

HERALD ВІСНИК

ЛИПЕНЬ/СЕРПЕНЬ, 2011р. НОМЕР 237 РІК XX

JULY/AUGUST 2011 NO. 237 VOL. XX Price \$2.25

Dovbush Dancers — Five for Five!

— Photo: Dan Fung



Dovbush, the senior dance group of the Vancouver AUUC, performed five dances in the Ukrainian Cultural Festival held in Mission, BC, and came away with five first-place trophies! They are shown above with director Caitlynn Schell and other assistants. The report on AUUC participation in the Ukrainian Cultural Festival this year, with additional photos, is on page 6.

Have a Safe and Happy Summer

The school year has ended, as has the AUUC cultural season. Many people are enjoying their holidays and, in particular, children are out of school.

Extra care is needed on the roads. Many drivers are travelling in unfamiliar territory at a time when the driving is harder because of street repairs and because of the resulting detours.

Extra care is needed at our holiday spots as hazards (including, but not limited to, poison ivy and other environmental risks, dangerous boating and/or swimming practices, reduced alertness, equipment malfunctions) associated with the season come to the fore. Awareness and foresight are key elements in going through the summer safe and sound.

We certainly hope (expect, actually) that all readers of the “UCH” make it through without incident while fully enjoying the season and the increased opportunities for happy times with family and friends.

Usually, we say, “See you in September.” However, this year, our next issue will be in October. By then, probably, there will be tons of stuff to report about summer activities and the start of the new AUUC season.

Changes to the “UCH”

The major change which readers of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* will notice is the move from 11 issues annually to eight; the minor change is that there will be only four colour pages, instead of eight.

Meeting in Winnipeg on June 10-12, the National Committee adopted a budget which included a substantial reduction (to less than half) in the amount available for the publication of the “UCH”.

The change to eight issues annually becomes effective in January, 2012. For this year, there will be two more issues

(probably in October and December) instead of the usual four.

The publishing schedule for 2012 is yet to be determined.

It was agreed that subscribers who had paid for eleven issues would receive eleven issues. In the discussion of this matter, it appeared to be assumed (but is to be established) that new subscriptions and renewals after some unspecified date would be for eight issues, with the subscription rate to remain at \$30.00 a year.

The National Committee also considered the budget of the AUUC for national operations. Compared to projections for 2011, after the changes to support from the press are extracted, the projected national AUUC budget expenses were very slightly decreased, though some reductions were made to honoraria and other budget items.

The projection for reduction in the deficit was less than the

cut to support for the “UCH”.

As the AUUC will continue to operate with a large deficit in the projected budget, the National Committee made some decisions designed to address the anticipated shortfall. The key decision was to establish a subcommittee to approach AUUC Branches and other institutions for financial assistance. This subcommittee is to report by the end of November, and the National Committee will meet in mid-January, 2012, to determine how to proceed.

The National Committee also decided to list Camp Kum-in-Yar, the Sylvan Lake property, for sale. Actual sale of the property would be subject to final approval by the National Committee.

Topics also discussed by the National Committee included disposition of the AUUC Alberta Trust Funds and establishment of an AUUC web site, among others.

— Wilfred Szczesny

More People in Jail

Three months after Harper ended accelerated parole review, federal prisons are feeling the pressure of additional overcrowding. Millions of dollars are being spent to keep non-violent offenders in jail longer.

Removal of the accelerated review moved all cases to a

full-board review, leading to increased backlogs.

The crowding in prisons was also made worse by the removal of the two-for-one credit for time served before conviction.

It costs \$556.00/day on average to keep a woman in prison, and \$292.00 for a man.

NOTE: The next issue of the “UCH”, to appear for October, has a September 10 deadline. Any advertising for events in October or November should be in that issue.

The following issue will appear for December; deadline is November 10.

Afghanistan

The United States invaded Afghanistan ostensibly in pursuit of Osama bin Laden, and stayed on to fight the Taliban. Canada joined him in that effort.

Some ten years later, bin Laden has been assassinated (in Pakistan) but the war in Afghanistan continues — now to make the country safe for women and girls.

The USA alone has about 100,000 warriors in the fight, with additional thousands supplied by other countries, including Canada.

However, war costs money, and the United States, in an economic mess with a huge budgetary deficit, is now cutting back. Tens of thousands of troops are to be repatriated soon, with more to come. The Taliban are reportedly in peace talks

Whatever Harper says as the pull-out begins, the main accomplishment in Afghanistan was a large death toll.

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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

Another Report on Indebtedness

The government has been bragging about how well the Canadian economy is doing, about all the jobs that have been created. Government employment statistics, however, are not the only way to evaluate the economy.

One other way to think about the economy is to consider people's household finances. A study released on June 14 by the Certified General Accountants Association of Canada provides some interesting information.

The Executive Summary in the report notes some positive trends (as it calls them).

Positive Trend # 1 – Growth in Household Debt Has Moderated. So says the report. What that means is that household debt is still rising, but not as fast as it was. If a report said, "Flood waters are still rising, but not as fast," observers at a distance would consider that good news. But the people already under water and those about to be flooded would probably not cheer.

The report notes that the main reason for this trend is that consumer credit, while still growing, is not growing as fast. The main factor appears to be a slow-down in the growth of personal lines of

credit (note, again, that growth continues, just not as fast).

Consumer insolvencies (is that a synonym for bankruptcies?) have also declined in 2010 and the first quarter of 2011.

Concern # 1 – Household Balance Sheet Has Not Improved, the report tells us. Many people whose income declined reported increased indebtedness (wow!), but so did many people whose income increased. The main cause of increasing debt is day-to-day living expenses — people are buying food, clothing and (particularly) durable goods with their credit cards or lines of credit, because they do not have enough cash.

Homeowner's equity continues to decline as lines-of-credit debt grows (though more slowly).

Concern # 2 – The Overall Positive Trend in Household Debt Is Not Equally Shared Among Households, says the report. In fact, the poor get poorer — so do young people and families with children, probably proving that the part-time, minimum wage or self-employed jobs of which the government is so proud are not much help.

More seniors and pre-sen-

iors continue to pay mortgages.

Concern # 3 – Households' Ability to Pay May Be at Risk. That may be a bit of an understatement. Most people did not get an increase in income; lower-than-expected income led to many debt problems.

In the aftermath of the recession, Canadians are saving less; many are saving nothing even for retirement, not surprising when they are borrowing money to buy groceries — if they can.

In spite of all the bragging by the government about the recovery, job creation has not kept up with growth in the working-age population, long-term unemployment is growing, hidden unemployment is high, and the unemployment rate among young workers, according to the report is about 20% ("one in five").

Apart from youth, the report says, a number of other vulnerable populations exist; those are lone parents, self-employed and individuals with low educational attainment.

Concern # 4 – Pan-Canadian Perspective Does Not Reflect Significant Regional Differences. The report discusses regional differences, and concludes, among

others things, that statistics can mask some pretty horrible stuff. (The words of the report were, "Second, focusing on the aggregate household sector conceals the fact that financial situation (*sic*) of certain groups of households may be much worse than average." No kidding.)

The report continues:

"In summary, a number of points are worth revisiting.

"First, the positive signs of improving labour market conditions portrayed by the unemployment rate and the hiring intentions of firms may be deceptive. Labour market conditions continue to be fairly weak: the market's ability to keep up with the increase in working age population recovers slowly (and even deteriorates in some of the provinces); the long-term unemployment rate continues to increase while the decline in the proportion of discouraged workers has not yet materialized. Weak labour market conditions may suppress the short-to-medium term growth in earnings while increased and more prolonged absence of employment may decrease individual's life-long earnings.

"Second, certain socio-economic groups (i.e. youth, workers with low educational attainment, lone parents, and self-employed) may be seen as vulnerable as they are faced with higher labour market stress due to elevated likelihood of longer-term unemployment and reduced employment options.

"Third, individuals in vulnerable groups that reside in provinces having a weak labour market may be at a higher risk of elevated financial stress.

"Fourth, the recent recession and economic recovery brought only slight improvements to the conventional savings out of income; at the same time, accumulation of savings through wealth has been weakening in the past several years. Neither active savings from income, nor passive savings through equity are evenly distributed across provinces and households. The lack (or low levels) of active savings may jeopardize individual's ability to pay and honour debt obligations in the future."

Put more grossly, there are not enough jobs, so people have no money. Some groups are suffering more than others. People in some geographical areas are also suffering more. Because people can not save, they may be unable to pay their debts in the future.

After all that, the report

concludes its conclusions by observing that: "The case for accumulation of savings has not materially changed and a balanced approach to spending, saving and paying down debt may be a more desirable option than venturing into consumerism culture that has become typical for Canadian households over the past decades."

So, it seems, saving is still a good idea (even if it means eating less?)

Section 8 of the report, which contains recommendations, shows again that the well-off really can not understand the plight of the poor, and usually have little useful advice. After all the discussion of debt, lack of jobs, inadequacy of income, and so on, the best the report can advise is:

"It should also be recognized that the quest of moderating debt growth and tempering the culture of consumerism is subject to a fine balance between seemingly conflicting 'wants' of today and 'needs' of tomorrow and the freedom of personal choice. Today, 'wants' of individuals are often skewed towards indulging in pleasures of consumption which also serve well the 'wants' of policy-makers who recognizes (*sic*) that strong household spending is essential to the growth of the Canadian economy. The 'needs' of building up savings for achieving high (*sic*) level of living standards tomorrow is likewise well recognized by both individuals and policy-makers. However, acting on this recognition is often a challenge, particularly so because apportioning of individual income and wealth over the span of the lifetime (*sic*) is a matter of personal choices and freedoms."

In other words, once more, the problem is not jobs and income, but consumerism and poor choices by the needy. This even though, in the body of the report, the role of consumerism in the growth of debt is down-played.

The solutions are, accordingly: increase financial literacy; put the literacy into practice; apply behavioural economics and psychology to induce Canadians to save more; stimulate the economy with more incentives to business, and expand and diversify foreign trade (including more free trade agreements); improve monitoring of household debt; and increase cooperation among various levels of government and other institutions to tackle local specifics.

The economic disaster not only impoverished Canadians, it seems, but also made us into ignorant hedonists

(Did you notice, by any chance, that there was no Positive Trend #2?)

— W. Szczesny

How's the Job Market?

On the morning of June 10, Statistics Canada released its Labour Force Survey for May.

The report opened with the apparently good news that employment had risen by 22,000, bringing the total of jobs created in the last 12 months to 273,000.

In spite of the added jobs, the official unemployment rate is only down by 0.2%, to 7.4%.

Even that was achieved only because fewer people were looking for work. The work force, which is people

with jobs and people officially looking for jobs shrank in five provinces.

There were actually 7,300 fewer employees in May, compared to April, and 29,500 more self-employed (who are considered to have jobs).

The drop in the number of employees was a reflection of the attack on public sector jobs, of which 44,300 were lost. Manufacturing also continued to decline, with 22,500 jobs lost.

The big gains were in "trade", where 37,200 jobs

(retail and food services among them) opened up, and self-employed (door-to-door sales, for example).

Of the 22,000 net added jobs, 25,000 were added in Quebec, 8,500 were added in Alberta, and 2,500 in Saskatchewan. Three provinces added 36,000, for a net 22,000.

What's going on?

Well, for one thing, Ontario lost 16,000 jobs.

This is not a pretty picture, especially if, as is increasingly feared, the USA (Canada's best customer) goes into a second dip, taking much of the world with it. Then, too there is Europe — Greece *et al.*

(chicken instead of beef, perhaps) to moving to cheaper (and less healthful) processed foods. In Britain, about 41% have changed their diets for financial reasons; in the United States the number is 31%

Canada was not included in the study, but an earlier study (done by EKOS for Oxfam Canada) showed 66% concerned about food prices, but only 17% acting on it. Over half of Canadians changed for health reasons.

Rising Prices Means Poorer diets

A 17-country study conducted by GlobeScan for Oxfam shows that rising food prices are driving even further down the quality of diets of the world's poorest people. However, people in wealthier countries are also changing what they eat because of rising prices.

In Kenya, where most peo-

ple have less than a dollar a day, almost 80% had downgraded their diet.

The changes are both in quantity of food (fewer meals, smaller portions) and quality (changing rice and beans to mostly rice, say).

In richer countries, changes may range from switching to cheaper cuts or kinds

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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

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

PUBLICATIONS MAIL REGISTRATION No. 40009476

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

G20 Police Lawlessness

AN EDITORIAL by WILFRED SZCZESNY

A year later, Toronto Police Chief Bill Blair explains the problems of G20 policing in Toronto in June, 2010. Thousands of police in riot gear, he says, were overwhelmed by the demonstrations, ill prepared and hampered by poor communications. As ridiculous an explanation as that is for the day of the demonstration, it is even sillier as an explanation for the behaviour of police in the week or more preceding the June 26, 2010, events.

In that week, police totally abused their powers and treated the public as a hostile mass with no rights. There were repeated instances of arbitrary and illegal search and seizure, unjustified detention, threats of assault uttered (and in some instances perpetrated on) to people who were guilty of no offence other than coming to the notice of an officer or officers.

The latest revelation is the case of Sean Salvati. On June 23, 2010, Mr. Salvati uttered a sentence which two officers chose to interpret as disrespectful. The man was arrested, strip searched, marched naked and in handcuffs between rooms in a police station in front of a female officer (an event captured on camera), and (he claims) beaten. He was denied access to a lawyer, and released some eleven hours later.

The charge on which he was supposedly arrested was never filed.

Other people were arrested in what can only be called preventative detention, and held in jail for varying lengths of time without such detention ever having been shown to be justified, and any charges eventually dropped.

Then there is June 26 itself, a day during which police stood by while vandals wreaked destruction, and then used that destruction as justification for totally brutal attacks on peaceful demonstrators and even bystanders. It should be recalled that this police lawlessness was applauded by most of the mass news media and politicians at all levels and of all stripes, including (to his lasting shame) then Mayor David Miller.

The police attacks on the public included "kettling", which the courts in England have ruled illegal, and which Chief Blair now concedes should not have been used.

For all the police wrongdoing, including removal of their identification (which suggests premeditation, or at least contemplation of the possibility) only two have been charged to date — as a result of investigation by the *Toronto Star*. The brotherhood code of silence is strong.

The G20 police lawlessness, tolerated without consequence, can only undermine community law and order.

COMMENTARY

Whither the AUUC?

At its June, 2011, meeting, the National Committee of the Association of United Ukrainian suggested that the "UCH" print articles discussing the future of the AUUC.

The concern was that the organization was not attracting new members, particularly people who would become the leaders of the future. Unless the AUUC can overcome that situation, its future is limited.

Currently, there are several currents in the discussion of the future of the AUUC. There are those who argue that the AUUC can not re-

solve this problem, and should plan its own orderly demise. Others maintain that the best hope for the future of the AUUC is in the AUUC Calgary Branch model; that is, as a Ukrainian performing arts (mainly dance) organization. Still others argue that the solution is in a return to AUUC roots as a left-wing, socially active organization with a strong performing arts component. These and several other ideas come in a variety of variants.

Unfortunately for the present leadership of the AUUC,

From Our Readers

I love reading the "UCH". I really appreciate all you do to ensure that we have a paper relevant to our Ukrainian community and one that we can be proud of.

I also appreciate the effort made by the contributors, especially Myron. His articles are usually the first I read. I actually feel guilty reading them, because I get to just sit and read the paper knowing that a lot of research was required to compile the information and then put pen to paper (or rather, fingers to the keyboard).

I don't know what we need to do to ensure its success, but we really, really need to find some young folk willing to put their heads together to help us find ways to increase our readership. Surely there must be some students who would be able to take something like this on as a project whereby they could make it part of their class work and get marks for it.

There's so much that needs to be done in our organization and so few of us. However, this year we have seen an amazing group of parents willing to work very hard. They decided on their own to start making perogies to sell; one day they sent out e-mails asking for plants to be donated,

and then they were weeding and planting to make the front yard look beautiful; the Night of Foolishness was a huge success, both financially and socially; now, they want to investigate getting grants for us.

Hopefully we can continue to build on this into the next season.

— Deb Karras
Vancouver, BC

* * *

Just to let you know how much I enjoyed reading about the AUUC's past. It brought back memories.

My parents were Pete and Wasylena Nowoselski, from Prud'homme, Saskatchewan. They were members of the AUUC.

As young children, my brother and I attended the Ukrainian Labour Temple, where we learned to play the mandolin, and read and write in Ukrainian. After the summer vacation, we put on a beautiful concert in the fall.

Even today there are still members in Winnipeg and Vancouver who originated in Prud'homme, such as the Stefaniuks and the Rutkas (Wishinskis).

Keep up the good work.

— Nettie Hryniuk
Saskatoon, Sask.

ps. Festival 100 in Regina was the best.

SEE US ON THE WEB!

Edmonton AUUC, Trembita Ensemble
www.ukrainiancentre-edm.ca

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

Taras Shevchenko Museum:
www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum

Vancouver AUUC
<http://www.auucvancouver.ca/>

Winnipeg AUUC
<http://ult-wpg.ca/>

other than the option of winding-up (which can, in principle, be done at any time), there is no immediately evident viable model. Worse, there is no agreement on what the AUUC should be like, should it be possible to stimulate it into new growth.

The performing arts model which, at first glance, seems possible has very specific difficulties. The first of these is that most people who join for the dance classes have little interest in a broader leadership role. The answer to that might be to hire administrators and managers as needed, but the question which then arises is whether we need another dance school to join the scores which already exist.

The concept of an institution with broad interests, including performing and other arts — much like the AUUC of history — has much support, but inspires little confidence. The main counter-argument seems to be that there are not enough progressive (in this instance meaning left-wing) Ukrainian Canadians to make a go of it.

That argument has several assumptions which may or may not be true. Numbers is one, political orientation is another, ethnic identity is a third, just to mention a few.

What is clear is that the path forward for the AUUC will not be found easily. It will require long and hard thought, more than a little research, and then a desire to devote the resources required to build, whatever the model, including a personal commitment of time and energy and an institutional commitment of money and other resources.

The thought has to be devoted at least in part to determining whether the AUUC can identify issues which are of concern to potential members, and at least in part, too, if such issues are found, to finding the organizational forms, techniques and tools which will permit reaching potential members and enlisting their participation.

Whether any of this is possible is yet to be determined. At the moment, the inside track in the AUUC is a contest between the dancers and the liquidationists. —Sz

ADVERTISING RATES

1 page \$600.00
1/2 \$350.00
Smaller Ads:
\$5.00 per col./cm
(or \$12.50 per col./inch)
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We invite readers to submit their views in letters to the editor. Letters must be signed. Letters may be edited, but their sense will not be changed.

AUUC Winnipeg Spring Concert

On May 15, the AUUC Winnipeg Branch held its Spring Concert at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, with Kim Boss as Master of Ceremonies.

The program got under way

with a presentation of "Pyrogy Polka" by the Zaychyky dancers of the dance school. The group returned in the second half to dance the "Volyn Polka".

The Zaychyky group is in-



Zaychyky, the youngest students in the School of Folk Dance, opened the May 15 concert, to the delight of family and friends.

— Story photos: Wilf Schubert



The Iskry Dancers of the School of Folk Dance performed two dances on May 15.



The Zirka Dancers of the School of Dance staged three dances at the Spring Concert.



The Veselka Dancers, instructed by Justin McGillivray and Marissa Boss, is the pre-Yunist group in the School of Folk Dance in Winnipeg.

structed by Kirsten Schubert, with assistant Ataya Enns.

Second on the program were the Iskry, also of the dance school, who did the "Spring Kozachok". This group, which is instructed by Mykola Hedrich with assistant Deana Mailman, danced the "Hutzulka" in the second half.

The Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra, under the baton of Annis Kozub, performed two beautiful and well-loved numbers in the first half: "The

Linden Tree" and "Bereznianka". In the second half, the orchestra presented two numbers which would be less recognizable to AUUC audiences across the country: "Oblivion" and "Goodbye for Now".

The Zirka group, instructed by Kim Boss, with assistant Ataya Enns, performed three numbers, beginning with "Russian Dance" and "Hutzul Kozachok" in the first half, and concluding with "Pizzicato Polka" in the second part of

the program.

Veselka performed one dance in the first half of the program — "Polissia". In the second half they returned with two dances: "Uvavonets", a production number featuring the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra and the Festival Choir, which opened the second half, and a "Kozachok" which closed the concert.

The Veselka group is instructed by Justin McGillivray and Marissa Boss.

Justin McGillivray and Kirsten Schubert are directors of the dance school.

The Festival Choir, conducted by Vasylyna Streltsov, sang four numbers in the first half, including Oscar Brand's "Something to Sing About" and three Ukrainian numbers: "Oy pid hayem, hayem", "Misytsyu knyazyu", and "Susidko".

The Yunist dance group, instructor Tom Mokry, ended the first half with Podolyanochka", their sole appearance on the program.

Appearing with their only number, "Hutzul", in the second half was Prystuk, with instructor Scott Mulla and assistant Maria Hrabarchuk.



The Yunist Dance Ensemble, instructed by Tom Mokry, is the top AUUC dance group in Winnipeg. They presented one dance at the Spring Concert.



The Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra, conducted by Annis Kozub, may play in the dark below the stage, but their music lightens the audience's hearts.



The Festival Choir, formed in preparation for the AUUC national festival in Regina in 2005, is currently conducted by Vasylyna Streltsov.

Festival of Mandolins

The 2011 Festival of Mandolins, featuring the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, was held at the Ukrainian Labour Temple on May 14.

The 22-piece orchestra (including the guest on woodwinds) was conducted by Annis Kozub; associate conductor is first mandolin player Ian Walker.

Guest performer with the orchestra was Honor Gouriluk on flute and piccolo.

Featured on the bill were a Leno Guzman accordion solo, and vocals to his own guitar accompaniment by the well known aboriginal entertainer Winston Wuttunee.

Mr. Guzman is a member of the orchestra

Guest artists at the concert were the Squirrel Creek Ramblers, a blue grass group from Brandon, Manitoba.

MC was Tusia Kozub.



The Prystuk Dance Ensemble, instructed by choreographer Scott Mulla and assistant Maria Hrabarchuk, consists of older dancers and senior beginners.

Vancouver AUUC Dancers Win 6 Trophies

What started out as a drizzly and cool May 7 turned out to be a day of phenomenal achievements for the AUUC School of Dancing and the senior dancers of the AUUC, Dovbush, through their participation in the Ukrainian Cultural

Festival held in Mission, BC. The 16th annual Ukrainian community event was well attended by eleven dance schools coming from all over the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island, Seattle, and the Interior of British Columbia.

The theatre was packed with spectators, all there to enjoy the many treats that the Festival had to offer.

This annual event presents a full day of Ukrainian dance performed by age groups ranging from 6 and under up to senior groups of 15-18 year olds. In addition there are musical demonstrations, displays of arts and crafts, and (as no festival is complete without food) authentic Ukrainian fare.

This year, the festival also included a comprehensive demonstration of embroidery patterns from different ethnic regions of the Ukraine. The embroidery exhibition featured work by Slavomyra Yashchuk (1932-2005), generously sponsored by her son Yuri.

An early morning start saw the AUUC's youngest entrants in the competition, the Zirka dancers (age 7-10), perform a beautifully executed "Hutsulka", taught by instructor Karli Dionne and her assistant Meghan Fung. The Zirka dancers won the school's first trophy of the day, scoring 91 points to achieve first place in the "Mixed Group 12 and under" category. They came home with the Fraser Valley Ukrainian Cultural Society Trophy.

Dr. Andriy Nahachewsky, one of the foremost academic authorities in Ukrainian dance in Canada today and a dance teacher of 25 years, with experience performing with Shumka and Cheremosh, adjudicated the dance competition. He offered each group of performers feedback and advice on their presentations. To the youngest, he suggested they focus on musical phrases and beat, encouraging the whole audience to stand up and perform a basic routine. Undoubtedly the young performers got a real kick out of watching their supporters attempting a "step, hop, step, hop" to the beat!

As the performers increased in age and experience throughout the day, feedback included focusing on size of movements, and on spotting.

This level of performance included a delightful character dance by the AUUC's Sopilka Dancers (age 10 and under), who performed "The Fishermen", about a group of boys who catch something rather bigger than a fish!

A gold-medal performance was presented by AUUC's 11-14-year-old group, the Druzhiba Dancers, instructed by Danya Karras, who wowed the crowd with their "Kozachok".

Dr. Nahachewsky's feedback for the senior dancers (Continued on Page 7.)



The AUUC's Sopilka Dancers took first prize for "The Fishermen", about a group of boys who catch something rather bigger than a fish!

— Photo: Scott Alpen



Danielle Stickney and Montana Hunter of the Dovbush Dancers show the spirit which led to a trophy win for "Bereznyanka".

— Photo: Dan Fung



Taralyn Karras in a spectacular moment from the Dovbush Dancers' first place trophy winning "Kolomeyky".

— Photo: Scott Alpen



The Dovbush Dancers were awarded a first place trophy for "Kolomeyky".

— Photo: Scott Alpen



The Dovbush Dancers' "Viteretz" earned the highest mark awarded that day.

— Photo: Scott Alpen



The women of the Dovbush Dancers contributed to the group's win of a first place trophy for "Bukovinsky tanets".

— Photo: Steve Hnatiuk



The Dovbush Dancers won a first place trophy for their "Bereznyanka".

— Photo: Dan Fung



The Druzhiba Dancers, instructed by Danya Karras, wowed the crowd with their "Kozachok", to win a gold medal.



The Dovbush Dancers accepted the first-place trophy for their "Hopak".

— Photo: Scott Alpen

— Photo: Dan Fung

Edmonton Seniors' May Gathering

The May gathering of the Edmonton AUUC seniors started on a quiet note of reverence as President Pauline Warick led us in a moment of silence in memory of Jennie Franchuk, who passed away unexpectedly on May 16, 2011. Through the years, Jennie and her family were most active in the hall. Jennie belonged to the orchestra, and the seniors, and she carpet bowled. Her late husband and her children were in dance and theatre as well. They performed in the production of "The Pencil".

A hot meal, prepared by our own volunteers, was enjoyed and appreciated as usual.

When people were on their desserts, Bill Uhryn gave recognition to Maurice and Pauline Warick, the birthday celebrants for May, whose birth dates are a week apart! As is usual, they were recognized with "Happy Birth-

day" and "*Mnohaya leeta*", a toast of wine, lighting of candles on the cup cakes, and the making of the BIG wish! May all their wishes come true!

Maurice is our resident joke teller. Each month Maurice greets us with jokes to make our day happy as we go about preparing the food, dressing the tables, and preparing for the gathering. This time Bill shared some good jokes with Maurice and the crowd.

Pauline is very proud to be a "coal miner's daughter", so Bill sang "Men of the Deep" for her.

Following the social, we were again blessed with a very able speaker arranged by Eva Doskoch, our program coordinator. Carol Wodak shared her knowledge and experience of the "Aging Problems of Seniors" in Alberta.

Ms. Wodak made her presentation very interesting by talking about then and now, and by making reference to



Edmonton senior Billy Maxim was pleased with the new chair lift at the AUUC Edmonton hall.

her family.

At the age of 14, at the turn to the 20th century, Carol's grandfather in England was apprenticed to be a woodworker. Then there was no public health system, no social assistance, no doctor or hospital, no fire service or insurance, no pensions and no health care insurance and no income tax!

Ms. Wodak, who maintains that, "Everyone does better when everyone does better," presented a chronology:

- Old Age Pensions (OAS, GIS) 1927, 1951, 1966
- Unemployment Insurance 1942
- Family Allowances 1945
- Hospital Insurance 1957, 1966
- Canada Pension Plan 1966
- Social Housing 1945
- Canada Health Act 1984, 1966, 2004

In Alberta, in 1950, the province started to fund acute and chronic care hospitals, and seniors' lodges. Next, in 1964, came the Nursing Home Act to fund and regulate safety and services in nursing homes.

In 1978 home care nursing and support services for seniors became available.

Now, since the mid-80s, elder care has changed. We were told that we needed to reduce costs for sustainability, give people choices and dignity, and allow people to age in place. What we got were unbundled and fragmented services, incentives for private providers, fewer services and less care; costs shifting to the user; longer wait lists and times, unreasonable reliance on family care-givers, and bed-blockers to name a few.

Now, in lodges, we are responsible for basic furnishings, oxygen, dressing and incontinent supplies, resident nurse staff, health care professional services, medically required transportation, and medications to name a few.

The new plan consists of

redesigning the assessment of care needs so that it becomes harder for an individual to qualify, enhancing the self-managed home care problem, restricting access to nursing homes, changing the nursing-home fee structure, along with increasing public funding for private housing and nursing home providers.

Since 2006, Alberta's waiting lists have tripled to 2000.

The monthly resident accommodation fees for long term care have gone from about \$450 in 1982 to approximately \$1700 in 2010.

In 2010, the average seniors' rent in Edmonton was \$3055/month with 1.5 hours of care/day. In Calgary the rate was approximately \$600 more per month.

Carol Wodak prepared graphs from data provided by Alberta Finance 2006 to show the average senior's distribution of income in Alberta:

60.30% have incomes under \$24,000 annually, while 13.90% have incomes over \$48,000.

Ms. Wodak asks, "How do we get there from here?" "The difficulty here is not a failure to understand the extent of our difficulties; it is the lack of a focus, an organizing principle for change. We must state our goals clearly if we wish to reach them".

Ms. Wodak's address clearly and forcefully showed us that the reality of being a senior in Alberta is much different from the grinning, fun loving faces of seniors in the advertisement for seniors' lodges!

The June 21 gathering of the Edmonton seniors, will be devoted to Club housekeeping and elections. The Edmonton Senior Citizen's Club will resume its social programming September 20, 2011.

— Shirley Uhryn

AUUC Toronto Bazaar

— Photo: Jerry Dobrowsky



On Saturday, May 28, AUUC Toronto Branch presented its Annual Bazaar at the AUUC Cultural Centre. The event attracted a variety of visitors whose options included: arts and crafts; a bake table offering bread, pies and muffins; and a white elephant table. They could amuse themselves with a Tarot card reading or Bingo, and ease their hunger pangs with a selection of coffee and sweets, hot dogs, sausages and soft drinks. The buyers found bargains galore, and the Branch made enough money to consider a repeat next year.

Vancouver AUUC

(Continued from Page 6.) began with an emphasis on the three stages required to turn a dance into a work of art:

1. know your choreography;
2. polish every movement; and
3. presentation.

Dovbush, the senior dance group of the Vancouver AUUC, under the direction of Caitlynn Schell, undoubtedly accomplished these three steps to creating works of art, as they performed five dances that afternoon and came home with no fewer than five first-place trophies!

Their repertoire for the day included "*Kolomeyky*", "*Viteretz*" (which received a 97%, the highest mark of the

day), "*Bereznyanka*", "*Bukovinsky tanets*" and a hopak.

All of their dances were taught to them by Sergei Makarov at dance seminars at Sylvan Lake and in Vancouver.

After the festival, a family *zabava* was held, giving the dancers and guests the opportunity to continue their appreciation of Ukrainian dance and music. The party is a fun way to bring to a close a full day of competition which draws groups from many different regions of BC and the West Coast, and allows for an exchange of ideas, a renewal of spirit and a celebration of culture.

— Chiara Hnatiuk



As usual, everyone attending enjoyed the varied buffet prepared by volunteers.



May celebrants Pauline and Maurice Warick mark their birthdays one week apart.



As arranged by program coordinator Eva Doskoch, guest speaker Carol Wodak made an interesting presentation about the aging problems of seniors in Alberta.

**Sent as a
separate
page.**

Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewich

Fraud Punished

A US federal judge has ordered an American company in the state of Oregon to pay \$60 million to a Ukrainian government entity in a civil-racketeering lawsuit that has revealed a web of companies allegedly tied to fraudulent schemes in Eastern Europe.

The judge entered a default judgement against Oregon-based Olden Group, ordering it to pay triple the amount sought by the Ukrainian government agency Ukrvaksina. Ukrvaksina alleged that it was overcharged for vaccines by Olden.

The lawsuit, filed last year, stems from an investigation ordered by Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich's internal government watchdog unit into medical purchases during the prior administration. The Oregon lawsuit alleged that Olden entered into sham contracts with a Ukrainian firm, Interfarm LLC, to submit phoney customs declarations that misrepresented the prices paid for vaccines.

The money Interfarm obtained from overcharging the Ukrainians was laundered using US and Latvian bank accounts.

Holiday Plans

About 40% of Ukrainians are planning to spend their vacations at home this summer. This is evidenced by the results of a study conducted by the sociological group Rating in early June.

Another 10% of respondents are planning to go their cottage. About 25% may visit the Black or Azov Sea, 5% will visit the Carpathians, while only 3% will travel abroad.

Overall, one in six Ukrainians is unlikely to have any holidays this summer.

UEFA Preparations

Preparations for the Euro 2012 European Football (soccer - **gb**) Championships are well under way.

With only 11 months left before the opening matches, the excitement is starting to build.

About 80 members of the international media have been touring the eight host cities — four in Ukraine (Kyiv, Lviv, Donetsk, Kharkiv) and four in Poland (Poznan, Gdansk, Warsaw, Poznan).

Sales of tickets for the Championship matches between June 8 and July 1, 2012, closed on March 31, 2011, with an impressive total of over 12 million ticket requests made by fans worldwide. This

sets an all-time record for the UEFA European Football Championship and represents an increase of more than 17% from UEFA Euro 2008.

The tremendous success of the ticket sales proves the huge interest of football supporters towards UEFA Euro 2012, and clearly shows that the event is eagerly awaited not only in the two host nations, but also all around the globe. Millions of fans are looking forward to a festive celebration of the best European national teams' football has to offer in the summer of 2012 in Ukraine and Poland.

Moose Jaw

Moose Jaw is a Canadian city located in south-central Saskatchewan. Moose Jaw Mayor Glenn Hagel has been collecting a lot of frequent flyer miles.

Recently he was in Halifax. In June, Hagel was part of a Canadian delegation making presentations in Ukraine. The delegation is representing the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Hagel says they'll share success stories and talk with Ukrainians about how Canada weathered the global economic crisis.

"While we're there we'll meet with the Association of Ukrainian Cities. There are 12 cities in Ukraine and 12 cities in Canada that are collaborating."

In August, Ukrainian delegates will come to Canada for a tour and Moose Jaw is one of the host communities. Delegates want to take a closer look at our regional approach to the economy.

Hagel is also excited about taking part in the trip because of the connection Ukraine has with Saskatchewan. Ukrainian immigrants make up a significant amount of the local population and Hagel says that the famous perogy is often thought of as a Saskatchewan food.

Weapons Sales

Ethiopia has signed a \$100 million deal with Ukraine to buy more than 200 tanks. This is the eighth largest contract signed by Ukraine's state-controlled arms exporter in 15 years.

The news agency UKRINFORM reports that UKR-SPECEXPORT SC signed the deal.

The tanks are an upgraded version of the Soviet-designed T-72, which were known as the Soviet Union's premier weapons systems and had high demand in African, Asian, and Middle Eastern nations. The tanks were originally manufactured in the Soviet Union in the 1970s.

Critics of the government find fault with the administration's military deals, saying that expenditure on procuring weapons is not rational for a country dependent on foreign aid and fighting poverty.

After the dismemberment of the Soviet Union, important military production infrastructure was left in Ukraine. The country continues to supply tanks, aircraft, and other important Soviet military hardware at low cost to other countries.

Mysterious Murder

The battered body of Ukrainian model Katya Koren was found half-buried in a forest near her home in the Crimea region.

All reports — from the media, the police, and from religious spokespersons — agree on this one fact. From there on, everyone seems to have a different version of events.

The *Daily Mail* (a British newspaper) states that Ms. Koren was Muslim, and was stoned to death by three Muslim youths for breaking Sharia law by appearing in a beauty contest. One of the suspects, named as 16-year-old Bihal Gaziev, was quoted as telling police that he has no regrets about her death.

Another version is that of the Chairman of the Mejlis (Tatar parliament in Crimea), Mustafa Abdulcemil Qirimoglu, who claimed that one of the teenagers had been detained by the police and was tortured into accepting the blame for the murder. According to the Chairman, "The killing was covered in a distorted way, and made to look like a religiously motivated murder by the media around the world. The girl was not Muslim." He further added that she was Christian with Russian ancestry.

Muslim Tatars make up 12% of the population in Crimea.

The police version is different again. Sergei Reznikov, a senior policeman involved in the case, stated that Koren was raped and killed by a deranged and psychologically disturbed classmate and that there was no religious reason for the murder.

The mystery of Koren's murder remains unsolved.

Travel On A Budget

Ukraine isn't the first destination to top everybody's list, but it should be. The former Soviet republic is a prime destination for history buffs, outdoorsmen, and adventure travellers alike.

The capital city, Kyiv, which

was founded in the 5th century, has been overrun and occupied by the Khazars, the Mongolians, the Lithuanians, and the Nazis, among others, but still stands proudly today as home to roughly 2.7 million people.

The country has ramped up construction ahead of their co-hosting gig (along with their western neighbour, Poland) of the Euro Football Championships in 2012.

Matches will be held in the Ukrainian cities of Kyiv, Donetsk, Lviv, and Kharkiv, and the country has furiously worked at creating a new concourse at the Kyiv airport, as well as ample hotel rooms for tourists and viewers alike.

Major international airlines such as Delta, Swissair, Continental, KLM, and British Airways, all fly (with stopovers) from New York's JFK airport to Kyiv.

(A quick check shows that flights start around \$1,400 with a stopover).

Bandera Busted

The infamous Ukrainian Nazi collaborator Stepan Bandera, once declared a "Hero of Ukraine" during the government of the Orange Revolution's Viktor Yushchenko, had his title revoked by the Ukrainian courts, as reported in *The New York Times*.

Although the German tyrant Adolf Hitler considered the Slavs as *untermenschen* (inferior race), he and his gang of Nazi collaborators saw as an important element in the policy of racial elimination to use Jews against Jews through armed detachments called Kapos, responsible for maintaining repression in the ghettos and concentration camps. In this way, while invading Ukraine, the Nazis used movements whose roots were in western Ukraine, formerly under Polish rule, which came to be incorporated into the USSR only in 1939.

It is noteworthy that, ironically, names such as Stepan Bandera, previously a prisoner of Polish justice, was freed by the Soviets, since the laws of the USSR did not recognize the right of the then extinct Polish state.

With the invasion of German fascists, the movement known as the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists — Ukrainian Liberation Army (OUN-UPA), actually a pseudonym for the Nazi organization, together with the organization of a similar name with Andrei Melnyk, acted as pit bull for Hitler in Ukraine, promoting atrocities against the local population who did not adhere to their movement, mostly non-combatant civil-

ians.

Collaborationist activities of this organization of thugs and criminals have been documented by the U.S. Army in at least nine intelligence files.

Shut Up!

A Ukrainian city has passed a law banning dogs from barking between 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. to make life quieter for residents. Owners of animals flouting the edict in the city of Kherson will face fines of up to \$100.00.

The rule, which is among measures aimed at "maintaining cleanliness and order", also applies to cats meowing and pigs grunting, according to reports.

Opponents have queried how the laws will be enforced. (Will the animals be notified by government mail, or will they have to read in the newspapers, that such a law has been passed? - **gb**).

Israeli Justice

A Palestinian engineer, Dirar Abu Sisi, disappeared while travelling by train from the Ukrainian city of Kharkiv to Kyiv last February. Several days later, he surfaced in an Israeli prison.

According to him, he was kidnapped by Israeli agents, hooded, handcuffed, forced onto a plane, and flown to Israel. According to Israeli prosecutors, he was a key member of a terrorist organization (Hamas) and received training in missile engineering from a top Ukrainian aerospace institute.

Ukraine's largest newspaper, the Russian-language *Segodnya*, investigated, and found that almost every detail of Abu Sisi's education in Ukraine as alleged by Israeli prosecutors was wrong.

Israel's Justice Ministry stated that the engineer received his doctorate at Kharkiv's Military Engineering Academy, where he was taught by Konstantin Petrovich, a leading Soviet missile scientist.

Segodnya found that Abu Sisi never studied there. His education in Kharkiv was limited to post-graduate study in the Academy of City Management, where he received training in the operation of municipal power plants. He obtained his doctoral degree, also in electric power management from an institute in Zaporizhia specializing in civil engineering.

The newspaper published a copy of a diploma showing that Abu Sisi graduated from the Zaporizhia Technical Institute. Zaporizhia Institute has never performed aerospace training of any kind.

(Continued on Page 12.)

Festival 100 a Resounding Success

The highly anticipated concerts of Festival 100 have come to pass, the centenary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada has been celebrated in dance and in song. Sponsored by the AUUC and WBA, the Festival 100 concert in Toronto vividly demonstrated the depth of talent of the associated cultural forces. Following concerts in Edmonton and Winnipeg, Toronto's Massey Hall, on June 28th, resounded with the centenary program, 2 years in the preparation. The Toronto audience saw and heard over 300 performers from eight Canadian cities, including the participation of the Shevchenko Musical Ensemble, plus guest performers from Ukraine.

The Festival 100 concert in Toronto's Massey Hall was a triumph of community based performance and artistry. The concert proved that the combined cultural groups of the AUUC, WBA and Shevchenko Musical Ensemble (SME) stand second to none in the Ukrainian Canadian community. This was amateur performance in the best sense of the word — participation for the love of it and a devoted drive to excellence.

Undoubtedly many mem-

bers of the Ukrainian Canadian community were surprised to find so many performers taking the stage as a unified and cohesive, body. As many will agree, the mere fact of assembling such a number of performers from far-flung locales to perform in unison is a major accomplishment. This is an achievement not only by Ukrainian Canadian community standards but also in broader Canadian terms. As such it represents the continued viability of the organizations that united for Festival 100, organizations that trace back to the early years of Ukrainian Canadian history.

This feat of volunteer activity received a certain recognition by government bodies, the mainstream media, and some of the other Ukrainian organizations. Introductory greetings representing provincial governments were delivered at all three concerts. In Toronto the Massey Hall audience was addressed by city councillor and mayoral candidate Jack Layton and Ontario Minister of Citizenship Elaine Ziemba (NDP, High Park-Swansea). Media exposure was obtained in all three centres and some Ukrainian organizations and institutions

cooperated in displaying posters and broadcasting community announcements.

The concert program fulfilled the promise of a Canadian focus for this celebration and dedication to the Ukrainian pioneers. Divided into three parts, "This Is Who We Are", "Pages From Our Past" and "Our Future", the program summed up a unique perspective on Ukrainian Canadian life.

'UC' readers will be familiar with the Festival 100 program, successful in all three cities. Our previous issue presented a review of the Winnipeg concert and in May the Edmonton performance was reported on. Audience members in Toronto found many highly memorable elements in Festival 100. For instance: the brisk pacing of Myron Shatulsky's introductory section and the poetry of Al Lapchuk's narration. The *Lisoruby* (Logger's Dance) was a uniquely Ukrainian Canadian interpretation with the men in blue-jeans and check shirts. The mandolin orchestra achieved a high technical level, especially evident in the "Zaporizhian March". In "Ohni Horyat", a challenging piece with subtle key changes

From Our History

In 1991, the Ukrainian Canadian community celebrated the centennial of Ukrainian immigration to Canada. The Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, in cooperation with the workers Benevolent Association and the Shevchenko Musical Ensemble, staged a multifaceted celebration which included a festival concert presented in Edmonton, Winnipeg and Toronto.

On September 7, 2011, 120 years will have passed since the first two Ukrainian settlers landed in Montreal. On this page, to mark the 120th anniversary, we reprint the report of Festival 100 which appeared in the September, 1991, issue of *The Ukrainian Canadian*, as well as information about local celebrations from the October issue.

and soaring solos, the combined choirs surpassed themselves. The widely-held opinion is that the Ukrainian guest artists fitted in appropriately with the concert theme. Vocal soloists Lidia Kondrashevska and Stepan Hyha with accompanist Myron Cherepanin on accordion were eminently polished and enjoyable.

This Ukrainian Canadian concert appropriately drew on talents from all centres represented at the concert. Dances were staged by leading dancers or directors from Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg and Toronto, many numbers were arranged and orchestrated in Winnipeg,

the narration was written in Regina, vocal soloists came from Toronto, Welland's Bandura Ensemble was featured, and behind the entire concert stood the centennial logo, designed in Sudbury by Oryst Sawchuk.

It should be noted that Festival 100 was largely financed by participants and AUUC and WBA members. True, the concert at Massey Hall received support from the governments of Ontario and Metro Toronto, and the sincerest gratitude is due to the people who made this possible. As well, Society Ukraina of Kiev must be acknowledged for sending the talented performers from Ukraine. Nevertheless, the majority of costs were paid for out of the pockets of dedicated participants, members and supporters.

All things considered the Festival 100 concert in Toronto was one that the AUUC, WBA and SME could be justly proud of. A fine sounding orchestra, with a strong choir and dynamic dancers worked together in a presentation that ranks as a major achievement for our Ukrainian Canadian organizations. In his speech at the concert, AUUC President Peter Krawchuk noted the participation of the Shevchenko Musical Ensemble to Festival 100. Special mention should be made since the SME participated in all three festival concerts, in ever-increasing numbers, and the contribution of the SME to the success of the Massey Hall concert would be hard to overestimate.

As we here in Toronto have seen, the concert at Massey Hall and the all-day festival at Palermo, June 29, proved to be powerful stimuli for activity. It would seem appropriate to conserve and utilize the momentum built from these centennial projects. It would not be out of place to suggest the continuation of events, building on successes to stimulate further activity.

Most certainly Festival 100 can be regarded as an unqualified success. It can fairly be said that mounting three near-nation-wide concerts, and an

(Continued on Page 12.)

Ukrainian Pioneer Day Commemorated

In Winnipeg

Pioneer Day was marked in Winnipeg on September 7, the exact date of the centennial of Ukrainian immigration to Canada. Mary Kardash was the M.C. for the banquet at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, sponsored by the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, the Workers Benevolent Association and the Ukrainian Senior Citizens Club.

The first after-dinner speaker was Anthony Bilecki, who spoke to the centennial theme. His comments were followed by a tribute to living pioneers of Ukrainian immigration who were 90 or more years old. Twelve of them were present at a special table of honour; an additional sixteen, whose names were read, were unable to attend.

The program continued with a presentation to William Philipowich by Kosty Kostaniuk on behalf of the Lesya Ukrainka choir and the Ukrainian Senior Citizens Club. The presentation was in the form of a scroll recognizing the ten decades of cultural leadership, especially in the field of music, provided by William Philipowich, who continues to conduct the choir.

A concert program was

provided by soprano Olga Botan, accompanied on the piano by Gladys Holland, and by the Kozub Family Singers.

An appeal by Elizabeth Bilecki for funds to defray the expenses of the centennial festivals earlier in the year generated donations exceeding \$5000.00.

In Thunder Bay

In Thunder Bay the marking of Ukrainian Pioneer Day on the centennial of Ukrainian immigration to Canada was held on September 7, with a banquet at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre. M.C. Walter Sloboda bade the capacity gathering welcome and spoke of the significance of the event.

The main address was given by Walter Trylinski, who spoke about the contribution of the Ukrainians in the building and development of Canada.

Greetings were delivered in person by Jack Masters, Mayor of Thunder Bay, Members of Parliament Joe Comuzzi and Iain Angus, and Members of Provincial Parliament Shelley Wark-Martyn and Lyn McLeod. Written greetings were received from the Embassy of the USSR.

Mayor Masters presented scrolls and the flags of

Canada, Ontario and Thunder Bay to his hosts (the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians and the Workers Benevolent Association). The hosts reciprocated with a gift for their guests: the official program of the three centennial festivals.

In Hamilton

The Hamilton Branch of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians marked the centennial of Ukrainian immigration to Canada with a well-attended concert and banquet at the Ukrainian Labour Temple on the afternoon of September 22.

The program included opening remarks by M.C. Nadia Pidruczny, trade union greetings delivered by Bert McClure, and a greeting from the National Executive Committee of the AUUC delivered by Natalka Mochoruk.

The concert program by the Hahilka Choir of the AUUC in Toronto, conducted by Natalka Mochoruk, highlighted the songs presented on Canada Day at the Ukrainian Summer Camp in Oakville. Adele Hnatiw-Bzovsky read the narrative which had been added to the songs to tell the story of the immigrants.

Appearing in duets during the concert were Loretta Meaker and Lorna Clark, and Merse Mochoruk and Wilfred Szczesny. Instrumental accompaniment was provided by

Anna Magus on the accordion and Peter Krochak on the piano.

Following the concert, a delicious dinner prepared by the women of the branch was served to the appreciative participants.

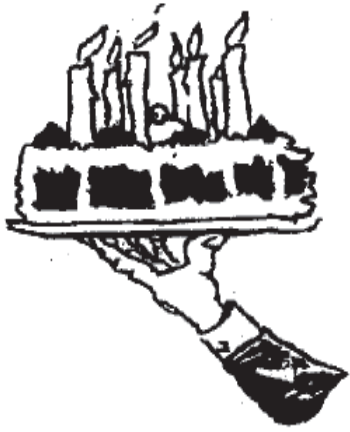
And in Toronto

Toronto-area residents marked Ukrainian Pioneer Day one day late, on September 8, with a banquet and dance at the Ukrainian Summer camp in Oakville/Palermo. M.C. George Moskal spoke about the particular significance of Ukrainian Pioneer Day this year, when the Ukrainian Canadian community is celebrating the centennial of Ukrainian immigration to Canada.

The after-dinner address was made by Nick Hrynchyshyn, who paid tribute to the accomplishments of the pioneers, noted the contributions made by Ukrainian Canadians to Canadian national life, reviewed some of the main centennial events (including three festivals and a heritage tour) organized by the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community, and spoke about world events (with particular emphasis on events in the USSR and Ukraine).

As has become traditional at this annual Ukrainian Pioneer Day banquet, dinner and the official ceremonies were followed by dancing to an orchestra.

Happy Birthday, Friends!



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

- Morindie Bagan
- Clara Capowski
- Edna Chmiliar
- Olga Horon
- Anne Kawchuk
- Bob Kisilevich
- Sylvia Lawrence
- Ann Parfeniuk
- Amil Tropak
- Mary Tropak
- Shirley Uhryn
- Marion Ursuliak

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

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

- Maggie Jenkins
- Vic Mihay
- Otti Nicolai
- Sophie Tkach
- Vicky Vuksinic
- S. Wachta

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

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

- Mary Blonar
- Mary Brown
- Mary Nehoda
- Dorothy Oreskovich

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

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

- Dorothy Boucock
- Anne Hunka
- Mike Moskal
- Rose Moskalyk
- Hal Porter
- Rosaline Theoret
- Olga Turko
- Christine Whatmough
- Robert Young

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

Who, What, When, Where

Toronto — The AUUC Toronto Branch and the Shevchenko Museum will host a **Canada Day/Shevchenko Day celebration** at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West on Friday, **July 1**. **Doors open at noon** for a **12:30 program** start. The program will include a **brief tribute to Taras Shevchenko, unveiling of a glass portrait of Taras Shevchenko** produced by Thunder Bay, Ontario, artist Damon Dowbak and other items. A **barbecue lunch** will be served, with other refreshments, and a variety of **games and other amusements** will be offered. Admission (at the door): **adults – \$12.00; children 12 and under – \$5.00.**

Toronto — The AUUC Toronto Branch will celebrate the **85th anniversary of the Branch**, on Sunday, **September 11**, at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West. Doors open at noon for a **12:30 Ukrainian style banquet**. AUUC National President **Robert Seychuk** is expected, as well as other persons bringing greetings. A **video of Branch events** is in preparation; your brief recollections are invited. **Peter Krochak** and a **guest baritone** will entertain, and the **Hahilka Singers** will lead a sing-along. For tickets, call **Mike at 905-275-7299**. Admission: **\$35.00.**

Readers of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* are invited to submit items of interest to the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community for free listing in this column. The deadline for material is the 10th of the month preceding the month of publication.

Sustaining Fund Donations

AUUC Edmonton, Edmonton AB	\$1000.00
AUUC Vancouver, Vancouver BC	500.00
Dwayne & Susan Chomyn, Edmonton AB	200.00
AUUC Thunder Bay, Thunder Bay ON	100.00
Alex & Clara Babiy, Welland ON	
<i>In memory of my brother Walter Hunka & Mary Prokop</i>	100.00
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William Hrynychak, Toronto ON	70.00
Nettie Hrynuik, Saskatoon SK	
<i>In memory of my husband John, who passed away on February 13, 2011</i>	70.00
Lyudmyla Pogoryelova, Toronto ON	70.00
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<i>In memory of my husband John</i>	30.00
Ann Husar, Edmonton AB	20.00
Stan Nazarec, Toronto ON	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.



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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:

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Taras Shevchenko Museum

POST MORTEM

In 1939, when the official opening of the Shevchenko Museum in Kaniv and unveiling of the bronze statue took place, it was necessary first to locate exactly where his coffin was buried. After the burial in 1861 a traditional Cossack mound was created. However, over time rain washed away most of the mound.

A special Commission with representatives of the government and Kaniv City officials agreed to locate the crypt. When the Commission members had the grave excavated someone offered the idea of opening the coffin although no one actually had authority to do so. After opening the pine wood coffin they saw the metal one and inside it an attractive coffin with a small window.

Later memoirs about the work of the Commission reflected the work of the funeral staff. One woman said that the Commission members saw Shevchenko lying there "as if alive". Although it was 78 years from the death of Taras Hryhorovych, they still saw his face. When the wind touched his face it appeared as if he would sink. This surprised the people, who quickly left.

As a result of this finding, in recent times it has been suggested several times by religious groups that Shevchenko should be canonized.

After 1939, it was decided to seal the entrance to the

crypt with iron plates to prevent anyone from getting in.

Even the German army, during its occupation in 1941–44 did not violate the burial site, but they surrounded the monument with barbed wire. The bronze monument created by M.H. Manizer was slightly damaged from 17 bullets but was later restored. On the granite pedestal of the monument the war left evidence of some damage. The Museum was looted by the German Army.

The *mohyla* (burial mound) of Taras Shevchenko is one of the most honoured places of the Ukrainian people, and has drawn millions of visitors.

The first small monument for Shevchenko on a round pedestal was erected on the Manglyshak Peninsula and lasted until 1920. In 1899, in Kharkiv, through the initiative of Chrystia Alchevsky, a marble bust of the poet by V. Beklemkisev was erected in front of a Sunday school. This is the oldest monument, which has survived to the present day.

Since 1918, the government has been responsible for Shevchenko's legacy. The most majestic monuments to Shevchenko are in Kyiv, Kaniv, Kharkiv, Moscow, St. Petersburg, Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk, Washington and Winnipeg.

The very first monument to Taras Shevchenko in the western hemisphere was unveiled in Oakville, near Toronto, in

1951. Unfortunately, it was destroyed by vandals in 2006.

It is planned to unveil a Shevchenko monument in Ottawa, the capital of Canada, in 2011. In Ukraine and other countries there are eight museums for Shevchenko where the literary and artistic heritage of the poet and artist are exhibited.

In honour of the poet there are residential areas, streets, parks, schools, and squares in Ukraine and elsewhere named for the poet.

There is even an element, Tarasovite, named in his honour.

APOLOGY

In the June, 2011, issue of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* we included a birthday greeting to Carol Snider of Vancouver. We thank Ms. Snider for correcting our erroneous information — her birthday is actually in May — and apologize for the error.

Ukrainian News Briefs

(Continued from Page 9.)

Segodnya reported that no professor named Konstantin Petrovich had ever taught at the Kharkiv Military Institute. The newspaper did locate a professor named Konstantin Petrovich Vlasov, but Vlasov spent his entire career teaching electric power engineering in Zaporizhia, never worked in Kharkiv, and never was a missile technologies specialist.

Israeli claims that Abu Sisi received missile engineering training in Ukraine are also difficult to credit, *Segodnya* reported, as missile engineering is a field of study open only to Ukrainian nationals with a government security clearance.

Abu Sisi's abduction to and trial in Israel has drawn substantial attention in Ukraine. Abu Sisi's wife, Veronika, and their six children are Ukrainian nationals.

Hamas officials have confirmed that Abu Sisi was a top engineer at the Palestinian Gaza Strip power plant. But they, and Abu Sisi, have repeatedly denied Israeli claims that he was a member of Hamas.

(Israeli justice – or injustice? - gb)

From Our History

(Continued from Page 10.) all-day festival, all on a high artistic level, constitutes a significant contribution to the Ukrainian Canadian centenary celebrations.

Portrait in Glass



The AUUC Toronto Branch celebration of Canada Day/Shevchenko Day on July 1 included a scheduled unveiling of a Taras Shevchenko portrait in glass by artist Damon Dowbak of Thunder Bay, Ontario. The work was commissioned by Thunder Bay friends of the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation, and donated to the Museum. The Thunder Bay group was represented in Toronto at the unveiling by Diane Garrett. Damon, who got his start in life at the Ukrainian Labour Temple of the AUUC operates Kleewyck Stained Glass Studio with his wife Estelle Howard and their son Joshua. (Their other son is Michah.)

The versatile Damon Dowbak also has a significant history in music, starting with AUUC mandolin lessons which led to a stint as conductor with the Lakehead Mandolin Orchestra. He continues to pursue various musical interests, including hosting a Lakehead University radio program.

An AUUC Family

—Photo: Sandi Smith



There are AUUC families whose participating members span several generations. One such is the Gordienko family in Winnipeg, photographed at the Winnipeg Spring Concert in May, the first time they all performed on the same day. At left is AUUC National Committee member Gloria Gordienko. Beside her is son Scott Mulla of the Prystuk group, then her daughter Shelley Enns (also of Prystuk), then granddaughter Ataya Enns (assistant instructor for the Zaychyky and Zirka groups and dancer with the Yunist Ensemble) and granddaughter Shaela Enns of the Veselka Dancers. Gloria's husband Tim Gordienko, who dances with Prystuk, is at back.

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