

HERALD ВІСНИК

ЖОВТЕНЬ, 2010р. HOME P 228 PIK XIX

OCTOBER 2010 NO. 228 VOL. XIX Price \$2.25

First AUUC Orchestral Seminar

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



Forty-five participants registered for the first orchestral seminar held by the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, which took place at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg on September 3-5. A report on this event, with pictures, appears on Page 9, with additional coverage on pages 11 and 16.

Salute to Convention Delegates

The Editorial Board of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* salutes the delegates to the 44th AUUC National Convention! May your deliberations be crowned with the successful resolution of the issues facing the organization at this time.

Key among those issues is the financial situation in which the AUUC finds itself. While the long-term prospects appear healthy, the Convention and the leadership it elects will both need to demonstrate creative leadership in finding the way to that long term.

This Convention will also have to consider the very nature of the AUUC — will the organization evolve into a centre purely of performing arts, or will it re-assert its historical roots as a unity of performing arts and progressive social activism?

Closely related, this 44th AUUC National Convention will continue, as did the previous two, to be informed by the unfinished business of the 41st AUUC National Convention. Long appearing in the guise of a struggle internal to the AUUC Edmonton Branch, the issues are emerging once again as clearly national concerns. If the Convention fails to recognize the national context, the AUUC may pay a very high price.

As important as these three questions are, they are only part of the task you will face at this meeting in Winnipeg. We hope, and believe, that in your collective wisdom you will find a fruitful path to a rosy future.

Civil Servants Pressed

Another name has been added to the list of people in the public service who have, in some way, been harmed by the governing style of Harper and his Conservatives. Munir Sheikh, head of Statistics Canada, resigned as a result of the change away from the compulsory long-form census.

Mr. Sheikh was interviewed by CBC radio in mid-September and made it clear that his resignation was not related to the change. As a professional

public servant, Mr. Sheikh would have made his disagreement known to the government in private, and then he would have done as he was told by his political masters.

The problem was that the government lied (my word — Mr. Sheikh was more diplomatic) when it suggested that StatsCan supported the change to voluntary reporting.

That misrepresentation of StatsCan's professional opinion could not go unchallenged.

How the Conservatives Support Our Troops

When it comes to pomp and ceremony, Prime Minister Harper and his government, are all for supporting the troops. Tagging names like "Highway of Heroes" to roads and stuff like that is right up their alley.

However, when it comes to providing for their mangled bodies and damaged minds when the troops return from the wars, the government would rather give the money to tax cuts for the rich.

On August 18, the public heard about criticism of the government by retired Col. Pat Stogran, the first veterans' ombudsman, who was reportedly told that it was bet-

ter for the government to have soldiers killed overseas, rather than wounded, because the liability was shorter term. There was additional detail of the government's determination to limit compensation to veteran's, including inadequate one-time, lump-sum payments.

Rather than having to deal with the scandal in Parliament, on the eve of Parliament's return from the summer break the government announced a new benefits package.

However, the new deal was immediately and widely criticised as inadequate compensation for the sacrifice made by disabled veterans.

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PUBLICATIONS MAIL 40009476
POSTMASTER: IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO
KOBZAR PUBLISHING CO. LTD. 595 PRITCHARD AVENUE
WINNIPEG MB R2W 2K4

**Sent as a
separate
page.**

Current Eclectic — Long and Short

So Where is the Economy?

Some economic reporting these days makes no sense at all, unless viewed as spinning to promote a positive outlook on a negative situation.

For example, there was the report by business reporter Emily Mathieu in the *Toronto Star* on September 4, headed “Working less, earning more”.

That sounds as though Canadian workers have it pretty good. What did it mean?

Information below the fold on page 1 of the business section tells us “earning more” refers to two things. The first is an increase of the average hourly wage rate in Ontario from \$19.93 in 2005 to \$23.10 currently, up 16%. The second is an increase in the minimum wage from \$7.45 in 2005 to a current \$10.25, an increase of 38%.

Let us consider this for a moment. Many working people make the minimum wage. However, in spite of the huge proportional increase in that wage, the rate of increase in the average wage was way lower — less than half.

What are some possibilities? Some combination of the following: increases in the higher wage rates were far less than 16%; many people at the higher wage rates took pay cuts (whether at the same job or at new jobs); people at higher wage rates lost their jobs, thus earning no wages at all (though, perhaps, getting

other forms of income, like employment insurance).

Perhaps you can think of other possibilities. However, higher wages on average went up by at least 16% is logically impossible.

The “working less” apparently referred to the average number of 33.24 hours per week worked in July, 2010, compared to 34.69 hours per week in 2000. What does that

mean?

Well, the article tells us about long hours put in by owners of small businesses. Thus employees must average even less. That means, in a five-day week, less than 6.5 hours a day. Consider all the 7- or 8-hour days, and it’s clear that a lot of people are working part time.

Sure enough, well down in the article, after turning the

page, we learn that this trend to shorter hours reflects “an aging work force, more people working part time, and increased hours of vacation”.

(A question that arises is “How much of the part time work is by choice?”)

The article is full of other bits of “information” which require a closer look. And business sections of commercial publications are full of articles with that kind of information.

— W. Szczesny

G20 Repercussions Continue

The G20 is not going away, and is unlikely to disappear from the public consciousness for some time.

For one thing, there is the continuing foolishness like that reported on September 18 in a press release issued by AW@L, which indicated that Alex Hundert had been re-arrested, supposedly for violating his bail conditions.

Mr. Hundert was originally “pre-emptively” arrested on the morning of Saturday, June 26, in a house raid before the events of that weekend. A member of AW@L and the Southern Ontario Anarchist Resistance, Mr. Hundert was charged with conspiracy and counselling.

After he was released on bail, Mr. Hundert was inter-

viewed by various news media, among them CBC radio, *The Toronto Sun*, and others. He was warned by Ontario Provincial Police on July 28 that the interviews were a violation of the conditions of his bail, which included a prohibition against participating in any public demonstration.

On August 20, the Crown appealed in Ontario Superior Court against Mr. Hundert’s release, and that of Leah Henderson, his partner. On September 13, Justice Todd Ducharme ruled against the appeal.

On September 17, Mr. Hundert was returning from participation as an invited panellist (invited by Judy Rebick) at a forum at Ryerson University, when he was arrested by Toronto police and RCMP officers, on allegations that participation in the forum was a violation of bail conditions.

Judy Rebick, president of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women from 1990 to 1993 and a founder of the Canadian Cen-

tre for Policy Alternatives (among many other significant credits) is currently Auto Workers—Sam Gindin Chair in Social Justice and Democracy at Ryerson University in Toronto.

A hearing date on the matter was scheduled for September 21, after the “UCH” press deadline. In the meantime, Mr. Hundert, who will argue that neither the media interviews nor the panel discussion constituted a “public demonstration”, remained in custody.

According to the AW@L press release, five other G20 defendants remain behind bars.

From the outside, this certainly looks like the police, who violated citizens’ rights during the G20 meeting, and Crown prosecutors who have become their accomplices, are throwing their weight around, harassing and violating the rights of an activist whose politics they do not like, using whatever excuse they can muster to try to keep him in custody.

By such unconscionable behaviour, the police and prosecutors bring the administration of justice into disrepute.

Once again on Health User Fees

In the September 15 issue of the *Toronto Star*, Thomas Walkom presents an interesting discussion on proposals by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development that Canada introduce user fees into medicare, along with privatization to promote efficiency. Mr. Walkom calls the proposals boiler-plate OECD orthodoxy.

Mr. Walkom points out that in 2002 a special Senate committee looked into the issue of user fees. Though initially favouring them, the committee concluded that user fees did not make sense. If low enough to be affordable, fees cost more to collect than the income they generated; if set

higher, they prevent the sick from seeking care.

An interesting point is that parts of the health care system covered by medicare — mainly doctor’s visits and hospital care — are the same 5% of the economy as they were back in 1975.

What has really shot up, is the cost of drugs, much of it subsidized by government funds. The OECD recommends a national pharmacare plan, but fails to recognize, as shown by a report by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, that a national pharmacare plan based on the New Zealand model could save more than \$10 billion annually.

Off with Their Heads!

Haroon Siddiqui is one of the columnists in the *Toronto Star* who often produces thoughtful and thought-provoking articles. On September 19, his column about the “Dominion of King Stephen” included among its interesting aspects a list of Royal Advisors (civil service) who were fired, transferred or demonized (or quit) because they met with Royal (prime ministerial) disfavour

The list, as he wrote, is long (he did not claim, probably wisely, that it was complete): Linda Keene, nuclear regulator; Bernard Shapiro, ethics commissioner; Peter Tinsley, military police complaints commissioner; Kevin Page, parliamentary budget officer; Richard Colvin, the diplomat who exposed the Afghan detainee abuse; Paul Kennedy, RCMP watchdog; Pat Stogran, veterans’ ombudsman; Marty Cheliak of the RCMP and the police chiefs from across Canada, who both backed the gun registry; and Remy Beauregard, head of Rights and Democracy, who died of a heart attack after being hounded into line.

CSIS and Torture

It is more than a little disquieting that the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, as reported by Canada’s news media on September 13, would use information obtained by torture.

A more detailed position is given in briefing notes prepared for CSIS Director Dick Fadden in preparation for an interview with CBC-TV in June. The briefing notes stipulate that CSIS “has never condoned torture and finds it abhorrent” (believe that if you like, but don’t ask me to agree without the addition of a lot of weasel-word “clarifications”).

On the other had, the position says, Canadians would never forgive CSIS for failing to prevent a terrorist attack because the warning “tip” might have been tainted by torture.

Critics point out that the use of information obtained by torture is contrary to a federal government directive to CSIS, violates fundamental human rights, produces highly unreliable results as the victims seek to make the pain stop, and will tend to encourage “abusive” interrogations by CSIS and its partners.

In addition, CSIS would provide suspect information to relevant foreign agencies.

Universal Strip Search

Nobody can say that we weren’t warned, but many scoffed at the warning. Now the truth comes out: the universal strip search through full-body scanners is the way of the future.

When the scanners were being bought in great quantities and installed in airports, the authorities assured us that the full-body scans which see through clothing like Superman’s x-ray vision, would be secondary screening, an option to the current (at that time) strip search. That is how, reportedly, these scans are being used at Canadian airports.

Many of us were sceptical of these claims of limited use. Once the technology was in place, we suggested, it would become the primary screening. If you didn’t like it, you didn’t need to fly.

Now it is reported that, in fact, USA airports are doing away with the traditional metal detectors in favour of the “naked” scanners” (as *The Sunday Sun*, called them on

September 12).

The article in *The Sunday Sun* notes that Michael Vonn of the BC Civil Liberties Association has spoken about Canada facing massive pressure to harmonize its policies with those of the USA.

While Transport Canada presently denies considering mandatory screening using the full body scanners as the main screening method, it denied comment on using the scanners as the main screening method. It should be noted that these scans are not mandatory at the USA airports: passengers may choose the option of a full manual body search (pat down).

The Sunday Sun reports that 31 full body scanners are currently in place at 15 Canadian airports. Thirteen more are expected by the end of October or so.

Does anyone believe that these machines, at \$250,000 each, plus the cost of trained operators, will merely sit there all day waiting for a reason to be used?

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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

PUBLICATIONS MAIL REGISTRATION No. 40009476

Signed articles represent the viewpoint of the author, and do not
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On the Administration of Justice

An Editorial by Wilfred Szczesny

It was reported that about 300 people, of over 1105 detained and kept for hours in barbaric circumstances on June 25-27, were actually charged. Almost all of them appeared in a Toronto courthouse on August 23, after living in the intervening period under stringent conditions of release. About 100 of those 300 people had their charges dropped. The remainder had their cases continued, with later court appearance dates set in some cases.

Those 100 dropped charges were not just dropped. The accused were given a choice: make a donation to charity, and the charges will be dropped; decline, and the process will continue.

What might a lawyer advise? You have already lost income from lost work days. If you fight the charges, you will lose more work days. Even if you win, or if the charges are dropped later, lost earnings and accumulating legal costs will work out to a lot more. If you lose, there will also be a record. Just pay the \$50.00 and make it go away.

During the G20 meetings in Toronto, the police proved, by trampling all over people's rights and repeatedly exceeding their legal authority, that they are the biggest gang of thugs in the country, far more fearsome than any motorcycle gang. On August 23, it was shown clearly that the gang includes some serious extortionists. Some people declined the "shake down", and now face the consequences of ongoing prosecutions.

The process arising from the G20 arrests and prosecutions brings the administration of justice into disrepute, raising questions about other cases.

For example, there is the case of the so-called "Toronto 18". Some of them had charges against them dropped fairly quickly. Others spent years in jail waiting to come to trial. Suddenly, there was a spate of guilty pleas, with people sentenced to time served, more or less.

Could this be what the lawyers advised? You have spent years in jail. Even if you ultimately win, you may spend more years in prison. If you are convicted, there's no telling how long the sentence will be. Just take the time served, and make it go away.

Then there was the case of the man who was released on terrorism charges, and promptly arrested on something totally unrelated, just to keep him in jail.

Justice may be denied in more ways than one.

COMMENTARY

Canadian Economic Developments

The banks seemed to be happy with their results for the third quarter. Investors though, did not seem satisfied.

The Bank of Nova Scotia recorded a profit jump of 14%. The complaint was that per share cash earning, at 99 cents, missed forecasts by a penny. Consequently, share prices fell, though still above their level last year.

The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce increased profit by 47%, surpassing forecasts. Nevertheless, its stock fell.

The Bank of Montreal, the first to report third quarter results, with an increase of 20% per share in net earnings, was below the forecasts, triggering the drop in bank sector share prices.

The other banks had similarly impressive third quarters, with varying stock price results.

It is not a surprise that the banks (and other financial institutions too) think that the economic recovery is doing fine, that it's time to cut the stimulus spending and turn to fighting the deficit.

For working people, however, the much-touted economic recovery is bringing more pain than gain, contrasting sharply with the experience of the shareholders.

Some of the elements of that pain were listed in the *Toronto Star* on September 17 by Carol Goar.

Ms. Goar noted a report released on September 9 by Statistics Canada showing that, in July, Canada had a record trade deficit of \$2.7 billion.

The chief cause of that deficit is the continuing weakness

of the American economy, which is the main market for Canada's exports. This Canadian dependence on developments in the US, and not only with respect to trade in goods and services, is what has made, and will continue to make, liars out of those economists who tell us that Canada is somehow immune to global developments.

For Canadian workers, the trade deficit is an indication that jobs are not about to be created.

Sure enough, Ms. Goar reported that the next day, on September 10, another report from Statscan showed that unemployment had gone up in August, to an official rate of 8.1%. The private sector, which was to be the driver of recovery, had shed jobs.

Ms. Goar reported that sales of manufactured goods had dropped, with motor vehicle production hardest hit.

Many Canadian working people are living on the verge of catastrophe. Ms. Goar cited two reports showing the depth of the problem. One by the Canadian Payroll Association, released on September 13, showed that 6 out of 10 Canadians would be in serious trouble if their paycheque was just one week late. The other, by Statscan, showed that, while the recovery was supposedly under way, household debt in Canada had grown by another 6%.

Canadians are deeper in debt than any other people except our neighbours in the USA. Compared to Americans, whose debts are 26% of their assets, Canadians' debts are 20% of their assets. These numbers are from a

report by Scotia Capital.

Of course, these are averages, combining the debts and assets of the very rich with the corresponding values for the rest of us. The probability is that, if the richest 10% of the population were excluded from the calculations, the ratio of debt to assets would soar.

For example, the 60% of Canadians living hand to mouth from week to week probably have a much higher debt-to-asset ratio.

Combined, those reports are another way of saying that 60% of Canadians are barely able to meet their current needs and existing obligations, that their situation is getting worse, and that more people are being added to those living on the edge.

On September 17, the Toronto-Dominion Bank, reflecting the heightened pessimism of other banks issued a bleak report which did not rule out the possibility of a second recession.

"There's no pent-up demand left," according to Derek Burton, TD's deputy chief economist. Translated, that means that people can not buy stuff, even if they want to, because the money isn't there — in spite of "earning more" reported elsewhere.

In listing the main factors behind the pessimism, Mr. Burton started with the "weaker than expected" US recovery.

He continued with the cooling housing market, which may actually be an expression of his third item: "tapped out consumers". What that means is that people have no more money, and no more access to credit.

Finally he listed the end of the government's, and the Bank of Canada's, fiscal stimulus.

It should be noted that this pessimism is not a concern for the fate of banks and other financial institutions. The money men seem unanimously confident that their institutions will do well, whatever happens to the rest of the economy.

The big question as we go to press, is whether the federal government will extend the deadline on unfinished stimulus projects. After saying for many months that the money flow would stop in March, 2011, the government has been making more flexible noises.

The probable reason is that stopping on schedule could be a political disaster. Municipalities would be saddled with huge bills to complete unfinished work, and thousands of jobs would suddenly be lost. That could trigger an election, a vote that would not be won by repeating the count of stimulus project signs on abandoned job sites.

— Volodymyr Lucky

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Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewich

Boxing In Verkhovna Rada

Ukraine's parliament was the unlikely setting for a massive punch-up as tempers flared over a government-imposed natural gas price hike and an increase in the retirement age.

Legislators from opposition parties tried to seize control of the podium, but were wrestled back by pro-government members during the first session after a summer recess.

In a bid to calm nerves, President Viktor Yanukovich urged both sides to use "common sense" over emotion.

His sentiments were shared outside, on the streets, by opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko, who organized a rally in front of parliament. She urged people to join forces ahead of October's local elections to fight against the measures — both key International Monetary Fund conditions for a \$16 billion loan desperately needed by Ukraine.

Ironman Canada

The 28th Ironman Canada triathlon event, held in Penticton, B.C., was won by Viktor Zyemtsev of Ukraine. He seemed calm as he went through the ribbon at the finish line, the first among a record 2,760 contestants.

Zyemtsev, who netted a cash prize of \$12,000 arrived to a welcoming crowd as he completed the course in 8 hours, 32 minutes, and 28 seconds.

Thirteen seconds slower was Germany's Bader Christian. Christian received \$8000 for his second-place finish, while his countryman, Stephan Vuckovic, earned \$5,500 for a third-place finish.

The 37-year-old Zyemtsev said the overall course was difficult, especially the 180 kilometre bike ride, which took him 4:47:53 to complete.

"In other Ironman courses, it's pretty flat," said Zyemtsev. "The course is hilly and makes this course more difficult and more slow."

Not only did the bike portion of the triathlon provide a challenge, but weather conditions added to the stress, as the triathletes had to battle rain and hail. Zyemtsev said that he was freezing at one point.

The 3.8 kilometre swim portion of the contest took the Ukrainian 49 minutes and 26 seconds, while the 42.2 kilometre marathon run took him just under 3 hours.

Top Canadian was Kyle Marcotte of Calgary, who fin-

ished in fifth spot.

Just how dedicated some athletes are was evident by those already waiting at the Okanagan Lake registration tent to sign up for the 2011 Ironman Canada event before the 2010 contest was even finished!

Poor Dinosaurs

The dinosaurs were wiped out 65 million years ago by at least two space impacts rather than a single strike, a new study suggests.

Previously, scientists had identified a huge impact crater in the Gulf of Mexico as the event that spelled doom for the dinosaurs. Now evidence for a second impact, in Ukraine, has been discovered.

When first proposed in 1980, the idea that an asteroid or comet had killed off the dinosaurs proved hugely controversial. Later, the discovery of the Chicxulub Crater in the Gulf of Mexico was hailed as "the smoking gun" that confirmed the theory.

The discovery of a second impact crater suggests that the dinosaurs were driven to extinction by a "double whammy" rather than a single strike.

The Boltysh Crater in Ukraine was first reported in 2002. However, until now it was uncertain exactly how the timing of this event related to the Chicxulub impact. In the current study, scientists examined the "pollen and spores" of fossil plants in the layers of mud that collected in the crater. Layers full of fern spores — dubbed "fern spikes" — are considered to be good "markers" of past impact events.

However, there was an unexpected discovery in store for the scientists. They located a second "fern spike" in a layer one metre above the first, suggesting another later impact event. Rather than being wiped out by a single hit, the researchers now think that dinosaurs may have fallen victim to a shower of space rocks raining down over thousands of years.

What might have caused this bombardment is highly uncertain. Professor Monica Grady, a meteorite expert, suggests, "One possibility might be the collision of Near Earth Objects."

Recently, NASA launched a program dubbed "Spaceguard". It aims to monitor such "Near Earth Objects" as an early warning system of possible future collisions.

Ukrainian Beauties

On August 23, the world's

beauties flocked to Las Vegas, where the Miss Universe 2010 Pageant Final was held.

Miss Universe is an annual international beauty pageant, and along with the Miss World, is the most publicized beauty contest in the world.

Miss Mexico Jimena Navarrete received the Miss Universe crown, while Ukraine's Anna Poslavska finished third runner-up in this year's contest.

Hardly had the Miss Universe excitement died down, when the focus switched to the Miss Ukraine contest, held at Kyiv's main concert hall, Palats Ukraina.

Twenty-six gorgeous females, one each from Ukraine's 26 regions, converged on the city to compare charms.

Befitting an event of this importance, the panel of judges was the "creme-de-la-creme" of the entertainment world. Not in any order of importance, the judges were Pamela Anderson (sexy former *Baywatch* star, dressed in a see-through, sequined black dress), cool macho actor Jean-Claude Van Damme, *Desperate Housewives* regular Eva Longoria, socialite Paris Hilton (arrested on August 27 on cocaine charges), Francesca Versace (niece of the famous Italian fashion icon Donatello Versace), and Elizabeth Hurley (model and swimwear designer, dressed in a skin-tight glittery dress).

It was worth attending this competition just to gawk at the judges!

(Oh, by the way. Winner of the Miss Ukraine contest was Ekaterina Zakharchenko).

Kyivan Rus Theme Park

Two heavily-armoured knights close in on each other in a wooden stockade. In a flurry of swords they're at each other, hacking at shields, helmets, and anything else they can reach. As battling goes, its enthusiastic and realistic stuff; and it's quite a relief when a referee shouts "End the fight" and announces that one of the two men is the victor.

Kyivan Rus Park is a historically-themed open-air park in Kopachiv Village about 40 kilometres from Kyiv.

As many of you know, "Kyivan Rus" is the name coined by Nikolai Karamzin for the medieval state of Rus. Rus existed from 880 A.D. to about 1250 A.D. when it disintegrated. It is believed that the Mongol invasion of 1237 - 1240 contributed to that effect.

Kyivan Rus Theme Park is full value for family entertainment. Visitors can take part in

many ancient heroic epics spread over the 50 hectares of land the park occupies.

In addition to battling knights, the park offers dancing maidens, massed ranks of soldiers in armour, and some nifty Cossack-themed horse-riders doing stunts, backed up by stalls selling everything from swords to linen jerkins to bows-and-arrows.

For the more adventurous, lessons in ancient battle techniques are available.

Top all of this off with local cuisine as it had been in the Middle Ages, and you will agree that few visitors will go home disappointed.

Boxing In Ukraine

August 30 saw a good-sized fight take place at Lenin Square in the city of Donetsk in eastern Ukraine.

World Boxing Association (WBA) welterweight king (and local hero) Viacheslav Senchenko retained his belt for the second time with a tough defence against Venezuela's Charlie Jose Navarro.

Senchenko was pushed hard by the South American, but the 32-year-old Ukrainian walked away with a unanimous decision from the 3 judges — 116-113, 115-113, and 115-113.

Senchenko looked sharp, and had the better of his opponent throughout the fight, keeping him out of range with the jab and rocking his Venezuelan adversary with straight right punches, particularly in the earlier rounds.

Navarro used his speed, and landed punches in bursts. Although he opened a cut on the Ukrainian's nose early in the contest, he was unable to hurt the champion consistently or sufficiently.

Senchenko now has a perfect record of 31 fights and no losses.

World War Two Anniversary

Ukraine's Prime Minister Mykola Azarov laid a wreath at the Monument to the Unknown Soldier to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the end of World War Two.

The ceremony was also attended by Ukrainian government officials and diplomats. All present at the event held a minute of silence to honour the war victims.

The war killed at least 5.3 million Ukrainians, and some 2.3 million Ukrainians were deported by force to Germany for slave labour.

World War Two in Europe started on September 1, 1939, when Nazi Germany attacked

neighbouring Poland. In June, 1941, the Axis powers invaded Soviet Ukraine.

It took four years of savage fighting before Soviet troops beat back the invaders and captured Germany's capital, Berlin.

Victory in Europe (V.E. Day) was declared on May 9, 1945.

GOGOLFEST

During September 4-12, Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine, was home to the annual International Festival of Contemporary Art GOGOLFEST 2010 for the fourth year running.

Bringing together the cream of the artistic and creative talents from all over Europe, the festival featured large-scale theatrical, visual, musical, literary and film programs.

GOGOLFEST is "a multi-disciplinary venue for public contemplation of the new landscape of the European artistic and creative mentality. Thus one of our primary missions is to showcase the new European face of Ukraine and its people," said the festival's founder Vladislav Troitskiy.

The program of the festival, which prides itself on artistic diversity, included plays produced by Ukrainian, Russian, Italian, Spanish, Swiss and Hungarian theatres; classical and electro-acoustical modern music; dance parties and live concerts; video and sound installations; and art house and documentary movies.

Young Alcoholics

A study titled "Legacy From The Transition? Alcohol Consumption by Young Adults in Ukraine" was published in Germany in March, 2010.

In the introduction to this 30-page report, the authors state, "In this paper, we study the determinants of alcohol consumption among young adults in Ukraine. This is an interesting case of study because of the harsh economic transition that the country experienced after the demise of the Soviet Union in 1991. Ukraine underwent severe structural reforms and its GDP (a rough measure of prosperity - **GB**) was halved during the '90s. This may have affected the environment within which these young adults grew up."

The report then goes on to describe other studies and references, and discusses the methods and procedures used to prepare this report.

Under "Conclusions", the

(Continued on Page 14.)

**Ukrainian
Page
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**Ukrainian
Page
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— Photo: Wilf Schubert

Folklorama 2010

— Photo: Kim Boss



Enjoying the company of Folklorama Lama are: front row (left to right) — Spencer Bater, Brody McQueen, Mercedes Schubert, Adrian McQueen, Alyssah Gard and B'Elenna Piasta; back row (left to right) — Angela Kaminski, Rachel Popowich-Scott, Jade Mailman, Brittney Newman and Michael Hladun.

The role of women in the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community was the theme of the AUUC's 39th annual Lviv Pavilion, one of 44 pavilions in Winnipeg's folk festival Folklorama.

The pavilion was open during the second week of the festival, August 8 to 14. During that time the main hall of the Ukrainian Labour Temple was lively with performances by all of AUUC Winnipeg's performing groups. Downstairs, hundreds of meals and desserts were served.

Next door, in Ivan Franko Manor, there were displays of the artistic, social, and domestic contributions of AUUC women

Folklorama is two years older than Lviv Pavilion, a long run for any show, but it suffers no decline in vigour or attractiveness to the public.

The city-wide two-week event held steady in the number of participating pavilions, and boasted an increase in paid attendance, the result of

new pavilions reflecting immigration from Central and South America and Africa.

Many of the European countries which had been represented in the past have ceased operations. These include Britain, France, Czechoslovakia, Lithuania, and the Polish pavilion in the neighbourhood of the Ukrainian Labour Temple.

Although Lviv Pavilion had a significant attendance decline, it operated at capacity several times during the week. Even with the economy recovering gradually from a recession and with the stricter rules for Americans visiting Canada, group tours from many parts of the USA and Canada included Lviv Pavilion on their itinerary.

The pavilion continues to merit favourable reviews in the city newspaper, and above average evaluations from the public.

Although many pavilions are bringing in professional performers and are operating in

— Photo: Wilf Schubert



The Festival Choir, with Harry Stefaniuk ably rendering a solo.

— Photo: Wilf Schubert



The Veselka Dance Group of the AUUC Dance School was a crowd-pleasing part of the program.

cavernous community centres and school gymnasiums, Lviv Pavilion preserves the original concept of Folklorama by operating in its own ethnic hall, with its own people cooking the food and providing the entertainment. The separation of the food service from the concert space provides usually attentive audiences for the shows.

The theme of the pavilion, the role of women, was stated in a number of ways. The pavilion initially wished to emphasize the role of women in families, as the "hearts" of the family, but it soon became clear that the influence of women was much more far-reaching.

Myron Shatulsky wrote in the pavilion's printed program: "It was their (women's) tenacity and ever-present inner strength that, time after time, helped overcome the forces of social-economic and political adversity that many immigrants faced in those early years."

Lily Stearns concluded her introduction to the cultural display by writing; "The lives these women chose to live were full. There was the community spirit of working together for a common cause; and there were rich friendships. There was the recognition that they were working for a cause larger than themselves, one which they hoped would lead to better lives not only for them and their families, but for all Canadians. Their example served as role models of selfless dedication to a noble cause."

Adult ambassadors were Jeanne Romanoski and Harry Hladun, while Robyn Smith and Derek Barr were youth ambassadors. These people welcomed guests, explained the pavilion to visitors from other "countries", and in turn visited the pavilions of other "countries".

Kathy Schubert served as pavilion coordinator again. Her job was to bring the energies of more than one hundred volunteers together to create a meaningful experience for both guests and participants.

— Brent Stearns

JoKe TiMe

Angus moved to Winnipeg, where he rented an apartment.

In a week, his mother called to see how he was doing.

"I'm fine," Angus said. "But some really strange people live in these apartments. One woman cries all day, another just moans, and the guy next door bangs his head against the wall all the time."

"I suggest you don't associate with people like that."

"I don't, Ma," Angus replied. "I just stay in my apartment playing my bagpipes."



Pavilion Ambassadors Harry Hladun, Jeannie Romanoski, Derek Barr and Robin Smith are recognized, with MC Kim Boss looking on.

— Photo: Wilf Schubert



THE YUNIST DANCERS OF AUUC WINNIPEG

— Photo: Wilf Schubert



Centre stage in a kolomeyka with dancers from the dance school are Patricia Pierre, Aaron Pierre and Ellana Gard.

— Photo: Wilf Schubert



Joining the kolomeyka with dancers from the dance school is Tim Gordienko, enjoying "the dance for all ages".

— Photo: Wilf Schubert



Yunist dancers (left to right) Alexandra Andrykow, Alayna Dueck and Deana Mailman take a moment to pose for the camera after coming off stage.

National Orchestral Seminar

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



The first section, mandolins and a violin, was a large and talented group from many cities. First row, (left to right) — Ian Walker, Steffie Yakimchuk and David Swatek, all of Winnipeg; second row — George Sitak, Mary Wasylenky and Natalie Silkiewicz, all of Welland; third row — Margreet Preston (Vancouver), and Deb Pacholka, Gail Wilson and Emily Laslo (all of Regina); fourth row, on the violin, Nettie J. Kucy of Winnipeg.

Though I saw it happening all around me, I still do not believe that mandolins can play sixteenth note runs in *strepitoso*, *vivo*, or even *presto* tempos. Yet exactly that, and other marvellous things, happened on September 3-5, when 45 musicians from Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, Winnipeg and Welland gathered at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg for the AUUC National Orchestral Seminar.

The Ukrainian Labour Tem-

ple, the root from which grew the rich history of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians history, displayed a large welcoming sign on its Pritchard Avenue facade. Designated both a provincial and a national historical site, the ULT is truly a magnificent building, especially the main auditorium, with its high ceilings, colourful walls and imposing stage. It can be a bit overwhelming to the unaccustomed.

However, there was more

— Photo: Leslie Brooks



Mandolas, front row (left to right), were: Nancy Walker, June Miller and Carmen Ostermann, all of Winnipeg. Koren Kaminski of Winnipeg (partially hidden by the music stand) played viola. In the second row, on oboe, is Sherry Bonness of Winnipeg.

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



The rhythm section, aka percussion, came from Winnipeg: Matt Abraham, Derek Klassen and Sean Adams.

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



The orchestra members always looked forward to the delectable meals prepared and served by Winnipeg volunteers.

— Photo: Natalie Silkiewicz



A welcoming sign on the outside of the Winnipeg ULT.

to inspire awe: four pieces of music arranged to challenge each musician; and beyond that, Alexander Veprinsky, a renowned and highly qualified conductor, whom the musicians came to appreciate as a passionate and demanding leader.

Of course, at the first session, in the evening on Friday, September 3, there were words of welcome and introductions, and a greeting by Calgary's Hazel Skulsky on behalf of the AUUC National Committee.

Then it was down to work — down to serious work. On Saturday, sessions ran from 9:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Of course, there were breaks for meals and for coffee. Of course, too, many musicians used at least part of each break (and after hours, too) to work on some part of the music. On Sunday, there was less: only 9:30 a.m. to about 3:30 p.m., with breaks. Oh, and

(Continued on Page 14.)

— Photo: Leslie Brooks



Carmen Ostermann acted as MC for the taping session which ended the seminar.

— Photo: Leslie Brooks



Myron Shatulsky extended a greeting to seminar participants and the small audience.

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



The second mandolin section: front row (left to right) — Wayne Hosick and Rudy Wasylenky of Welland; second row — Julie Dalkie (Winnipeg), Wilfred Szczesny (Welland) and Don Zueff (Winnipeg); third row — Zoya Shmyr (Regina) and Joan Sitak and Dorothy Boucock of Welland.

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



The accordion section (left to right): Terry Berg (Calgary) Brian Dmyterko (Regina), Leno Guzman (Winnipeg, and Andy Fielding (who did not participate on the last day).

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



"The Bottom End": bass player Jim Limberatos of Winnipeg and David Westwick of Calgary on the mandocello concentrate on the music. Not in the picture is Hazel Skulsky of Calgary. Kosty Kostaniuk participated on the first night.

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



Among the woodwinds and brass were (left to right) clarinet players Leah Nowosiadly (Regina), Norm Rosenbaum and Dean Doerr of Winnipeg, and trumpet player Vlad Osatiuk (Regina).

**Sent as a
separate
page.**

Seminar Players Said:

The 45 people attending the orchestral seminar in Winnipeg on September 3-5 included several members of the National Performing Arts Committee of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians (Hazel Skulsky, Zoya Shmyr, Rudy Wasylenky and Carmen Ostermann), active conductors in the AUUC (Violetta Dimitrova of Calgary, Marina Lavrinenko and Yulia Martishuk of Edmonton, Natalia Osypenko of Regina, Rudy Wasylenky of Welland, and Annis Kozub of Winnipeg), seminar leader Maestro Alexander Veprinsky of Toronto, and many musicians on different instruments.

Each of the participants has an opinion about the seminar. We present some of those

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



Regina mandolin player Deb Pacholka hoped for a bit of fun and a chance to learn some music. "It turned out fabulous!" she said. "I was personally challenged to try harder and pay more attention." Alexander Veprinsky's passion for the music, and his effort to make the player passionate stands out for Deb.

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



Mandolin player Mary Wasylenky of the Welland orchestra enjoyed meeting the people and being part of the action. Mary thought it was "definitely worthwhile".

opinions on this page.

The participants seem unanimously agreed that the seminar was worthwhile, largely because of the experience of working with the passionate and demanding Alexander Veprinsky, who inspired the musicians to strive for excellence.

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



Zoya Shmyr of Regina, playing mandolin came expecting to work with a demanding conductor with a high standard. Her expectations were met, making the seminar "absolutely worthwhile". Meeting old friends and making new ones was a highlight; so was achieving a high level, with many nuances, in a short period of time.

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



Dean Doerr of Winnipeg plays clarinet. He came to the seminar looking for fun and new music, and found both. For Dean, the highlight was the final performance, which (he thought) went well.

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



Brian Dmyterko, who plays accordion in Regina, came to the seminar with no particular expectations. The highlight of the weekend for Brian was the final performance, which went very well, he thought, making all the hard work worthwhile.

The AUUC Conductors

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



NATALIA OSYPENKO
REGINA

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



VIOLETTA DIMITROVA
CALGARY

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



RUDY WASYLENKY
WELLAND

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



YULIA MARTISHUK
EDMONTON

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



ANNIS KOZUB
WINNIPEG

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



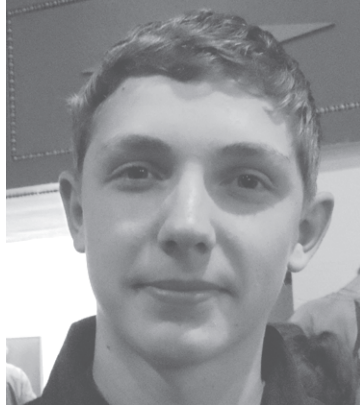
Mandola player Nancy Walker of Winnipeg looked forward to playing with Alexander Veprinsky, "whose music we play". She was impressed: Alexander was "exacting, uncompromising, and pushed us to do our very best".

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



Mandolinist Gail Wilson of Regina enjoyed playing under someone of Alexander Veprinsky's calibre. The highlight of the seminar, in her mind, was to see an ordinary piece of music transformed into a special piece by a passionate director.

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



Regina trumpet player Vlad Osatiuk thought the seminar was cool. He learned something new about conducting, and was impressed by how different the same music can sound with small playing changes. He, too, is ready to come back.

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



Hazel Skulsky of Calgary played the mandocello. One of several committee members attending, she expected that Alexander Veprinsky would demand a lot, and he did. The conductor's high energy impressed Hazel.

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



Wayne Hosick, mandolin player in Welland, thought that working with Alexander Veprinsky was "absolutely fabulous". Wayne would have liked the final performance promoted as more of a concert, with a few additional numbers and some income for the AUUC.

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



Winnipeg mandolin player Steffie Yakimchuk "never worked so hard in my life". She thought the conductor was "just grand", and was pleased with the seminar.



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JoKe TiMe

A musician called the orchestra office, asked for the conductor, and was told that he had died.

The musician called back again and again, getting the same message.

Asked why he kept calling, he replied, "I like to hear it."



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CSULR Founding Conference

The founding conference of the Canadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research took place in Toronto on October 12 and 13, 1985. The conference was the realization of the resolution made at the joint session of the conventions of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians and the Workers Benevolent Association on October 6, 1984, launching an autonomous centre for research and studies in Ukrainian labour history and heritage. The con-

ference was organized in two parts: the first, a ceremonial banquet on the evening of October 12 at the Bond Place Hotel to celebrate the occasion; the second, working sessions the next day at the Ukrainian Labour Temple to formalize the workings of the organization.

At the banquet head table were eight people:

Peter Krawchuk, President of the National Executive Committee of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadi-

ans; Anthony Bilecki, President National Committee of the Workers Benevolent Association; William Harasym, Secretary of the NEC-AUUC; Zenovy Nykolyshyn, Secretary of the NC-WBA; Mitch Sago, member of the NEC-AUUC; Yuri Bohayevsky, First Secretary of the Embassy of the USSR in Canada; Arnold Shlepakov, Member of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR and Director of the Institute of Social

and Economic Problems of Foreign Countries, AS, Ukr. SSR; Dr. Michael Ukas, Professor, *Emeritus*, University of Toronto; Wilfred Szczesny, Vice-President, NEC-AUUC. The first five listed were on the committee constituted at the AUUC/WBA joint con-

vention session to organize the CSULR; the last named joined that committee later and served as master of ceremonies for the evening.

The master of ceremonies began proceedings with a toast in three parts: to the
(Continued on Page 13.)

From Our History

This report on the founding conference of the Canadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research was printed in the November, 1985, issue of The Ukrainian Canadian.

AUUC National Dance Seminar



Jake Hobbis with his accordion, serenading the Dovbush girls of Vancouver.

The AUUC National Dance Workshop was held at Camp Kum-in-Yar in Sylvan Lake, Alberta, on July 4 to 9, 2010. The young dancers enjoyed themselves so much that they wanted to write it down and share their experiences with everyone. The following three articles are from the dance groups in Regina, Winnipeg and Vancouver.

— Nina Hobbis

Regina

During our week at the AUUC's Sylvan Lake dance camp, we experienced a fun-filled and exciting time. We reunited with dancers from Vancouver and Winnipeg and built a closed relationship with them.

Each day consisted of it's own difficulties and accomplishments which developed our ballet and Ukrainian dance skills.

"Oh, my gosh!" The instructor we had throughout the week gave 100% of his effort

24/7, and always pushed us to be better dancers. His name was Serguei Makarov.

Every night an activity was planned so we would have a chance to socialize outside of the dance hall.

We were also very lucky that moms, relatives and other volunteers spent their whole week here, either doing the odd job or cooking us fresh, home-made meals.

We encourage all dancers in the AUUC branches to attend this camp to meet dancers from around the country and develop skills you didn't

know you had.

Kiss my face, Mama!!!

By: Eleanor, Kayla and Erica

Winnipeg

Sylvan Lake dance camp was hard but a rewarding experience. With higher levels of ballet and choreography we faced many new challenges.

Serguei pushed us, and by the end of the week we had shown much improvement. Everyone there was very nice and supportive.

We had a great time socializing, meeting new people, reuniting with old, and enjoying the great food.

This week has brought new visions and hope of change in Winnipeg.

As difficult as this week was, we found it to be lots of fun, and look forward to returning next year

By: Ataya, Shaela & Jackie

Vancouver

The Dovbush dancers from Vancouver returned for yet another amazing year at Camp Kum-in-Yar.

We 11 girls and 3 boys were looking forward to working with the oh-so-talented Serguei Makarov. This year we were taught a ballet barre, along with the exciting *Kolomeky*, a boisterous Bukovynian dance and a high-energy "Hopak".

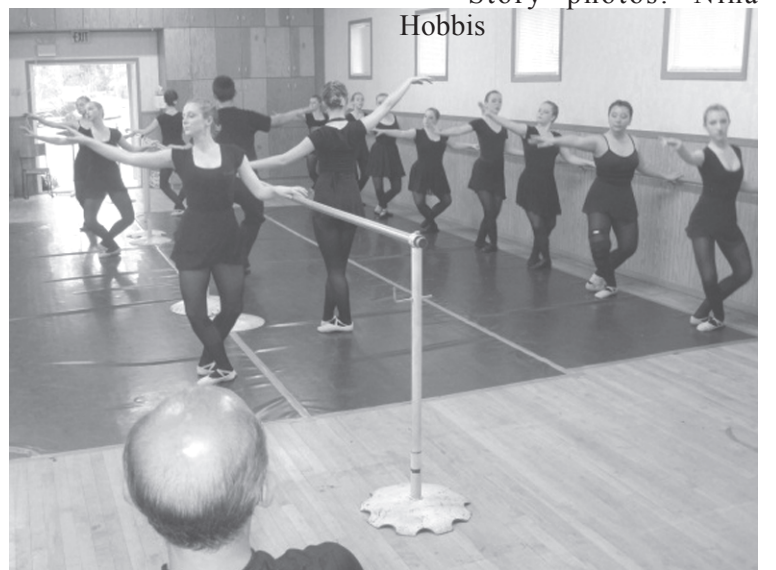
We made some amazing new friends from all over Canada.

Here is a countdown of our favourite memories from this year's seminar.

5. Talent Night
4. Perogy-making (competition)
3. Practising lifts, cheer-leading and yoga
2. Jumping into the lake after dancing
1. More dancing and playing games "after-hours".

By: Alexandra, Caitlynn, Cameron, Celina, Danielle, Danya, Gina, Jake, Jennifer, Joey, Katherine, Meghan, Taralyn, Tatyana.

— Story photos: Nina Hobbis



The dancers at the barre, watched by Serguei Makarov.



The fantastic kitchen staff at Camp Kum-in-Yar: Jennifer Swicheniuk, Janice Beck, Delores Fung and Nina Hobbis.



Dance instructor Serguei Makarov making perogies with the dancers from Regina: Eleanor, Kayla and Erica.



Caitlynn Schell, Gina Alpen and Jennifer Bednard, members of the Dovbush Vancouver AUUC Dancers, worked hard making perogies.

CSULR

(Continued from Page 12.) AUUC and WBA, the two organizations which “took the historic step of initiating the formation of the CSULR”; to the five members of the organizing committee whose “work in the past year has been exemplary”; and to the future of the new venture. “May it open up new worlds,” the toast concluded, “and may its universe unfold in peace.”

After introducing the representatives of 16 organizations and institutions whose presence was construed as “an expression of support for the effort of the AUUC and WBA to establish the Canadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research”, the master of ceremonies invited the celebrants to enjoy the dinner.

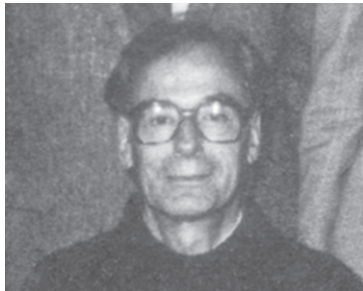
After dinner, those present were entertained by Connie Krane and Laura Prokopovich, soloists with the Hahilka Women’s Choir of the AUUC in Toronto, accompanied by pianist Michael Curry. Their program of seven songs, presented in two sets, was unusually varied, a truly remarkable presentation of the range of Ukrainian song and the flexible talent of the artists. Their masterful performance received the enthusiastic applause of the audience, which was rewarded with an encore performance.

The assembly was addressed by Dr. Ukas, who spoke of the need for an organization like the CSULR and the challenges which it faced. Dr. Ukas put particular stress on the task of gathering in one place materials which were in danger of being lost, of properly preserving them, cataloguing them and making them accessible to scholars and researchers. He indicated that the founding conference was a significant initial step in this direction.

In his introduction of Academician Shlepakov, whose special area of interest and expertise is the emigration of Ukrainians to North America, Peter Krawchuk spoke not only of the professional credentials which made it particularly fitting that Arnold Shlepakov was at the conference, but also of their personal relationship of some 30 years duration.

Acad. Shlepakov, speaking in English, said, “In the name of the Soviet Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and the Presidium of Society Ukraina, I would like to voice our conviction that this important step you are taking will be successful and will bring the joys of recognition to you and to the broader public.” (The complete text of Acad. Shlepakov’s remarks appear elsewhere in this issue.—Ed.)

Peter Krawchuk opened the working sessions of the



Dr. Michael Ukas was elected first president of the CSULR.

founding conference of the CSULR with brief remarks about the historical significance of the conference. He then invited Michael Ukas to conduct the rest of the meeting.

The first paper *An Historic Void to Be Filled in Canada* was presented by Zenovy Nykolyshyn, BA, BSW (Honours). The paper addressed some of the problems with existing Ukrainian Canadian historiography, problems which made it necessary to establish the CSULR, and of the tasks faced by the CSULR. It projected both immediate and longer-term areas of CSULR activity, and some of the present and future conditions of that activity.

Mitch Sago presented the paper *Labour in the Ukrainian Ethnic Formation*, in which he developed the thesis that “It is time, as we come within sight of the Ukrainian centenary in 1991, to explore the relationship and interaction of social class and ethnicity in community formations.”

The Ukrainian Centennial in Canada 1891-1991: the Immediate Objectives and Activities of the Canadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research was the title of a paper presented by Anthony Bilecki.

Acad. Shlepakov presented a paper in which he reviewed some areas of Ukrainian Canadian studies in which work from a progressive viewpoint had been published, surveyed a number of areas which required attention, and spoke of the immediate possibilities of cooperation between the CSULR and institutions in Ukraine.

These papers, and the other documents of the conference, will be published in full by the CSULR.

The conference endorsed the constitution and by-laws No. 1 presented by the organizing committee and a Board of Directors composed of Michael Ukas (president), Peter Krawchuk (vice-president), William Harasym (treasurer), Wilfred Szczesny (executive secretary), Mitch Sago, Anthony Bilecki, Zenovy Nykolyshyn, Myron Shatulsky and Alex Lapchuk.

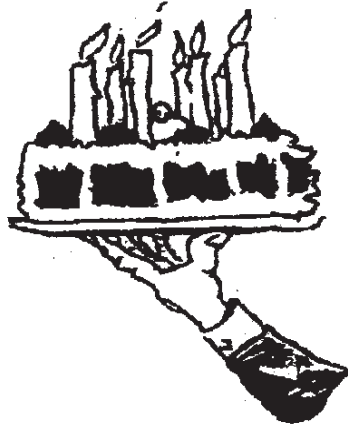
During the conference Mitch Sago, acting for Kobzar Publishing Company Limited, introduced *Interned Without Cause* by Peter Krawchuk, and a copy was given to each registered participant.

The conference ended after thanks were expressed to the many people who had, in many ways, contributed to its smooth functioning, and the comfort and welfare of the participants.

In the evening, on the invitation of Mary Prokop, Curator of the Taras Shevchenko Museum, the conference participants visited the Ukrainian Summer Camp at Oakville/Palermo. While there, they set wreaths at the base of the monument, visited the museum, had supper in the pavilion and spent a relaxing evening at the Social Centre.

— Wilfred Szczesny

Happy Birthday, Friends!



The Edmonton AUUC Senior Citizens’ Club wishes a happy birthday to the celebrant of October:

Bill Askin
Sherry Capowski

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

The Toronto Senior Citizens Club extends best birthday wishes to October celebrants:

Helen Banville
Rose Manning

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

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

Stella Moroz
Audrey Moysiuk

Enjoy your day with family and friends!

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

Clara Babiy
Alex Moskalyk
Janice Robins
Rudy Wasylenky

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

Happy Birthday, Kosty!

— Photo: Sonia Kostaniuk



Kosty Kostaniuk will be celebrating his 95th birthday on October 19. He continues to be active in the AUUC cultural groups, having participated during Folklorama in the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra, the Festival Choir and the North Star Mandolin Ensemble. We wish him many more years.

Who, What, When, Where

Toronto — The Taras Shevchenko Museum continues the exhibition of work by Roger Golden throughout October. Admission is free — donations appreciated. For more information about the Shevchenko Museum, see Page 16 of this publication, or phone 416-534-8662.

* * *

Toronto — AUUC Toronto Branch will continue its movie afternoons with a showing of *Sometimes I look at My Life*, the Harry Belefonte interview in Cuba in 1982, at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, **October 3**, at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West. Admission is \$5.00. Snacks (including popcorn) and other delights will be served.

* * *

Toronto — AUUC Toronto Branch will celebrate Oktoberfest at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West, starting at noon (food sometime between 12:30 and 1:00 p.m.) on Saturday, **October 23**. Admission is \$10.00; children under 12 — \$5.00. Good food, fun and games!

* * *

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. Look for more information in this column next month.

* * *

Vancouver — The AUUC & Community Concert, part of the Heart of the City Festival will take place at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, **November 7**, with a concert, dinner and dance. Look for more information in this column next month.

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.

Sustaining Fund Donations

Susan Boyko, Naughton ON	\$200.00
Peter Miller, Toronto ON	
<i>In memory of my parents</i>	
<i>Stephen & Anna Miller</i>	100.00
Jeannie Romanoski, Winnipeg MB	
<i>On the occasion of</i>	
<i>David Mackling's 90th Birthday</i>	100.00
Kathy Schubert, Winnipeg MB	20.00

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THESE CONTRIBUTIONS AND THANK THE DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY. IF YOUR DONATION HAS NOT APPEARED ON THE PAGES OF THE "UCH", WATCH FOR IT IN FUTURE ISSUES.

Sergei Bezkorvany

Sergei Bezkorvany died on May 27, at age 79, following a series of strokes and a range of heart problems. A funeral service was held on June 17 in Richmond, near London, in England.

Sergei was born in Toronto, the only child of immigrants from Galicia who were active in the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association. The family moved to Winnipeg when he was a year old.

During an orchestra concert at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Sergei told his father that he would like to study violin. At age nine, he enrolled in the George Bonoff School of Music, and then went on to the Juilliard School of Music in New York. After graduating, he returned to Canada to work for the CBC in Toronto.

In 1952, he made his first trip to London, returning after a few years. In 1966, he moved to London permanently.

Sergei played with some top orchestras, including Saddlers Wells, the London Philharmonic and many others. He was considered a top concert master.

In about 1974, Sergei undertook a project which extended over his next 14 years



— to prepare and record the eight sonatas of Joseph Gibbs. The recording was released in 1988.

I met Sergei in Toronto in September (or perhaps it was August), 1989, after his aunt Mary Misinchuk died in this city. In the October, 1989, issue of *The Ukrainian Canadian* appeared an article based on our meeting.

The article began, "Sergei Bezkorvany is a lucky man, for he has finished a task so rich and rewarding that he can feel that he has completed his life's work." That is how satisfied he felt at the completion of the Joseph Gibbs recording, which he called "this golden egg of mine".

At that time, Sergei felt that

he had reached a turning point. He was then freelancing with various orchestras in and around London as well as teaching. He spoke of various professional and personal projects, but seemed to be most interested immediately in "wrapping up loose ends and taking a bit of time to 'smell the roses'".

Though he seemed somewhat undecided at the time, in part no doubt because of the death of his aunt, whom he called "the last of the family", he had not reached 60 years, and my conclusion was;

"Nevertheless, Sergei Bezkorvany struck us as a very energetic man with a keen sense of humour and a deep appreciation of life. He exudes vitality, and is already probing for those new directions, and for the path to follow from this 'turning point'. One is left with the definite impression that he will not rest long and that, whatever goal he chooses to pursue, his activity will enrich us all."

Sergei continued left wing political activism well into his final years, including protesting the invasion of Iraq. He was music correspondent for *Morning Star* as Stephan Long.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years Suzanne and his daughter Nadia.

— Wilfred Szczesny

Orchestral Seminar

(Continued from Page 9.) then the taping session from 7:00 p.m.

The musicians spent most of the time of the seminar under the baton of Alexander Veprinsky. On Saturday afternoon, however, they worked with other conductors.

First, the other conductors had an opportunity to conduct a section of the orchestra, with Mr. Veprinsky observing the various groups.

Then, after the entire group reconvened, each of the five other conductors took a turn conducting the full orchestra

through one of the pieces.

In these sessions, the musicians had an excellent opportunity to observe a wide range of conducting styles, as well as various interpretations of the music.

The taping session on September 5 was intended mainly to produce a record for participating localities. Family and friends of the participants were invited to attend, without charge, and three dozen or so were actually there. They reacted to the efforts of the seminar orchestra with energetic applause.

Carmen Ostermann acted as MC for the performance, with a greeting by Myron Shatulsky, who spoke, among other things, about the Ukrainian Labour Temple and about the heritage of mandolin orchestras in the AUUC.

The Winnipeg hosts of the seminar did an excellent job of accommodating the needs of the musicians. The quality of the lunches and dinners was well appreciated, as were the snacks. Volunteers generously drove people between the Place Louis Riel, where most out-of-towners stayed, and the Ukrainian Labour Temple. Every effort was made to meet individual requests.

The musicians came to the seminar with different levels of skill and musicianship. When they left, this had not substantially changed. Nevertheless, each of them learned something, something large or something small or, most likely, some little technical things and some major attitudinal things.

These things they learned were one reason why the musicians felt that the seminar was worthwhile.

A more important reason, however, was the lesson of Alexander Veprinsky himself: how a passionate conductor who cares about the music and insists on a certain standard and interpretation can be inspirational.

— Wilfred Szczesny

Ukrainian News Briefs

(Continued from Page 5.) authors write, "We have studied the determinants of alcohol consumption in young adults in Ukraine. A traumatic economic transition during the last decades affected the socioeconomic standing of households and, potentially, the environment in which the younger generation grew up."

The authors write further, "First, strain in the household due to labor market adverse outcomes (wages not paid; losing job - GB) impact on the young generation; a young adult living in a household af-

ected by wage arrears has a higher chance of drinking (the probability increases by 18 percentage points, which is a large amount . . .).

"Second, parental death adversely affects drinking patterns in young adults: an increase of 25% points is found among paternal orphans. (Earlier studies printed in this column reported that male life expectancy dropped by 10 years after the switch to capitalism in 1991 - GB).

The German report continues, "Maternal drinking increases the chances of a young adult drinking by 14% points, while the impact in the case of paternal drinking is even higher (25% points)."



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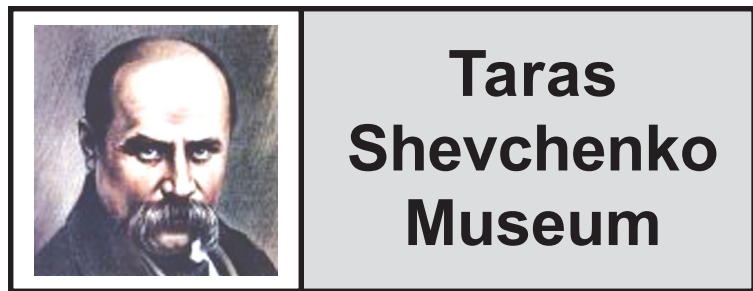
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Sent as a separate page.



New Exhibition Opened

In late afternoon on Sunday, September 12, the Taras Shevchenko Museum in Toronto hosted a reception to open a new temporary (running to October 29) exhibition. On display were works by Roger Golden: four statues of human figures, a cat, a dog and a hen, a wall relief, and a hand. Also on display is an album displaying, among other items, photographs of additional works by the sculptor.

The exhibition is in the display room on the second floor, where the formalities took place, beginning with a welcome by Bill Harasym, former President of the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation. Mr. Harasym introduced Shevchenko Museum Director Lyudmyla Pogoryelov.

Ms. Pogoryelov spoke about the artist and his work in introducing Roger Golden. (More detail is available in the September, 2010, issue of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*.)

In his brief remarks, Roger Golden thanked the Museum Board, and particularly Lyudmyla Pogoryelov and Bill Harasym, for the opportunity to display his work at this location, which has a special resonance for him as a person of some Ukrainian heritage. He spoke briefly of his work, and the vision which informs it, before inviting questions.



ROGER GOLDEN



LYUDMYLA POGORYELOV

Thought small in numbers, the gathering was large in interest. There were many questions on a broad range of topics, from personal matters, to technical aspects of the work and materials, to the social and philosophical motivation of the artist. Mr. Golden ended his presentation by thanking his audience for their interest.

After the formalities, Roger Golden engaged in one-on-one discussions with Museum visitors who had additional opportunity to explore the exhibition, and graciously posed for photographs.



BILL HARASYM

On the main floor of the Museum, before and after the opening ceremonies, visitors were invited to enjoy the offerings of a wine bar and sweet table.

— Wilfred Szczesny

Alexander Veprinsky Speaks

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey

The *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* caught up with Alexander Veprinsky on September 12, a week after the AUUC National Orchestral Seminar ended, as he finished a rehearsal of the Shevchenko Choir at the Columbus Centre in Toronto. We present some thoughts he shared with us.

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



UCH: Please tell our readers how you became involved in the orchestral seminar project.

A.V.: I got a call from Rudy Wasylenko, who invited me to conduct the seminar. I agreed, if my time allowed. After checking my schedule, I talked with some people to make sure it worked for them. I saw that it would be tight, but I accepted the invitation.

UCH: What was requested of you?

A.V.: We had several teleconferences with conductors across the country, and I was asked to prepare several numbers. Ultimately, I prepared three new orchestrations, based on the instruments expected at the seminar.

The selections included were I. Levytsky's "Ukrainian Rhapsody", "Romaleska" by V. Gorodovskaya, and the "Overture" to E. Kalman's opera *Countess Maritza*.

UCH: But the seminar worked on four pieces.

A.V.: Yes. We also worked on the Ditel's arrangement of the Russian folk song "Pedlars", using an orchestration I had prepared for the Toronto Mandolin Orchestra of the Shevchenko Musical Ensemble.

UCH: What were your expectations as you approached the seminar.

A.V.: First of all, I looked forward to working with the group of musicians coming from all over Canada.

Then, too, I was looking forward to connecting with the people from across the country. We need to communicate; we need to exchange our experiences.

The seminar orchestra was very similar to the Toronto Mandolin Orchestra. One of

— Photo: Gordon Gilbey



my greatest hopes was to get to know each other better.

UCH: As you stood on the podium in front of the orchestra, what did you feel were the greatest challenges?

A.V.: The biggest challenge with a group like that is always to get them to watch the conductor. They have to get used to my hands and my style, because conductors all have different feelings and different approaches.

So the big challenge is to unite all the different styles and different conceptions, so that they play together as one.

I think that in the short time available, two days, we accomplished a great achievement, as people started to look, and be together and to feel each other. That's what you get in an orchestra, where people know what to expect.

Eventually we started to play as a group. How was this achieved? By hard work.

If you ask me, what was amazing was the number of hours each day for rehearsals. I was amazed how people endured this and wanted more. Then, after the rehearsals, I saw people practising and trying to get better and better and better.

Three times a day, two-and-a-half-hour rehearsals. This was quite a task, and actually we pulled it off.

UCH: What was your biggest surprise at the seminar?

A.V.: I've really said that already: how in two days we were able to prepare four serious pieces of music.

The pieces we worked on had a lot of *rubato*, a lot of flexibility of tempo. That requires the musicians to watch the conductor. They eventually understood how to do it.

It was new music to them. To me it wasn't, but to them, the people in the orchestra, it was very, very new music. Obviously they enjoyed it.

These were long pieces, each one five or more minutes. I did not know whether to expect it, but eventually we did the program in a concert, very nicely.

That was a big surprise, and very nice work.

UCH: Can we take it then, that you achieved your goals?

A.V.: I think we achieved a lot of things.

First concerning the performance itself. Obviously, if this were a standing orchestra, like the Toronto Mandolin Orchestra, I would not be very satisfied with the quality of the final performance. But I apply a different scale to this.

We have to apply a different scale. One measure is the way people from across the country with different standards, came together. The musicians knew what to expect. They followed the conductor.



They followed the music. I think they achieved 120% on this aspect.

Their working capacity was a total surprise to me.

As for the sound, with five or six more rehearsals, it would have been okay.

UCH: Looking back, what would you do differently, if you were doing it again?

A.V.: It would be good if more conductors attended, and more attention was given to them. True, I did meet with the conductors, but they were brief meetings. It would be valuable to discuss arranging, conducting techniques, and so on.

It would be very positive for the musicians if there were someone who could teach mandolin technique.

It would help if the people who came already knew the music.

More people could be involved, perhaps by looking south of the border, or dipping into groups like the Toronto Mandolin Orchestra.

Finally, I think it should become traditional, perhaps once every two years, with an admission charge for a last concert with additional items.

UCH: All in all, then, you have a positive evaluation of the project.

A.V.: Oh, yes, definitely.

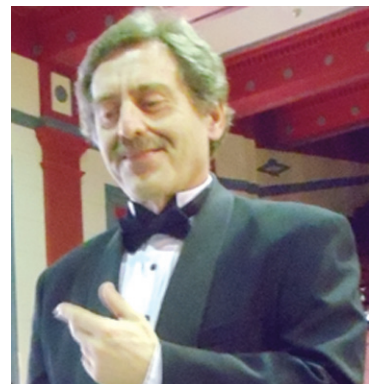
UCH: Any final thoughts or comments?

A.V.: I would like to thank the National Committee of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians for authorizing the seminar, and the AUUC National Performing Arts Committee for giving me the opportunity to participate.

Our Winnipeg hosts deserve full credit for their excellent arrangements — the food, transportation, and all the other aspects of making our life in Winnipeg pleasant.

"Thank you!" to the conductors who attended, and above all, to the musicians who showed such dedication and determination throughout our work.

— Photo: Leslie Brooks



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