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90th Anniversary of Orchestra

—Photo: Wilfred Schubert



On November 19 AUUC Winnipeg Branch celebrated the 90th anniversary of the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra with a banquet and concert at the Ukrainian Labour Temple. A report on that event, with pictures, appears on Page 6.

Income Distribution

With all this talk of the 1%, it was inevitable that someone would prepare an article about income distribution in Canada. Sure enough, on December 14, the *Toronto Star* ran a brief piece by Emily Jackson doing a bit of an analysis on income distribution in Canada in 2009, the latest year for which Statistics Canada had prepared a report.

The information given is restricted to those who filed a tax return, and dealt exclusively with income (that is, excluding capital gains, accumulated assets, and such).

One interesting number was the median income of the 27 million people who filed

returns. That is the income right in the middle, with half making more and half making less. The number: \$27,400.

About 39% (almost 4 in 10) tax filers earned less than \$20,000. Almost 20% (2 in 10) earned less than \$10,000.

The numbers in the article did show the steep graduation of income. Just under 5% of earners in 2009 made more than \$100,000. Of those, only one in three made it over the \$150,000 line.

One thing to note is that this information says little about the condition of family units. Some families (of various sizes) may rely on a single low income, while others may have several high earners.

30 Years on Death Row

Many readers of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* are familiar to some extent with the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal, convicted in 1982 (not quite 30 years ago) of killing a police officer.

Prior to his arrest, Mr. Abu-Jamal had been an activist, a radio journalist (elected for a time as President of the Philadelphia Association of Black Journalists) — and briefly, around 1970, a member of the Black Panther Party.

At the time of his arrest, he was working part time as a taxi driver.

On death row, he wrote several books and commentaries.

During those decades, civil libertarians and human rights activists have waged a determined campaign to prevent the execution of Mr. Abu-Jamal.

The state of Pennsylvania was equally determined to execute the man. It doggedly pursued this goal through almost thirty years of legal proceedings, and in the face of campaigns which included petitions, postcards, letter-writing, demonstrations, and many other forms.

In April, 2011, the United States Court of Appeals ordered a new sentencing hearing for Mr. Abu-Jamal, because the presiding judge had prejudiced the jury, telling them they could not consider mitigating evidence, and had begun his instructions to the

(Continued on Page 10.)

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One (Bad) Law for All

In mid-December, Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel finally had enough. After years of tolerating attacks on police and the army by the extremists relentlessly building illegal settlements, he finally announced that radical Israelis who attacked an army base would be treated like the Palestinians, whose land is being invaded.

He did not go so far as to declare the violent Israeli settlers to be terrorists. Nor did he acknowledge that the settlements were the problem —

only those violent settlers who attack Israeli forces. Attacking Palestinians to steal their land appears still to be acceptable.

Under the new rules, Israelis will be subject to administrative detention (that is, long terms of imprisonment without charges being laid), just as Palestinians have been for many years.

Other measures included in the announcement were extending powers of arrest, previously only held by police, to soldiers, putting more security

forces into the occupied West Bank, and removing and banning more Jewish settlers from the area.

Human rights groups have criticized Israel for applying one set of rules to Palestinians in occupied territories and another to the illegal Jewish settlers. While favouring equal legal treatment of all populations, they continued to oppose use of administrative detention.

Many countries, including Canada, enacted measures similar to Israel's administrative detention after September 11, 2001, to the consternation of human rights advocates.

Secret Torture Centres

New information about secret CIA prisons around the world continues to emerge. A recent revelation involved a secret CIA prison in Bucharest, Romania. Unlike most such installations, which were in out-of-the way, unobtrusive locations, this one was in one of the city's residential districts.

This particular prison reportedly opened in autumn 2003, and closed in 2006.

Though the prison was in the basement of a government-owned building, the Romanian government, including President Traian Basescu, denied any knowledge of its existence. The building is used to keep classified information

from NATO and the European Union.

The CIA also operated such prisons in Thailand, Lithuania and Poland, among other countries.

The six cells in the basement were on springs to disorient prisoners. Upon arrival, the captives were treated to a month of sleep deprivation, drenching with water (temperature not specified), slapping, and standing in painful positions.

When this facility and the one in Lithuania were closed in the first half of 2006, some detainees were taken to Kabul and then to Guantanamo, while others were sent to their native countries.

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Current Eclectic — Long and Short

Big Banks Hit Record Profit Heights

Just in case you missed it: Canada's big banks have once again reached record heights in their search for profit, tough economic times notwithstanding.

The big five had \$6.1 billion in profit in the fourth quarter alone (up from \$4.5 billion a year earlier), and \$22.4 billion for the fiscal year, up from 2010 profits of \$22.5 billion.

Toronto Dominion Bank (second largest) and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (fifth largest) were first to report. In the fourth quarter of 2011, they both exceeded expectations.

TD made a record \$5.89 billion in 2011.

CIBC made \$3.1 billion in 2011, up from \$2.5 billion a year earlier.

The Royal Bank of Canada, the country's largest, and Scotiabank, third largest, reported soon after. They also had great fourth quarters.

The Royal, with \$4.85 billion in 2011, actually showed

a drop — the previous year, it had \$5.22 billion in profit.

Scotiabank, on the other hand, was up 21% for the year, reaching 5.27 billion in profit.

The last of these banks to report was the Bank of Montreal, with net income of \$3.3 billion for the year, up almost a half billion dollars. About \$2 billion of that came from personal and commercial banking.

Because BMO results for the fourth quarter were below expectations, its stock sagged a bit when results were announced.

The National Bank, sixth in size in Canada, also had a good fourth quarter. It reported \$1.2 billion in net earnings in 2011, up from \$1 billion a year earlier. Chump change.

Each of the banks recorded personal banking (that is, charges on personal accounts, and profits from credit cards) as a major source of profit,

often making up for losses on investments.

Recognizing the gold-bearing goose, the banks have announced new or increased fees in the personal banking area, almost guaranteeing record profits in the current year. Why almost? Because some of them seem to be making some pretty wild investments off shore.

Still, the new aggressiveness of the Canadian government, with gunships a growing component of foreign policy, as well as the "free trade" agreements with various of the world's dictators, should help smooth some of that ride.

It seems like just yesterday that the big five banks were more or less where the National Bank is today, crying to be allowed to merge. By not allowing bank mergers, the government encouraged the bankers' moves into credit cards, insurance, and other lucrative financial areas.

A fine gift from the government to the banks was the Tax Free Savings Account, and now the Pooled Registered Pension Plan.

Pres. Obama Business Pet

Bloomberg News reported in December that early returns make President Barack Obama the business favourite among candidates in the coming presidential election. His greatest strength appears to be with communications and technology firms.

As of September 30, the President had received about \$5.6 million from business executives, about a third of their donations. Mitt Romney had received about another third, with about \$5.2 million, the rest being distributed among other candidates.

These donations accounted for only about 6% of President Obama's total donations, but 16% of Mr. Romney's, meaning that Barack Obama is well ahead of the competition in financial preparations for the election.

Presidential candidates have a choice when it comes to funding their campaigns. They may choose to take a public subsidy, in which case their private fundraising is legally restricted, or they may choose to finance their campaign from private donations, with no cap.

In the 2008 campaign, the Republican candidate chose to

take a subsidy. Democratic candidate Barack Obama opted for private donations only, and ended up with a far larger campaign fund than his rival.

As has been noted, Mr. Obama has always enjoyed "a large donor component that was linked to corporate America".

While it is early days, even an incumbent like President Obama, who has disappointed many of his 2008 supporters and is considered by many to be a weak president, obviously has an advantage.

Of course, the sad state of the Republican primary contestants can only help such an incumbent.

Canada Leaves Kyoto Treaty

Just hours after returning from United Nations environmental discussions in Durban, South Africa, Environment Minister Peter Kent announced that Canada would not implement the Kyoto Protocol.

The announcement surprised nobody, but disappointed many who had hoped that the government of this country would ultimately show concern about the world's environment.

Russia and Japan also declined to participate in an extension of Kyoto beyond 2012.

Nearly 200 countries were at the talks in Durbin, which extended Kyoto to 2017.

Canadian Peace Congress Convention

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



Dave McKee was re-elected President of the Canadian Peace Congress.

At its monthly meeting on November 20, 2011, AUUC Toronto Branch decided to accept the invitation to affiliate to the Canadian Peace Congress.

This decision was made in view of the historical relationship between the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians and the Canadian Peace Congress, and with concern about growing Canadian aggressive involvement in the spread of war around the world.

The decision to affiliate was taken on the eve of the National Convention of the Canadian Peace Congress. Wilfred Szczesny was delegated to attend the November 25 and 26 convention.

The Convention, held at Metro Hall in Toronto, was a modest affair attended by 18 people, give or take, representing peace councils, affiliated organizations and individual members.

Still, this number represented substantial improvement, as President Dave McKee pointed out, over the situation at the previous convention

Additional Peace Councils had been formed in the interim, and still more were being established. The number of af-

filiated organizations had grown to eight, with more joining even as the Convention was under way.

After clearing away a few preliminaries, the Convention turned to a discussion of the "Main Political Report". This was a solidly written document which elicited thoughtful discussion.

The report discussed the main global and Canadian developments from a peace perspective, reviewed the work of the Canadian Peace Congress since its last Convention, and projected the CPC path into the future.

In the course of the discussion, several amendments were suggested, further strengthening an already good report. These came in writing from Peace Councils, like that

in Winnipeg, who were not represented, as well as from the Convention floor.

The Convention received several supportive messages, both written and oral, from individuals and organizations.

An especially warm reception was accorded the written message from John and Jeanette Morgan, unable to attend, whose many contributions to the peace struggle have not been forgotten.

Don Currie, Past President of the CPC and now an Associate Member, also sent a written message.

The Convention adopted a plan of action which included, among other matters, ways to strengthen further the Canadian Peace Congress, and a set of campaign areas for concentration into the future.

A number of special resolutions were considered. Like the other documents of the Convention, these will be released after having been edited in light of the discussion.

In its final moments, the Convention held elections as specified by the constitution.

Cheryl-Anne Carr of Winnipeg was re-elected Aboriginal Representative, and David McKee of Toronto was re-elected President.

Under the CPC constitution, other Executive positions are filled by the Council, which is composed of local Peace Councils.

— Wilfred Szczesny

Restore "Equality" to Status of Women

Printed below is the text of a letter sent to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Rona Ambrose, Elizabeth May, and Peggy Nash.

Rona Ambrose, MP, is Minister for Status of Women in Harper's Cabinet.

Elizabeth May, MP, is the Leader of the Green Party.

Peggy Nash, MP representing Parkdale-High Park, is a candidate for the leadership of the federal New Democratic Party.

On Tuesday, December 6, 2011, a discussion group within the AUUC Toronto Branch chose the topic *Women's Rights - Violence Against Women*.

During a discussion concerning women's equality, attention was directed to the fact that, in 2006, the Conservative government eliminated "equality" from the mandate of Status of Women Canada.

Those present at this meeting would like to respond to this fact by making the following statement:

We the undersigned strongly oppose this action and urge the federal government to re-instate "equality" to the mandate of Status of Women Canada.

We believe that this reinstatement is essential to ensure equality for women and their full participation in the economic, social and democratic life of Canada.

Sincerely,

Bernardine Dobrowolsky, William Harasym, William Malnychuk, Lyudmyla Pogoryelova, Wilfred Szczesny

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board.**Quebec: Shameful
Discrimination**

AN EDITORIAL by WILFRED SZCZESNY

There are still Ukrainian Canadians alive who remember being punished for speaking Ukrainian in the school yard. Most members of the Ukrainian Canadian community would agree that this effort to eliminate the linguistic difference between our community and "real" Canadians was unjust, cruel, abusive — and accomplished nothing, except to instil shame in many individuals.

In another context, children of Canada's indigenous population were separated from their families and communities, and sent to remote schools where part of the unjust, cruel and abusive treatment — which accomplished nothing, except to instil shame in many individuals and destroy their spirit — included a ban on speaking anything but English.

In the category of "some people never learn" is a Montreal school board seeking to make French the only language spoken in its school yards. The government of Quebec is reported to be supportive of the position of the school board. Quebec's Minister of Culture calls it "an important measure to promote Quebec's majority language".

The assurance is that, "There will be no language police." Nor will there be spies. However, there will be teachers who will be comfortable telling a child, "We'd prefer you speak French."

There will be no sanctions, supposedly. "We don't work by punishment." How much more sanction does an obedient child need than the disapproval, especially in public, of a teacher? How long before a less obedient child is in a principal's office being threatened with detentions, suspension or expulsion?

Why will the teachers be so comfortable? Why, because some poll showed that 70% of 811 respondents supported a policy of French only in all school spaces. So what we have here is the tyranny of the 70% majority over the 30% minority, for no valid reason.

Teachers who are not "comfortable" with this language bullying will still have to enforce the rules, or find themselves the targets of the nonexistent police and spies, and subject to the non-existing sanctions and the non-existing punishments. Unless, of course, sanctions and punishments are enacted for noncompliant teachers.

Shameful!

COMMENTARY**About Face Coverings**

A case in point is *All-American Muslim*, a television series highlighting five Muslim families from Dearborn, Michigan, USA. The Florida Family Association launched an attack against the show as soon as they heard of it. They were successful in getting Lowes, a home improvement chain, to withdraw its commercials from the show. Later the FFA claimed to have stopped advertising on the show by 65 companies, including (they claim) Home Depot. Lowes admitted to caving to the FFA pressure.

The position of the FFA, it seems, is that any depiction of Muslims as normal Americans is "propaganda ... attempting to manipulate Americans into ignoring the threat of jihad..."

This is, admittedly, an American example, albeit one of many that could have been selected.

Reading the commercial daily papers provides ample evidence that there is no shortage of examples available in Europe as well.

But let us not be smug — in Canada too there is ample evidence of a spirit of hostility to Muslims.

One example is the sudden concern about the niqab and the rarer burka. After decades of coping with these items of clothing, Canadian authorities suddenly find a problem with people veiling their faces.

"Cover your face or become a citizen, but not both," because Immigration Minister Jason Kenney has so announced, on behalf of Prime Minister Harper (who actually makes all decisions). Initially

the reason given was to ensure correct identification. When the existing protocols covering this question were brought out, the justification was changed to ensuring that the citizenship oath was actually being spoken.

However, Mr. Kenney, making the announcement in Quebec (where a provincial anti-niqab bill is gaining support) let the cat out of the bag. "It is a matter of deep principle that goes to the heart of our identity and our values of openness and equality," he said.

All of that because one (yes, one) Conservative politician, a recently elected Member of Parliament was suspicious of all those four veiled women at a citizenship ceremony, especially as (he said) they all got into a car with New York state licence plates.

"Our values of openness and equality" is a strange comment from a representative of a government which is internationally recognized as making Canada less open than it once was.

It is not at all a strange comment, however, from a man representing a government which, both internationally and nationally, has shown itself to be generally hostile to Muslims.

Another area where the veiled face is suddenly a problem is at the ballot box. For years there was no problem, but now, when there is increasing pressure to switch to voting methods which do not require a voter to show himself or herself at all, a veiled voter becomes some sort of threat to our way of life.

Court rooms, too, have become arenas of the anti-veil battle, with some defence lawyers arguing that, on the one hand, defendants have a right to face their accusers and, on the other hand, demeanour and facial expressions have to be seen to determine the veracity of testimony.

One can not blame defence attorneys for trying to sideline hostile witnesses or, failing that, to have them at an immediate psychological disadvantage on the stand. The rest of us, however, should understand that both these arguments are specious. There is no requirement in Canadian law that a complainant or accuser even testify, let alone any requirement for a face-to-face confrontation. Furthermore, there are adequate ways to ensure the identity of veiled witnesses as well as to guarantee that they are actually taking an oath to tell the truth.

As for detecting truth by observing facial features, best advice is that such a practice is totally unreliable, and may even be misleading, not only because of the many factors which affect reactions but also because interpreting any particular reaction is far from straightforward.

(As this is being written, a Supreme Court of Canada decision on this issue is pending.)

On the issue of covering faces, it should be recognized that many women are coerced into this practice (though the coercion is not always by men). However, there are also women who freely choose, for whatever reason, to veil their faces. Bullying them into unveiling is as much an encroachment on their freedom as is forcing them to cover up.

Some people support such coercion for "high-minded" reasons, like liberating women (by forcing them into other behaviour). Others just have a low tolerance for any differences (like tattoos, certain clothing styles, or piercings).

Of greatest concern should be those who are being manipulated by some of the governments of the day, assisted by compliant media, into directing their negative feeling (fear, loss of hope, frustration, etc.) away from the governments and against Muslims (and other immigrants) in these difficult economic times.

Remember, Ukrainian Canadians, that our people, too, have been targets of discrimination by biased people engaged in some supposedly high-minded civilizing mission.

— Volodymyr Lucky

**From Our
Readers**

Wishing you all a merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year!

— Anne & Joe Bobrovitz
Brantford ON**SEE US ON THE WEB!**AUUC (National)
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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.

Heart of the City 2011

— Story photos: Dan Fung



Squamish Elder William Nahanee, with Engreid Gervin, Shaquinna and Sabrina Peron, presented the "Greeting of the Day".



Intricate rhythms and varied sounds were produced by the Seymour Youth Taiko Drummers.



"Bukovinsky tanets" by the Dovbush Dancers was fast paced and rhythmical.



Dovbush Dancers' fast moving and colourful "Hopak Simyorka" featured many solos.



The elegant beauty of the women and prowess of the men was displayed during Dovbush's performance of "Utyshka".



Chef Sylvia Surette and part of her kitchen crew, who prepared the wonderful dinner.

On November 6, AUUC Vancouver Branch once again hosted the closing event of the Downtown Eastside Heart of the City Festival with a Community Concert, Ukrainian Supper and Urban Barn Dance. The Ukrainian Cultural Centre was filled to capacity, and the enthusiastic audience enjoyed every minute of the event.

Squamish elder William Nahanee, with Ingrid Gervin and her daughters Shaquinna and Sabrina Perron, led us in a "Greeting of the Day" with native song and dance.

The Barvinok Choir, under the direction of Beverly Dobrinsky, chose two selections from the past, "Oi chorna ya se chorna" and "Oi chiy to kin' stoyit", as their first set. For the second set, "Oy tam za Dunayem" and "Reve ta stohne Dnibr shyrokiy" were sung.

The Seymour Youth Taiko Drummers, under the direction of Doug Masuhara, presented an energetic drum display. The drummers, male and female and of various ages, demonstrated the philosophy that strengthening each individual member will result in strengthening the group as a whole. Hearing the intricate rhythms and different sounds of the various drums depending on where the drum was struck was only part of the interest of this spectacle.

The Vancouver Folk Orchestra, under the direction of Steven Ho, serenaded the audience with "Chervona kalylna" and "Barn Dance" in their first set, and then "Bandura" and "Dibrochanka" for their second set.

Accordionist Todd Wong, a 5th generation Chinese Canadian descended from one of the oldest immigrant families from China, delighted the audience with his selections. Todd is the creator of the annual Gung Haggis Fat Choy Robbie Burns Chinese New Year Dinner. Todd works, lives and plays in a world of cultural diversity.

The Dovbush Dancers, under the direction of Caitlynn Schell, entertained the audience with three selections. "Bukovinsky tanets", a new addition to their repertoire, was rhythmical and fast paced. "Utyshka", a contemporary Russian dance, showcased the elegant beauty of the women and the prowess of the men. "Hopak simyorka" was everything a Hopak should be: fast moving, colourful and demonstrated the skills of the talented soloists.

The concert finale was Ed McCurdy's "Strangest Dream". This item involved the choir, orchestra and dancers in a tribute to The Milestones and long time orchestra member, 91-years-young Harry Hoshowsky.

The Milestones were

formed from within our AUUC cultural groups. Folk music historian Gary Cristal called The Milestones "probably the finest folk music ensemble that existed in Vancouver in the '60s". Harry was one of the Milestones, as was Jerry Szach, and both were both acknowledged.

Nettie Honcharuk, widow of Milestoner Ed Honcharuk, was also in the audience.

A short video of The Milestones was prepared by Sheila Allan and was shown on screen prior to the singing of *Strangest Dream*.

After the concert the audience went downstairs for the Ukrainian Supper. To every-

one's delight, the borshch, perogies, cabbage rolls and Ukrainian meat balls, as well as non-Ukrainian fare, were ready to eat. Chef Sylvia Surette and her crew had prepared a scrumptious dinner, served by dancers and choir and orchestra members.

With stomachs satiated, the crowd moved upstairs for the Urban Barn Dance, with music provided by Russell Shumsky, Bud Kurz and Kathleen Nisbet and dance caller Marlin Prowell. This proved to be a great toe-tappin', heart-warming ending for this year's Downtown Eastside Heart of the City Festival.

— Dianna Kleparchuk



Beverly Dobrinsky directed the Barvinok Choir during "Oi chiy to kin' stoyit", and three other songs.



Director Steven Ho and part of the Vancouver Folk Orchestra during an orchestral selection.



The finale "Strangest Dream" was a multi-media presentation with choral and dance participation.



Dovbush Dancers helped with serving the delicious borshch for dinner.

Mandolin Orchestra Anniversary

— Story Photos: Wilfred Schubert



On November 19, the AUUC Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra, conducted by Annis Kozub, celebrated the Orchestra's 90th anniversary with an inspiring performance combining traditional Ukrainian numbers with the Orchestra's trademark pieces.

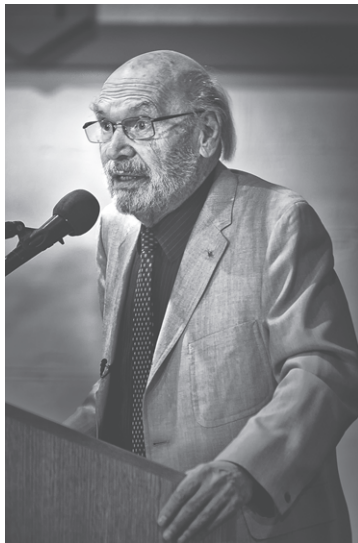
In 1921 a group of thirteen young women under the direction of Matthew Popowich gathered to form a group that would begin a musical legacy that has lasted over 90 years. Through the musical dedication of many, Winnipeg's first Mandolin Orchestra was formed. On a quiet Saturday evening 90 years later, under the directorship of Annis

Kozub, the current members of the AUUC Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra put on an entertaining performance to celebrate this historic occasion.

The Winnipeg council of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians sponsored and hosted this gala event on November 19, 2011. The celebration included a spectacular dinner banquet, an entertaining keynote speaker and, of course, an inspiring orchestral performance. In attendance were current and former orchestra members, NDP Manitoba Member of the Legislative Assembly Kevin Chief and, as always, many friends, family and supporters of the orchestra.

During the dinner, emcee Lydia Hedrich read several greetings and good wishes that were sent to the Orchestra from a number of people who were unable to attend due to distance and previous commitments.

After dinner, MLA Kevin Chief brought greetings to the Winnipeg Branch, and spoke of the important contributions of the AUUC to the community.



Myron Shatulsky was the keynote speaker at the 90th anniversary celebration.

He congratulated the Orchestra on their dedication, and wished them many more years of success.

After a brief refreshment break, keynote speaker Myron Shatulsky presented an informative and entertaining account of the history of the AUUC Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra. Myron provided many interesting historical tidbits, such as the fact that the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra is the oldest continually performing mandolin orchestra in Canada and the second longest continuously performing mandolin orchestra in North America.

Myron's ability to combine information with humour engaged the entire audience throughout his presentation.

The Orchestra then took to the stage. The musical presentation was a mixture of tra-



Vocalist Harry Stefaniuk added his talent to the concert program.



Kevin Chief, Member of the Legislative Assembly, spoke of the important contributions of the AUUC to the community.

Love the "Herald"

Wishing the best of health

to the staff of the "UCH",

the Hahilka Singers,

the Shevchenko Ensemble,

and all AUUC Branches —

keep going!

Jerry Gawura

Canton, Michigan, USA

*Best Wishes for
the New Year!*

The AUUC Ottawa Branch

sends

Warmest Greetings and

Best Wishes

to all

AUUC members and

supporters

for a Happy and Peaceful

2012!

**To All AUUC
Members and Friends**



**Best Wishes for Health,
Happiness and Prosperity
in a World of Peace!**

Winnipeg AUUC Branch

May the New Year

bring

Peace, Happiness and Joy

to all our friends.

Olga and Myron Shatulsky

IVAN FRANKO MUSEUM

200 McGregor Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba

The Board of Directors
extends wishes for the
Best of Health

to all AUUC members
in the New Year

A HAPPY 2012 TO ALL



*May 2012 bring you
good health, happiness,
and prosperity!*

AUUC Toronto Branch



— Story photos: Victor Horon

Edmonton Seniors: Meeting and Excursion

November being the month of reflection set the tone for the Edmonton seniors' gathering on the 15th of the month. Several people spoke about remembrance, war, and peace.

Bill Uhryn reminded us that his father-in-law was a veteran of World War 11, and William's brother, too, served Canada in active duty, in the Kiska Islands.

Recently, 158 of our Canadian troops have been killed on duty in Afghanistan. Some 3000 others have come home disturbed, with too many horrors of war in their heads. Now *this* damage of war has come back with them to their homes: wives or husbands, children and families.

Einstein is to have said of war that it is the market place of armament dealers. "And the power structure that are really the war makers," remarked another senior from the floor.

One of the thinkers of England said to his grown son this year, "Don't wear a poppy!"

"The other sides in war lose heroes too!" another senior in our audience interjected.

Shirley Uhryn then asked those in attendance to rise for two minutes of silence in rec-



Tim Chichak, part owner of Greenland Garden Centre and ex-radio personality, was one of the hosts during the visit.

ognition and commemoration of our fallen.

In closing, we each picked up our glasses of wine in a toast of tribute, and expressed a plea for world peace.

Next we were served a hot meal by our cook, Dianne Ries. As usual, this was appreciated by all.

Celebrants of birthdays for this month were Martha Ursuliak and Stephanie Chopoidal. We wish each of them many opportunities for smiles.

Later in the month, on November 21, fifteen seniors rode the Shriners' bus for a day trip to the Greenland

Nursery, .

"The whole place was a winter wonderland of angels and all Christmas wonders! Oh! All sorts of things!" enthused Victor Horon.

"We were well accommodated with splendour, lunch and transportation," commented Pauline Warwick.

Olga Horon said that she had not known that there were so many different kinds of poinsettias, and that each required different care.

"Orchids come in so many colours, even green ones!" added Lucy Antoniw. "There was even a Bonsai area!"

Rose Kereliuk and Mary Tropak arranged this very successful trip.

In January, we will celebrate our Ukrainian Christmas. For February, Heart Month, a community health nurse has been booked to share her knowledge about healthy eating. Job well done, Rose and Mary!

All are now waiting for Santa's visit on December 20, for our last gathering for 2011!

— Shirley Uhryn



Patty Ambrock, General Manager of Greenland Garden Nursery, helped serve a lunch of soup and panini, with Marshmallow-topped chocolate squares for dessert.



Lucy Antoniw, Ann Kawchuk, and Pauline Warick were among those enjoying the wonderland at Greenland Nursery.

Mandolin Orchestra

(Continued from Page 6.)
ditional Ukrainian numbers with many of the Orchestra's trademark numbers.

Joining the Orchestra was guest vocal performer Harry Stefaniuk, who brought to this concert his very distinctive vocal component. His mellow tones added an extra ingredient to a superb performance.

For this historic concert, a number of former orchestra members joined the Orchestra to further enhance the evening.

The celebration of the 90th anniversary of the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra was a renowned success. The audience was entertained by superior music.

Events such as this bring together our history and our friendships. They help to remind us of the many important contributions our Association has made, and will continue to make into the future.

A special "thank you" goes out to all the volunteers whose contributions to this event made the evening an overwhelming success.

— Kathy Schubert

JoKe TiMe

Conservative definition of democracy: A right Canadians may exercise at the polling station on election day every few years (as the government decides) — if they don't forget their identity documentation.

*Happy New Year
to the members
of the AUUC and
their cultural forces
and friends
across Canada.*

*We wish all
good health and
happiness
in the new year!*

**AUUC Edmonton
Senior Citizens Club**

*WITH THE
VERY BEST WISHES
FOR A HEALTHY, HAPPY
2012!*

Bill and Marie Harasym, Toronto

*Wishing AUUC
Members and Friends
the Best of the Season, and
Peace and Happiness
in the New Year!*

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To All Its Tenants
and**

AUUC Members for a

A HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR



*Canadian Society
for
Ukrainian Labour
Research*

A HAPPY 2012 TO ALL

**Sent as a
separate
page.**

Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewich

Ukrainian Space Rocket

Ukraine's objective is to complete all the primary work required to launch the Ukrainian rocket Cyclone-4 from a space launch facility in Brazil by 2013, stated President Viktor Yanukovich in a recent interview.

The total project cost is estimated at US\$488 million, with Ukraine having already invested US\$130 million. Brazil is responsible for the construction of the launch base, while Ukraine is responsible for construction of the carrier rockets.

Cyclone-4 is a three-stage expendable launch system. Its advantages include increased fuel efficiency and safety of the launch process due to automatized prelaunch operations.

Ukraine's program is one of the three successors of the Soviet Union's space industry. The country is one of the five in the world owning a complete rocket production cycle.

Ukraine occupies one of the world's leading positions among rocket launcher producers, with the Ukrainian company SDO Yuzhnoe alone having produced over 400 Earth satellites. Ukrainian space industry companies utilize most of the known space technologies and participate in 50 international space projects. Over the last 10 years, Ukraine has deployed 120 launchers.

Cuban Residents in Ukraine Protest

Last month the Association of Cuban Residents in Ukraine demanded the end of the US criminal blockade of Cuba, the release of four Cuban anti-terrorist fighters unjustly held in American prisons, and the return of a fifth to Cuba.

In a statement approved in Kyiv during a national meeting of the organization, the ACRU requested that US President Barack Obama release Gerardo Hernandez, Ramon Labanino, Fernando Gonzales and Antonio Guerrero. It also requested the immediate return to Cuba of Rene Gonzalez, who has already completed his prison sentence.

Mr. Gonzalez must serve an additional three-year period of supervised release on US territory, where he faces death threats from right-wing groups of Cuban-born extremists in Florida.

The statement by the Association of Cuban Residents of Ukraine also protests Cuba's inclusion in the list of nation-sponsors of terrorism

drawn up by the White House. The statement reaffirms unconditional support for the Cuban Revolution on the occasion of the 53rd anniversary of its triumph.

In discussing the 50-year blockade of Cuba, the statement provides details of the damage done to the Cuban economy by the American embargo (condemned by the UNO), and the hunger and despair inflicted on the Cuban people.

"Hot" Cars

A Mercedes reported as stolen in Germany and apparently smuggled to Ukraine has become the official auto of Ukraine's justice minister after being confiscated by the authorities.

According to a report in Germany's *Der Spiegel* magazine, the 2009 Mercedes GL 420 SUV, which retails for about US\$100,000, was originally driven by two businessmen in Germany, who reported it stolen last year.

Suspicious police investigators later determined that the men were involved in smuggling cars to eastern Europe, including the Mercedes. They were sentenced to five and nine years in prison. Despite the fact that the men didn't actually own the SUV — technically it was the property of Mercedes, which had been leasing it to them — Ukrainian authorities seized the vehicle at the border and decided to keep it, *Der Spiegel* reported.

A court determined that the authorities didn't have to send the SUV back to Germany, despite an Interpol alert, and it was eventually transferred to Justice Minister Oleksandr Lavrynovych, who has been using it ever since.

Ukrainian law allows authorities to permanently seize cars stolen elsewhere if they come into the possession of authorities. But some officials in Ukraine have said that the whole affair is shady and the car should be returned to Germany.

"This only underlines the fact that there exists a specific scheme for stealing automobiles and smuggling them into Ukraine, after which the ownership is transferred to the Ukrainian government through court decisions and later sold," said Ukrainian parliamentary deputy Valerii Konovaliuk.

Greed, Not Honour

One of the most painful episodes in the history of Ukraine is being used by a bank in the United States for commercial gain. It is offer-

ing customers the chance to go shopping with a famine-themed credit card — a move being seen in Ukraine as a moral outrage.

The catastrophic 1932-1933 famine claimed at least 3 million lives in Ukraine alone, with several more million perishing across what is now central Russia and Kazakhstan.

Some in Kyiv insist it was an act of genocide. Russia says it was caused by the agricultural policies of Joseph Stalin's government, and point out that Russians, Kazakhs, and other ethnic groups, as well Ukrainians, died in the famine.

(In April, 2010, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe voted 55 to 21 to *not* label the famine as genocide against the Ukrainian people. They pointed out that the famine took millions of lives in the former Soviet republics of Belarus, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Russia, and Ukraine. - **gb**).

The American bank's initiative has been met with an avalanche of criticism. Political analyst Viktor Pirozhenko calls buying groceries with a famine-inspired card blasphemy.

"The idea is completely immoral. It's an attempt to popularize a great tragedy and use it for commercial needs. I can only think of one other such proven tragedy — the Holocaust — but the Jews are not putting that on a credit card," he said.

Extremists Sentenced

Nine Ukrainian nationalists charged in the decapitation of a monument to Soviet leader Joseph Stalin in the southeastern city of Zaporizhyya last year have received suspended sentences.

The extremists, who were members of the right-wing organization Tryzub (Trident), were arrested in January and went on trial in March.

The group's leader, Roman Khmara, and two of his associates were each given a suspended sentence of three years. The other members of the group received suspended sentences of two to three years with probation periods of at least one year.

They were also ordered to pay 100,000 hryvnias to repair the monument.

Leather – Or Not?

"Today 70% of artificial leather shoes sold in Ukraine are made in China." So said Oleksandr Borodynia, President of the League of Footwear Producers, last month.

"Last year, Ukraine imported 109 million pairs of Chinese shoes, of which only 6% were of genuine leather. That is, presently 70% of the footwear in the market is from China, and it is almost all made of artificial leather," he emphasized.

At the same time, according to Mr. Borodynia, the majority of Ukrainians believe that they buy shoes made of real leather.

"When we survey consumers, almost three quarters of the buyers say they buy only shoes made from genuine leather," he added.

Mr. Borodynia urged the acceleration of the introduction of the order from the Cabinet of Ministers concerning compulsory labelling of footwear to indicate the type of leather of which it is made.

Darth Vader Lands in Odessa

Darth Vader has requested a free 1,000-square-metre plot of land in the Ukrainian port city of Odessa, citing legislation that grants every citizen the right to such an application. City officials say they are considering the request.

The man, dressed as the Star Wars character, says that he wants the plot in order to park his space cruiser.

A local news site says that while the request is being considered, it's by no means certain to be granted. In fact, it might be best if Vader doesn't get his hopes up.

The application was properly registered after Vader took off his helmet and showed his identification.

As bizarre as it may seem, granting some land to the Dark Lord of the Sith might for once be a popular move.

Happy Baba

Stepania Maherovska, a Ukrainian grandmother repeatedly denied a visitor's visa to see her new Canadian grandbaby twins has finally been given the green light to visit this country.

Her daughter Oksana Pocrnic said that after five failed attempts, thousands of dollars in fees and lawyers bills, and more than a year of trying to get a visitor's visa for her mother, Mrs. Maherovska was finally granted a visitor's visa and hopes to arrive in Saskatoon this winter.

"I feel so happy," Ms. Pocrnic said. "I can't tell you how I feel. My happiness, and my hope, it's such a growing feeling today."

Pocrnic's husband Zeljko runs his own trucking business and is often away for days at

a time, leaving the bulk of the parenting of the babies to his wife.

Mrs. Maherovska first applied to visit her daughter and son-in-law about 18 months ago. Citizenship and Immigration Canada cited factors such as Maherovska's country of residence (Ukraine), employment status (retired), financial situation, travel history, and purpose of visit as reasons for the denials.

The Pocrnics said they couldn't understand why the Canadian government was worried about the visit. Mrs. Maherovska has no intention of trying to stay in Canada permanently, they said.

Twins Annamarija and Alexander will be eight months old in January. Their grandmother plans to visit with them until their first birthday.

Ecological Catastrophe

Ukrainian authorities are launching a massive nationwide project to transform the country's dangerous and inefficient waste disposal network as officials admit the former Soviet state is facing an "ecological catastrophe".

Some 50% to 70% of all urban waste is recycled on average in the rest of Europe. Ukraine, in contrast, incinerates or recycles less than 5% of the more than 50 million tonnes of domestic waste produced in the country each year.

The remainder of Ukraine's waste is dumped into more than 4,000 landfill sites that not only take up 7% of the country's land area — more than all its national parks combined — but also, according to state environmental bodies, fail to meet even the most basic of environmental safety standards.

And there are now serious concerns that millions of tonnes of toxic waste buried in poorly secured sites are posing a severe threat to human health and the environment. Combination of urban and industrial waste in the same landfill sites has led to the waste degrading into a thick toxic sludge that is permeating the subsoil and leaching through to upper rock layers below ground.

Following a meeting last month of the scientific council of the All-Ukrainian Ecology League, the League's Tetiana Timochko told Ukrainian media: "Sanitary and industrial waste are put together (in landfills), which leads to a fermentation process unknown to science. To what kind of new viruses it will give birth, we just don't know."

(Continued on Page 12.)

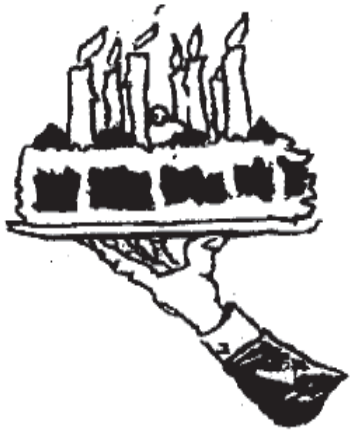
30 Years

(Continued from Page 1.) jury before the defence attorney had made his closing argument.

In October, 2011, the Supreme Court chose not to review the ruling by the Court of Appeals.

On December 7, 2011, District Attorney Seth Williams and the prosecutors in Philadelphia decided not to pursue the death penalty, but to let Mr. Abu-Jamal live the rest of his life in prison, with no chance of parole.

Happy Birthday, Friends!



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

- William Chomyn
- Eva Doskoch
- Victor Horon
- Rose Kereliuk
- William Maxim
- Mary Romach
- Bill Uhryn

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 January celebrants:

- Lorna Clark
- Rose Nedbailik
- Mike Stefiuk

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

The **Vancouver Seniors Club** wishes the best of health and happiness in the coming year to January celebrant:

- Larry Kleparchuk

Enjoy your day with family and friends!

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

- Norman Boucock
- John Kukoly
- Joe Panetta
- John Sitak
- Sandra Sitak
- Mary Wasylenky

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

Pennsylvania has 207 convicts on death row; 50 of them have been there 20 years or more.

In 2007, a committee of the American Bar Association, the lawyers' governing body, found that Pennsylvania's system for administering the death penalty is "plagued with errors". Among the shortcomings the ABA committee found (as reported in *The New York Times*) were inadequate representation, the possibility of executing an innocent person, racism, and geographic disparities.

The United States is in the top five of countries which still impose the death penalty.

JoKe TiMe

The geezer asked the youth, "What kind of bird is Woody Woodpecker?"

"A woodpecker," The 18-year-old replied.

"And what human food does a honey bee make?"

"Honey."

"And how many applications does a data entry clerk send out, on average, before finding a job?"

"I don't know."

"Just as I thought," the old man said. "Kid knows all about the birds and bees, but nothing about finding a job."

Who, What, When, Where

Calgary — The **AUUC Calgary Branch** will host **Malanka** at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, **3316-28th Avenue SW**, on Saturday, **January 14, 2012**. For more information or tickets call the Ukrainian Cultural Centre at **403-246-1231**.

* * *

Regina — The **Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and Dance** and **AUUC Regina Branch** will host a **Malanka** (Ukrainian New Year's) celebration at the Regina Performing Arts Centre, **1077 Angus Street**, on Saturday, **January 14, 2012**. **Cocktails** and appetizers at **5:00 p.m.**; **supper and Poltava Ensemble performance** at **6:30 p.m.**; **dance to Ficor show dance band** at **9:00 p.m.** For tickets, call the Regina Performing Arts Centre at **(306) 779-2277**. **Admission: \$45.00**.

* * *

Vancouver — The **AUUC Vancouver Branch** will host **Malanka** at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, **805 East Pender Street**, on Saturday, **January 21**. **Cocktails** at 5:30 p.m.; **program** at 6:30 p.m.; **Dinner** at 7:00 p.m., followed by **dancing to a live band**. Admission: **\$40.00/person**. Call **(604) 879-2089**.

* * *

Winnipeg — The **Winnipeg AUUC** will **not** host a **Malanka** this year. We apologize for the incorrect information published in our last issue, and regret any inconvenience arising therefrom.

* * *

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

Alex Lysak, Edmonton AB	\$170.00
Anne & Joe Bobrovitz, Brantford ON	
<i>In memory of dear brother Bill Galange</i>	100.00
Helen Galange, Brantford ON	
<i>In memory of my husband Bill</i>	100.00
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Walter Pasnak, Edmonton AB	20.00
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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.



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

Ben Zion Shek

Ben Shek was long a good friend of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians. On June 26, 2011 he passed away in Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto.

Dr. Shek was predeceased by his wife Jean Shek.

When an invitation was extended to a celebration of his life, AUUC Toronto Branch received it as an honour and designated George Borusiewich to represent the Branch. Printed below is Mr. Borusiewich's report from the event, followed by the remarks made on behalf of the AUUC Toronto Branch.

Ben Shek Memorial

On November 20, a celebration of the life of Ben Zion Shek was held in the Winchevsky Centre, home of the Toronto Branch of the United Jewish People's Order. The Centre was packed, with over 200 people (my estimate).

The attendance was no surprise. Ben was a well-known figure, not only in the Jewish community, but also in the academic community, as well as in communities where social justice played a leading role.

Ben Shek was a devoted member of the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir since 1951. According to the Choir's conductor, Alexander Veprinsky, Ben devoted a lot of time to the choir. Said Mr. Veprinsky, "It's his baby. He feels it."

At the time of his passing last summer, Ben was also

Vice-President of the Toronto Branch of the United Jewish People's Order.

He was a professor of French as well as a respected scholar of Québécois literature. Among other works, he wrote *French-Canadian and Québécois Novels*, in which he discussed social realism in the French-Canadian novel.

He was also an associate editor of *Outlook*, a progressive Jewish magazine published in Vancouver six times a year.

Ben's dedication to progressive causes never wavered, even while failing health made it more difficult for him to participate in activities and marches for peace, social justice and fair play.

His example will stand as a beacon for the rest of us to follow.

AUUC Tribute

Good afternoon, friends.

My name is George Borusiewich. I am Vice-President of the Toronto Branch of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians.

We in the AUUC have always considered the United Jewish People's Order to be a sister organization. We, too, are a cultural group with strong left-wing leanings. Those who know us recognize that the outlook, ambitions, and goals of our two organizations are similar.

And so we join you in paying tribute, and remembering Dr. Ben Shek, a person of many talents who devoted his life to working tirelessly for the good of the common man.

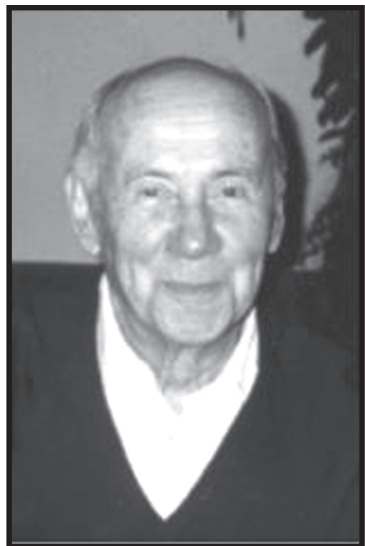
He believed, as we do, that it's the needs of the 99% that must be addressed, not just the wishes of the 1%.

You, Ben, have blazed a trail. It is now up to us to fol-

low your lead.

To your family, we offer our condolences. To your friends, we offer our promise of continuing your struggle for social justice and fair play for all.

Dear Ben, may your journey be gentle. May your rest be peaceful.



DR. BEN Z. SHEK

Toronto AUUC: New Project

On December 6, AUUC Toronto Branch launched a new project — a discussion group. On the 22nd anniversary of the massacre of fourteen women in Montreal, the theme was, aptly, women's rights and violence against women.

The discussion was lively and wide-ranging. There was substantial agreement on the main issues, but also an interesting diversity of opinions.

There seemed to be a general feeling that governmental decisions, from the federal level down to Mayor Ford's regime (after all, this was taking place in Toronto) were often hostile to the needs of women. Among the many examples given were closing of women's shelters and cuts to funding of institutions like Status of Women Canada.

The abolition of the long gun registry was cited as an example of changes tending to increase the threat of violence, not against women only, but against everyone. The drive to make this change even against the advice of most police opinion, was seen as particularly worrisome.

Childraising as an issue in reducing the tendency to violence in society come under discussion, and the "nature versus nurture" discussion had another airing.

An interesting difference of opinion, which could have been more fully explored, was whether raising boys differently from girls was actually desirable. (The initial position was that they should be raised the same.) Of late, there has been more than a little public discussion of the consequences of the "unmanning" of males, making this question rather timely.

Participants at this first gathering agreed that a discussion among a half-dozen people, as agreeable as that might be, should not be the only (or even the main) goal of this project. Among proposed aims were: building the Branch by involving more people in the discussions; building public awareness of the AUUC by publicizing the agreements in the discussion; influencing public policy, in however modest a measure, by adding the Toronto AUUC voice to the public debate; raising awareness of the AUUC as part of the progressive community among other members of that community.

On December 6, it was agreed to write a letter urging the restoration of "equality" to the Status of Women mandate. The letter appears on Page 3.

— Carl Honour

AUUC Toronto Grey Cup Social

On Sunday, November 27, 2011, AUUC Toronto Branch held its annual Grey Cup party at the AUUC Cultural Centre on Bloor Street.

The giant Game Day banner caught everyone's eye when they entered the hall, as did the orange and black covered tables in honour of the B.C. Lions and the gold and blue decorated tables celebrating the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. The bar area was bedecked in red and black in homage to the Canadian Football League.

A great majority of the guests were supporting the Bombers, as reflected in the preferred team stickers chosen at the door.

As usual, everyone was given the opportunity to enter a Grey Cup trivia contest, with practical Christmas accessories and miniature trophies as prizes.

Guests were also invited to take part in the annual football pool, with winners determined by the gradual outcome of the game.

Just before the kick off,

Jerry Dobrowolsky's famous chili dinner was served, with optional macaroni and shredded cheddar cheese available. Yet the biggest hit was the choice of regular or homemade garlic butter for the bread. Without a doubt, the garlic won everyone over.

Further activity and excitement were stirred by a surprise visit by Annis Kozub, an avid Blue Bomber fan and director of the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra, who delivered Winnipeg thunder stix. (He was in Toronto to attend that afternoon's concert by the Toronto Mandolin Orchestra at Glenn Gould Studio.)

But the roaring sound of those thunder stix diminished gradually as the game progressed, as B. C. became the dominant team and eventually secured a 34-23 victory over Winnipeg.

The mood remained festive, though, especially among the trivia and pool winners and everyone else whose main goal for the event was to have a really good time.

— B. Dobrowolsky



Jerry Dobrowolsky's chili with various trimmings is a well appreciated annual tradition.

— Story photos: Jerry Dobrowolsky



Some attended to watch the game; some to socialize; all to have a really good time.



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Free Admission by appointment only



Taras Shevchenko Museum

Written 175 Years Ago

Taras Shevchenko wrote his first poetical works before his release from serfdom. In his autobiography the poet noted:

As to my literary work, I will say only that it had its beginning on those moonless white nights. For a long time my strict Ukrainian muse, distorted by experiences in school, in the antechambers of manors and in various city quarters, kept away from me. However, when the breath of freedom returned to my senses the purity of my childhood passed under the roof of my father's poor home, the blessed Ukrainian muse came and embraced me in a foreign land. From my first poor experiments written in the Summer Garden only one ballad, "Prychyna," (Bewitched) was published...

Below are excerpts from *Bewitched*, written 175 year ago.

Roaring and groaning rolls the Dnipro,
An angry wind howls through the night,
Bowing and bending the high willows,
And raising waves to mountain heights.
And, at this time, the moon's pale beams
Peeped here and there between the clouds,
Like a small boat on the blue sea,
Now rising up, now sinking down.
Still the third cock-crow was not crowed,
And not a creature chanced to speak,
Only owls hooting in the grove,
And now and then the ash-tree creaked.

Such a night, beneath the mountain,
There, beside the spinney
Which shows black above the water,
Something white is glimmering.
Maybe a rusalka-baby,
Wandering by stealth,
Seeks her mother or a lad
To tickle him to death.
It is no rusalka roaming,
But a young girl wandering,
And she does not know, herself,
Spell-bound, what she's doing.
Thus the old wise-woman made it,
So to ease her grieving,
That, by wandering at night,
Do you see, while sleeping,
She could seek the Cossack who
Left her last year—he promised
That he would return to her,
But probably he perished!
Not with a silk kerchief have
The Cossack's eyes been swathed,
Not by her caressing tears
Were his fair cheeks bathed:
On a foreign field, an eagle
Plucked his eyes away,
And the wolves devoured his flesh—
Such must be his fate!
In vain the young girl waits for him,

Every night, in vain;
The dark-browed youth will
not return
Nor greet her once again.
He will not have her long
plait loosened,
Nor her kerchief tied;
Not in a bed, but in her coffin
Shall the orphan lie!

Such is her fortune ... O God
of all mercy,
Why dost Thou punish a
maiden so young?

Because the poor child
came to love so sincerely
The Cossack's dark eyes?
Ah, forgive her this wrong!
Whom then should she
love?

Without father or mother,
Alone, like a bird on a far
distant shore.

She is so young—O send
her good fortune,

Or strangers will mock her
and laugh her to scorn.

Is the dove to be blamed
that she loves her heart's dar-
ling?

Is he to be blamed that the
hawk comes to slay?

Grieving and cooing and
weary of living,

She flies all around, seeks
him lost from the way.

Fortunate bird, she can soar
high above,

Can wing up to God and
implore for her dear.

But whom, then, O whom,
can the orphan approach,

And who is to tell her, who
knows where her love

Is passing the night? Is he
in a dark grove?

Does he water his horse in
the Danube's swift stream?

Or perhaps there's another,
another he loves,

And she, the dark-browed,
is a past, faded dream?

If she were but given the
wings of an eagle,

She would find her beloved
beyond the blue waves,

In life she would love him
and strangle her rival,

And if he were dead, she
would share the same grave.

Not so the heart loves as to
share with another,

Nor is it content with what
God has to give.

Not wishing to live and not
wishing to sorrow;

"Sorrow," says thought,
overwhelming with 'grief.

Such is Thy will, then, O
God, good and great,

Such is her fortune, such is
her fate....

— Trs: Vera Rich

Ukrainian News Briefs

(Continued from Page 9.)

The problems of the country's poor waste disposal network date back to its transformation following the break-up of the Soviet Union (i.e., the change from socialism to capitalism - gb).

In the Soviet era Ukrainians

took their own containers to markets to buy milk and cream, the popular drink called *kvas* was sold from tankers in the street, and food items were wrapped in paper, which is biodegradable. Plastic bags were almost unheard of, all glass was recycled, little or nothing was sold in cartons and there was no extraneous packaging as it was considered bourgeois.

BEST WISHES FOR 2012!



from Olga Pawlychyn
Winnipeg, MB



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JoKe TiMe

Early to bed, early to rise,
makes a man health, wealthy
and wise — or an over-the-
hill party-pooping skinflint who
misses all the most interesting
stuff going on around him
(and on television).

Like the paper?
Why not get a sub?

The Association of United
Ukrainian Canadians
hosts

Malanka

A Ukrainian New Year's
Celebration

Saturday, January 21, 2012

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
905 East Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C.

5:30 p.m. Doors open for
cocktails

6:30 p.m. Ukrainian program by
the Vancouver AUUC
performing arts
groups

7:00 p.m. Ukrainian New Year's
traditional buffet
dinner, followed by
dancing to live
music

Admission: \$40.00/person
Dance only tickets available.
\$10.00 admittance after 9:00
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