



# UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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

VOL. 54 NO. 1

SEPTEMBER, 2007



## 60th Annual Convention

**Carnegie, PA – July 25-29, 2007** *“Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men” (Matthew 4:19)*

*Convention Highlights submitted by Dr. Stephen Sivulich*

*Photographs by Michael Nakonachny and Natalie Bilynsky*

The 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA was held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Coraopolis, PA, just twelve miles from Carnegie, PA. The Senior and Junior UOL Chapters of Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church hosted this year's convention. The hotel amenities were surely an attraction to all participants: free airport transportation, full-cooked breakfast each morning, and a director's social hour each afternoon.

Convention Registration commenced at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> and the convention program began immediately with two workshops: *“Religious Education: from School Room to Class Room”* by Phylis Meshel Onest; and *“Liturgical Music: Learning to use Liturgical Music and the UOL Orthodox Hymn Books for multiple harmonies”*. The Senior and Junior National Executive Boards held their pre-convention meetings, followed by dinner at the hotel. Following Evening Prayers by Fr. Steve Repa, Convention Spiritual Advisor, the evening concluded with the traditional Hospitality Night hosted by the Carnegie Chapter.

Fr. Repa and Michael Kapeluck created a most dramatic Convention Chapel with icons that were written for All Saints Camp Chapel. Michael is the iconographer for the camp chapel. Many UOL members who have donated icons for the chapel were given their first view of what will undoubtedly beautify the camp chapel. Thursday's Hierarchical Liturgy was served by His Beatitude Metropolitan Constantine (Pittsburgh, PA), assisted by His Eminence Archbishop Antony (South Bound Brook, NJ) and a number of clergy. Archbishop Vsevolod (Chicago, IL) had sent regrets for being unable to attend the convention because of a prior commitment to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Andrew Parish in Los Angeles, CA.

Using the *“fishers of men”* theme, Pat Dorning, Chair of the Thursday Executive Breakfast Buffet, created an atmosphere that reflected on the disastrous flood suffered by Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Carnegie, PA by distributing gift bags with “fishy” items and decorating in a like manner.

UOL President, Melanie Nakonachny (Parma, OH) opened the business sessions at 12:00 Noon with comments about her three-year tenure as national president. The colors were presented by Anastasia and Gregory Markiw, both active in scouting programs, and both dressed in scouting uniforms for this special occasion. Metropolitan Constantine offered inspirational words to set a serious and exciting tone for the 60<sup>th</sup> Convention.

*continued on page 4*



### EIS POLLA ETI DESPOTA!

**His Beatitude Metropolitan Constantine Celebrates the 35th Anniversary of his Consecration to the Episcopacy and 40th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Holy Priesthood**

On Saturday June 14, 2007 the Senior and Junior National Executive Boards joined the faithful from the Pittsburgh area to celebrate His Beatitude Metropolitan Constantine's Anniversary at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

The congregation also celebrated Fr. John Haluszczak's 15th Anniversary of his ordination into the Holy Priesthood.

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

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

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

### **The Metro J. Baran Award 2007**

#### **Debra Burgan**

This year's Metro J. Baran Achievement Award was presented posthumously to Mrs. Debra Burgan. The Metro J. Baran award was instituted to honor the memory of Metro (Jimmy) Baran for his many years of dedicated service and untiring efforts in working with the Juniors and the Ukrainian Orthodox League. The purpose of this award is to recognize, with honor, a member of the Ukrainian Orthodox League who has worked tirelessly with the youth of the Church on a local, regional and national level in their preparation as future church leaders. Debra's family accepted her award at the UOL Convention.

On the local level, Mrs. Burgan raised her five children in the Orthodox Church, making the faith and local parish a top priority in their lives. She served for several years as Junior Chapter advisor and promoted participation in programs that enriched the faith and provided fellowship for local youth. Regionally, she participated in events including retreats and workshops. She made an effort to include all youth in these events, not just those that were a part of her family. Her dedication to the youth of our diocese nationally is immeasurable. Known fondly as Mrs. Burgan, she served as a mother and mentor to youth from across the country. Her tremendous dedication to All Saints Camp and its camping programs serves as a true testament to her love for the youth of our Church. Growing up as a camper herself she served as a counselor for every encampment. In addition, she was the visionary for the Mommy and Me/Daddy and Me Encampment and in her final years was the director of Diocesan Church School Camp and Family Fest. In her final months her illness did not deter her from accomplishing everything that she had set out to do. She began planning for the 2007 Diocesan Church School Camp program and even undertook the tremendous task of co-chairing the U.O.L. All Saints Camp Chapel Committee, initiating many of the projects that we are currently using to raise funds.

Mrs. Burgan showed her compassion and love for our diocese not simply through committees but by getting to know everyone, most especially the youth, individually. She could tell you about every camper's family, likes and dislikes. Her unbelievable respect for everyone made her someone that you just wanted to be around.

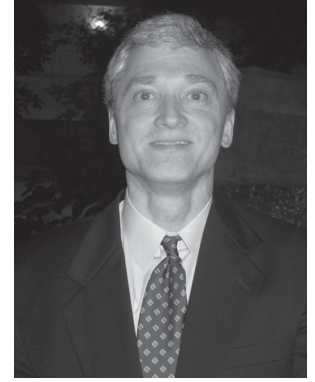
The February 2007 issue of the Ukrainian Orthodox Word expressed the impact of the loss of this dedicated worker on the youth of the diocese: "While Mrs. Burgan's face will no longer be visible at All Saints Camp, her memory is everywhere on the property. From the camp cabins where she would drive up in the golf cart to say goodnight to all the campers, to the dining hall where she would be working until late into the night -always the last one to go to sleep and usually one of the first ones to wake up. From the pool where you could find her dangling her feet in the water, to the prayer trails which she poured out her heart and soul to help create. And most importantly, to the campfire, where her voice was always the loudest, leading anyone who would listen."



*Debra's family accepts the Metro J. Baran Award on her behalf*

## **MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL PRESIDENT**

*Oleh Bilynsky*



Glory to Jesus Christ! Slava Isusu Christu!

I am honored and privileged to greet you as the newly-elected president of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. This issue of the Bulletin will highlight the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual U.O.L. Convention, and as such I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Steve Sivulich, the Convention Chairman, and all of the Senior and Junior U.O.L. Chapter members of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish in Carnegie, PA for hosting the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual U.O.L. Convention. Thanks to your hard work and efforts every single event during the Convention was a huge success and thoroughly enjoyable. Thank you Carnegie for sponsoring such a wonderful convention.

As I have never had the honor of being U.O.L. President before, I am very fortunate to be blessed with a very talented and dedicated National Executive Board, who I know will make my job much easier. Below you will find the commission and committee appointments, who are already diligently working to implement the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual U.O.L. Convention recommendations.

#### **Commissions**

Christian Caregiving and Missions Education Vocations & Clergy Support Ways and Means Youth	Jared Burgan Aleksandra Hucul Hieromonk Daniel (Zelinsky) Natalie Bilynsky Oleh V. Bilynsky
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#### **Committees**

ABC Books, Essay Contest Annual Fund Drive Awards Bulletin, Membership, Tribute Fund Constitution, LSSK Jr. U.O.L. Advisor, Camp Delegate MJSF Public Relations UOL Archives	Shirley Skocypec Pani Matka Linda Oryhon Martha Misko Natalie Bilynsky Daria Pishko Komichak Melanie Nakonachny Hieromonk Daniel (Zelinsky) Emil Skocypec Denise Spoganetz
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The purpose of the National Executive Board is to assist the chapters in whatever way possible. In an effort to best serve our chapters, each chapter is assigned a National Executive Board liaison to remain in communication with you throughout the year and bring your needs to the National Executive Board. Do not hesitate to contact your chapter liaison (listed below) or myself if we can assist you in any way possible.

Oleh V. Bilynsky Daria Pishko Komichak Jared Burgan Aleksandra Hucul Shirley A. Skocypec Martha Misko Pani Matka Linda Oryhon Emil Skocypec Melanie A. Nakonachny	Philadelphia, Rochester Coatesville, Monessen, New Britain Boston, Wilmington Maplewood, Sharon, Silver Springs Carnegie, Youngstown Allentown, Minersville, Northampton Clifton, Johnson City, Palos Park Carteret, Los Angeles, Spring Valley Ambridge, Lyndora, Parma
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The fall meeting of both the Junior and Senior National Executive Boards will be held in Allentown, PA on September 29, 2007. As always, everyone is welcome and I encourage anyone who is in the area, both Juniors and Seniors, to attend this meeting.

Please be reminded that U.O.L. dues are due to financial secretary Pani Matka Linda Oryhon no later than September 30<sup>th</sup>. Now is the perfect time to kick off a membership drive and encourage not only existing members to pay their dues but also new members to consider joining this worthwhile organization.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate Patrick Scannell, newly elected Junior U.O.L. National President, and all of this year's Junior National Executive Board members. They have already begun working hard to lay the groundwork for an outstanding year, and I am sure they will have a very successful and productive year.

Yours in Christ,

Oleh V. Bilynsky

## Young Adult Memorial Day Weekend Retreat

Submitted by Cathy Bucharew

There is no better time to get away from the stresses of life that a young adult may face than the opening weekend of the summer! Everyone knows the stresses -- finishing up spring semester at college, trying to find a job, complications at work, and any other pressures that can have one saying, "Ahhh! I need a break!" What better place to relax than All Saints Camp! The Memorial Day Weekend Retreat is a chance for young faithful to grow closer to Christ. These young adults come from many different places but all thirst for one thing- spiritual renewal. By praying together and attending religious workshops, lasting friendships are made while increasing knowledge of the Orthodox faith.

When all of the young adults gathered on Friday evening, old friends were greeted and new friends were welcomed. Participants traveled from Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. Ice breakers stirred up laughter, excitement, and a better understanding of each other. After the ice breakers, a group discussion was held concerning the past, present, and future of the



young adults in our church. The general consensus at the conclusion of the discussion was that the young adults would like to continue to have these retreats of faith and fellowship throughout the year.

The rest of the weekend included workshops hosted by Fr. Paisius, Fr. Deacon Dennis Lapushansky, Fr. John Nakonachny, and His Beatitude Metropolitan Constantine. These workshops encouraged the young adults to be open with their thoughts and ideas about the place young adults need to take in the church. Along with these workshops the group contributed to projects for the upcoming mission trip to Ukraine and other service projects around the camp. Pentecost was celebrated with the Divine Liturgy which was served by His Beatitude. The weekend concluded with the annual Iron Chef Cook-off where participants competed to win the **grand prize!** All participants in this cook-off prepared a delicious meal.

By praying together and attending religious workshops, we made lasting friendships while increasing our knowledge of our faith. We were taught to be fishers of men and spread our faith. So we ask that you keep your eyes and ears open for upcoming young adults events! Keep your calendars open for Memorial Day Weekend in 2008!



Newly Elected Senior National Executive Board 2007-2008



## NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR UOL PRESIDENT

Patrick Scannell

Glory to Jesus Christ! My name is Patrick Scannell and it is my honor to introduce myself as the newly elected president of the Jr. UOL National Board. This past convention was very productive and well run. I would like to thank the Sr. and Jr. UOL chapters of Carnegie, PA for doing a wonderful job hosting the Convention. All had prayerful stories, good deliberations, and great fun. Also, I congratulate Mark Meschisen on a great job as president of the Jr. UOL during his final year as a junior. I will now introduce to you the rest of my board members:

**Spiritual Advisor: Rev. John Haluszczak** - St. Vladimir, Pittsburgh, PA

**Advisor: Melanie Nakonachny** - St. Vladimir, Parma, OH

**President: Patrick Scannell** - St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY

**Vice President: Nicholas Anderson** - Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH

**Recording Secretary: Emily Kominko** - St. Vladimir, Parma, OH

**Corresponding Secretary: Natasha Walewski** - Sts. Peter and Paul, Carnegie, PA

**Financial Secretary: David Koroczynsky** - Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH

**Treasurer: Michael Nemeth** - St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, PA

I am very excited for the upcoming year and am confident that this board will do a phenomenal job. Each board member is the liaison to a few chapters and heads one or more committees. The following is each member's liaison chapters and committee assignments.

**Patrick Scannell:** Pysh Travel Grant - Johnson City NY, Maplewood NJ, Woonsocket RI

**Nicholas Anderson** - Raffle, Education - Carteret NJ, Allentown PA

**Emily Kominko** - Membership, Christian Caregiving and Missions - Arden Hills MN, Boston MA, Parma OH

**Natasha Walewski** - Convention Memory Book, Website - Carnegie PA, Pittsburgh PA

**David Koroczynsky** - Fundraising- Palos Park IL, Youngstown OH

**Michael Nemeth** - Cultural Committee - Philadelphia PA, Coatesville PA, Northampton PA

Our first meeting will be held on September 29<sup>th</sup> in Allentown PA. Again it will be the same time and place as the Senior board meeting. This will be the first meeting that I will serve as president. The same is true for newly elected Sr. UOL President Oleh Bilynsky. I am looking forward to working closely with him throughout the year.

As a small reminder to Jr. UOL chapters I would like to point out that **membership dues, chapter dues, and roster forms are all due to Jr. UOL Financial Secretary David Koroczynsky by September 30.** A mailing to chapter presidents and advisors will be sent out shortly containing all the information on those dues and forms.

I pray for a successful year for my fellow board members and I, and know that we will all serve the Jr. UOL to the utmost of our abilities.

Yours in Christ,

Patrick Scannell



2006-2007 Junior Board Members with sketch for the Creation Of Light Icon

**Thursday - Business Sessions**

The Annual Convention Agenda included the establishment of a number of functioning committees which met to prepare suggested goals and objectives for the Executive Board to



implement with the assistance of local chapters: Clergy Candidate, Nominating, Resolutions, Sobor, Christian Caregiving and Missions, Youth, Membership & Chapter Development and Education. After the individual committees met and discussed appropriate topics, each submitted a report to the convention body for final ratification. Business Sessions also included the approval of 59<sup>th</sup> Annual UOL Convention Minutes, review of the Annual Report-2007, Audit Report, and review and approval of Financial



Report 2006-2007 that also included the acceptance of a 2007-2008 Budget.

A presentation and update on "The UOL Fund to Furnish the Chapel at All Saints Camp" was presented by Mrs. Irene Carman (Watertown, NY), Pani Matka Mary Anne Nakonachny (Parma, OH) and Mrs. Diane Senedak (Youngstown, OH). Their report indicated the status of the fund drive, and encouraged the continued financial support of the remaining icons and other aspects of completing the camp chapel.

"A Night of Ukraine" was held at nearby Crowne Plaza Hotel and consisted of a buffet dinner and dancing to the music of "DJ Carlton", who also included a variety of Ukrainian dance music.

During dinner, the "Ancestors", a Ukrainian Singing Group from Cleveland, OH, provided Ukrainian folk songs for the enjoyment of all. The Kyiv Dance Ensemble directed by Natalie Kapeluck Nixon performed traditional Ukrainian Folk Dances to the great delight of delegates and guests. Sherri Walewski, Chair of the Thursday



night social, added an amount of excitement with a basket raffle to generate additional funds for the UOL. Archbishop Antony was quite excited about winning a basket of stuffed animals.

Pre-Teen activities were made available and coordinated by Denise Spoganetz (Carteret, NJ), on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

**Friday - Business Sessions**

Friday Business Sessions included inspirational remarks by Archbishop Antony.

An enthusiastic presentation was made by Beth Harendza, with the assistance of husband Phil, and Co-Chair Alexis Oryhon, for the 61<sup>st</sup> UOL Convention to be held at St. John Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Johnson City, NY **July 30 - August 3, 2008.**

A very moving presentation of the UOL Mission Trip to the Puhachiv and Znamyanka Orphanages in Ukraine was made by Adam Kennedy (Philadelphia, PA). The PowerPoint pictures moved many to tears, as UOL members were seen caring for the children in the orphanages. Steve Sivulich commented to the convention delegation: "Written and verbal reports may be given on the experience by our mission participants, but there is no comparison to the impact the pictures have on the viewer."

**Dinner Cruise**

The Dinner Cruise took place on the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers in downtown Pittsburgh. Buses, coordinated by John Stasko, transported the 240 conventioners from the hotel to the dock for boarding the Gateway Clipper. Connie Markiw, Chair of the Dinner/Cruise created a colorful



atmosphere for the "50<sup>th</sup> TC Reunion Celebration" with many pictures from "TC" at Camp Kon-O-Kwee and All Saints Camp. It was very interesting to see certain individuals collecting pictures from their era.



**Wasył Pysh Honored for Founding of "TC"**

Mr. Wasył Pysh (Erie, PA), as President of the Western Pennsylvania UOL Region in the late 1950's, said: "other religious jurisdictions have summer camping programs, why can't we have the same for our Ukrainian Orthodox youth?" He then went on a personal mission, visiting churches in

Western PA and Eastern Ohio promoting the concept of a "Teenage Conference". Since the very beginning, he has been a strong supporter of "TC" and has also provided substantial financial support for the camp and other youth programs. For his longstanding and generous support, the 60<sup>th</sup> UOL Convention committee and Sts. Peter and Paul Parish of Carnegie, PA, on behalf of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA, recognized Mr. Pysh and extended thanks and appreciation for his dedicated and devoted efforts, and presented him with a beautiful glass plaque that will be a constant reminder of their grateful appreciation.

**Junior and Senior Delegates enjoying the scenic dinner cruise**



Following an extensive buffet of meatless items, the Mansfield Five Band provided a variety of music from the 50's to current day themes, and



included appropriate polka music to the delight of those who enjoyed dancing.

**Live Auction and Silent Auction: Raising Funds for the League**

The Cultural Sales and Ukrainian Display at the hotel was chaired by Bo Hryshchyshyn. Members of Sts. Peter and Paul Church (Carnegie, PA) graciously loaned valued Ukrainian artifacts for display in the cultural room including a large wall tapestry, standard Ukrainian embroidered items, Ukrainian ceramics, and wood carvings, for the enjoyment of all.

In addition to the beautiful Ukrainian display, a large array of Ukrainian items were available for

sale, many of which were also donated by UOL members and parishioners. "Bo" also provided six specially selected items, all of which were donated, for the "Live Auction" on the boat ride. The auction was enlivened when Dr. Harry Oryhon (Palos Park, IL) assumed the auctioneer microphone and handled the auction of the last item with heightened enthusiasm. Of course, we remember his auctioneer performance during the Palos Park UOL Convention.

The boat ride included a sense of drama when a small boat hit a floating log and UOL members watched the River Patrol provide aid to the two occupants who watched their boat sink.

### ***We're Going Back to Johnson City, New York in 2008***

Upon returning to the hotel following the boat ride, the 61<sup>st</sup> UOL Convention Committee from St. John's UOL Chapters, Johnson City, NY, provided a "classy" Hospitality Night with the serving of wine and snacks. Of course, only adults were permitted to imbibe in the fermented grape juice. A wine glass was given to all participants as a favor and as a reminder of next year's convention. Convention Co-Chairs Pam Scannell and Alexis Oryhon were adorned in their convention t-shirts as they promoted the 61<sup>st</sup> Convention with the help of their large contingent from Johnson City.



*Johnson City Convention Co-Chairs  
Pam Scannell and Alexis Oryhon*

### ***Juniors Are Treated to Ice Cream and Pizza***

Saturday's schedule included a break from hectic business sessions. Coordinated by Sherri Walewski, Connie Markiw, and Irene Rozum, ice cream was donated by Brewster's Ice Cream, pizza was donated by John Hurey, Jr. and soft drinks were donated by Sts. Peter and Paul Kitchen Workers. There was a rumor that certain seniors also participated in this event.

### ***Concluding of Business Sessions with Election of Officers***

#### **Senior UOL Executive Board – 2007-2008**

President- Oleh Bilynsky  
Spiritual Advisor- Hieromonk Daniel (Zelinsky)  
First VP- Daria Pishko Komichak  
Second VP- Jared Burgan  
Recording Secretary- Aleksandra Hucul  
Corresponding Secretary- Shirley Skocytec  
Treasurer- Martha Misko  
Financial Secretary- PM Linda Oryhon  
Auditor- Emil Skocytec  
Editor, UOL BULLETIN- Natalie Bilynsky  
Immediate Past President- Melanie Nakonachny  
61<sup>st</sup> Convention Co-Chairs- Pam Scannell and Alexis Oryhon  
UOL Archives- Denise Spoganetz

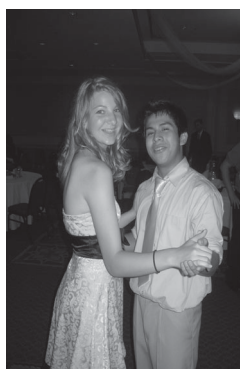
#### **Junior UOL Executive Board – 2007-2008**

President- Patrick Scannell  
Spiritual Advisor- Fr. John Haluszczak  
Jr. UOL Advisor- Melanie Nakonachny  
Vice President- Nicholas Anderson  
Recording Secretary- Emily Kominko  
Corresponding Secretary- Natasha Walewski  
Financial Secretary- David Koroczynsky  
Treasurer- Michael Nemeth

### ***Banquet and Ball***



The Ukrainian Band, "Na Zdorov'Ya" provided music that had everyone dancing until the very final song. And there were the usual star performances to the traditional Ukrainian dance music.



### ***Wasył Pysh Contribution to Teenage Conference***

Again, Wasył Pysh created an excitement at the banquet when he presented a check in the amount of \$10,000 to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA for the U.O.L. Teenage Conference. The entire gathering rose in unison with enthusiastic applause in thanks and appreciation for his continued philanthropic generosity.

### ***Concluding Hierarchical Divine Liturgy***

Sts. Peter and Paul church school students greeted Metropolitan Constantine, Archbishop Antony and clergy at the rectory. Then, the National Senior and Junior UOL Presidents greeted the hierarchs and presented each with flowers. Parish

representatives also greeted the hierarchs with the traditional paska and salt.



*Greeting of Hierarchs and Oath of Office*

Following the liturgy, a Farewell Luncheon, Chaired by Shirley Stasko, was served in the parish hall. The luncheon was sponsored by the Parish Kitchen Workers, with the St. Matrona Society providing home made desserts.

Members of the Carnegie UOL Chapter provided transportation to the airport, thus ending the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual UOL Convention – 2007. A very special "thank-you" is extended to Hierarchs, clergy, delegates and guests who attended this year's convention.

### ***Distinguished National Service Award 2007***

#### ***Helen Greenleaf***

The U.O.L. honored Helen Greenleaf with the Distinguished National Service Award in recognition of her longstanding and dedicated service to the National Executive Board of the Ukrainian Orthodox League and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. In 2000, the Distinguished National Service Award was created to honor individuals whose commitment to the Ukrainian Orthodox League so surpassed that of other individuals that a special recognition was warranted to recognize their many contributions. Helen has been a longstanding member of the U.O.L. National Executive Board, serving three years as president and in the two vice president positions during the tenure of the past three presidents. This surely has been a testament to her commitment to serving the League and the Church on the national level. She has held a number of major



Executive Board offices. Her performance has been simply outstanding in every elected and appointed position. She has chaired major committees and projects with a creative, enthusiastic and very efficient completion of every assignment in a timely fashion. She has been singularly innovative in creating: The Tribute Fund, The Distinguished National Service Award, reproducing the Annie and Andrew Books, rewriting the Senior UOL Executive Board Handbook, and conducting Long Range Planning Sessions. She is always receptive and readily available to assist other board members with their assignments. She has also served on the Metropolitan Council of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., and has been a member of the governing body of St. Sophia's Seminary. May God grant Helen many more years serving the UOL and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

### **U.O.L. Chapter Achievement Award 2007- St. Mary's Allentown**

The 2007 Chapter Achievement Award was presented to Saint Mary's Senior U.O.L. Chapter of Allentown, PA., a chapter who truly embodies the mission of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. This year's Chapter Achievement Award recipients have worked tirelessly for the Glory of God and His Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Throughout the course of the last year their dedication to the League has gone unmatched. St. Mary's chapter annually sponsors a Fun-A-Thon in which members raise money for those less fortunate. This year's event raised funds and collected two carloads full of donations for Saint Herman's House of Hospitality. The chapter also continues to sponsor events that benefit their adopted mission parish of Four Evangelists in Bel Air, Maryland – a project that was initiated in 2004. In addition to all these projects, the chapter makes it a priority to make numerous donations directly to their parish. Chapter members keep themselves busy as parish council members, church school teachers, readers, choir members and assisting with parish maintenance. They have also held such projects as a Lenten supper, Chinese Auction and basket bingo.

The Senior U.O.L. Chapter President wrote that "During the current year our chapter continued holding our annual fund raiser which included 10 coffee hours, 1 Lenten Supper, 2 Chinese Auctions, Basket Bingo, and a Basket/Cash February Calendar. These fundraisers enable our chapter to be more out-reaching in our efforts."

The Chapter's spiritual advisor stated that "Our Chapter is a relatively new chapter in the entire history of the League, but during that time has accomplished many unselfish acts of Christian kindness and caring. Our chapter understands that being an Orthodox Christian is a vocation, a calling of service to God and to each other. They have begun this by being examples of faithfully worshiping God in His Holy Church, being united with Him through the Holy Sacraments, and by being caring and charitable."



*Senior UOL Chapter of the Year -- Allentown*

### **The Very Reverend Protopresbyter Stephen Hallick-Hollutiak Award -- 2007 Donna Kominko**

The Very Reverend Protopresbyter Stephen Hallick-Hollutiak Award was presented to Donna Kominko of Saint Vladimir's Cathedral in Parma, Ohio.

Donna is a former Junior U.O.L. National Executive Board member who, as a Senior U.O.L. member, serves her chapter and parish tirelessly. During the past several years Donna has served as her chapter's secretary and sunshine chairwoman as well as the advisor to the parish's Junior U.O.L. chapter and a Sunday School teacher. Donna attends Divine Liturgy every Sunday, partaking in the Sacraments and assisting with nearly all parish programs.

The chapter's spiritual advisor says of their candidate, "She works tirelessly and enthusiastically on all chapter projects – one of the first to arrive and the last to leave. She truly devotes her time to the well being and education of our young people. She very willingly assists our youth ministers with the many projects they initiate. She is quick to volunteer wherever needed and sets a wonderful example not simply for her children but for everyone with whom she comes in contact."

Donna's chapter president states that this individual is one of those people "who does not necessarily stand out in a crowd, but whose warm smile and kind words always let others know that she's there for them." The recipient is not "averse to washing pots, baking paskas, welcoming people to our church, helping with the myriad of tasks that need to be done around the church." One of her biggest assets is her willingness to help others – always. Donna truly lives a Christian life, raising her three children to be responsible Orthodox Christians.

### **Clifton UOL Chapter Participates in Parish**

#### **Patron Feast Day Celebration**

*submitted by Richard Jendras*

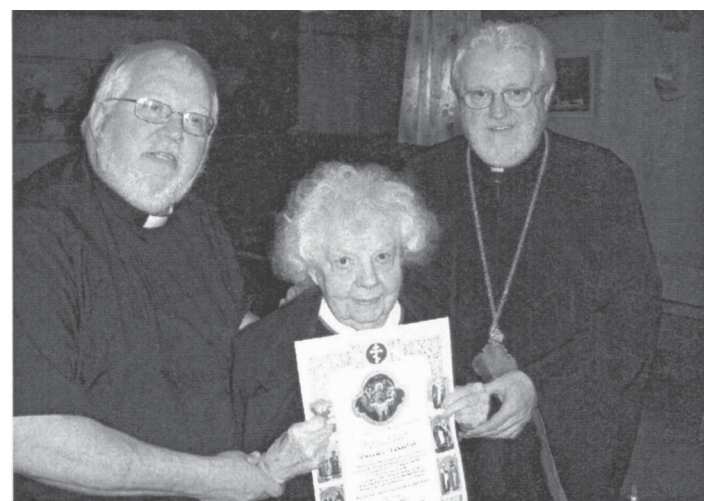
On Sunday, May 13, 2007, the UOL chapter and Parish Community of Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Clifton, NJ marked its Patronal Feast Day by a visit from Eparchial Bishop, His Eminence Archbishop Antony. Our UOL Bulletin readers are well aware that the Parish of Holy Ascension has been struggling for the past 8 years in remaining loyal to our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA against a dissident group of former parishioners who would like to take the parish outside of our Church's jurisdiction.

While this struggle continues, this faithful group of parishioners finds itself worshipping in rented space at a former funeral chapel. All indications point to this struggle soon ending, and the loyal parishioners and chapter members returning to the church building, their rightful place of worship.

The Archbishop was greeted at the doors of the chapel by member of the Parish Board Gary Markovich with the traditional bread and salt. Father Jakiw Norton, the pastor of the parish, also greeted the Archbishop with the life-giving Cross and Holy Water. The Archbishop proceeded into the chapel and led the assembled parishioners in a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. The Archbishop and Father Jakiw were joined at the Altar by Father Hieromonk Daniel (Zelinsky), former pastor of the Parish. In his sermon, the Archbishop praised the parishioners for their loyalty, stamina and fortitude in keeping to their belief that our Church here in the USA must remain united.



A dinner followed the Divine Liturgy at Johnny's Restaurant. At the dinner, the UOL Chapter of the Parish presented the Archbishop with a check in the amount of \$3,231 – the proceeds of the Chapter's annual dinner dance to support our Church's orphanages in Ukraine. The Chapter has held this event for 7 consecutive years now and it has proven to be a very successful event.



The Archbishop also made a presentation of a "Hramota" to Ms. Eugenia Tabachuk. At age 91, Ms Tabachuk is the oldest parishioner of Holy Ascension Parish and has been a strong and staunch supporter of the parish in its struggle to remain loyal to our Hierarchy and our Metropolia.

### **SPECIAL THANKS!**

The UOL chapter and Parish Community of Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Clifton, NJ acknowledge with heartfelt gratitude and thanks all who expressed their love and support during the time of passing of our life-long parishioner and sister in Christ, Debra Pankiw Burgan. The outpouring of love for Debbie and the financial gifts to her memorial fund enabled our Parish to provide much solace to her family.

It was indeed a wonderful tribute to one who did so much for our Holy Church and the UOL during her lifetime. The names of those who provided financial assistance are too many to list. Please know that your generosity is much appreciated and recognized and will not go unrewarded by the Almighty.

**NEWS FROM ST. VLADIMIR'S  
SENIOR AND JUNIOR CHAPTERS  
PARMA, OHIO**

*submitted by Fr. John Nakonachny*



On Sunday, June 3, 2007, high school and college graduates were honored at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio. As is tradition, high school seniors received a gift of the Orthodox Study Bible from the Senior UOL Chapter. Pictured with Cathedral clergy are Christina Malysz and Oksana Mahlay.



On Sunday, June 3rd, four new altar servers were presented to the parishioners of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio. The new altar boys are shown holding the icons that they received as a gift from the parish's Senior UOL chapter.



Members of St. Vladimir's Junior UOL chapter in Parma, Ohio, participate in a program describing the Artificial Famine in Ukraine in 1932-1933. This annual parish commemoration by the youth followed a memorial service that was held outdoors, in front of the Famine Monument, on Sunday, May 20th.

**Johnson City Parish prepares for 61<sup>st</sup> Annual UOL Convention \*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ILLUMINES ALL\***

The Junior and Senior UOL Chapters of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox Church are proud to welcome you to the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention, July 30 to August 3, 2008. Our chapters have not hosted a Convention since 1985, so we have more than twenty years to make up for! Convention Co-Chairs Pam Scannell and Alexis Oryhon, along with the entire Convention Committee, are primed to provide a memorable, relaxing and spiritual week for those who attend. "The Parlor City" is a perfect setting for a Convention, providing a charming backdrop, and featuring many eateries and attractions within walking distance of the hotel. We are pleased to offer lodging at the Holiday Inn Arena at the extremely reasonable rate of \$97 per night for single, double or quad occupancy. In the coming issues of the *Bulletin*, we will provide a detailed glimpse into the exciting activities of the week but here's a taste to whet your appetite...

-**Monday** and **Tuesday** will be Young Adults Days for the young or young-at-heart (IDs not required).

-The Convention will officially convene on **Wednesday** with opening sessions and "I Love NY/I Love UOL" Hospitality Night, featuring a pool party for the Juniors and wine-tasting from Upstate New York wineries (IDs required!).

-**Thursday's** "A Taste of the Southern Tier" will include the local delicacy Spiedies (marinated pieces of meat served on a roll), brain-busting trivia and a glorious view of the area.

-Not content to leave all the hot air in the sessions, **Friday's** theme is a Balloon Rally with Friends at the hotel. The Southern Tier is a traditional hotbed for Hot Air Ballooning and we would be remiss if we didn't include this wonderful pastime.

-Before **Saturday's** Banquet and Ball, you will have a chance to participate in workshops, explore the nooks and crannies of downtown Binghamton or prepare for a night full of delicious food, awards and dancing later in the evening.

-We will conclude our fine week on **Sunday** with Divine Liturgy at St. John the Baptist Church, followed by a picnic in picturesque Gorick Park on the church grounds.

We hope you are all interested in attending this stupendous week in one of the best-kept secrets in New York. We look forward to welcoming you to Johnson City next July - stay tuned to this spot for all the details! Hotel registrations can be attained at [holidayinnarena.com](http://holidayinnarena.com) or by calling (607) 722-1212/800-HOLIDAY





# 61st UOL Convention

## *\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST*

### *ILLUMINES ALL\**

# JULY 30 - AUGUST 3, 2008

Hosted by the

Sr. and Jr. UOL Chapters

of

St. John the Baptist,

Johnson City, NY

Holidayinnarena.com • (607) 722-1212 • 800-HOLIDAY

Co-Chairs

**Pam Scannell (607) 754-1554**

**Alexis Oryhon (607) 341-3748**



# U O L T R I B U T E S

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

Contributor	Occasion
Swan Family & Mrs. Karbiwnyk	In Honor of Michael Danyo's graduation from Marist College in May 2007 with a degree in Accounting. Congratulations!
Lynn Szafranski	In Honor of Shirley and Emil Skocypec's 50 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.
Father John and Pani Matka Mary Anne Nakonachny	In Honor of Helen and Geof Greenleaf on becoming grandparents of Susan Elizabeth Greenleaf.
Anonymous	In honor of the UOL's mission and its work with and dedication to the youth of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church.
Nina Samijlenko	In Honor of my husband, Walter, for FINALLY retiring!
Father Jakiw and Pani Matka Norton	In Honor of their son Stefan who graduated Magna Cum Laude from Columbia University, NY, NY with a double Masters in Education and Deaf Education. Mnohaya Lita!
Father Jakiw and Pani Matka Norton	In Honor of our son Stefan and our new daughter Melanie (nee) Rausche on the occasion of their marriage on July 21, 2007 at St. Vladimir's Cathedral in Parma, Ohio. They will be living in Townsend, Australia. Mnohaya Lita!
Father Jakiw and Pani Matka Norton	In Memory of Pani Matka Maria Norton's mother, Efrosyna Priadka, who fell asleep in the Lord on July 12, 2007. Vichnaya Pamyat!
Natalie and Oleh Bilynsky	In Honor of all Senior and Junior Executive Board members leaving office: Mark Meschisen, Fr. Myron Oryhon, Fr. John Nakonachny, Helen Greenleaf, Linda Winters, Janet Looby, Anne Bohlen and Dr. Steve Sivulich.
Natalie Bilynsky	In Honor of Dr. Steve Sivulich for his years of service as UOL Bulletin Editor.

*Please note that all Tribute Fund Donations should be mailed to Natalie Bilynsky, 703 Pine Ridge Road, Wallingford, PA 19086*

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*The UOL has been updating mailing lists for the UOL Bulletin -- if you know of someone who is not receiving the Bulletin-- have them contact the editor Natalie Bilynsky.*  
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*Encourage UOL Membership!! Share your UOL Bulletin with a friend who might be interested in joining the UOL!*

## SAVE THE DATES

Solemn March to honor victims of the Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933. Saturday November 17, 2007  
New York City

UOL Lenten Retreat- April 4-6, 2008  
All Saint's Camp

UOL Lenten Retreat- April 11-13, 2008  
Bethlehem, PA  
Retreat will focus on the services of Holy Week

UOL EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS- May 3, 2008  
Saturday of St. Thomas Sunday  
South Bound Brook, New Jersey

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**Be sure to renew your membership in the UOL!**  
Chapter and member dues should be sent to the Financial Secretary by Sept. 30, 2007

UOL Bulletin  
c/o Natalie Bilynsky  
703 Pine Ridge Road  
Wallingford, PA 19086

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