



# UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

*Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth*

VOL. 55 NO. 5

MARCH, 2009

## Jr. UOL Winter Meeting

*Submitted by Taylor Gladys*

On January 16, 2009, the members of the Junior National Executive Board traveled to South Bound Brook, New Jersey for their winter meeting. When they arrived, they were welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Emil and Shirley Skocypec at the Fisher House. The Juniors took relief from their weary travel by relaxing with friends from the Seminary and the Senior National Executive Board. They were amazed at the wonderfully decorated house and the seemingly endless supply of food. Thank you!

On the morning of January 17, the group gathered for morning prayers in the Seminary's chapel, followed by an appetizing breakfast in the dining room. Afterwards, the Juniors embarked for their meeting in the consistory. The



winter meeting of the Junior National Executive Board was extremely productive. First, each member presented his/her officer's report, followed by committee reports.

Financial Secretary, Ethan Rock, reported on the Great Lent Giveaway project developments, as we will be working to build 1,000 "Health Kits" for victims of disasters. Fliers for the project have been made and further information on that event will be sent out soon. Eric Perankovich, who is spearheading the annual Junior Raffle, reported that tickets would be going out in February and that the league had 5,000 tickets to sell. Then, Recording Secretary, Elizabeth Hucul, informed the board that she had begun compiling pictures for a Jr. UOL slide show that will be sent to parishes who lack a chapter. Hopefully, the slide show will help encourage the development of new chapters and an increase in members at large. The board also discussed the annual Cultural Contest and different ways in which we could work to increase the number of entries. The group decided that one way to accomplish this would be to improve the awards given to the winners of the contest. This year at convention, winners in both the Junior and Senior categories will receive an icon to take home and a victory banner to be hung in their respective parishes. Hopefully, such improvements will encourage more members to enter into this spectacular contest. After this, the board reviewed the convention year books sent out by John Walewski, who also talked about the Jr. UOL web page that will be going up soon. Next on the agenda was Education, where Eric Perankovich discussed "Bring a Friend to Church Day," which occurred on the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. Lastly, Arianna Rock discussed her Christian Care Giving and Missions committee, which completed both a Tithing project and Souper Bowl Sunday in recent months. In further discussion of redesigning Jr. UOL t-shirts, the board made some final decisions with the help of His Eminence Archbishop Antony. These should be ready soon and hopefully on sale by convention in Youngstown. Overall, the meeting helped the board to make many important choices about upcoming events.

After the conclusion of the meeting, everyone enjoyed dinner at the Cultural Center. Later that evening, they gathered to play wonderful board games at the Seminary. They also celebrated the birthday of Seminarian, Ivan Kostyshyn. The next morning, they attended Divine Liturgy at St. Andrew's Memorial Church and left for the airport, having completed their duties at the Winter Meeting of the Junior National Executive Board. Thanks to all who made their stay hospitable, and thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Emil and Shirley Skocypec for all of their hard work and dedication!

## UOL Young Adult Winter Ski Weekend

*Submitted by Vasil Dubee*



The annual UOL Winter Ski Weekend Getaway was held on the weekend of January 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> at the Bilynsky's weekend getaway home in beautiful Pocono Lake, PA. Oleh and Natalie hosted participants from as far away as Cleveland, OH, to as close as the local Pocono towns themselves. The weekend, organized by Young Adult Chairperson Michael Nakonachny, was a huge success.

Upon arriving, we were served up a plethora of various things to eat, everything from all kinds of snack foods to pizza and subs a bit later. With it being still in the heart of the Christmas festal season, everyone joined in singing the traditional Ukrainian kolyady. After the singing, all took part in playing board games and there also were a few card games following.

The next day, the skiers awoke early in the morning to find that it was snowing heavily outside.



This provided them with excellent ski conditions at Camelback ski resort, but made the roads very difficult to travel. Those who didn't ski stayed at the Bilynsky's and had a huge delicious breakfast followed by an equally extravagant lunch. Everyone stayed inside and talked, shared stories, watched television and waited for the skiers to come home for dinner. (continued on page 5)

**62nd ANNUAL UOL CONVENTION**  
**Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH**  
**July 22-26, 2009**

**We look forward to seeing you in Y-town!!**



UOL BULLETIN - The official publication of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the United States of America. Circulated to all UOL Members. Non-members subscription rate \$30.00 Canada \$40.00

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UOL Bulletin - Published seven times annually - September, October, November, January/February, March, April and June.

The absolute deadline for each monthly issue is the 1st of the prior month. Photos will not be returned.

Note to Contributors: All articles submitted to the UOL Bulletin must be in 12 point Times New Roman (font), or typed and double spaced in 12 point type. Articles may be submitted via e-mail attachments. (Submit to: nsufler@aol.com)

The editor reserves the right to condense any material submitted. Material cannot be returned.



### ASK FR. HARVEY RELIGIOUS QUESTIONS

Answered by: Fr. John Harvey

*In the Sacrament of the Wedding, there is that portion in which the couple are asked individually if they are not already promised to someone else. In modern times, affairs with others seem to go on even when an engagement has been arranged, so what are the consequences if one partner is not honest and forthright when asked such a question?*

When the priest is preparing a couple for their wedding date, the seriousness and the utter commitment demanded of a couple is stressed. If either partner has been married before, the details of divorce, annulment or the death of the spouse must be clarified. In the case of a divorced person certain tests must be made as to whether the new wedding will be permitted to go ahead. The hierarchy is consulted on this, who will review all circumstances before a blessing is made for this to go forward. If such stringent measures must be undergone before a second marriage is to be celebrated, the first also is probed to be sure the couple are truly serious about their commitment.

Let us remember that the Orthodox wedding is not so much as hiring a priest to officiate as the knot is tied. The Orthodox wedding is a matrimonial coronation and by stepping forward in the solemn sanctity of the church, the couple acknowledges that their crowning presupposes a commitment which will be rewarded in heaven. What I am saying is that the wedding service is not just uniting the couple in a physical union for their life time, but has serious spiritual implications for eternity. One does not just automatically marry all that approach, as in a civil registry, but questions are made and instructions given about serious commitment and mutual life in Christ.

What is there to say about those approaching marriage, who would be willing to lie about the guys or gals they are still entangled with even while engaged. Remember the story of Ananias and Sapphira in the Acts of the Apostles. They solemnly promised to give the full proceeds of a property sale to the church. They reneged on their promise (before God) and then happened to prevaricate about their action. Both dropped dead and this was a strong warning to whomever makes a solemn promise before the Lord, yet in reality is telling a falsehood. In the case of marriage, such prevarication makes the marriage bed defiled from the start, as dishonesty proves a divided heart. A mockery of the blessedness of marriage will often lead to divorce. The aggrieved party, who was honest and upfront from the start, would certainly be given the blessing for another marriage. The one who entered into the sacrament in a spirit of deceit, should not be permitted a further church marriage. Matrimonial coronation is serious business, so every attempt must be made to see that both partners are of one mind and are equally committed before they even come to the church.



### Report from Sts. Peter & Paul Junior Chapter, Carnegie, PA Submitted by Mikaela Kapeluck

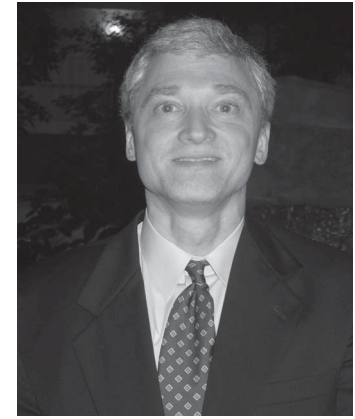
#### Advent Project: Help Local Food Bank-

Our parish's Youth Ministry collected canned goods and other nonperishable items to help our local food bank. The Jr. Chapter also helped collect and pack all the goods. Thank you to Jr. Chapter advisor Sherri Walewski who went to the food bank to drop off the canned goods. All proceeds went to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton food pantry in Carnegie.

#### Souper Bowl Sunday-

We held a "Souper" Bowl Sunday on the 25<sup>th</sup> of January. The Jr. Chapter under the supervision of Sherri Walewski made the soup the Saturday before. We charged \$5.00 per person for soup, sandwiches, and desserts. So, thank you to everybody who made this possible. All proceeds went to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton food pantry in Carnegie.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL PRESIDENT



Oleh Bilynsky

Glory to Jesus Christ! Slava Isusu Christu!

Having just completed our winter Executive Board meeting, I would like to thank Emil and Shirley Skocypec, members of the newly reconstituted St. Andrew UOL Chapter in South Bound Brook, NJ, for hosting the meeting on Jan. 17. They went out of their way to ensure that all of our needs were taken care of, and while small in number at the moment, I know that this chapter will continue to grow and flourish.

As to the winter meeting, some of the results include: finalizing plans for the UOL website, which is now "up and running" and in the very capable hands of our "UOL Webmaster" Joshua Oryhon; discussing and implementing various means of increasing both our total UOL membership and the total number of UOL chapters; donating, at the request of His Eminence Archbishop Antony, to the Metropolitan John Scholarship Fund; due to the current financial crisis, making a donation to support our Church; and revising the UOL Handbook by updating and streamlining it.

I would like to sincerely thank everyone who participated in the Thanksgiving tithing program and the "Souper Bowl" Sunday project, and it is still not too late to participate. Over the last few years these projects have truly made a difference in the lives of those less fortunate. Along those same lines, the Annual Fund Drive and the LSSK and MJSF fund drives are now in full swing, so please contribute generously to these worthy causes.

Also, information concerning the 2009 U.O.L. Essay Contest has been mailed to chapters and parishes. Please encourage all parishioners (the contest is not limited to UOL members) to participate in this annual event. If you need more information please contact UOL Essay Contest Chairwoman Shirley Skocypec.

Lastly, as we prepare to begin our journey through Great Lent I invite everyone to include, in their journeys, plans for attending the Lenten Retreats sponsored by the UOL. The first retreat will be held at All Saints Camp on March 27-29, and the second will be held at the St. Francis Retreat Center (in Bethlehem, PA) on April 3-5. Besides being an opportunity for you to spend more time with your fellow UOL members, the retreats will help you to "step away" from the everyday "hustle and bustle" of life and reflect on and prepare for Pascha, the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,  
Oleh V. Bilynsky

### UOL EDUCATION COMMISSION ANNUAL ESSAY CONTEST

#### "TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART"

##### Pre-school/Kindergarten

Draw a picture of someone you trust.

##### Grades 1 and 2 (2 sentences and a picture)

Draw a picture of someone you trust, and tell why.

##### Grades 3 and 4 (3 or 4 sentences, a picture can also be included)

Explain what "TRUST" means to you.

##### Grades 5 and 6 (35 - 50 words)

Tell why "Trust in Our Lord" should be important to all of us.

##### Grades 7 and 8 (75 - 100 words)

Name a person in the "Old Testament" who trusted God and how this trust was shown.

##### Grades 9 and 10 (125 - 200 words)

In the "New Testament" what female figure provides us with an example of total trust in God and how that trust was shown?

##### Grades 11 and 12 (200 - 400 words)

How do the main figures, with the exception of Jesus Christ, in the Christmas story, exhibit behavior of "Trusting in the Lord", and how we might emulate this trust?

##### Adult 18 and over (500 words)

In the "New Testament", what pagan demonstrated total trust? Describe the event and how it might influence your life.

(continued page 3)



**"Trust in the Lord with all your HEART"**

Hosted by Sts. Peter & Paul Sr/ Jr UOL Youngstown, Ohio  
**JULY 22-26, 2009**

- July 20-21 Monday/Tuesday Young Adult Days
- July 22 Wednesday Welcome to the 62<sup>nd</sup> UOL Convention!  
Y-town Hospitality
- July 23 Thursday ALOHA! Hawaiian Luau
- July 24 Friday Ukie Night  
2010 UOL Convention Hospitality
- July 25 Saturday Explore Ohio or enjoy the resort  
Inspirational and fun workshops  
Banquet & Ball
- July 26 Sunday Hierarchical Divine Liturgy  
"Bon Voyage" Brunch

**You'll have a GREAT time in 2009! See YOU there!**



**Youngstown Chapter News -Submitted by Diane Senedak**

**Cookies Galore! at the Y-town Annual "Cookie Walk"** The first weekend in December was bounding with excitement as the Sr. and Jr. UOL of Sts. Peter & Paul parish of Youngstown, Ohio held its second annual "Cookie Walk" fundraiser. Howard Ulbricht chaired the event, and many of our members, and non-members as well, gave relentlessly of their time and talents for numerous weeks up to and through the event day. As the guests arrived to purchase their selected goodies by the pound, our "elves" helped escort them around our professionally arranged tables of delectable delights. A gracious thank you from all of us to all of you who not only purchased the baked goods but, helped coordinate, bake and



clean up, too...yeah, you know who you are!

**"New Year's Eve in Ukraine" Y-town style!** January 31, 2009 was the date of the Y-town Sr. UOL's Malanka Dinner Dance which was held at the Orthodox Center of Sts. Peter & Paul parish of Youngstown, Ohio. Mr.

Joseph Ewanish led the event with many of our hard working UOL members assisting. Party balloons and streamers adorned the hall for a most festive venue, which welcomed almost 300 party go-ers. The evening started with a delicious ethnic food buffet and a wonderful array of desserts. Mr. Ben Mischey, owner of the Big Ben's Clock Shop, donated a beautiful clock for our raffle fundraiser, in addition to other items donated by our members for the raffle table. After dinner, we danced to the sounds of the award winning Del Sinchak Band- polkas are their specialty but, the kolomeyka was the highlight of the evening! Then, champagne was served at the stroke of midnight as we toasted each other with well wishes of health, happiness and prosperity for the upcoming New Year. Many thanks to everyone who helped to organize and work this event and to all who attended this magical evening!



The Youngstown Chapter holding a sign reading "Happy 2009 - See you in July!"



**NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR UOL PRESIDENT**

Taylor Gladys

Glory to Jesus Christ!

This month, we are plunging into the season of Great Lent, and the Juniors have an incessant list of activities planned. It is also this time of year that we like to start thinking about preparations for the annual convention in Youngstown, Ohio.

In February, the Juniors commenced the sale of raffle tickets. This is and always has been our biggest fundraiser, so please, help out and participate! Each chapter should have received several booklets of tickets and there are plenty to sell. For further information about this project, please contact Junior Vice President, Eric Perankovich.

Another sensational activity the Juniors are working on is the annual Great Lent Giveaway. This year, we have decided to take on the inventive idea of making "Health Kits" for victims of natural disasters. In conjunction with Inner Orthodox Christian Charities, this project will certainly benefit anyone in need. The national board will collect the kits at convention, this summer. Please support this project by either aiding in the production of kits or through monetary donations. Help us reach our goal of 1,000!

One of the most appealing activities at the convention has always been the Cultural Contest. It is simply lovely seeing the creativity of our fellow members as they celebrate our Ukrainian heritage. This year, we're "upping the ante" with a new and improved prize. Not only will the winners of the contest receive a beautiful icon that was purchased from the library in South Bound Brook, but also an exclusive, one-of-a-kind banner, constructed by the national board. I guarantee you won't want to miss out on this new and improved reward.

Lastly, I'm sure every one of us is excited to get to the convention in Youngstown, Ohio. However, I understand that a few people might need some extra help, as travel nowadays can be costly. That's why the Junior UOL is happy to inform you of the Pysh Travel Grant. This grant was established to award three groups (chapters or individual members) a year with financial aid in attending the convention. Applications for the grant have been sent out and can be returned to me by May 1, 2009.

The convention is merely four months away, and I cannot wait to see everyone again. This year, I also hope to meet many new people in Youngstown. I pray that you all have a safe and spiritually-fulfilling Lenten season, and I hope to see you soon!

Yours In Christ,  
 Taylor Gladys

**UOL ANNUAL ESSAY CONTEST RULES AND GUIDELINES**

1. Entries must be postmarked by May 31, 2009. NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THAT DATE.
2. NO NAMES ON THE FRONT OF ANY ENTRY.
3. All entries must include the following information: Participant's first and last name, grade, age, name and address of parish, including city and state.
4. Drawings no larger than 12 x 18 and NO NAMES on the front of drawings. Please attach a COVER PAGE or use the BACK of the drawing for the information listed above.
5. Written entries must be on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. Include a cover page with the identifying information listed above. Entries for 9th grade and above must be printed or typed.

ALL ENTRIES WILL BE JUDGED FOR CONTENT, CREATIVITY, and NEATNESS.

**Mail entries to:** UOL ESSAY CONTEST  
 c/o Shirley Skocypec  
 135 Davidson Avenue  
 Somerset, NJ 08873-1358

### Parma Chapter Celebrates U.O.L. Sunday

Submitted by Pani Matka Mary Anne Nakonachny

The members of St. Vladimir's Senior U.O.L. Chapter in Parma celebrated



U.O.L. Sunday with a luncheon at Dimitri's Restaurant. Due to the chapter's busy schedule in December, it was decided to celebrate the day on Sunday, January 11th.

Twenty three members attended the luncheon, during which a brief meeting was held to discuss both past and upcoming events. The members found themselves very busy in December, preparing for their annual Christmas Craft Fair and second annual Cookie Walk. Thanks to the hard work of chapter members and the assistance and support of parishioners, both functions were very successful. Chapter members were also very involved in the



Sunday School St. Nicholas program and the Family Night that was held on December 30th.

January found everyone busy preparing for the Nativity of Christ, with caroling, decorating the church and preparing the Holy Supper, which the chapter sponsors on Christmas Eve. Members also made sandwiches for the parish's annual meeting and hosted the meeting of the All Saints Camp Committee on February 7th.

After a quiet February, chapter members will be busy attending the Great Lent services in church and preparing for their Spring Craft Fair and other fundraisers. We wish everyone a very spiritually uplifting Great Lent, as we all prepare for the joyous celebration of Christ's Resurrection.

### "Few Are Called... Are You Next?"

Submitted by Pani Matka Linda Oryhon  
Vocations and Clergy Support  
Commission Chairperson

During the recent pre-inauguration festivities there was a call for service to the United States of America. The President declared service to our communities and country to be the highest form of honor, respect and patriotism.

We, as Orthodox Christians, are also called to service to our Church and her people. In his book, *These Are The Sacraments*, Fr. Anthony Coniaris explains this calling. He refers to Fr. Stanley Harakas' definition as noted in his pamphlet "The Making of a Greek Orthodox Priest." Fr. Harakas uses two Greek words, *klisis* meaning *inclination* and *klesis* meaning a *call*. He further explains "Every priest must have the inclination... and somehow in a very deep and personal way, he must also sense the call of God which he cannot disobey. He has sensed that becoming a priest was in the last analysis, not his own doing. Like St. Paul, he was called to be a priest of Jesus Christ by the will of God."

Fr Coniaris also writes, "Scripture speaks of this call in Hebrews 5:4 And one does not take the honor (priesthood) upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was."

### National Executive Board Meeting

In mid January the Senior and Junior National Executive Boards met in South Bound Brook, New Jersey. On Friday evening NEB members Emil and Shirley Skocypec hosted both the Junior and Senior boards. The Fisher House, still decorated for Christmas, was beautiful with mechanical musical figures greeting everyone at the front door and multiple trees throughout the house. The table was set for a festive and elaborate dinner with place settings for all members of the Scrooge family. The decorations were topped only by the hospitality of the hosts. Board members got a chance to catch up and enjoy the beautiful décor.



Saturday morning board members joined our Hierarchs His Eminence Archbishop Antony and His Grace Bishop Daniel for morning prayers in the seminary chapel. Following a delicious breakfast at the seminary both boards started deliberations in the Consistory Building. Details about the Junior meeting are featured in the article written by Junior President Taylor Gladys. The Seniors had a very productive meeting. One major accomplishment was the review of the UOL Handbook and plans for revisions of sections that needed some updating. The UOL Handbook should be finished and distributed at the UOL Convention.

Aleksandra Hucul reported that the web page is up and running. The web page can be viewed at <http://uol.orthodoxws.com/>. To submit items to be posted please e-mail Aleksandra at [ahucul@yahoo.com](mailto:ahucul@yahoo.com). Josh Oryhon has agreed to serve as webmaster, and Aleksandra will continue to be the board liaison.



At the meeting His Eminence Archbishop Antony encouraged the Board to transfer some funds from the general fund to support the Metropolitan John Scholarship Fund. The Board decided to

transfer twenty thousand dollars to MJSF. This will permit additional funds to be available this year for seminarians who are eligible. Additionally, after His Eminence Archbishop Antony spoke about the impact of the financial crisis on the Consistory, the Board donated ten thousand dollars to the

Consistory. With recent record-breaking profits from Conventions and on-going frugality of board members in terms of travel and expenses, these donations are fiscally possible without major budget concerns.



Pani Matka Linda Oryhon discussed plans for Vocations and Clergy

Support. She reported that she is working with Consistory and Seminary Officers to plan a "come and see" weekend at the seminary. Additionally she has been submitting articles to the UOL Bulletin.

Plans for upcoming retreats were reviewed. It was noted that these retreats have been growing in success with approximately 60 to 70 people attending each retreat each year. There is still time to make your plans to attend the retreats in Bethlehem or at All Saints Camp. All UOL members are encouraged to attend at least one retreat. Shirley Skocypec reports that the Essay Contest topics have been mailed out and once again are listed in this issue of the Bulletin. There is plenty of time to submit your entry. In addition to these on-going educational projects, Eric Senedak discussed plans for the start of the book club. At the UOL Convention last year there was much discussion about starting a book club. The book was selected—Board members discussed having multiple sessions to encourage participation, including the St. Thomas Pilgrimage and the Convention.

On a very positive note our ongoing membership drives have been successful with a current list of 28 members at large. Membership chairperson, Natalie

(Continued page 5)

## ACTIVITIES AT STS. PETER AND PAUL UOL IN PALOS PARK

*Submitted by Fr. Taras Naumenko*

After a busy summer, life at Sts. Peter and Paul parish in Palos Park, IL. continues to boom with various activities involving every church related organization. The UOL chapter joined the Sisterhood of St. Ann's at their yearly appreciation luncheon for varenyky workers in October. But it is not



only the women who make varenyky, but also the devoted men who have become the honorary members of the Sisterhood.

Also in October the Sr. UOL chapter sponsored a Family Fall Fest. Close to 40 children participated in this event that

included: a Faith Scavenger Hunt in Church for the younger kids, Chapter Challenge between Jr. UOL and Church Choir, the moderator of which was none other than Dr. Gayle Woloschak, pumpkin painting, games and a delectable lunch.

For two years, on a monthly basis, the parish has been holding a Family Faith Gathering on a Saturday evening following Vesper service. This time provides an opportunity for families to spend more time with each other, as is much needed in today's chaotic society. This year our tool for the discussion is a book by Peter M. Kallellis "After the Honeymoon, How to Maintain a Happy Marriage". The goal of these gatherings is to provide much needed support to make our families stronger. We share ideas and experiences as we learn the views and teachings of the Orthodox Church on various issues.

Our Jr. UOL chapter continues to work hard raising funds by sponsoring car washes and monthly coffee hours. They participate in all parish activities.

At the annual Thanksgiving Turkey Shoot on November 16<sup>th</sup>, the faithful gathered as one family in Christ. The Sisterhood prepared a one of a kind



delicious Turkey dinner as Jr. UOL members helped serve the food to the congregation and guests. Special platters were prepared and distributed to all shut-ins following this event. A portion of the food was also donated to P.A.D.S (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) and St. Stanislaus Soup Kitchen in Chicago.

As part of the outreach ministries the faithful on a continuous basis help with serving the needy: keeping in touch and helping our shut-ins, dedicating time for Soup Kitchens and shelters, food drives, Christmas gift drives for the homeless and children of the DCFS in Chicago, and many other projects that involve the faithful of all ages.

As we get ready for our Centennial celebration in October of 2009, we reflect on the past 100 years of the life of our parish and look forward to the next 100 years of dedicated service to God and to all His people.



*(Ski Weekend continued from page 1)*



After dinner, there were more games played and more kolyady sung as the snow continued to fall. The games lasted late into the evening and were



exciting because everyone enjoyed the competition.

Sunday morning, the snow had stopped, but the roads were too icy to travel in the morning, so everyone assembled in front of the icon in the dining room and held morning prayers. Breakfast followed as well as, yes you guessed it, more kolyady! Afternoon, the roads were still slick but able to be driven on, so all of the participants headed for a local restaurant to eat lunch. Everyone then said their goodbyes afterwards as they anticipate the next UOL retreat.

*(NEB Meeting continued from page 4)*

Bilynsky, has sent out letters to previous board members as well as members listed on the rosters who have not been active for several years. We continue to reach out to everyone to join the UOL and need your help to encourage everyone to join. Emil Skocypec, Chapter Development Chair, is working with potential chapters. He reported that both South Side Pittsburgh and South Bound Brook are re-established and plan to submit dues in the next few weeks.

As part of our meeting we also discussed possible chapter locations and strategies to encourage chapter development. Remember as a UOL member you are always an ambassador for forming new chapters.

Convention packet prices were approved and I am pleased to announce that the packet price has remained the same. The Convention Committee in Youngstown has been working diligently to make this a wonderful Convention. Be sure to start making your plans to attend the Convention July 22 to 26, 2009.

After a long meeting Board members enjoyed a delicious meal prepared in the Cultural Center. That evening Juniors and Seniors gathered at the seminary and played "Apples to Apples." The game took a surprising turn as the seminarians and Junior Board members started to act out the cards, in an impromptu charades game. Kudos to them for acting out difficult words, like "Canada."

Sunday morning Board members attended Divine Liturgy and because of flight times were quickly whisked off to the airport. With all of the plans made at the meeting and lots of work to do, it was important to get home and start work immediately. Thank you to Shirley and Emily Skocypec for their hospitality.



Name the Junior UOLers Contest - Dust out the cobwebs and strap on your thinking caps!!! Name as many Jr. UOL members in the picture taken at the Sts. Peter & Paul 1992 UOL Convention in Youngstown, Ohio. Then, send your results to Anna Mark at [AnnaVisa1@aol.com](mailto:AnnaVisa1@aol.com) by April 25, 2009. The winner with the most correct names submitted will win a fabulous, magnificent, rad "Trust in the Lord with all your HEART" 2009 UOL Convention t-shirt (endorsed by His Grace Bishop Daniel!) and 10 free raffle tickets for our excellent raffles which will be held daily at the 2009 Sr/Jr. UOL Convention in Y-town, Ohio. So, join in on the fun and get crackin'! Good Luck!!!

### **ANNUAL FUND DRIVE DONORS (2008-09)**

#### **THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE UOL ANNUAL FUND DRIVE**

MARTHA AND MICHAEL MYSKO

HALYNA SLINKO-SHEVCHUK  
~ MR AND MRS SLINKO

ANONYMOUS  
~ IN HONOR OF PROTOPRESBYTER WILLIAM  
DIAKIW'S SERVICE TO THE UOL

VICTOR MELNYCHENKO

PATRICIA RYCHLY  
~ IN MEMORY OF MOTHER, HELEN RYCHLY

TOM AND ALLA GRZYMSKI  
~ JULIA AND JOHN GRZYMSKI &  
NICHOLA AND EWFROSYNA MECH

CATHERINE KOCHENASH

JANE YAVAROW

BARBARA NOVICKY

~ IN MEMORY OF SHIRLEY A BRIACH

OLEH AND NATALIE BILYNSKY

IRENE PASHESNIK

REV. FR. ALEXIS LIMONCZENKO  
~ IN MEMORY OF OLHA, EUDOKIA

STEPHEN AND KAREN SHEPTAK

PETRO MATULA

BORIS AND OLGA PISHKO  
~ IN HONOR OF DARIA, LARISSA, TED AND THEIR  
FAMILIES

ANONYMOUS  
~ IN MEMORY OF PRIEST VASYL CZEKALUK

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

YOU CAN STILL MAKE YOUR DONATION TO SUPPORT THE UOL ANNUAL FUND DRIVE:  
PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "UOL ANNUAL FUND DRIVE"

SEND TO: Alexis Oryhon 623 Jennings St. Endicott, NY 13760

**St. Vladimir's Senior and Junior UOL Philadelphia, PA**  
*Submitted by Jim Sawchuk*

The Philadelphia Senior Chapter is typically busy in the winter with many of our annual events scheduled around the Nativity season. This year was no exception and started with a fun social night at Dave and Buster's. President Andrea Karbiwnyk Swan planned a wonderful evening at a local Dave and Buster's. For those who have never been, Dave and Buster's is a huge arcade

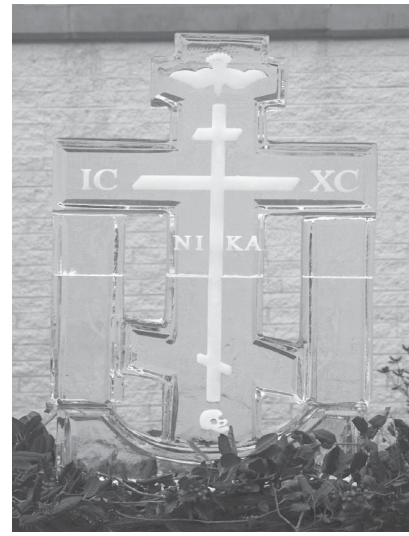


with lots of games for both children and adults. Andrea did a great job encouraging both Junior and Senior UOL members as well as prospective members to attend. We had a large group with over 35 people there that evening. First we enjoyed a delicious dinner and conversation. After dinner we let loose at Dave and Buster's playing a variety of games including shooting aliens,



trivia contests, air hockey, and "Deal or no Deal." One of the highlights was related to our preparation for the upcoming basketball tournament. Jordan Gladys, chapter secretary, beat a group of UOL members in most free shots scored. It is clear that Jordan is ready for the basketball tournament and I suggest that no teams foul her because Jordan is the queen of the free throw.

The next week we went caroling and visited parishioners who are currently in nursing homes. For over a decade we have been caroling and visiting our elderly who are in nursing homes or unable to come to church because of physical ailments. We also visited long-time UOL member Mary Wolos. She looked wonderful and was excited to see our group. She also joined in our caroling.



Our Sr. Chapter members were very busy in the month of January, 2009, hosting two annual events. On Sunday, January 18th, we sponsored the blessing of the Theophany Ice Cross. Father Frank named Senior Chapter members Michael Fesnak and David Sembrot "Godfathers of the Cross" because they made all the arrangements for the Ice Cross, which included their generous donations for the entire cost of the Cross. Following the outdoor blessing by Father Estocin, our chapter

hosted a delicious, warm breakfast buffet in the Cathedral Hall. Senior Chapter member Dori Nemeth served as chairperson for the meal which included: juice, french toast casserole, scrambled eggs, breakfast rolls, kutia and fresh fruit cup.

The following Saturday, January 24th, we sponsored our Annual Malanka. Senior Chapter members Debbie and Al Shinn served as chairpeople for this event. Held in our Cathedral Hall, the evening's festivities opened with a buffet dinner. The menu included appetizers, roasted pig, roast beef, rigatoni pasta along with an assortment of salads and a dessert table. Once again, for our listening and dancing pleasure, Senior Chapter member and DJ Al Shinn provided the music. Over 150 people attended this year's Malanka celebration from our Philadelphia and New Jersey regions, which



made it a tremendous success. In addition to our Malanka regulars, we had a great group of young adults in attendance from Johnson City, Boston, State College, Harrisburg, Baltimore, and Scranton.

As always, our Malanka is a family friendly event with dancers of all ages. Our youngest dancers stole the show dancing until we rang in the new year at 10 p.m. We can't recall the exact time of our countdown but our host and favorite DJ Al Shinn chose a random time to count down. We celebrated the New Year and count down at 10:14. Who needs the exact time, there is excitement regardless of the exact time. Our kolomeyka was particularly exciting this year with our group of young girls between 1 and 7 watching and practicing their kolomeyka dance steps. We see a future for them at Conventions to come. Everyone truly had a wonderful time and are looking forward to Malanka - 2010.

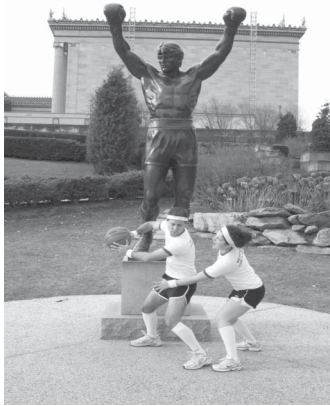


St. Vladimir Senior and Junior Chapters are also pleased to announce the return of the UOL Basketball Tournament. We will be hosting this year's Basketball Classic in Philadelphia: May 1 - 3, 2009. It promises to be a weekend full of fellowship and fun for players of any age and skill level. This is an open tournament, so you can register as a team or as an individual. This year's Basketball Tournament will serve as a fundraiser for our upcoming 64th Annual UOL Convention in Philadelphia in 2011. For further information about the tournament, please contact our co-chairpeople Jordan Gladys and Josh Oryhon via e-mail: [UOLhoops@hotmail.com](mailto:UOLhoops@hotmail.com)

# 2009 UOL BASKETBALL CLASSIC

Tipping off in the City of Brotherly Love  
Philadelphia, PA

May 1-3, 2009



Move over, Rocky – the UOL basketball tournament is BACK! Register individually or with a team, the **2009 UOL Basketball Classic** is absolutely and positively an open tournament. Not interested in basketballing? That’s cool, join us in Philly for a weekend’s worth of activities on *and* off the court.

Please contact us if you or members of your chapter are interested and would like to get on the tournament mailing list. Also, check out our Event page on Facebook – search for “UOL Basketball Classic.”

Jordan Gladys: (412) 527-7703 Josh Oryhon: (518) 424-5701  
e-mail: [UOLhoops@hotmail.com](mailto:UOLhoops@hotmail.com)

*The UOL Basketball Classic: “It’s Not March Madness, It’s May Mayhem!”*

## 7th Annual UOL LENTEN RETREATS All Saints Camp Millenium Building March 27-29, 2009

For more information contact:  
Diane Senedak [DKSSenny@aol.com](mailto:DKSSenny@aol.com) 330-792-6699  
Melanie Nakonachny [MelanieNak@aol.com](mailto:MelanieNak@aol.com) 440-842-3820  
\*\*\*\*\*

## God is Wonderful in His Saints St. Francis Retreat Center Bethlehem, PA April 3-5, 2009

Retreat will focus on Saints  
For more information contact:  
Natalie Bilynsky [nsufler@aol.com](mailto:nsufler@aol.com)  
610-892-7315

### JUNIOR UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE PYSH TRAVEL GRANT 2009



The Pysh Travel Grant was established to help chapters and members attend the UOL Convention in an effort to:

- **Recruit new members**
- **Develop new chapters**
- **Reorganize old chapters**

If you are in need of financial assistance to attend the Annual Jr. UOL Convention in Youngstown, OH, the Pysh Travel Grant is here to help!



Simply complete the application sent to your chapter, or contact Taylor Gladys ([TEGladys@aol.com](mailto:TEGladys@aol.com)) for an additional application. The deadline for applications is **May 1, 2009**.



A maximum of \$300 may be awarded in 3 grants per year to either a group or individual applicants.



**UOL** A donation to the Tribute Fund is an acknowledgment of a Milestone, Memorial, or Accomplishment, or is a Special Recognition of an individual or group. Your much-appreciated contribution is used to support and further the Mission of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. All donations are published in the UOL Bulletin.

**T R I B U T E S** please send your tribute today!!

Interested in honoring a special person or remembering a special event? Use the UOL Tribute Fund to commemorate special events.

UOL Tributes should be submitted to:  
Natalie Bilynsky 703 Pine Ridge Road Wallingford, PA 19086

please make check payable to Ukrainian Orthodox League

Thank you to all those who contributed to the National Jr. and Sr. UOL Thanksgiving Tithing project!

Your generosity allows us to donate \$705.00 to the Holy Cross Mission Parish in Las Cruces, NM.

May you continue to serve the League in Christ's Love!

Encourage UOL Membership - Share your UOL Bulletin with a Friend!

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