



UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated to the Church – Devoted to its Youth

VOL. 49 NO. 2

OCTOBER, 2002

JR. U.O.L. CONVENTION – 2002



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JR. UOL CONVENTION BY JR. NATIONAL OFFICERS

ANYA PRIESTER, JR. UOL PRESIDENT

I think that the highlight of this past summer's Convention was our trip to the theater to see "Shear Madness." It was a fun activity that included everyone. The theater was very unique in that it was small and intimate, actually involving the audience in the production. It was a very neat setting and an amusing and entertaining performance. There were lots of laughs, and lots to talk about it afterwards.

There was much controversy in the UOL about the production, because there were definitely some jokes and innuendos that may not have been appropriate for a Church youth audience. It is too bad that some were offensive, but I actually think that something good came out of the experience. Although it may have been embarrassing or inappropriate, the event opened the door for some valuable discussion and assessment of appropriateness. If a questionable joke is cracked, how does one deal with it? The production was an example of a real life situation that all Orthodox Christians face everyday. Could there be a better group of people to discuss this sort of situation with than our church community?

I believe that our trip to "Shear Madness" sparked much discussion about appropriateness between juniors, parents, seniors and clergy that was worthwhile. Problems such as sexuality, homosexuality, prejudice, lewd behavior, and appropriate behavior need to be dealt with by all people. In this way, "Shear Madness" was a good experience for us all, and served as a catalyst for learning for many of us.

ELIZABETH BOWMAN, RECORDING SECRETARY

Before coming to my very first UOL Convention, I didn't know very many Orthodox Christians.

I live in a rural area of Virginia where even the word "Orthodoxy" is rarely ever mentioned. For the past two years that I've been Orthodox, I have felt very much alone in my faith when it came to

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LSSK SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED FOR 2002

*Megan Beck, Andrew Sadoway,
& Christopher Burgan*

At the 55th Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention in Boston, Massachusetts, the UOL awarded scholarships totaling \$6,100 to three Junior UOL members whose dedication to their Church and her League have distinguished them from their peers. Since the LSSK Scholarship Fund was established in 1975 in memory of Lynn Sawchuk and Sharon Kuzbyt, the UOL has awarded 101 scholarships totaling over \$110,950.

Criteria considered by the Scholarship Committee includes: being a current or past member of the Junior UOL; enrolled in or about to enroll in a program of advanced education; a record of outstanding performance in the service to the Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the Ukrainian Orthodox League; academic performance in high school; involvement in extracurricular activities and high ethical and moral character.

2002 LSSK SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Megan I. Beck of Sts. Peter and Paul's Junior UOL Chapter of Palos Park, Illinois, has served as National Recording Secretary of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League. In her local chapter she has served as vice president, treasurer and secretary, is a member of the choir and dance group, works at

church dinners and attends in both Church School and Ukrainian School. Her pastor says "Megan is one of my most active Juniors who I can always count on. She participates in all aspects of our Parish family." Her chapter advisor writes "Megan is a bright and dynamic young woman who always works above the expectation when it comes to any work with the Church."

In high school, she was active in the student government, participated in varsity and intramural golf and soccer, was a member of the French National Honor Society and was the recipient of the Outstanding Citizen Award.

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*UOL President, Daria Pishko, Megan Beck, Archbishop Antony,
Andrew Kondratiuk, and Chris Burgan*

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Advertising rates: Please inquire through editorial offices.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Daria A. Pishko



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Glory to Jesus Christ!

This year's Convention Committee on Chapter and Membership Development had recommended that each chapter initiate a Membership Drive in the month of October. Each chapter's initial membership dues and roster should already be on their way to Kathryn Bailly, but remember — it's never too late to welcome new members to our family. October is a great time to initiate a social/educational function that would provide a forum to introduce parish members to the League. Members

of the National Executive Board are always available to visit your chapter and would love to meet your new or existing members. We even pay our own way! Just give us a call. You can choose your Chapter Liaison, any other Board member or me! You make the call! Also, you may or may not have seen the recent press release from Father Deacon Joseph Kreta, Director of the UOC of USA's Office of Religious Education, announcing his availability to serve as an educational speaker for parish functions. Father Deacon Joe can speak on a number of religious topics, fields great questions and might be a great guest speaker for a Chapter sponsored program.

On the topic of Chapter Liaisons, the following are this year's appointments:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Allentown | Daria A. Pishko |
| 2. Ambridge | Melanie Nakonachny |
| 3. Boston | Laryssa Sadoway |
| 4. Carnegie | Melanie Nakonachny |
| 5. Carteret | Zina Kondratiuk |
| 6. Chester | Jonathan Patronik |
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| 9. Johnson City | Daria A. Pishko |
| 10. Lyndora | Daria A. Pishko |
| 11. Maplewood | Melanie Nakonachny |
| 12. Metropolitan DC | Jonathan Patronik |
| 13. McKees Rocks | Daria A. Pishko |
| 14. Minersville | Jonathan Patronik |
| 15. Minneapolis | Gayle Woloschak |
| 16. Monessen | Helen Greenleaf |
| 17. New Britain | Kathryn Bailly |
| 18. Northampton | Helen Greenleaf |
| 19. Palos Park | Gayle Woloschak |
| 20. Parma | Melanie Nakonachny |
| 21. Philadelphia | Daria A. Pishko |
| 22. Pittsburgh | Daria A. Pishko |
| 23. Rochester | Helen Greenleaf |
| 24. Sharon | Kathryn Bailly |
| 25. Trenton | Daria A. Pishko |
| 26. Wilmington | Jonathan Patronik |
| 27. Woonsocket | Laryssa Sadoway |
| 28. San Diego | Helen Greenleaf |
| 29. Youngstown | Kathryn Bailly |

Chapter presidents should expect to hear from these officers on a regular basis to share news, views and provide valuable input for National Board deliberations. This program has provided valuable feedback over the years. I know the officers enjoy the contact. We hope you do too.

Also this month, I wanted to bring your attention to an additional activity on the consistory level in which the UOL actively participates. As president of the League, I serve along with the presidents of the United Ukrainian Orthodox Sisterhood and the St. Andrew's Society as a co-director of the **Consistory's Office of Cultural and Ethnic Affairs** ("OCEA") which is headed by Natalia Honcharenko. The purpose of this Office is to increase the utilization of our consistory's facilities for use by the greater Ukrainian Orthodox Community. We have wonderful facilities in South Bound Brook — the **Ukrainian Cultural Center**, with its banquet hall, meeting rooms, stage, classrooms and display areas, the historic **Fisher House**, the **Administration Building** with its beautiful rotunda, gift store and library and the wonderful grounds surrounding these facilities, now including the newly commemorated **Holy Apostles Prayer Walk**. It seems that our church membership as a whole and the greater Ukrainian community seldom has the opportunity to visit and enjoy these treasures that we own. As such, the

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JR. CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

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my friends. That is until I came to the convention in July and was met by so many wonderful Ukrainian Orthodox Christians.

I had no idea what kind of network of support there was for people of my faith. It was truly beautiful to see so many Orthodox believers working together to spread the word of God and to help others. I was deeply touched by everyone's warmth, enthusiasm, and love for their faith and heritage. There isn't one moment that is my favorite. *Every day of the convention held new blessings and miracles for me.*

ALEX BRZYSKI, TREASURER

As always, the convention this year was one of the best times of my summer. Boston is an awesome city with so much to do. There were always a lot of laughs in whatever we did. Going to Quincy Market was what I bragged about when I got home. Nobody could believe that I went to a five-story Abercrombie and Fitch!

Going to the theater production *Shear Madness* was so different; I have never seen a play done like that before. It was amazing how the actors were so funny and we were so close to the stage!

Sitting in the Jr. Business Session doing all of our work but having fun at the same time was crazy fun, especially with the Board's Ice Breakers.

Late night trips to Starbucks and getting lost in Chinatown were some highlights of the convention that will never be forgotten.

However, the best memory of all was the banquet and ball. Eating and dancing the night away with friends . . . what more could you ask for? ***Everybody better be pumped for next year.***

See you in Chicago!

NATALIE BECK, FINANCIAL SECRETARY

My highlights from the convention were seeing all of the familiar faces that I hadn't seen in a year together again.

Another highlight was seeing the AWESOME bands that performed; but most of all, seeing all of my friends that I have made over the past year.

I can't wait until our first meeting of the new Jr. Executive Board—I'm so excited.

COLLEEN SCANNELL, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

The UOL Convention has always been one of the largest highlights of my whole summer. I find it to be a spiritually renewing experience due in part to all of the different church services I participate in while there.

One of my favorite parts about it is getting to "hang out" with other Ukrainian Orthodox youth that have the same religion and heritage. I think it is a great place to meet new people and get reacquainted with old friends. I cherish all the new friendships that I have made and I thoroughly enjoy keeping in contact with all of them.

I also like the sessions. I know it might sound boring at times, but working on the committees to actually make changes and improvements in the Jr. U.O.L. feels exhilarating.

Finally, another highlight for me was running for the National Jr. Executive Board. It made me look closer at what kind of person I am and appreciate my faith in a new and deeper level.

ALEX KORDA, VICE PRESIDENT

Hello everyone! There are so many highlights that I recall from the 54th Annual UOL Convention (Boston) that I don't know where to begin, but I'll try.

First off, the juniors had almost as many delegates as the seniors. We all had a great time and next year we want to outnumber the seniors. To do so we need all of you Jr. Chapters to do some fundraising so that you can send more delegates. It's truly a great experience and I have met so many people over the years at the conventions.

The convention started off with Vespers on Wednesday. After Vespers, we had the first session for the 54th UOL Convention. When that session was done, Andrew Sadoway's band "**Formula I**" performed an awesome set to end the first day of the convention with a bang!

The second day began with Divine Liturgy at which everyone received the Sacraments followed by a great bunch at the hotel. Then we had another great day of sessions. Following session, we went to a play at a Boston Theatre called "Shear Madness." All the juniors got a kick out of it and it brought some excitement to end the day.

The third day began with a Moleben to start off another great day. Then the juniors visited the Holy Transfiguration Monastery. The juniors saw how the monks lived and learned what kind of work they do as a source of income. The monastery and grounds were really beautiful. Upon returning to the ho-

(continued on page 4)

JR. UOL PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Anya Priester

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Natalie (Sufler) Bilynsky from Philadelphia has recently been appointed as the new senior advisor to the Junior UOL. With her appointment, we can now get started on our work together planning out the activities for the year. We are excited to be working with her, and are glad to now be able to start planning for the year to come.

We are scheduling our first board meeting for early October. This meeting will allow us to sort out our affairs for the coming year, and will also provide a good opportunity for the board to become better acquainted with our responsibilities and with each other. Without a doubt, one of the highlights of serving on the junior national board is the opportunity to work with such great people. At our meeting, we also plan to assign committee chairs, develop a financial budget and get our financial books in order, and of course we will brainstorm for and develop an agenda for the year: activities, fundraisers, charities, etc.

I hope that at our first meeting the board will discuss how we may implement some of the great ideas that the junior committees came up with at convention this past summer. For example, the Communication and Fellowship committee had some great ideas for using the internet more effectively as a tool for communication. I have confidence that this meeting will be very successful.

In Christ's Love,
Anya Priester



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JR. BOARD AT 2002 BANQUET

John Meschisen, Andrew Sadoway, Megan Beck, Anya Priester, Natalie Beck, and Evhon Kondratiuk

JR. CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

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tel, we had our third day of business sessions. It is at these sessions that plans for the coming year and decisions about future projects are made.

That evening, the entire convention group—both juniors and seniors—went aboard the U.S.S. Constitution for a tour of the ship which became famous during the Civil War. It was unbelievable how well it has been preserved and that it is still a commissioned vessel of the U.S. Navy. It still goes out carrying a Navy crew, mostly on ceremonial missions. In a Navy building next to the ship, we had a buffet dinner and then live music from a DJ.

On Saturday, the last day of sessions followed Moleben services. The election of new Jr. National Board members traditionally takes place during the last day of sessions. This is always an exciting part of the Jr. Convention. After the session was closed, we still had time to go shopping at Quincy Market.

When we returned from shopping, we all got ready for the big “Banquet and Ball.” During the banquet, all the awards for the year are announced. You can read about them in the UOL BULLETIN. The Convention Committee had an outstanding “Ukie” band playing music for dancing. Everyone danced and had such a spectacular time.

The fifth and final day of the convention was Sunday. Divine Liturgy was held at St. Andrew’s Church, Boston, MA. At the end of the liturgy, the newly elected officers were invited to the altar for the oath of office and their induction into their respective offices. Following the liturgy, we had a wonderful farewell lunch. After all is said and done, the 54th Jr. UOL Convention was in the books.

I want to express my special thanks to Fr. Andriy and all of the members of the convention committee for all their hard work in preparing for the convention so that we could enjoy ourselves so much.

I hope that we have 100 junior delegates next year in Chicago. I’ll be working hard with our committee to make it a good one for you!



Juniors visit the U.S.S. Constitution

LSSK SCHOLARSHIPS

(continued from page 1)

Andrew Sadoway of Saint Andrew’s Junior Chapter in Boston, Massachusetts served as National Vice President of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League this past year. On the local level, he was an active Junior UOL member having served as chapter president and secretary. Andrew has been a church reader and an alter server. His Spiritual Advisor writes, “Andrew has been very active in the life of the parish as well as the national church. He takes his faith seriously and I highly recommend him for a scholarship.” His Senior Advisor writes “Andrew continues to be a contributing member of our parish. Whenever there is a need to help with fund-raising, serve at parish dinners, or volunteer for charitable causes, Andrew is available. His enthusiasm for all things UOL is contagious. He is a great role model for our younger teens.”

His high school activities included band, the National Honor Society, and his high school’s symphony and marching bands. His counselor writes “Andrew is personable, reliable and interested. He is a thoughtful student with fine questions and good work habits. . . . He is totally responsible and committed to his interests.”

Christopher Burgan, of Holy Ascension Parish in Clifton, New Jersey, served Vice President of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League in 2000-2001 and had previously served as president and reporter of his local Junior Chapter. He is a church reader and an altar server. His Spiritual Advisor writes “It is with great pleasure and confidence that I recommend Christopher as a candidate for the scholarship award. He has proven himself to be courteous, capable, dependable individual and above all, wholeheartedly devoted to his Church.”

His Senior Advisor writes, “(Chris) is often a great source of assistance to the elderly of our parish, whether it means doing some yard work for them, giving them a ride to church or even picking up something for them at the store. In these efforts he never waits to be asked, but readily offers his help to them.”

In high school, Christopher played varsity lacrosse for three years, also serving as Senior Captain. He was named Youth of the Year by the Clifton Boys and Girls Club for his numerous community and coaching activities and was a member of the AIDS Awareness Club, S.A.V.E. Club and Academic Decathlon.

The Ukrainian Orthodox League and the LSSK Scholarship Committee would like to congratulate all of this year’s recipients and wish them much success in their future endeavors.

Please remember all donations to support the LSSK Scholarship may be forwarded to:

Daria A. Pishko, 64 Coleman Avenue
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Phone: (973) 635-8124

LSSK SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

Scholarship applications for the 2003 will be available in March 2003 or may be downloaded from the UOL page of www.uocofusa.org website. Completed applications are due May 31, 2003. All former Junior UOL members entering into or enrolled in continuing education beyond high school graduation are encouraged to apply.



“Juniors-In-Waiting”

Mikaela Kapeluck and Juliana Bailly-Simao

“Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it.”

– Thoreau

“REFLECTIONS” BY A PAST JR. UOL PRESIDENT

by John Meschisen

(John Meschisen, Jr. UOL President, 2001-2002, made the following remarks in his Farewell Address at the UOL Convention held in Boston, MA, July 17-21, 2002.)

“I don’t know if all of you know this, but I lost my father to leukemia when I was nine years old. And being nine years old, the severity and permanence did not set in at the time of my father’s death. However, as I matured and grew, and started to find myself, I realized that there was a gaping hole inside of me. There was an empty space that I desperately needed to fill. My thoughts, dreams, and prayers were filled with questions and vivid but fading memories about him.

The summer, between my sophomore and junior year was a time when I began in earnest to search for something to fill that void in my life. It was in the summer that I made an odyssey to San Diego for the UOL Convention. And yes, it was an odyssey with cancelled flights, and long delays, and bus trips from airport to airport that had me on the verge of looking into hot air balloon and dog sled prices. However, that day was by no means a waste, and it just shows how our Lord always knows what is best for each of us.

I was traveling with Alexis Oryhon and John Charest, both of whom were on the national Jr. UOL Executive Board. During those long hours of idleness, I listened to them speak about their experiences on the national executive board. They both seemed so complete, so sure of themselves, and so happy. I surmised that this had a great deal to do with their National Jr. Board experience.

At that convention, I was elected to the national board and began a journey—a journey that would help me find new friends, a journey that would help me to serve our Lord, and a journey that would help me find myself. And I can now say, a journey that has helped me to fill the void inside of me and obtain closure with the death of my father.

These past two years of my life have introduced me to so many new and unforgettable people. Serving our Lord and dedicating a large part of my life to Him has opened up faith in me that I did not know I possessed. The past two years have not always been bliss. I have not always done what I should



PASSING OF THE JR. GAVEL
John Meschisen and Anya Priester



PROUD MOTHER - PROUD SON
Mrs. Janice Meschisen and John Meschisen

have done. I have not always said what I should have said. And, I have not always thought what I should have thought. But God is gracious, and always gave me a chance to make it up to him.

I had always heard stories about my father’s qualities, but I could never fully comprehend them. This changed during the past two years. As I said earlier, “I found closure on this journey that I took.” I became nearer to closure when I spoke and laughed with other Jr. UOL members, and saw in them my father’s sense of humor and wit. I became nearer to closure when I spoke with our Hierarchs and other clergy, and I saw in them his caring and understanding demeanor. I became nearer to closure when I met with my advisors, and I saw in them his inner strength and dedication. And tonight, finally, I find closure, because I know wherever he is, he can hear me. I know wherever he is he is smiling down on me. Finally, I know wherever he is, he has seen what I have done the past two years and I know that he is proud of me.”

GREETINGS FROM YOUNGSTOWN JR. UOL “Honoring Mrs. Opalka - 100th Birthday”



**Youngstown Juniors honoring Mrs. Opalka
at her 100th birthday celebration**

As we look back on the wonderful productive year we’ve had, we had to step back and take a breather! We’ve accomplished many service projects including Christmas caroling; visited nursing homes; sent Valentine cards; and also made Easter baskets filled with colored eggs, Icons, and pascha bread (made by the juniors) to the shut-ins of our church. We also sent Easter cards, signed by the juniors, enclosed with Icons and spiritual message cards to the college students of our church. A highlight of this year was making a commemorative stone and giving a time-line presentation for Mrs. Opalka, the oldest member of our church. We helped bus tables and wash dishes for the various church events throughout the year, participated in Youth Sunday Services, and many of our Jr. UOL members are alter servers and choir members. We also set up church and camp clean-up dates.

WHEW! And we are not done yet! We have many “give of yourself” ministry projects in mind for the coming year. We’ve had many fundraisers to generate money for various charities.

We’ve met our goal of \$1000 to be donated to the Millennium Museum Building Fund. Yeah! We’ve also purchased luggage to help our Youth Ministry with their foster children luggage campaign. We have money set aside for T.C. Camp items and plan to do something extra special for our church. We sent delegates to the UOL Convention. To make all of this possible some of our fundraisers included: bake sales, 50/50 raffles, fundraiser breakfasts, pascha bread sale (made by juniors), and a church ornament sale...just to name a few of our Jr. UOL projects.

As our school year ended, our involvement slowed down somewhat. However, we have planned a huge Wal-Mart bake sale, a breakfast fundraiser, a car wash, a much deserved water park adventure day, and delegates attended the T.C. Camp and the convention. (Did I say slow Down? Ha!)

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER.

From the Youngstown Jr. UOL Chapter.

Youngstown Jr. UOL Quote of the Month:
“Give of Yourself in Small Ways”

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

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OCEA has been established to initiate a program of activities, which may include concerts, conferences, and social activities to encourage church members and the general public to use and enjoy these facilities.

The first event sponsored by the OCEA was a Remembrance Day program held in April to commemorate the Great Famine. The program was coordinated by the United Ukrainian Sisterhood. In May, a concert featuring Kobzar Lirik Vasyl Necheba was held. In September, the OCEA sponsored a concert by the Halytska revia Ensemble. The concert was open to the public and all proceeds were donated to the fund for reconstruction of the Taras Shevchenko Museum in Kaniv, Ukraine. On November 23, the OCEA will be sponsoring a traditional Zapusty Dinner/ Dance and all area parishes are invited to attend. I will be sending details about the Zapusty Dinner/Dance and all future OCEA functions directly to all of our chapter presidents. I hope that UOL members in the area will support these events and plan to attend. Our South Bound Brook facilities are perfect venues for cultural and social activities such as these. We have the opportunity to provide an educational and cultural resource to the Ukrainian and American population "west of the Hudson". I hope that we all will be supportive of this effort.

Lastly, I would like to remind you all that Sunday December 1 will be UOL Sunday this year. - UOL Sunday, which occurs on the first Sunday of Nativity Advent, is designated as the day when all UOL Chapters encourage their members to attend, as a group, the Divine Liturgy and receive the Mystery of the Holy Eucharist. Since one of the primary purposes of the UOL is to develop a better knowledge and understanding of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and to promote greater religious consciousness, this Sunday is observed to remind UOL members and other Church members that the UOL is, indeed, "Devoted to our Church".

Until next month, I remain,
Yours in Christ's love,
Daria A. Pishko

*"I shall pass this way but once; any good thing, therefore,
that I can do or any kindness that I can show, let me do it now.
Let me not defer it or neglect it,
for I shall not pass this way again."*

CREATIVE ART CONTEST

Sponsored by UOL Education Commission

In addition to sponsoring the annual Essay Contest, the 2001-2002 U.O.L. Education Commission sponsored something different this year by also holding a "Creative Contest." The participants were asked to reflect on the tragedies of 9-11 in any art form of their choice, (video presentation, mural, oration, painting, script, etc.) How had 9-11 changed their faith, their spiritual lives, their communities? The response to this contest was overwhelming with thirty-one teenagers participating from across America. The individual and group entries were thoughtful and expressive. At the 55th Annual Convention in Boston, MA, all projects were on display, and a representative from each project spoke to the Junior convention body. The following entries were submitted:

"The Phoenix," a mural created by the Junior Board: John D. Meschisen, (Woonsocket, RI) Andrew D. Sadoway, (Boston, MA) Megan I. Beck, (Palos Park, IL) Anya Priester, (Boston, MA) Natalie A. Beck, (Palos Park, IL) Evhen Kondratiuk, (Boston, MA)

"September 11th Documentary," a video by Sunday School members of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, OH- Nina Aust, Christy Bohuslawsky, Adam Kominko, Jonathan Mihnovets, Becky Naab

An icon of Jesus Christ, by Laryssa Danylevich of St. Andrew's Parish in Boston, MA

A video by teenagers from St. Andrew's Parish in Blakely, PA- Beverly M. Worlinsky, Ben Worlinsky, Eric Matechak, Pattie Worlinsky, and Chuck Worlinsky

The winning entry was a poem, Reflections on 9-11, created by Sts. Peter and Paul Jr. UOL Chapter in Palos Park, IL. The poem was written by having each of the following Jr. UOL members write one line of the poem: Eric Dusanek, Danny Jakubczak, Natalie Beck, Kristyn Beck, Andrew Neswick, Alex Korda, Megan Beck, Faith Neswick, Tina Cucci, Matt Most, Michelle Most, E. J. Roviario, Philip Roviario, Tamara Coker, Matt Rehr, Lana Klipfel. (Reflections on 9-11 appeared on page one of the September issue of the UOL BULLETIN.)

Thank you to all contest participants. You are a true inspiration.
2001-2002 U.O.L. Education Commission Chairs,
Laryssa Sadoway and Jonathan Patronik

JUNIOR UOL AWARDS



FATHER BUKATA AWARD
Elizabeth Bowman, Mt. Crawford, VA

The **Very Rev. Father Bukata Award** is presented to the 'Junior Orthodox of the Year'. It is given to the one person who personifies dedication, devotion, and enthusiasm for the Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

I (Jr. President, John Meschisen) have had the privilege of working quite a bit this year with the Father Bukata Award winner. As we were separated by several states, we never met, so we conducted most of our business by phone. But by just speaking with her on the phone I was able to feel the passion she has for Our Lord and Savior.

This extraordinary young woman almost single handedly started a Jr. UOL chapter in her home parish. She is a church singer and reader. She also creatively produced an original play performed by the youth of her parish on St. Nicholas Day. She also was willing to do whatever was needed to be done—including setting-up and cleaning for various activities. She led the youth of her parish in a truly inspirational way. Her spiritual advisor says of her: '... most impressive are the intangible qualities of a joyful heart, honesty, and humility ...'

It is my great honor to present the 2001-2002 Very Rev. Father Bukata Award to Ms. Elizabeth Bowman."



FATHER BUKATA AWARD RUNNER-UP
Daniel Jakubczak, Palos Park, IL

"The **Very Rev. Father Bukata Award Runner-Up** is presented to a Jr. UOL Member who performs in a similar manner as the award winner.

The runner-up for this year's award sang in the church choir, attended church school, and is a member of the Ukrainian dancing group of his parish.

He provided food for coffee hour, did the set-ups for coffee hours, and cleaned after coffee hours. His spiritual advisor says of him:

'... he is a wonderful young man who participates in all aspects of parish life.'

The Father Bukata Award Runner-Up is Daniel Jakubczak from Palos Park, IL.



JR. UOL CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
St. John's, Johnson City, NY
Megan Scannell, Laurel Shirk, Colleen Scannell,
Jackie Onysko, and Stephanie Shirk

"The **Chapter Achievement Award** is presented to the Jr. Chapter that is the pinnacle of the Jr. UOL.—the chapter who all other chapters should strive to model.

This year's winner is simply astonishing! From the looks of their activity list, it would appear that the Jr. UOL is their full-time job requiring 40-hour work weeks.

This chapter donated to the NYC relief fund, the Great Lenten Giveaway and the Children of Chernobyl fund. It had choir members, church readers, Christmas carolers, church school teachers, Ukrainian dancers, and altar servers. The chapter also collected money for the firefighters of 9/11, collected money for needy families, and collected food for a local food pantry.

The chapter held a teen dance, made valentines for shut-ins, went caroling at nursing homes, and held 'bring a friend to church day.' However, the thing that this chapter is most proud of is its basketball team. And trust me (Jr. President, John Meschisen), they will be more than happy to tell you about it. The members of this chapter are thoroughly convinced that the NBA and WNBA are in their futures.

While the jury is still out on the pro basketball future, one thing is assured, the Chapter Achievement Award for 2001-2002 goes to St. John the Baptist Jr. Chapter, Johnson City, NY."



JR. UOL SPIRIT AWARD
Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH
Jinny Ulbricht, Joanna Woloscak, and Nicole Burlock

"The **JR. UOL SPIRIT AWARD** is presented to the Jr. Chapter who displays the most spirit and enthusiasm. This year's winner, visited nursing homes and serenaded the elderly with 'Grammy winning fair'. They also raked, loped, and spiffed-up their church grounds, turning these grounds into a botanical masterpiece.

If we ever needed to send a delegation to psych up or talk about the Jr. UOL to a new parish, we would send members from this year's Spirit Award Winner—Sts. Peter and Paul Jr. Chapter, Youngstown, OH."

UKRAINE: THE STRUGGLE FOR IDENTITY

Elizabeth Mitchell, Staff Writer

The name "*Ukraine*" is of Slavic origin and comes from the word "*U-krayina*", which has four different meanings: (1) borderland; (2) any remote area; (3) country in general; and (4) the name of the people constituting the Ukrainian nation and its culture.

The original meaning of the word "*Ukraina*", as found in the chronicles of the 12th century and up to the books of the 16th century, is likely to have been "border-land."

At the establishment of the Kozak State in the 17th century, this term, which formerly applied to some portions of their territory only, began to extend to the identity of the whole country. At the same time, its meaning broadened. In the conscience of the people, the Kozak State was a political power whose historical mission was to act as a bulkhead against the Asiatic hordes; to protect Eastern Christianity and the European culture from the invasion of the East and Latin West.

The term "*Ukraina*" then meant: (1) the territory of the Kozak State; and (2) the boundary between the Asiatic East and civilized Europe. During this time, the word assumed the function of a capitalized name "*Ukraine*". Subsequently, the name "*Ukraine*" appeared continually on geographic maps.

As a consequence of oppression by the Russians and Poles, the name "*Ukraina*", as a special term of Ukrainian territory spread quickly, thus emphasizing there was a difference between Ukraine and her neighbors in the spheres of language, race, culture, national feelings and policy.

To Tsarist Russia, the name "*Ukraine*" was the symbol of the Ukrainian peoples' struggle for independence. It was soon abolished and replaced by "*Malorossia*" (Little Russia) which was hated by all Ukrainians. It relegated the Ukrainians to an identity dependent on Russia and diminished the true history of Ukraine to something less as "Little Russians" within the Russian empire.

The word "*Rus*" was used by Ukrainians to designate the entity of the Kyivan empire (Kyivan Rus) to which the territory of Ukraine belonged. Originally "*Rus*" was applied solely to the southern parts of Eastern Europe with the northern part called "*Muscovy*". Czar Peter the First extended the name "*Rosia*" (those scattered about) to the whole empire and became Czar of all Russians. In Peter's State, "*Rus*" Ukraine was called "*Malorossia*" (Little Russia) to indicate it was not one with the former Muscovite territory "*Velykorossia*" – Great Russia.

Before World War I, Austria designated "*Ruthenia*"- "*Ruthenian*" as the official name for the Ukrainians living in Halychynia (Galicia). Under Poland, they were still known as "*Rus- Rusyny*".

It was not until the 20th century that some order was brought into the chaos of names: Ukrainian – Little Russia – Ruthenian. By proclamation of the Ukrainian National Republic on November 20, 1917 and January 22, 1918, the official name of the country became **Ukraine** and the inhabitants **Ukrainians**.

Ukraine, our Motherland, the home of the Kozaks, and the *breadbasket of Europe* finally gained independence on August 24, 1991.

References: Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia – "[The Name Ukraine](#)" (Authors note: Special thanks to my pastor, Fr. Steve Repa for his assistance with this article.)





CHICAGO 2003

56th ANNUAL UOL CONVENTION

Chicago – The 56th Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention site has been selected. UOL delegates and guests will convene July 23–27, 2003 at the Hyatt-Regency Hotel in Oak Brook, Illinois.

According to Hyatt's website, the hotel is "In Chicago's western suburbs, 18 miles from Chicago's Loop, situated on landscaped grounds with surrounding ponds, rock gardens and lush foliage". It's a lovely hotel and will suit our needs perfectly. For additional information regarding the hotel and a virtual tour of the facility, see their website at www.oakbrook.hyatt.com

Across the street from the hotel is an upscale open air shopping plaza called Oakbrook Center, offering over 160 stores and specialty shops; the center also has more than 18 restaurants with a variety of cuisines - Thai, Italian, Chinese, and American fare are some examples. For additional information and to check out the stores, see their website at www.oakbrookcenter.com

The 56th UOL Convention is being hosted by Sts Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Palos Park, IL. Most of the convention activities will be centered at the hotel, but there will be opportunities to visit the parish church as well. Tentative plans include having a Polynesian Night as one of the activities at Palos Park.

It's not too early to start thinking about next year's vacation, so center it on the 56th UOL Convention in July 2003. Check out the following Chicago Tourism website for more information and for a free visitor's information packet: http://www.chicagotraveler.com/chicago_tourism.htm.

56th Annual U.O.L. Convention



July 23 - 27, 2003

We welcome you
to visit us in
Chicago!

Hosted by the
Sr & Jr UOL Chapters at
Sts Peter & Paul
Ukrainian Orthodox Church
in Palos Park, IL



UOL TRIBUTES

A donation to the Tribute Fund is an acknowledgment of a Milestone, Memorial, 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.

CONTRIBUTOR

Erika and Anna Mark

OCCASION

In honor of and congratulations to Dr. Dinah Fedyna who has been selected Family Practice Educator of the Year- 2002 (Ohio).

"A TRIBUTE FOR ANY SEASON AND ANY REASON"

October: "Treat" someone with your thoughtfulness and the League with a donation to the Tribute Fund. This candy for the heart will benefit all, including you!

November: Thanksgiving is the time to count our blessings, be thankful for those whose presence in our life is important to us and remember those who have departed. A personalized message or remembrance will let that special someone know that you care.

December: The UOL Tribute Fund can be a wonderful stress reducer. Rather than navigating through crowded parking lots, malls and becoming numb from making gift decisions, sit down and enjoy your favorite beverage as you fill out the form below. You're done!

January: Nativity "THE REASON FOR THE SEASON." Spend this blessed time with those you love and celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we strive to live by Christ's teachings, please keep in mind the League's motto:

"Dedicated to our Church and Devoted to its Youth", and that a contribution to the Tribute Fund enables the Ukrainian Orthodox League to fulfill its mission

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution (payable to UOL Tribute Fund) of

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