

# AUUC Chooses Life!

— Photo: Wilf Schubert



Participants at the 45th AUUC National Convention at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg on October 12-14, 2013.

One outgoing member of the National Committee said that the AUUC had survived to its 45th National Convention; another outgoing member of the National Committee rose to challenge that claim.

That exchange pretty much encapsulated the discussion at the 45th AUUC National Convention, held at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg on Thanksgiving weekend, October 12-14, 2013.

Among the delegates and outgoing National Committee members there were some who favoured dissolution of the national AUUC or its reduction to a skeleton as soon as possible. Among those

were some who favoured distribution of AUUC assets to the “major” Branches and others who favoured establishing “a legacy” by giving a large part of the assets to one institution or another that would be entrusted with keeping the memory of the AUUC and its contribution to the public good alive.

Whatever else they agreed on, people in this group were united in the belief that the AUUC nationally should be deprived of resources. The first expression of this unity was opposition to the sale of Camp Kum-in-Yar, a measure necessary if the national structure was to be maintained.

— Photo: Wilf Schubert

A secret ballot on this issue established that the majority of participants favoured continuation of the AUUC as an organization with a national structure with adequate funding for programming. By a vote of 24 to 11, the convention rejected an appeal by a Calgary member, and upheld the National Committee deci-

sion to sell the camp located near Sylvan Lake, Alberta.

Determination to fight for the continuation of the national AUUC was also reflected in the Convention’s support of the National Committee’s position on the report of the Future Committee. That committee presented a report with

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## The Next Issue

The next issue of the “UCH” will be dated December, 2013. Announcements of events in December or early January, 2014, as well as articles for the December issue should be in our office by November 10. Thank you for your consideration.



Elected at the 45th AUUC National Convention: (seated, left to right) Glenn Michalchuk – Vice-Recording Secretary, Debra Skrabeck – Recording Secretary, Wilfred Szczesny – Vice President, Bob Seychuk – President, Kathy Schubert – Treasurer, Lorna Clark – National Committee, Shirley Uhryn – National Committee; (standing, left to right) Larry Kleparchuk – Alternate, Ludmila Dabeka – Alternate, Michael Parasiuk – National Committee, Vera Seychuk – Auditor, Emily Halldorson – National Committee, Blyth Nuttall – National Committee, Gloria Gordienko – Auditor, Gerry Shmyr – Auditor. Not in the photo: Dianna Kleparchuk, National Committee, and Alternates Nykol Kroeker, Leah Nowosiadly, Eugene Semanowich.

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— Photo: Gloria Gordienko

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(Continued from Page 1.) three options. The committee favoured the option of providing some resources to AUUC Branches and using the remaining assets to create a “legacy” (such as some sort of seat at a university).

The National Committee, however, chose another option contained in the report: to build the AUUC. The NC then gave the National Executive Committee the task of developing a plan to implement this option. The NEC did not produce such a plan, declaring instead that the task was impossible.

Again confirming the National Committee’s decision, the Convention passed a resolution which opened, “Be it resolved that this convention

supports the exploration of any and all reasonable and productive efforts to further the continued existence of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians as a progressive national organization.

Recognizing the concerns of individuals and several Branches, the Convention included in the resolution support for a possible restructuring of the organization.

The resolution also included the formation of a committee to implement the resolution. The committee, composed of six Branch appointees and the National President as Chair, is to report to the National Committee by October 31, 2014.

Masterful drafting by the Resolutions Committee produced a motion which was

adopted unanimously.

The Convention further expressed its support for a strong and progressive national AUUC by adopting a resolution submitted by AUUC Toronto Branch calling for continued publication of a print edition of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, with a return to 11 issues annually “as soon as financial circumstance make this feasible”.

The Convention elected a new leadership for the AUUC, as many in the national leadership withdrew or failed at re-election.

Former National President Bill Bilecki withdrew from the National Executive Committee, as did veteran member Joan Kowalewich. Wilfred Szczesny moved from Recording Secretary to Vice-President. Added to the NEC were Debra Skrabek, President of AUUC Calgary Branch, at Recording Secretary, and Winnipeg Branch President Glenn Michalchuk at Vice-Recording Secretary.

The National Committee lost Dwayne Chomyn (defeated in an election for Vice-President), Peter Horon (defeated in a bid for re-election by Emily Halldorson), Nadine Obermeyer, Leah Nowosiadly (elected as an alternate), Gloria Gordienko (elected to the National Audit Committee), and Myron Shatulsky and Lyudmyla Pogoryelov, both of whom decided not to run again.

(Continued on Page 11.)



Recording the Convention were secretaries Vera Seychuk, Nadine Obermeyer and Wilfred Szczesny.

## Elected at the 45th AUUC National Convention

### National Executive Committee

- National President** — Bob Seychuk
- National Vice-President** — Wilfred Szczesny
- National Treasurer** — Kathleen Schubert
- National Recording Secretary** — Debra Skrabek
- National Vice-Recording Secretary** — Glenn Michalchuk

### Other National Committee Members

- National Committee Member** — Dianna Kleparchuk
- National Committee Member** — Michael Parasiuk
- National Committee Member** — Blyth Nuttall
- National Committee Member** — Shirley Uhryn
- National Committee Member** — Emily Halldorson
- National Committee Member** — Lorna Clark

### National Committee Alternate Members

- Lawrence Kleparchuk      Nykol Kroeker
- Leah Nowosiadly      Eugene Semanowich
- Ludmila Dabeka

### National Audit Committee

- Gloria Gordienko      Vera Seychuk      Gerry Shmyr

— Photo: Gloria Gordienko



Lucy Nykolyshyn (left), Olga Shatulsky and Mary Semanowich staffed the table at which AUUC Toronto and Winnipeg Branches displayed handicrafts and other items for sale.

On the evening of Saturday, October 12, at the Winnipeg Ukrainian Labour Temple, following a Thanksgiving dinner of turkey with all the trimmings, Convention participants and other guests were entertained by the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra and the Festival Choir of the AUUC.

The concert program was opened by Glenn Michalchuk, President of AUUC Winnipeg Branch. Mr. Michalchuk extended a welcome to the Au-

dience and outlined the program before turning the floor over to Annis Kozub, Conductor of the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra.

Mr. Kozub introduced the five orchestra numbers in turn. Although the group was not at full strength, the audience obviously enjoyed their renditions, from the Ukrainian folk song “Baking Bread”, through the perennial favourites “The Garmonist Plays”

(Continued on Page 10.)

— Photo: Gloria Gordienko



A dance program was presented by an ad hoc dance group, accompanied on the violin by Annis Kozub.

# Winnipeg AUUC Entertains

— Photo: Wilf Schubert



The Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra of the AUUC, conducted by Annis Kozub, entertained the audience with five varied pieces.

— Photo: Wilf Schubert



In the absence of their conductor, Vasylyna Strelstov, the Festival Choir was led by Nancy Kardash as they presented their village scene, with Brent Stearns on accordion and Dale Rogalski on piano.

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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## Privatizing Profit

AN EDITORIAL BY WILFRED SZCZESNY

The motto seems to be, "If it's making money, sell it!" Over and over again, governments try to make us believe that selling a profitable crown corporation or government service to private operators is the way to generate more income for the public treasury. Usually the profit-generating public asset is sold at fire-sale prices, on the promise of increased future returns. Often the operating conditions of the business are changed to make profit-taking easier.

For example, many provinces have privatized distribution of alcoholic beverages. In most cases retailing strictly through controlled centres was replaced by selling through a wider range of outlets.

The private operators have no concern other than maximizing profits, a process made more acceptable by calling it efficiency. They do this in many ways, in addition to taking advantage of eased restrictions. They often drive down the cost of labour (by eliminating unions, reducing the size of their staff, hiring foreign workers or moving operations outside the country, and so on). They usually eliminate unprofitable parts of the business, regardless of social consequences — consider how many smaller communities no longer have rail or bus service.

Nowadays governments are more secretive about their operations, so the public sometimes knows nothing until the deal is done; sometimes the information comes out.

In Ontario, for example, it is known that the government is considering selling the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corp., which controls all legal gambling in the province, and operates much of it.

The idea emerged in 2012, under the banner of modernization. First gambling in Ontario would be made even more profitable, then it would be privatized. In exchange for promises of huge revenues, the province would reduce the OLG to a small regulatory body overseeing legal gambling.

The idea of privatizing the OLG has evoked some good questions. Why assume that a privately-owned company will be more profitable than the publicly-owned OLG? How would a private company, which has to deliver private profit, deliver more provincial revenue than a public operation? How would a private company be compelled to abide by its undertakings (like keeping jobs in Ontario)?

In 2011, Illinois became the first state to privatize its lottery. The private operator has not delivered the promised revenues, but is asking for a half-billion in additional concessions.

Sold cheap, it can now be bought back at a "fair price".

## COMMENTARY

### Conflict Zones

With Canada's Prime Minister Harper declining to visit Sri Lanka because of continuing problems there, it felt like a good time to review some of the conflict zones around the world.

In the Americas, a major conflict zone is **Mexico**, where the conflict is the government against the drug lords. This war on drugs, since 2006, has claimed over 108,000 victims, including at least 8,000 this year.

Another conflict zone in the Americas is **Columbia**, with hundreds of thousands dead since 1964, including almost 5,000 insurgent combat casualties in 2012.

Conflict also continues in **Peru**, though the numbers of casualties reported have been quite low this year and last.

The elimination of state-held supplies of chemical weapons, as well as the means of producing them, is under way in **Syria**. However, the fighting between government forces and supporters and the well-armed, Western-supported rebel militias continues. There have been reports of strife between the various militias, as casualties are in the range of 100,000 since 2011.

An added complication, is the rejection by the 11 largest armed factions (which seek to form an Islamic state) of the Western-backed coalition. All sides, apparently, have attracted foreign combatants.

In **Egypt**, the arrest of thousands of Muslim Brotherhood leaders and members has not stopped huge demonstrations in support of the

elected government, ousted by a military coup in October, 2012. Over 1000 have been killed this year.

In **Nigeria**, a continuing struggle has taken thousands of victims as rebels strive to establish an Islamic state in the north of the country. At the end of September, 2013, the rebellion surged, in retaliation for a military offensive against the insurgency during the summer. The government has threatened to change its tactics, suggesting greater oppression to come.

The much-publicized attack on Westgate mall in Nairobi, **Kenya**, is part of a broader situation, as militias of Somali refugees have been radicalized by harassment by Kenyan police and other discrimination. Kenyan troops currently occupy some territory in southern Somalia.

A continuing civil war in **Somalia** has claimed over 500,000 lives since 1991, though it is relatively quiet this year, with over 70 casualties.

Deaths continue to mount in **Pakistan** as Muslim militants, who view the government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif as American puppets, react against strikes by American drones and other attacks.

In spite of some thawing or relations between the USA and **Iran**, Israel (encouraged by the position of the Canadian government) continues to press for action against Iran. The danger of the situation is heightened by the con-

flict in much of the region.

In the **Philippines**, the Moro National Liberation Front continues its rebellion. In September, the military launched an offensive to regain lost ground in coastal regions. The government is actually trying to cope with two rebellions, one a left-wing struggle, the other against an Islamic insurgency. Together, they generate hundreds of deaths each year.

In September, too, in **Cambodia**, demonstrations following on disputed election results led to one death and several injuries.

A civil war has continued in **Iraq** in the two years since the US withdrew. The cost is 5000-6000 lives annually.

In **Sudan** and **South Sudan**, various wars have cost more than three thousand lives this year.

Wars in **Afghanistan** count casualties in the millions since 1978. As the foreign armies (primarily the US) prepare to leave, the casualties continue to mount.

The struggle for an independent **Kurdistan** continues to claim victims in Iran and Turkey. This struggle waxes and wanes, but does not end.

**India** is engaged in several conflicts — in Kashmir, in the northeast of the country, and elsewhere — claiming hundreds of lives annually.

This is far from a complete list of all the hot spots in the world, but it is enough to establish that the world today is rather a dangerous place for many people around the world. It is also enough to establish that armed conflict today has many roots and motives

— Selected from *Wikipedia*

## "Changing the Channel"

Finally, after yet another prorogation, Prime Minister Harper brought Parliament back. Certain issues had not disappeared since Parliament last sat, so the Prime Minister tried to change the discourse (particularly on the Senate scandal) and to divert attention (with a throne speech and a free trade announcement).

Some scribe thought of a new metaphor for these time-honoured manoeuvres, and suddenly "changing the channel" became an indispensable phrase in any writing on political themes.

In the commercial media, one must be on top of the latest fad to sound knowledgeable.

## From Our Readers

We have just finished reading the paper — hope it goes on and on.

— Anne & Joe Bobrovitz  
Brantford ON

## SEE US ON THE WEB!

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auuc.ca

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

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

**Taras Shevchenko Museum:**  
www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum

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http://www.auucvancouver.ca/

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## Welland Mandolin Orchestra Entertains

It had been a very quiet season, with fewer concerts than usual. Everyone was contemplating a long and relaxed summer holiday.

Then there were two shows booked in a single month — August at that. Goodbye, summer break! Hello, active season, with lots of music!

The report on the August 13, 2013, concert at the convention of the United Senior Citizens of Ontario appeared in the September/October issue of the “UCH”. That was a lively affair, with the orchestra playing well and the audience reacting accordingly.

The second concert, on August 23 at Seasons First Avenue in Welland threatened to be a bit of an anticlimax, in a location that sounded like a nursing home.

To top it off, our bass player was unable to attend — and her stand-in, who would be playing without a rehearsal, turned out to be a no-show.

All the negative aura was soon dispelled. The bass beat was definitely missed — by the musicians. The audience just heard an orchestra that was playing familiar music, mostly, and playing it well.

Nor was this a nursing home audience. This was a retirement community, almost as lively as the convention-goers. There was singing, clapping and tapping to the music, and applause.

Margaret Card’s vocals (Moon River, Embraceable You, My Heart Will Go On, Try to Remember, Just Because, Vera Lynn Medley, and Beer Barrel Polka) drew

approving “aahs” when announced and approving applause when completed.

Solos by Wilfred Szczesny (Bei Mir Bist Du Schon, and Blowing in the Wind), as well duets by Mr. Szczesny and

Rudy Wasylenky (Jamaica Farewell and Ukrainian Folk Medley) were equally well received.

A half dozen instrumental numbers were interspersed (Lara’s Theme, Yellow Bird,

Speak softly Love, When Irish Eyes Are Smiling, O Sole Mio, and Sentimental Journey) for variety,

Like the USCO, this audience was ready for more, and urged a return engagement.

—Photo: Elizabeth Kelly



The Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra (AUUC), conducted by Rudy Wasylenky, appeared at Seasons First Avenue, a retirement community in Welland, on August 23.

## Edmonton Seniors Salute Our Past

“From life — what have you learned?” That was the question posed at the September 17 gathering of the Edmonton AUUC Seniors. Birthday celebrants Bill Askin, Anne Parfeniuk, Olga Horon, and Shirley Uhryn responded.

“In my early teens, I considered ways to improve society and influence government’s policy and direction. As a result, my life time was primarily focused on being pro-Canadian, and therefore my efforts were directed against Free Trade and the

GST only to name a few.

“A person can not give up on his struggles for a better life for all!” reflected Bill Askin.

Olga Horon remarked, “As we travelled along the journey of life, beginning at home with parents and siblings and then becoming adults, we assumed responsibilities. As life became more challenging and difficult, situations had to be (managed) with cooperation, loyalty, tolerance, honesty, integrity, perseverance and other qualities which gradually

were woven into the fabric of a lifetime.

“As you go about your daily life, the challenges you encounter strengthen your coping abilities concerning work, disappointment and sorrow.

“But, also along the same path in life, you experience joy, happiness and peace.”

“Well, Honey, it goes like this!” Anne Parfeniuk put in. “I learned that if you do things good to people, it will come back to reward you! I learned never, never to hurt people somehow or other. Eventually you will see that that person has good things not only bad! If you really give them a chance, you will see their good side too!

“About youth, I learned they are wonderful people. I go to the store in Kingsway Mall and the young eagerly say, ‘Just wait a minute. I will help!’ They really are wonderful people, but we need to give them a chance to show us their goodness.

“Sometimes I sit on my wagon and I think, ‘I love life because, being 86 years old, there is not very much left of it!’”

“When saluting our past, I often give credit to my ancestors who had a goal and had hope! I am a proud product of their labour. These ideals even serve the generations today,” asserted Shirley Uhryn.

A good time was had by all 45 people attending the birthday celebration.

In keeping with the theme of saluting our past, I brought home-made wine. The featured gallon of saskatoon or choke cherry, dated 1971, was that of my mother Mary Schewchiw and father William Bayers, formerly of the Peace River country in northern Alberta.

I had not tasted Mom’s wine the day before as Bill prepared it. When I was mingling, I asked Anne if the wine was good. She replied that if I tasted it today and didn’t like it and spit it out, she would lick up any that had fallen!

As the birthday celebrants prepared to seat themselves at the head table, I did not realize that Anne Parfeniuk was behind me. She placed her hand gently on my shoulder to caution me that she was behind me. When I turned, with a twinkle in her eye, she said that she did not care if I hit her BUT I was NOT to spill her 8-ounce tumbler of red wine filled, to the brim!

Myron and Sasha Uhryn

were the gentlemen serving the wine.

Out-of-town guests were Debbie Kwasnica from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, and Kelsey Rinski and Magdalena from Leduc, Alberta. In addition, attending were Jean and Walter Billay, along with Virginia and Fred Tautchin from Carvel, Alberta. Fourth generation Uhryns were represented by Rachel Borges and her infant son who even modelled wearing Uncle Bill Uhryn’s signature cowboy hat!

Beef stew, baked fish, and breaded chicken were the main dishes. Diane Ries and her colleague Mike worked hard again to feed us well.

For dessert there were black forest cake and gluten free jelly roll, along with a fruit plate.

Through the afternoon all were entertained by our spontaneous orchestra: Bob Kisilevich on piano, Humberto Novell on guitar, and Walter Gerbera on accordion, along with Mike Uhryn. Incidentally Walter Gerbera comes from the area of Sanok in Ukraine, the same area as William Uhryn’s family. As a result, the Ukrainian folk music that William and Mike Uhryn know, having grown up in the Volin area of northern Alberta is the same music that Walter plays, so he has fit very well into the band.

Winning ticket holders received the pots of roses which were featured on each table as well as yellow garden zucchini.

President Pauline Warick announced that the annual meeting, usually held in September, this year will be held on the third Tuesday of October — that is, October 15.

— Shirley Uhryn

## Toronto Opens Season with *Amadeus*

Traditionally, AUUC Toronto Branch opens a new season with much pomp and ceremony, often including a sit-down banquet and speeches. In a complete departure from usual practise, we opened the 2013–2014 season with a buffet lunch and movie.

The theme was Austrian.

The hall was beautifully decorated, with white tablecloths covering each table. Live cut-flowers, in interestingly-artistic vases, graced each table, adding splashes of colour to the room. The overall effect was one of elegance.

In keeping with the Austrian theme, the lunch menu included Wiener schnitzel, sau-

—Photo: Jerry Dobrowolsky



AUUC Toronto Branch opened its season on an Austrian theme, screening *Amadeus*, and serving Wiener schnitzel with suitable sides.

erkraut, potato salad, garlic butter, and fresh buns. All finished off with great coffee.

That the food was delicious was underlined by the fact that we had customers for “seconds”, and requests for our recipes.

The Austrian theme was motivated by the movie being screened. *Amadeus* is a somewhat tongue-in-cheek portrait of Mozart, as seen through the eyes of his great rival Antonio Saliari.

The film was not only educational but, judging by the applause at its end, entertaining as well.

As accomplices in the staging of this enjoyable and successful event, we must thank the usual suspects (in alphabetical order) — Anne Bobyk, Bernardine and Jerry Dobrowolsky, Natalie Mochoruk, Otti Nicolai, and Nancy and Mark Stewart. Many, many thanks to The Crew for a job well done.

— George Borusiewich

— Photo: Debbie Karras

# Dovbush Puts Ukraine into Ukrainian Dance

The Dovbush Dancers, the senior dance group at AUUC Vancouver, reconnected Ukrainian dance directly with its cultural traditions this July by travelling to the Virsky dance studio in Kyiv, Ukraine, to work with professional Ukrainian instructors at the Kyiv Summer Dance School.

Over the course of two weeks, they underwent five hours of instruction each day in order to improve their technique and connect with the heart of Ukrainian traditional dance, something the group felt to be especially important as none of its members had ever been to Ukraine.

The idea of the trip was first conceived in a conversation over a year ago between Debbie Karras, the group's director, and Janice Beck, its costume mistress. Both women had participated in a similar program in their youth

and were discussing the possibility of their daughters participating in a similar experience.

The simple proposal to send four dancers to Ukraine expanded promptly when Ms. Karras and Ms. Beck decided to extend the invitation to all the Dovbush Dancers, and found the number of participants growing.

"Over my time as a dancer at the Ukrainian hall," explains Caitlynn Schell, one of the most experienced Ukrainian dancers in the group, "I always heard former dancers talking about how they had made the trip to Ukraine and how much fun it was and how much they learned. So when the opportunity came up, I decided that I had to go. It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

Throughout the year, more dancers signed up for the trip and pitched in to help with the

— Photo: Jennifer Bednard



Liliya Chernous instructed the male dancers in a dance from the Hutsul region, which she choreographed.



Each five-hour day was broken into three parts: a ballet barre and centre work taught by Vitaliy Voloshin; classical Ukrainian technique, separated into boys' and girls' parts, taught by Vasyliy Kolomiets; and choreography in which the entire class learned a dance from the Hutsul region.



Kyiv Summer Dance Program, with all of the dancers and instructors, including Miroslav Vantukh, Artistic Director of Virsky (centre).

— Photo: Jennifer Bednard



The stay in Kyiv included various excursions and sight-seeing tours.

— Photo: Jennifer Bednard



A pleasant outing was a boat tour along the Dnipro, with friends old and new.

— Photo: Debbie Karras



Excursions included a visit to "Dovbush rocks", where a group photo was taken.

fund-raising, up until the month before the trip. From the initial plan to send a handful of dancers, the group of travellers had expanded to eighteen —almost the entire group, and the largest number of participants from a single group that the Virsky summer program had ever seen.

As the number of travellers increased, however, so did the difficulty of fund-raising. The group's fund-raising goal was to cover the cost of the Virsky program for every dancer in attendance, in order to make the trip affordable for any dancer who wished to participate. This goal became steadily more ambitious as more dancers were added to the roster.

The group took a multilayered approach to fund-raising. In addition to traditional fund-raising events such as rummage sales, raffles and silent auctions, the group also requested donations from other organizations, from businesses, and on occasion, from private donors.

The AUUC was instrumental in the fund-raising process, from providing space for fund-raising events at the AUUC Vancouver hall to providing significant monetary contributions. Ms. Schell insists, "We really couldn't have done it without all of the support from the AUUC, and especially from our own hall."

After more than a year of planning and fund-raising, all

(Continued on Page 12.)

— Photo: Jennifer Bednard

# 85th Anniversary Concert In Vancouver

The mere mention of an address or a street name can elicit instant recognition. Be it 10 Downing, Haight-Ashbury or Nevsky Prospekt, most people are able to conjure up some association with these

addresses.

In Vancouver, 805 East Pender Street has been that recognizable address. For 85 years, thousands of people have come to 805 East Pender Street for many dif-

— Story photos: Dan Fung



The Dovbush Dancers welcomed the audience with *Pryvit*.



AUUC Vancouver President Dianna Kleparchuk, MP Libby Davies and MLA Jenny Kwong unveiled the "2013 New Horizons for Seniors" funding program award for the "Ukrainian Culture Through the Generations" project.



Lyudmila Repina and Sergei Marishev provided passionate Gypsy music.



The Lyonok Trio of Beverly Dobrinsky, Libby Griffin and Audrey Moysiuk pleased the audience with melodious voices.

ferent reasons. On June 2, people came yet again, to celebrate the anniversary of the building of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple in 1928.

The desire in the early years was to have a place for people to gather socially, to converse and to share their common Ukrainian culture. Ukrainians of all ages and means got together and donated materials and labour to build the hall. It was run by volunteers then, and it is run by volunteers now. It still is a place to gather, converse, and share a common Ukrainian culture.

Besides the cultural forces who performed, there were also some noted guests who brought their well wishes.

Libby Davis, MP (NDP), for Vancouver East since 1997, brought greetings not only in her capacity as a member of parliament, but also as a friend of 805 East Pender for many, many years.

She was joined by NDP MLA for Vancouver-Mount Pleasant Jenny Kwan, and together they unveiled a 2013 New Horizons grant for seniors from the Government of Canada.

The project is entitled "Ukrainian Culture Through the Ages" and is allocated for the replacement of the dishwasher and for lighting and sound improvements at the hall.

Other notable guests in the audience were the Honorary Consul for Ukraine in B.C., Lubomyr Huculak, and William Napady, whose father helped lay the hardwood floor at the hall in 1928.

From the opening "*Pryvit*" by the Dovbush Dancers, to the closing "*Mnohaya lita*" performed by the Barvinok Choir and the Vancouver Folk Orchestra, the program was a credit to our cultural forces.

The audience appreciated positively the participation of the AUUC School of Dance.

Lyudmila Repina performed Gypsy songs, accompanied by guitarist Sergei Marishev.

The Lyonok Trio reunited especially for this anniversary concert, and performed several songs.

As the emcee commented before "*Mnohaya lita*", brought the concert to its conclusion, "These walls would have heard this song in 1928 and we hope it will still be resounding here in 2098. So, to all of you from all of us — *mnohaya lita!*"

— Libby Griffin

*Is your sub  
due for  
renewal?  
Why not  
renew now?*



Beverly Dobrinsky conducted the Barvinok Choir in an old favourite, *Oy u poli nyvka*.



*Kozachok z bubnyamy*, performed by Dovbush Dancers, displayed intricate tambourine rhythms and steps.



*Hopak*, the traditional crowd pleaser, had the audience clapping throughout the dance as soloists performed their specialities.



*Krutak*, by Dovbush, provided many twists and turns and swirling skirts.



The School of Dance *Kozachok* delighted the audience as they watched younger and younger dancers join in.



Barvinok Choir, Dovbush Dancers and Vancouver Folk Orchestra, conducted by Terry Ford, united in the finale, a trilogy of *Mnohaya Lita*.

**Sent as a  
separate  
page.**



## Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewicz

### Population Decline

(From the website *MercatorNet.com*).

Although the world might be overrun with people by 2050, one place you might like to consider moving to is Ukraine. In 37 years time, Ukraine may well be looking pretty attractive.

That's because, like so many other countries in Europe, Ukraine's population is going to decline between now and 2050.

Currently, the population is around 45.5 million people (UN estimate is 44.9 million in 2012 - **gb**), but the UN has forecast that this will drop to 33 million people by 2050.

Demographers in Ukraine have disputed this figure however, claiming that the decline will be more modest, to 36 million people.

If either the UN or the Ukrainian demographers are right, then Ukraine is set to witness a massive dislocation in its society. It is incredible to think that this country will suffer the loss of a quarter of its population in less than two generations — during peace time!

However, according to *Wikipedia*, this population loss isn't a new phenomenon in Ukraine — the population peaked at over 52 million in the early 1990s (steady increase under socialism to 1991 - **gb**) and has been contracting since then (under capitalism - **gb**).

Apparently, this decline is due to low fertility rates. Added to this, Ukraine suffers a high mortality rate due to: "environmental pollution, poor diets, widespread smoking, extensive alcoholism, and deteriorating medical care."

(Should we ask the capitalists why all these factors became problems after the lurch to capitalism, or should we just keep reading our capitalist newspapers and not ask any awkward questions? - **gb**).

### Nazdorovya! (To Your Health!)

Cheers! Or should it be Nazdorovya?

Bradford, England, is about to host the UK's first-ever Ukrainian Beer Festival. More than 20 beers from Ukraine will be at the city's Ukrainian Club in Legrams Lane.

Among drinks offered will be light beers and dark beers from Ukraine's oldest brewery (in Lviv), which traces its roots back to 1715. There will also be fruit-flavoured beers from Obolon in central

Ukraine, and a lager brewed from a restored 16th century recipe from another brewer.

Organizers say it won't be just the drink giving a taste of authenticity — the festival will also be serving up Ukraine's national potato dumpling-type dish *varenyky* and a big helping of entertainment from Ukraine: the girls choir Fialka and Ukrainian dancing by the Podilya Ukrainian Dance Ensemble.

One of the organizers, Ewhen Chymera said, "Over the next two weeks or so we've got deliveries coming from Ukraine and London. The beers have been available in this country for a few years now but no one has ever celebrated them with a festival. Bradford's making it a first."

### Fatal Passion

A Ukrainian couple's inability to rein in their passion for each other ended in tragedy when the woman was killed by a train, and her partner had his legs severed, during pre-dawn lovemaking on a railway track.

The accident took place in the southeastern region of Zaporizhia.

"Returning from our friends', my girlfriend and I could not overcome our passionate nature and wanted to feel a sense of thrill near a railway track," a police statement quoted the 41-year-old man as saying.

A police spokesman separately said that the pair was believed to have been drunk.

The woman died on the spot, while the man was hospitalized with his legs cut off below the knee.

### Asylum Rejected

Hungarian authorities have rejected the application of former Ukrainian deputy (Member of Parliament) Oleksandr Shepelev and his wife for asylum.

The politician is wanted by Ukrainian authorities on suspicion of attempted murder and embezzlement.

The charges against him stem from the spring of 2012, when unidentified perpetrators fired shots at Serhiy Diadechko, a former shareholder of Ukraine's Rodovid Bank, in a village near Kyiv, injuring him and his driver.

The ex-deputy is also suspected of having embezzled an amount equivalent to 54 million euros (approximately US\$72 million) in state subsidies.

The politician denies the charges.

Under the document presented to the couple, the Hungarian Immigration and Citizenship Office turned

down their application, arguing that they are Canadian (yes, Canadian) citizens and as such they are not eligible for Hungarian asylum.

Shepelev was arrested by Hungarian police and German Interpol staff in Budapest in early July. He was staying in Hungary under a Hungarian passport made out to a false name.

An international warrant for his arrest was issued in January.

### Boxer Dazzles

Vasyl Lomachenko more than justified the unprecedented hype by stopping tough Mexican Jose Ramirez in the fourth round of his eagerly anticipated professional debut.

The 25-year-old Ukrainian is considered to be one of the finest amateurs in boxing's rich history after losing just one of his 397 bouts — which he twice avenged.

After winning his second Olympic gold medal in London last year, the featherweight is now expected to fight for a world title in just his second paid fight.

Opting to fight over 10 rounds in his debut in Las Vegas, Lomachenko faced a tough and game opponent in 25-year-old Ramirez who had lost just three of his 28 fights while knocking out 15 of his 25 victims. But Ramirez was on the canvas in the first round as Lomachenko, whose purse for his debut was around US\$100,000, scored a knock-down with a left-right combination.

The Ukrainian was made to work hard for his success however as his opponent, who had never previously been knocked out, attempted to rough him up with pressure fighting.

But Lomachenko's speed caused Ramirez no end of problems, and by the fourth round Ramirez was down.

When interviewed after the fight, Lomachenko said "It's my first fight as a professional and I wanted to give a good fight. I had the power for him and I showed it."

### Millionaires' Ghost Town

Brightly-coloured buildings on cobblestone streets in Kyiv resemble a deserted movie set more than an actual neighbourhood.

In actuality this ten-year-old development located near the heart of the capital city is luxury homes for the rich. But this 42-acre community in a mock-19th century style is a modern-day ghost-town. Due to the economic downfall in 2008, it remains nearly unoccupied.

Now, the "millionaire's ghost town" is quiet except for occasional tourists and wedding photo shoots.

About 50 of the 250 units are supposedly owned, but the developer explained that many belong to investors who live elsewhere.

Vozdvyzhenka was at one time an industrial part of town, and these apartments are a hard sell even though prices have been slashed by half.

Reports that the construction has cracks in the walls, water in the basement, and heating problems don't help.

### World's Largest KFC

The world's largest KFC drive-through restaurant has opened in Ukraine, at the National Railway Station's south terminal in Kyiv.

The franchise location measures 1,700 square metres, or slightly more than 5,575 square feet. It features a double drive-through that can serve 200 cars per hour, seating for 280 people in the dining room, and a 400-seat patio.

Officials for the Yum! Restaurants international division for Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States said that the new restaurant would serve as the flagship for KFC in Ukraine.

"The new restaurant is very significant for us on a global scale, as this is the largest KFC drive-through," Piotr Rozanski, director of marketing for Yum! Brands Russia and CIS, said in a statement.

"Its size and location suggest that it ... has become a leader in Ukraine ... and very soon there will be new restaurants in other cities of Ukraine."

### Vodka Break

Authorities in the southeastern Ukrainian city of Melitopol are investigating how a vodka vending machine was installed in the middle of the town centre. The device had been converted from a coffee machine and accepted banknotes and coins, according to a state-owned TV channel. One shot of vodka cost just 7.5 hryvnia (\$1.00). The machine even dispensed a range of fruit juice mixers.

Ukrainian tax inspectors are not amused, and want to interview the owners of this "wonder machine" in connection with suspected illegal trade in alcohol.

Experts quoted by the Interfax-Ukraine news agency estimate that 35% of all vodka sold in Ukraine in 2012 was unlawfully produced. This means "every second glass and every sec-

ond bottle", according to Anatoliy Viyevsky, Director of the Ukrainian National Alcohol and Drug Observatory.

### Wonderful Holidays

The tourist industry may become one of the most powerful engines for the development of Ukraine's economy.

The World Tourism Organization has ranked Ukraine 9th in Europe by the number of incoming tourists.

Given the climatic conditions and the number of world heritage sites, Ukraine can double the number of foreign tourists to 50 million annually by 2022. This, in turn, will increase the total number of jobs in the tourism industry from 400,000 to 1 million, as well as boosting revenues from 1.5 billion UAH to 5 billion UAH.

Experts say that the Ukrainian Black Sea coast and the Carpathian Mountains are very attractive to tourists. To this end, these regions should be developed — not only as resort attractions, but also as venues for year-round music, theatre, carnival festivals, competitions, and various sports and cultural events.

### Oldest Sundial Discovered

A carved stone found marking a Bronze Age (3000 BC – 1000 BC) grave in Ukraine is the oldest sundial of its kind ever found.

Larisa Vodolazhskaya of the Archaeoastronomical Research Centre at Southern Federal University in Russia analyzed the geometry of the tire-size stone and its carvings, confirming that the stone would have marked the time using a system of parallel lines and an elliptical pattern of circular depressions.

The sundial belonged to the Srubna or Srubnaya culture, known for the timber-framed graves they left on the steppes between the Ural Mountains and Ukraine's Dnipro River.

To prove that the carvings represented a sundial, Ms. Vodolazhskaya calculated the angles that would have been created by the sun and shadows at that latitude and confirmed that the carvings on the slabs could have been used to mark the hours accurately.

Unlike many modern mass-produced garden sundials, purchased and plopped down without a thought to the angle of the Earth and sun, the ancient Ukrainian carvings reveal a sophisticated grasp of geometry. Furthermore, this sundial measured time in half-hour increments, a rarity in ancient sundials.

# Winnipeg Entertains

(Continued from Page 3.) and “*Dumka*” (Thought) to the Russian folk Song “Oh, My Sons” and the final “*Soir de fête*”, a repetitive number started by one instrument which is augmented, one section at a time, by the balance of the orchestra.

The next item on the program was the Festival Choir, so called because it was established specifically to perform at the AUUC National Festival in Regina in 2005. The

presentation was in the form of a traditional Ukrainian village sing-song, with various people with speaking parts in the scene announcing the numbers.

The choir sang seven songs, all in Ukrainian, most of them quite familiar to AUUC audiences. Particularly interesting to this reporter were a peppy version of “*Oy ne khody, Hrytsiu*” (Don’t Go, Hryts), “*Tuman pry stepu polyahaye*” (Fog Covers the

Steppe), and “*Reve ta stohne Dniepr shyrokay*” (The Broad Dniepr roars and bellows), which was dedicated to the 200th anniversary (in March next year) of the birth of Taras Shevchenko. A solo by Walter Mirosch and a duet by Nancy Kardash and Harry Stefaniuk were excellently done.

Accompaniment was by

Dale Rogalski on the piano and Brent Stearns on the accordion. In the absence of Vasylyna Streltsov, the choir conductor, Nancy Kardash did a fine job of rehearsing the group and leading them on stage

The singing was punctuated about half way through by a lively dance — not by the

School of Dance or the senior dance group, but by an informal group of dancers.

The dancers were accompanied on the violin by the talented Annis Kozub.

The stage presentation was followed by a screening of *The Ukrainian Labour Temple: A Cultural and Political Movement from Winnipeg’s North End*, a documentary film by Aaron Foresco.

## Who, What, When, Where

**Calgary** — Another fine year of Ukrainian dance and music is under way. New members for orchestra or choir are still gladly accepted. Please call 403-246-1231.

**Calgary** — The Christmas Concert will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 3316-28 Street SW, at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 8. Tickets in advance: \$12.00; at the door: \$25.00.

**Toronto** — AUUC Toronto Branch, will host a Remembrance Day Tribute at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West, on Sunday, November 10, starting at 2:00 p.m. Speaking will be Natalka Mochoruk and Christopher Butters. The Hahilka Singers, and a roll call of veterans are also on the program.

**Toronto** — AUUC Toronto Branch, will host the Annual Grey Cup Evening at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West, on Sunday, November 24, starting at 5:00 p.m. Home-made chili supper and other refreshments, and games. Admission \$10.00.

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



Available at: AUUC – Winnipeg Council, 591 Pritchard Avenue, Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4 (phone: 204-589-4397) for \$25.00, including postage and handling.

## Ukrainian Canadian Herald Season’s Greetings

Remember your family and friends with a message! We invite you to express seasonal greetings through an ad in the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, either in the December, 2013, or the January, 2014, issue. One line (name and city) on two columns is only \$10.00. A five-line ad as shown is only \$35.00. See the diagram on this page for sizes. Larger ads are \$5.00/col./cm.

**Deadlines:** November 10, 2013, for December, 2013. December 10, 2013, for January, 2014.

Send your request to:

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

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

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

**Issue requested:**  
\_\_\_\_\_ December issue (deadline November 10)  
\_\_\_\_\_ January issue (deadline December 10)

Greeting in: English \_\_\_\_\_ Ukrainian \_\_\_\_\_

**Request sent by:**  
Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Or in person: \_\_\_\_\_

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**MESSAGE:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cheque enclosed \_\_\_\_\_  
Invoice required \_\_\_\_\_ Office receipt # \_\_\_\_\_

### Season’s Greeting Ad sizes at Various Prices

Name and city (one line only) .....	10.00
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Name and city	
(up to 15 words) .....	\$25.00
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Three-line greeting.....	
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(up to 20 words).....	\$30.00
.....	
Four Line Greeting.....	
.....	
Name and city	
(up to 25 words).....	\$35.00
.....	
Five-line greeting .....	
.....	
Name and city	

## Happy Birthday, Friends!



The Toronto AUUC Senior Citizens Club extends best birthday wishes to November celebrant:

Anne Magus

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

The Vancouver Seniors Club extends birthday greetings to November celebrant:

Edward Moroz

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

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

Alex Babiy  
Mike Kereluk  
Katie Mackenzie

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

# 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 Web site: auuc.ca

## 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

## 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 Web site: 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

## TORONTO BRANCH

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

## WELLAND BRANCH

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

# Mary Danilevitch



Mary Danilevitch

The Association of United Ukrainian Canadians group in Thunder Bay, Ontario, is sad to announce the passing of one of its oldest and most reliable members.

Mary Danilevitch died on July 18, 2013.

There is some confusion as to Mary's actual birth date because, as she told it, "The priest came to the village to sign the birth papers a month after my birthday." She was actually born on June 8, 1913, in Rivers, Manitoba.

So, this July Mary died just over the age of 100.

Mary was the descendent of early pioneer settlers. In 1900 her grandparents, with their two young sons (12-year-old Adam and 10-year-old Volodymyr) emigrated from Western Ukraine, which at that time was under the rule of the Austro-Hungarian Hapsburg Dynasty. They chose Canada in their search for a better life.

Mary was the daughter of Volodymyr Danilevitch and his wife Teofelia.

In 1919 Mary, with her parents and two younger siblings, moved to Fort William (now part of Thunder Bay) which became their permanent home.

That same year she started her elementary education in a three-room building. She con-

tinued her secondary education at Fort William Collegiate and graduated in 1932.

Mary's cultural education was supported by her attendance at Ukrainian language classes and mandolin music lessons at the Westfort Ukrainian Labour Temple. There were 23 mandolinists in the Westfort orchestra that performed many concerts during Mary's youth.

As a young adult she began to sing in the choir and participate in stage dramas and operettas. These cultural events were popular entertainment for people in the '30s and '40s.

Mary was a longstanding member of the AUUC and the Workers Benevolent Association, of which she was financial secretary for 30 years.

After the closure of the Westfort Hall, she became a member of the Fort William Ukrainian Labour Temple. She sang in the choirs and

played in the Lakehead Mandolin Orchestra.

Her support was always available when needed. She was a tireless worker in the kitchen on banquet nights, collected tickets at dances and served on many committees of the AUUC.

Mary worked many years at Harry's confectionary, at the Sears garden shop and toy department, and then at the Chapples sports department.

Her favourite hobby was needle point. She enjoyed reading novels with historical background, and maintained a strong interest in world affairs.

Mary was a great supporter of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*. She read it thoroughly, contributed to it financially, and encouraged others to take interest in the issues raised in the paper.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews and was predeceased by her parents and her dear friend and life companion, Harry Hryciuk.

Mary was a key member of our Thunder Bay group. She was the source of the history of the various Thunder Bay halls and their impact on the development of our community.

She never missed a meeting, and participated actively in our discussions.

We were lucky to have her for 100 years and will miss her greatly.

We extend our condolences to all her friends and family members.

## AUUC Chooses Life!

(Continued from Page 3.)

In a six-person contest for the National Audit Committee, incumbent Brent Stearns lost his position as Vera Seychuk was re-elected and Gloria Gordienko and Gerry Shmyr (a former National President) were added to the NAC.

The Convention adopted two constitutional amendments. One was an amendment to clarify that the National Committee had the power to dispose of assets, a power not subject to the appeal process which delayed the sale of Camp Kum-in-Yar by years and cost the organization close to \$40,000.00.

The other was an amendment granting the National Committee a temporary and limited power to amend the AUUC Constitution as required to comply with the new Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act.

The Convention received a number of reports: President's Report, Treasurer's Report, Audit Committee Report, *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* Report, Lands Development Committee report, Taras Shevchenko Museum Report, Performing Arts Committee Report, a report from the Ca-

nadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research and an Alberta Trustees report.

Social policy resolutions included a resolution on the CBC, and a resolution calling for the Government of Canada to hire more scientists in environment and health, and give them more freedom to communicate their findings.

The 45th AUUC National Convention made important decisions, and made them in a way which provides for strengthening the AUUC.

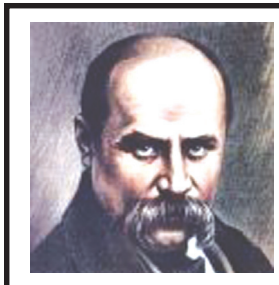
Following the Convention there was a brief National Committee gathering, and an even shorter National Executive Committee session, to discuss the immediate tasks facing the leadership, and set their next meeting dates.

— Wilfred Szczesny

## Sustaining Fund Donations

Gerry Gilavish, Regina SK .....	\$100.00
<i>In memory of Steve Smoly</i> .....	50.00
AUUC Regina Branch, Regina SK	
<i>In memory of Steve Smoly</i> .....	100.00
Anne & Joe Bobrovitz, Brantford ON	
<i>In memory of my dear brother Bill Galange</i>	100.00
Vera Borusiewich, Toronto ON .....	100.00
Sylvia Surette, Richmond BC	
<i>In memory of Sonia Ostash</i> .....	100.00
Jeannie Romanoski, Winnipeg MB	
<i>In memory of David Mackling</i> .....	50.00
Harry Stefaniuk, Winnipeg MB .....	40.00

**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.**



## Taras Shevchenko Museum

### Trilingual Book to Mark Bicentennial

The Taras Shevchenko Museum in Toronto is on track to mark the 200th anniversary of the birth of Taras Shevchenko with the publication of a major book in 2014. The trilingual volume will contain 50 poems in Ukrainian, with English and French translations.

The book *Kobzar* (minstrel in Ukrainian) will be a hard-bound deluxe edition with gold stamping. Among the poems included are “*Dumy moyi*”, “*Hamaliya*”, “*Dumka*”, “*Subotiv*” and “*Ivan Pidkova*”. A facsimile of “*Zapovit*” (Testimony), a great Shevchenko poem translated into almost 150 languages of the world, will be included.

The book will also feature 16 colour pages of paintings by Shevchenko, including his self-portraits.

Taras Shevchenko (1814-1861) established the beauty of the modern Ukrainian literary language. However, Shevchenko was not only a genius as a poet; he was also a talented artist who painted portraits as his profession.

Canada has created more Shevchenkiana than any other English-speaking country. Translators include Honoré Ewach, C.H. Andrusyshen, W. Kirkconnell, A.J. Hunter, John Weir, Florence Randal Livesay, and Mary Skrypnyk. The scholarly works on Shevchenko by Prof. George Luckyj of the University of Toronto are a valuable resource in English.



Taras Shevchenko self-portrait, 1840.

The anniversary falls on March 9.

The museum, founded in 1952, is unique as the only Taras Shevchenko museum in the Americas. In its collections are artifacts significant to the Bard of Ukraine, Taras Shevchenko, and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture. It has a fine collection of Ukrainian art, and a Shevchenkiana library. It also maintains the world's first

Shevchenko internet website ([www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum](http://www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum)).

The Museum is inviting everyone to share in the publication of the book. The name and city of every contributor of \$100.00 or more will be included in the book. A donation of \$1,000.00 or more will be prominently acknowledged in the book. Address your donation to the Shevchenko Museum, 1614 Bloor St. W., Toronto ON Canada M6P 1A7.

For more information, telephone 416-534-8662.

### Hedy Scambia Art Exhibition

On October 20, the Taras Shevchenko Museum in Toronto (see the ad on this page) opened an exhibition of floral paintings by Hedy Scambia.

When painting in watercolours, her favourite subjects are floral and still life. “I come alive when I see flowers, they are so happy, they bring smiles to my face,” Hedy says.

Born in Austria and trained at the Vienna Academy of Art, Hedy has many other passions, among them sculpting, graphic art and fashion design.

Today Hedy's paintings are in many private and corporate collections in Canada, United States, Austria and Germany.



The show continues until November 30, Monday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Thursdays — noon to 8:00 p.m.)

(A report on the reception and exhibition will appear in the December, 2013, issue of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*.)

## Dovbush in Ukraine

(Continued from page 6.) the hard work finally paid off when the Dovbush Dancers arrived in Kyiv on July 13, jet-lagged but exhilarated! The group was lucky enough to have the weekend to orient themselves before starting the dance program, time enough to see some of the sites in Kyiv, taste some Ukrainian food, and set themselves up for the week ahead.

Dance classes started bright and early on Monday morning, when nervous Ukr-

ainian dancers from around the world put on their best leotards and tights and filed into the studio to begin the program.

As Yuri Gregov, program organizer, explained, the dancers would be at the studio for close to five hours per day from Monday to Friday, under the instruction of two of Virsky ensemble's dance teachers. Each day would be broken into three parts: a ballet barre and centre work taught by Vitaliy Voloshin,

— Caitlynn Schell



Yevhen Dosenko, former conductor of the Virsky Ensemble Orchestra, played and sang for the group.

— Caitlynn Schell



Students, instructors and others gathered for a final get-together.

classical Ukrainian technique separated into boys' and girls' parts taught by Vasyliy Kolomiets, and choreography in which the entire class would learn and perfect a dance from “*Hutsulschyna*”, the Hutsul region, taught and choreographed by Liliya Chernous. At the end of two weeks, the group would perform what they had learned in front of an audience of parents, instructors, and officials from the Virsky Dance Ensemble.

With that, the dancers set off to work.

During the course of the program, Dovbush was hard-put to agree on which was more difficult: the dance classes themselves or walking around the city after the dance classes on steadily more aching feet.

However, that isn't to say that the group didn't enjoy the experience. Dancers described the dance instructors as some of the best they'd ever had, in spite of the fact that none of the dancers spoke any Ukrainian and the instructors spoke little to no English.

Gina Alpen, long-time Ukrainian dancer and current dance student at Simon Fraser University, says, “I looked at Lera (assistant to Kolomiets), who had been working with Virsky instructors since she was really young, and I wished that I had been in her place. It isn't just about the technique, either. The instructors really show you what it is to love the whole style of dance.”

One of the major themes of the trip was to achieve a better understanding of the traditions and emotions driving the style of dance, and not merely improvement of the way the students danced. As Debra Karras put it, the group was seeing in person what it was to know the “soul of Ukrainian dance”.

This gradual change in outlook happened over the course of the two-week program, as dancers were steadily more influenced both by the instructors they saw each day and by their surroundings.

For Alpen, her moment of clarity was during the celebration party after the conclusion of the seminar, when a senior who had been a Virsky performer and soloist came to the party along with one of Virsky's previous orchestral conductors, the one showing off tricks he had performed on stage over forty years ago and the other singing.

“I think that's when I finally understood a lot more about the culture that Ukrainian dance comes from,” Ms. Alpen said. “I would never have thought to visit Ukraine on my own, but I'm glad I went. I would hate to have missed out on that chance.”

— Jennifer Bednard



### IVAN FRANKO MUSEUM

200 McGregor Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 5L6  
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