

# HERALD BISHNIK

ЧЕРВЕНЬ, 2011р. HOMEР 236 PIK XX

JUNE 2011 NO. 236 VOL. XX Price \$2.25

## Night of Foolishness



Photo: Dan Fung

On April 2, the Ukrainian Cultural Centre in Vancouver was filled with revellers enjoying A Night of Foolishness Family Dance and Fundraiser. Among the many amusements was this Pennyfarthing provided by Cap's Bicycle Shop, one of the sponsors. See the story on Page 5, with additional photos on Page 11.

## No Interest in Talks

Over the decades the Government of Israel has repeatedly shown its lack of interest in negotiating a peace settlement acceptable to the Pales-

tinian people. It has repeatedly established preconditions for negotiations, and has refused to negotiate with anyone who did not accept the preconditions. Then it claimed to have no partners for negotiation.

The recent outright rejection by the Israeli government included clear indications that Israel has, in fact, no desire for negotiations. It rejected any suggestion that the illegal settlements in occupied territories be abandoned, and any proposal of a retreat from occupied territories.

There is every reason to believe that Israel's long-term goal is to continue encroaching on Palestinian lands until the Palestinians all leave the area or abandon all hope of a two-state solution.

Israel believes this objective is attainable because the policies it has followed have had very little cost, and in particular they have not reduced support from the USA and countries like Canada.

## Bail — After 330 Days!

Authorities, often, do not like to be ridiculed. These days, under cover of fighting terrorism, they can often exact a heavy price from him who japes. A person who has been paying such a heavy price is Byron Sonne.

330 days after his arrest, Mr. Sonne became the last of the G20 detainees to be released from custody — on \$250,000 bail, and under onerous conditions amounting to house arrest.

When arrested, Mr. Sonne was charged with mischief, possession of explosives, weapons, and intimidating justice system participants. Almost a year later, what remains is possession of explosive substances, and counselling to commit mischief not committed. It is not at all clear that even these charges will stick when the case comes to trial on November 7 — after

Mr. Sonne has spent another half year under house arrest.

As usual when authorities are trying to avoid ridicule or are planning to act outrageously, they quickly imposed a publication ban on all proceedings after his arrest. They also imposed a publication ban on arguments and evidence presented at the bail hearing on May 18.

The public can not know whether there is serious evidence to support either charge, whether there is any justification for the stringent bail conditions, or whether the whole procedure reflects nothing more than the determination of the authorities to continue punishing Mr. Sonne as long as he keeps thumbing his noses at them. By all reports, he is doing just that.

He has lost his wife/partner of 15 years (and with her, his home) and his certification

as a security system professional was suspended pending an acquittal.

The punishment has been, and continues to be, extended to Mr. Sonne's family.

His wife Kristen Peterson was arrested two days after Mr. Sonne was detained. She was released on bail, on strict conditions (including no contact with Mr. Sonne), within days, assisted by her parents. Three months later, Ms. Peterson announced that she was leaving Mr. Sonne. Perhaps that was not related to the relaxation of her bail conditions. In January, all charges against her were dropped.

Among the punishments Mr. Sonne's parents agreed to undergo for his release was to have their home searched weekly without a warrant.

Among the many things many authorities do not tolerate is ridicule. Mock them at your own risk.

## Spinning Health Care

The Conference Board of Canada recently issued a brief (9 pages, on my computer—Sz) report on health care spending and outcomes in 17 countries. The report, called "Hot Topic: Health Spending", sought to answer the question, "Do countries get what they pay for when it comes to health care?"

(The Conference Board say of itself that it is, "The foremost independent, not-for-profit applied research organization in Canada.")

Among many other findings, the report said that Canada was 4th in per capita spending on health care, but only 7th in life expectancy, and 16th in infant mortality. At 10% of Gross Domestic Product, Canada is in the ball park with most of the 17 countries.

A report in the *Toronto Star* for May 13 indicates that David Stewart, Vice-president of Public Policy at the Board, said that the report's answer to the question, when it comes to Canada, is "No". We could learn from others (like Japan and Italy), which have better outcomes at lower per capita expenditures.

In contrast, the USA has the highest costs and "the worst care" (outcomes, really).

As might be expected, right-wing critics of medicare were quick to offer their com-

ments, from criticizing the government's "monopolistic control" of health care to reiterating the need for two-tier health care.

Five days later, also in the *Toronto Star*, writer Thomas Walkom discussed the report — after having read it.

Mr. Walkom pointed out, correctly, that the Conference Board of Canada report does not dwell on Canada.

That the main question that arises from the report is why the United States manages to combine the highest per capita spending, the highest degree of privatization ("the only country among its peers with a greater share of private than public spending") with the lowest life expectancy and the worst infant mortality rates.

"Hot Topic: Health Spending" seems to suggest two main realities: private health care leads to higher costs without providing rational allocation of resources (unless profitability is the only measure of efficiency, I suppose—Sz); and poverty levels, and associated life-style issues, including crime rates, obesity and others are very important.

The report says that the USA regularly ranks among the worst in these indicators.

Walkom reminds us that Canada is close to the USA, at least in poverty rates.

— Wilfred Szczesny

## In This Issue

90 Years! The Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra .....	2
Apologies .....	12
Bones! Bones! Bones! .....	5
A Call for Inclusiveness	
Equity and Fairness .....	3
Commentary .....	4
Current Eclectic .....	3
Editorial .....	4
"A Great Day" in Welland .....	6
Hahilka Singers	
Appear at FRC .....	7
Happy Birthday, Friends .	11
Historical Collection	
Retains Traditional Narrative .....	10
International Scholars' Open Letter .....	3
Join Us! .....	12
"Kaniv" .....	12
Museum Controversy .....	3
Now You See Him	
Now You Don't .....	8
Police Testimony	
Beyond Belief .....	4
Protect the Innocent .....	4
Reprise in Toronto .....	7
Vera Rich .....	12
Myron Shatulsky .....	2,8
Sustaining Fund .....	10
Taras Shevchenko Museum .....	12
UCC Response .....	3
Ukrainian News Briefs .....	9
Vancouver's Night of Foolishness .....	5, 11
Who, What, When, Where .....	10
Winnipeg's Human Rights Museum Fiasco .....	4

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

## Museum Controversy

Ever since plans were announced to build a Canadian Museum of Human Rights, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress has taken a keen interest in the project. Soon after details about the content of that museum started emerging, the UCC embarked on a campaign to include two additional permanent exhibitions in the CMHR — one devoted to the internment of Ukrainians in Canada in 1914 to 1920, and the other devoted to the famine of 1932-1933.

In this issue of the "UCH", we bring our readers three items concerning the controversy around the CMHR and a fourth one which views the project from a different perspective.

The first, below, is a December 9, 2010, press release by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, outlining the position of the UCC on the issues.

The second, right, is the text of a full-page ad which appeared in the *Globe and Mail* on April 14, 2011, over the signatures of about 100 scholars from around the world.

The third, bottom right, is the UCC reaction to the statement of the scholars.

The fourth item, on Page 4, is an article by Robert B. Klymasz, raising more fundamental questions about the CMHR. After a museum career spanning four decades, Dr. Klymasz retired from the Canadian Museum of Civilization (Gatineau, Quebec) as Curator Emeritus in 2000. He's currently the Zurawewy Research Fellow with the University of Manitoba's Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies in Winnipeg.

## International Scholars' Open Letter

The Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress have been campaigning against the plans of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg to mount a permanent Holocaust gallery. The UCCLA has mailed out a postcard across Canada that reproduces the cover of an edition of George Orwell's *Animal Farm* and implies that supporters of a Holocaust gallery are pigs. For its part, the UCC, which, in contrast to the UCCLA, is an elected body that represents major Ukrainian Canadian organizations, has complained that the planned Holocaust exhibit is "unacceptable" and has asked the Museum to provide the Holodomor, or Ukrainian famine of 1932-33, "no less coverage... than the Holocaust".

We, the signatories to this letter, have all studied various aspects of genocide, fascism, antisemitism, Stalinism, war criminality, the Holodomor, and the Holocaust. We unequivocally recognize that the violence and oppression that Ukraine has experienced during its multi-totalitarian past ought to be remembered and commemorated in a Canadian

museum devoted to the history and abuse of human rights. What we object to is the dishonest manner in which the UCCLA and UCC have distorted historical accounts of the Holodomor while at the same time refusing to acknowledge the Ukrainian nationalist movement's role in the Holocaust.

The Ukrainian famine, which constitutes one of Stalin's great crimes and one of Europe's most devastating tragedies, deserves a place in any venue dedicated to commemorating and understanding the violation of human rights. Yet the way the UCC treats the Holodomor is problematic. All demographic studies place the number of famine deaths in Soviet Ukraine in the range of 2.6 to 3.9 million. This is, in itself, a grievous toll. Nonetheless, the UCC has, at times, inflated the number of victims to seven or even ten million. The implication is obvious: seven or ten million is more than six million; the Holodomor deserves more attention than the Holocaust. Such a manipulative attempt to exploit human suffering is reprehensible and should not be acceptable to the Canadian public.

We are also troubled by the attitude of the UCCLA and UCC toward the OUN, the UPA, and the 14th Grenadier Division of the Waffen SS 'Galicia' (1st Ukrainian). OUN stands for the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists. UPA is the Ukrainian abbreviation for the Ukrainian Insurgent Army, the armed branch of the OUN. The Galicia Division, a military unit that was primarily involved in counterinsurgency activities, was established by the Germans in 1943. Tens of thousands of Ukrainians who belonged to these formations perished while resisting the ruthless imposition of Soviet power at the end of the war. Today many Ukrainians revere the members of these organizations as the champions of an oppressed people. In February, 2010, the UCC called on the Canadian government "to make changes to Canada's War Veterans Allowance Act by expanding eligibility to include designated resistance groups such as OUN-UPA." Last Remembrance Day, the UCC asked Ukrainian Canadians to honour our veterans who belonged to OUN, UPA, and the Galicia Division.

In their calls to honour the members of these organizations as veterans, what the UCCLA and the UCC do not fully acknowledge is that all three groups have been implicated in violence against civilians on a massive scale. Significant historical research indicates the political responsibility of the OUN in anti-Jewish violence in the summer of 1941. Emerging research also demonstrates that many former policemen who aided the Nazis in genocidal operations subsequently joined the UPA, created in early 1943. Moreover, the UPA murdered tens of thousands of civilian Poles in the western province of Volhynia to undercut the ability of postwar Poland to make claims on the area. The Galicia Division was also involved in anti-civilian military actions, although mainly outside of Ukraine.

By pointing out the historical record of the OUN, UPA, and the Galicia Division, we do not mean to suggest some sort of collective responsibility for genocide on the part of all the men and women who served in them, and certainly not on the part of all Ukrainians. Nevertheless, in an age when the mass murder of civilians is regarded as a crime against humanity, the mixed record of these organizations has to be openly debated, particularly when the significance of the Holocaust is being questioned in a public campaign pertaining to a fair representation of the history of human rights.

We therefore assert that since the UCCLA and UCC have not understood that confronting the historical record openly and honestly is preferable to manipulative falsehood, have engaged in a competition of suffering, and have failed to acknowledge both the vices and the virtues of the nationalist movement, they ought to stay out of a debate about the Canadian Museum of Human Rights.

## UCC Response

(Printed below is the press release "Ukrainian Canadian Congress Responds to Malicious Allegations by 'International Scholars'", dated April 15.)

The proposed contents and governance of the Canadian Museum of Human Rights has become the subject of significant public discourse in Canada over the past several months. The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) established in 1940 continues to democratically represent the interests of the organized Ukrainian Canadian commu-

(Continued on Page 11.)

## A Call for Inclusiveness, Equity and Fairness

(Ukrainian Canadian Congress, December 9, 2010)

Ukrainian Canadians have a particular interest in the stories that will be presented in the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR).

Soviet Ukraine was subjected to one of the twentieth century's greatest atrocities, the genocidal Great Famine of 1932-33, the Holodomor. Furthermore, during the Nazi occupation Ukrainian lands suffered greater destruction and more casualties than any other country in Europe.

In Canada, thousands of Ukrainians were victims of state-sanctioned indignities, in particular during Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920, when they were branded as "enemy aliens", lost what little wealth they had, were forced to do heavy labour for the profit of their jailers, disenfranchised and subjected to other discriminatory measures, not because of anything they had done but only because of who they were, where they had come from.

These stories are not yet widely known or understood, in part because Ukraine was not free until 1991 and because, here in Canada, a focus on the discrimination ex-

perienced by "visible minorities" and indigenous peoples has often obfuscated the fact that Ukrainians and other eastern European communities were also targets of racist, xenophobic and prejudicial sentiments, in the media, government and throughout the public arena.

While the Ukrainian Canadian community was willing to support public funding for a national museum dedicated to Human Rights, we are now deeply concerned about how the contents of that museum are being established, particularly since the various committees and groups established to advise on what this museum will exhibit were not representative of the Canadian population, nor have they apparently given serious attention to the many submissions made by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association and other groups who insisted that any such national museum must be focused on Canadian issues and be inclusive, without elevating the suffering or wrongs experienced by any one community over all others.

... Further articles and information about the Museum evidence that the Holodomor will not have a permanent and

prominent position in the Museum.

### The Importance of a Holodomor Gallery

The Holodomor should be provided no less coverage in this publicly-funded museum than the Holocaust for the following reasons:

1. it is a genocide recently recognized (May, 2008) by the Parliament of Canada and one which is relatively unknown;
2. by its geographical focus and intensity arguably one of the greatest genocides in human history;
3. is an example of the human rights violations suffered by the victims of communism around the world (the crimes of communism receive no mention in the Content Advisory report); and
4. highlights the crimes of the communist dictatorship of Joseph Stalin and the Soviet regime.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress has always maintained that any publicly funded institution or museum should be governed by the principles and objectives of the Museums Act and should be inclusive and reflective of the experience and concerns of all Canadians.



UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

## HERALD

Editor-in-Chief  
Wilfred Szczesny

Editorial Board  
Wilfred Szczesny Myron Shatulsky

## Bureaux Chiefs

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

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

Ukrainian Canadian Herald editorial offices are located  
at 1604 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6P 1A7  
Phone: 416-588-1639; Fax: 416-588-9180  
E-mail: kobzar1@on.aibn.com

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

PUBLICATIONS MAIL REGISTRATION No. 40009476

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

## Protect the Innocent

AN EDITORIAL by WILFRED SZCZESNY

My first reaction on seeing the story was, "Good for him!" An RCMP and CSIS "mole" (aka spy — perhaps even agent provocateur) had been put on the American terrorist list by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service. His name was given to the Americans along with those of the so-called Toronto 18 and 21 others who have never been charged with any terrorist activity.

My second thought was for the 21 innocents, and the seven of the Toronto 18 whose charges were dropped and those others who were convicted on a plea bargain for time served after having been imprisoned for long periods. These people have been put in grave danger without due process, and can only extricate themselves with grave difficulty.

Those who doubt the danger should bear in mind that President Obama has not closed Guantanamo, nor has he forsworn "extraordinary rendition".

They should also remember recent history: the case of Maher Arar (who, by the way, is still on the US terrorist list). Mr. Arar's name was given to the Americans because of his association with an Abdullah Almalki, whom the RCMP thought to be a terrorist. Mr. Arar was arrested in the USA, and sent for torture for almost a year in Syria. The Syrians decided he was not a terrorist, and a Canadian inquiry later agreed.

Mr. Almalki was also arrested, tortured and then cleared.

Part (though only part) of the reason people can be so arbitrarily endangered is that the "anti-terrorist" laws passed after September 9, 2001, strip suspects of many of the rights and protections normal in Canada under the criminal code. As long as those suspected of terrorism have reduced rights and protections, innocent people will be harshly and undeservedly punished.

The same is true under criminal law. One often hears complaints that the laws protect the guilty and ignore the victims of crime. While it may be true occasionally that the guilty are saved by the law, the essential truth about the rights, freedoms and legal protections we enjoy is that they were enacted to protect the innocent. Most of the fundamental legal protections arose from the struggle of rural aristocrats and rising urban propertied classes to protect themselves against abuses of the absolute power of kings and their court favourites.

The protections were enacted to shield the innocent against arbitrariness, and we forget that at our own peril.

## COMMENTARY

## Winnipeg's Human Rights Museum Fiasco

Can you imagine a library without books? An art gallery without paintings?

How about museums — can you have a museum without objects, specimens, artifacts or, to use the Ukrainian term, without *eksponaty*? No problem for Winnipeg's yet-to-be opened Canadian Museum of Human Rights.

This, they say, is to be a museum of "ideas" driven by interest groups from across Canada — so there's no need for "things" to convey its message. And, besides, using a status-loaded word like "museum" (rather than other options like "study centre") was sure to facilitate access to much-needed government funding.

So how is it that the well-intentioned dream of media mogul, Izzy Asper (1932-2003) turned into a nightmare of such national and even global proportions?

Cash-starved (yet strangely silent) museums watched in disbelief as the pretend-museum project received the blessing of professional consultants (whose earlier clients, by the way, were museums WITH collections), private and public monies stepped up to the plate (after all, who would dare not support "human rights"?), a site was found (at the watery albeit historic confluence of two major flood-prone rivers) and a "landmark" structure (unique but not necessarily functional or beautiful) began to take shape.

So far — it's a classic case

of feel-good fluff but no substance — yummy icing but so-so cake — form over content.

Nonetheless, the movers and shakers persevered with the unabashed support of Winnipeg-booster who saw the proposed museum's potential as a permanent cash cow with tourism potential (although the region's demographics hardly support such a position) and various spin-off benefits, like a valuable source of never-ending employment opportunities.

A good tactic would be to shame Ottawa's pundits into choosing Winnipeg as a site for the first federally funded national museum to be located outside an overly privileged national capital region (Ottawa/Gatineau).

So much for economics and politics.

But what about the term "human rights"? Can any ol' gripe qualify as an injustice, a "human right" or possibly even a "crime against humanity"? What are the criteria here?

Let's face it, folks: "human rights" is a term coined by lawyers. Therefore the ever-hungry legal profession (along with assorted university-based academics) is very comfy with the promotion of a potentially lucrative industry based on "human rights", including of course, Winnipeg's pretend-museum of ideas.

It is utterly important to note, however, that the concept of human rights is nothing new in the centuries-old universe of morality espoused by all the world's religions (the

first commandment, "Thou shall not kill", is a good example).

So, added to the blend of legalism, economics and politics, we can now detect the project's exclusionist, secularist prejudices — and possibly its fundamental flaw.

But what about the museum's story line? A little army of anxious writers and committed historians is probably struggling to cook up an all-inclusive narrative at this very moment. How are they dealing with the on-going, banal contest between holocaust and holodomor?

By the way, have you noticed how several core entities (i.e., well-paid employees) recently quit their positions with this still-to-be-built museum? Perhaps, they preferred to jump this sinking ship instead of wasting their talents on a project that seemed beyond repair.

Were they wrong?

In this pretend-museum, the visitor will probably see lots of audiovisual, interactive push-button gadgetry, wall-to-wall screen presentations (highlighting personal horror stories from all over the world), a gallery of human rights activists, heroes and martyrs, and perhaps instruments of torture or real barbed wire salvaged from a concentration camp.

Look for display techniques borrowed from Walt Disney and Washington's Holocaust Museum.

So what else can we look forward to on opening day in 2013? A mix of permanent and rotating temporary exhibits (a different genocide every month?), a gift shop with a good selection of intolerance items, and perhaps a public restaurant with a menu featuring deprivation specials.

— Robert B. Klymasz

## Police Testimony Beyond Belief

When there is a shooting or an assault with witnesses in a public place, police seldom seem to believe that none of the by-standers can provide any useful information: somebody has to know something.

In June of last year, at the G20 demonstrations, a dozen or so police officers were

close by when one of their number attacked an innocent person, breaking the person's arm and inflicting other injuries, but none of the officers can identify the "suspect" officer.

The testimony of another witness, who also took a clear picture by which the officer

was identified (the id on his uniform was that clear), was not enough to jog their memories.

Perhaps they all sneezed at the crucial moment.

The Special Investigations Unit deemed the civilian eyewitness's evidence insufficient, and closed the case.

## SEE US ON THE WEB!

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

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

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

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

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

## ADVERTISING RATES

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

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.



# Vancouver's Night of Foolishness

Foolishness is typically defined as exhibiting a lack of good sense or judgment. However, on April 2, during A Night of Foolishness Family Dance and Fundraiser, the Ukrainian Cultural Centre in Vancouver was packed with people proving that choosing

to be foolish can be a wonderful decision! Families and friends threw convention, seriousness and winter out the door and welcomed the chance to whoop it up with cherry blossoms on the trees and whimsy in their hearts.

The fundraiser was the

brainchild of Nina Hobbs and Patti Mateyko who, along with AUUC members and parents of dancers, worked tirelessly to bring the successful party to fruition.

A short concert featuring our cultural groups — Barvinok Choir, Dovbush Dancers and the Vancouver Folk Orchestra — was followed by the spectacular and energetic dance band S-Bahn who filled the floor with people and kept everyone laughing and dancing all evening.

Prizes, a silent auction and a generous buffet with scrumptious treats provided by our many big-hearted sponsors kept our guests happy and energized throughout the

night. It was such a pleasure to share the warmth and friendship that we have in abundance at the Vancouver AUUC with the many supporters who attended.

The activities for kids kept the evening action-packed and the mood light and silly. A roulette wheel featuring prizes of candy, Frisbees, Lego and toys had a throng of youngsters laughing and shouting with delight.

Cap's Bicycle Shop provided an antique Pennyfarthing bike with a period backdrop where guests could climb up onto the high seat for a keepsake picture.

A faceless cutout of a Cosack and his dance partner was a hit with souls both young and old who skipped the rigorous training, discipline and

injuries to simply step into the bodies of traditional Ukrainian dancers — if only for one photo!

The evening was a great success. The cultural groups will benefit from the funds raised and the Hall will receive some much-needed equipment.

It's only with the support of our wonderful sponsors that we were able to put on such an exciting event. A huge and heartfelt "thank you" goes to our sponsors and to our friends who were present.

— Laurel Parasiuk Lawry  
(More pictures on Page 11.)



The Dovbush Dancers get into the spirit of foolishness.



Some women of the Dovbush Dancers were transformed into men for this dance — some men!

— Story photos Dan Fung



The Vancouver Folk Orchestra, conducted by Steven Ho, played a few silly songs.



The Barvinok Choir, conducted by Beverly Dobrinsky showed its light-hearted side.

Why not renew your sub now?

## BONES! BONES! BONES!

— Story photos: Victor Horon

Anne Husar was the honoured guest for the monthly birthday celebrations of the Edmonton AUUC seniors' gathering. It was Anne's 90th birthday!

The hot meal featured many traditional as well as Easter dishes, such as Ukrainian sausage, glazed ham, beets and horseradish, *nachinka* (stuffing), sauerkraut and *paska* (Easter bread) to name a few. This meal was prepared by our trusty volunteers.

The tables were decorated for the season, with chocolate Easter eggs and stems of pussy willows.

Bill Uhryn, once again this year, brought onion-dyed hard boiled eggs for our traditional egg fight. The winner, the person with the strongest egg shell, was Tatiana Hrychukh, who won an Easter basket.

The featured speaker this month, arranged by our trusty program co-ordinator Eva Daskoch, was Shelly Hagen. The topic was how to maintain good bone health.

Calcium is crucial to maintain life. Just about every cell in the body, including those in the heart, nerves and muscles, relies on calcium to function properly. In the body, calcium is found in the skeleton and teeth, cells and blood.

Bones require calcium to

maintain their strength.

The body needs a good immediate supply of calcium. It absorbs calcium directly from the food we eat, or takes it from our bones if there is not enough calcium in the food.

As adults over 55 years old, we require 1200 mg. of calcium each day.

To make sure of getting an adequate amount of calcium each day, consult a reliable food chart which shows the calcium content of specific foods. Eat foods that contain calcium that is easily absorbed, such as dairy products (like milk, cheese and yogurt) which are excellent sources of calcium.

Pay attention to foods that cause calcium loss. It is advisable to keep intake of salt and salty foods to a minimum.

If you consume more than four cups of coffee or cola a day, have at least one glass of milk for every cup of caffeine-containing beverage.

Tea has an insignificant impact on calcium intake.

Vitamin D3 is a key factor in the absorption of calcium.

As a rule, a daily multivitamin does not contain enough calcium to suffice as a supplement.

Also, do not smoke! Consume only a minimum amount of, or no, alcohol each day.



SHIRLEY UHRYN

Be active!

Osteoporosis is often considered to be a woman's disease. Although it is more common in women, osteoporosis is a serious health issue for men.

Men have greater peak bone mass and do not experience the accelerated bone loss women do at menopause.

Men should follow the same lifestyle changes recommended to women with osteoporosis, such as weight-bearing exercise and a diet rich in calcium and vitamin D3. It is a good idea to have a bone density test for men over 65 as well.

Both men and women must pay attention to their bone health — at all ages.

The above information was taken as excerpts from literature offered by Osteoporosis Canada, which is available at 416-696-2663 in Toronto, Ontario.

The seniors made a donation of \$50.00 to the fundraising campaign of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*.

In addition, a donation of \$25.00 was made from the seniors to the Mustard Seed, for their continued support of housing and employment for the needy in the greater Edmonton area.

— Shirley Uhryn



ANNE HUSAR CELEBRATED HER 90TH BIRTHDAY.



## “A Great Day” in Welland



The room was filled to capacity at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Welland on April 10 for the Ukrainian Luncheon and Spring Concert.



Tamara Danyluk met guests at the door with a bread and salt welcome.

On Sunday, April 10, at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, the AUUC Welland Branch hosted a wonderful Ukrainian Luncheon and Spring Concert featuring its own Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra and the Hahilka Singers from AUUC Toronto Branch.

The fantastic afternoon began with a sumptuous buffet luncheon prepared by several members of the Branch with superb culinary skills. The meal offered an eclectic selection, from perogies and cabbage rolls to roast beef and mashed potatoes, and many delicious choices in between.

At the end of the meal, as guests were invited to savour the platters of sweets at each table, the performance portion

of the event was ready to begin.

Bill Lukan skilfully acted as Master of Ceremonies.

The concert was dedicated to the memory of Wally Hunka, a dedicated and beloved member of the Welland Branch, who passed away on December 20, 2010. Bill interspersed endearing and often humorous anecdotes about Wally among the musical numbers.

Under the direction of Rudy Wasylenky, the orchestra began the first segment with excerpts from the opening number at the National Ukrainian Centennial Celebration held in Regina in 2005. This performance was followed by three beautiful instrumental arrangements, as well as a duet sung by Rudy and Wilfred Szczesny, called *Gypsies on a Hill*.

The Hahilka Singers, directed by Natalie Mochoruk and accompanied on keyboard by Peter Krochak, continued the concert in fine style. The audience immediately responded to Natalie's humour in her introductions, and enjoyed the first two songs, one honouring the Hutsul Mountains (*Verkhovyno, maty moyo*) and the other titled “Whose Horse Is Standing There?” (*Oy chey to kin*



Bill Lukan announced the orchestra's numbers.

*stoyet?*), both featuring duets by Peter and Wilfred backed up by the women.

The Hahilka women proceeded with a number dedicated to a Bukovinian mother-in-law (*Po sadochku pokhodzhayu*), followed by a humorous song (*Dobriy vecheer deevchyno*) involving a young man seeking the attention of two young women and the town gossips witnessing this.

The most animated number, including theatrical humour, centred around a woman's dream that she had tried to sell her husband.

The finale of this segment was a rousing version of “*Kolomeyky*”.

Following a short intermission, Lorna Clark, on behalf of the Hahilka Singers, presented to Clara Babiy, President of the Welland Branch, a pillow that had been embroidered by Natalie.

Just as guests were beginning to ease their smiles, created from watching Wilfred's wee granddaughter Emily wistfully dance to the first-half music, the audience was further treated to the charm of her brother Joshua, as the two children were asked to pick

Have you renewed your “UCH” sub?



The Hahilka Singers of the AUUC Toronto Branch, with conductor Natalka Mochoruk and Peter Krochak at the keyboard, presented five songs.

— Story photos: Jerry Dobrowolsky



The Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra presented a program of 13 numbers, with a concentration on Ukrainian numbers.

the tickets for the 50/50 draw.

After enjoying the microphone and wishing everyone a heartfelt “great day”, Joshua joined his sister in making three winners very happy. The grand prize — the jackpot — went to Hahilka Singer's own Anna Kulish, while the second and third prizes of CDs were enjoyed by audience members Bronte Yaroff and Anne Muzar.

The second-half performances by the orchestra made the afternoon only get better, if that was even possible.

Beginning with a duet by Rudy and Wilfred titled “*Hey, sokoly*” and followed by “*Melodies from Russia*”, all of the selections kept the festive spirit alive among the satisfied guests.

Perhaps the most touching number, though, was an instrumental medley of John Bokla's favourite songs: “*Un Canadien Errant*”, “*Ridna maty moyo*”, “*My Kiev*” and “*Kalinka*”. John was a soloist tenor with the Welland or-

chestra who passed away a few years ago. He would have particularly enjoyed the rousing ending of “*Kalinka*”, in which the entire orchestra sang the words and the audience clapped to the beat.

This wonderful concert concluded with two final arrangements, both with vocal duets by Rudy and Wilfred and both eliciting extended applause and a standing ovation from the appreciative guests.

Clara ended the “great day” with thanks to everyone who contributed to its success. In paying tribute to Wally, her beloved and much-missed brother, she revealed that the Hahilka Singer's first selection, “*Verkhovyno, maty moyo*”, had been, in fact, one of Wally Hunka's favourites.

As the guests left the building, emerging into the fresh outdoors, they realized that what had begun as a cool, rainy day had become a balmy, bright day in more ways than one.

— Bernardine Dobrowolsky



Lorna Clark, right, presented an embroidered pillow, the work of Natalka Mochoruk, to Clara Babiy, President of the AUUC Welland Branch.



Of the 13 numbers in the Welland orchestra program, five included duets by Rudy Wasylenky (left) and Wilfred Szczesny.



# Reprise in Toronto



The Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra presented a 13-number program, repeating its April 10 presentation.



Nancy Stewart, on behalf of AUUC Toronto Branch, extended a welcome to all in attendance.

On Sunday, May 1, the Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra and the Hahilka Singers of the Toronto AUUC complemented the wonderful Welland-based concert of April 10 with a fantastic encore performance at the AUUC Cultural Centre in Toronto.

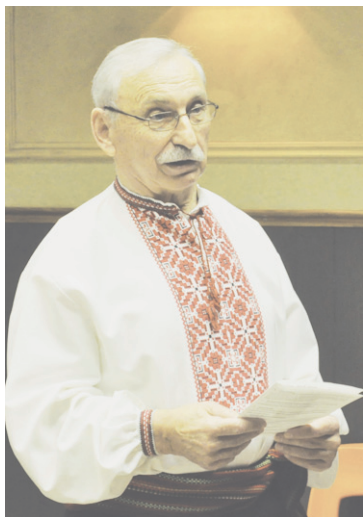
To begin the afternoon, and following an early morning drive, the Welland group enjoyed a hot Ukrainian-style luncheon, catered by Baby Point Lounge and hosted by the AUUC Toronto Branch.

With everyone nourished and instruments all tuned up, and with guests having arrived, the concert was ready to begin.

After bidding all of the mu-

sicians and guests welcome, Nancy Stewart handed the role of Master of Ceremonies to Bill Lukan of the Welland orchestra.

Under Rudy Wasylenyk's direction, the mandolin orchestra began the program with five exhilarating numbers, including instrumental arrangements of "Rozpryahayte khloptsi koni", a medley including "Sad Evening, Sad Morning" and "Cranes", and finishing with a medley of favourite Ukrainian folk and contemporary tunes which featured "I Gaze at the Heavens", "Play Bandura Play" and three dance numbers from the National Millennium Festival staged in Edmonton by



Bill Lukan announced the numbers played by the Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra.

the AUUC in 2000.

Everyone was then treated to a presentation by Toronto's Hahilka Singers, under the direction of Natalie Mochoruk and with the keyboard accompaniment of Peter Krochak.

The audience would not have known that, in his duets with Wilfred Szczesny, Peter was in the midst of nursing a cold. The vocal quality was superb!

The group inserted a new addition to its repertoire called "Po dorozee zhuk, zhuk" a flirtatious story featuring Wilfred and Claudia Rabzak. Just as in Welland, the selection "Oy tam na tovchku na bazaree", involving a woman's bad dream that she had to sell her husband drew much laughter from the audience for its theatrical humour. Everyone in the ensemble took on a role in the story.

During the short intermission, both guests and performers enjoyed coffee and sweets and caught up on each other's lives — which are unfortunately separated by the distance between the two cities.

The second half of the concert featured eight beautiful selections by the Welland orchestra. The spirit and enjoyment of the audience was particularly felt and heard in the spontaneous sing-along during "Melodies from Russia" and "Jamaica Farewell" and the toe tapping during the "Prai-



Natalka Mochoruk conducted the Hahilka Singers.

rie Wedding" medley. The fact that John Bokla was equally loved and respected in Toronto was reflected in the emotional audience participation during the "Remembering John" medley, which featured four of his favourite songs.

Following the grand finale "Ukrainian Folk Medley", which featured a duet by Wilfred and Rudy, the appreciative audience gave the same extended applause and standing ovation that had been demonstrated the month before in Welland.

AUUC Toronto Branch President Jerry Dobrowolsky

thanked everyone for coming, congratulated the performers for an excellent concert, and acknowledged all of the work that went into it.

But the afternoon was not over yet! Everyone waited with anticipation the drawing of raffle tickets for the much-coveted prizes of Natalie's embroidery items.

With the satisfaction and success of this spring "back-to-back" Welland/Toronto concert series, chances are that 2012 will happily see a "three-peat" of this annual event!

— Bernardine Dobrowolsky



The Hahilka Singers of the AUUC Toronto Branch performed five numbers at the May 1 concert.

— Story photos: Jerry Dobrowolsky



Conductor Rudy Wasylenyk, left, and mandolin player Wilfred Szczesny blended their voices in five of the orchestra's thirteen numbers.

## Hahilka Singers Appear at FRC

The Hahilka Singers of the AUUC Toronto Branch on the afternoon of Sunday, May 15, appeared at the sold-out hall of the Federation of Russian Canadians for the annual Mothers' Day celebration "Russky Zakusky".

The Hahilka Singers, conducted by Natalka Mochoruk and accompanied by Peter Krochak on the piano, appeared without soprano Maria Gargal, who was attending to a health crisis in the family.

The AUUC singers presented four numbers: two vocal duets by Peter Krochak and Wilfred Szczesny (supported by the women), the women's song "Po sadochku khodzhu" (highlighting a woman's bitter attitude toward her mother-in-law), and a lively "Kolomeyky".

Generous applause was the Hahilka Singers reward.

Beginning and ending the concert program were songs by the Beryozka Russian Choir (the FRC singers who are also conducted by Natalka Mochoruk). Beryozka was accompanied on the accordion by Vasha Julea. The two appearances by the choir were well appreciated by the audience.

The other group which appeared on the stage was the Podushka Dancers, accompanied by Mr. Julea, who performed two dances. Though the appearances by the dancers were marred by unfortunate problems with the music, the friendly audience warmly expressed its appreciation for the work of these veterans of the dance art.

Among the solo performers was Rosemary Pollock. Her two vocal solos were accompanied by Vasha Julea, first on

guitar and then on accordion.

Popular male vocal soloist Kostya Parusis presented a couple of songs, accompanying himself on guitar. As usual, he was very energetically applauded.

Rounding out the concert presentation was a poetry reading by Natalka Mochoruk.

Following the stage presentation, those present at the event enjoyed a full buffet, prepared to the high standard shown by FRC members over the years.

Of course, such an event would be incomplete without door prizes and other gifts, and these were in good supply.

At the end of the afternoon, the guests and performers left the FRC Club sated both in body and in spirit, with the abundant feast provided for both.

— Participant



Peter Krochak, left, and Wilfred Szczesny opened the Hahilka Singers' segment with two vocal duets, supported by the women's voices.



**Sent as a  
separate  
page.**



## Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewicz

### Ukraine Expels Spies

Two Czech diplomats have been expelled from Ukraine on suspicion of spying, Ukraine's security service said recently.

Colonel Zdenek Kubicek and Major Petra Novotna were accused of spying and trying to gain access to Ukraine's military secrets.

"The Czech diplomat (Kubicek) was also interested in classified data related to Ukrainian projects in the tank industry and satellite navigation for Oplot tanks," security service spokesperson Marina Osypenko said.

Osypenko said the diplomats — both defence attaches at the Czech embassy in Kyiv — were also caught buying confidential documents linked to Ukraine's ambitious Antonov An-70 transport plane and Antonov An-178 cargo aircraft.

Czech Foreign Minister Karel Schwarzenberg said later that the expulsion was retaliation for the Czech Republic granting asylum to former Ukrainian Economics Minister Bohdan Danylyshyn in January.

The Ukrainian authorities have accused Danylyshyn of abuse of office and mispending \$1.75 million in state funds. He was arrested in the Czech Republic on an Interpol wanted list in October, but a Czech court rejected the extradition request in February.

Danylyshyn is an ally of Ukraine's embattled opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko.

### Ukrainian Inflation Up

In April, Ukrainian inflation rose to the highest level in six months as prices for food, alcohol, and utilities increased. Inflation accelerated to 9.4% from 7.7% in the previous month, the Statistics Committee in Kyiv said.

Food prices increased by 7.9%, alcohol and tobacco jumped 19.3%, and prices for utilities soared 23.6%.

Ukraine, which wants to keep price growth below 10%, raised natural gas prices for households by 50% in August, and promised the U.S.-based International Monetary Fund that it would increase them again in 2011. The government also raised electricity prices by 30% in February, and again by 15% in April.

Ukraine secured a \$15.6 billion loan from the IMF last July.

### Dead Dolphins

Thirty-one dolphins were found dead in the Crimean Peninsula, the Emergencies Ministry reported last month.

According to officials, the dead dolphins were scattered in an area of two kilometres along the coastal zone.

Experts said that being trapped by fishing nets is the probable cause of the mammalian deaths. The majority of the dolphins have visible wounds on their body, some of them having damaged or missing fins.

The experts are now conducting a thorough investigation into the death of these animals.

The dead dolphins belong to a class of harbour porpoises, the smallest dolphins that live in the coastal waters of the Crimean Peninsula. They are listed in the Red Book of Ukraine and the International Red Book as endangered species.

Harbour porpoises are protected by several international legal rules.

### Go Nuclear

Don't panic, it's really not so bad! This is a sentiment that has been repeated by leading politicians in Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine since the start of the crisis at the Fukushima nuclear power plant in Japan.

They view this neither as a second Chernobyl, nor as a reason to consider ending the use of nuclear power.

In the eyes of Russian President Dmitri Medvedev, for example, nuclear power is "absolutely safe". In fact, the Kremlin is planning to more than double the number of nuclear power plants in Russia, from the current ten, by 2020.

Belarus and Ukraine also see nuclear power as the way forward.

Ukraine has four nuclear plants and there are plans for a Russian firm to build two more reactors at one of them.

The Russian energy firm Rosatom is to begin construction of the first nuclear plant in Belarus in the autumn. Belarussian officials signed the contract on March 15, just days after the nuclear disaster in Japan.

According to Tobias Munchmeyer, a nuclear expert at Greenpeace in Berlin, most power plants in Eastern Europe are no less safe than their Western counterparts. The exception is the Chernobyl-type reactor, which Munchmeyer regards as "particularly dangerous".

There is little public opposition to the plans of governments in Kyiv, Moscow and Minsk to increase the use of nuclear power. Neither the Chernobyl disaster of 25 years ago nor the more recent disaster at Fukushima have sparked strong anti-nuclear movements.

Volodymyr Omelchenko, an

energy expert at the Razumkov Centre, a Kyiv-based think tank, says this is largely due to economic concerns. "The people here have other problems," he said. "More than half of the population is practically fighting for survival."

### Fraud In Lviv?

Ukrainian officials responsible for building a football (soccer) stadium needed for Euro 2012 paid an international team of architects 80 times more than prevailing market rates to check the planned design of the structure, according to a prosecutor's statement.

Managers at a state agency in the western city of Lviv signed contracts with two construction firms to perform due diligence checks of a stadium construction plan for a collective fee of \$1.9 million. The work should have cost around \$22,000, according to a statement by Ukraine's Prosecutor General's office.

A declaration of potential wrongdoing by Ukraine's Prosecutor General's office is often the first step in legal proceedings and possible criminal charges against individuals or companies named.

Ukraine, along with Poland, is co-host for the Euro 2012 soccer championship. Kyiv, Donetsk, Kharkiv, and Lviv are the planned host cities.

Preparations in Lviv have long been the weakest link in the Ukrainian Euro 2012 preparation effort, primarily due to long delays in planning and beginning construction of a new 30,000-seat stadium needed for the competition. Its projected cost is \$110 million.

Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich, shortly after election to office in 2010, said acceleration of Euro 2012 preparations was a top priority of his administration.

### Shameful Victory Day

"The most shameful Victory Day in Ukrainian history" — such was the description given by an opposition member of Ukraine's *Verkhovna rada* (parliament) to the vicious attacks by right-wing extremists on World War II veterans in Lviv on May 9.

Andriy Shevchenko, a member of Yulia Tymoshenko's Fatherland Party, added that he thought that the people of Ukraine deserved an apology for the clashes. He noted that all public opinion polls showed that there is no holiday in Ukraine that would unite the country as much as Victory Day.

"What have you achieved?"

We lost a holiday that united Ukraine until now," he said.

On the instructions of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, the Ukrainian Prosecutor General's office has set up a working group to analyse the events that occurred in Lviv during the Victory Day celebration.

According to Deputy Interior Minister, Viktor Ratushniak, the disorder in Lviv was provoked by people wearing the armband of the Svoboda (Freedom) Party (a well-known nationalist party in western Ukraine, whose history includes numerous incidents of violence - gb).

Vadym Kolesnichenko, a member of Viktor Yanukovich's Party of Regions, stated in parliament, "On behalf of veterans' organizations, I demand that the fascist organization Svoboda be banned, and that the Nazi collaborators, who not only attacked veterans and committed robberies, but also attacked police officers, be called to account."

### Monster Pie

Bakers in Ukraine have broken a national record after baking an Easter pie that weighed more than two tons.

Ten bakers from the village of Yalta spent four days preparing the giant dessert. They used more than a ton of flour, 4500 eggs, and 350 kilograms of sugar and raisins. (Not a recipe for diabetics!)

There were 19 layers in total consisting of nine different parts, and an inscription bearing the words "Christ Is Risen".

The dessert was so large, a wooden structure was built around it to prevent the upper layers from crushing the lower ones.

The pie was unveiled on Easter Sunday. Once the record had been made official, hundreds of people lined-up to receive a generous slice.

### Searching For Pinzel

*(This is a condensed version of a recent report in the Kyiv Post).*

His work adorns many of Ukraine's architectural monuments, but little is known about Ukraine's 18th century sculptor Johann Heorhiy Pinzel, who has been compared to Lorenzo Bernini and Michelangelo.

Other than tidbits of information — his marriage, the christening of his two sons, and his widow's remarriage after his death — much remains a mystery, including the exact date of his death, and when and where he was born.

Historians aren't even sure

Pinzel was his real name.

Although regional experts began researching Pinzel in the 1930s, the masterpieces he created have only recently caught the attention of the international art community.

In 1999, five of his draft figurines showed up at an art auction in Munich. They were promptly purchased by Munich's Bavarian National Museum.

This fall, Paris's Louvre Museum will display Pinzel's work in a first-of-its-kind exhibition.

What is known about him is that Pinzel showed up in Buchach, a small town in western Ukraine, some time in the mid-1740s. By the second half of the 1740s, Pinzel had created allegorical stone figures for Buchach's town hall. Other commissions followed, and soon Pinzel's works dotted the region.

Several of his best works are the sculptures atop St. George's Cathedral in Lviv.

Pinzel's uniqueness stems from his extraordinary technique. While his earlier works speak largely of the Baroque style, it is evident that Pinzel was strongly influenced by Byzantine art. By the end of his life, Pinzel's works were a fiery intermingling of the Baroque and the Byzantine.

Fortunately, his creations live on.

### Nice To Be Rich

Rinat Akhmetov, Ukraine's richest man, has bought the UK's most expensive penthouse apartment at the One Hyde Park residential development in the swanky London neighbourhood of Knightsbridge.

The price was a whopping \$221 million!

The apartment is 25,000 square feet and spans three floors. The windows are bullet-proof. Former British Special Forces officers serve as security, and it even comes with a wine cellar.

The entire transaction was allegedly done in cash.

It is reported that Mr. Akhmetov will be spending an additional \$98 million to "fix the place up".

His name may not be familiar to many in other parts of the world, but in Ukraine Mr. Akhmetov is one of the biggest financial and political players. He is the most successful businessman to have emerged from the chaos of the post-Soviet grab for wealth.

Even as the country's finances go from bad to worse, and millions of Ukrainians live life on the poverty line, Mr. Akhmetov's fortune continues to rise.



## Historical Collection Retains Traditional Narrative

The editors of this collection of essays are historians well known to Ukrainian Labour Temple readers — Rhonda Hinthier for her detailed studies of everyday life and social relationships in the Labour Temple movement, and Jim Mochoruk for his book on Winnipeg's Peoples Co-operative.

The thirteen scholars they bring together represent a variety of Canadian academic backgrounds and perspectives on Ukrainian Canadian history. The papers are scholarly in style and tone, and include copious literature reviews and end notes. The ones that break new ground or expand our knowledge of the Labour Temple movement are exciting and essential.

The “re-imagining” promised by the title has to do with putting aside the image of “men in sheepskin coats”, hardy peasant stock braving western Canadian winters to till the soil and open the West for settlement. The re-imagined Ukrainian Canadians inhabit both the west and the east, and both rural and urban environments, and distinguish themselves in many fields of endeavour.

Rhonda Hinthier's contribution to the collection explores some new hypotheses to explain the decline of the AUUC in the 1950 to 1975 period, hypotheses which have nothing to do with the Cold War, police surveillance, or the communist stigma. Typically for Hinthier, causal factors have to do less with politics than with social dynamics, in this case inter-generational conflict and gender relationships.

Jim Mochoruk challenges the perception of uniform Bolshevism within the early Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association by showing strained relations with the Communist Party of Canada in the late 1920s.

In his contribution, Andrij Makuch writes about the Danylo Lobay controversy of 1935. This shows dissent within ULFTA over the prevailing Party orthodoxy, but most of all it shows to the editors of the volume that the ULFTA had a golden opportunity to change its direction and subsequent history but decided to stay the course.

Lobay, the most famous dissident in ULFTA history, complained about Stalinist political repression. The Lobayites might have prevailed had they had the support of Matthew Popowich then ailing and wavering. However, Matthew Shatulsky and John Navis took it as a loyalty issue and accordingly the Lobayites were dealt with firmly.

As well, there is an article

**Re-imagining Ukrainian-Canadians: History, Politics, and Identity.** Rhonda L. Hinthier and Jim Mochoruk, eds. University of Toronto Press, Toronto, 2011. 448 pages. \$80.00 cloth, \$35.00 paper.

by D. Holyck Honchuk which details the activities of ULFTA/AUUC at the Ottawa hall until it closed in 1965. The article pictures the organization there as clearly communist, and gives ample discussion of the social activism of the Branch, but it also details the cultural activities like food preparation and mandolin lessons which are typical of this supposedly mass communist movement.

Orest T. Martynowych's paper is not on Labour Temple history, but it will attract attention because it treats fascism within Ukrainian Canadian nationalist organizations. This had long been a matter of rumour and speculation, but here it is nicely documented. It took courage to tackle this formerly forbidden topic.

The book will certainly not disappoint, even though the “re-imagining” suggested by the title will not come as much of a surprise to those interested in Ukrainian Labour Temple history.

Actually, the book is not truly revisionist, because all the contributors share a basic dominant narrative and conceptual scheme which has become all too familiar. This story is set in the first instance in Ukraine where, after much suffering, there was a final triumph of Ukrainian independence against an imperialist USSR which was not only obstructionist with regard to Ukraine's national aspirations but cruel and oppressive to the nth degree.

The problematic step is in applying this basic conceptualization to Ukrainian Canadian immigrant history. That history is seen as a conflict between polar opposites — communism and nationalism — each representing one side in the struggle for Ukraine in Europe. Very little could be done about the Soviet Union by immigrants in Canada, so it came to be a question of which side the person rooted for.

According to this familiar narrative, all Ukrainian organizations fall clearly and completely within one of these two cheering sections. ULFTA/AUUC is the only communist organization, while all the others are nationalist.

This is painting with a wide brush, and the dangers of it are distortion, stereotyping, and stigmatizing.

The communist-nationalist polarity is both dominant and entrenched. It is dominant because the characterization of an organization as one or



the other precedes and colours everything else that is true about them, so that, for example, any accomplishment of ULFTA become a communist accomplishment. It is entrenched, because it shows up everywhere, not only in common speech, but in academic historical papers such as those in this volume, published 20 years after Ukraine became an internationally recognized sovereign state..

Hinthier and Mochoruk agree that this dominant and entrenched narrative must be “nuanced” from the communist side. But there is so much more that needs to be nuanced.

Adoption of the polarity blinds the researcher to the many forms of Ukrainian nationalism within ULFTA/AUUC.

As well, the polarity is so single-minded and almost obsessed with foreign affairs that it suggests the chief activity of all the rest of the Ukrainian Canadian organizations was to fight the Soviet Union. It ignores differences among the organizations, the reasons people have for belonging to them, and the actual work they do in Canada.

This kind of reductionism places the historian at the initial disadvantage of being bound by conventional stereotypes.

The polarity does not recognize that there may be reasons from the side of ULFTA/AUUC to back the Communist Party of Canada which had nothing to do with opposing Ukrainian nationalism. Perhaps they were promoting socialism, opposing Fascism, or maybe even doing what they thought was best for Ukrainian national interests and aspirations.

Meanwhile, people designated as “nationalists” by the dominant narrative may have been primarily interested in any of a number of activities. Maybe they wanted to sing in

a choir, socialize and dance with their friends, practice a religious faith, or keep alive Ukrainian language and observance of traditional holidays. Not everyone in “nationalist” organizations had nationalism as their single overriding objective.

So I have a radical proposal, that the dominant narrative be shelved as a research-guiding set of assumptions. Of course the bi-polar stereotyping is a long established historical fact, possibly the most interesting fact about Ukrainian-Canadian history. It cries out for study and explanation. But in order to study it the historian can not approach it with a set of question-begging preconceptions.

We need to ask, how did Ukrainian Canadians come to think this way? What were and are the consequences of the communist-nationalist stereotyping for Ukrainian Canadians? Who is perpetuating the polarity today, and for what purpose?

Once the communist-nationalist polarity is on the shelf as an undefined and uncritically received research tool for historians, the field is open to a lot of other narratives.

For example, how did the needs of immigrants change during the years, and what impact did these changing needs have on the Ukrainian Canadian organizations?

How well did the organizations adapt to changing social relationships and demographic

patterns of settlement?

What policies were adopted to assist early immigrants in dealing with capitalist exploitation and oppression, in developing working-class consciousness, and in dealing with the hardships of the Great Depression?

And then there is the momentous story of the world struggle against fascism, the quest for full economic and social democracy and the role of Ukrainian Canadians in that struggle.

None of these research projects should be started with an undefined and unrefined polarity as part of the historian's conceptual apparatus.

No one can work with a completely open mind, and that is not expected. But if the historian insists on beginning study with an assumed polarity and a story line to go with it, she or he should at least follow Hinthier's and Mochoruk's lead and be critically self-conscious about it.

Even better is for the historian to try some new thought experiments which challenge the dominant narrative. Suppose I did not carry this baggage, what ways would be opened up for me? What would be the prospects for getting a richer, more finely honed and, in the end, truer account of the subject matter?

Out of such thought experiments is revisionist history born.

— Brent Stearns

### Sustaining Fund Donations

AUUC Ottawa, Ottawa ON .....	\$500.00
AUUC Ottawa, Ottawa ON	
<i>Honouring the 104th birthday of</i>	
<i>Nettie Dabeka of Ottawa</i> .....	104.00
AUUC Regina, Regina SK .....	200.00
Helen Hrynchshyn, Vancouver BC .....	120.00
Mary Rydz, Burlington ON	
<i>In memory of Mary Prokop</i> .....	100.00
Genevieve Hanusiak, New York NY	
<i>In memory of my husband</i>	
<i>Michael Hanusiak</i> .....	75.00
Audrey Moysiuk, Vancouver BC .....	75.00
Walter Fydenchuk, Exeter ON .....	70.00
Lesya Ukrainka Manor, Vancouver BC .....	70.00
Andrew & Elsie Lukenchuk, Kelowna BC .....	70.00
Sonia Ostash, Richmond BC .....	70.00
Fred Pawluk, Richmond BC .....	70.00
Sylvia Surette, Richmond BC .....	70.00
Steffie Yakimchuk, Winnipeg MB	
<i>In memory of my husband</i>	
<i>Michael G. Yakimchuk</i> .....	40.00
Olga McDaid, Thunder Bay ON .....	30.00
Natalie Kehoe, Edison NY .....	25.00
Helen Baker, Toronto ON .....	20.00
Gail Bilecki, Mississauga ON .....	20.00
Julie Dalkie, Winnipeg MB .....	20.00
David Mackling, Winnipeg MB .....	20.00
Jeannie Romanoski, 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.**



## UCC Response

(Continued from Page 3.)  
 nity. We have made our views on the Canadian Museum for Human Rights known, and have done so openly, consistently and with all the civility due to those who hold differing opinions. The Ukrainian Canadian Congress has called for an inclusive and equitable Museum that would include both Holocaust and Holodomor galleries. We are surprised by the "Open Letter on the UCCLA, UCC, and the CMHR" dated April 12, 2011 signed by a group of academics and writers (most of whom are from outside of Canada) for their criticism of UCC's position on the Museum. Their assertion is first and foremost inaccurate. The UCC has never campaigned against a Holocaust gallery in the Museum. We expect that any academic would first review the public statements of the UCC before signing onto a letter intended to defame the

reputation of the UCC and its leadership. Because of its distinct pedagogical value to human rights education, we have asserted that the Holodomor, arguably one of the greatest acts of genocide in 20th century European history, should be displayed in a permanent and prominent gallery in the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. We do not apologize for taking this position publicly, nor do we withdraw it. Some of those who signed the 'Open Letter' referenced above have made allegations concerning the nature and behaviour of the Ukrainian nationalist movements of the 20th century. We find their remarks prejudicial and without merit as these military units they reference, who fought for the independence of Ukraine against both the Soviets and the Nazis, were formally cleared of war crimes by Canada's Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals. The

Ukrainian Canadian Congress is on record as having stated that any war criminals or individuals who committed crimes against humanity found in our country should be brought to trial in a Canadian criminal court, regardless of when or where or why they committed a crime and irrespective of who they are by ethnicity, religious confession, 'race' or political ideology. How many died in the Holodomor? The UCC's position is that many millions died in the Holodomor. The exact number is less important than the scale and nature of this genocide. We have consist-

ently utilized generally accepted figures from sources like the Council of Europe, United Nations and Government of Ukraine. According to a recent Council of Europe Report Doc. 12173, 1 March 2010 titled *Commemorating the victims of the Great Famine (Holodomor) in the former USSR*, it stated that "The real scale of the tragedy is still difficult to assess. For Ukraine only, various researchers estimate the number of victims at between 2 and 7 million." The official position of the Government of Ukraine is "The Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine

(Holodomor), which took from 7 million to 10 million innocent lives and became a national tragedy for the Ukrainian people." The UCC has never compared the sufferings of the Ukrainian people to any other. Sadly, it is the authors of the Open Letter that are twisting UCC's efforts to ensure a prominent and permanent place for the Holodomor in the CMHR into a competition of suffering.

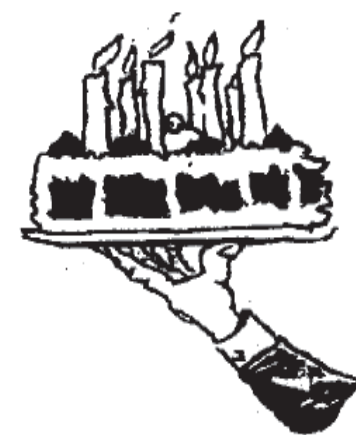


**IVAN FRANKO  
MUSEUM**

200 McGregor Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 5L6  
(204) 589-4397

*Free Admission by appointment only*

## Happy Birthday, Friends!



## Vancouver's Night of Foolishness



The Druzhba Dancers wowed the audience with their "Kozachok".



Like this enthusiastic participant, everyone had a great time!

—Photos Dan Fung



A variety of... and other activities kept the crowd energized.



A "kolomeyka" allows all sizes and shapes to show off their dancing prowess.

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

- Nester Bagan
- Rose Cender
- Sandy Gordey
- Paul Greene
- Nick Kereliuk
- Ed Makowecki
- Sophie Sywolos
- Mike Uhryn
- Virginia Witwicki
- Mary Woyewidka

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 June celebrants:

- Joe Dzatko
- Natalie Mochoruk
- Anne Omylanowski

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

The Vancouver Seniors June birthday

enko  
 ou the best of  
 ppiness in the  
 d Shevchenko  
 a happy birth-  
 ne celebrants:  
 ey  
 nyk  
 atrough  
 ning year bring  
 t in health and





## Taras Shevchenko Museum

### Vera Rich

Vera Rich (1936 – 2009), a well-known translator of Ukrainian literature into English, was buried, according to her desire, near Taras Shevchenko's grave in Kaniv, Ukraine, on April 15, 2011.

Faith Elizabeth Joan Rich, widely known as Vera (the direct translation into Ukrainian of "Faith"), an English translator, journalist, and poet, was born in London in 1936.

From a young age she started working on translations of Ukrainian and Belorussian literature into English.

Her first published translation, in 1957, of the prologue to the poem *Moses* by Ivan Franko, was considered such an important contribution in Ukrainian culture that 40 years later the Union of Ukrainian Writers in Kyiv pre-

sented Rich with a special award in memory of Ivan Franko.

Franko was the first of 47 Ukrainian poets and authors she translated, but it was her translations of the great Taras Shevchenko that confirmed her credentials.

Her first major book, *Songs Out of Darkness*, a selection of Shevchenko's poems, appeared in London in 1961, on the centenary of the poet's death. "It launched me on my full-time career as a writer/translator... and Shevchenko's poetry became an integral part of my imaginative background," she wrote in her notes.

In 2007, a selection of Vera Rich's translations of Shevchenko's poetry was published by the Shevchenko Literature



Vera Rich (1936 – 2009)

Institute of the National Academy of Sciences in Kyiv. In the same year, by presidential decree, she was awarded the Order of Princess Olha for her contribution to Ukraine's culture.

Rich regarded this as the "peak moment" of her life.

Vera Rich also researched, translated and popularized works of Lesya Ukrainka, Pavlo Tychyna, Vasyl Stus, Volodymyr Symonenko, Lina Kostenko, and many others. She was the author of hundreds of articles about Ukrainian literature in British journals.

She was one of the world's first journalists to tell the truth about Chernobyl.

Vera Rich also translated from the Polish, Russian, Romanian, Czech, Croatian, Norwegian, French and Spanish languages.

In addition, she produced two collections of her own poetry: *Outlines* (1960), and *Portents and Images* (1964).

Her first visit to Taras Shevchenko's grave at Kaniv in 1997 was such an overwhelming experience that she later confessed her desire to be buried near Chernecha Hill in Kaniv, where Taras Shevchenko rests.

Vera Rich died in London on December 20, 2009. On April 15, 2011, an urn of her ashes was entombed in the Kozak Cemetery in Kaniv, near Taras Shevchenko's grave.

Vera Rich was not only Ukraine's associate, but also Ukraine's Ambassador Extraordinary in the English-speaking world.

—Lyudmyla Pogoryelov

### Kaniv

A path as steep as Calvary  
Straddling a tree-grown hill,  
An obelisk, whence one can see  
Broad Dnipro rolling still...  
Crowds, banners, music, native kin  
Surge in a rising tide;  
In a confused yet holy din  
Their voice floats far and wide.  
Full forty years and two I dreamed  
To come... Those griefs are past...  
And now, high over Dnipro's stream  
Here I can kneel at last.  
I place upon the grey stone shelf  
These wild-flowers of Ukraine,  
And softly draw around myself  
The silence of his pain.

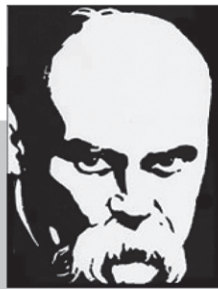
— Vera Rich

Welcome to the only  
**Taras Shevchenko Museum in the Americas!**

Запрошуємо до Єдиного на Американському  
Континенті Музею Тараса Шевченка!

Open Monday to Friday  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Weekends and Holidays by Appointment  
Free Admission – Donation Appreciated

Завітайте до нас за адресою:  
Taras Shevchenko Museum  
1614 Bloor Street West • Toronto,  
ON M6P 1A7 • Phone: 416-534-8662  
Або відвідайте нашу веб-сторінку на  
www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum



**Home Repairs & Renovations**



**Sawtooth Construction**  
Caledon, Ontario

Tel: 905 838-4566  
Cell: 416 806-4566  
E-mail: sawtoothconstruction@yahoo.ca

Servicing Toronto, Mississauga, Brampton, Bolton, Caledon, Orangeville

**By Eli Prociw**

Professional Renovator over 20 yrs  
Design and blueprint services  
Consultation services

Renovations and Additions  
Quality Workmanship  
Fully Insured

### Apologies

We extend sincere apologies for photo credits omitted on Page 6 in the May, 2011, issue: to Victor Horon for the pictures with "Edmonton Seniors Highlight Shevchenko", and to Jerry Dobrowolsky for the pictures accompanying "Mary Prokop Memorial Meeting".



## JOIN US!

Join the AUUC community! Each Branch has a unique schedule of events and activities. To discover what we have to offer, contact the AUUC in your area:

#### AUUC NATIONAL OFFICE

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

#### VANCOUVER BRANCH

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

#### CALGARY BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre  
3316-28 Avenue SW  
Calgary AB T3E 0R8  
Phone: (403) 246-1231 E-mail: calauuc@telus.net

#### EDMONTON BRANCH

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

#### INNISFREE BRANCH

c/o Mike Feschuk  
5221 - 45B Avenue  
Vegreville AB T9C 1L3  
Phone: (780) 632-3033

#### VEGREVILLE BRANCH

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

#### REGINA BRANCH

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

#### WINNIPEG BRANCH

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

#### OTTAWA BRANCH

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

#### SUDBURY BRANCH

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

#### TORONTO BRANCH

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

#### WELLAND BRANCH

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