few blocks from the hall.

Throughout her life Sonia has been a proud member of the AUUC, which she credits with having given her lifelong friends, a united family and pride in seeing her great-grandchild dancing on the stage. Five generations have performed at the hall in Vancouver, starting with her mother and ending (so far) with her great-granddaughter. In total six generations have found their way to the stages of the AUUC and its predecessors. The entire family met in 2004, and celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of life in Canada.

In 1990, Sonia married Mike Ostash and started a new chapter in her life, welcoming two stepchildren and their families into her large and encompassing family. The blended family has brought much joy and happiness to both Sonia and Mike and to their respective families.

Sonia attributes her long life to her sturdy childhood on the farm, and a love of dancing. Her health is remarkable and she has maintained a warm and friendly demeanour all of her life. The attendance at her birthday celebration attested to her popularity and charm.

At the conclusion of the festivities, Sonia spoke briefly about her enjoyment of the party and how appropriate it was to have it in the newly renovated hall.

Her commitment to the organization led her to present a cheque of \$5,000.00 for the Vancouver AUUC renovation fund. This inspired friends and family, both present and from afar, to add an additional \$3,600.00 to the fund.

At the conclusion of her speech, Sonia thanked everyone for coming. She said that she enjoyed the party so much that she hoped every one present would have a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party and to be sure to invite her to it.

— Sylvia Surette



**Sonia Ostash ended the festivities with a thank you to those who attended. She presented at \$5000.00 cheque to the Vancouver renovation fund, stimulating additional donations of \$3,600.00.**



**Her husband Mike and great-grandchildren Veronica and Eric Surette helped with the birthday candles.**



**Sonia's granddaughter Michelle Surette read all the greetings, and Michelle's brother Allan Surette was the MC.**

## Elizabeth Paluck

Known as Mickey to her friends, Elizabeth Paluck, cherished wife, mother, grandmother and sister, passed away in the early hours of Monday, September 3, 2007, at Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital in Trail, B.C. She was 92 years old.

Elizabeth was born on November 12, 1914, at Cupar, Saskatchewan.

While teaching at Pretty View Elementary School north of Verigin, Saskatchewan, she met her future husband, John Paluck, whom she married on December 4, 1937. Their son, Clifford, was born on July 22, 1941.

Elizabeth taught in various locations in Saskatchewan before doing so in Ontario.

In 1957, Elizabeth and her family, moved to Castlegar, B.C., where she taught at the Kinnaird Elementary School until she retired in 1977.

Elizabeth never lost her sense of humour, and her kind and gentle mannerisms made her to be loved by those who got to know her.

Elizabeth was a member of



the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians and the Workers' Benevolent Association.

She also enjoyed reading the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*. Although she lost the sight of her right eye in 1991 and developed macular degeneration in the other, so that she could no longer read the "Herald", she supported this newspaper to the end of her life.

Elizabeth will be forever missed by her husband John, son Cliff, her granddaughters Nicole and Kyla (Jared Lalonde), and her sister Florence Keith, as well as her many relatives and friends.

## Nine Decades

(Continued from Page 3.) Liberation Movement in Western Ukraine cooperated with the Canadian Labour Defence League, an organization which assisted prisoners in Canada jailed for their participation in working-class struggles in Canada.

The culmination of its social activism before World War Two by the ULFTA, and its own way as impressive as the first National Festival, was the participation of the organization and its members in the Spanish Civil War. Of some 1200 Canadians who became part of the International Brigades fighting against Franco's fascists in the Spanish Civil War, some 400 were Ukrainian Canadians.

Then came World War Two.

There is some unclarity concerning the position of the ULFTA at the outbreak of the war. On the one hand, following the nonaggression agreement between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and

Germany, the Communist Party characterized the war as an imperialist war (a war among advanced capitalist countries to establish markets and spheres of influence), in which working class internationalists should not participate. It is widely believed that the ULFTA, which adopted (and consistently maintained) that internationalist position concerning WWI, agreed with the Communist position. On the other hand, there is some evidence that the ULFTA did not hold that position consistently (if at all), but rather, took the position that the Nazis and their fascist allies would have to be opposed.

Whatever the truth of the matter, the Canadian government banned the Communist Party and its publications and, in mid-1940, also the ULFTA and its publications, as well as a dozen or so other organizations.

Many ULFTA leaders were interned, and ULFTA property, including Ukrainian La-

(Continued from Page 4.)

The judges may well be right, though the readers' reactions in the "Star" the next day (February 14) suggests divided public opinion.

Nobody wants to see 35 kilograms of cocaine on the street. At the same time, nobody should be complacent about police misconduct, or rulings by courts that legal protections can be set aside lightly.

Whatever the law-and-order gang may say, legal protections are there for the benefit of the innocent, not the guilty. If you doubt that, ask Maher Arar, or Steven Truscotte or scores (maybe hundreds — dare I say thousands?) of others whether they think the innocent have nothing to fear.

If the police are put above the law, then we all have a lot to fear.

Can we resolve the contradiction between the desire to make sure that "cheaters never prosper" and our need to maintain our safeguards against a police state?

The "law-and-order-get-the-scum-off-the-streets" gang have their own answer.

Let us look at another.

There appears to be no dispute in this case about whether the cocaine was tainted evidence. The argumentation was all about whether, given that it was tainted, it should be admitted as evidence, which suggests agreement that it was tainted.

Furthermore, there appears to be agreement that the cocaine was tainted evidence because the accused's rights under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms were violated.

The Charter does not specify penalties for its violation. What it does say is, "24. (1) Anyone whose rights or freedoms, as guaranteed by this Charter, have been infringed or denied may apply to a court of competent juris-

bour Temples and Ukrainian Farmer Temples across the country, were confiscated and disposed of in various ways. Much of the contents of the buildings was destroyed; some found its way into archives maintained by the RCMP (which at that time was also Canada's security force) and other holdings.

The Workers Benevolent Association suffered some harassment, but was not closed.

The internees were released, starting in December, 1941, over several months on conditional discharges. Long after that, some restitution was made for the property that had been confiscated. Some of the buildings were eventually returned, and there

was a settlement for the others.

The ULFTA had found ways to continue its activity during the period of illegality. There were campaigns for the release of the internees, and many activities in support of the war effort. One of the ironies of the period is that, as their fathers sat in internment camps, many of the sons were overseas fighting, and often dying, in the war against fascism.

When the internment ended, the ULFTA in its eventual resurrection as the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians forged into the future. Following an initial period of good will toward an ally after the war, the iron curtain was proclaimed in Fulton,

diction to obtain such remedy as the court considers appropriate and just in the circumstances."

Moreover, the Charter clearly gives the courts a lot of latitude in deciding whether a violation of the Charter makes evidence inadmissible. It says, "(2) Where, in proceedings under subsection (1), a court concludes that evidence was obtained in a manner that infringed or denied any rights or freedoms guaranteed by this Charter, the evidence shall be excluded if it is established that, having regard to all the circumstances, the admission of it in the proceedings would bring the administration of justice into disrepute."

Does the legal "flexibility" under the Charter mean that the decision to admit the tainted evidence in this case was correct?

No, first of all because admitting the evidence does mean that "the judiciary is condoning police misconduct", whether or not that is the intent.

Laws, including the Carter of Rights and Freedoms, can not protect us. At best they can provide guidelines and rules for behaviour and specify penalties for violations. But laws must be applied, and interpreted, and however precise the legislators try to make them they are never exact.

Laws can not protect us; only people can. The police behave as we allow them to act; judges take the cue from public attitudes; legislators try to find the vote-generating positions. While catering to our opinions, they also strive to form our attitudes. Therefore it becomes important that people understand clearly what the dangers are and what the safeguards are.

These are some fundamental positions to ensure our security against unlawful police action:

First, it is vital that people recognize that laws against arbitrary action by police or other authority are the result of centuries of struggle against such arbitrary action, against the divine right of kings to arbitrarily abuse their social inferiors, and against the right of lesser nobility to terrorize each other and lesser citizens.

Today, these laws are the way the ruling class protects itself against its own bullies, and as we live in a democracy, we have a right to the protection of those laws. We should not allow those protections to be taken away.

Second, it must be recognized that the police (and other, similar, institutions, like CSIS) must never be allowed to be above or beyond the law, otherwise none of us will be secure. If police are not subject to legal control, they become nothing more than the biggest motorcycle gang in town — with protective badges and legal use of lethal force.

Third, the police, individually or institutionally, must not be allowed to benefit by breaking the law, and must be prosecuted, just as anyone else would be, for misconduct. Nor should they be given any special consideration because of their occupation. This means that when their misconduct is proven, they must be convicted. It also means that tainted evidence must not be allowed in court, because knowingly allowing illegally obtained evidence tends to encourage the police to use whatever means are available (including torture, false witnesses, inaccurate police reports, etc.) to generate evidence to produce convictions.

The Ontario Court of Appeals claims to believe that the people are more interested in convicting criminals than in protecting our rights and freedoms.

The question remains: Is that belief correct?

— Wilfred Szczesny

Missouri, and the Cold War was born.

The AUUC faced new challenges, some arising from the international situation and the Canadian political position, some the result of new circumstances in the Ukrainian Canadian community, and some created by the realities of the AUUC itself. The organization achieved new successes, and in the process became a far different organization than it had been in 1918.

At the same time, some elements remained constant. Inevitably, under the pressures of change, stresses and conflicts, some of which continue even today as the AUUC defines itself anew, became more pronounced.

— Wilfred Szczesny

## CROPO Funeral Chapel

1442 Main Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
586-8044

www.cropo.com

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

**Submitted  
as a  
separate  
PDF file**

# Regina's Malanka

A bitterly cold January night notwithstanding, almost 300 patrons and 80 performers and volunteers celebrated Ukrainian New Years at the Regina Performing Arts Centre, sponsored by the AUUC, Poltava Ensemble and School of Ukrainian Performing Arts on January 19.

It's heartening to generate that level of response, but disheartening to consider the disappointment, when one has to turn away people from an event.

A winning format of appetizers, a banquet, a cultural program by the Poltava Ensemble, as well as the Lileya and Pre-Poltava Dancers, ending with dancing to The Ficor Show may account for such a popularity.

To the surprise of the organizers, the *Regina Leader Post* sent a photographer to the event. An 8"x 12" picture of the Poltava Ensemble Dancers ushering in the New Year appeared in the paper!

The evening was punctuated by numerous draws, the prizes for which were donated by some 30 corporate and individual sponsors.

The Regina AUUC is grateful to all the volunteers who facilitated an enjoyable evening, and in particular, the *Malanka* Committee, composed of Berni Zopf, Cindy Greschner, Sasha and Wanda Lapchuk, Zoya Shmyr, John Horstman, Randy McLeod, and Lynne and Alex Lapchuk.

— A.L.

## Anna Lesya Lapchuk

Proud parents Wanda and Sasha Lapchuk and grandparents Lynne and Alex Lapchuk and Lillian and Paul Wintonyk of Regina would like to announce the arrival of Anna Lesya Lapchuk. Anna was born November 26, 2007 and weighed 8 pounds and 14 ounces.



**Chef Joe of J and J Speciality Foods helped serve up the varied *Malanka* buffet, including *vareniky* (perogies) made by the AUUC Ukrainian Centre seniors.**



**Left: With such a successful evening, *Malanka* Committee members, including Cindy Greschner and Berni Zopf, were all smiles.**

**Below: Early birds at the *Malanka* always enjoy the appetizers: Kyiv cheese, pickled herring and *kutia*.**

**Bottom: What would a Ukrainian celebration be without a *kolomeyka* on the dance card, with the graceful and not-so-graceful strutting their stuff?**

— Story photos: Mark Greschner



# Shevchenko the Artist



**"Gypsy Fortune-Teller", an early (1841) water colour composition by Taras Shevchenko, was awarded a silver medal by the Council of the Academy of Arts.**

(Continued from Page 11.) to award him with the honourable title of Academician Engraver.

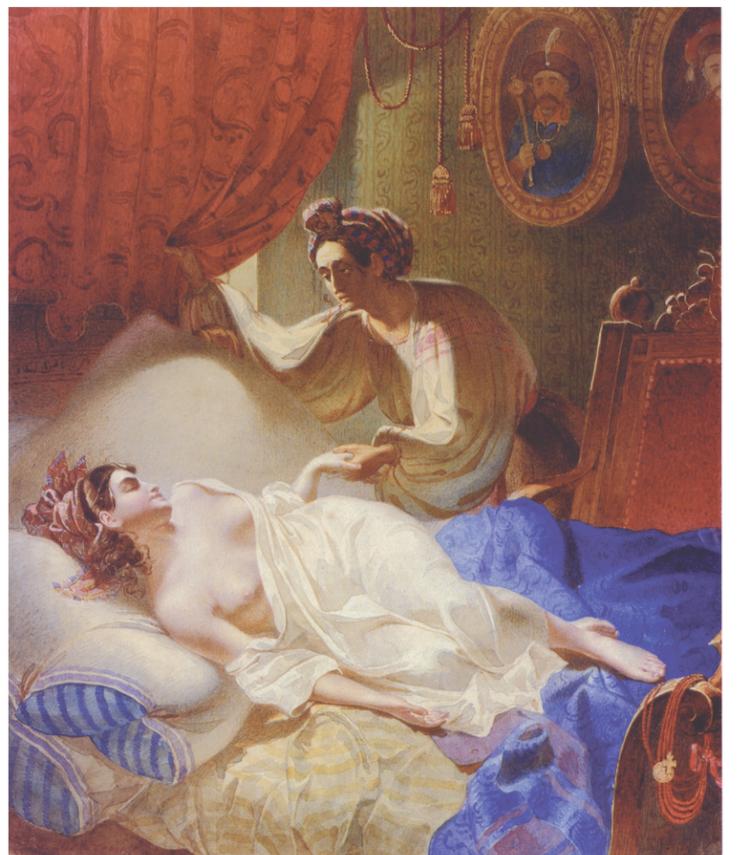
Very impressive is the profound psychologism with which Shevchenko portrayed the image of the well-known sculptor and Vice-President of the Academy of Arts F. P. Tolstoy, who played a great role in freeing Shevchenko from exile.

Of his portraits executed in the technique of etching, the "Self-Portrait with a Candle" and "Self-Portrait in a Hat and Sheepskin Coat" can be singled out.

The first was executed af-

ter a drawing of his earlier years. We see a young Shevchenko with a candle raised high in his hand, and this is symbolic. Shevchenko lit a candle when he started out on the road of creative work. He left behind him the flame of artistic heritage, which to this day warms the hearts of people the world over.

Like the literary heritage of Shevchenko, his works in the fine arts are immortal. They will continue to live, through the ages reminding mankind of the great creative deed that the great son of humanity accomplished for the welfare of people the world over.



**While still a student at the Academy of Arts, Shevchenko created the magnificent watercolor painting "Maria" on the theme of Pushkin's poem "Poltava".**