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AUUC Holds 44th National Convention



Photo: Wilfred Schubert

On Thanksgiving weekend, October 9-11, the Association held its 44th National Convention in the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg. Reportage from that event, with pictures, is on Pages 2, 3, 9 and 11.

Galloway Gets In

The government of Canada said about a year ago that George Galloway could not enter Canada because he financially supports Hamas, which the government considers a terrorist organization.

Mr. Galloway denied the government's accusation. He argued that providing humanitarian aid to Gaza did not constitute support for Hamas. He was able to make that argument from inside the USA, which, it appears, did not con-

sider that Mr. Galloway supported terrorism.

Federal Court judge Justice Richard Mosley ruled at the end of September that the refusal to allow George Galloway into Canada was not justified under Canadian law, but was politically motivated by a desire to suppress his opinions.

Mr. Galloway arrived in Toronto on October 2. Speaking on Sunday, and at subsequent press conferences, Mr. Galloway indicated that he would sue Immigration Minister Jason Kenny for defamation, because of damages suffered as a result of Mr.

Kenny's alleged slanders.

Following the ruling by Justice Mosley, Cara Zwibel of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association said that the government's actions call "into question our credentials as a liberal democracy that respects people's fundamental rights and freedoms".

Predictably, pro-Israeli spokespersons, like Bernie Farber, Chief Executive Officer of the Canadian Jewish Congress, reiterated the position that humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza was support for terrorism, because Hamas (which they consider, as does the Canadian government, a terrorist organization) is the elected government in Gaza.

Peace Prize Winner Detained

Mairead Corrigan Maguire, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1976 for her work in promoting peace in Northern Ireland, was denied entry to Israel and detained on September 28. On October 4, an Israeli court supported her expulsion.

Ms. Maguire was hoping to meet Jewish and Palestinian peace activists as part of a delegation sponsored by the

Nobel Women's Initiative, founded in 2006. Also in the delegation was 1997 Nobel Peace Prize winner Jody Williams, awarded for her work against land mines.

On September 28, Ms. Maguire was under a 10-year ban imposed after her participation in an effort to reach Gaza by sea. (This was soon after, but not part of, the flotilla which was illegally attacked by Israeli troops, with the loss of nine dead and many injured.)

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The Gag Goes On

Chinese dissidents get Nobel Peace Prizes; Canadian dissidents get a gag.

In an "astonishing" ruling in the Alex Hundert case, related to the G20 arrests, a court has ruled that a ban on participation in any public demonstrations includes a ban on "planning, participating in or attending any public event that expresses views on a political issue."

That, apparently, includes participating in panel discussion at a university. It also includes talking to the media.

The ruling has been called "something unheard of in modern-day Canada" by Alan Young, a law professor at Osgoode Hall in Toronto.

A representative of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, agreeing with many other people who do not consider speaking to the media to be a threat to public safety, said that, "These bail conditions are only aimed at silencing free speech."

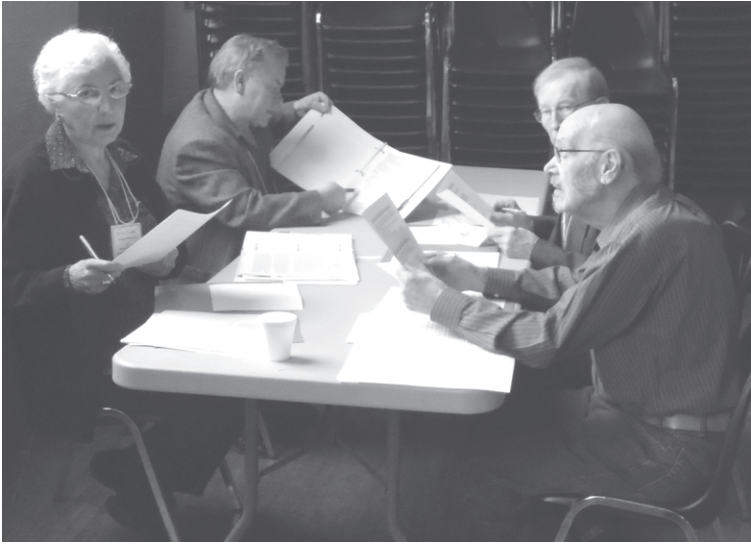
Of course, Canadian authorities have been rather ac-

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44th Convention Images



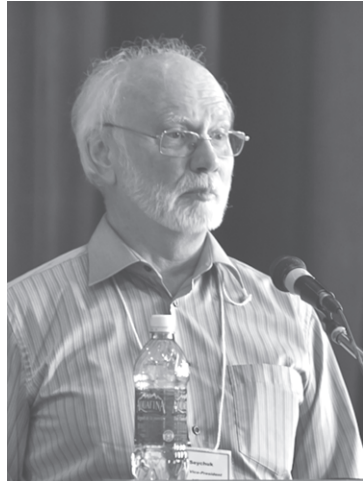
The Resolutions Committee (Audrey Moysiuk, Blyth Nuttall, Bob Kisilevich and Myron Shatulsky), hard at work.



In the foreground, Toronto delegate Bill Harasym, Vancouver delegate Lawrence Kleparchuk, outgoing NC member Dianna Kleparchuk, and Vancouver delegate Audrey Skalbania during the reception on October 8.



Toronto observer Yevgen Pogoryelov takes in a point by Welland delegate Rudy Wasylenky (right).



ROBERT SEYCHUK



Blyth Nuttall, outgoing NEC member (left) and Edmonton delegate Mike Uhryn smile for the camera, while Winnipeg observer Carmen Ostermann and Edmonton delegate Peter Horon converse in the background.



BILL BILECKI



Terry Bodnar of FI Capital and Toronto delegate Lyudmyla Pogoryelov, with Winnipeg Branch Vice-President Glenn Michalchuk in the background.



Outgoing Vice-President Robert Seychuk (left), later elected National President, listens attentively while outgoing National Committee member John Horstman, acting as parliamentarian, explains a point of procedure.



CATHY SCHUBERT



Toronto delegate Lorna Clark (left) and Richmond delegate Janice Beck enjoy a break.



JOAN KOWALEWICH



Lucy Nykolyshyn (left) and Olga Shatulsky, both of Winnipeg, staffed a souvenir table.

Photos on this page were taken by Paul Greene, Wilfred Schubert, and Wilfred Szczesny.

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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Was the GG Faced with Violence?

An Editorial by Wilfred Szczesny

“That the meeting lasted so long suggests that Prime Minister Harper had to work for his prize — surely he and the Governor-General were not merely enjoying tea. Unfortunately, we may never know what that work was, what blandishments, threats or other inducements he used.

“Did he threaten to do away with the monarchy? Did he threaten to stir up Western separatism to counteract the Bloc? Did he point to the acts of vandalism already committed by his supporters and suggest that the brown shirts and jackboots were just waiting for a reason to hit the streets?”

The paragraphs quoted above are from my editorial in the January, 2009, issue of this newspaper. In that same editorial, we suggested that the truth might never be known about the threats and promises Prime Minister Harper delivered to the Governor-General on December 4, 2008, to gain a parliamentary prorogation for purely selfish political reasons — to avoid the judgment of Parliament.

At the time of that writing, at least some of our readers, perhaps many, thought that suggesting there was a threat of violence was really going too far. For almost two years, I have been wondering whether I have been too harsh in my judgement of the Prime Minister.

Finally, it appears, vindication!

In the *Toronto Star*, on October 7, 2010, Haroon Siddiqui writes that “Peter Russell, constitutional expert at the University of Toronto, who was among the advisors present on that fateful day, spoke to Susan Delacourt of the *Star* and revealed some of the thinking behind Jean’s decision.”

Mr. Siddiqui writes that “Russell revealed that Jean’s deliberations included worries over how the crisis could get out of hand, given demonstrators outside Rideau Hall echoing Harper’s outrageous denunciations of the Liberal-NDP coalition as a ‘coup d’état’ to overturn the result of the fall election.”

Mr. Siddiqui thinks that “the GG...fell for Harper’s politics of bullying. She blinked — and set a bad precedent.”

I think Prime Minister Harper daydreams about a suitable occasion to follow in Prime Minister Trudeau’s strong-man boots by declaring martial law and proclaiming, when asked how far he would go, “Watch me!”

COMMENTARY

Israel Violates International Laws

On May 31, 2010, Israeli forces intercepted a flotilla of ships under various flags bound for Gaza, and proceeded to board the ships. In the ensuing action, nine people were killed and many more were injured.

On June 2, 2010, the Human Rights Council of the United Nations passed a motion establishing a fact-finding Mission to study the facts surrounding the events of May 31.

Seven weeks later, on July 23, the head of the Mission was named: Judge Karl T Hudson-Phillips, QC, retired judge of the International Criminal Court and former Attorney-General of Trinidad and Tobago. Other Mission members were Sir Desmond de Silva, QC, of the United Kingdom, former Chief Prosecutor of the United Nations-backed Special Court for Sierra Leone, and Ms. Mary Shanthi of Malaysia, founding member of the Board of Directors of the International Women’s Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific, and former member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

The Mission met in Geneva on August 9 to start its work officially.

On August 2, the UN set up a Panel of Inquiry into the May 31 events, with the aim of avoiding similar events in the future. In addition, Israel and Turkey set up national inquiries.

The Mission released the “advanced unedited version” of its report for general distribution on September 22.

After assembling the facts and subjecting the facts to a

legal analysis, the Mission found “that a series of violations of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, were committed by the Israeli forces during the interception of the flotilla and during the detention of passengers in Israel prior to deportation”.

The Mission, in its report, expressed “profound regret” that the position of the government of Israel was to not recognize and to not cooperate with the Mission.

The Mission report discusses in some detail the restrictions imposed on Gaza by Israel after the Hamas election victory, and points out the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Gaza. The report cites the comment that the blockade constitutes “a collective punishment in clear violation of Israel’s obligations under international humanitarian law”.

With reference to its own studies, the Mission indicates that the “Mission is satisfied that the blockade was inflicting disproportionate damage upon the civilian population in the Gaza strip, and as such the interception could not be justified and therefore has to be considered illegal.”

Furthermore, “The Mission considers that one of the principal motives behind the imposition of the blockade was a desire to punish the people of the Gaza Strip for having elected Hamas.” The Mission supports the finding “that the blockade amounts to collective punishment in violation of Israel’s obligations under international humanitarian law”.

The Mission rejects suggestions that the flotilla represented any military danger to

Israel, and the “interception was motivated by concerns about the possible propaganda victory that might be claimed by the organizers of the flotilla.” Therefore, no case can be made that the interception was legal, and “the Mission therefore finds that the interception was illegal”.

The Mission finds, as matters of fact, that the passengers of the vessels in the flotilla were civilians, and that there was no evidence that they had brought weapons aboard.

Contrasted with that was the finding that the Israelis used live ammunition fired from helicopters, and after landing on a higher deck shot at passengers on lower decks. In some instances, passengers were shot who were already injured and/or lying on the deck. Among the people who were shot (by live ammunition, plastic bullets or bean bags) or otherwise injured (including by being punched or kicked) were also journalists taking pictures, and at least one doctor who was treating injured passengers.

Severe physical force was used against people practising passive resistance, particularly, it seems, those forming barricades to protect the ships’ bridges.

People were restrained by excessively tight handcuffs, leading to injuries to nerves and from impaired circulation. Restraints were often applied without regard to injuries, and the injured had to wait unnecessarily long for treatment.

People who had been restrained were subjected to additional physical attacks, and many were physically or psychologically abused (in such ways, for example, as being denied access to their prescription drugs or to toilet facilities, or being forced to stand in direct sunlight for hours).

The Israeli troops seemed quite determined to seize or destroy cameras or other materials belonging to working journalists. On one ship where the boarding was relatively peaceful, a journalist reported a five-hour interrogation, with physical assault, concerning a videotape which he had hidden.

It is noteworthy that the Israeli troopers did not run amok on the ships (like the MV *Defne Y* and the MV *Gazze 1*) where they met no resistance at all.

However, if even slight passive resistance was offered (as on the *Eleftheri Mesogios*) the retribution was over the top: physical force, stun grenades, electroshock weapons, plastic bullets and paintballs at close range with sufficient violence to cause such injuries as a broken leg.

The Mission notes that, because the interception was il-

(Continued on Page 14.)

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Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewicz

Tina Karol: Hot Stuff

(This is a condensation of a larger report in the *Kyiv Post*).

At 15, she was a chubby Jewish teenager singing in a school choir. At 25, she is on the cover of many glamour magazines as one of the most beautiful and popular singers in Ukraine.

Tina Karol became the princess of Ukrainian pop in no time by recording three albums in less than three years, one of which sold more than 100,000 copies. Yet in person, she still comes through as a baby dreaming about a trip to Disneyland.

Karol, whose real surname is Liberman, sang her way into show business when she was 21. At the "New Wave" competition in Latvia, she caught the eye of Russian diva Alla Pugacheva. Winning her special prize of \$50,000, Karol recorded her first music video.

Next year, she was already in Greece, representing Ukraine at the Eurovision song contest with *Show me your love*. She finished seventh among 24 participants, but it was enough to become a celebrity in the Ukrainian pop market.

Karol says that she was a quiet and homely child. But it all changed when she received her first money from singing and spent it on make-up.

"My father wanted me to study English, computers, and marry a good man. But instead, I went to a musical college in Kyiv," she said.

She is now working on her fourth album with producers Brian Rawlings and Yoad Nevo at London Metrophonic Studios, known for previous work with Britney Spears, Cher, Enrique Iglesias, and Celine Dion among others.

She mainly sings in Russian because Ukrainian lyrics offered to her before "seemed to work best at drinking parties." However, in the new album, she has three songs in Ukrainian. "It was the first time that I had Ukrainian lyrics which made me cry when singing," she explained.

It's hard to ignore Karol's mass appeal. With a voice as strong as Pink's or Beyonce's, she gets people dancing and humming her songs as soon as the volume goes up.

Tickets to her shows range from Hr 100 - 1,000 (\$12.50 - \$125.00).

Anti-Tymoshenko Dress Code

Ukraine's government has ordered a strict new dress

code for its employees.

The order, published on the government web site, advises a "business-like" look.

Men should own at least three suits, and wear a fresh shirt every day.

"Female officials must look feminine, stylish, elegant and have their individual charm," it advises. "Plunging cleavage" is not recommended and neither are "skirts that are too tight or too short, or skirts with slits". Also taboo are "transparent dresses or blouses through which one can see underwear."

"Do not wear dresses that outline the figure," it points out.

It's all a far cry from the premiership of Yulia Tymoshenko, which saw her dress in eye-popping all-black or all-white costumes that were never the same from one day to the next, complete with stilettoes and her trademark golden hair braid. In fact, her stylish outfits had earned her a reputation as a glamour and fashion icon.

Not surprisingly, Tymoshenko described the new dress code as "laughable".

"Without doubt," she said, "neither the Queen of England nor Libyan leader Colonel Kadhafi would make it into a government building."

But some Ukrainians think that she was being too luxurious and extravagant at a time when the country was suffering badly economically.

Canada Scares Ukraine

Canada came away with a 2-2 draw against Ukraine in a Men's International Friendly match in Kyiv. The match was played on October 8 as part of the schedule of Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) dates.

Canada scored two goals in the first half before a different Ukrainian line-up evened the score with two goals in the second half.

Canada is ranked 88th in the world while Ukraine is ranked 26th.

This trip marks the 50th anniversary of Canada's last trip to Ukraine in 1960 (which was then part of the Soviet Union). In 1960, Canada's national team played Soviet club teams Avangard Kharkiv (2-2 draw in Kharkiv) and Stalino (1-2 loss in Donetsk).

Silent Hunting

"Silent hunting" is the name for mushroom picking in Ukraine, and it is now in full swing.

The lush Ukrainian forests support about 200 species of edible mushrooms. Even in Kyiv experienced mushroom

pickers can fill up a basket with mushrooms if they step outside the house.

Says Peter in Kyiv, "There are no suspicious ones here — they're all good. Sturdy ones that grow on trees."

After the mushrooms are picked, the next step is "Clean them, and throw them in the pan. Eat them with potatoes, of course."

Peter, like many other mushroom pickers, eats only what he himself picks. He does not trust the sellers in the market.

Some people use a special old-fashioned method to test whether the mushrooms are good. Says Tatyana Larina, "When you cook mushrooms, throw onions into the sauce pan, and if the onions turn black, there is a bad mushroom there, and they can no longer be eaten. If the onions are not turning black, it means that the mushrooms are good, and they can be eaten."

However, doctors warn that one must be careful with traditional methods and even experienced mushroom pickers are not always able to recognize poisonous mushrooms.

Every year in Ukraine the number of people poisoned by mushrooms ranges from 1,000 to 2,000.

The most dangerous fungus is called the "death-cup". It is often confused with "russela" or "champignon". Death-cup poison can be spread even by mere contact with other mushrooms. Symptoms of poisoning can appear later, and then it is extremely difficult to help the person.

According to Chief Toxicologist Boris Sheiman of the Ukrainian Ministry of Health, "The latent period, when nothing could show lasts from 6 hours to 3 days."

There are about 80 species of mushrooms potentially hazardous to human health found in Ukraine.

As soon as the first symptoms of poisoning appear, doctors advise seeking medical attention immediately.

A further warning comes from Anna Varavva, news correspondent and mushroom lover: "But even edible mushrooms, growing near the road can be poisonous. After all, mushrooms are powerful absorbents and can absorb exhaust gases and heavy metals. So it is better to throw this one away."

(I think maybe I'll stick to McDonald's hamburgers).

Credit Rating Raised

Moody's, the credit ratings agency, has raised Ukraine's sovereign rating after the country secured a \$15 billion bail-out loan and showed signs

of recovery from the global downturn. The agency raised the rating from negative to stable after the summer loan from the U.S.-based International Monetary Fund.

Moody's also said it was revising Ukraine's outlook because of signs of economic improvement.

Dietmar Hornung, the agency's lead analyst for Ukraine, said, "A stronger external position along with the economic recovery has reduced Ukraine's susceptibility to financial stress. Nevertheless, the rebound in the country's economic activity is starting from a very low base after a contraction of around 15% in 2009."

Cautions Mr. Hornung, "Ukraine's recovery therefore remains fragile."

Poisoning Case Stalled

Ukraine's Deputy Prosecutor General, Renat Kuzmin, claims that the probe into the case of ex-president Viktor Yushchenko's poisoning has not made any progress in five years. According to Kuzmin, "It is still unclear who poisoned, why poisoned, and whether the poisoning took place in fact — there is no truth in this case."

As many of you will remember, Yushchenko fell ill shortly after a dinner on September 5, 2004, with the then chief of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), Ihor Smeshko, and his deputy, Volodymyr Stasiuk, whom he had invited to discuss his "Orange Revolution" presidential election campaign.

During the campaign, Yushchenko used the alleged poisoning as ammunition against his presidential rival, Viktor Yanukovich, whose supporters he openly accused of having poisoned him.

However, after he took the presidency in January, 2005, he resisted efforts by Ukraine's parliament to investigate the alleged poisoning.

Public Opinion

A just-published survey of public opinion in Ukraine offers a mixed bag of results.

The polling organization, International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), is touted as "the world's premiere election-assistance and democracy-promotion non-governmental agency." However, an internet check of its background reveals that it is headquartered in the United States and is partially funded by the American government (to what extent is not stated).

So, "*caveat emptor*", which I believe is Latin for, "Don't swallow everything you

hear".

On to the survey.

"Six months after President Yanukovich's election, 44% of Ukrainians feel the country is on the path toward instability, while 21% say the opposite." (Sounds bad for Yanukovich — except that the same polling organization reported a year ago, when Viktor Yushchenko was president, that 74% of Ukrainians said the country was on the path to instability).

This year's survey shows continuing concerns about economic issues. About "75% cite inflation as a serious problem, followed by unemployment (56%), poverty (51%), corruption (37%), and general economic problems (36%)."

Again, the *comments* in the report tend to tar Yanukovich on the economy. However, I checked the statistics on inflation in past years and found the following figures: 2005 – 12%, 2006 – 13.5%, 2007 – 11.6%, 2008 – 12.8%, and 2009 – 25.2%. The projected rate for 2010 (under Yanukovich) is 12.3%. Again an unjustified poke at Yanukovich.

The one area in which the report says Yanukovich receives high marks from Ukrainians is foreign policy. About "66% of Ukrainians are satisfied with the Yanukovich administration's handling of relations with Russia."

(To refine the point that I am trying to make in this article, the IFES seems intent on blaming Yanukovich, when in fact, Ukraine crashed when it switched from socialism to capitalism in the early 1990's. The IFES bias is easier to understand when one remembers that the U.S. government provided funding for Yushchenko's election campaign in 2004, when he defeated Yanukovich for the presidency).

Nazi Looters

Ukraine has unveiled records from a Nazi agency chronicling the looting of objects such as art and books from Holocaust victims and others during World War II. Ukraine's State Archives recently posted on-line some 140,000 pages of documents from the Kyiv headquarters of Alfred Rosenberg, the Nazi minister in charge of occupied Soviet territories.

The records cover Nazi looting from 1940 to 1944 in Belgium, northern France, the Netherlands, Italy, Yugoslavia, and the occupied Soviet territories. They relate to plunder from Jewish private and communal collections, Soviet museums and libraries, and other sources.

**Ukrainian
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**Ukrainian
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Pioneer Day Commemoration

— Story photos: Jerry Dobrowolsky



Lyudmyla Pogoryelov, left, provided commentary to the screening of material from "First Wave of Ukrainian Immigration to Canada, 1891 - 1914", Taras Shevchenko Museum's project on virtualmuseum.ca.



Nancy Stewart served as MC for the afternoon.



Bill Harasym spoke about his recollections of his pioneering family.



Wilfred Szczesny read the Declaration of Ukrainian Pioneer Day, adopted in 1981.



This display was part of the mood-setting decor by Connie Prince and Bernardine Dobrowolsky.

On Sunday, September 19, the Toronto Branch opened its 2010-2011 season with a Pioneer Day celebration at the AUUC Cultural Centre.

To reflect the lifestyle and environment of the early Ukrainian settlers in Canada, the hall was decorated in a rustic, prairie-like decor.

With Nancy Stewart acting as MC, the program began with Wilfred Szczesny's powerful recitation of The Proclamation on the 90th Anniversary of Ukrainian Settlement in Canada.

Bill Harasym then delivered a most enlightening and entertaining speech on the experiences of his parents on their arrival to Canada from Ukraine.

The program continued with entertainment by the Hahilka Singers under the direction of Nataalka Mochoruk and accompaniment by accordionist Vasha Julea. Their repertoire consisted of three beautiful choices: "A Medley of Ukrainian Folk Songs", "Mary, Where Are You?" with a solo by Wilfred Szczesny, and "Ivanko, Ivanko" with a duet by Nataalka and Lorna Clark.

Adding their talent to these performances were group members Claudia Rabzak, Maria Gargal, Terry Rivest, Zena Bolychuk and Anna Kulish.

Lyudmyla Pogoryelova, director of the Shevchenko Museum, concluded the program with an informative Power Point presentation of the Community Memories project titled



Nita Miskevich brought a greeting from the Federation of Russian Canadians.

First Wave of Ukrainian Immigration to Canada, 1891-1914.

A simple meal of borscht, pyrogies and salad was served — again, a reflection of the



The Hahilka Singers, conducted by Nataalka Mochoruk and accompanied on the accordion by Vasha Julea, were well received by an appreciative audience.



The meal of borsht, pyrogies, salad, bread, various go-withs, and dessert was billed as "a Ukrainian snack".

austere living conditions that the early pioneers experienced.

While the guests enjoyed the refreshments, tickets for a raffle of Nataalka's embroidery were eagerly being sold by her daughter, Bobbi. Sev-

eral lucky winners went home very happy.

Everyone went home feeling lucky and most appreciative of those who worked so hard to make our lives in Canada so comfortable today.

— B. Dobrowolsky

Virsky Dancers Visit Vancouver AUUC

On Wednesday, October 7, the Ukrainian Cultural Centre in Vancouver was abuzz with unaccustomed activity as AUUC Branch members and friends set up tables, arranged flowers, hung decorations, and prepared food.

Vancouver AUUC was going to host a reception for Virsky, the National Dance Company of Ukraine!

When outside plans for a reception did not materialize, the Dovbush Dancers and the AUUC Vancouver Branch requested permission from the promoters to hold a reception at our Ukrainian Cultural Centre. With only nine hours lead time, an excellent reception was organized.

At 9:00 pm a tour bus arrived at the Centre, with a

complement of sixty dancers and ten production staff.

The entourage was greeted by members of the Association, the Dovbush Dancers and the Barvinok Choir.

A workshop for Ukrainian dancers, led by three Virsky dancers, had been held from 6:30 to 8:30 at a hall in Richmond. Ten of our Dovbush Dancers attended this workshop, and brought the workshop participants and instructors to our Centre for the reception.

The guests were welcomed by AUUC Vancouver Branch President Dianna Kleparchuk, and invited to the buffet.

The Barvinok Choir sang two selections for the guests, and were very well received.

Now was the time for socializing. Even though there was a language problem as not all Virsky spoke English, nor did all Vancouverites speak Ukrainian, a friendly, spirited exchange took place.

Jake and Joey Hobbs entertained the guests with an accordion and violin duet. The audience enjoyed their Ukrainian, Russian and Canadian selections.

During the formal part of the evening, it was noted that the AUUC was one of the first
(Continued on Page 13.)

Toronto Movie Afternoon

— Photo: Jerry Dobrowolsky



At the AUUC Cultural Centre in Toronto on October 3, about 30 people, some of them shown above, attended the showing of the film *Sometimes I look at My Life*, done in Cuba by Harry Belafonte some decades ago (in 1982?) It was a moving and informative afternoon, complete with popcorn and other refreshments.

— Photo: Wilfred Schubert



— Photo: Wilfred Schubert



The National Committee and Auditors elected at the 44th AUUC National Convention: front row (left to right) — Nadine Obermeyer, Gloria Gordienko, Dianna Kleparchuk, Lyudmyla Pogoryelov; second row (left to right) — Kathy Schubert, Leah Nowosiadly, Joan Kowalewich, Wilfred Szczesny, Randi Kellow, Vera Seychuk; back row (left to right) — Brent Stearns, Myron Shatulsky, Robert Seychuk, Peter Horon, Dwayne Chomyn, Bill Bilecki.

There was the singing of “O’ Canada”, lead by Hazel Skulsky, a moment of silence for members who had passed away since the 43rd AUUC National Convention, and the AUUC Winnipeg Branch greeting, delivered by Branch President Kim Boss.

However, the 44th AUUC National Convention, meeting in the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg on October 9-11, 2010, was not declared officially in session until after the Credentials Committee reported that all Branches of the AUUC were represented at the gathering.

The routine business at the opening of the 44th AUUC National Convention included the traditional motion to seat the outgoing National Committee with “voice and vote”; that is, the right to speak and the right to vote. This motion is traditional, but its adoption is by no means automatic. Many (perhaps most) delegates to this Convention were surprised to see the motion carry without an opposing vote. While there was more than a little sharp debate at the Convention, this vote pretty well presaged the tenor of the Convention.

The election of the leadership for the coming three years is a case in point.

Since the 41st AUUC National Convention, in 2001, the election of the National Executive Committee and the

National Committee has been a test of strength between the various viewpoints on each occasion. The process at this Convention was an interesting contrast.

The Convention reduced the National Executive Committee to five members from the previous eight, a significantly larger cut than the outgoing NEC was recommending. However, the Convention adopted the NEC proposal of eight additional National Committee members, while rejecting a proposal that these members be distributed across the country as proposed in an AUUC Edmonton Branch resolution.

The election results are given elsewhere in this issue of the paper. Of interest here is that the five NEC members, with the exception of a challenge by Lily Stearns for the position of Vice-Recording Secretary, were elected unopposed, and all had served on the outgoing NEC.

On the other hand, six of the eight National Committee members were elected for the first time (the exceptions — Myron Shatulsky and Dianna Kleparchuk), defeating several incumbents and other candidates.

Another case in point is the resolution of issues concerning Alberta trust funds. Arrangements for the management of these funds have been under discussion for over five

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



In the foreground are several Regina participants on a meal break: left to right — John Horstman, Al Lapchuk, Emily Laslo, Leah Nowosiadly, and Steve Smoly. At a table behind them are Alberta participants, and somewhat to the right of the latter are another group, including Dwayne Chomyn.

years, since the abolition in the AUUC of Provincial Committees and Councils. At this Convention, there were strong indications that only minor issues remained to be resolved.

Furthermore, the question of an Alberta Council was taken off the Convention floor.

The discussion around the future of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* was energetic, with delegates facing a choice between the recommendations of the “UCH” Review Committee, supported by the outgoing National Committee, and a resolution from AUUC Edmonton Branch calling for the replacement of the “UCH” with a newsletter to be issued three times a year “or as often as deemed by the National Committee”.

The Convention ultimately chose to continue publication of the “UCH”, but reducing it to twelve pages and eliminating the Ukrainian-language pages.

The problem which was in



Seated at a table during the reception at the Ukrainian Labour Temple on October 8 are, left to right, Gerry Shmyr (Regina), Vera Seychuk (Ottawa), Mary Semanowich (Winnipeg), Mike Uhryn (Edmonton) and Bill Bilecki (Vancouver). Standing in the background are Bill Harasym (Toronto) and Julie Meeder (Calgary).

Convention Banquet Features Impressive Concert

Along with a few additional guests, participants in the 44th AUUC National Convention, enjoyed a Convention Banquet on Saturday, October 9.

The event featured a delicious Thanksgiving dinner (turkey with all the traditional trimmings and a few Ukrainian highlights), and a delightful concert program.

AUUC Winnipeg Branch President Kim Boss was MC.

The program of entertainment started with a slideshow presentation illustrating the history of the Ukrainian Labour Temple. The show was compiled by Kirsten Schubert. Myron Shatulsky added an informative live voice-over commentary to the musical sound track.

The Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra, conducted by Annis Kozub, followed with four well-executed pieces: “Ukrainian Waltz”, “Spring Bells”, “Variations for Oboe and Orchestra”, and “*Dobriy Vechir*”.

The orchestra, which goes well beyond mandolins, in-



Stella Kalyniuk (front) and (left to right) Caitlin Brookes-Sullivan, Lezlie Brookes, Don Hudak, Heather Wallace, and Hannah Hudak kept Convention participants well supplied with balanced, nutritious and, above all, delicious meals.

everyone’s mind throughout the Convention was money.

The Convention tackled this issue in two ways. One was to reduce costs, including reducing the size of the National Committee and of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, among other measures.

The other was to look at

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny

increasing income and/or available cash. Increasing dues was one small step in this direction.

The major decision in this sphere was to adopt a proposal which could provide the short- to medium-term financing which the AUUC (which has good long-term prospects) needs. The proposal requires serious work to produce a plan which would be accepted by AUUC Branches.

The 44th AUUC National Convention faced some thorny questions, with the very future of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians at issue. The voting participants at that Convention responded by making many changes. Nevertheless, only the future will tell whether the changes are adequate to meet the challenges facing the organization.

— Wilfred Szczesny

cludes many accomplished musicians, among them oboist Sherry Bonness, who held the audience in thrall as the soloist in “Variations”.

For many Convention participants, those who had a few weeks earlier attended the National Orchestral Seminar, the opportunity to share a few moments again with our Winnipeg counterparts was an added pleasure.

Rounding out the program was the Festival Choir, conducted by Vasylyna Streltsov. In the three numbers the choir performed to piano accompaniment the group exuded an energy matching the energy of

the conductor herself. The singers seemed sincerely happy at their work.

The final number, “*Reve ta stohne*”, combined choir and orchestra under the baton of Mr. Kozub. In one or two passages, the orchestra overpowered the choir, but for the most part the song was a fine blend of instruments and voice.

In all four of its songs, the choir showed a resonance and tonal strength which quite surprised this reviewer.

The orchestra and choir were awarded a standing ovation for their impressive performances.

— Wilfred Szczesny

— Photo: Wilfred Schubert



The Festival Choir, conducted by Vasylyna Streltsov, performed with energy and obvious pleasure.

**Sent as a
separate
page.**

Social Policy Resolutions

The 44th AUUC National Convention adopted three social policy resolutions submitted by AUUC Branches. The texts of these resolutions, two of them on health care and one on water, are presented on this page.

Resolution on Health Care

Submitted by AUUC Toronto Branch

Most members of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians can remember the days before the Canada Health Act of 1984 and corresponding provincial legislation were adopted. We remember people (sometimes we were among them) suffering illness without consulting a doctor because of the cost involved. Very often, professional medical health was sought only if the pain became unbearable, if some condition worsened to intolerable levels, or the sufferer could no longer function.

As people hoped would happen, the malady often cleared up without medical intervention.

Very often, however, medical help could not be avoided. However, the delay in seeing a doctor often resulted in the death of a patient from a treatable condition, or permanent damage which could have been avoided.

That is why there was a large and growing movement, including medical visionaries and innovators like Dr. Norman Bethune, in support of making health care available and affordable to all. Massive public support greeted the first provincial hospital insurance program in Canada, introduced in 1947 by the Saskatchewan CCF government led by Tommy Douglas, followed in 1957 by a national hospital insurance program introduced by Paul Martin Sr., and in 1962, again in Saskatchewan by the NDP, by the first public health care program.

Creation in 1966 of a national Medicare program, with Ottawa paying 50% of provincial health costs (after a Royal Commission headed by Emmett Hall – established by the Progressive Conservative government of John Diefenbaker – called for a universal and comprehensive national health insurance program) was a great step forward, as was the Canada Health Act, which banned extra billing by doctors.

These measures, which greatly enhanced our access to health care, were bitterly opposed the privileged: by many doctors, by insurance companies and by big business.

In 1962, for example, doctors in Saskatchewan waged a three-week strike against publicly funded health care.

In 1977, the Liberal government led by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau replaced the 1966 arrangement of 50/50 federal-provincial cost-sharing for health with block funding, and in 1995 Liberal Paul Martin Jr. introduced the Canada Health and Social Transfer (CHST). Both of these changes represented substantial cuts in transfer payments to health and social programs.

The attacks on health care in Canada continue. Many doctors continue to press for greater privatization of health care, often in hopes of enriching themselves by operating the companies providing health services. Governments continue to cut social programs,

and taxes payable by corporations and their owners, while pointing to the proportionally larger share of spending devoted to health costs. The economic elite, wielding their financial clout, demand tax reductions and privatization of social services.

Relative, and sometimes absolute, cuts in funding to hospitals have been accompanied by restrictions on funding options (such as deficit budgeting) available to hospitals. Increasingly, various medical care services have been moved out of hospitals, where they were covered by the public program, into community and private offices, where they become a burden on the individual.

Many people are unable to buy prescription drugs, suffer severe pain to avoid the cost of dentistry, can not get eye glasses and hearing aids, and have been deprived of other medical needs. They are increasingly being priced out of podiatry, physiotherapy and other services which were once readily available in hospitals, but are increasingly offered only in the private market.

There is increasing pressure for user fees for services provided by doctors or in hospitals.

Two-tier medical care, providing additional private options to those who can afford them, is a growing threat to funding for the public health care system.

This 44th AUUC National

Resolution on Health Care in Canada

Submitted by AUUC Winnipeg Branch

One of the Association's main principles, which has been conscientiously retained for the past 90 years, is the conviction to enrich the lives of its members as well as that of all Canadians within the framework of its cultural activities and social-educational activism. It was this belief that provided the impulse for the members of our founding organization, the Ukrainian Labour Temple Association, to create the Workers Benevolent Association in 1922. It was this fraternal organization that assisted the Association's members and Canadian workers who, at that time, lived without a comprehensive health care system, workers'

compensation, Canada Pension and Old-Age Security Plans.

The call for the establishment of a national health care system for all Canadians never left the Association's table. We are proud of our Association's participation, through many hard-fought battles, in the creation of the health care system which now exists in Canada. Nevertheless, we are acutely aware of the constant and persistent opposition to it by insurance companies, American-based, privately-owned health care corporations, and the threat posed by NAFTA. We were, therefore, heartened to hear of the election of an anti-privatization, Medicare-supporting

doctor as the new President of the Canadian Medical Association. This event, without doubt, stands in direct opposition to those who are intent on destroying Canada's health care system.

We, the delegates to 44th National Convention of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, meeting in Winnipeg on October 9, 10 and 11, 2010, call on the Government of Canada not only to ensure that our present Canada Health Act is not gutted any further, but that it be strengthened considerably by increasing government funding and coverage for dental and eye care and pharmacare as well as for all existing medical procedures.

Elected at the 44th AUUC National Convention

National Executive Committee

- National President — Bob Seychuk
- National Vice-President — Bill Bilecki
- National Treasurer — Kathleen Schubert
- National Recording Secretary — Wilfred Szczesny
- National Vice-Recording Secretary — Joan Kowalewich

Other National Committee Members

- National Committee Member — Dianna Kleparchuk
- National Committee Member — Dwayne Chomyn
- National Committee Member — Peter Horon
- National Committee Member — Nadine Obermeyer
- National Committee Member — Leah Nowosiadly
- National Committee Member — Gloria Gordienko
- National Committee Member — Myron Shatulsky
- National Committee Member — Lyudmyla Pogoryelov

National Committee Alternate Members

- Lawrence Kleparchuk Julie Meeder Vadim Nykolyshyn
- Mary Semanowich Gerry Shmyr Lily Stearns
- Mike Uhryn Rudy Wasylenky

National Audit Committee

- Randi Kellow Vera Seychuk Brent Stearns

Convention, meeting in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on October 9-11, 2010,

Mindful of these facts; and Concerned about the consequences for working Canadians, and particularly for our own children and grandchildren, of the continuing erosion of Canada's health care system,

Reaffirms the support of the AUUC for a public health care system which fully meets the health care needs of residents of Canada, and eliminates all financial barriers to necessary health care; and

Demands that the Government of Canada and the provincial governments stop the

erosion of Canada's health care system; and further

Demands that levels of medical care and services be restored to their highest levels in previous years; and furthermore

Demands that health care services under the public plan be extended to include dental, pharmaceutical, and other services and goods.

(The AUUC Toronto Branch urged the adoption of this resolution, together with a motion to forward the text to the Government of Canada, provincial governments, medical associations, and all political parties in Canada.)

Resolution on Water

Submitted by AUUC Toronto Branch

Access to clean fresh water is a fundamental human right. It is vital to people's health and livelihoods, and is a requirement for leading a life in human dignity. Water belongs to the Earth and to all living things.

Water is Canada's most important resource. Though Canada had a plentiful supply of this renewable resource, pollution and mismanagement can, and have, made it an unusable supply. This is a serious health hazard. Reducing water to a tradable commodity jeopardizes Canada's ability to provide water for future generations.

Water must not be in the profit participatory, profit.

Water should be shared and shared from all tra

agreements.

Therefore be it resolved that the Government of Canada formulate a National Water Policy including, among other provisions:

- national standards for drinking water;
- a ban on bulk water exports;
- protection and preservation of water for all forms of generations;

ensure that become a tradable commodity in current and future generations.

ue the to "!

The Gag Goes On

(Continued from Page 1.) tive in silencing free speech recently. The whole G20 matter continues, with more charges dropped after four months of losses to those who were unjustly arrested and charged without adequate evidence.

(In case you missed it, "Officer Bubbles", who was almost assaulted by a bubble, is suing YouTube for damages arising from posted cartoons.)

There was also the case of George Galloway, who was told he would not be allowed to enter, but got a court ruling against the politically motivated desire to suppress his opinions. He ultimately arrived in Canada to a hero's welcome from supporters.

Another gag was put on Imam Ziyad Delic of the Canadian Islamic Congress, when Minister of Defence Peter MacKay cancelled his scheduled speech at an event at National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa.

The Government has labelled the Canadian Islamic Congress an extremist organization because it "has expressed anti-Israeli views that have no place at an event to celebrate Islamic Heritage Month".

The comments in question were reportedly made by a member of the CIC in 2004, and were later retracted by the member, with an apology.

The gag came on after a couple of Christian-based as-

sociations somehow tied in the old, retracted statements with insults to Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan. But then, politically motivated gags do not need to make sense.

The gag was also supported by Sohail Raza, President of the Muslim Canadian Congress. The MCC has had a rather high profile recently for a variety of attacks on the CIC and other Muslims whom the MCC accuses of being "Islamists", apparently a new dirty word in the Muslim community.

Expressing positions that seldom differ from those of the Harper government, and showing the same spirit of Canadian tolerance, the Muslim Canadian Congress has elected itself the true arbiter of what Muslims should and should not do, say, or wear.

Movie Shoots at Winnipeg ULT



The scene above, on the set for *Paper Nazis*, shows a crowd gathering at the German hall for a bombastic lecture by a fascist organizer.

Two movie 'shoots' occurred at the Winnipeg Ukrainian Labour Temple during the summer months. The first, *Paper Nazis*, is to be a documentary about the rise of fascism in Winnipeg in the 1930s, while the second is a low-budget feature film to be entitled *Hello Darling*.

The Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association was fervently anti-fascist during the 1930s, so there is a kind of irony in seeing giant swastikas, a large portrait of Hitler, a group of apparently well-to-do citizens offering the "Sieg Heil" salute, and a fascist organizer pounding the lectern — all within the Labour Temple — even for the purpose of filming a documentary about an important and little understood era in local history.

Part of the main hall was transformed into what was supposed to be the German Hall in the late 1930s, complete with choir and orchestra in white tops, and an audience mostly in black period dress, the men in double-breasted suits and the women in dresses and hats of the times.

For *Hello Darling* we are moved forward in time to the post-war era, the 1950s perhaps, and the film writer's reminiscences of her child-

hood. The film crew came to the Ukrainian Labour Temple only for one short scene of young people enjoying ice cream at a 1950-ish soda fountain. For this they used what Winnipeg AUUC people call "the buffet", a short-order restaurant of yesteryear with counter, stools, cash register, signs, and other artifacts unchanged in the last half century.

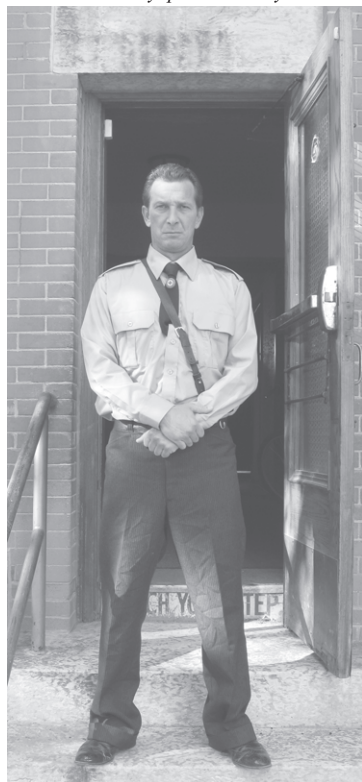
The area has in recent years been used for storage of kitchen supplies and various pieces of equipment which have lost their usefulness but which members have been reluctant to throw out.

From time to time there have been thoughts of transforming the area into something useful, like wash rooms, but always there has been that nagging thought, "Maybe someday we will want a soda fountain."

At last, that day came.

The Ukrainian Labour Temple is attractive to movie makers partly because of the large area without columns on the main floor, and partly because of the large variety of smaller areas reflecting the interior design and furnishings of a number of historic eras.

Of the movie shoots done in the hall in recent years, *Shall We Dance?* was the major high-budget project



An actor playing William Whitaker, a fascist leader.

which provided the most income for the hall, *You Kill Me* gives the best record of how the hall now looks with realistic interior and exterior shots, while the *Shirley Holmes* episode, a television mystery for young people, contains some interesting shots of smaller areas, including the stage and the upper mezzanine of the annex, now the AUUC national office.

— Brent Stearns



JOIN US!

Join the AUUC community! 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 E-mail: calauuc@telus.net

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
5221 - 45B Avenue
Vegreville AB T9C 1L3
Phone: (780) 632-3033

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 www.poltava.ca

WINNIPEG BRANCH

Ukrainian Labour Temple
591 Pritchard Avenue
Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4 ult-wpg.ca
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

Edmonton Seniors' Season Begins



Part of the head table at the September 21 meeting of the Edmonton AUUC Seniors.

The Edmonton AUUC seniors started their new year in September.

Birthday celebrants were recognized. Those whose birthdays

were in July and August were Morindie Bagan, Tekla Yaremchuk, Edna Chmiliar, Anne Kawchuk, Amil Tropak, Mary Tropak and Marion Ursuliak.

Olga Horon, Sylvia Lawrence, Ann Parfeniuk and Shirley Uhryn were honoured for their September birthdays.

Anne Husar's sister Vera, from Pennsylvania, also joined the head table as an honoured guest.

Mike Uhryn on his accordion and William Uhryn with his violin and his voice entertained us. One member of our group of seniors said, "It was like walking on air!" to hear them perform the traditional Ukrainian music.

After the autumn meal of home-made beef stew, fresh whole grain buns, with apple cake and Saskatoon berry tarts for dessert, the annual meeting was held.

Best wishes were extended to Ed Bilyk for his dramatic recovery from heart troubles, and he was commended for his janitorial work at the Edmonton AUUC hall.

Jean Rogers reminded us that September 21 was the International Day of Peace.

Pauline Warick presented the president's report which primarily reviewed the activities of the seniors for the past year.

Ed Makowecki gave the audited financial statement of the Edmonton seniors.

Eva Doskoch as coordinator of activities for the seniors shared some of the results of the survey conducted in June, 2010, to give direction for activities for the seniors in their 2010-2011 year.

Paul Greene moved for the acceptance of all three reports.

After elections were held, the following members were chosen for the next term: President - Pauline Warick; Vice-President - William Uhryn; Treasurer - Olga Horon; Recording Secretary - Lucy Antoniow; and Program Coordinator - Eva Doskoch. Working with Eva are her colleagues Rose Kereliuk and Mary Tropak. Shirley Uhryn will continue again for the year as *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* reporter.

As they did last year, the seniors will meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Edmonton AUUC hall.

The decorative theme for the October meeting (look for the report in the next issue of the "UCH") is the lowly pumpkin! However our birthday celebrant is the far-from-lowly Sherry Capowski!

— Shirley Uhryn

Apologies

We apologize to Lezlie Brookes for spelling her names (yes, both of them) wrong in the photo credits in the October 2010 issue of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*.



Singing "Happy Birthday" to honour celebrants.

Virsky Dancers Visit

(Continued from Page 8.) Canadian Ukrainian organizations to have contact and ties with Ukraine.

Myroslav Vantukh, Artistic Director of Virsky, thanked the AUUC for the warmth and hospitality of the reception. He had worked with the AUUC through a dance seminar in Fort Qu'Appelle in 1979, and was pleased to see that we were carrying on the cultural heritage of our forefathers with our orchestras, choirs and dance groups.

Ken Kachmar, president of Boen Arts, and Bohdan Tkachyshyn, a director of Boen Arts, also thanked the AUUC for the evening's reception.

Too soon the evening came to an end and we bid "Do pobachynya", "Adieu" and "Farewell" to our guests, as we were going to see them the next evening at their Vancouver performance.

And what a great performance that was!!!

— Dianna Kleparchuk



Virsky and Dovbush dancers shared some warm moments.



Sharing a table at the reception were (left to right): Victor Zavadskiy, Bohdan Tkachyshyn, Sergii Bielkin, Myroslav Vantukh, Dianna and Larry Kleparchuk



After the performance in Vancouver, some members of the Virsky Ensemble posed outside the theatre at the stage door.

Sustaining Fund Donations

Bill Bilecki/Joan Kowalewich, Burnaby BC 100.00
Gerry Gilavish, Regina SK 100.00

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 Ukrainian Hopak Ensemble invites you to attend our **Winter Concert** on Sunday, **December 5, at 2:00 p.m.**, at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, **3316-28th Avenue SW**. Tickets are **\$15.00** and can be purchased by phoning **Darlene at 403-271-2379** or **Hazel at 403-246-1231**.

* * *

Toronto — AUUC Toronto Branch will mark **Remembrance Day** on Sunday, **November 7**, starting **1:30 p.m.** at the AUUC Cultural Centre, **1604 Bloor Street West**. There will be tribute to AUUC Toronto Branch veterans, appropriate musical offerings by the **Hahilka Singers** and by **Peter Krochak**, and other program features.

* * *

Toronto — The AUUC Toronto Branch will host a **Grey Cup Social** at the AUUC Cultural Centre, **1604 Bloor Street West**, on Sunday, **November 28**. **Chili supper**, and **amusements**. Doors open at **5:30 p.m.** Admission **\$10.00**.

* * *

Toronto — The AUUC Toronto Branch will host a **Movie Afternoon** at the AUUC Cultural Centre, **1604 Bloor Street West**, on Sunday, **December 12**. More information will be available next month.

* * *

Vancouver — The AUUC presents a **Community Concert, Dinner and Dance** as part of the **Heart of the City Festival**. The event will start at **3:00 p.m.** on Sunday, **November 7**, with a concert, followed by a Ukrainian dinner and an Urban Barn Dance. Tickets, at **\$15.00** can be ordered from Dianna (**604**) **879-2089**.

* * *

Vancouver — The **Annual Christmas Recital** of the **AUUC Vancouver School of Dancing** will be held on Sunday, **December 12**, at **2:00 p.m.** A **reception** will follow the concert, **Christmas carols** will be sung and **Dyid Moroz** will visit the School during the reception. Tickets are **\$10.00** and will be available **at the door**.

* * *

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.

Why not renew your sub now?

Israel Violates Laws

(Continued from Page 4.) legal, the force used by the Israeli forces was, *prima facie*, also illegal. However, that did not absolve Israeli forces and the Israeli state, from the obligation to exercise any force it used in accordance with international law, including Israel's international human rights obligations.

"The Mission is satisfied," the report says, "that much of

the force used by the Israeli soldiers on board the Mavi Marmara and from the helicopters was unnecessary, disproportionate, excessive and inappropriate and resulted in the wholly avoidable killing and maiming of a large number of civilian passengers. On the basis of the forensic and firearm evidence, at least six of the killings can be characterised as extra-legal, arbitrary and summary executions. As such, the conduct of

the Israeli forces amounted to violations of the right to life and of the right to physical integrity, as stipulated in articles 6 and 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights."

A similar conclusion follows concerning events on three other vessels of the flotilla.

Given that the interception of the flotilla was illegal, the report says, it follows that the detention of some 700 passengers aboard the six vessels was also illegal. Furthermore, while illegally detaining these people, the Israeli state added

other violations of the rights of the captives to its list of sins.

"During the period of detention on board the Mavi Marmara the passengers were subjected to treatment that was cruel and inhuman in nature and which did not respect the inherent dignity of persons who have been deprived of their liberty." Following this assertion, the report goes on to specify the details of the violations. This includes the deliberate use of overly-tight handcuffs as a form of torture.

The report also details violations of human rights while the detainees were being held in Israel. These included beatings (including bone fractures) for refusing to surrender a passport voluntarily.

The illegal injuries and humiliations, in many instances, continued right into the airport when detainees were being released.

The report is horrendous reading, bringing to mind this thought: if many people compare the actions of the Israeli state to those of Nazi Germany, perhaps it is because so many of those actions remind us of the vivid images from World War II.

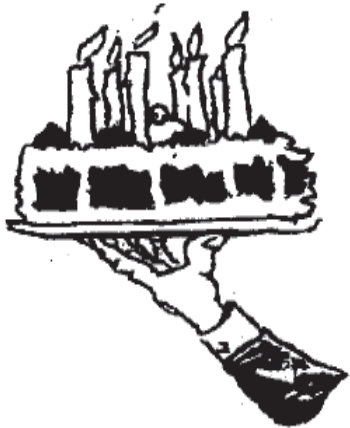
"The Mission sincerely hopes that no impediment will

be put in the way of those who suffered loss as a result of the unlawful actions of the Israeli military to be compensated adequately and promptly. It is hoped that there will be swift action by the Government of Israel. This will go a long way to reversing the regrettable reputation which that country has for impunity and intransigence in international affairs. It will also assist those who genuinely sympathise with their situation to support them without being stigmatised."

Israel might do well to heed the final words of the report.

— Wilfred Szczesny

Happy Birthday, Friends!



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

Stephanie Chopoidal
Martha 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 November celebrants:

Anne Magus
Sophie Mihay
Ann Watson

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 November celebrant:

Edward Moroz

Enjoy your day with family and friends!

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

Alex Babiy
Lillian Babiy
John Beazley
Marion Gaboury
Mike Kereluk
Katie Mackenzie

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

Ukrainian Canadian Herald Season's Greetings

Remember your family and friends with a message! We invite you to express seasonal greetings through an ad in the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, either in the December, 2010, or the January, 2011, issue. One line (name and city) on two columns is only \$10.00. A five-line ad as shown is only \$35.00. **See the diagram on this page for sizes.** Larger ads are \$5.00/col./cm.

Deadlines: November 10, 2010, for December, 2010.
December 10, 2010, for January, 2011.

Send your request to:

SEASON'S GREETINGS MESSAGE
595 Pritchard Avenue,
Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4
Phone 1-800-856-8242, Fax: (210) 589-3404
e-mail: auuckobzar@mts.net

or: SEASON'S GREETINGS MESSAGE
1604 Bloor Street West
Toronto ON M6P 1A7
Phone: 416-588-1639 Fax: 416-588-9180
e-mail: kobzar1@on.aibn.com

Please indicate the desired ad size:
\$10.00 (One line: name and city only)
\$20.00 (Two-line greeting — up to 10 words)
\$25.00 (Three-line greeting — up to 15 words)
\$30.00 (Four-line greeting — up to 20 words)
\$35.00 (Five-line greeting — up to 25 words)
Other

Issue requested:
_____ December issue (deadline November 10)
_____ January issue (deadline December 10)

Greeting in: English _____ Ukrainian _____

Request sent by:
Mail: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____
e-mail: _____ Or in person: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Prov. _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
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JoKe TiMe

The boss returned from lunch in a good mood and called the whole staff in to listen to a couple of jokes he had picked up. Everybody but one girl laughed uproariously.

"What's the matter?" asked the boss. "Haven't you got a sense of humour?"

"I don't have to laugh," she replied. "I'm leaving Friday."

* * *

A clean tie attracts the soup of the day.

* * *

A closed mouth gathers no foot.

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Taras Shevchenko Museum

The Language of Roger Golden's Sculptures

In September and through October, the Shevchenko Museum in Toronto, an avid supporter of Ukrainian-Canadian arts and culture, represented a unique contemporary artist named Roger Golden, whose Ukrainian heritage and sentimental memories set the tone and mood for the fall, 2010, "Exhibition of Sculpture".

The exhibition consisted of a large-scale sculptural relief of a male nude entwined with a bull – a classic struggle depicting the theme of man vs nature; a bronze hand; and four life-size human figures, three of which were playfully coupled with animal companions to broaden the narrative.

Roger Golden's sculptures are genuine labours of love, precious pieces that tug at the viewers' heartstrings and appeal to our deepest human sentiments and experiences of life and living. Wrought with sentimentality, nostalgia, and rawness, the installation was in its purest form a figurative showcase of the human form as personification of the multifaceted states of the human condition.

The careful choice of material and the tactile process for the creation of each figure informs the artist's highly personal, emotional, and instinctive style and content. The burlap salvaged from coffee bags and combined with cement produces a dynamic juxtaposition of rough and smooth textures to characterize the figures. In essence, the material becomes a symbolic language in its own right, communicating allegorical ideas of the human journey through life, which is laden with both adversity and delight.



"Flower" — glimmer of hope.

As one's gaze beholds each figure, the eyes trace the coarse and jagged edged silhouettes of the bowing figures that seem to be humbled by their meek postures and concealed faces. The bumpy surfaces, layering the kneaded folds of clothing translate into a metaphorical "rocky road" of life that afflicts and scars the soul. The shell and exterior of each ghostly figure may seem austere and cold, just like the winterstone cement from which they are fashioned. However, the modesty of the figures' body language beckons our curiosity to discover their faces, as if to



Baba — a naïve and innocent child.

seek out the true personas behind each world-weary facade.

Furthermore, the companion animals, as if spirit guides, act as a comforting medium between the audience and the figures. Their endearing form and small size compels us to bend or crouch in order to see them at a closer proximity, while simultaneously luring us in to examine the surprising tenderness of the human figures' facial expressions. The smoothness of the facial surfaces depicts the pleasures that life has to offer and the sweet memories that we collect and hold dear to our hearts.

On a metaphysical level, the figures become a symbolic incarnation of frailty and fleeting, capturing the transient nature of life. The figures are the embodiment of the limitations of the human body and its eventual demise. The crude materials and organic earthy colours of ash grey and terracotta browns resemble the soil from which all things grow and to which all things return: "ashes to ashes and dust to dust" reminds us that we are mere mortals who must endure the natural cycle of life. Thus, we are not only tainted by difficult experiences, we are also marred by time and age, that which becomes a physical handicap.

Roger Golden's featured sculptures seem to have a life all their own since they live parts of the season outdoors in the artist's family garden and other parts of the season inside the home or in gallery spaces. They become like living and breathing persons, reflecting the environment which they inhabit. As they interact with the natural elements of the outdoors, nature leaves the vestiges of its legacy on the surfaces of the figures: rain and melted snow paint iridescent patches of patina, whereas ice and wind scrape the surfaces as if to carve their own sculptures. In essence, the art's physical "wear and tear" examines the ephemeral notion of time and age, an inevitable natural process that affects our "skins" which can grow coarse, wrinkled, and eventually dishevelled.

These ideas are successfully exemplified by Golden's most charming piece entitled "Baba", which translates into English as "Grandmother". Her hunched back and worn hands are indicative of her fleeting existence and a tell tale sign of burden. At the same time, this seemingly grotesque picture of age is fragile and lovable. The tenderness with which the artist sculpted her playful toes and serene face transform her into a naïve and innocent child that demands our compassion.

On the same note, the artist offers us another glimmer of hope with the sculpture suitably entitled "Flower". While nature may ravage and destroy, the young girl marvelling at a tiny red-petal flower serves as an emblem of possibility and a reminder that it is only for the purpose of bringing back life in all its forms. Fall must come in order for spring to give birth to life again.

On the other hand, the pondering "Walking Man" (a sculpture inspired by a real man who roamed Toronto's Queen Street



"Tango" — a classical struggle of man against nature.



"Walking Man" — commonality of our shared human experiences.

West) represents the every person. There is a presence of recognition and familiarity that creates a sense of intimacy, thus bonding the sculpture with the audience. This sculpture in particular is exceptionally successful at expanding the narrative into the realm of the audience by encouraging viewers to project their own conceptual ideas onto the figure. Hence, Golden's sculptures confront us with familiarity and honesty that oblige us to notice our surroundings, especially people whose experiences are not that different from our own. The sculptor dares us to realize the commonality of our shared human experiences.

Unique paradoxical dichotomies proclaim these art works as intelligent, meaningful, authentic, and philosophical. They challenge us to interact with them on a physical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual level. The conceptual complexity and nuanced facets intricately implemented in the creation of these works of art lends them an enigmatic quality that is haunting, rich, and imaginative.

— Alexandra Golovenko



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