



UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated to the Church – Devoted to its Youth

VOL. 51 NO. 3

NOVEMBER, 2004

AFTER WORDS – “NO WINNERS OR LOSERS”

*by Mary Ellen Ruft, CDP**

Not long ago, I saw a musical called *Avenue Q* on Broadway. The name of one of the songs in it was “Schadenfreude,” a German word meaning “a malicious satisfaction in the misfortunes of others.” Its lyrics suggested that we all experience *Schadenfreude*, that everyone rejoices at the misery of others. I didn’t like the song nor agree with its message. While it seems instinctive to feel glad that the pain we witness others enduring isn’t also happening to us, it’s difficult for me to believe that most people are actually happy that others are suffering.

Not long after I saw that musical, I told a friend who teaches in an elementary school about it. Surprisingly, she agreed with the songwriters that there is a universal tendency to rejoice at other’s pain. She maintained that many of her first-graders have already learned to clap when one of the other children falls or makes a mistake. “That’s why I don’t set up games that encourage competition with one another;” she said, “I teach the children to compete only with themselves.” At first, I questioned my friend’s approach. It’s true that putting children in competitive, win/lose situations certainly increases their opportunities to rejoice when others lose, but avoiding competition wouldn’t stop all *Schadenfreude*. However, when I considered the negative effects of competition as it has invaded everything from Little League baseball to the Super Bowl, from spelling bees to SAT’s, from local grocery stores to giant corporations, from interpersonal conflicts to major wars, I became convinced that, though competition is not the only source of *Schadenfreude*, it is definitely a very prevalent one. I began to believe that my teacher friend might be right and that reducing the number of win/lose situations would, at least, be a good first step in changing the *Schadenfreude* tendency.

I’ve begun reflecting lately on how a society not built on competition would look. What would our country be like if politicians focused only on their own qualifications, not on denigrating their opponents, or if sports were played for the fun and skill of them rather than for the winning? Would we not be psychologically healthier if, from our childhood, we focused on cultivating our gifts without being concerned about who was number one? How much more energy would we have to do our best if our motivation were internal rather than driven by a desire for more money or a higher position? Because so much in our culture promotes competition, we continually create win/lose situations. When the losers refuse to accept their status as losers and continue to argue, fight, or war against the winners, only then do we call in mediators to try to stop the competition and arrive at a win/win solution. Imagine if that were our first approach rather than our last!

Clearly, Jesus never encouraged us to strive to be better than our neighbor, much less rejoice at another’s misery. On the contrary, He told many parables to his followers to illustrate that every person is important, that everyone is our neighbor. He was not pleased with His disciples arguing about who was the greatest among them nor with James and John questioning who would sit at His right side in the Kingdom of heaven. Perhaps, as Christians, we are called to do what many would describe as naïve or politically correct, that is, resist the temptation to compare or compete with our neighbors or our enemies and focus instead on loving them.

(*The author is a licensed psychologist in private practice in Pittsburgh.)
This article appeared in PROVIDENCE ALIVE, Summer 2004, Page 14

UOL BULLETIN DEADLINE

*The deadline for each edition is the 5th of the prior month:
September, October, November, January/February,
March, April, and June.*

RISING ABOVE THE WATERS . . . A TIME FOR REBUILDING . . .

*Surviving the Carnegie Flood –
Sts. Peter and Paul Parish*

by Dr. Steve Sivulich

It was 5:30 AM and when I attempted to enter the church hall, water was above my ankles. Assuming that the outside drain was clogged, there was no need to be alarmed. However, when I was inside of the building, I saw more than four inches of water throughout the hall and kitchen. Since the pierogy workers were scheduled to arrive at 8:00 AM to begin “pinching”—there was cause for alarm! We were forced to push water for the next four hours before the workers could begin their pierogy chores. We thought that this was bad.

Two months later, on Friday, September 16 and 17, 2004, “Ivan the Terrible” hit Carnegie with brutal force. The rain started late Thursday and continued throughout Friday. With the storm lingering over Pittsburgh and surrounding area, in twenty-four hours Carnegie had almost six inches of rain. By Friday, September 17th excessive rain water and sewage caused a back-up through floor drains, toilets and sinks pouring water into the basements of Sts. Peter and Paul Church, parish hall and rectory.

Fr. Steve Repa got word to Michael Kapeluck, Parish President, about “some” water/sewage coming into the basements. Because most phones in Carnegie were out-of-order due to the lengthy storm, Michael was unable to phone for help. Fortunately, George Honchar and children, and Debbie Wolonchak were in the vicinity and they worked furiously to move items from the floor and place them at least two feet higher. Michael’s wife, Michele, Director of Corba’s Funeral Home, located just one block from the church, contacted Michael via cell phone to advise him that water was now entering the basement of their home and business. Michael rushed home to replicate the moving of items from basement floors, only to receive another call that the water was rising in the church basement.

The water was now at knee level and Michael, Fr. Steve, Sherri Walewski, John Howe, and Mark Swindle began moving valuable church historical records and books from our extensive religious library placing them in the pews in the church. Within ten minutes the water had risen to waist level. Fearing for their safety, Michael yelled for everyone “to get out”. Then he returned to more furious work at the funeral home and concern for their residence at that same location—then it was all history!

By Saturday afternoon, the rectory basement, church basement, and hall basement were filled with flood waters and sewage. Water was at the 9 foot level in the church hall. Fortunately, the water had stopped just short of the ceiling so that the first floors were not damaged by the flood. By 7:30 PM, Sherri Walewski, had contacted “The Rooter Man” to get generators and pumps to drain the basements. Only the rectory basement had drained by itself. Because the contractor had so many calls, he installed the pumps and said that he could not assign a worker to constantly monitor the pumps, refill gas tanks periodically, and be readily available to remove items that occasionally clog the draining hoses. Sherri Walewski and John Howe were diligent to the task until 4:30 AM when the water had receded to the three or four inches of mud and muck that remained.

Arriving for Sunday Divine Liturgy the next day, expressions of anguish and tears were the common theme as we peeked inside of the church basement to see where books and church school items had floated to new and unusual locations. Inside the church hall, Bo Hryshchshyn’s Ukrainian gift and ceramics display case had moved to a new site and the Pysanky supplies had been totally destroyed. In the kitchen, the large stainless steel industrial refrigerators and freezers had floated like shiny boxes, interspersed with the residential style refrigerators, Formica cabinet tops, kettles, and other kitchen items all were in reassigned positions. In the rectory basement, many of Fr. Steve’s personal items, furniture, and washer and dryer floated like canoes to other areas of his basement.

We were fortunate to have Divine Liturgy in our church, of course without electricity or lights. We were blessed to be able to pray together in “our Church”. We also invited Fr. George York and his OCA parishioners to join us. Fr. York gave us a much needed pep talk. Our Parish President captured the essence of the disaster when he spoke in church and commended those who gallantly, in the face of danger, “saved the Church’s history”—then broke into tears. The entire parish followed suit. After liturgy, we immediately regrouped and began the ugly task of “clean-up”. Groups were assigned to maintain an inventory, to attempt to save library and church school materi-

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

Advertising rates: Please inquire through editorial offices.

NAKO'S NEWS

Melanie Nakonachny, U.O.L. President



Glory to Jesus Christ! Slava Isusu Christu!

It is difficult to believe that it is already November. In no time at all Thanksgiving will be upon us with St. Philips Fast following soon after. During this season, it is important to reflect on the past and all that we have been given—thanks to those who have come before us. I find this an especially important time to be reminded of the founders of the Ukrainian Orthodox League, V. Reverend Volodymyr Bukata and all of our ancestors who worked hard to establish this organization. I am sure that they would be proud of all that the U.O.L. has accomplished since its founding.

Sr. & Jr. Executive Boards Meet in Coatesville

October 1st through 3rd yielded a very exciting weekend for both the Junior and Senior National Executive Boards. Our fall meeting was held at Holy Ghost Parish in Coatesville, PA. It is always wonderful to visit a parish and feel fully at home. The National Executive Board held a very productive meeting, discussing many important topics such as the Sobor, the camp chapel, the possible publication of a book of Orthodox Church hymns and the 58th Annual U.O.L. Convention, which will be sponsored by the Protection of the Virgin Mary U.O.L. Chapter in Northampton, PA.

Parma Convention Profits - \$37,245.29!

During that weekend the National Executive Board was pleased to receive, audit and approve the financial books from the 57th Annual U.O.L. Convention. We are so proud of St. Vladimir's Chapter in Parma, OH for raising \$37,245.29 through their convention. An immense amount of fundraising went into ensuring the convention was not only enjoyable but also financially successful. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the League.

I would like to personally thank the Holy Ghost U.O.L. Chapter and their entire parish for welcoming us into their homes. If this meeting was any indication of the success that we will find at the 59th Annual U.O.L. Convention that they will host during July of 2005, I know it will be an amazing event.

"Ivan the Terrible" Causes Flooding in Carnegie

In late September the entire Diocese was saddened to learn about the great loss suffered by the Carnegie, PA parish due to flooding from the many hurricanes that have hit our country. With this sadness comes the opportunity to rebuild and strengthen their parish for the next 101 years of its existence. It is with love that the Ukrainian Orthodox League has made a \$1,000 donation to their parish and their efforts of rebuilding what was lost during the flood.

Holy Cross Mission Parish in Wilmington, NC

I am pleased to announce that the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. has a newly established mission parish - Holy Cross Mission in Wilmington, NC. The establishment of this new parish involves countless hours of work and a great commitment. This year, as last year, the Ukrainian Orthodox League has chosen to focus on assisting our mission parishes. Please take note of the advertisement listed in this edition of the Bulletin to learn how you can help Holy Cross Mission Parish and other mission parishes in our Diocese.

I would like to congratulate everyone who worked so hard to ensure that the 17th Regular Sobor was a success. More information concerning the Sobor and the U.O.L.'s involvement can be found in the January issue of the Bulletin.

As we prepare for St. Philips Fast and the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I would like to wish each and every one of you a peaceful advent. I hope that you and your Ukrainian Orthodox League Chapters take special time to help those less fortunate and plan a Lenten project that can truly benefit those in need.

I remain,
Yours in Christ,
Melanie A. Nakonachny

Wanted...

**Enthusiastic
Ukrainian Orthodox League Chapters
to adopt our newest mission parish**

**HOLY CROSS MISSION PARISH
Wilmington, NC**

**Other mission parishes are available
for adoption.**

***Make a difference in the lives of people
who only desire what we have...
A place to worship.***

Want more information???

Contact Christian Caregiving and Mission Chairwomen:

Pani Matka Mary Anne Nakonachny
Nackos3201@aol.com or 440.885.1509

Melanie Nakonachny
MelanieNak@aol.com or 440.842.3820

U.O.L. Youth Commission Announces Retreat/Activities Schedule

2005 SCHEDULE

- ◆ April 15-17 UOL Lenten Retreat
Bethlehem, PA
- ◆ May 27-30 Young Adults Memorial Day
Weekend, All Saints Camp
- ◆ July 25-26 Young Adult Days at the
UOL Convention
Northampton, PA
- ◆ July 27-30 Pre-Teen Program at the
UOL Convention
Northampton, PA

For Information Contact:
Atty. Oleh Bilynsky, (610) 892-7315
ovb@cblhlaw.com

NEWS FROM ST. JOHN'S JR. U.O.L. CHAPTER *Johnson City, New York*

by Lauren and Adam Hatala*

This year has gone by so fast! We have accomplished many fundraisers. All of our efforts were filled with lots of laughter, jokes, hard-workers and lots of fun.

We have done a Lenten Dinner, painted icon stands for the church, ran the food stand at the bake sale and much, much more. The most favorite thing we did so far was the car wash. It was the event that everybody looks forward to.

The thing that we will miss the most is our seniors Stephanie Shirk and Colleen Scannell. They always walk into a meeting with a smile on their face. They always have a positive attitude. Good luck in whatever you do . . . also, Colleen was a member of the National Jr. UOL Board.



At the Parma Convention: Jackie Onysko, Meghan Scannell, Stephanie Shirk and Laurel Shirk

We are pleased to have such a great president this year in Megan Scannell and other officers; Vice President, Olenka Zharsky; Secretary, Laurel Shirk; Treasurer, Patrick Scannell; and Reporters Adam and Lauren Hatala! Our advisors are Father Zinovi, Phil and Beth Harendza, and Pam Scannell.

Being the youngest members (at age 10*) in our Jr. UOL, we look forward to many more years serving our church, family, and Jesus Christ.

JOHNSON CITY ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS



1st row from left: Grace Hopkins, 1st grade; Victoria Wasyliv, 3rd grade; Michael Youmans, 3rd grade; 2nd row from left: Cassidy Sullivan, 3rd grade; Olenka Zharsky, 6th grade; Molly Hatala, 3rd grade; with Fr. Zinovi Zharsky

KATYA'S KORNER

Katya Carman, Jr. U.O.L. President



Glory to Jesus Christ! Slava Isusu Christu!

I am very excited to greet you this month and share with you the fabulous ideas that were discussed at the recent Jr. UOL National Executive Board meeting in Coatesville on October 1-3, 2004. I would like to extend sincere gratitude to both the Junior and Senior UOL Chapters in Coatesville for their kind hospitality and generosity. It was wonderful to spend the weekend with such a lively parish and chapter.

A Jr. Chapter in Allentown, PA

First, I would like to congratulate the newly formed Jr. UOL chapter in Allentown on the recent establishment of this chapter. Allentown President, Andy Zimmerman, was able to join us at our meeting and we thoroughly enjoyed hearing about the progress of their chapter!

During our meeting we discussed new fundraising ideas such as re-developing the 'a-thons'. This will go toward our special project donation that will then be donated to the Carnegie 'flood fund'. As you are aware the Carnegie parish suffered significant damage during the recent hurricane flooding. A second fundraiser, as discussed at convention, will be to sell t-shirts. Estimates and designs are still being discussed, but we thought this was a fabulous idea from the convention and are anxious to get started. As requested at the convention, raffle tickets are coming out early this year, so please look for yours in the mail, and SELL AWAY!!

We also discussed the Basketball Tournament which will be hosted by the Philly Jr. UOL later this year. In order for this to take place Jr. Chapters need to be interested in sending teams. Please contact Dan McNulty, Matt Bohlen, or myself for more details, especially if your chapter is interested in participating.

The Jr. UOL Retreat will be held April 15-17, 2005. Mark your calendars. I look forward to seeing many juniors there. This spiritually renewing weekend is always full of fun activities, great lectures and workshops, and of course, awesome friends!

Membership Rosters and Dues DEADLINE

REMINDER: please be sure to send in all chapter and membership dues and membership rosters, which were due on September 30, 2004. The deadline has passed, therefore late fines are now imposed (\$1/day, \$15/month). Please get those to Mark Meshchisen, Financial Secretary, as soon as possible!

The last thing I am extremely excited to share is the revival of our Jr. UOL website. Dan McNulty, along with our webmaster, Dave Bentley, have worked extremely hard to create this *NEW* site and hopefully it will be up and running soon. (Dave and Dan are looking for group pictures of your chapters to add to the site, so please send those to them.) When it is working, it will be a link to the UOC Consistory Site at uocofusa.com!

Next Jr. Board Meeting - January 21st in Philly

Our first meeting was extremely successful and I look forward to our next board meeting in Philly the weekend of Jan 21st. As always, everyone is welcome to join in and share ideas at our meetings. I look forward to a very productive and exciting year!

Please feel free to contact me with questions, concerns, ideas, or updates on your chapters!

In Christ's Love,
Katya Carman

She Survived the Flood! **ELIZABETH "Libby" MITCHELL** **PAST U.O.L. EDITOR (for 13 Years)**

Libby has survived the flood, the fall down the stairs and six stitches in her right leg, and is now recovering from the flu or something.

Get well wishes may be sent to:
46 Lexington Ct., Carnegie, PA 15106
(412) 279-3458

PARMA JR. U.O.L. CHAPTER NEWS—AN UPDATE

by Katie Samijenko, Chapter Historian

The weekend of September 11th and September 12th, was an exciting weekend for Parma's Jr. U.O.L. As always we were busy, busy, busy!

Our Youth Room is taking Shape

We kicked off the weekend by meeting at the Church hall and beginning the long task of painting our new Youth Room. We had tons of fun painting the blue, purple and red walls. Not only did we paint the walls, we also painted our clothes and even got some on the floor. Everyone was a big help, even some of the youngest kids of the church. We got an amazing amount done.



St. Vladimir's Jr. UOL Paint Crew

Following the painting the 2004-2005 chapter officers attended vespers Saturday evening and then went to Christy Bohuslawsky's house for an Officer's Retreat. We started our meeting with a prayer and a few words from Father John Nakonachny. After that we played a few icebreakers. Then we discussed what was to be expected of each officer. We also talked about all of our upcoming events for the year. Of course we didn't go straight to bed—we played a game and then, while we were watching a movie all of us fell asleep [except Lesia Mahlay]. Sunday morning we woke up early and attended Divine Liturgy together as a board.



Jr. UOL Officer's Retreat Participants

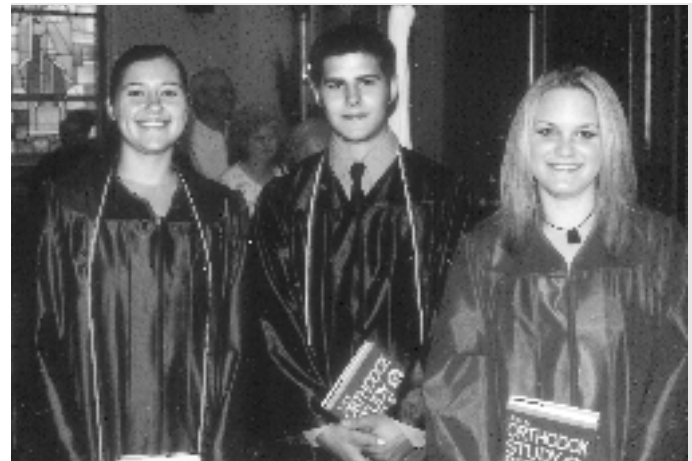
We have Many Many Plans for this Year

With our year now begun we have had juniors coming to the hall after school to work on getting the Youth Room painting complete. The next step after the painting is to get new lighting and carpeting. We can't wait until our Youth Room will be done and we can relax and enjoy it. What's next for St. Vladimir's Jr. U.O.L. Chapter? Two members will be attending the Youth Sobor in South Bound Brook, NJ. We are also planning a Pumpkin Party that will be held in late October. Also, our parish will be celebrating its 80th Anniversary in November and the Juniors are already planning on working hard to help make that event a success as well.

U.O.L. NEWS FROM YOUNGSTOWN

by Diane Senedak

Three Junior UOL members from Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Youngstown, Ohio graduated from high school this past June:



Joanna Woloschak, Matthew Starr and Nicole Burlock

JOANNA WOLOSCHAK has been an outstanding role model for the youth of our church. She has been a church choir member for many years. Joanna has held all of the offices of the Jr. UOL since becoming a member eight years ago. Along with many school scholastic and athletic awards, she also received the prestigious *Girl Scouts of America 'GOLD AWARD'*—its highest honor. Joanna has been a delegate to the national UOL Convention for the past five years. This summer she received the *Junior Orthodox-of-the-Year Award* (runner-up) and also was a recipient of one of the prestigious *LSSK Scholarships*. Joanna graduated from Jackson-Milton High School with honors. She will be attending Ohio University majoring in Civil Engineering.

MATTHEW STARR has been an active member of our Jr. UOL for nine years. He has volunteered for both church and UOL activities. He graduated from Austintown Fitch High School and a two-year program at Mahoning County Career & Technical School in Auto Technology where he received a *Vocational Scholarship, Award of Distinction and Merit Scholarship*. This fall, Matthew will be a student at the Universal Technical Institute in Phoenix, Arizona.

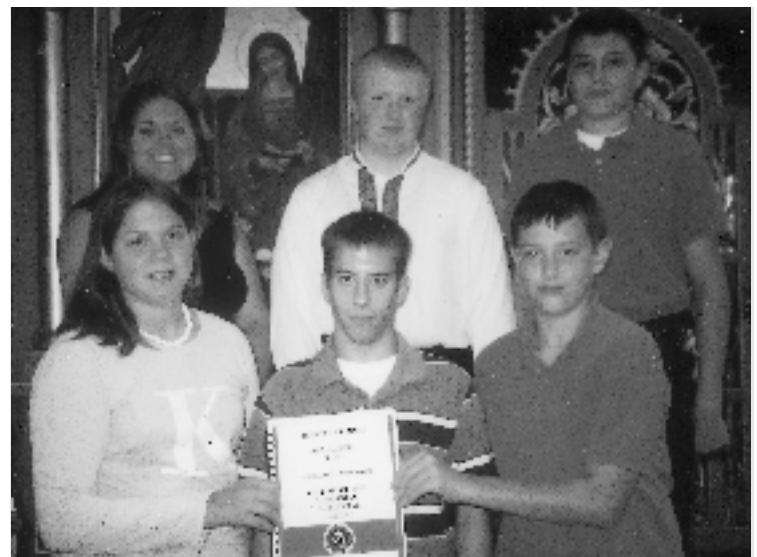
NICOLE BURLOCK graduated from Austintown Fitch High School where she participated in the German Club, Marching and Concert Bands, and Rifle Line. She was an officer and member of the Junior UOL for eight years and involved in many activities of our church. Nicole has been a delegate to the national UOL Convention for many years and served on the *National Junior UOL Executive Board as Recording Secretary*. This fall, she will be attending Youngstown State University in the School of Arts and Sciences.

All of our graduates have "grown up" attending All Saints Camp and plan on returning to this spiritual sanctuary whenever possible. Through numerous spiritual and Jr. UOL activities, they have inspired their peers to accomplish more with our church and the UOL. Joanna, Matthew and Nicole were presented with scholarships provided by our Youth Ministry, Orthodox Study Bibles from our parish, and a gift from our Jr. UOL.

Congratulations to our 2004 parish graduates! We wish you much success in all of your future endeavors. *Mnohiya Lita!*

Jr. Chapter Writes About Ukraine Famine of 1932-33

Members of Sts. Peter and Paul Church School, Youngstown, OH entered an essay about the famine for the UOL Essay Contest. Their essay involved all Church School students in grades 9 through 12 and was entitled: *"Memory Eternal: Remember the 7 to 10 Million Victims of the Ukraine Artificial Famine of 1932-33"*.



Jr. UOL Members Showcase their Essay on the Famine

PITTSBURGH DEANERY SPONSORS VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL—2004

by Rev. Father Robert Popichak, Deanery Secretary

Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church and Very Rev. Father Steve Repa of Carnegie, PA graciously hosted the Pittsburgh Deanery Annual Vacation Church School July 12th through July 16th.

The theme for the week was *"Meet the Four Evangelists."* Twenty-six children between three and eleven years of age gathered for the Ninth Annual Vacation Church School sponsored by the Pittsburgh Deanery. Daria Masur, again, served as coordinator and organizer of this week-long event.

In an atmosphere of fun and fellowship, the children from various parishes throughout Western Pennsylvania gathered for prayer, crafts, songs, games, bible lessons, and class discussions based on this year's theme.

Very Rev. Father Stefan Zencuch, pastor of Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Lyndora, PA, and spiritual director of the church school, offered instruction and held discussions with the adults as well.

Crafts correlated to the stories of the Evangelists and included a chalice, paintings, a crown, and a gospel book. The children even made an Orletz to give to His Beatitude Metropolitan Constantine, who visited during the week.

Wonderful volunteers from all parishes taught the individual classes and were assisted by many parents who served as aides, assistants, and supplied the delicious snacks during the breaks.

The week concluded with the children presenting a program on Friday for parents, grandparents and friends displaying to everyone what they had learned. Mauri Gladys, music director, prepared and directed Friday's program. The high point for the children each day was the festive pizza party organized by Connie Markiw of Carnegie—which has become a tradition over the years.

Next year the theme will be *"The Saints"*—to celebrate the 10th year of this summer spectacular.

By the grace of God, and with the help of dedicated Christian volunteers who donated their time and efforts, seeds were planted, sown, and nurtured for the Glory of God!



Church School Participants and Staff

The volunteers included: Alexis Sawchuk and Tracy Galla, teachers, and Catharine Litvak, assistant, Sts. Peter & Paul parish, Carnegie;

Rebecca Babilya, pamphlets and registration forms, from St. Nicholas parish, Monessen;

Kathy Perdziola, nurse, and Larissa Kocelko, teacher, St. Vladimir parish, South Side, Pittsburgh;

Rose Raith, teacher, from Sts. Peter & Paul parish, Lyndora;

Pani Dobrodyka Regina Popichak, registration and assistant, Holy Ghost, Slickville;

Michele Kiriloff, craft teacher, and Gabrielle Kiriloff, aide, Holy Assumption of St. Mary Parish, South Side, Pittsburgh;

"WE LOVE ALL SAINTS CAMP AND FAMILY FEST!"

by Emily Kominko and Christy Bohuslawsky,
St. Vladimir's Jr. UOL, Parma, Ohio

When one is asked what their favorite holiday is, the most common response probably is not Labor Day. However, if everyone had the opportunity to experience what we experience that holiday weekend, we bet they would change their minds.

Family Fest . . . Is It!

Leaves crackling under your feet, the smell of clean air, the sight of people swimming one last time before the summer is over...you know you're at All Saints Camp for Family Fest. After three days of swimming, countless games of 'The Name Game', and reconnecting with friends, we left Family Fest 2004 refreshed and renewed.



**Emily Kominko, Julian Burgan, Christy Bohuslawsky
and Eric Senedak**

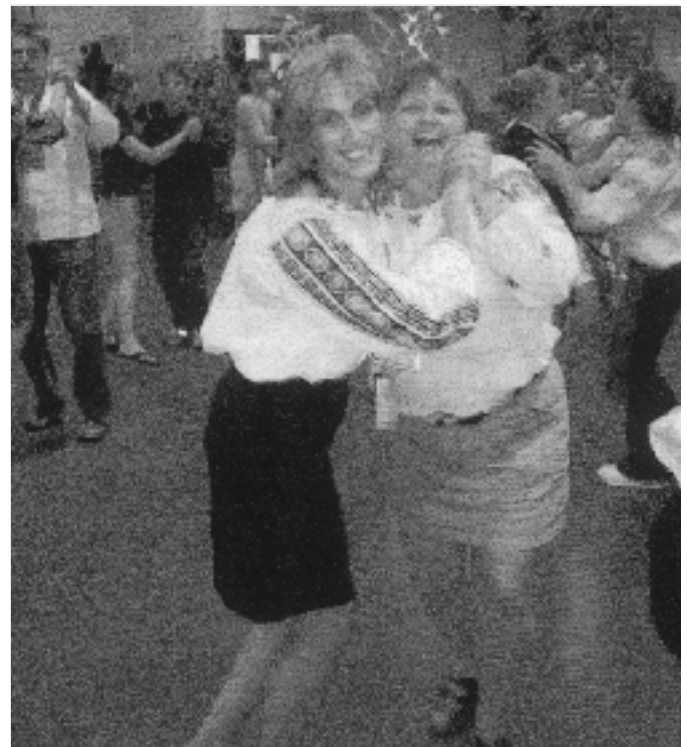
The weekend always starts on Friday with the annual tent dilemmas – too many poles, not enough poles, missing a fly – yeah, that sounds familiar. Saturdays are always fun with breakfast in the morning, canoeing, games, swimming and lounging on the porch all day long, and a beautiful Vespers Service in the evening, followed by an annual pig roast. "The Name Game" tags along shortly after and then a competitive game of nighttime "Hide-n-go-seek". Sunday begins with an enlightening Divine Liturgy followed by a delicious brunch. Yet another day of games and swimming. Hay rides and singing for hours at the campfire was enjoyed by all. Monday came way too soon and it was time to say goodbye until next time. The ride home was long but filled with stories and laughter reminiscing about the wonderful weekend.

All Saints Camp is Our Home Away from Home

The school year has begun, and the sound of chirping birds has been replaced with the sound of ringing bells. Although the year may be stressful, we are comforted by knowing that All Saints Camp is our home away from home and that we'll be back soon!



57th Convention: The Parma Table Relaxing!



57th Convention: Tracy and Sherry Havin' Fun!

RIISING ABOVE THE WATERS . . . A TIME FOR REBUILDING . . .

(continued from page 1)

als, and to begin removing everything that was devastated—and that was mostly everything in the flooded basements and hall.

Because of the infiltration of sewage, boots, rubber gloves and in some cases masks, were required, as well as the medical alert to ensure that those working in the flood water had had received tetanus shots. Connie Markiw, our medical advisor, had her trusty First Aid kit for minor injuries. Then, it was removing to the trash bin anything made of wood, plastic or fabric. Likewise, all tables, chairs, freezers, refrigerators, ovens, pop coolers, etc. were to be discarded. Of course, this also included the kitchen cabinets, the library book cases, and any other furniture in any of the flooded spaces.

A large group of parishioners worked diligently throughout Sunday afternoon and by Monday saw a pile of trash rise to about six feet—awaiting the town removal system and very, very large dumpsters. The Salvation Army truck passed occasionally offering coffee and other items, and continued during the next few days as clean-up continued. A friend of Fr. Steve's, Fr. James Root, Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Maronite Church, volunteered to transport all of our salvageable kitchen items to his church kitchen for cleaning and sanitizing. Two of his parishioners also just stopped by to give us a hand. When Pat Sally realized that the church hall would not be inhabitable for her son Nick's wedding reception on Saturday, October 9th, Fr. Root offered his hall at no cost to the Sally's. Fr. Tim Tomson, from McKees Rocks, delivered a van load of cleaning supplies that were donated by a merchant near his parish.

While we fought back the sadness of the disaster, we constantly reflected on our blessings and looked for the humor in all of it. Greg Markiw remarked that his father's desk had floated onto a table in the church school. Others were astounded that the freezers and refrigerators had floated onto one another, and that the large Formica counters had simply floated to new locations. The Jr. Chapter members (Anastasia Markiw, Natasha Walewski, Zach Kapeluck, and Julie Galla), diligent to the task of working in the mud and sludge, wrote humorous notes in the mud inside of the ovens and on bathroom mirrors. It did add a light note to a sad situation. There was a complaint that someone had broken into the hall because the bottom of the large door had been broken. When in fact the force of the water had broken the bottom half of the door and other metal doors were simply bent by the water. There was an allegation that the OCA Church had stolen our trash dumpster, when actually, it had floated away in the opposite direction. Fr. Steve's basement was a total disaster, and we were instructed to remove everything. So, without utilities, he had to find housing elsewhere. It was interesting to see the water line on our hierarchs pictures in the hall: at the nose of the Metropolitan and Archbishop Vsevolod and at the chin level of Archbishop Antony.

On Monday a "ray of hope" arrived from Parma, Ohio. It was Pete Osad. Of course, he just happened to have a day off and decided to stop by Carnegie. Surely, Tracy Galla had nothing to do with his presence. Pete not only added the muscular strength so badly needed, but was a great inspiration to everyone. Unfortunately, Pete was injured when a tool slipped and struck him on the nose and near his eye. Tracy was there for the rescue and the hospital diagnosed it as a crack in his nose and the forecast of a black eye. *Words could not describe everyone's appreciation for Pete's help.* Pete visited us recently and is totally recovered.

Clean-up continued through most of the next week. By Friday, September 23rd most of the trash and muck had been removed. Now it was time for the restoration company to continue. In addition, inspection of furnaces, hot water heaters, other appliances, and in particular, the kitchen equipment, was now underway. Only a few items were immediately declared restorable. The initial evaluation by the Insurance Claims Adjustor was that "it seems like things will be covered" since the initial damage was caused by the storm system and sewage system back-up. However, on the third visit, the Adjustor had changed to "I doubt if anything will be covered by insurance, because flooding is not covered by your insurance." But, the initial damage was caused by the drain system back-up!

The following Sunday, coffee hour was held in the upper level of the church hall with electricity and water being acquired from the church which was the only building with temporary electricity. Since then, the church board has met and established a Parish Steering Committee **to formulate the vision for the future of our parish.** With the thought that "although the devastation was great, we will view this as a blessed opportunity to make that which is so close to our hearts more beautiful, more functional, and stronger than ever." We are also blessed because there were no injuries or deaths, and many people have offered assistance. Archbishop Antony's letter of appeal throughout the diocese is greatly appreciated. The National UOL Executive Board's donation of \$1,000 will surely aid in the restoration. The kind words and prayers of so many people keep us going. "Nobody Said It Would Be Easy", (Devotions for Every Day of the Year, HIS PASSION, Christ's Journey to the Resurrection, Integrity Publishers, 2004.) *"The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted."* (Matthew 23:11-12)

"The commandment of Jesus is not a sort of spiritual shock treatment. **Jesus asks nothing of us without giving us the strength to perform it.** His commandments never seek to destroy life, but to foster, strengthen and heal it." (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

We, at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Carnegie, PA, will rise above the water!

Note: As this goes to press, we have been advised that it is very doubtful that there will be any insurance coverage.

YOU TOO CAN BE A MISSIONARY!

Our Metropolia is represented on the Board of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center and we fully support their various programs to spread the Gospel throughout the world. One area in which all ages can have a spiritually and emotionally fulfilling experience is in the scope of short term missions.

In October of 2004, seven people, including two from our church went on a three week trip to work in our Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Brazil. Performing various tasks from remodeling a church to catechetical work in various parishes, to a day with Orthodox prison ministry and a days stint working in a drug/ alcohol, life was not boring as each day was spent in giving of oneself. The new friends one makes and the warm response from our fellow Orthodox in a far away land provides great satisfaction and lasting memories.

Everyone has a talent that can be tapped, even if you think that you do not have any. Applying members are assigned to a team so that there is a mixture of ages of both men and women represented and that one's talents match the needs of the particular mission project.

Each person raises the requisite funds to support them in their work, which includes transportation from their home and all food and lodging. This may at first appear daunting, but one finds the excitement of your proposed work brings in donations, so one needn't worry that this is mission impossible.

Already the various projects are being planned, but the exact dates will be published in early March. Some trip venues are very popular and so one needs to apply early. Here is a quick rundown of mission teams for generally the summer season of 2005. This could be the most exciting and rewarding adventure in your life!!! As you look over the list of the following mission tours, consider where you might fit in, or rather where your interests and talents lie.

For those who have expertise or *interest in substance abuse programs*, two separate teams will be going to **Romania** to help with the newly organized clinics. Romania developed great alcohol and narcotic problems under Communism, but the government and most people were in complete denial that there was even a hint of a problem. The Orthodox Church is spearheading education and treatment to alleviate these great social ills.

A team will visit our own **Ukrainian Orthodox parishes in rural Paraguay** to do *catechetical work and service projects*. Knowledge of Spanish and/or Ukrainian would be very helpful in this work. The parishes have a great amount of enthusiastic youth and it is hoped that your presence will help deepen their faith and ties to the church.

A medical team will serve in **Uganda**, where there are already long-term *medical missionaries* from Ohio present and working. A nurse or physician can really feel the worth of their calling as they administer their healing skills to those who really need them and are oh so appreciative!

For those who like *working with youth* there are several options. There will be a young adults camp in **Tanzania**—a place in Africa where our church is growing very fast. A 73 year old Ukrainian Orthodox man from Alberta, Canada spent a rewarding time there on a recent team, and he found it so rewarding he next went on a construction team to Korea. There also will be a *youth camp team* to Romania and an even more specialized English as a Second Language Camp in **Korea**.

Alaska may be our 50th state, but life is so different there it may seem like a foreign land. Hey! Those with Sunday school teaching experience might find a *two week Vacation Bible School* in far off Alaska interesting, with the added bonus of a two day pilgrimage on Spruce Island, the home of St. Herman. Alaskan Indians traditionally have had problems with substance abuse and there will be a specialized team having a *Wellness Camp* to work with natives on this and other relevant issues. This team also will include dentists.

The team that always fills up the quickest is that of a stint of work at the Orthodox orphanage in Guatemala. Yes, we have had campers at Teenage Conference, who had been adopted from this orphanage, so you know how engaging these kids can be.

If the desire for the welfare of children burns in your heart, you might consider the mission trip to Albania, where one would work with a long-term American mission family at a children's home.

Flex your muscles as you work on a rewarding building team project in **Kenya**, where the people are really friendly, or consider a far away trip to Masbate in the **Philippines** where work will be done on a monastery church and a small Vacation Bible School will be conducted.

Spin the globe and consider where you would like to go. Even if you think it is impossible now (as all applicants feel at one point), this can be one of the most rewarding choices you will ever make. Once you go, the majority is hooked and want to go somewhere again and they treasure forever the friends they have made. Just think how you can wow your friends and co-workers when you tell them about the exotic places and experiences you had on your vacation!

Having whetted your appetite, please contact Nektarios Ferguson, the Teams and Projects Director at OCMC. A toll-free call (877) 463-6784 will get you an application and more pertinent information.

U.O.L. ARCHIVES

"National UOL Historical Material Needed"

- Historical records and materials
- Records from past National UOL Officers
- Convention Yearbooks

Forward to: UOL Archives (Attn: S. Sivulich), UOC of USA,
P.O. Box 495, S. Bound Brook, NJ 08880

Ukrainian Orthodox League of the U.S.A. 57TH U.O.L. CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

July 21-24, 2004 - Parma, Ohio

1. We are grateful for the presence and leadership of our hierarchs; His Beatitude Metropolitan Constantine and His Eminence Archbishop Antony at this 57th Annual Convention. We thank them for their inspiration, guidance, and spiritual direction during our activities, deliberations, and prayers. May God bless them with good health and fill them with grace for many blessed years to come.
2. We commend the members of St Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral U.O.L. (Parma, OH) for their efforts in hosting a very successful 57th Annual Convention. A special thanks to their pastor, Very Reverend Father John Nakonachny, Chairperson Melanie Nakonachny, Junior Co-chairs Erica Boyko, Christy Bohuslawsky, Emily Kominko, and all sponsors and benefactors. May God bless them for their labors to benefit the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and for their success with the Ukrainian Orthodox League in teaching, inspiring, and nurturing her people.
3. We express gratitude for the efforts of our hierarchs to strive for the unity of the Ukrainian Orthodox Churches in Ukraine. An example of this is the presence of Archbishop Vsevelod in Ukraine at this time for that purpose.
4. We have in remembrance the blessed Memory of our reverend fathers, Protopresbyter William Czekaluk, Very Reverend Dmytro Mamchur, Very Rev. Victor Cooley and Archimandrite Anastije, who have reposed in the Lord. May God mercifully rest them and grant them His Eternal Memory.
5. We rejoice in the ordination of our newest clergy Father Deacon Mikhail Sawarynski, Father Deacon Anthony Szwez and Father Deacon Antony Perkins. May God bless them for responding to His call to serve Him on behalf of our Ukrainian Orthodox Church and her people. God grant them perseverance, fortitude, and wisdom to guide, teach and shepherd His holy flock for many blessed years!
6. We strongly encourage the continued support of the Historical Education Complex in South Bound Brook, NJ. We also encourage the support of the All Saints Camp Chapel and the acceptance of funds to be used in this project for the youth of our Church.
7. We humbly call our parishes to do everything in their power to fulfill the resolution of the last Sobor – to establish, support, and encourage Senior and Junior U.O.L. chapters.
8. We ask our members and chapters to pray for the men and women serving in the armed forces. We pray for God to protect them and aid them in a safe return to their families and parishes. We pray for the eternal rest of those who have laid down their lives in faithful service to our country and for those who are still in peril. We welcome the safe return of all Orthodox Christians who are currently serving in our armed services.
9. We promote and encourage the Youth Ministry and its programs and applaud the efforts of every parish youth minister in his/her endeavors to cultivate and nurture our youth in the life of our Ukrainian Church and her Orthodox faith. We encourage every U.O.L. chapter to use the materials and programs provided by the Office of Youth Ministry.
10. We rejoice and celebrate the anniversaries of our parishes this year, especially the 80th Anniversary of St Vladimir Cathedral, Parma, OH.
11. We encourage all parishes and chapters to promote and support the upcoming Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and do their best to send delegates it. We strongly encourage the support of the parishes and chapters towards the participation of our youth at the youth Sobor that will be held for the first time in Sobor history in conjunction with the Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.
12. We continue to support HR 591, a bill before Congress to authorize the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) to establish a memorial on Federal Land in the District of Columbia to honor the victims of the Ukrainian famine-genocide of 1932-33. The bill proposes to allocate a plot of land in Washington, DC to honor the memory of the millions of victims of the Famine. If approved by the US Congress, UCCA plans to construct the monument and unveil it during the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide in 2008.
13. We congratulate the participants of the 2003 mission to the orphanages in Ukraine and encourage further participation in the mission led by Reverend Father Taras Naumenko, Father Deacon Ihor Mahlay, Natalie Kapeluck, Olenka Walesch and Steven Haluszczak, in August of this year.
14. We offer prayers and support for the Ukrainian Orthodox Archdiocese, to be led by the Holy Spirit, in preparation for hosting our Orthodox brothers and sisters at the Inter-Orthodox Camping Conference.
15. We encourage parishes to develop youth participation in Annual Meetings and attend Trustee/Board meetings, to learn how a parish operates and to allow for the youth to input their ideas in the operations and projects of their parishes. This may be accomplished by: (1) Creating a youth liaison position to the parish board and (2) Sponsoring a special parish board meeting/luncheon which would provide instruction as to the positions, responsibilities and workings of the board members and the parish.

RELIGION: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Fr. John W. Harvey,

Q: Among my circle of friends I have a couple of Seventh-Day Adventist ladies, who are sweet but can be a real pain when it comes to the Sabbath and some of their religious dietary restrictions. Sometimes, they even chide me on why I do not keep the Sabbath. I know we worship on Sunday, but should we be keeping Saturday as well?

A: One of the Ten Commandments directs that we should keep holy the Lord's Day and for the Jews, the Seventh Day (Saturday) commemorating the day the Lord rested at the completion of creation was and still is the Sabbath. In Jewish lore, the number 7 denotes perfection, but as Jesus, the Son of God has come as Messiah, the very Christ, in latter times we have realized the utter fulfillment. So now the 8th day, reflects the perfection beyond 7. The apostles worshipped in the Temple and in the synagogues and continued in the Mosaic form of worship, but meeting exclusively themselves for the supper, the Liturgy, to feed on the Body and Blood of Christ, became the norm on the eighth day (Sunday). Soon the Temple itself would be destroyed by the Romans and universally those professing Jesus Christ as Messiah would be put out of the synagogues. An end to the Jewish liturgical connection was the Lord in Communion on the eighth day (Sunday) which lightened the burden of the Mosaic Law. St. Peter himself came to a spiritual jolt at Joppa on the seaside when the angel three times came to him with a blanket of non-kosher meats with the command "kill and eat." In the end, he came to the conclusion that the divine message was that those coming to Christ from without the Jewish community would not be shackled by the Law of Moses. This meant that all the proscriptive interpretations of such by the scribes and Pharisees would no longer be in effect for Christians, which included all things from circumcision to the length of a Sabbath's day walk. As Christianity was spread by St. Paul and the other apostles and disciples, the new pattern developed and there was no longer worry about the 500 plus provisions of the law of Moses and its rabbinical interpretation. Did the Sabbath completely fade? In the Orthodox Church, we still have the Sabbath and it is dedicated to the remembrance of the dead and you will note Mosaic Law was just a shadow of the New Covenant, a deadening thing, while the New Testament times and the Divine Liturgy on Sunday bespeak of life and freedom from the Law. Perhaps this is why the Sabbath is the day reserved for our commemoration of the righteous dead. In any case, over the centuries there have been instances when small groups of people have come to the conclusion that the Jewish Law should again be kept. Even the Slavs fell prey to such ideas, but the Judaizers, who sought to reintroduce circumcision and other Mosaic laws were thoroughly condemned as a sect by the church, who rigorously upheld the tradition of the apostles.

The Seventh-Day Adventists are a home-grown American sect arising from the so-called visions of a woman well over a century ago. They are deep into Millenarianism, that is an obsessive interest in the end of the world. Their founder made one big embarrassing prediction on the exact date of the end of the world, which came and went and left followers in the lurch, many who had given all away. **Their church also has the hallmark of following a good portion of laws which have been simplified a bit as they do not eat meat at all.**

The Orthodox Church has an unchanging tradition going back over 2,000 years based on the experience of Sts. Peter and Paul. So those, who would have you return to Jewish practices, show that they have no ken (knowledge) of the tradition of the church or the thrust and meaning of St. Peter's telling vision.

CHAPTER F.Y.I.

Chapter Liaisons for 2004-2005

Individual members of the Sr. UOL Executive Board are assigned the responsibility of establishing and maintaining contact with designated UOL Chapters, and offering assistance when needed. Chapter presidents should feel free to contact their designated Chapter Liaison. (See contact information in UOL BULLETIN, September 2004.)

CHAPTER

Allentown, PA
Ambridge, PA
Boston, MA
Carnegie, PA
Carteret, NJ
Chicago, IL
Clifton, NJ
Coatesville, PA
Hammond, IN
Johnson City, NY
Lyndora, PA
Maplewood, NJ
Minersville, PA
Minneapolis, MN
Monessen, PA
New Britain, CT
Northampton, PA
Palos Park, IL
Parma, OH
Philadelphia, PA
Pittsburgh, PA
Rochester, NY
San Diego, CA
Sharon, PA
Silver Springs, MD
Wilmington, DE
Woonsocket, RI
Youngstown, OH

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Janet Looby
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Daria Pishko
Kathryn Bailly

"Start making your plans"

U.O.L. LENTEN RETREAT
April 15-17, 2005
ST. FRANCIS RETREAT CENTER,
Bethlehem, PA

"I Believe"

Stability in an ever-changing world
The Retreat will focus on The Creed and
Foundations of the True Faith

Retreat Includes: > Dynamic Speakers
 > A Mission Trip

Enjoy inspirational and thought provoking
discussion, lodging, missionary trip and meals.

For more information: Oleh Bilynsky
 at nsufler@aol.com

(Mailings will be sent to Chapter Presidents and Spiritual Advisors soon.)



UOL Tributes - A donation to the UOL Tribute Fund acknowledges milestones, accomplishments or special recognition of an individual or group that helps the UOL to further its mission. All donations will be published in the UOL BULLETIN. The UOL sincerely thanks the following for their recent contribution.

Contributor

Michael Danyo

Occasion

I wish to thank the UOL and the LSSK Scholarship Committee for the generous scholarship which I received at the 57th Annual UOL Convention. May God continue to bless the UOL and its noble work for our Church and with our youth.

Geof & Helen Greenleaf

For the health of Kathryn Bailly with prayers for a speedy recovery.

Anonymous

In honor of the UOL's support and involvement in Our Church's Youth Ministry Program, and its mission to develop the potential of our youth and encourage their active participation in the life of the Church.

Helen Greenleaf

Thank You to the members of the Holy Ghost Senior UOL Chapter in Coatesville, PA for hosting the Sr. and Jr. National Executive Board meetings, October 1-2, 2004. The welcoming and warm hospitality was appreciated by each and everyone of us.

Lynn Szafranski

CONGRATULATIONS to Daria Pishko and Michael Komichak on their October 10th wedding, and best wishes for a lifetime of health, wealth and happiness. ***Mnohaya Lita!***

"GET WELL SOON!" - HE'S DOING FINE

Joseph Kolarchik

U.O.L. Past-President (1978-1981)

Joe is receiving appropriate treatment and is up and around.

Get well wishes may be sent to:

219 Bainbridge Dr., Aliquippa, PA 15001
 (724) 378-2614

Ukrainian Orthodox League of the U.S.A.

FISCAL YEAR AND DEADLINES

2004-2005

DECEMBER	5	UOL BULLETIN submission deadline
JANUARY	8	Essay Contest - first mailing
	22	Sr. and Jr. National Executive Board WINTER MEETING-Philadelphia, PA
	30	Annual Fund Drive mailing
FEBRUARY	5	UOL BULLETIN submission deadline
	28	LSSK Scholarship Applications mailed to chapters
MARCH	1	UOL Awards Applications mailing
	5	UOL BULLETIN submission deadline
	10	Essay Contest - second mailing
	29	Chapter Election and Delegate forms mailed



*"For as many as have been baptized into Christ,
 Have put on Christ"*

58th Annual Convention

Ukrainian Orthodox League

July 27-31, 2005 - Northampton, PA

If you're curious... Here's the plan....

- Wednesday - Hospitality
- Thursday - Divine Liturgy at the hotel
 - Welcoming Brunch
 - Opening of Convention Business Sessions
 - "Blast from the Past" Dinner & Dance
- Friday - Business Sessions continue
 - "Ukrainian Karaoke Kafe"
- Saturday - Conclusion of Sessions
 - Banquet and Ball, music by Fata Morgana
- Sunday - Divine Liturgy at church
 - Farewell Brunch

For more convention information contact:
Martha Misko & Linda Winters, Co-Chairs
 Phone: (610) 262-5292 or (610) 261-1783



Sts. Peter & Paul
 Ukrainian Orthodox G.C. Church
 c/o Dr. Stephen Sivulich
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