

HERALD BISHNIK

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Story photos: Dan Fung

The Vancouver Branch of the AUUC hosted the third annual Spring Fling on Saturday, April 5. While much of the rest of Canada was still walking through snow, the Spring Fling guests entered the hall under a shower of — no, not rain, but cherry blossoms! Vancouver was in the midst of spring and the gardens around the Ukrainian Centre were boasting forsythia, daffodils, tulips and other spring blooms, as well as cherry blossoms. For a report on Spring Fling, see page 9.

Banks Must be Fair

Not too long ago, the news was of banks facing a class action suit for making employees work unpaid overtime.

Now, National Bank has lost a ruling concerning an employee who was fired after making an expensive mistake. The employee had been employed at the bank for 20 years. Then she was promoted, though she did not have any qualifications for the new position, and was not given training. She made mistakes, and was warned in writing that she would be dismissed if her work did not improve. She made a mistake that cost the bank \$850,000. She was fired, with three months' severance.

She appealed under the Canada Labour Code, but an adjudicator supported the

bank on the grounds the bank had followed proper procedure.

She appealed to the Federal Court of Canada which ruled that the adjudicator had erred by failing to consider the employees' 20-year record of service. The bank should have considered giving her another job. Fairness, not just correct procedure was required.

The court noted that failing to intervene would have meant that employers could promote a worker without adequate preparation, and then fire the employee for making an error.

The employee, who has found another job, is pursuing the case to get appropriate compensation for her 20 years of work.

Terrorism or Play?

The case of the Toronto 18 just keeps declining so that, at this writing, it is now the Toronto 11 or less.

On April 15, the charges against four more suspects were stayed. One of them was the 45-year-old Abdul Qayyum Jamal, at one time said to be the ringleader.

In June, 2006, the government claimed that a dangerous terrorist plot had been foiled.

Now it appears that the main plot may have been worked out by the government, which was working, at the time, on gaining support for some aspects of anti-terrorism laws.

Then Liberal, now Conservative, MP Wajid Khan said that he had heard Abdul Jamal criticize Canada's troops in Afghanistan. As Thomas Walkom writes in the *Toronto Star*, considering the stay of charges, that Jamal may "be a critic of Canadian foreign policy. But it seems that he is not a terrorist ideologue."

Among the more recent pieces of information concerning the whole terrorist adventure, target practice ammunition was provided by one of two paid RCMP informants in the group (perhaps "informants" should read "provocateurs"). One of the police agents led the "training" for the group.

The "terrorists" reportedly did a lot of their planning in the local doughnut shop, where

they went to use the wash-room and to keep warm. As they did not have an adequate tent, they slept in their cars to avoid freezing

The alleged terrorists were going to go to Parliament Hill, (but did not know how to get there) to behold the Prime Minister (but did not know who he was).

Though the whole case is emerging as tragic comedy, even farce, rather than drama, it appears that the Toronto 18 is used as a case study by

(Continued on Page 4.)

Collecting Pay Still a Problem

Writing in the *Toronto Star* on April 18, Carol Goar makes the point that employers can still get away with cheating workers of their pay.

She cites the case of an immigrant worker, a woman who worked at a job with a cleaning company for several weeks, then could not get an answer when she asked about her pay. She quit that job to work for another cleaning

company, and the same experience was repeated.

According to the story, the worker filed a claim with the Ministry of Labour, with the help of the Workers Action Centre. This does not guarantee that she will get her pay, but if she does, it may take a year.

In 2007, the Ministry of Labour had over 11,000 similar complaints. Many other abuses are never reported.

Ms. Goar reports that even when ordered to pay, many companies do not comply.

Problems include the low probability (about 1%) of being inspected, the low probability of being prosecuted, and the small penalties (fines from \$250.00 to \$1000.00).

The worker is presently on welfare, which is a struggle. Until she gets her pay, however, she does not want to jeopardize her income by taking a job.

"We need labour standards that are enforced," the worker told the Ministry of Labour.

Exceeding Their Authority

There are times when police exceed their authority, try to intimidate you into doing what they say, even if you are under no obligation to do so (if they are packing a stun gun, you may want to go along with whatever they say), and charge you with assault if you do not comply.

Mostly they get away with

that kind of bullying, because most of us do not need the hassle.

Once in a while, however, they try that on someone who is tired of being hassled, and actually does something about it. And once in a while, when that happens, the police lose.

Fitzroy Osbourne was a man who was tired of police harrassment, and when he was stopped one more time, he tried to walk away.

Constable Judy Grant was having none of that. She called for back-up and tried to get Mr. Osbourne to stop. In the (Continued on Page 4.)

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**Submitted
as a
separate
PDF file**

Nine Decades of Struggle

During World War Two, the life of the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community was largely, but not exclusively, centred on two realities. One was the banning of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association; the second was the continuation of the anti-fascist struggle through support for the war effort.

While these were very disruptive events which created substantial challenges for the ULFTA community and its periphery, nevertheless there was a strength and resilience which allowed the continuation of performing arts and other activities at a surprisingly high level, both quantitatively and qualitatively.

At the same time, the right wing of the Ukrainian Canadian community faced its own challenges, and went through developments which affected the life of the entire community for decades.

Establishing UCC

As detailed in the March, 2008, issue of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, the Ukrainian Canadian right wing was far from monolithic. It was divided along religious lines, but also in its political opinions concerning the best solution of the "Ukrainian question". It included a segment that was fascist, and a broader segment which was tolerant of fascism as preferable to communism. It included many who hoped that an independent Ukraine would arise on the ashes of Germany and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as these two powers destroyed each other.

In particular, the Ukrainian National Federation (which had 50 Branches in Canada when the war came, and another 19 Branches in the Ukrainian War Veterans Association) looked upon Hitler's Germany as the power which would defeat the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and install the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (an organization based in Germany) as the government of an "independent" Ukraine.

"The Soviet is our greatest danger," according to Wasył Swystun, speaking at a banquet in Toronto in early 1938, with a representative of Nazi Germany sharing the head table.

In early 1940, the *Ukrainian Voice*, organ of the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League,

which was, in turn, the secular arm of the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church in Canada, wrote that the Ukrainian National Federation, which "continues to function as an organization", had not changed its aims, and that the UNF positions continued to be reflected in its organ *The New Pathway*.

The United Hetman Organization (a Catholic military-style monarchist organization which supported the aspirations of Pavlo Skoropadsky) also tended to look to Germany for the establishment of a sovereign Ukraine.

After France and Britain declared war on Germany, and before Canada did so, a number of other Ukrainian Canadian organizations, like the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League, declared their loyalty to, and support for, the interests of Canada.

While the Canadian authorities chose to ban the ULFTA (among other left wing organizations), its approach to the right-wing was entirely different.

In an effort to restrain their pro-fascist elements, the authorities used a carrot and stick approach to hammer the Ukrainian Canadian right wing into a single "umbrella" called the Ukrainian Canadian Committee. The carrot was cooperation with the government, including recognition as the voice of the Ukrainian Canadian community, exclusive rights as consultants on matters affecting the community, and governmental assistance. The stick was exclusion from these benefits (with consequent competitive disadvantage in the community), and possible prosecution for undermining the war effort.

Formation of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee was officially accomplished on November 7, 1940.

As a group, the UCC remained hostile to the USSR, and, in greater or lesser measure, resisted sending aid to Canada's ally. A significant indicator of the UCC attitude toward prosecution of the war was its tepid support for the plebiscite on compulsory military service and other aspects of the war effort. Documents of the time show that the Canadian government was less than confident that the declarations of support for Canada's war effort were sincere.

On the Road to the Ban

After a prolonged period during which the USSR tried, unsuccessfully, to achieve an international agreement on collective security against an increasingly menacing Nazi Germany, on August 23, 1939, Germany and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics signed a non-aggression pact.

Historians continue to debate the causes and effects of that pact. However, what is known is that a few days later, on August 25, 1939, after a long period during which Germany was allowed to move at will against its neighbours, Britain and Poland signed a Mutual Assistance Treaty. Britain also began to prepare for war.

On September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland. Two days later, France and Britain declared war on Germany. Canada declared war on Germany on September 10, 1939. This was followed by the so-called phony war, which went to May, 1940.

On September 29, 1939, the Soviet Union and Germany signed a friendship agreement.

The United States declared its neutrality, and did not join the war until December, 1941, after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour, though it began preparations earlier in the year.

As recorded by Ramond Arthur Davies in *"This Is Our Land" Ukrainian Canadians against Hitler*, in the period preceding the war, including the time following the signing of the German-Soviet pact, the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association, particularly through its press but also in a series of organizational statements, repeatedly called for action against Germany and the threat of fascism. This position was shared by a range of organizations known as progressive, as well as by the world Communist movement.

Internationally, the Soviet Union had been urging the formation of effective opposition to Nazi Germany. Not without reason, the Soviet Union interpreted the unwillingness of Britain, France and others to act decisively against Germany's aggressive moves as indicating at least a hope that Germany would attack the Soviet Union rather than moving to the west.

For a time after Nazi Germany and the USSR had apparently established peace between them, the international Communist movement which had viewed the entirety of developments to that point as an effort to direct Germany against the Soviet Union, evaluated the war as the usual periodic struggle among imperialist powers to redistribute markets in accord with changes over time in their relative strength. The call went out, therefore, as it had during World War I, for working people not to participate in the war.

As members of the Communist Party, many leaders of the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association supported the position of their Party.

However, the ULFTA as an organization did not adopt that position.

The Ban and Internment

On June 4, 1940, the Communist Party and a number of other organizations, including the ULFTA were banned, and a country-wide hunt for the leaders was unleashed. This was done by Order-in-Council, without any charges being laid or any evidence justifying the action.

An Appeal for Justice, issued in July, 1944, by The Civil Liberties Association of Toronto noted that the ULFTA was banned in June, 1940, and all its properties (including 108 halls and all their contents) were turned over to the Custodian of enemy Alien Property, who was the Secretary of State.

An Appeal for Justice indicates that several of the halls were sold to the Ukrainian National Federation. The Civil Liberties Association discusses "lack of imagination" in selling those halls to "a rival organization", and "at a ridiculously low figure". "Any number of incidents could be quoted," the publication says, "that would seem to argue stupidity and callousness, as well as a surprising lack of respect for property and property rights...."

Other buyers of the buildings included the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church, the Mine Workers Central Union, the Salvation Army, and private businesses. Many of the libraries were burned or sold for pulp; instruments, costumes and other contents suffered similar fates, though much of the stuff was sold very cheaply or otherwise distributed.

Release

On June 22, 1941, Germany invaded the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union was now an ally in the struggle against Nazi Germany, but there was hope in many hearts, including that of Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, that the war between Germany and the Soviet Union would weaken both combatants to the point that they would become easy prey.

As for the interned anti-fascists in Canada, releases did not begin until December, 1941, when two were released, and were not completed until September, 1942. However, the Order-in-Council lifting the ban on the ULFTA and other organizations was not pronounced until October, 1943, and only after a widespread campaign.

Clearly, the internment and the ban had been a question not of attitude toward the war, but of a more general attack on the left, and specifically the Communists. The non-aggression pact between the Soviet Union and Germany

had been merely a convenient excuse for the attack on the left.

UAAF

In June, 1940, having essentially completed its capture of continental Europe to the English channel and north, Germany began to send its European troops east. The attack on the USSR came on June 22, 1941.

The first Ukrainian Committee to Aid the Fatherland was formed in Toronto in July, 1941. Other committees were rapidly formed across the country. In August, 1941, while Ukrainian Canadian anti-fascists were still interned, a new national organization was formed — the Ukrainian Association to Aid the Fatherland (or Ukrainian Society to Aid the Motherland, as it is translated in *Our History*).

Soon after, on August 7, 1941, *Ukrainian Life* started publishing. Though not an official organ of the UAAF, the paper supported the work of that organization.

Like the UAAF, *Ukrainian Life* pressed for full support to the war effort. It urged military aged Ukrainian Canadians to join the armed forces to carry on the war against fascism, joined during the Spanish Civil War by hundreds of Ukrainian Canadian volunteers.

The paper and the UAAF called for increased production in factories and on farms to aid the war effort.

UAAF was part of the campaign to open a second front in Europe.

The internees, still in custody, supported these efforts, and on their release, which started at the end of 1941, and did not end until mid-September 1942, joined the war effort, some even enlisting.

When it became an issue, UAAF, *Ukrainian Life* and *Ukrainian Word* (which started publication in January, 1943) supported the plebiscite on compulsory military service, which the Ukrainian right wing, in some cases, opposed or, in others, supported with no enthusiasm.

WBA worked hand-in-hand with UAAF. This was important in community life, among other reasons, because it assisted in the continuation of performing arts activity.

Ukrainian right-wingers, tried to undermine the work of the UAAF, particularly because it involved providing aid to the USSR.

Association of Canadian Ukrainians

In June, 1942, a national convention of the UAAF held in Winnipeg decided to rename the organization the Association of Canadian Ukrainians.

The ACU set itself three
(Continued on Page 12.)

Correction

In our last issue, on page 3, we misspelled "Dobrowolsky" twice in the captions, for which we apologize.

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board.**Scary Stuff**

An Editorial by Wilfred Szczesny

Terrible things are being done in the name of security. Among them are the proliferation of stun guns (Tasers) and the growing acceptance of their use even in trivial circumstances with minimal threat of violent behaviour.

When they were first introduced into the arsenal of police forces, stun guns were touted as an alternative to firearms, just a step below lethal force in the gamut of responses available to police officers. They were only to be used when threatened with injury or death.

Now police seem increasingly to use them even when there is no threat to the officer, and even before the officer has had a chance to evaluate whether a threat exists, and at what level. Even worse, there are growing numbers of reports of stun guns being used against people who are restrained and in no position to pose any kind of threat. The case of Francis Walcott, Tasered in the back while lying naked face down in handcuffs, which led to a judge staying charges against him, is only one of several recently reported instances.

In addition to the increasingly liberal use of stun guns by police, "almost cops" like the Vancouver transit police are increasingly including stun guns in their toolkit, and zapping people who try to avoid paying their transit fare. Now the Toronto Transit Commission is looking into arming its own transit constables with the stun guns.

How long, then, before mall security forces and other private forces join the Taser club?

These are not harmless weapons to be used lightly. They can, and have, caused death. Even short of death, however, they represent a level of violence which is often far beyond what is justified, exercised by people whom our society entrusts with the use of force.

Some people worry about being attacked by terrorists, some worry about being mugged at their ATM, and some are afraid to come to Toronto because of the danger of drive-by shooting. Me, I worry about all the security people I see around, walking in twos and threes, clad in bullet resistant vests, carrying a variety of weapons and phones to call in reinforcements.

I worry about being attacked because someone doesn't like the way I answer a question, or thinks I'm moving too slowly in obeying an order which I am under no obligation to obey in the first place, or doesn't think I should be standing there watching someone else being attacked.

Maybe my concern is as irrational as the fear of being mugged or shot by accident by a mobster, but the threat of violence by police and "almost cops" is the one danger which is actually growing.

COMMENTARY**Can We Dump the Car?**

I use public transit, and once in a while I wish I drove. That does not usually happen in Toronto, but it does happen fairly often in Mississauga.

So what makes me regret taking the bus?

One thing is walking to my bus stop five minutes before the bus is due, only to find that the bus was even earlier. Another is leaving the bus stop five minutes after the appointed time, only to have the bus arrive even later, after I am half way down the block. With that kind of leeway, 25-minute becomes 20 to 30 minute service, which is one reason the service is known, among other clever things, as Mississauga Chance It.

Of course, sometimes the bus does not come at all, which happens because the driver decided to take a short cut which by-passed my stop, the driver forgot (or did not know!) to make the turn leading to my stop, or the bus broke down (which happens fairly often in Mississauga).

Mississauga has a wide variety of buses. I long for a car when the smallest model of them all arrives at my stop totally crowded (sometimes so full that the driver doesn't even stop to pick up more passengers) with more people waiting ahead.

One of the reasons stand-

Terrorism?

(Continued from Page 1.)
West Point in thwarting radical groups.

The more evidence is revealed, the more it appears that the police agents were running an entrapment exercise to drum up support for a bad security law.

Once in custody, the suspects were assumed to be guilty and treated accordingly. Worse actually. So badly, in fact, that the *Toronto Star* suggests that "Things should not be going on behind prison doors that would disgrace us as a nation if they were brought to light."

From Our Readers

We continue to enjoy the paper. We like Myron Shatulsky's wonderful articles, and the news from Ukraine by George Borusiewich. We look forward to the paper every month.

We wish you all a happy and healthy year.

—Anne Bobrovitz
—Joe Bobrovitz
Brantford ON

ing room only makes me unhappy is that Mississauga Transit buses are jack rabbits in disguise — in normal use, they make fast starts and faster stops, so that even seated people are occasionally thrown about. Recently extra padding has been added to some seat configurations, but standing room is quite dangerous. I thought so 20 years ago, and the advent of back and joint problems has only deepened my concern.

We had little rain over the winter, but I but I am looking forward to being annoyed again by another of my pet Mississauga Chance It peevess: the water that pours through the seams in the body of the bus, either to collect in little puddles in half the empty seats on the bus or to drip onto the the passenger sitting in the no-longer-empty seat. Sometimes it seems that Mississauga buys the cheapest buses available, without specifying that they should be leak proof.

Buying the cheapest buses possible guarantees another source of discomfort: shock absorbers that do not absorb shocks. That is one way in which Mississauga buses contrast sharply with those operated by other transit systems.

Just one more source of annoyance on Mississauga Transit: the full-body billboards. Over the windows, these are screens that severely cut down visibility, so that the slightest bad lighting condition, such as rain or night or a build up of dust, makes it

Exceeding

(Continued from Page 1.)
action that ensued, Const. Grant was struck in the chest. She laid a charge of assaulting police.

The incident happened on May 6, 2007, and reached trial on March 29, 2008. The Ontario court judge dismissed the charges. The judge said that Mr. Osbourne, though "gratuitously confrontational" (did not have to be so rude?), was within his rights in walking away from the police officer.

Fitzroy Osbourne left the courthouse feeling better, but ready to be stopped again, because that's what happens to Black men.

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impossible to know where you are. And, of course, few Mississauga Transit drivers call out stops.

Are there positive aspects to taking Mississauga Transit instead of the car? There can be, if you have the patience.

First, there is the virtuous feeling of reducing pollution (though most Mississauga Transit vehicles, do not burn very clean).

Second, not having to do the driving, which saves nerves as well as money.

Third, the opportunity to do something else — as long as it does not take much concentration or have to end up neat and legible (remember: no shocks jack rabbit).

On balance, most drivers will probably stick with their cars, especially when the time factor is considered (drive in half an hour to almost any point in Mississauga, but leave two hours to get there by bus) and the convenience (drive off in your car whenever you want, or make sure you don't miss your last bus and go to the late church service on Sunday morning).

That is not a good way to aid our environment.

Changes in Banking

This is an "I remember when..." story. It has to do with banking.

I remember when you could go to a bank and open an account, as long as you had some money to deposit. That contrasts sharply with my most recent banking experience.

I went recently to a different bank to open an account to park some money for a short while. An interest bearing savings account would be fine.

It is still good to have some money, but now you also need two pieces of identification that meet specific criteria.

And the account comes with a credit card (sorry, it gets sent automatically) so a "light" credit check has to be run.

And there are these optional services, so make your selection and sign waivers as appropriate.

Here is your debit card. Make sure you know the restrictions and conditions before you personalize your PIN.

Or just put it in an old sock.

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

Former Prime Minister Guilty

Last month, a US judge ordered a former Ukrainian prime minister to pay nearly US\$19.5 million to a Ukrainian businessman who said the politician demanded cash and half ownership of his firm in exchange for favoured treatment.

Pavlo Lazarenko, who served as Ukraine's prime minister from 1996 to 1997, was convicted in US Federal court in 2004 of using his position to extort millions of dollars from his country and then launder it through California banks.

During the just-completed trial, Peter Kirichenko testified that he gave Lazarenko tens of millions of dollars and ownership of half his company to help expand his firm. "I agreed to give him 50 percent of the profit and 50 percent of the company. I didn't see any other way to develop the company," Kirichenko testified.

US District Judge Martin Jenkins agreed that the former prime minister should return the money.

"The record supports his request for US\$19,473,309, based upon his submission of specific and credible evidence," Judge Jenkins wrote in his order.

Lazarenko, a former business associate of present prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko, was sentenced to 8 years in prison on the 2004 money-laundering conviction.

Ukraine-Cuba Solidarity

The First Secretary of Ukraine's Communist Party, Piotr Simonenko, thanked the Cuban government for all it has done to preserve socialism and for being an example of human solidarity.

In an interview with the Cuban daily paper, *Granma*, Simonenko stated his appreciation for Cuba's medical assistance to the victims of the nuclear radiation in Chernobyl. Simonenko said that during his visit to Cuba he saw the results of the work by the Cuban Communist Party to bring together activists and the Cuban people to solidify socialism in their country.

He added, "Our Party supports Cuba against the American blockade and will work to broaden relations, including trade deals, between Kyiv and Havana."

He recalled that in 1990 (the last year of socialist Ukraine), Ukraine was part of one of the most developed countries of the world.

"We had 50 million inhabitants and, as an average, each

person would produce one ton of steel and one ton of cereals. The reality is different today."

He went on to say that Ukraine fell under capitalism due to pressure by the United States through the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. These and other institutions destroyed state property by practically giving it away to the private sector.

Four-Wheel Intruder

Two families in the Ukrainian town of Makivka are forced to share their house with an unwelcome visitor after a drunk driver smashed his truck into the building. It's now feared that the house will collapse if the truck is removed.

Three years ago the Arkhipov family lost all their property in a fire. For many long months, they saved their money to rebuild the old house. And now their home is in peril again.

"We saved coin by coin to rebuild the house. Where are my children going to live? I don't even know if they will have a roof over their heads tomorrow," complains Liliya Arkhipov.

The Arkhipovs share the house with another family, but it's their part that suffered the most damage. Now the neighbours share not only a common wall but a big crack.

When the truck driver crashed into the wall, a woman was with him. She is now in hospital, while the driver escaped with just a few scratches.

The two families demand just a safe roof over their heads. Desperate about their future, they went to the local mayor's office. The mayor showed sympathy but shrugged his shoulders. He says he can only offer legal and some material help.

"The problem stems from the fact that the property insurance system in our country is so bad," said Mayor Aleksandr Maltsev.

UK Brain Doctor

In a Ukrainian hospital, the young man lies back on the hospital trolley and waits patiently as his head is secured in place with a vice. Marian Dolishny's nervous smile and worried, flicking eyes, betray the certain knowledge that what he is about to undergo will be anything but pleasant. But he also knows that time is short: if the enormous tumour inside his head is not removed, it will soon kill him.

Minutes later the team of doctors, including one of Brit-

ain's most eminent brain surgeons, begins to break into the skull of their fully conscious patient — with a \$60 Bosch PSR960 handyman's do-it-yourself cordless drill. Amazingly, and despite the low-voltage tool running out of power halfway through the process, Dolishny's operation is a success, with his tumour skilfully excavated at the hands of Dr. Henry Marsh.

The procedure was a routine triumph for Dr. Marsh, who regularly takes time off as a consultant at St. George's Hospital in London to travel to Ukraine and save lives despite having access only to primitive tools. In Britain, the same operation would only be undertaken with the benefit of a \$60,000 compressed air medical drill.

Dr. Marsh's life-saving exploits in Ukraine began 15 years ago (just after the introduction of capitalism) when he visited a Ukrainian state hospital to give a series of lectures.

Currently, so little money is invested in the Ukrainian state health system that Dr. Marsh has to drill through the skulls of patients under only local anaesthetic because no one is sufficiently trained to fully sedate them.

This humanitarian human being feels compelled to help people let down by a vastly inadequate health system.

Prices Surge

Ukraine's consumer prices, led by food products, skyrocketed in March, pushing overall inflation during the last three months to a level exceeding the government's forecast for the entire 2008 year.

According to the State Statistics Committee, consumer prices rose 3.8% in the month of March, pushing the total inflation rate to 9.7% for the period January–March 2008.

The figures are much worse than had been earlier expected, representing a major setback for Prime Minister (and Orange co-leader) Yulia Tymoshenko. Only four months ago, Ms. Tymoshenko insisted that she will control inflation to a maximum of 9.6% for the whole year.

Measured on an annual basis, inflation rose to a shocking 26.2% in March compared with March, 2007. Food and nonalcoholic beverages rose 5.6% in the month of March and were higher by 40.7% compared with March, 2007.

President Viktor Yushchenko met Tymoshenko following the release of the data and urged her to take measures immediately that would alleviate the inflationary pressures. However, the introduction to the economy of anti-inflation-

ary measures may aggravate the tensions between President (and Orange co-leader) Yushchenko and his prime minister, who in the past, have had radically different approaches to managing the economy.

Retail prices for most goods have spiked since she took office in December, putting her government under pressure by an opposition claiming that the government of Yulia Tymoshenko is unable to manage the economy.

According to her critics, she has damaged the country's healthy economic outlook by making free-market reforms.

Inflation is a sensitive topic in Ukraine. After the demise of socialism in 1990 (and the introduction of capitalism), the country was hit by the worst inflation seen in Europe since the 1930's. Prices for some goods increased by as much as 1000% in a year, and millions lost their life's savings as money in banks became worthless.

Kyivan Rus

Several weeks ago, President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine signed a decree on celebrating the 1020th anniversary since the baptism of Kyivan Rus.

The President's decree set up an organizing committee with his Chief of the Presidential Secretariat, Viktor Baloga, at its head.

The list of events and special measures in this connection includes a gala party, a series of documentaries on Ukraine's outstanding sacral monuments, and on Christianity's historic pathway in this country, the commissioning of new tourist routes and the organization of tours embracing the sights closely linked to the history of Ukrainian Christianity.

The Foreign Ministry is expected to ensure that all of Ukraine's diplomatic missions abroad, Ukrainian Christian communities based in foreign countries, and the communities of Ukrainian expatriates take part in the events timed for the jubilee.

The Ministry of Education and Science will organize special events on the history of Christianity in Ukraine at educational institutions.

Young People's Well-Being

A United Nation's report provides some interesting comments about the effect on Ukraine's children of the switch in 1990–1991 from socialism to capitalism.

On page 7 of *Young Peo-*

ple's Health and Development, the 34-page report published in Kyiv in 2002, the authors state:

"Transition to market economy and collapse of traditional support-rendering entities, as well as pressure on the families and related shocks, had an extremely adverse effect upon Ukrainian youth's health and wellbeing. Juvenile delinquency rate increased by 12% over 5 years, starting 1990. The number of registered drug users, mostly young people, increased more than twice over the period between 1993 and 1996. Children and young people living in the streets became common in large Ukrainian cities. Suicide rate among boys has increased by 1/3 over 1989–1995 period. Liberalization of moral demands witnessed by Ukraine in the 1990's brought about a rise in sexual contact occurrence at an early age. Concurrently, fading internal family ties and insufficient sexual education at schools, or its complete absence, meant that most young people were not aware of the consequences of their sexual behaviours. This, in its turn, resulted in rapid increase in pregnancy and abortion rates among adolescents, as well as STD morbidity (sickness from sexually-transmitted disease — **GB**) rates. Between 1990–1996 syphilis rates among girls under 18 rose more than 12 times. The share of HIV-infected individuals and young people with AIDS kept growing steadily."

Off To War We Go

In an apparent effort to cuddle up to Washington, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko ordered fifteen Ukrainian soldiers to Iraq.

Yushchenko has made joining NATO a priority, but his request for a road map to membership was turned down at a NATO summit meeting last month. Germany, France, and several other NATO members vetoed Yushchenko's bid, opening a US — Europe split in the alliance.

US President George Bush has strongly supported the inclusion of Ukraine in NATO. During his recent visit to Ukraine, Bush praised Ukraine as the only non-NATO state contributing troops to all of the groups missions.

(His visit was greeted by one of the largest public protests by Ukrainians in years.)

Ukraine deployed troops in Iraq in 2003–2005, but withdrew them amid public protests. In a recent survey, 36% of Ukrainians said that they would vote "No" in a referendum on NATO, while only 11% said they would vote "Yes".

**Ukrainian
Page
Submitted
Separately**

**Ukrainian
Page
Submitted
Separately**

Welland Orchestra in Toronto

The Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra (AUUC) treated supporters and friends to two performances at the AUUC Cultural Centre in Toronto on March 29. Because of the relatively small size of our hall, and the fact that the orchestra would itself take up almost a third of the auditorium, it was decided to have the orchestra perform twice to accommodate the total number of expected audience.

Both performances (which were identical in program) were well received by the two audiences, including a standing ovation after the second performance.



Joy Edwards on the accordion is the key element in many of the orchestra's pieces.

The program opened with a stirring rendition of Taras H. Shevchenko's "Zapovit", recited by Natalie Mochoruk with background accompaniment by the orchestra.

Then, under the firm leadership of conductor Rudy Wasylenky, the orchestra delighted the audience with seventeen additional pieces from their varied repertoire.

Adding sparkle to the program, our own lovely Connie Prince wowed the audience with a number of Ukrainian pop tunes which had people calling "More, More". She started with her signature song "Red Rue" (*Chervona ruta*), the 1971 megahit by Volodymyr Ivasiuk. Connie returned later with "Autumn Gold" (*Osinnye zoloto*), with words by Dmytro Lutsenko and music by Ihor Shamo. Her final number was "One Cranberry Tree" (*Onda kalyna*) from the repertoire of Sofia Rotaru, like "Red Rue".

Additional vocals were by the duo of Wilfred Szczesny and Rudy Wasylenky, who sang three numbers from the repertoire of the Ukrainian group Volyn, which has given the orchestra six of its songs.

The program included much music from the national festivals staged by the AUUC in



Second mandolin players Leda Braun (left), Greta Taylor and Marion Gaboury. In the background are mandola player Clara Babi, and third mandolins Dorothy Boucock and Joan Sitak.



In the first mandolin section were Concert Master John Kukoly and Mary Wasylenky in the front row, with Olga Young, Anne Hunka and George Setak in the second row.



The Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra (AUUC), conducted by Rudy Wasylenky, presented two concerts at the AUUC Cultural Centre in Toronto on the afternoon of March 29.

Edmonton in 2000 and Regina in 2005. These included "Festive Medley", "Prairie Wedding", "Dancefest", "Prairie Dances", "I Shall Weave a Wreath" (*Zapletu vinnochok*), and "Centennial Tribute".

Other medleys were "Ukrainian Melodies", "Sad Evening, Sad Morning", and "Melodies from Russia".

Rounding out the program were "Oy hylia, hylia", and "On the Eve of Ivan Kupalo".

After the concerts, the questions asked by several people were, "Why didn't we do this before?" "When are we going to do this again?" It was obvious to all of us that this event would be repeated.

Although the spotlight was deservedly on the orchestra and the soloists, the event could not have taken place without considerable background help from AUUC members such as Mike Stefiuk, Nancy Stewart, Marie Prociw, Otti Nicolai, Mark Stewart, Ann Malnychuk, Rose Manning, and Vera Borusiewich.

— George Borusiewich



Connie Prince added sparkle to the program with three vocal solos.

Notice

The report on the appearance by the Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra at Club Capri in Thorold on April 16 will appear in our next issue.



Having left home fairly early to be ready for the 1:00 p.m. performance, Welland musicians John Kukoly (left), Ken Speck and Mike Moskal (right) enjoy a bit of Toronto hospitality before taking the stage.



The concert opened with a tribute to Taras Shevchenko: Nataka Mochoruk reading The Bard's "Zapovit" to the accompaniment of the orchestra.

— Story Photos: George Borusiewich



The duet of conductor Rudy Wasylenky (left) and Wilfred Szczesny performed three songs from the repertoire of the Ukrainian group Volyn.

Spring Fling 2008



The Barvinok Choir, under the direction of Beverly Dobrinsky, has several new participants this year, and now stands close to 25 members.

The Vancouver Branch of the AUUC hosted the third annual Spring Fling on Saturday, April 5. While much of the rest of Canada was still walking through snow, the Spring Fling guests entered the hall under a shower of — no, not rain, but cherry blossoms! Vancouver was in the midst of spring and the gardens around the Ukrainian Centre were boasting forsythia, daffodils, tulips and other spring blooms, as well as cherry blossoms.

Debbie Karras, Director of the AUUC School of Dance, and Audrey Moysiuk assumed the responsibility for this very popular event. The evening began with a short but dynamic concert, followed by a delicious pasta dinner, followed by a rousing family dance. This event not only brought in our own members, but also enticed many guests from the neighbourhood.

The concert program featured all our performing arts groups: Vancouver Folk Orchestra, Barvinok Choir, Veselka Dancers, Zirka Dancers and Sopilka. We were also fortunate to have guest performers Elvira Voskan on violin and pianist Larry Levchuk. The evening was emceed by the talented Glen Hobbis, always happy to find an audience for his witty jokes and

puns.

The Barvinok Choir, under the direction of Beverly Dobrinsky, has been pleased to welcome several new participants this year, and now stands close to 25 members. In anticipation of the concert celebration of the 80th anniversary of the construction of the AUUC Ukrainian Cultural Centre Heritage building at 805 East Pender in Vancouver's historic Strathcona area, the Barvinok Choir is revisiting many of the old pieces performed over the years. Their selections — *Vesna nasha*, *Za horodom*, *Oy mi myliy* and *Kolomeyky* — were performed joyously and skilfully. *Oy mi myliy varenechky khoche*, a very humorous duet dramatically sung by Mila Nefedova and Murray Black, brought the house down.

The Vancouver Folk Orchestra performed for the first time under the baton of their new and already beloved, conductor Jeffrey Chow. That they were a match made in heaven was clear from their sensitive accompaniment of the dance groups that evening. The orchestra's solo number, "Bright Shines the Moon", featured Harry Hoshowsky, a veteran member of the Vancouver Orchestra who has performed that solo many, many times. It was a very



The voracious crowd ate their way through the entire buffet prepared by Chef Sylvia Surette and her kitchen crew.

—Story photos: Dan Fung

nostalgic number and much appreciated by the audience.

Jeffrey Chow is currently finishing his 4th and final year at the UBC School of Music, with a major in orchestral instrument performance. He is an accomplished violist, and plays with the UBC Symphony Orchestra as well as with many other orchestras in the city.

Larry Levchuk, the first guest performer, gave interesting historical explanations of his pieces. Shostakovich's "Second Waltz" was once thought to be a part of *Jazz Suite #2*, but was actually mistitled. In 1999, Slava Rostropovich approached Shostakovich's archivist about a piece he had heard and recollected from his youth. Diligent research produced the work that was actually written for a different suite of jazz music. However, "Second Waltz" continues to be performed and has continued to please audiences for over seventy years. Levchuk's second number, "Chaika" (Seagull) is well known and oft performed, yet almost nothing is known about the composer, Zhurakovsky. "Chaika" was arranged by Levchuk's instructor, Galina Rudas.

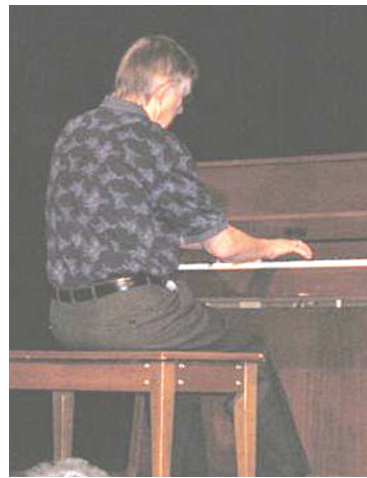
The second guest, Elvira Voskan, is a professional violinist and teacher from Rostov-on-Don who is currently visiting Canada. Elvira Voskan performed "Ukrainian Fantasia" (Continued on Page 16.)



The dancers shown above, and presenting "Tambourine Dance" below, are dealing with increasingly complicated choreography, and improving steadily.



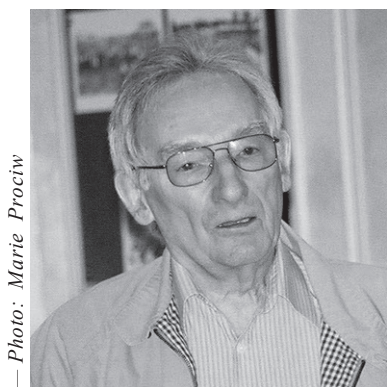
Elvira Voskan, a professional violinist and teacher from Rostov-on-Don, performed "Ukrainian Fantasia".



Larry Levchuk played Shostakovich's "Second Waltz" and Zhurakovsky's "Chaika".

**Submitted
separately
as a .pdf**

Toronto's Day of Love and Laughter



— Photo: Marie Prociw
Toronto AUUC Branch President George Borusiewicz opened with a welcome to all in attendance.

On Sunday April 13, the Toronto Branch of the AUUC hosted a day of Love and Laughter at the AUUC Cultural Centre.

The idea for this event was conceived by Natalka Mochoruk, who was instrumental in bringing it to fruition.

What better way to celebrate the end of winter and the arrival of spring than by enjoying a day with friends and family, doing the things that bring us love and laughter!

As people entered the hall they were greeted by Otti Nicolai, who handled the admission duties.

The hall was bright and cheerful, imaginatively decorated with hearts hanging from the ceiling and vases with hearts and greenery on each table. Connie Prince and Nancy Stewart let their artistic flair and creativity shine through.

The event started with opening remarks by George Borusiewicz, Branch President, who welcomed everyone. Lorna Clark acted as

Master of Ceremonies, walking us through the program for the day.

Then the Hahilka Choir took us through a typical choir rehearsal. Choir members sat in their usual chairs, choir director Natalka Mochoruk was in the front, sitting behind her desk, and Peter Krochak, the accompanist, was at his keyboard.

The choir started the "rehearsal" with the song "Laskavo prosymo", a welcoming song with a presentation of bread and salt. The choir was joined by Wilfred Szczesny as soloist, with Lorna Clark bringing in the bread and salt on an embroidered towel.

The choral number "Oy, harna ya harna" (I'm So Beautiful) was followed by the duet "Za nashow stodolow" (Behind Our Barn) in which Lorna Clark and Vicki Vuksinic, with the choir, beg to be allowed to marry a man they love.

Another choral number, "Byla mene maty" (My Mother Beat Me) was followed by a kolomeyka, a Ukrainian song form with many variants. This one was performed by the choir with the trio of Terry Rivest, Lorna Clark and Wilfred Szczesny, with a little dance choreography thrown in.

"Horila sosna ta yavir", (The Pine and Maple Were Burning) featured the duet of Lorna Clark and Natalka Mochoruk, with the choir.

The "rehearsal" ended with the comical song "Oypidemo zhinko" (Let's Go, Wife), in which Wilfred Szczesny, with increasing vehemence, invited his "wife" Maria Gargal into the fields to work. All her objections end when he invites her, instead, on a long march to a wedding.

The second part of the program was a joke contest. Audience members were asked

"Seniors are leading carriers of aids," said the winning joke. "Band aids, hearing aids, Roloids... and financial aids to their grown children."

to give us their best joke to be judged by an esteemed panel (Bill Hrynchak and Nancy Stewart). The pace was fast and furious, and when the dust had cleared, the winner was Mark Stewart, followed closely by Mike Stefiuk and Bill Harasym. All received prizes donated by Natalka Mochoruk (who was disqualified as a contestant for that reason).

Part 3 of the day was a three-song sing-a-long. Ukrainian favourites "Reve ta stohne" (The Mighty Dnipro Roars and Bellows) and "Rozpryahayte khloptsi koni" (Unharness the Horses, Lads) filled the hall. The last song was "This Land Is Your Land", sung by Wilfred Szczesny, with the audience joining in on the chorus.

The highlight of the day was a dance performance by Lesya Starr, daughter of AUUC member Helen Baker. Lesya resides in Barcelona, Spain, where she is a dancer, instructor and choreographer. She beautifully performed two Mediterranean/Oriental/Gypsy items which were greeted with great enjoyment and enthusiastic applause.

Next on the program was Bingo, with Mark Stewart calling numbers. All prizes were donated by members of the Hahilka Choir.

For those who were not able to win at Bingo, a raffle was held for seven gifts embroidered by Natalka Mochoruk. Helen Banville was kept busy selling tickets as everyone wanted to have one of these cherished items.

The event came to an end with everyone enjoying coffee and the sweets provided by the choir.

— Joe Dzatko

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



— Photo: Marie Prociw
Lesya Starr, daughter of AUUC member Helen Baker, performed two dances.



— Photo: Marie Prociw

Natalka Mochoruk conducted the Hahilka Choir. She also sang, donated many of the day's prizes, told a joke — and thought of the whole thing in the first place.



— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny

Peter Krochak accompanied the choir on the keyboard. When not creating music, Peter practices law.

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



Behind the barn, Lorna Clark and Vicki Vuksinic beg to be married to a man they love. He will love them, and when he beats them they won't tell. Obviously a very old song.

— Photo: Marie Prociw



Above, audience members enjoying a humorous moment, Below, audience members paying rapt attention.

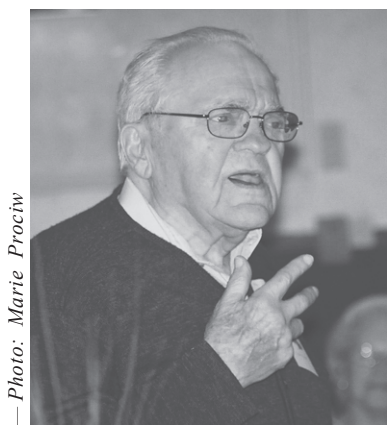


— Photo: Marie Prociw

— Photo: Marie Prociw



Maria Gargal and Wilfred Szczesny "discuss" field work, for which she claims to be too small, too weak and to ill — but not for a long hike to a wedding.



— Photo: Marie Prociw

Bill Harasym, who took third place, was one of the enthusiastic participants in the joke competition.



— Photo: Marie Prociw

Terry Rivest (left), Wilfred Szczesny and Lorna Clark complete a rendition of "Kolomeyka".

Who, What, When, Where

Edmonton — On May 20, 2008, the Edmonton AUUC Seniors will sponsor a bus tour to Guru Manak Sikh Temple at Manning Freeway and 18 St., with a visit to Kuhlmann's Market Gardens and Greenhouses. To reserve your seat, call Pauline at (780) 430-7078.

Edmonton — On May 24, 2008, the Edmonton AUUC Seniors will sponsor a Rummage and Plant Sale at the Ukrainian Centre, 11018-97 Street, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Any items you can donate can be brought to the hall on May 20-23, between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. For pick-up items, call Edna at (780) 424-2037 or (780) 469-0590.

Regina — Regina's Mosaic, with 18 national pavilions, will be held on June 5-7. Visit the AUUC Poltava Ukrainian Pavilion, located at the Regina Performing Arts Centre, 1077 Angus at 4th Avenue. The Ukrainian cuisine is tops, bar none, and for your enjoyment there will be 22 half-hour performances by the Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and Dance and the School of Ukrainian Performing Arts (100 performers). Passports available at the Performing Arts Centre.

Vancouver — On Sunday, June 8, starting at 2:00 p.m., at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 805 East Pender Street, the Vancouver AUUC will host a commemorative concert and dinner celebrating the 80th birthday of our hall and the 90th anniversary of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians. For tickets, phone (604) 254-3436.

Winnipeg — Mostly Mandolins will be presented at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 10, 2008, at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Pritchard and McGregor, by the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra with the Praetorius Mandolin Ensemble. Special guests will be the D-Rangers, a country-western-bluegrass group. Admission is \$10.00 at the door.

Winnipeg — Labour Songs and May Days will be presented at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 24, 2008, at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Pritchard and McGregor, by the Canadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research, scheduled in conjunction with the Mayworks Arts Festival. Featured will be a talk by Myron Shatulsky illustrated in song by the Winnipeg Labour Choir, and community singing led by What's Left, a CSULR-organized group.

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.

Greetings to the Herald!

In Loving Memory of Rose and Stanley Dobrowolsky



*Dedicated members of the AUUC
and lifelong defenders of peace and equality
throughout the world*



**Nancy, Mark, Laura & Matthew
Jerry, Bernardine and Erik**

Nine Decades of Struggle

(Continued from Page 3.)
main tasks:

To take an active part in all aspects of Canada's war effort (a task which included a 12-point program);

To renew and develop the cultural-educational and arts programs which the ULFTA had operated; and

To wage a campaign to lift the ban on the ULFTA and return its property.

In the aftermath of that convention, there was an increase in enlistment of young Ukrainian Canadians into the armed forces. There was also increased effort, including a national tour by John Navis, which had good success, to promote purchase of Victory Bonds.

The End of ULFTA

On October 14, 1943, by Order-in-Council the ban was lifted, and it was ordered that the confiscated properties be returned.

It was January 25, 1945, before the government decided to expropriate halls from those who held them at the time, but not all of them. Of the 108 halls, 92 were returned, though many of the contents were either badly deteriorated or missing, and other problems had to be resolved. Compensation was paid for the other 16 halls, primarily buildings sold to individuals who had turned them into warehouses or factories or other such economic uses.

However an agreement on the return of ULFTA properties was not reached until April 10, 1945, and it was a while before the properties were fully operational.

In January, 1946, in Winnipeg, the ULFTA held its 17th, and final, convention. At that

convention, it decided to transfer its assets to the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, as the ACU was renamed. For this purpose, as was required, it held a successful referendum of its members toward the end of 1947, for approval of the transfer.

Accomplishments of the War Years

There are reports of concerts at the end of 1942 and early 1943, staged by progressive Ukrainian Canadians at events supporting the war effort. Shevchenko concerts involving orchestras are reported in March, 1943, as well as concerts celebrating the 25th anniversary of the formation of the Ukrainian SSR, and performances to entertain servicemen.

Victory Festivals were held on June 30, 1945, in Toronto, with 1000 performers, and on July 28 in Winnipeg.

In spite of having lost their halls, costumes and other assets, the members and supporters of the outlawed Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association found ways to continue their performing arts activity — and to do so at a qualitative level suitable for presentation to a broad public.

In many (but not all) cases, this was facilitated by the existence of Branches of the Workers Benevolent Association which, as a financial institution, had not been banned.

At the 2nd National Convention of the ACU/AUUC in January, 1946, the Association of Canadian Ukrainians received a report on the contribution of ACU to the war effort. They bought over \$3.2 million of Victory Bonds. Over

\$678,000 was raised for "aid purposes", including over \$132,000 in the Canadian Red Cross campaign, about \$455,000 for aid to Ukrainian people, over \$24,000 in "other humanitarian causes", and another \$50,000 in general funds. ACU Committees for Aid to Canadian Soldiers sent parcels to soldiers at the front, and over 120 tons of clothing was collected for refugees.

It was estimated at that convention that, of the 40,000 or so Ukrainian Canadians who served in the war, about half came from the ACU community!

Building the organization had reached the point where the ACU had 300 Branches. However, its cultural-educational and arts programs had suffered because so many teachers and performers had joined the armed forces. Nevertheless, there were 55 orchestras, 26 choirs, 17 sports groups, and several dance groups.

The Birth of AUUC

At its second convention, in addition to reviewing its work the ACU also looked ahead.

The main concern was that the majority of members of the ACU were immigrants, at a time when 60%-70% of Ukrainian Canadians were born in Canada. It was decided to make a concerted effort to recruit among the Canadian-born. The name of the organization was changed to Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, and it was incorporated under this name on November 16, 1946.

The Convention elected as national chairman William Teresio, a Canadian-born high school principal.

It decided to launch an English-language newspaper, and *The Ukrainian Canadian* was born on September 1, 1947.

The decision to organize English-speaking Branches led to 32 such Branches, with 1000 members, being formed by the time of the third convention two years later.

A new period in the growth of the Ukrainian Canadian progressive community was under way, a period with great promise, but tremendous challenges as well.

— Wilfred Szczesny

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Edmonton Seniors Salute "Bread and Roses"

—Story photos: Victor Horon

On March 18, the monthly meeting of the Edmonton AUUC Seniors, in addition to the usual business, including celebrations of members' birthdays, also marked International Women's Day (this year with the theme "Bread and Roses"), and paid tribute to Taras Shevchenko, with special emphasis on his depiction of the social condition of women in his time.

Members who wished to do so were encouraged to speak about Shevchenko and/or women whom they considered special.

"*Taka ii dolya*" (Such Is Her Fate) was read in Ukrainian, then in English translation, and then it was sung by Paul Greene, bringing tears to many eyes! Shevchenko's compelling poem *Katerina* haunted us.

We invite you to read some of the comments which were made at our event.

— Shirley Uhryn

The Struggle Continues

During Shevchenko's time, women were discriminated against, but it was a fate that was accepted at that time.

In 1912, 20,000 workers, 90% of which were women, walked out of the mills to protest a cut in their weekly pay, averaging \$8.56 for a 56 hour work week. The state passed a law that cut the work week to 54 hours but refused to raise the wages. Workers went on strike, lasting 10 weeks before they gained concessions for themselves and 250,000 other workers throughout New England. Because of this action, which gained worldwide



Eva Doskoch

attention and respect, International Women's Day was born and is celebrated on March 8.

Fast forward to IWD 2008.

Things have not changed. Numerous protests were recently held in Baghdad with placards bearing messages to stop neglecting and killing women and creating widows.

Afghanistan protesters called on religious leaders and tribal elders to put a stop to men forcing their young daughters into marriage with old men.

In India, Poland, Australia, and Italy women fight for the right to legal abortion.

The French president called for an end to pay inequality between men and women.

In Turkmenistan, on IWD each woman got a \$10 gift from their president.

The struggle continues for women to be recognized.

— Eva Doskoch

TEKLIYA CHABAN

Edmonton, Alberta
From *Reminiscences of Courage and Hope*, page 128

I come from the village of Rizdviany, Ivano-Frankivsk Province. My maiden name was Tekliya Hrytsiw. I was born in 1895. There were five of us in the family. My father was a village farmer with eight morgs of land.

I never went to school because my parents thought that I should take care of the cattle in the pasture. Once, when I took the cattle out, I noticed that my usual companions weren't there. They had gone to school. So I also ran to the school. In the meantime, the cattle wandered into the neighbour's field and did some damage. My mother came running to the school and dragged me out and gave me a sound thrashing.

That was the one and only time in my life that I had been to school.

PAULINE DMYTRUK

Edmonton, Alberta
From *Reminiscences of Courage and Hope*, page 136

I next went to Edmonton where I worked in a Chinese restaurant washing dishes. I worked ten hours a day. I received six dollars a week with room and board. This was hard work. Then the owner didn't pay me for six weeks in a row and I lodged a complaint with the Labour Board. The owner not only had to pay me for the six weeks of work, but the amount per week, for the whole time that I had worked for him, was raised to nine dollars because that was what the minimum wage law required. I put a hundred and thirty dollars of my earnings in the bank.

MADELINE LUBAS ULANICKI

My mother, Madeline Lubas Ulanicki, was a very brave pioneer woman and I would like to share a few stories that she told me over the years.

My *baba* and her two sisters came to Canada in 1915. They arrived in Edmonton and each went their separate way. *Baba* went to work in Entwistle, where she worked as a housekeeper. She met *Dido*, and they moved to Lamont where my mother was born in December of that year. They lived there for 10 years, at which time they moved to La Corey, where she completed grade 7. As an only child, she was very lonely, but luckily had cousins living nearby and became



Mary Tropak

very close to them.

When she left school, she went to work as a live-in housekeeper in Bonnyville. She was paid \$10 per month which was a lot of money for her. As she was so young, she really missed her parents and only worked there for a short time. There was always so much to do on the farm that when she got back she had a full time job at home. She met my dad when she was 15, at a community function. They dated for two years and decided to get married. Her dress had to be made, so she ordered material and a veil from the Eaton's catalogue. They received \$30 cash, a few dishes, and pillow cases as gifts.

My mother passed away last year at the age of 92, and was always a very strong woman. I feel so fortunate that I didn't have to go through the hard times that my mother and many other women did. I think we all owe them our gratitude for paving the way for all women who came after them.

— Mary Tropak

MARIA BORODUIK

In the 1880s in Pidliashu, Maria Boroduiik, my grandmother, went to school for 6 weeks and then had to go work on the fields. Her regret always was that she had learned the alphabet but did not learn to put the letters together into words so she never did learn to read.

NELLIE GREENE

My mother, Nellie Greene, was born in the Lviv area in 1912 to parents Pavlo and Ann Sadlowski and immigrated to Canada in 1914 with her parents and seven siblings. She became immersed in left-wing politics and strongly supported the humanitarian rights of all nationalities, workers rights and the end of injustices created by war. She absolutely supported us in all our endeavours.

— Paul Greene



Paul Greene

PAULINE WARICK

Edmonton, Alberta
From *Reminiscences of Courage and Hope*, page 168

Our organization helped me become a better Canadian. I learned to work with people by being active in our organization. It is through the organization that I became acquainted with the heritage and life of the Ukrainian people. The organization made me proud

(Continued on Page 14.)

Celebrating Cultural Diversity

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Alexander Veprinsky, Artistic Director

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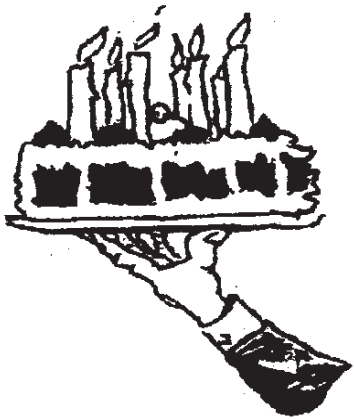
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Edmonton Seniors

(Continued from Page 13.) of being of Ukrainian origin. I was aware of that feeling of pride when I finished high school, then the secretarial courses and when I began looking for work. I was asked about my national origin. When I told them that I was Ukrainian, I was asked whether I could speak the language. I replied that I not only could speak, but could also

Happy Birthday, Friends!



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

- Maurice Warick
- Pauline Warick

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 May celebrants:

- Mary Kuzyk
- Nita Miskevich
- Dorothy Mylko

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

The **Vancouver Seniors Club** extends May birthday greetings to:

- Charles Hegeous
- Sylvia Surette
- Anna Withers

We wish you the best of health and happiness in the coming year.!

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

- Victor Babiy
- Millie Kish
- Jackie Lauder
- Dora McIntyre
- Frank Panetta
- Betty Roberto
- Joan Sitak

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



Pauline Warick

write Ukrainian.

The people were pleased that I could speak another language besides English. Moreover, knowing the Ukrainian language, I could understand the people who spoke Polish, Slovak, and Czech at work. Understandably, this reinforced my pride that I was Ukrainian.

SHIRLEY UHRYN

Northern Alberta had its strong women too. Mary Uhrn emigrated in 1928 to homestead in the Volan area. Anne Shewchew came as a



Shirley Uhrn

child with her mother to join her husband in Prestville, Alberta, in 1927. They came from the Brody area of Ukraine. Pauline Nedvhin emigrated with her family to the district of Volan community and was active in cultural and social events.

Spotlight — Caroline Bagan

Caroline was born Christmas 1909. Her mother wanted to go to church, and Caroline wanted to go too, so she was born in time to go to church as well. Caroline left the Ukraine when she was 17 years old. Her village is called



Caroline Bagan, now 99 years old, carpet bowls once a week.

Kuzuko, near Ternopil. She had never been away from her home village before. She came over to Canada on a ship, and remembers buying herself a big chocolate bar before boarding. Unfortunately, she became seasick, and suffered the whole voyage, and believes it was caused by the chocolate bar. She did not eat any chocolate bars for years afterwards. She came to her father Peter Bardnarchuk, and then her mother came a few years later. Now, at 99 years of age, she still carpet bowls once a week.

ems illustrating the lives of women of his time and place, early 1800s Ukraine. Famous Ukrainian composers wrote music to his words and choral parts for choirs, so "Taka ii Dolya", or "Such is Her Fate" has been sung countless times by our choirs across this land.

We are the inheritors of Shevchenko's legacy, carrying on in the land of Canada, the new land to our thousands of immigrants a century ago, but the birthplace of our children and grandchildren, who whether they know it or not, are also imbued in the spirit of our Kobzar.

How proud his call for unity and dignity resounds in this new era, even in Canada, where not all obstacles have yet been overcome.

Humanism, this is the question before all people.

We are confident that as we move forward in the spirit of poets and writers like Taras Shevchenko, Ivan Franko, and Lesya Ukrainka, their vision of equality for all will triumph.

Lasting glory to all who struggle for equality and fairness and justice for all of mankind!

— Bill Chomyn

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Introduction to IWD

As we celebrate the significance of International Women's Day, I thought about the many poems dedicated to the struggles of women by Taras Shevchenko, the bard of Ukraine, and the many works by Lesya Ukrainka and other prominent Ukrainian writers who all wrote so much about the plight of women. I thought how appropriate, timely and universal are the words of Shevchenko, whose birthday is only a day after International Women's Day, even now as we move into the 21st century:

*So let's march on, dear fate of mine,
My humble, truthful friend,
Keep marching on – there glory lies,
March forward – that's my testament!*

Today, I'd like to single out just one of Shevchenko's poems

— File photo: Victor Horon



Bill Chomyn was unable to attend the event. His contribution was read by Lucy Antoniw.

Lucy Antoniw



Lucy Antoniw

Lucy Antoniw reminded us of, and shared with us, Shevchenko's empathy towards women.

Taras Shevchenko was born on March 9, 1814, to illiterate peasant parents. He was orphaned at age 9, — but even then was becoming well aware of the very poor lives of his people. His talent for drawing and for writing were already evident.

Much later, when he was writing in exile, he wrote verses that he called his "little children", sending them to Ukraine and his people.

Let them fly home, my children fair,

*As light as breath of air,
And let them tell the people there*

What tragic lives are theirs.

Why not renew your "UCH" subscription now, while you are thinking about it?

**Submitted
as a
separate
PDF file**

Spring Fling 2008

(Continued from Page 9.)
sian” on a 300-year-old violin, accompanied by her friend Tatyana Savchyn, who also plays for the Barvinok Choir. The audience recognized many of the traditional pieces in the medley and responded to the music with rhythmic clapping and loud cheers at the end of the number.

The Veselka, Zirka and Sopilka dancers once again charmed the audience. These young people are preparing for their imminent competition and were very well prepared. Their performance was spirited and their enjoyment was evident. The audience loved all the dances and recognized the new “*Tanets z bubnyamy*” (Tambourine Dance). They are dealing with increasingly complicated choreography, and improving steadily.

After the concert program, the guests moved to the lower hall for a gourmet Italian Pasta Dinner. Our excellent chef, Sylvia Surette, offered fusilli with primavera sauce, carbonara sauce, meatballs, Caesar salad, exotic green salad, coleslaw, garlic bread and mini ice cream sundaes. The voracious crowd ate their way through the entire buffet. Chef Surette was called to the banquet hall, where she acknowledged and presented her kitchen crew. Thunderous applause and cheers from the 200 satisfied diners was the cue for the start of the final part of the evening.

The Spring Fling Dance was also a mini “Battle of the Bands”. The dancing began with Jake Hobbis on accordion and Joey Hobbis on violin, both of whom are also Veselka and Zirka dancers, playing the great Canadian “Chicken Dance”. The dance floor remained full for the rest of the night.

Next came Liam and Friends, and the joint was jumping. They were young lads, related to other musicians in the Vancouver Folk Orchestra.

They were followed by two fiddlers, alumni of the North Shore Celtic Ensemble. After playing their own pieces, these two extremely talented musicians moved smoothly into sight reading many of the

Ukrainian tunes that followed.

At one point, all violin players in the house, our young guests, our guest from Ukraine, and Vancouver Folk Orchestra violinists were on the stage jamming Ukrainian melodies.

It was thrilling to see all our guests participating in the “*Kolomeyka*”.

The two headliner bands, Reeltime and PhRockets are comprised of members of our orchestra, family members and parents of children in the school of dancing. They were

excellent at reading the crowd, and played tune after danceable tune to the delight of the crowd.

Dancer Celina Kurz and Conductor Beverly Dobrinsky also took to the stage and offered some vocals.

Perhaps the thoughts expressed by Conductor Jeffrey Chow should close this article. “‘Twas a night to remember. The Spring Fling program advertised a celebration of connecting the young with the old and vice versa — my heart was full, and still is, with the joy of this belief.”

— Audrey Skalbania



As the photos on this page show, the dance floor remained full throughout the night.



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