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Poltava Pavilion at Regina's Mosaic

— Photo: Mark Greschner



AUUC Regina Branch participated in the 52nd Mosaic Festival of Cultures in Regina on May 30, May 31, and June 1 by featuring, and paying tribute to, the 90th anniversary of the Ukrainian Cultural Centre. Once again, for the 30th time, the Poltava Pavilion was located at the Regina Performing Arts Centre, AUUC Regina Branch's home away from home for events too large for our hall. Open for three evenings and Saturday afternoon, the pavilion was visited by over 6000 patrons. A story, with more photos, appears on Page 3.

Three Billion Birds Lost

A study published in the journal *Science* says that North America now has three billion fewer birds than it did in 1970. This is a decline of 29% over the five decades.

The study of 529 North American bird species, found that even common species such as sparrows and blackbirds are part of the global biodiversity crisis.

The findings raise the fear that other animals may also have declined, possibly creating a threat to human welfare.

The biggest loss (700 million) was grassland birds, squeezed out as grasslands were converted to agriculture.

Another factor has been song birds' exposure to a neo-

nicotinoid insecticide, a chemical previously linked to injury to bee populations.

Fires in the Amazon, many of them deliberately set to clear land for agriculture, are also a factor.

There are some positive signs. For example, wetland birds show an increase. Wetland conservation is very advanced in North America.

Birds of prey, such as hawks and falcons, have shown an increase since the pesticide DDT was banned.

Individuals can help by keeping their cats indoors, making windows bird-safe, replacing grass lawns with native plants, and doing several other things.

The Next Issue

The next issue of the "UCH" will be dated November, 2019. Announcements of events in November or early December, 2019, as well as articles for the November, 2019, issue, should be in our office by October 10. Thank you for your consideration.

Salute to Delegates

The Editorial Board of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* salutes the delegates to the 47th AUUC National Convention! May your discussions lead to a new age of growth and renewal for the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians.

The AUUC is in a more favourable material position than it has enjoyed in decades. Nevertheless, the organization also faces significant challenges. Key among these is the vital need to stem the decline in membership. It is no secret that, in recent decades, the AUUC has closed Branches as well as losing members. Programming and leadership will be decisive in reversing this trend.

The problem is not insurmountable: nor is it negligible. We wish the Convention delegates the very best as they grapple with the future of the AUUC.

"Havana Syndrome"

A favourite theory was that it was some sort of sonic attack, which caused illness in some American, and a few Canadian, diplomats. The fatigue, headaches, memory loss, and other symptoms were thought to have been produced by some sort of new weapon deployed secretly by the Cubans (or possibly someone else) against the North American diplomats.

Investigators from the United States were unable to discover who or what was responsible. There was no suggestion of why, except for a general belief that Cuba was a generally evil country, capable of everything.

The narrative fit well with President Trump's right-wing anti-Cuban agenda, and he took the opportunity to decrease the size of USA representation in Cuba.

Canada, currying favour with the USA because of the tripartite trade negotiations, followed suit.

Now, a study by researchers at Dalhousie University has presented an alternative explanation. The study, commissioned by Global Affairs Canada, suggests that the "syndrome" may be the result of exposure to neurotoxins.

The symptoms are consistent with frequent low-level exposure to a toxin used in pesticides.

Both Cuban and Canadian authorities were doing extra spraying against mosquitos following the Zika outbreak in the Caribbean. A toxin used in some pesticides can inhibit enzymes needed by the human nervous system.

The study says that other causes cannot be ruled out.

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Close to 50 musicians from across Canada attended the Orchestral Workshop in Regina, sponsored by the Association of United Ukrainian Candians on August 30 to September 1.

Regina AUUC Hosts National Orchestral Workshop !

“It sounded magical in the theatre this afternoon!” So said Dave Wilson, Chairperson of the Poltava Ensemble, and videographer for the National Orchestral Workshop. He was speaking at the social event held on the evening of September 1 at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, ending the Workshop held at the Regina Performing Arts Centre on Friday, August 30, to Sunday, September 1, sponsored by the Association of United

Ukrainian Canadians.

That end note was a decided change from the feeling on the Friday evening, after the first rehearsal, when almost 50 musicians and conductors gathered in Regina (almost 30 of them from out of town) wondered whether they would be ready for a recording session by Sunday afternoon.

The time between the two events was spent rehearsing five numbers, some more chal-

lenging than others. These were “Tumbalalaika” (arr... Sid Rabinovitch), “Malyna” and “Vivcharek” (both arranged by Pavel Rhyzlovsky, conductor of the AUUC Vancouver orchestra), V. Honolyara’s “Transcarpathian Sketches” (adapted by P. Slominski), and Lysenko’s “Taras Bulba”.

The Regina AUUC is a centre of great hospitality and of excellent organization. From the pick-up at the airport,

through to departure on September 2, the Regina committee provided whatever participants needed for a successful, workshop.

After registering at the Home Inn and Suites Regina Airport, participants were transported to the RPAC for a meet-and-greet, formalities, the first rehearsal, and the first of an endless supply of snacks and light beverages.

Workshop Co-ordinator Zoya Shmyr bade the visitors

welcome, and introduced the workshop committee members: Sasha Lapchuk, President of AUUC Regina Branch and administrator for the Poltava School of Ukrainian Performing Arts; Dave Wilson, Chairperson of the Poltava Ensemble, and videographer for this workshop; Kelly Munce, lighting technician for Poltava and tech management for the workshop; Lisa Wanner, Dance Director

(Continued on Page 7.)

— Photo: Dave Wilson

— Photo: Lisa Wanner

— Photo: Mark Greschner



Lisa Wanner, Poltava Dance Director and Food Coordinator for the workshop, and Jen Wilson, Hotel Coordinator, were among the volunteers on the National Orchestral Workshop Committee.



Sylvia Dmyterko, shown shopping, was among those who provided snacks throughout the workshop.

— Photo: Dave Wilson



Vlad Osatiuk, Poltava’s orchestra conductor and Workshop Orchestra Conductor (right) concentrates as he checks the recording quality with Brad Prosko, owner of B-Rad Studio.

— Photo: Jeffrey Chow



As they arrived at the Regina Performing Arts Centre on Friday, August 30, participants from across Canada signed in, got their name tag and a music portfolio (with a pencil included), enjoyed light refreshments, and prepared for the first rehearsal.



Many of the participants, some shown above, built on their friendships at the Lancaster Taphouse on Saturday, August 31.

— Story Photos: Mark Greschner

Poltava Pavilion at Regina's Mosaic

The presentation by AUUC Regina Branch at the 52nd Mosaic Festival of Cultures in Regina on May 30, May 31, and June 1 featured and paid tribute to the 90th anniversary of our building, the Ukrainian Cultural Centre.

The Poltava Pavilion was located at the Regina Performing Arts Centre, the Regina Branch's home away from home, for the 30th year. This venue allows for excellent seating for both concertgoers and those enjoying the Ukrainian dining experience.

Open for three evenings and Saturday afternoon, the pavilion was visited by over 6000 patrons.

The professional expansive stage, and the 24-member orchestra in the foreground, provided for excellent viewing by all in the auditorium.

The concert program format has not changed for many years, with 21 half-hour performances — 5 of them by the 84 students of the AUUC School of Ukrainian Performing Arts (one each day Thursday and Friday at 5:30, and

three on Saturday afternoon). AUUC Poltava Ensemble Orchestra, Dancers and Vocalists appeared five times each evening and six times on Saturday.

The calibre of the performance by the children, orchestra and dancers was highly acclaimed and complimented by patrons' comments and media coverage.

Directing the cultural component were: Poltava Ensemble Dance Director Lisa Waner and Poltava Ensemble (Continued on Page 8.)



The Pre-Poltava Dancers performed "Festive Hopak".



Conductor Vlad Osatiuk, ready for the down beat.



The audience is always appreciative of "Zaporozhian Cosacks" by Poltava's male dancers.



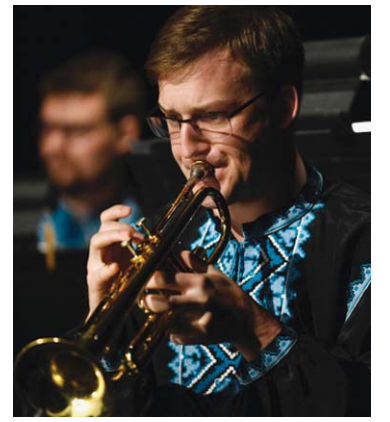
Assisted by their teachers, the children of the Poltava School perform "Summer in Poltava".



The spirited dance "The Gypsies", performed by the Poltava Dancers, is always well received.



The Poltava Dancers performed the Bukovenian dance "Dziubalyky".



Poltava Assistant Conductor Mitch Bonokoski.



At left: From Mosaic, "Krutukha", performed by Junior II dancers.



At left: From Mosaic, another view of "Summer in Poltava".



One noted feature of the Poltava Pavilion at Mosaic is its food. At left are the kitchen staff for 2019.

Shevchenko Museum at Ukrainian Festival

— Photo: Jerry Dobrowsky



For the first time in many years, the Shevchenko Museum had a booth at the Toronto Ukrainian Festival on September 13-15, to popularize the official opening on October 20 at the Museum's new location, 1604 Bloor Street West. The booth launched the landing page for the new website, with the domain name donated by Wendy McCormack. In addition to a number of give-aways, the booth featured such items as the trilingual *Kobzar*, published by the Shevchenko Museum to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Taras Shevchenko's birth. A popular item were t-shirts produced for the occasion. Among the many volunteers working at the booth over the weekend were Sean and Zorya Murphy.

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Don't Be Fooled!

An Editorial by Wilfred Szczesny

These days people tend to discount promises made by politicians during election campaigns. Part of the reason for low voter participation rates is the scornful attitude that election promises mean nothing.

Though the level of cynicism is quite high, nevertheless there is a combination of promises which seems to find a fairly high level of acceptance among some voters, in spite of its evident irrationality and in spite, too, of repeated experience with its consequences.

That combination of promises is, in a nutshell, "We'll lower your taxes, we'll balance the budget, and we'll do it by finding economies, without affecting services or cutting jobs."

One thing to note is that the people who make this set of promises are not going to raise corporate tax rates or the taxes paid by the 1%. Quite the opposite: they have a history of lowering corporate tax rates,

If they do, in fact lower your taxes, the result will be lower governmental revenues.

Balancing the budget while lowering revenues can only mean cutting expenditures — the expenditures that are payments for governmental programs, including salaries and pensions.

"Finding economies" has been the story for decades; there is little, if any "fat" left, some claims to the contrary notwithstanding.

The consequence of all the foregoing is that lowering your taxes, if it happens, will be accompanied by cuts to services.

Think back on your own experience, and see how many contrary examples you can find.

People in Ontario are now paying the price for buying that set of promises. Health and education are two big areas where services have been cut, as front-line jobs are being lost and user fees have grown. Law is another.

A tax cut may in fact be good for you — as long as you stay healthy, have no students in the school system, stay employed, are not affected by the climate emergency, etc., etc. However, unless you are a person of some means, sooner or later, the service cuts will cost you, and cost you more than you save.

So, when a party promises to leave more money in your pocket so that you can get ahead, remember that you may pay a price. If not you, then perhaps a family member, a close friend, or a neighbour will be caught in the trap of reduced services or social supports.

COMMENTARY

For Electoral Reform

The debacle faced by the Liberals over Justin Trudeau's use of blackface, and the implications this may have for how people will vote, only underscores how broken Canada's electoral system is.

Canadians are in the midst of yet another election in which they will vote under the pressure imposed by the first-past-the-post system. It drives them to vote for parties they think will win rather than parties and platforms they truly support.

First-past-the-post also allows a party with less than a majority in electoral support to claim the majority of seats and form a majority government.

Justin Trudeau promised that the 2015 election would be the last under the first-past-the-post system. That promise was quickly quashed, despite much interest by Ca-

nadians to put in place new methods of determining who will govern.

In Britain, the Brexit crisis and the deadlock in Parliament has resulted in some MP's calling for an end to the first-past-the-post system. These MP's have also broken with traditional party allegiances to sit as independents.

Maybe what Canadians are witnessing in our elections will stoke a movement for electoral reform in Canada.

John Ivison, political columnist for the *National Post*, asked Andrew Scheer, leader of the Conservative Party, if he thought that the Trudeau blackface scandal had rendered this election a farce. Ivison's point was that the focus for voters had become the scandal rather than the issues facing Canadians.

John Ivison's observation is

true, however, the problem is deeper than this. The political process does not empower Canadians just because it calls on them to vote every few years for this or that party.

Voter apathy has become a concern. If the process does not empower people then is it democratic?

There is good reason Canadians are disillusioned with elections and voting participation rates are low, especially amongst younger voters. This disillusionment is expressed in the wisdom of the street: "all politicians are the same".

While people discuss issues during elections, they are often surprised by what transpires in the period following. Trudeau abandoned electoral reform; Harper dismantled the Canadian Wheat Board; programs of austerity and privatization of public services suddenly surface on the agenda of newly elected governments.

It is time to end the farce with meaningful electoral reform that changes the political conversation.

— Glenn Michalchuk

Anti-Vaxxers Threaten Public Health

Some of us are old enough to remember the annual panic as summer approached and, with it, an increased danger of polio. We remember seeing the people whose limbs were affected by paralysis caused by the disease, and the pictures of people in iron lungs who could not breathe on their own because of polio. We remember that people died as a result of the disease.

To those of us who remember, it is astonishing that some other people who are also old enough to remember are advising people not to have their children vaccinated against this devastating disease.

We almost died of whooping cough: many others did not survive. Nevertheless, anti-vaxxers are advising against the vaccine that can prevent the disease.

Measles, mumps, chicken pox, small pox, yellow fever — these are among the other diseases that have been almost

eliminated by the use of vaccines. Some of these diseases have not been seen in years. Unfortunately, too, from time to time there are reports of spikes in the number of cases seen of the ailments which were almost eradicated.

Many of the remaining cases of some diseases are in underdeveloped countries, or countries in conflict, where several factors make it difficult to achieve universal vaccination. However, outbreaks also occur in countries like the United States, where vaccination hesitancy, as the World Health Organization calls it, leaves many people unprotected.

This reluctance to accept vaccination has been listed by WHO among the top ten global health threats. As one example, it has contributed to a 30% growth in measles cases globally.

Another example is tuber-

culosis, globally one of the top ten causes of death. Between 2014 and 2015, the number of cases rose in 29 states and the District of Columbia.

Young mothers, who do not remember the ravages of the past, fall easy prey to anti-vaccine campaigners who spread horror stories about the dangers of vaccines. They are particularly vulnerable to the discredited claim that vaccines cause autism.

Increasing numbers of such parents seek religious or philosophical exemptions from vaccinations. As their number grows, the danger to their own children, as well as other children, increases. A single case, contracted somewhere, can quickly become an epidemic.

In Canada, Vaccine Choice Canada is among the organizations opposing removal of all but medical grounds for refusal of vaccination. As the "UCH" goes to press, there are hearings in Toronto..

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Ukrainian Miscellany

Creating a Market in Land

Ukraine is planning land reform which would allow owners to “own, buy use and dispose” of their land. President Zelensky wants the creation of an open market in land to be accomplished by December 1.

A moratorium on the sale of privately held land was introduced in 2001. At the time, it was intended to develop a transparent mechanism for the sale and purchase of land, but that intent was never achieved. According to President Zelensky, the result has been “a large-scale shadow market” of benefit not to small farmers, but to “local so-called land princes”.

As foreseen, the land market would not be completely open — only Ukrainian companies and Ukrainian citizens would be allowed to buy or sell agricultural land.

According to President Zelensky, speaking in Kyiv at the conference “Land as a Factor in the Development of the Ukrainian Rural Area”, there will be widespread discussion to dispel public fears about foreign ownership of farmland.

At the same conference, Ukrainian Prime Minister Oleksiy Honcharuk did note that companies registered in Ukraine, with foreign “beneficiaries” would be eligible to participate. He noted that, currently, many foreigners farm Ukrainian land, not as owners, but as lessees.

Potato Shortage

Normally, August and September are months of plenty when it comes to potatoes grown in Ukraine. Late spring to early summer is the period when imports are required.

However, in 2019, much of the potato crop in Ukraine was delayed by bad weather, so imports were needed in August. In that month, 4,300 tonnes of potatoes were imported, mostly from Belarus (where prices were low), at a cost of US\$795,000.

Ukraine had decent potato harvests in 2017 and 2018. Therefore, during the usual import months of 2018 and 2019, only 3,000 to 5,000 tonnes were imported.

The report in UNIAN did not mention the final state of the total potato harvest in Ukraine this year.

Gas Transit

Russia has confirmed its willingness to sign an agreement for gas transit from Russia to Europe, across Ukraine, under new rules. The current contract is ten years old, and

expires at the end of this year. Income from this gas transit comprises 2%-3% of Ukraine’s GNP. Therefore Ukraine is interested in continuing the arrangement, though it is making preparations for the eventuality that the talks fail.

On September 19, trilateral talks, involving Ukraine, Russia and the European Commission, were held to explore the possibility of reaching a new agreement. A statement by Ukraine’s Naftogaz indicated that Russia’s Gazprom has shown a willingness to continue transporting gas across Ukraine, under European rules, from January 1, 2020, as long as they apply to Ukraine to the end of the coming year.

Naftohaz Chairman of the Board Andriy Kobolyev, indicated that a lot of “house-keeping” (related to plans to “unbundle” Naftohaz) had to be done to prepare for the next round of talks.

Oleksandr Novak, Russia’s Minister of Energy, proposed to Naftohaz that the existing agreement be continued until the necessary changes could be made to Ukrainian laws.

The next round of talks is scheduled for this month.

Prisoner Exchange

On September 7, it was reported that Ukraine and Russia had conducted the first prisoner exchange since 2014. Each country freed 35 prisoners.

The exchange was carefully orchestrated, as one plane took off from Moscow at the same time as another left Kyiv. They landed simultaneously and debarked their passengers. Ukraine’s President Zelensky was on the tarmac at Boryspil airport to meet the prisoners released by Russia.

Among those released by Russia were 24 Ukrainian sailors who were taken by Russia in November, after their navy vessels tried to pass through the Kerch Strait, between the Russian mainland and Crimea. Russia charged them with illegally entering Russian space; Ukraine insists that they were in international waters.

Also released was Oleg Sentsov, a Ukrainian filmmaker sentenced to 20 years’ imprisonment in Russia in 2015.

Among those released by Ukraine were Kyrylo Vyshynsky, a Ukrainian-born journalist who previously worked for Russia’s state-run Ria Novosti news agency in Kyiv, charged with treason by Ukraine, and Maksim Odintsov and Alexander Baranov, two former Ukrain-

ian servicemen that Ukraine says defected to Russia during the Kremlin’s annexation of Crimea.

Ukraine also released Volodymyr Tsemakh, who has been labelled a “person of interest” in the investigation into the 2015 MH-17 downing. His release was opposed by the Netherlands, and he was questioned by Dutch investigators prior to his release.

The prisoner exchange was a major triumph for President Zelensky who was elected on a platform that promised repatriation of Ukrainian prisoners held in Russia. President Zelensky said that he hoped that the exchange was the first step in increased efforts to bring peace to war-torn eastern Ukraine.

Russian President Vladimir Putin expressed similar hopes that the prisoner exchange would be a step toward normalizing relations between Russia and Ukraine.

Disengagement

On September 18, Ukraine announced preparations to withdraw the armed forces along the entire 450 km of the contact line in Donbas. The statements by Commander of Joint Forces Operations (JFO) Volodymyr Kravchenko and Minister of Defence Andriy Zahorodniuk were made while the first meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group on the crisis in Eastern Ukraine since the exchange of prisoners was taking place in Minsk.

A few days earlier, Leonid Kuchma, Ukraine’s representative to talks in Minsk, had spoken about the real possibility of reaching agreement on disengagement near two settlements — Petrovske and Zolote.

At the same time, Lieutenant General Kravchenko, noted that the disengagement depends not only on Ukraine, but also on “mirror image” actions by the opposing side.

Minister of Defence Zahorodniuk said that the disengagement would take place in phases, according to pre-designated steps. He said that it is absolutely critical that the movement be by both sides. “This is not an absolute retreat.”

He added, “And of course, for each of these steps there will be preparation, there will be clarifications, there will be work on all technical issues, logistical issues, issues of security, and so on.... No one will do this without preparation.”

However, in Minsk, the Trilateral Contact Group made no progress on the issues of disengagement, exchange of prisoners, or implementation of the Steinmeier Formula.

The Russian representative

in Minsk, Boris Grizlov, blamed the failure on Ukraine’s refusal to accept the Steinmeier Formula developed by the Normandy Four. The Steinmeier Formula specifies that Donbas be given special status, and that the final withdrawal of military forces from the Donbas People’s Republic and the Luhansk People’s Republic only occur after elections in those areas. By rejecting this position, he said, Ukraine has also disrupted approval of the agreement on disengagement in Petrovske and Zolote, inasmuch as resolution of issues of security and politics should be synchronized.

Leonid Kuchma said that Ukraine has no disagreement in principle with the Steinmeier Formula, but its implementation required a series of conditions.

These conditions include: a complete ceasefire, access to the entire territory of Donbas for a special OSCE monitoring group, removal from Ukrainian territory of military formations and technology of foreign military forces, removal of forces and materiel along the entire line of contact, and assurance for the work of the Central Electoral Commission of Ukraine, Ukrainian parties, the mass media and foreign observers, as well as establishing control over the entire Russian-Ukrainian border — the same conditions demanded by the previous government.

Russia’s response came on September 19, when Dmitry Pyeskov, spokesperson for President Putin said that the Steinmeier Formula was not hedged with restrictions. Furthermore, withdrawal of forces from the line of contact is merely another demand by Ukraine before elections can be held in the DPR and LPR.

The two sides obviously see things differently.

(OSCE is the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. The Trilateral Contact Group is composed of Ukraine, Russia, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. The Normandy Four was formed on June 6, 2014, of Germany, France, Ukraine, and Russia, with Italy and the United Kingdom invited occasionally.)

Political Detention

Three years ago, on July 30, 2016, Oleksandr Yefremov was detained on suspicion of encroaching on Ukraine’s territorial integrity and inviolability (saying the wrong thing about Eastern Ukraine or the Crimea). In addition, Mr.

Yefremov was suspected of direct support for the criminal organization Luhansk People’s Republic, as well as the illegal seizure of Luhansk-vuhillia’s property.

“Detained” in this report by Ukrinform seems to mean “held for questioning”, because it also says that a month later, on August 1, 2016, Mr. Yefremov was “taken into custody”, which seems to mean “arrested”.

Late in April, 2019, almost three years later, the Starobilsk district court extended Mr. Yefremov’s arrest for another two months, until June 22. This was extended, on June 19, until August 17. On July 22, 2019, Mr. Yefremov was “freed” to house arrest.

On September 19, Mr. Yefremov was released from house arrest and placed on personal recognizance, meaning not so much as an ankle monitor. His foreign passport has not been returned. He is required to appear in court on request, not to leave Kyiv without court permission (except for participation in court sessions), to inform the court of any change of residence, and to refrain from communicating with witnesses and experts.

In three years, the justice system of Ukraine has been unable to bring this suspect, accused of high treason, separatism and the creation of a terrorist organization, to trial. Either the case is extremely complicated, or there is no interest in bringing it to trial. The long detention without trial suggests that Mr. Yefremov, the former head of the Party of Regions faction in Ukraine’s parliament, has been a political prisoner (but not one of concern to the Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group).

An interesting question is, “Is the election of President Zelensky related to Olexandr Yefremov’s release, at last, from some form of continued imprisonment?”

Kolomoisky Concerns

The period since the election of President Zelensky has been marked by turmoil in Ukraine, much of it centred on Ihor Kolomoisky. One concern has been efforts by Mr. Kolomoisky to win back control or get compensation for the December, 2016, nationalization of PrivatBank.

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the largest lender to Ukraine, is concerned about the court actions launched by Mr. Kolomoisky, and is warning about “undermining investors’ confidence” if he wins.

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, 2019, or the January, 2020, 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.

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— Photo: Gloria Gordienko



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(up to 15 words) \$25.00

.....
Three-line greeting.....

Name and city

(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 **Vancouver AUUC Senior Citizens Club** wishes a happy birthday to the celebrant of October.

Audrey Moysiuk

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

The **Edmonton AUUC Senior Citizens Club** wishes a happy birthday to the celebrant of October.

Sherry Kapowski

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

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

Clara Babiy
Lorna Jonson
Janice Robins
Rudy Wasykenko

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

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

Helen Banville

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

Apologies

We regret the need to reduce this issue of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* to eight pages, instead of the twelve originally planned.

Historic Trowel Found!

The Ceremonial Trowel, a symbol of dedication to honour those who contributed to the building of the Winnipeg Ukrainian Labour Temple, has been found!

It was found safe and sound, tucked in the back corner of the safe where it was all along!

The silver trowel, which has ornate etchings and a carved handle, is kept in a navy blue velvet box. An inscription in-

side, written in Ukrainian, reads, "With this trowel, the names of all donors who contributed to the construction of the Ukrainian Labour Temple were sealed into the cornerstone in 1918."

Many years ago it was thought to have gone missing. Was it poor eye sight, poor lighting, or just alligator

arms? That doesn't matter now.

It was found by one of our younger members, Mykola Hedrich, as the safe was being prepared to be moved out of the office for upcoming renovations.

An important part of our building's history has being recovered and can again be put out on display for our special events.

— Tim Gordienko

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National Orchestral Workshop

(Continued from Page 2.) of the Poltava Ensemble, Assistant Admin in the Poltava School, and Food Coordinator for this workshop; Jen Wilson, Hotel Coordinator for the workshop; Ed Kopciuch, Instrument Coordinator for workshop; Dale Finch, Transportation Coordinator; Leah Nowosiadly, Assistant Transportation Coordinator; Deb Pacholka, Workshop Committee member.

Also introduced were: Mitch Bonokoski, Assistant Conductor of the Poltava Orchestra; Wilfred Szczesny, Editor of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, and AUUC National Vice-President;

Blyth Nuttal, music arranger and conductor; Pavel Rhyzlovsky, Conductor of Vancouver Orchestra and sectional conductor for the workshop; Annis Kozub, Conductor of the Winnipeg String Orchestra and conductor for the workshop; and Vlad Osatiuk, Conductor of the Poltava Orchestra and conductor for the workshop.

Brief greetings were also extended by Sasha Lapchuk, Vlad Osatiuk, and Annis Kozub.

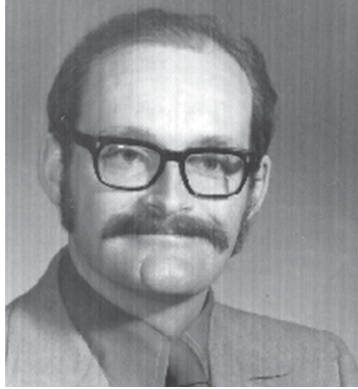
Over Saturday and Sunday morning, with about ten hours of rehearsal, Vlad Osatiuk Annis Kozub, with Pavel Rhyzlovsky, gently brought the

orchestra to Sunday afternoon's magical sound.

The musicians ended with a feeling of satisfaction and gratitude, renewed friendships and new ones, and a hope that it would not be another nine years to the next one.

— Carl Honour

William R. Askin



Born on September 5, 1939, Bill Askin passed away on Monday, August 19, 2019, at the age of 79 years.

Bill was born in Wainwright, Alberta, son of Thomas and Edith Mary Askin.

Bill was predeceased by his wife, Donna, who passed away in October, 2007.

He is survived by step-daughters Julie Asterisk of Slave Lake, Alberta, and Bertie Mandelblatt of Rhode Island, USA; brothers Michael Askin of White Rock, BC, and Peter Askin of Mayne Island, BC; niece Janet Askin and nephew Liam Askin.

Bill earned two Master's degrees, one in history and one in education, both from the University of Alberta. His unpublished MA thesis "Labour Unrest in Edmonton and District and its coverage by the Edmonton Press, 1918-1919, University of Alberta, 1973", has been cited by historians of the Canadian labour movement.

He wrote letters to newspapers around the world in 1960 about "Project Cauldron" — the plan to detonate 100 nuclear warheads in the bitumen mines to get it to "flow".

Bill was well known for his lifelong defence of Canadian sovereignty: he believed strongly in the emancipation of humankind from want, war, and oppression, and made personal sacrifices in working towards a better world for us all. This was Bill's vision right up to the end.

The Edmonton Seniors Club is grateful to Bill Askin for his stalwart service over the last decade as club treasurer, for which he regularly drove to Edmonton all the way from his home in Vegreville.

Who, What, When, Where

Calgary — AUUC Calgary Branch, with the Calgary Ukrainian Hopak Ensemble, PA Calgary Ukrainian Hopak Ensemble, present Past Present Future, an evening social and buffet, celebrating the AUUC 100th anniversary and reconnecting with people that have participated in the AUUC Calgary Branch. The event will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 3316 – 28 Avenue S.W., at 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 5. For more information, call Deb at 403-816-9613.

* * *

Toronto — The Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation will host the official opening of the Shevchenko Museum at its new location — 1604 Bloor Street West — with a wine and cheese reception from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 20. The program includes speakers, entertainment, and an opportunity to explore the new site.

* * *

Readers 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.



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Poltava Pavilion at Regina's Mosaic



Poltava's female dancers glided through the Lyrical Russian Dance "Sarafan".

(Continued from Page 3.) Orchestra Director Vlad Osatiuk; and Poltava Dance School Instructors Braden Bidyk, Dom Bohach, Dmitri Bohach, Daniel Hebert, Emery Millette, Julia Pringle, Kayla Swicheniuk, Sarah Kalmakoff and Orisha Greschner.

Recognition must be given to Sasha Lapchuk (AUUC Regina Branch President) for the year-long coordination of Mosaic preparations, Poltava Pavilion Manager David Yaffe, Kitchen Manager Jennifer Swicheniuk and her totally committed kitchen staff, and Joanne Laslo and Gerry Shmyr for the countless hours of food preparation, par-

ticularly the thousands of perogies (*varennyky*) needed for the Pavilion.

Gratitude is also expressed to Masters of Ceremonies Dave Wilson (Poltava Ensemble President) and Ken Lozinsky, Pavilion Ambassadors Dion Tchorzewski and Noah Evanchuk, Youth Ambassadors Bob Millette and Paige Lekatch, and lobby display and decoration design by Rob Boyd, Mark Greschner and Gerry Shmyr.

Thank you to Lynne Lapchuk, Joanne Laslo and Jason Garvey for handling the pavilion finances. A huge thanks also to Michaelina Yaffe for coordinating and leading the Poltava School's

change rooms throughout the three days.

Once again, special thanks must be given to over 100 volunteers from among the parents of the children in the dance school and friends of the AUUC Regina Branch.

The Regina executive thanks all of you for your assistance in making the Poltava Pavilion, once again, a resounding success!

Top right: Guest vocalists Alla Gof-Tymishak and her husband Fr. Vasyl Tymishak sang "The Ducks are Flying" (A Mother's Lament).

Right: The Lileya Dancers of the Poltava School performed "Razashaska".



Vancouver Craft Club Centennial Quilt



The Craft Club of the AUUC at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre in Vancouver has been in existence for many years. We have a showcase

with many samples of embroidery, decorated eggs, and even a Ukrainian cottage constructed of wood and painted. This was from a time when a

man or two were involved with crafts.

At present, we have only five members, all women. We do mainly embroidery, crochet, knitting, sewing and crafting greeting cards. Sometimes we do a group project, like making soap, in which we must work quickly and make decisions about how much of which colour to add and which scent, and how much scent — all before the microwave-heated liquid soap coagulates, so that we can pour it into moulds! Then we "ooh!" and "aah!" over the beautiful results.

In thinking about the 90th anniversary of our hall, which was completed in 1928, and about the 100th year of the AUUC, one of our members suggested making a heritage quilt to commemorate the occasion. We all embraced the idea, and after laying out a plan in 2017, we began the work.

Leona (Bunny) Levchuk, who suggested the project, had attended quilting classes and had completed a few quilts herself, so she took the lead in the project.

We decided that the panels could be embroidered, appliquéd or painted, so that individuals could decide which medium suited their talents.

We wanted to have the participation of other members as well, so we started by cutting out many squares of

cloth for those who would be embroidering.

We were able to recruit six other women to "take a square or two" to embroider and appliquéd. They chose their own patterns after hearing what would be the theme of the quilt.

We envisaged a larger middle panel of our hall. This was taken on by Margreet Preston, a member of our instrumental ensemble, who is great at embroidery and applique. She appliquéd from a photo of our hall when we had a cherry tree in the front garden. She added another cherry tree for good measure and produced a great centrepiece for our quilt!

Our attempt was to show various aspects of Ukrainian cultural symbols — bread and salt, poppies, wheat, decorated eggs, and a bowl of perogies steaming on the table. There are little dancers in costume here and there, a duo of singers, dancer's *vinoks* (wreaths), plus a variety of traditional embroidery patterns.

Some of the designs are original — like the bread and salt panel, and one mimicking the tile mosaic over the front entrance to our hall. The painted designs, which our member Joyce Williams did with fabric paint, are original.

One of these symbolizes our wish for world peace and helps us to remember the

many peace walks in which our members took part in times past. Another symbolizes our hope for peaceful relations between Canada and Ukraine.

Other members of the Craft Club, each of whom made a contribution to the making of the quilt, are Elizabeth Montagliani, Pat Moschenross and Audrey Moysiuk.

The quilt was presented to our members and to the public at our season-ending concert on June 9 this year. Leona Levchuk dedicated the quilt from the stage, and the quilt was hung so that everyone had an opportunity to see it.

Everyone seemed to like our quilt very much.

We are happy that we were able to complete this large and time-consuming project to honour our pioneers and all those who continue to work at sharing our very human and peaceful culture with all others.

To complete the project, we took photos of the quilt and of each individual panel, which we have put into a booklet which includes a dedication and the story of the quilt-making.

We are storing the quilt in archival conditions to be brought out only for special occasions, but we are happy to share the photographic record of the quilt.

— Audrey Moysiuk