

HERALD ВІСНИК

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AUUC Toronto Branch Raises Funds for *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*

— Photo: Jerry Dobrowolsky



A successful rummage sale was one of the fundraising events organized by the AUUC Toronto Branch in response to the campaign to support the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*. The Branch also hosted a showing of *The Front Page*, collected returnable bottles, and organized other initiatives. AUUC Toronto Branch surpassed its campaign target, without digging into its operating funds, while simultaneously raising the profile of the paper and providing pleasurable experiences for its members and friends.

Aboriginal People: a Tale of Abuse

Martin Regg Cohn had an article in the *Toronto Star* on July 17, 2014, concerning abuse of power by the government of Ontario. The thought that this kind of injustice, continued by the Liberals under Premier Kathleen Wynne, is typical of official

treatment of Native communities must be disturbing to any fair-minded person.

According to the story, a hundred years ago, a Native band was evicted at gunpoint from its land and put on a reserve. Later, the band was pushed off its land to create Quetico Provincial Park, near Thunder Bay.

In its new location, the band was provided electricity by “a faltering” supply from Minnesota. In 1988, Ontario Hydro promised to provide a connection to its provincial grid. Five years later, the connection included a 25-kilovolt section, part of a line which, otherwise, was 44-kilovolt. This reduced the amount of electricity delivered.

The cost to the band has been millions of dollars.

Seven years ago, Gemini Power Corp. owner Dr. Michael Dan proposed a plan to provide electricity to the community. The company would build a dam and a \$30-million power plant. The company would operate the plant for 20 years, to recoup its costs, and then turn it over in perpetuity to the Native band.

However, the existing sub-standard transmission line is an impediment to that development. Hydro One, which took over the transmission line when Ontario Hydro was dismantled has declined to update the line, claiming the cost would be about \$16 million.

That estimated cost is considered “wildly out of line” by supporters of the dam. Aside from rejecting the cost estimates, supporters of the dam argue that the province created the mess (by displacing the reserve and by botching the transmission line) and has a moral obligation to remedy the situation.

The Ontario government and its bureaucrats have refused to make the needed changes, fearing (among other things) to set a precedent for dozens of other reserves. Hydro One has actually done other “massive” transmission line upgrades in the region, but excluded Lac La Croix.

Mr. Cohn points out that the line is, in any case, degrading and will have to be replaced.

[Whatever one thinks of a private company financing the dam, the province’s behaviour has been “shameful” and “showed bad faith”. Unfortunately, this case is just one of many injustices against Native People across the country.]

The Next Issue

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

Hurting the Disabled and Unemployed

There was a board of about 1000 part-time referees who heard appeals against decisions concerning employment insurance, the Canada Pension Plan and Old Age security. In 2013, that board was replaced by the Social Security Tribunal, composed of about 70 full-time members.

The new tribunal took about 7000 cases over from the former board, mostly appeals against denial of CPP disability benefits. There are still 6,500 to be heard, with about 3000 new ones every year.

Recently eleven spots on the Tribunal became vacant, but the government has been slow to fill them. This in spite of a memo to the Employment Minister that it is having difficulty managing the case load.

When it was setting up the new structure, the government promised that it would save Canadian taxpayers \$25 million annually. It also promised streamlined efficiency in processing appeals.

In about four years of operation, the Tribunal has reduced the backlog by about 500 cases, and it appears that the time required to have an appeal settled is still about two years.

Aid to Kurds in Iraq

This country is going to help combat the latest international ogre — the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS, also known as ISIL, the Islamic State in Syria and the Levant). At press time, Prime Minister Stephen Harper’s information is that Canada will provide two military transport planes to carry arms and other supplies provided by other countries from Cyprus to the Kurdish Peshmerga forces in northern Iraq.

On August 15, governments of the European Union agreed to arm Kurdish forces, as well as trying to block oil sales by ISIS. (ISIS has control of oil fields in Syria, as well as in Iraq.)

France had already been sending arms to the Kurds. The USA has conducted air strikes and “other military action”. Lithuania has been among the states promising assistance. Germany has sent aid flights with food, medicine and blankets. Italy has promised food, water tents and sleeping bags.

Increasingly, rhetoric insists that ISIS poses not merely a regional but a global threat.

In This Issue

AUUC Dance Seminar in Vancouver	6
Canada Day in AUUC Toronto Branch	5
Commentary	4
Current Eclectic	3
Dovbush Dancers Build on Successful Year	12
Editorial	4
The Fellow Traveller	2
From Reading Room to Museum	10
Happy Birthday, Friends .	11
Join Us!	11
Leaving a Shambles	3
Marking World War I	4
On the Results of the Elections in Ukraine	4
Poltava Pavilion in Mosaic’s 47th Year	7
Shevchenko Bicentennial	10
Shevchenko Display at Manitoba Legislature	8
Statscan Revises Numbers	3
Sustaining Fund	11
Thoughts on Gaza	4
Ukrainian Election Near ...	3
Ukrainian News Briefs	9
A Virtual Cornucopia of Unbelievable Stuffs	2
WHO: Experimental Treatments Okay	3
Who, What, When, Where	11

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Current Eclectic

Ukrainian Election Near

Presidential elections were held in Ukraine on May 25, and shortly thereafter newly elected President Poroshenko appointed Arseniy Yatsenyuk as Prime Minister. Less than two months later, on July 24, Mr. Yatsenyuk announced his resignation and that of his entire cabinet.

Precipitating the resignation was the failure of the Supreme Council (*Verkhovna rada*), Ukraine's parliament, to pass legislation to fund Ukraine's military and other legislation imposing some of the austerity measures demanded by the International Monetary Fund as a condition for loans. Two parties in the governing coalition (UDAR and Svoboda) announced that they were leaving the coalition. After the announcement

of the resignation, the Supreme Council started a two-week holiday.

However, a week later, on July 31, a special session of parliament was called, specifically to consider Yatsenyuk's resignation, as well as the legislation needed to fund the military and satisfy the IMF.

The laws were passed, and the resignation of Yatsenyuk was rejected. However, all was not sweetness and light.

The Supreme Council has 450 seats; the vote on the resignation was 16 to accept and 109 against accepting. Only 125 Deputies (as members of the Supreme Council are called) voted; 325 either abstained or were absent. Among the 125 voters were the members of Svoboda and UDAR, the parties which had

created the crisis.

Thus, Arseniy Yatsenyuk continues as Prime Minister — until the next crisis, or until parliamentary election are held.

Parliamentary elections may not be far off. If a new coalition (that is, a new parliamentary majority) is not formed within a month, elections must be called. Elections could be held as early as late September or early October.

There is some thought that the parliamentary crisis was engineered by the two parties who left the coalition and President Poroshenko precisely to force an early election. There has been increasing commentary that the current parliament, elected in 2012, no longer reflected the reality of the country, and 2015 was too long to wait for change.

Jockeying for position in the coming elections is well underway, with Prime Minister Yatsenyuk's options under close scrutiny. Thus, a new coalition is very improbable.

Leaving a Shambles

In the last decade or so, the United States and its allies, and specifically NATO, have engaged in conflicts in Asia, Africa and Europe. Sometimes they have had United Nations Security Council approval; often they did not. Most of the time, they have left behind a shambles, with continuing war and human tragedy.

An example is Libya. By 2011, the US administration had determined that Colonel Muammar Gaddafi and his regime had to be replaced. Together with a few other European countries the US fomented rebellion in Libya, encouraging and arming the rebels, and imposing sanctions against the government.

On February 26, the United Nations Security Council passed a resolution against the Libyan government. On March 17, the UN authorised member states to establish and enforce a no-fly zone over Libya, and to use "all necessary measures" to prevent attacks on civilians.

On September 16, the National Transitional Council was recognised by the United Nations as the legal representative of Libya. Gaddafi was captured and killed on October 20, and the NTC declared victory on October 23 2011.

The whole war lasted about 10 months, with the US military playing an instrumental role in the initial stages before turning command over to NATO. Fade to black — at least in most of the commercial media in Canada.

Elsewhere, it was being reported by September, 2013,

that Libya had plunged into its worst political and economic crisis since the defeat of October, 2011. Almost no oil was being produced, and militias controlled much of the country.

By August, 2014, violence was growing, with the government fighting militias on several fronts. At the end of May, 2014, the US was advising its citizens to stay out of Libya.

Shortly after the start of war in Libya, in 2011 a rebellion arose in Syria, again encouraged and assisted by foreign anti-government forces. The rebellion in Libya was relatively brief, though the fighting continues. By contrast, in Syria the struggle is in its fourth year, with no sign of ending.

Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United States have transferred weapons to the rebels. The UK and other European and some Arab states have expressed support for the Syrian opposition.

ISIS (The Islamic State of Iraq Syria) controlled a third of Syria's territory and most of its oil and gas production in July, 2014.

Hezbollah is supporting the government, as are Russia and Iran.

The scale of the continuing humanitarian disaster is astounding. More than 4,000,000 Syrians have been displaced, more than 3,000,000 have fled the country, and additional millions live in desperate conditions lacking food and drinking water.

So to Iraq, where an American-led invasion on March 20, 2003, fuelled by

fairy tales about weapons of mass destruction was prelude to combat which continues even now.

President George W. Bush of the United States and Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom knowingly and deliberately lied to their own parliaments and to the world, including the United Nations, about the possession of weapons of mass destruction by Iraq and about that country's connections to terrorism around the world.

Unable to find support for invasion either in the UN or in NATO the US led a "coalition of the willing" in an attack on March 20, 2003. The coalition consisted of the USA (248,000 soldiers) Britain (45,000 soldiers), Australia (2,000 soldiers), Poland (194 soldiers), and about 37 other countries, providing mostly as much moral support as their twisted arms could give. Iraqi Kurdish militia troops, estimated at about 70,000, attacked from the north.

(Canada declined to participate.)

The US declared victory and withdrew its troops at the end of 2011, though there was no peace in Iraq.

The sectarian conflict in Iraq was highlighted in June, 2014, when ISIS (the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) made rapid progress against the government. In early August, President Obama made a commitment to assist the Kurdish militia and the government against ISIS.

Part of that commitment appears to have been regime change, replacing the government the US left in place with one that could gather more popular support. Results are to be seen.

Statscan Revises Numbers

Statistics Canada released a report on Friday, August 8, that said that the Canadian economy had gained a net 200 jobs in July. The number shocked economists who had predicted a gain of about 20,000 jobs.

On Tuesday, August 12, in an unprecedented move, at least as far as this job report is concerned, Statscan retracted the report, indicating that an error had been found. It delayed the release of new numbers until Friday, August 15. The revised report indicated a net job increase of 42,000 jobs in July.

The original number showed a loss of 60,000 full-time jobs. The revised number was 18,000. Both reports showed the creation of 60,000 part-time jobs.

Two kinds of speculation were connected with this report change. One was the speculation of investors: the poor numbers in the first report saw a decline of about 0.5 cents in the value of the Canadian dollar, recovered when the new numbers were released.

The second kind of speculation was that of people wondering about the significance of the change.

The kindest suggestion was that the staff cuts at Statscan were finally catching up with the agency. Statscan denied that suggestion, claiming that the staffing on that report had actually gone up.

A more cynical suggestion was that Statscan was no longer reliable. There was even a thought that the revised report was suspect.

The agency gave an explanation for the error, but also said that it was conducting a thorough study, and would release a report on how the error was made. At the same time, Statscan said that the error would not happen again.

The original numbers were dismal, but no one should take much comfort in the new figures. They show that the economy continues to shed full-time jobs. All growth is in part-time work, which is bad news for working people.

Only young workers happily living with their parents can take any pleasure in this information. Even students trying to earn a bit of money for their return to university must be in despair.

An interesting sidelight: a growth of 40,000 jobs in Ontario did not change the 7.5% unemployment rate there.

WHO: Experimental Treatments Okay

The Hippocratic oath says, "First, do no harm." This stricture is one reason why most physicians do not freely prescribe experimental treatments to patients who might benefit by them.

Another, perhaps more significant reason, is that a patient harmed by an experimental treatment could launch a very expensive lawsuit.

Enter Ebola, a virus which, as this is being written, has affected about 1800 people and claimed about 1000 lives, overwhelmingly in western Africa.

There is no known cure for Ebola, and no known serum to protect against it. However, there are several medications that show promise.

At least some of these treatments have been tested on animals, with some success. But they have not been tested on human beings. It is not known whether they will be effective on people; nor is it known whether these treatments will cause some sort of harm to people.

The experimental drugs have been administered, primarily to health care workers, some of whom have survived, while others have not. It is not

known whether the survivors owe their recovery to the medications, or whether they would have lived without treatment.

It is reported that the death rate from the current Ebola virus is about 50%, but earlier outbreaks have registered up to 95% mortality. The virus kills by removing the clotting agents from the blood, causing severe internal and external bleeding in its victims.

The World Health Organization has ruled that it is ethical to use the experimental drugs, if certain conditions are met, considering the scale of the outbreak and the death rate.

In Africa, before the WHO ruling, there were complaints that the untested treatments were being withheld from Africans. On the other hand, there is concern that a bad health reaction to the drugs could lead to charges of a genocidal conspiracy and attacks on health-care workers.

As it is, isolation of patients with Ebola has led to rumours that doctors are harvesting organs. Because of these fears, infected people are sometimes hidden or flee, further spreading the disease.

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Thoughts on Gaza

AN EDITORIAL BY WILFRED SZCZESNY

There we have it once again. Hamas (presumably) fires missiles (which seem seldom to hit anyone) from Gaza into Israel. Eventually, Israel retaliates, first by air and then with an invasion by land. Israel and its friends raise the right to self-defence as Israeli forces slaughter Palestinians, including women, children and other civilians. Sooner or later, Israel withdraws, an investigation is launched, and Israel and its friends malign the investigator. (This time, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs John Baird started the character assassination as soon as the investigator's name was announced.)

Once again we have the lopsided score: Israeli casualties — 3 civilians, 47 soldiers; Palestinian casualties — about 280 soldiers and almost 1600 civilians killed, another 2500 injured, hundreds of thousands traumatised, and great material losses, including hospitals and schools.

That's how the story always goes, and the obvious question is, "Why does Hamas fire those missiles, and how do they maintain public support?" Are Hamas and the Palestinians in Gaza totally insane? Or are the conditions in Gaza, created by the blockade by Israel and Egypt, so cruel that an occasional eruption is the only way to ease the pressure? Or is there some other explanation?

Another question is, "Why does the government of Canada so vigorously defend the slaughter by Israel, without a hint of compassion for the people of Gaza?" Is it that the Prime Minister and his government so much love the sight of blood and broken bodies? Or do they so much value the gifts (of which all-expenses paid tours to Israel are probably the least) bestowed by the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs? Are they acting on the belief held by some Christians that Israel must rise triumphant, having vanquished all its enemies, before the second coming of Jesus Christ? Or is there some other explanation?

Whatever the answers, it can be confidently predicted that this story will repeat itself within a few years. Nobody will seriously try to stop it.

The Palestinian Authority, nominal governor in occupied territory, has insufficient power to stop it. Israel is happy with the status quo, which allows it to expand its *Lebensraum* and slowly extinguish any thought of a Palestinian state. Egypt and several other Arab states have their own reasons for favouring an oppressed Palestine, including the reduced probability of a war among themselves. The United States and Canada are pleased to have a dependent (not always dependable), strong ally in the Middle East, where relations with oil-rich countries whose people "hate democracy" are often tenuous.

COMMENTARY**On the Results of the Elections in Ukraine**

Statement by the National Executive Committee of the
Association of United Ukrainian Canadians
July 10, 2014

Oligarch Petro Poroshenko is the new (fifth) President of Ukraine. With links to Yulia Tymoshenko, the neo-liberal Orange Revolution in 2004 and former President Viktor Yanukovich, he is closely tied to the ruling circles in Ukraine.

In the aftermath of the February coup, the Harper government extolled the emergence of a "new and democratic Ukraine" and presented the May elections as "proof" of change. In fact, the action of the Western powers has been to maintain the rule of the oligarchs to the exclusion of the democratic aspirations of the people.

Many people in Ukraine rejected the May elections as representing any real change. Some eastern regions did not vote. Many young voters expressed disdain that the choice was between billionaire politicians who have no concern for the people. None of those vying for President were seen as capable of unit-

ing the divided country, and indeed, Ukraine continues to be a divided country.

What the election of Petro Poroshenko did accomplish was to establish a new, albeit temporary, equilibrium in the rivalry of the United States and Russia over Ukraine. This can be seen in Poroshenko's inaugural address to Ukraine's parliament, in which he tried to assure both the United States and Russia that he could bridge their respective interests.

However, the clash between the United States and Russia over Ukraine is bound to re-emerge. The United States regards Ukraine as a strategic economic and military tool for its control of Europe. Russia, for its part, will not allow this to happen unchecked. As for the people of Ukraine, they remain caught in the rivalry and political machinations of these two powers and at the mercy

of the Ukrainian political oligarchy.

Internally, the Poroshenko government will mean a continuation of the problems that have plagued Ukraine, problems experienced by all the former socialist countries of Eastern Europe. The acceptance of neo-liberal economic policies has required the dismantling of social programs and national economies in favour of private appropriation of wealth and the consequent economic and social ills.

The Ukraine oligarchs who comprise the political superstructure of Ukraine, including Petro Poroshenko, are creations of the policies of neo-liberalism and, accordingly, their interests are linked to furthering this agenda.

Thus, the new government will not change the situation for the people of Ukraine. Their desire for change and democracy, economic well-being and the realization of peace and unity remains unfulfilled and, consequently, the crisis and instability will continue.

Canada's support for the present political order in the Ukraine will exacerbate the crisis and cause further harm to the people of Ukraine. It will tend to forestall any real development of democracy and of effective solutions to the problems the people face.

Marking World War I

There is something new in our public life. I may be wrong, but it seems to me that this summer's events concerning World War I are the first time that we have marked the beginning of a war, and even (at least to some extent) celebrated it as an important event on the road to Canada's independence as a country.

Previously, we have had Remembrance Day, an occasion to remember the horror of war, to pay tribute to the casualties of conflicts through the ages, and to honour the veterans who survived.

We have also celebrated the ends of wars. VE Day is an example, a day to mark the

military victory in Europe over the scourge of fascism and remember the terrible price that was paid

Whether solemn or joyous, these earlier events always had an aspect of gratitude that the war was over, as well as expressions of hope for a future in which war is no more.

This summer, however, the spirit was different. True, there were some expressions that WWI was unnecessary, inglorious, or even stupid, but the overwhelming sense, especially from the government of Canada, was that the war was a glorious demonstration of Canadian virtues and a shining moment in Canada's

history. Is it too strong to say that official Canada has come very close to glorifying war — perhaps even crossing that line? There are certainly other indications that the ruling Conservatives are quite comfortable with that position, indications like the Highway of Heroes, which does not sympathize with soldiers but glorifies them.

When it comes to sympathy, the Harper Conservatives treat military casualties and their families meanly, heartlessly depriving them of needed support and services. This they do with as little publicity as possible.

Glorification, however, is done with as much blazing fanfare as possible.

— W. Szczesny

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AUUC (National)
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

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

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

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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.

Canada Day In AUUC Toronto Branch

AUUC Toronto Branch held its annual Canada Day/Shevchenko Day celebration on July 1 at the AUUC Cultural Centre. As usual, the event was staged in partnership with the Shevchenko Museum. The weather cooperated, and the turnout was good, with



Lyudmyla Pogoryelov (for the Shevchenko Museum) and Wilfred Szczesny (for AUUC Toronto Branch) laid the traditional flowers.

— Story photos: Jerry Dobrowolsky



Natalia Mochoruk and Wilfred Szczesny recited Taras Shevchenko's poems "Testament" and "Hamaliya".



Did you win? Go pick a prize from the many on the table.



Bill and Marie Harasym laid a personal floral arrangement in tribute to Shevchenko.

strong support by members of Club 626 and of the Federation of Russian Canadians.

With doors opening at noon, the hall was quickly populated. By the time the program started, almost every seat at the tables was filled.

MC George Borusiewich greeted the audience, then read a letter-to-the-editor from a Toronto daily urging readers to note the hardships of poverty.

With a music CD prepared by Jerry Dobrowolsky as accompaniment, the audience sang a full-throated "O Canada".

The traditional laying of flowers to Taras Shevchenko was done by Lyudmyla Pogoryelov for the Taras Shevchenko Museum and Wilfred Szczesny for the AUUC. They were followed by Marie and Bill Harasym, who also paid tribute.

Bill Malnychuk, the main speaker, traced Shevchenko's difficult trek through life and detailed Shevchenko's many accomplishments.

Natalie Mochoruk and Wilfred Szczesny recited Shevchenko's poems "Testament" and "Hamaliya". Their presentation was powerful, filled with emotion, as Natalie

spoke in Ukrainian and Wilfred followed in English.

The program continued, with Jerry screening a digital slide-show review of recent AUUC events. Jerry's production was masterful, with slick and professional effects, and elicited praise from members of the audience.

Lunch was next on the menu. Italian sausages, hamburgers, hot dogs, home-made salads, refreshments, coffee and pastries — all-you-can-eat was never so tempting.

After lunch, program continued with the ever-inventive Bernardine Dobrowolsky rising to the occasion. Her trivia contest and scavenger hunt had those present deeply involved, with prizes galore for every participant.

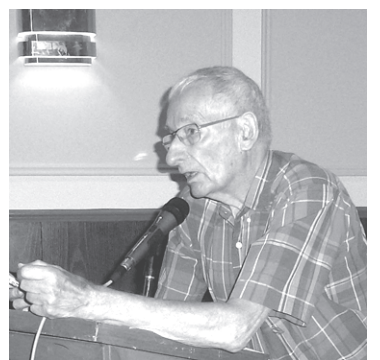
The raffle of a large basket of goodies was a great success. And the 50/50 draw



As usual Ottoi Nicolai was the gatekeeper.



Bartender Joe Dzatko was the epitome of Canada Day spirit.



M.C. George Borusiewich bade participants welcome.



Bill Malnychuk presented a tribute to Taras Shevchenko.



Bernardine Dobrowolsky led the gathering through several activities.

brought in much-appreciated income.

Throughout the afternoon, Museum Director Lyudmyla Pogoryelov manned a table of Shevchenko prints on behalf of the Museum.

Overall, the afternoon's atmosphere was that of a warm and pleasant celebration with friends. A satisfying success.

As always, this success was the result of hard work by a team: Bernardine and Jerry Dobrowolsky, Constance Prince, Gabriele Bajin (Connie's friend), Diane Garrett, A. Harris and K. Harris (Bernardine's sister and brother-in-law), Natalie Mochoruk, Joe Dzatko, Ottoi Nicolai, Nancy and Mark Stewart, and Vera Borusiewich.

— George Borusiewich



Chief chef Jerry Dobrowolsky and others provided an ample supply of traditional picnic fare.

— Story photos: Dan Fung

AUUC Dance Seminar in Vancouver



Dancers from Vancouver and Regina participated in the Dance seminar in Vancouver in August. Instructor Anna Kanevets is in the front row at left.

From July 3 to 7, dancers from Vancouver and Regina gathered in Vancouver to participate in a Ukrainian dance seminar. While the number of dancers from the Dovbush Dancers varied slightly day to day, the number of participants, including the Regina dancers, was anywhere from 19 to 23 dancers (of whom 7 were males).

Eager to build on the seminars held previously at Sylvan Lake, Alberta, and to further foster enthusiasm amongst the various centres, leaders of several AUUC dance groups held discussions to determine the best location for such a seminar. It soon became apparent that the majority of dancers would be from Vancouver, so that city seemed to be the logical choice.

Invitations were extended to all centres, and 6 dancers from Regina answered the call to participate in the semi-

nar.

After careful consideration, Anna Kanevets, the Artistic Director of the Tryzub School of Dance in Calgary, was invited to be the instructor for this seminar. Mrs. Kanevets attended the Institute of Culture in Kyiv, Ukraine, and graduated with the Honours Level Ballet Master's Degree.

Prior to arriving in Canada, Anna held a professorship at the Kyiv College of Culture for eleven years, where she instructed in subjects such as Composition of Dance, Ukrainian and Character Dance and History of Costume.

Since arriving in Canada in 1996, she has held the title of Artistic Director for numerous Ukrainian Dance Schools in Edmonton, Alberta. Anna also has been the adjudicator for the Vaganova Dance Society Ballet Exams, and several Ukrainian Dance Competi-

tions in Alberta as well as BC.

Through Anna's dedicated efforts, the *Legend of the Rusalka* came to life as a joint production between the Rusalka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra.

Instruction during this dance seminar consisted of three evening rehearsals (Thursday, Friday, and Monday) of four hours each, and two day rehearsals (Saturday and Sunday), each lasting five hours. Evening rehearsals, as well as Saturday and Sunday morning classes, were held at Pacific Dance Arts, a ballet studio, and at the AUUC hall on Saturday and Sunday afternoon.

Use of the ballet studio gave the dancers the opportunity to rehearse with proper dance mats and mirrors, something not afforded at the hall.

All classes began with a ballet (classical) barre and centre work, and then moved to character technique work for both the male and female dancers. The participants also learned small excerpts of dances from various regions of Ukraine — Volyn, Bukovina, Central Ukraine and Transcarpathia.

It is fair to say that Anna was nothing short of remarkable. Her attention to detail was exceptional, from the proper positioning in classical work, to the nuances found in each of the regional excerpts. Her knowledge of classical teachings and of Ukrainian folk steps was irreproachable.

She moved easily from classical to character work, and from male to female steps, and took great care to spend time with each and every dancer. She did not allow the dancer to give up without trying. She did not let dancers "settle" for anything less than what she thought they were capable of doing, and she did not hesitate to ask them to repeat a step correctly.

No dancer could escape Anna's critical eye. She had a kind and often light-hearted approach to teaching, but made certain that the dancer understood what was being asked of him or her, and more importantly, why.

In the six short classes we had with Anna, her main goal was to impart to the dancers the knowledge of how to work, and how to proceed to work in the future, as mastering a particular step was not always possible.

So often at seminars we are intent on learning complete dances and choreography. What was refreshing with this particular seminar was to see just how much time can be spent on all of the finer details of dance, through the education of both the mind and body.

Anna Kanevets earned the respect of the dancers and the parents, who continuously commented on how wonder-



Anna Kanevets ably taught male, as well as female, steps.



The male dancers take centre stage.



The seminar focused on "Hopak". Above, the dancers work on the opening of that popular dance; below, they fine-tune the closing.



ful she was.

In addition to the senior workshop, Anna was hired by the Vancouver AUUC School of Dance to teach our younger dancers (aged 10–15). She taught two three-hour classes, one on Thursday and one on Friday, during the day.

An invitation was extended to four different Ukrainian dance schools in British Columbia. However, due to the distances involved, six dancers from Kvitka, a Ukrainian dance organization in Surrey, B.C., were the only guests able to attend, making a total of 15 dancers in attendance.

The parents were very pleased that we offered this workshop and were very happy with Anna.

We were fortunate to have a wonderful group of volunteers working to ensure that all participants, and guests to Vancouver, had a safe and memorable time. During the seminar, we had parents volunteering to billet the dancers, to make snacks and lunches, and to show participants

around Vancouver.

From bike riding around famous Stanley Park (complements of one of our parents) to a pizza party at the home of one of our dancers, a social night at our hall and, of course, shopping in downtown Vancouver, the guests returned home exhausted but very satisfied.

Dance is, and always has been, one of the mainstays of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians. It is visually appealing to young and old alike, with its colourful costumes, its musicality ranging from heart stopping rhythms to lyrical and soulful melodies, and its choreographic images, bringing to life the beautiful art of Ukrainian folk stage dance.

We look forward to future dance seminars, where we can continue to build and develop our dance ensembles, and where we can continue to nurture the camaraderie necessary for the longevity of our organization.

— Debbie Karras



"Dubo tanets" was also studied at the seminar.

Poltava Pavilion in Mosaic's 47th Year

Regina's Mosaic Festival of Cultures was held on June 5,6,7 with the participation of the Regina AUUC Inc. Poltava Ukrainian Pavilion, one of 22 pavilions scattered throughout the city.

New pavilions this year were the Punjab, Bangladesh and Russian Matroshka.

2014 marks the 47th year for Mosaic — a Festival of Cultures, sponsored by the Regina Multicultural Council.

The Festival commenced in 1967 on city stages by participating member groups. In 1977 the Festival format changed to pavilions throughout the city, with the AUUC at its Ukrainian Cultural Centre. In time the Centre proved to be too small for the number of patrons visiting the Pavilion. Thus, in 1989, the AUUC moved into the Regina Performing Arts Centre, where it remains up to today and for the anticipated future.

The Regina AUUC can be proud that it has been a participant in Mosaic – A Festival of Cultures for the entire 47 years.

Open for 19 hours over three evenings and one afternoon, the Poltava Pavilion was visited by almost 8,000 patrons.

This year the Pavilion paid tribute to the 200th Anniversary of the birth of Taras H. Shevchenko. This was ac-

complished by the display provided by the Shevchenko Museum in Toronto and articles from the Regina AUUC.

The Pavilion brochure gave Shevchenko's background, and Shevchenko memorabilia was for sale at the Pavilion boutique.

The AUUC is indebted to the Teachers Credit Union for a grant towards the Shevchenko celebration

Audiences enjoyed 21 half-hour performances — 16 by the 50-plus members of the Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and Dance, and 5 by the 70 students of the AUUC Poltava School of Ukrainian Performing Arts. Vocal soloists were the 13-year-old Valeria Honchar, formerly of Kyiv, and Guennadi Ostrikov, formerly of Rostov-On-Don.

Of course, the Pavilion is also known for its Ukrainian cuisine, which included *varenyky* (perogies), borsch, cabbage rolls, sausage, *oseledtsi* (pickled herring), poppy seed squares and cheese cake, with Ukrainian imported beer, the cocktail Balalaika, and the Poltava Shooters.

Recognition must be given to the kitchen staff, managed by Jennifer Swicheniuk and Gerry Shmyr, for the hundreds of hours of food preparation, in particular, the thousands of *varenyky* needed for the Pavilion.



The Mosaic programs at the Poltava Pavilion opened with the traditional "Pryvit" (Greetings), featuring various regions of Ukraine, concluding with the presentation of bread and salt on an embroidered runner.

— Story Photos: Mark Greschner



The ever-popular "Lacemakers" of the Beryozka Ensemble has been in Poltava's repertoire for over 20 years, due to public demand. As passports were purchased or stamped, the question asked every evening was, "When are the girls in the blue dresses performing?"

The success of the Poltava Ukrainian Pavilion was made possible by over 100 volunteers who prepared for, and staffed, the Pavilion.

Forming the cultural component were Dance Directors Oleksandr Byelayev, formerly of the Kyiv Kalyna Ensemble, and Lisa Wanner, graduate of the Regina University Bachelor of Music program, and Ballet Mistress Tetiana Moisey, formerly of the Bolshoi Ballet.

The Ensemble Orchestra, under the direction of Natalia Osypenko, graduate of the Kyiv Conservatory, accompanied all the dances and was featured in its own selections.

Programming was looked after by Zoya Shmyr.

The Poltava School of Ukrainian Performing Arts is under the directors: Katie Wihak, Jordan Bidyk, Kayla Swicheniuk, Dallas Montepetit, Nicholas Dmyterko, Lisa Wanner and Daniel Hebert.

Gratitude is also expressed to the Pavilion Manager David Yaffe, Assistant Manager Sasha Lapchuk, Personnel Coordinator Wanda Lapchuk, Transportation Coordinator Shawn Swicheniuk, the Masters of Ceremonies Ken Lozinsky and Dave Wilson, Pavilion Ambassadors Dion Tchorzewski and Noah Evanchuk, and Youth Ambassadors Anna Lekach and Bob Millette, as well as to display and foyer personnel: Gerry Shmyr, Bob Ivanochko, Joanne Laslo, and Lynne and Alex Lapchuk. Lynne and Joanne were also responsible for the Pavilion finances.

They all took a leading role in making Mosaic 2014 such an outstanding success. The Regina AUUC is indeed indebted to all of them.

— Alex Lapchuk



Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau visited the Poltava Pavilion during Mosaic, and posed (second from left) with Poltava Ambassadors Dion Tchorzewski and Noah Evanchuk, and Youth Ambassadors Bob Millette and Anna Lekach.



Among those performing in "Pryvit" were Victoria Osypenko, Orisha Greschner and Stephen Peters.



The Pavilion boutique featured a wide variety of Ukrainian souvenirs and folk art sold by Ruslan Zeleniuk of the Winnipeg firm Svitoch, augmented by Shevchenko and Poltava memorabilia.



The Pavilion display was dedicated to the bicentenary of the birth of T. H. Shevchenko, with panels provided by the Shevchenko Museum of Toronto and supplemental materials from the Regina AUUC.

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Shevchenko Display at Manitoba Legislature

Because this year is the 200th birth anniversary of Taras Shevchenko, the Bard of the Ukraine who was the forefront of giving life to

Ukrainian art and literature, a major exhibit about him was put on display in the Keystone Galley at the Manitoba Legislature.

Produced by volunteers Cheryl-Anne Carr and Gloria Gordienko, the display included reproductions representative of Shevchenko's painting and drawing through the phases of his artistic life, his commissions and periods



of exile; illustrations of his famous poems; illustrations by other artists of important periods of his life; and companion pieces giving an idea of Ukrainian life at that time.

As one of the panels states, "Years and centuries pass,

generations succeed one another, but great works of art remain, long surviving their creators and the message they bring is fresh in each new age. Great poets speak for their people, speak in their people's names and express

— Story photos: Gloria Gordienko



their most cherished dreams, thoughts and aspirations.

"Taras Shevchenko was such a poet.

"His poetry is national and yet so international and humanistic, so distinctive and yet so universal, that it appeals and speaks for all people. Founder of the modern literary Ukrainian language, Shevchenko became the first Ukrainian poet to achieve an international reputation."

The Keystone Gallery has only recently begun accepting community submissions for the art space, and the Shevchenko show was very warmly received by the staff, visitors and tours that come to the Legislative Building.

"Beautiful", "colourful", "informative" and "a delightful change of pace", were among the many comments made to the organizers. Children especially enjoyed the use of costumes from the Dance School.

"We chose costumes from our inventory that were similar to the peasant dress depicted in some of Shevchenko's famous works. The outfits were sewn directly onto hardboard that fit into large frames and we hung them up like the other art," said Ms. Carr.

The display was created when the travelling show prepared by the Shevchenko Museum was not going to fit in the Keystone Gallery as the organizers had hoped.

Gordienko explained, "The show was put together with the Gallery's criteria in mind, but we took a lot of inspiration from the Museum's display."

"Winnipeg has been lucky to have been able to share both shows," added Carr.

— Darrell Rankin



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, 2014, or the January, 2015, 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, 2014, for December, 2014.
December 10, 2014, for January, 2015.

Send your request to:

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Please indicate the desired ad size:

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Greeting in: English _____ Ukrainian _____

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Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewich

Concert for Rebels

Hollywood actor and musician Steven Seagal played a weekend concert in the Crimean peninsula, appearing on a stage adorned with the flag of the pro-Russia separatists in Ukraine. Seagal and his blues band played on August 9 at a bikers' show held in the city of Sevastopol, home to Russia's Black Sea fleet.

(The star has come under fire for supporting Russia's March annexation of the peninsula from Ukraine, a view that saw him bounced from the line-up at an Estonian blues festival this summer.)

At the corner of the stage hung the black, blue and red flag of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic (DNR), declared independent by pro-Russia rebels fighting to break away from Ukraine. Fans waved Russian and DNR flags as Seagal performed.

Seagal said that he had travelled to Crimea because music unites people.

Crimea's largely Russian-speaking residents voted in March to become part of the Russian Federation.

America's Losing Strategy

(The above title is taken from an article in the August 8 issue of *The Nation*, the oldest continuously published weekly magazine in the United States. The following are some excerpts.-GB)

"The international crisis in Ukraine, which has escalated into a civil war between pro-Russia separatists in the East and the pro-west government in Kiev, has taken a turn for the worse since the crash of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17. Immediately, despite the fact that investigations had not even begun, the United States accused rebels of having shot the plane down."

"The idea that everything that is happening in Ukraine is the result of Russia's aggressive, expansionist policy is almost consensual in the Western media, which are remarkably uncritical of the claims made by their governments."

"Indeed, the widely accepted explanation of what is happening is that Putin . . . wants to annex eastern Ukraine."

"This analysis is completely wrong and can only lead to disaster. People who denounce Moscow's expansionist agenda have forgotten that it is NATO, not Russia, that has systematically expanded since the end of the Cold

War."

"Yet at the end of the Cold War, the United States assured Moscow that NATO would not expand further east"

"At the end of last year, the United States pushed the deal between Ukraine and the European Union"

"Russia therefore offered a more generous deal to Kiev, after which Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich decided to reject the EU deal and took the one Russia was offering instead. This sparked protests in Kiev that culminated in a coup against him. The United States immediately recognized the government resulting from that coup, which, under the influence of fascist parties that had chased from Kiev the democratically elected Yanukovich, took several measures against the Russian minority in the east. This is what started the civil war and prompted Russia to annex Crimea."

"It is doubtful that he (Putin) would have done that had it not been for the pressure of public opinion in Russia after the inhabitants of Crimea announced their intention to detach from Ukraine. In any case, what is certain is that Putin would never dreamed of annexing Crimea a year ago and that he would never have done it had Washington's misguided strategy not given him a pretext."

Kyiv's Neo-Nazi Brigades

(The following are excerpts from the August 11 issue of *The Telegraph*, a daily newspaper published in the United Kingdom.-GB)

"The fighters of the Azov battalion lined up in single file to say farewell to their fallen comrade. His pallid corpse lay under the sun in an open casket trimmed with blue velvet. Sergiy Grek, 22, lost a leg and died from massive blood loss."

"As Ukraine's armed forces tighten the noose around pro-Russian separatists in the east of the country, the Western-backed government in Kiev is throwing militia groups — some openly neo-Nazi — into the front of the battle."

"But Kiev's use of volunteer paramilitaries to stamp out the Russian-backed Donetsk and Luhansk 'people's republics', proclaimed in eastern Ukraine in March, should send a shiver down Europe's spine. Recently formed battalions such as Donbass, Dnipro and Azov, with several thousand men under their command, are officially under the control of the interior ministry but their financing is murky, their train-

ing inadequate and their ideology often alarming. The Azov men use the neo-Nazi Wolfsangel (Wolf's Hook) symbol on their banner and members of the battalion are openly white supremacists, or anti-Semites."

"Mr. Biletsky, a muscular man in a black T-shirt and camouflage trousers, said the battalion was a light infantry unit, ideal for the urban warfare needed to take cities like Donetsk. A former history student and amateur boxer, Mr. Biletsky is also head of an extremist Ukrainian group called the Social National Assembly."

"The historic mission of our nation in this critical moment is to lead the White Races of the world in a final crusade for their survival," he wrote in a recent commentary. "A crusade against the Semite-led Untermenschen." (Untermenschen is German for subhuman - GB)

"The battalion itself is founded on right wing views, the commander said - - -"

"Ukraine's government is unrepentant about using the neo-Nazis. 'The most important thing is their spirit and their desire to make Ukraine free and independent,' said Anton Gerashchenko, an advisor to Arsen Avakov, the interior minister."

"Mark Galeotti, an expert on Russian and Ukrainian security affairs at New York University, fears battalions like Azov are becoming 'magnets to attract violent fringe elements from across Ukraine and beyond'."

"Extremist paramilitary groups who have built up 'their own little Freikorps' and who are fundamentally opposed to finding consensus may demand a part in public life as victors in the conflict, Mr. Galeotti added. 'And what do you do when the war is over and you get veterans from Azov swaggering down your high street, and in your own lives?'"

Shooting Yourself In The Foot

On August 8, Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk stated that Ukraine was ready to impose "a wide array of sanctions on Russia . . . including putting restrictions on air flights and gas supplies to Europe."

Surprisingly (or perhaps not surprisingly), the outcry opposing the sanctions came not from Russia, but from Germany. According to published news reports, Germany, on August 11, demanded (my emphasis - GB) that Ukraine forgo its plans to disrupt the transit of Russian natural gas

to Europe.

The Ukrainian government had calculated that the sanctions would cost Ukraine (my emphasis - GB) \$7 billion in losses.

Yatsenyuk said that Ukraine will use part of a \$17 billion International Monetary Fund loan to Ukraine to compensate for the losses and may turn to the World Bank for additional loans.

Canadian Military Aid

(Excerpts from August 9 issue of the *Toronto Star*. - GB)

"By sending military aid to Ukraine, Canada is throwing tinder on a conflict that shows no sign of letting up."

"It's not a lot of tinder. Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Conservative government says it will provide such items as sleeping bags and helmets to help Kyiv's army fight eastern separatists sympathetic to Russia."

"In April, Washington said it would send about \$8 million worth of helmets and sleeping bags to Ukraine."

"Exactly why Ukrainian soldiers face such a dearth of sleeping bags is unclear. Some blame the notoriously corrupt politicians who have governed the country since it's independence."

"But in an all-out war with Russia it's not clear that even the extra Canadian helmets and American night-vision goggles would help Ukraine much."

Ukrainian Culture In Crossfire

(Excerpts from an article in the August 11 issue of *The New York Times*. -GB)

"On the evening of August 3, a crowd of Ukrainian nationalists tried to block the entrance to a beachfront nightclub in the southern city of Odessa, waving sticks and shouting slogans that accused the night's star attraction of being a traitor."

"The singer, Ani Lorak, a pop star who was Ukraine's entry in the 2008 Euro-vision song contest, finished her performance, but the evening ended with clashes between protesters and the police, several injuries and arrests."

"The motive for the protest . . . was not entirely clear."

"None of this justifies an attempt to shut down a pop concert. But the incident was yet another example of how the war in eastern Ukraine, which has already divided East and West, is driving a poisonous wedge between two neighbouring countries that for centuries have shared the

same cultural space.

"As Ukrainians point out, several of Russia's best-known writers — Mikhail Bulgakov, Nicolai Gogol and Isaac Babel — were from Ukraine. As Russians like to point out, they wrote in Russian."

"Recently, the Cultural Ministry in Kiev announced that it was drawing up a list of about 500 Russian performers and artists to be banned in Ukraine."

"Russian cultural figures have reacted to Kiev's stabs at censorship with open disdain. A Russian lawmaker is seeking a tit-for-tat ban on 500 Ukrainian performers, although that call has gone unanswered for now."

Mass Exodus

About 730,000 Ukrainians have left the country for Russia this year due to the fighting in eastern Ukraine. So said the European head of the United Nations agency for refugees on August 5, pointing to a far bigger exodus than previously thought.

The figure strips out seasonal data and numbers for people who would normally have crossed the border for trade or tourism purposes, UNHCR's European director Vincent Cochetel told a news briefing.

"The 730,000, it's the 'plus' compared to other years," he said. "They are not tourists. We've seen them at the border, just like in any other conflict. They walk, sometimes they just walk across the border, they come with plastic bags. Many of them are really destitute."

No Russian Violations

(Excerpts from the August 7 entry on the website *rt.com.news*.-GB)

"The OSCE Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe monitoring mission on the Russian-Ukrainian border has registered no violations of international law by the Russian side during its week-long stay at the Gukovo and Donetsk checkpoints, mission head Paul Picard said. During his press conference, Picard was asked to comment on western claims that Russia is shelling Ukrainian territory and has starting deployment troops to the country."

"In these two border crossings we haven't seen such happenings," he replied. "About 80 percent of traffic comes from Ukraine to Russia. We heard from people that there's a queue of hundreds of cars and a kilometre of people standing in line to the (Continued on Page 11.)"

Shevchenko Bicentennial

In this year of the celebration of the birth of Taras Shevchenko the "UCH" will publish a variety of materials related to the Bard of Ukraine. In this issue we have the second instalment of a paper presented by Peter Krawchuk at a Shevchenko Conference in Palermo, Ontario, on June 26, 1982, and printed in the March, 1984, issue of *The Ukrainian Canadian*.

From Reading Room to Museum

The Ukrainian progressive community, organized in the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians and Workers Benevolent Association, decided on a grand country-wide celebration of the 60th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada, which fell due in 1951. In connection with this anniversary it was resolved to erect a monument to Taras Shevchenko on Canadian soil as a symbol to the great and important contribution that Ukrainians have made to the economic and cultural development of the country they chose as their homeland through circumstances of life in the land of their birth, and which for their children and grandchildren had become their native land. The monument would also serve as a reminder of the kinship and spiritual ties with Ukraine and its great people, and would emphasize the freedom-loving character of Canadians of Ukrainian background, their industry and peaceful aspirations.

The National Executive Committee of the AUUC approached the Ukrainian Society for Cultural Relations With Countries Abroad, requesting that perhaps the monument could be sculpted by a Ukrainian sculptor. A quick and generous response informed that two noted Ukrainian sculptors had been commissioned the task and that the monument would be created of Ukrainian bronze and granite.

Here I would like to remind that when the people of Ukraine, in marking the 100th anniversary of the poet, decided to erect a monument to his memory in Kiev, they turned, through their Jubilee Committee, to their kinfolk living in other lands, including those living in Canada, for help in funding. And what is more, in 1922, representatives of the young Ukrainian Soviet Republic, turned with a direct request to the Ukrainian Labour Temple Association in Canada for financial help toward the erection of a Taras Shevchenko monument in Kharkiv.

These examples obviously underline the close ties that Ukrainian Canadians had with their kinfolk in the homeland and their joint endeavours in

honouring Shevchenko, in preserving his heritage, in circulating his ideas.

On Canada Day, July 1, 1951, the first monument to Taras Shevchenko on the American continent was unveiled in Palermo, Ontario. I underline that this was the first monument, because today there are several monuments and busts honouring Shevchenko — in Canada, United States, Argentina and Uruguay.

That same year, John Weir's biographical monograph, "Bard of Ukraine", with a number of translations of the bard's poetry, was published in English.

The decision by the NEC of the AUUC to erect a monument to Shevchenko in Canada included the building of a Shevchenko Museum alongside the monument. This project was realized the following year, 1952, when the museum was opened in July. So that today we are marking over 30 years of existence of this important cultural-educational institution, the only one of its kind on the American continent. During the period of these 30 years it has done a great deal to popularize the name of Taras Shevchenko, acquainting thousands of people of various nationalities and from many countries with the poet-revolutionary, with his immortal, living and active literary heritage.

Visitors to the museum, examining the displays and exhibits, the absolute majority of which were donated by the Kiev Shevchenko Memorial Museum, become visually acquainted with Ukraine's most noted genius, a poet who has taken his deserved place among the classics of world literature. And what's more, they become acquainted with the heroic history of the Ukrainian people, for the poetry and prose of the Great Kobzar vividly depicts the important periods of the history of Ukraine, which he loved dearly; for which he bore punishment and suffering; for whose liberty he so indefatigably fought during his entire lifetime.

I would like to emphasize, that with the erection of the monument in Palermo and the

opening of the doors of the Shevchenko museum, the greatness of the Kobzar and the significance of his work were raised to unprecedented heights in Canada. I consider that they opened a new period in Canadian Shevchenkiana.

First of all, since 1951, at the end of June or beginning of July, there has been an annual festive gathering at the monument, honouring the memory of the Great Kobzar. This has become a tradition which has never, to date, been broken, and I believe, will continue to be scrupulously preserved by future generations of Ukrainian Canadians.

Secondly, over the 30 years of the existence of the Shevchenko Museum, people who have stepped through its portals have wanted to become better acquainted with its wealth of exhibits, which tell the story of the poet and his life, of his beloved Ukraine, of the Ukrainian people from which we are descended, in such detail.

Thirdly, the erection of the monument and establishment of the museum served as a tremendous stimulus for the further popularization of the name and work of Shevchenko in the English language:

translations of his poetry came out in "Taras Shevchenko: Selections", by John Weir, the poem "Katerina" in Mary Skrypnyk's translation, a biographical story, "Little Taras", by Hannah Polowy, a novel, "The World Is My Village", by Hannah Polowy and Mitch Sago, the book "Taras Shevchenko In Canada" in both Ukrainian and English.

I would not be mistaken if I state that there would not have been a monument to Shevchenko in Winnipeg, or even in Washington, if the monument in Palermo had not been unveiled.

It must also be noted that the Shevchenko Park in Palermo is known far beyond the borders of Canada. It is especially widely known in the Soviet Union. The Canadian Kaniv, a name that has already



The Taras Shevchenko Museum was opened in Palermo (now part of Oakville) in 1952. It was destroyed by arson in September, 1988, and reopened in Toronto.

been accepted, and not without reason, has been visited yearly by delegations and tourists to Canada from various Soviet Republics, who, on returning home, reported at meetings of their compatriots and in their press about how Taras Shevchenko and his work is honoured and respected by Ukrainians in Canada.

It is also perfectly natural that it is more widely known in Ukraine, because hundreds of tourists, guests and delegations from Kiev, Lviv, Kharkiv, Odessa, Chernivtsi, Uzhgorod, Ternopil, Lutsk, Ivano-Frankivsk and other centres, have visited there. A considerable number of poems and essays by Soviet Ukrainian poets, writers, literary experts and journalists have been written about Canada's Kaniv, (the monument and museum).

A memorable event for us was the presence of Mayor Max Nublat of Challette, France, at the Shevchenko celebrations marking the 25th anniversary of the erection of the monument at Palermo in July of 1975. This was in repayment for the participation of a representative of the NEC, AUUC, Mary Skrypnyk, at the unveiling of a Shevchenko monument-bust in this French city in October of 1974.

Of great recognition for Ukrainian Canadians was the invitation and presence of a delegation representing the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community (the AUUC and WBA) at the International Shevchenko Forum in May of 1964 in Kiev held under the

auspices of UNESCO and the Writer's Union of Ukraine. From the tribune offered by this historic event, our representatives informed delegates from many countries around the world how Ukrainian Canadians honour and respect the work of Shevchenko.

For some years now, the Ukrainian branches of the Faculties of Slavic Studies in Canadian universities have held Shevchenko readings during the month of March with the participation of poets and Shevchenko experts from Ukraine.

One can affirm with conviction, then, that Shevchenko's ideas have been spreading throughout Canada for 90 years — with the arrival of the first Ukrainian immigrants. For some 80 years the Ukrainian Canadian community has marked the Shevchenko anniversary in an organized fashion — through concerts and readings of his work. During this period many of his works were published in Canada both in Ukrainian and in English translation. There have also been many articles and biographic reference works published on the pages of newspapers and journals. Many of his poems also appeared on the pages of calendar-almanacs, several hundred of which have been published in Canada.

I consider that the time has now come that all these materials be researched and studied and a representative work on Canadian Shevchenkiana be written and published in the Ukrainian and English languages.



This statue of Taras Shevchenko, the first in the Americas, was unveiled in Palermo (now part of Oakville, Ontario) on July 1, 1951. It was a focus of Canada Day celebrations, like this one in 1981, every year until it was destroyed by vandals in late December, 2006.

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

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WELLAND BRANCH

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

Ukrainian News Briefs

(Continued from Page 9.) checkpoint,' he said. According to Picard, the people who are trying to cross the Russian border from Ukraine have their children and huge bags with them, and don't look remotely like tourists.

"The observer also confirmed that several Ukrainian shells have landed on the Rus-

sian territory during the last week.

"There was fighting on the Ukrainian side south of (Gukovo) border crossing point and — two shells fell on the territory of the border crossing and two fell in the field,' he said.

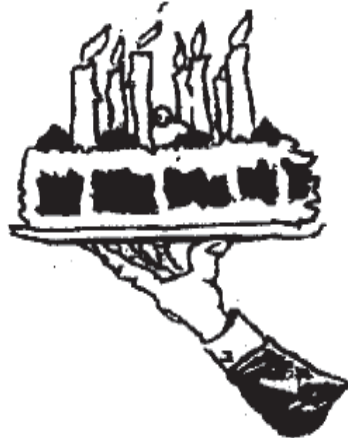
"Picard thanked the Russian border guards for 'providing required security measures' for the OSCE mission."

to Russian annexation and seen a civil war take hold in the east of the country, with Moscow's support."

"Petro Poroshenko, a chocolate tycoon who threw his lot in with the protests from the start, came to power in May's presidential elections promising a new type of political culture. But the conflict in the east has deflected attention and financial resources away from the renewal of government and governance, and analysts warn that serious economic problems are just around the corner."

"Poroshenko and his government now face criticism from two sides. On the one hand, eager to end the standoff in the east as soon as possible and faced with an enemy that appears to have a constant supply of heavy weaponry from Russia, Ukrainian forces have resorted to tactics that have been strongly criticised by international bodies. On the other hand, there is a growing sense in Ukrainian society that not enough has changed since Maidan, and a radicalisation of the mood has increased mutterings for a 'new Maidan.'"

Happy Birthday, Friends!



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

- Bill Askin
- Sherry Capowski
- Olga Horon
- Ann Parfeniuk
- Shirley 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 September and October celebrants:

- Helen Banville
- Wilfred Szczesny
- Vicky Vuksinic

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

The **Vancouver Seniors Club** extends birthday greetings to September and October celebrants:

- Stella Moroz
- Audrey Moysiuk

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

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

- Clara Babiy
- Dorothy Boucock
- Anne Cain
- Janice Robins
- Rudy Wasylenky
- Robert Young

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

Ukraine's Dream Stalls

(Excerpts from the August 5 issue of the British daily *The Guardian*. - GB)

"Nearly six months after the decisive battles between protesters and police on Kiev's Independence Square, the charred barricades of burned tyres and twisted metal still stand in memorial to the more than 100 people who died in the February clashes."

"The Maidan movement achieved its main goal: the ousting of President Victor Yanukovich. But in the months since, Ukraine has lost Crimea

Who, What, When, Where

Regina — During the months of **September and October**, registration will be accepted in the **AUUC Poltava School of Ukrainian Performing Arts** and the **Poltava Ensemble** at the **Ukrainian Cultural Centre** for seven levels of Ukrainian dance, as well as classes in mandolin. **Register on line at www.poltava.ca** For more information, **phone 306-522-1188 or e-mail poltavaschool@gmail.com**.

* * *

Toronto — **AUUC Toronto Branch** will hold its **season-opening banquet**, celebrating the bicentenary of Taras Shevchenko, at the **AUUC Cultural Centre**, 1604 Bloor Street West on Sunday, **September 7**. Doors open at **noon**; meal catered by Baby Point Lounge at 12:30 p.m. The program includes a **tribute to Taras Shevchenko, a guest singer, Peter Krochak** and the **Hahilka Singers**, and more. Admission: **by reservation only — \$35.00/plate**. Phone **416-588-1639**.

* * *

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

Clara Babiy, Welland ON	\$100.00
Janet Tarasoff, Calgary AB	
<i>With our sincere appreciation</i>	
<i>for an excellent paper</i>	50.00
Nancy Thoroski, Toronto ON	50.00
Helen Wishinski, Coquitlam BC	20.00
Gail Bilecki, Mississauga ON	10.00

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.

— Photo: Scott Alpen

— Photo: Dan Fung



The Dovbush Dancers are proud of their achievements in the last year, and enthusiastic about the projects in the coming season.

Dovbush Dancers Build on Successful Year

Following their return from their summer, 2013, Ukrainian dance seminar in Kyiv, and the huge Vancouver Moving Theatre and AUUC production of Bread and Salt, Vancouver's Dovbush Dancers kicked off 2014 with a performance at AUUC Vancouver's annual Malanka.

They danced to a packed house, then proceeded to revel

— Photo: Dan Fung



Stanislav Galimkhanov, Dovbush's ballet teacher, in a pose from the solo dance "Kavkaz".

into the early morning with guests of all ages.

The highlight of the evening was the always exciting Kolomeyka, in which guests and dancers alike showed off their tricks.

This year a popular new adult dance class was introduced for adults to practice tricks for the Kolomeyka, which was a great success!

On May 27, Dovbush was honoured to perform in the Vancouver Dance Centre's Discover Dance series, during which they put on a one-hour show, with guest appearances by singer Beverly Dobrinsky and dancer Stanislav Galimkhanov. This was Dovbush's first solo performance organized by the dance group alone.

The performance was a great success, with a sold-out house and many audience

— Photo: Scott Alpen



The Hopak Dancers performed "Vitarets" at the Vancouver Dance Centre.

— Photo: Dan Fung



Cameron Fung and writer Montana Hunter perform in the "Hopak".

members requesting a second show.

At the BC Ukrainian Dance Festival in Mission, Dovbush performed three dances. The group opened with the at times lyrical, at times lively, Kozachok "Hulyanka", which accented the grace of the female dancers and the strength of their male counterparts.

Dovbush's second dance was "Na hutsulsky polonyni", which the group had learned in Kyiv from dancer and choreographer Liliya Chernous. This Hutsul dance was based on old festival fertility dances around a fire. The complicated steps of the dancers, costumes fresh from Ukraine, and challenging choreography kept the audience enthralled throughout.

Finally, Dovbush closed the festival with its always popular Hopak.

Dovbush was honoured to garner rave reviews from the adjudicator, Vincent Rees, who took time to come backstage personally and meet with the group.

The group returned home with three trophies, including the much coveted Hopak trophy!

Throughout the year, Dovbush performed at numerous Vancouver events such as the Best of Slavic Folk Lore Concert, the AUUC Annual Shevchenko memorial show, the North Shore Folk Fest, and Richmond's Multicultural Heritage day.

Later in the year, at the European Festival, one of Dovbush's dancers (Joey Hobbis) received third place for his solo Georgian dance.

As a particular highlight, Dovbush was honoured to perform for the birthday of Ukraine's Honorary Consul for BC, Mr. Mir Hucalak!

Dovbush concluded its year by performing at a dinner for youth involved with, or affected by, the Maiden protests, who came under scholarship to study English in Vancouver.

They also attended a pool party organized by Wilson Parasiuk for the Ukrainian students.

Dovbush hopes to develop the relationship between the



The Poltava Dancers entered "Na hutsulsky poloni" into competition at the BC Ukrainian Dance Festival in Mission.

— Photo: Dan Fung



The group took the dance from the competitive stage to a friendly exhibition at Malanka.

— Photo: Scott Alpen



Kyle Wishinski and Stanislav Galimkhanov of the Dovbush dancers displayed their skills in the "Hopak" at the Vancouver Dance Centre.

dance group and Ukraine that was started with the group's Kyiv Dance Seminar last summer.

Dovbush has grown considerably over the last two years; the group has put on its own show, participated in large scale productions, and consistently performed well in competitions.

Dovbush has benefited greatly from the training the group received in Kyiv, work with exceptional Canadian instructors such as Anna Kavanets and Serguei Makarov, and large scale productions such as Vancouver

Moving Theatre and the Vancouver AUUC's Bread and Salt.

Next year looks to be another exciting year for the group as they consider more seminars and concerts.

This upcoming December some of the Dovbush male dancers are even slated to appear in Goh Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker*.

The Dovbush Dancers are excited to begin dancing again in September, and plan to continue their success inside Vancouver — and possibly in other parts of Canada as well.

— Montana Hunter