



# UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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

VOL. 55 NO. 2

OCTOBER, 2008



## 61st Annual UOL Convention - A Junior Perspective Submitted by Ethan Rock

We arrived Wednesday July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008 to the 61<sup>st</sup> Senior and 47<sup>th</sup> Junior U.O.L. Annual Convention in Johnson City, NY. Sessions were called to order on Wednesday evening. That evening St. John the Baptists' Junior and Senior chapters hosted a great hospitality night. Everyone reconnected with old friends and met a few new faces. Seniors enjoyed a wonderful hospitality room that included wine tasting, while the juniors had a pool party.

Thursday began bright and early with a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy followed by an excellent brunch at the hotel restaurant. Following the brunch, the juniors and seniors proceeded

with sessions for the day. Sessions included a review of reports for the year as well as committee reports.

After the very productive meetings, everyone kicked back, relaxed, and enjoyed the view of Binghamton from the top of the State Office Building (just a block from the hotel). Here, members received "A Taste of the Southern Tier" which was complete with delicious food, dancing, fun, and trivia games enjoyed by all! Everyone found great entertainment during a one of a kind "dance off" between one of our seminarians, Ivan, and junior member Fernando Melnychenko. The incredible night ended with a spectacular display of fireworks from the nearby stadium. The evening was such a hit that we found it very difficult to leave the gorgeous view and memories that will last a lifetime.

On Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, the juniors held the last sessions for the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention. Sessions closed with the election of officers. Although we were sad to close these meetings for another year, we absolutely could not wait to get to the ballroom for a fantastic "Rally with Friends."

We danced the night away to a terrific live band, and all members danced to the beat waiting to hear the outcome of the winner of the Hot Air Balloon Ride. The winners were His Grace Bishop Daniel, and Michael Nakonachny. But the party didn't end there! The convention body later enjoyed a Hospitality Night, hosted by the Senior and Junior Chapters of Youngstown, Ohio, who were busy planning next year's convention.

*(continued on page 4)*



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

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



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

**The absolute deadline for each monthly issue is the 1st of the prior month. Photos will not be returned.**  
**Note to Contributors:** All articles submitted to the UOL Bulletin must be in 12 point Times New Roman (font), or typed and double spaced in 12 point type. Articles may be submitted via e-mail attachments. (Submit to: nsufler@aol.com)  
 The editor reserves the right to condense any material submitted. Material cannot be returned.



**ASK FR. HARVEY RELIGIOUS QUESTIONS**

*Answered by: Fr. John Harvey*

*What does it take to be a reader in church?*

As there are epistles to be read at every Liturgy and Old Testament readings set for certain feast days, a proficient reader is a definite asset to a parish. It is not difficult to learn how to chant the appointed reading or to do the Prokimen that usually announces it. Your pastor can easily and should be very appreciative to train a candidate. To clearly enunciate and to chant with a strong voice also takes but a little practice and self-confidence. What is most expected of one who comes forward to be a reader in church is regularity. By this, I mean the one who would serve as a reader must be dependable and do this work of service to the parish on a regular basis. There is nothing worse than to expect that someone will have the correct reading prepared, then the person does not show up and at the last minute there is an embarrassing fumbling to find and execute the text. One's job may preclude presence on weekday services, but a regular Sunday schedule would be sufficient. A parish may have several readers set aside, thus making a pool to draw from on call. Doing the job of a reader is an exemplary form of service to your parish. Should the bishop make a parish visitation, what had been an informal service of a reader could be confirmed with a tonsure into the lectorate, thus making it all official. Again, this should be humble service to a community, and not that of a prima donna that comes and goes at will. Each parish should develop a pool of willing individuals, who can use their voice to proclaim God's Word to the people.

*At an ordination to the priesthood, I noticed that the Bishop came out after the person was elevated from the diaconate and presented each vestment article to him with the cry of Axios, to which the choir and people called out Axios, Axios, Axios. What does this all mean and is there a history behind this practice?*

Down through the history of the church, it was not just the idea that a Bishop is going to ordain someone to the priesthood in general, totally on his own and without respect to the congregation. In celebrating the Divine Liturgy a priest can not just serve solely by himself without the people. The prayers of the consecration of the Body and Blood of Christ need PEOPLE to fulfill this and to confirm the calling down of the Holy Spirit. So also in the ordination, it is the whole community that must be represented.

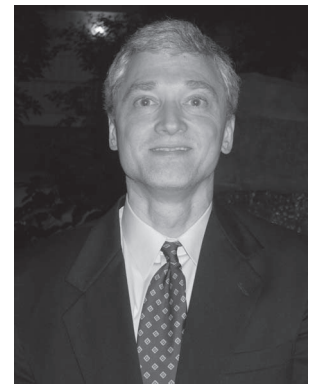
In the Liturgy during which a candidate is ordained to the priesthood, it is the Bishop who ordains and through the action of the Holy Spirit the grace to fulfill this office is given. The congregation must confirm this action and the word axios, (worthy) shouted by the people is the sign that all are in harmony with this action. If the congregation has doubts about the worthiness of the individual, they are certainly encouraged to shout anxios (unworthy). With a negative response from the people, things come to a halt and an investigation is made. Several years ago, a new Bishop of the port of Athens, Piraeus was consecrated. The very solemn ceremony with a number of prominent Bishops as co-consecrators was disrupted by the impassioned cries of anxios by the faithful. In the ensuing investigation, the candidate, seemingly already consecrated, was indeed found to be unworthy and so the ordination was null and void and a new acceptable candidate had to be found.

Here is a built in check and balance system. From the early church onwards, people were not ordained or set aside for an office "in general," but rather to and for a specific place. Even in the lowly rank of reader, the candidate is set aside to be the reader of a parish in a certain place. With the higher orders then it can be seen that when a priest is ordained for a certain parish or a Bishop for a certain diocese then the shouting of axios, axios, axios has particular meaning, for it is the confirmation and agreement that such person is deemed worthy and agreeable for service in that place.



**MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL PRESIDENT**

*Oleh Bilynsky*



By the time you read this the Sr. Executive Board will have held its first meeting, and all of its members will have outlined their plans and goals for the upcoming year. As I did last year, I would like to make an increase in membership, in both the number of active UOL chapters and the total number of UOL members, one of my goals for the upcoming year. Last year we managed to increase our total membership, just barely, but not the number of active UOL chapters. This year we are off to a flying start, with the newly rejuvenated chapters in Pittsburgh and South Bound Brook, and I would like to see that momentum continue and carry us forward throughout the upcoming year.

I intend to work closely with all of our Board members, especially our Chapter Development Chairperson, Emil Skocytec, and Natalie Bilynsky (Membership Chairperson), who will focus on our members at large, to increase the total number of both U.O.L. chapters and U.O.L. members. We can't do it alone, however, so I ask all of you to help in this effort.

Take time to reach out not only to past members who are no longer active but to those parishioners who have never been members of the UOL, and invite them to join (or rejoin) the UOL. Our Chapter Development and Membership Chairpersons will, among other things, be sending out letters to potential new members, but a personal invitation is always preferable. A personal invitation not only gives you the opportunity to extol the virtues of the UOL, but also gives you the chance to answer any questions the "invitees" may have.

As I stated last year at this time, I am very proud to call myself a member of the U.O.L., and I hope every U.O.L. member is equally proud. That being the case, we should do all that we can to "spread the news" and increase our membership, so that as many as possible can participate in our "mission" and thereby share in our joy and pride.

In my own church of St. Vladimir's in Philadelphia, I am part of the Parish Board sub-committee focused on increasing the membership of our local church, and having a strong local UOL chapter can only help that effort. In my humble opinion the strongest parishes of our Church are those that have the largest and strongest UOL chapters, and thus by increasing our own membership we are also helping to make our Church both strong and vital. If every parish in our Church had not only a UOL chapter, but a strong and active UOL chapter, there is no doubt in my mind that our Church would not only be stronger, but would have a bright and unlimited future.

Yours in Christ,

Oleh V. Bilynsky

**Want to Make a difference?**

**Volunteer at All Saints Camp**

- Volunteers are needed to :
- paint
- cut grass
- routine maintenance
- clean



**No experience needed!!**

**For more information or to volunteer please contact:**

Mike Nakonachny 440-503-3151 mjnako@bryantstratton.edu	Hans Harasimchuk 440-212-4976 HMHarasimchuk@gmail.com
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*Junior National Executive Board 2008-2009*

### **2008 Bukata Award - Khrystyna Chorniy**

The Very Reverend Volodymyr Bukata Award was presented to Khrystyna Chorniy at the 2008 Convention. Khrystyna has been a member of the Maplewood Junior UOL Chapter for five years. She attends church every Sunday and sings in the choir, attends church school and helps with all church projects. She is a leader in the church. She has been President of the Maplewood Junior UOL Chapter for several years and organizes activities from the idea to the completion of the project. For example, when the chapter planned to donate items to a local soup kitchen, she prepared the boxes, bought items, made signs and donated the food.



Her Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Oleh Hucul writes, "after moving from Ukraine, I have seen her mature into a keen young lady who now heads the Junior Chapter and God willing she will progress into leadership positions within the parish."

Her Senior Chapter Advisor, Daria Pishko Komichak writes that Khrystyna is "motivated and always willing to help. She encourages young members of the chapter to participate in all activities and to grow in their responsibilities. She also works well with Senior UOL Members side by side in every endeavor."



## **NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR UOL PRESIDENT**

*Taylor Gladys*

Glory to Jesus Christ!

This year is certainly off to a good start with the Junior board. Now that it is October, I hope that all of the chapters have at least held their first meeting, and if not, it would be a good idea to get that accomplished soon. I would also like to recommend reading over the convention reports for ideas that could help your chapter with new activities for this year. Please use these ideas to set a few goals for your chapter to attain over the next several months. The more you set, the more your chapter and the entire Jr. UOL can achieve!

This year has been going by so fast, and I hope that all of your chapters have already submitted a few items to the board. Please send any remaining roster forms, chapter dues, and membership dues to Financial Secretary, Ethan Rock, as the deadline for these passed on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Election report forms should have also been sent in to Corresponding Secretary, Arianna Rock, by this time. If you have not already submitted these papers, please do so **as soon as possible**.

To fill you in on what the national board has been up to- we held our first meeting on September 27, 2008 in Philadelphia, PA, in conjunction with the Senior National Executive Board. The hospitable Jr. and Sr. Chapters of St. Vladimir's parish were extremely welcoming to our group, and I would like to thank them for having us, as everyone appreciated their hard work. Detailed information regarding our fall meeting will be posted in the next bulletin.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns about both the national board and your chapter. I would love to hear about everything going on in your parishes. Thank you and God bless!

Yours In Christ,  
Taylor Gladys

### **Junior UOL Chapter of the Year 2008 -- Youngstown, Ohio**

#### **Sts. Peter and St. Paul Sr. U.O.L. Chapter Carnegie, PA "Another Year of Activities" Submitted by Dr. Stephen Sivulich**

**FIVE NEW CHAPTER MEMBERS-** Our 2008-2009 year commenced with the addition of five new chapter members: Alice and Cliff O'Neil, Anastasia Markiw, Christine Wachnowsky, and Natasha Walewski. We said good-bye to our three departing college students at a regular Sunday Coffee Hour, giving each a cupcake adorned with a single candle for good luck. Anastasia will be attending Chatham University (Pittsburgh, PA), Christine will go to Allegheny College (Meadville, PA), and Natasha will be at Arcadia College (Glenside, PA).

**SALVATION ARMY BAG LUNCHES-** We again prepared fifty-two bag lunches for the homeless of Pittsburgh. Each bag contains two chipped ham with cheese sandwiches, cake or cookie, two pieces of candy, apple or banana, napkin, straw and soft drink. A real significance of this project is that a simple announcement is placed in our Sunday Church Bulletin and adequate money is donated to cover the cost of this project. *A special thank-you to chapter members and parishioners for their continued generosity.*

**FALL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES-** The chapter schedule for the Fall is going to keep all members very busy! Senior and junior UOL members have been helping with the food preparation for Carnegie Days scheduled for September 4-6. The chapter's major role is in manning the booth with the assistance of many parishioners for the three days of the event. Then, on September 20<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate **Fr. Steve Repa's 25<sup>th</sup> ordination anniversary** with a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, followed by a dinner at the Euro Party Center.

**A U.O.L. CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP DRIVE-** We will conduct an aggressive membership drive in an effort to increase the size of our chapter, but more importantly, to permit others to participate in the joy and fellowship . . . and work at parish events. We think we have a pretty good deal. You don't have to pay chapter membership dues, you simply host a Sunday Coffee Hour with two other members and the chapter pays your national dues. And

*(continued on page 6)*



This year the Sts. Peter and Paul Junior UOL Chapter in Youngstown, Ohio was named the Junior UOL Chapter of the year. The chapter presented a resume that was full of many projects, donations and activities that clearly showed why they were named the chapter of the year. Junior UOL members attend UOL Conventions and retreats regularly. They also organized a trip to attend the March in New York City to commemorate the Ukrainian Genocide. They sponsored a St. Nicholas play, decorated the church and participated in their Ukrainian dance group. They have sponsored numerous fundraising activities including bake sales, breakfasts, Chinese Auctions and Easter Basket raffles. They have made donations to All Saints Camp, St. Sophia Seminary and their own parish. Their advisor wrote "these young people have shown a devotion to their faith, their church and parish." Fr. John Harvey, the spiritual advisor to the Junior UOL chapter, writes that "the juniors have a high level of commitment to the parish as well as to local service projects." They also hosted the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Youngstown Lock-In, which has been a great success each year.



On Saturday, August 2, 2008, many convention members arose at 6:00 to catch a ride to Binghamton's renowned Spiedie Fest and Balloon Launch. Although the balloons didn't



launch according to plans due to weather, several people stayed around for the festival and later returned to the hotel for the terrific workshops. The workshops were torte making and a presentation on the Holodomor.



Later that evening preparations were made for the Banquet and Ball. Before the ball was held we had a Vespers led by His Eminence Archbishop Antony. At the Banquet and Ball



speeches were made, awards were distributed, the silent auction winners were announced, and everyone danced to an amazing live band.

The conclusion of the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention came on Sunday, August 3, 2008, ending with a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. The oath of office was held at the conclusion of Divine Liturgy.



by parishioners of the Johnson City parish.

On behalf of the Junior U.O.L. I would like to thank our Hierarchs, Fr. Zinoviy Zharsky (host pastor), Chairpersons (Pam Scannell, Alexis Oryhon, and Pat Scannell), St. John's Senior and Junior Chapters, and the entire parish of St. John the Baptist in Johnson City, NY.

Thank you so much for an awesome convention!

After liturgy, members enjoyed a tasty Ukrainian Cultural brunch at St. John the Baptist hall. Everyone loved the concert and Ukrainian dancing put on



Patrick Scannell presents icon to Talia Serediuk President of newly formed Junior UOL Chapter in the St. Mary the Protectress parish in Southfield, Michigan.

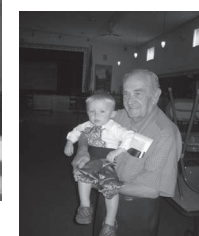
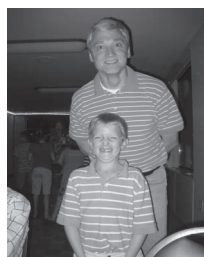


Junior UOL President (2007-2008) Patrick Scannell passes gavel to newly elected Junior UOL President Taylor Gladys.



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

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



*Start making plans for the 62nd annual Convention*

*See old friends and make new ones!*

**President- Taylor Gladys**

Glory to Jesus Christ! My name is Taylor Gladys and I am extremely honored to introduce myself as the newly elected President of the Junior National Executive Board. I am from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where I live with my mom, dad, and (when she's home from college) my sister, Jordan. I attend St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Church on the South Side. At Church, I sing in the choir, attend Sunday school, and am currently President of South Side's chapter of the Jr. UOL. Church is a big part of my life and I certainly would not be the same person without it.

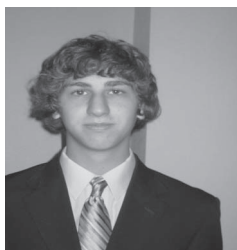
This year, I will be a sophomore attending Woodland Hills High School. At Woodland Hills, I am a member of both the soccer and basketball teams, as well as the Chamber Choir. I am also involved in various science fairs and other academic activities. Sports and school are an integral part of my life right now.

When I'm not at church, at school, or at sports, I like to kick back and relax with friends. I love listening to music, watching movies, and seeing plays with my best friends. As much as I like to spend my free time at home, my favorite place to be is All Saints Camp. My mom and I were among the first campers at Mommy and Me/Daddy and Me, I participated in five years of Diocesan Church School Camp, and three years so far at Teenage Conference. For the past two years, I have been a "Big Sister" at Mommy and Me/ Daddy and Me camp, as well. Some of my best memories have taken place at the camp. I think of it as leaving this large, empty, cruel world and entering my own little, perfect, Orthodox world. I learned life lessons at All Saints Camp that I know I will never forget.

I sincerely hope and pray that I can serve the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League to the best of my abilities this year. I know that with support from my friends, family, and Church that this board can accomplish anything. We intend to work diligently to fulfill our duties throughout the year. As a board member, I have personally set a few goals for this upcoming year. I hope to see the induction of new chapters, as well as strengthening of our current ones. At this time, the Jr. UOL is just a grain of sand on a vast beach. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we may be able to expand and spread the Good News of Christ to others and continue service to our Church and to our Holy Orthodox Faith.

**Vice President - Eric Perankovich**

Glory to Jesus Christ! My name is Eric Perankovich, and I was recently elected vice president of the Jr. UOL at the 61<sup>st</sup> annual convention. This is my first year on the board. I look forward to a prosperous year.



I live in a suburb of Youngstown called Boardman with my mom and dad. I am starting my senior year at Boardman High School, and will probably be attending Youngstown State University when I am finished at Boardman. When I am not working with the juniors, or other church members, I usually play basketball, practice my guitar, or just hang out with friends. I am on the Boardman Cross Country team for the first time, and I really enjoy it. I run track and play intramural basketball for my school as well. I am currently employed at Diamonds Oxygen, my father's business, and a local Pizza Hut.

**Treasurer- John Walewski**

Glory to Jesus Christ! My name is John Walewski and I am the newly elected Treasurer of the Junior National Executive Board. I live in Pittsburgh, PA. I go to church at Sts. Peter and Paul in Carnegie, PA. At church I serve behind the altar and I also occasionally sing in the choir.

I live at home with my parents and my two sisters. My parents own four restaurants and I wash dishes at one of them. My older sister Natasha is going to college this year, she was on the board the past two years as the

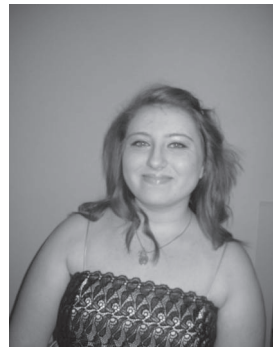


corresponding secretary. I also have another sister Danielle who will be going into the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. This year I am going to be a Junior at Chartiers Valley High School. I am on my school's Varsity hockey and lacrosse teams. I also play for teams outside of my school teams. I am part of both the National Honors Society and the ski club. Outside of school I love to listen to almost any type of music and I also like to hang out with my friends. Once school starts I am always active and I will enjoy doing the things on the board too.

This year I will have both the website committee and the yearbook committee. At the convention the website joint committee made many requests of what the website should look like and I hope to implement as many of these requests as I can. I have high hopes for this year's Junior National Executive Board and plan on making it the best that I can.

**Recording Secretary-Elizabeth Hucul**

Glory to Jesus Christ! Hi! My name is Elizabeth Hucul. I live in South Bound Brook, New Jersey. I am a sophomore at Immaculata High School, in Somerville, New Jersey. There, I participate in many activities, including the marching band, and various school clubs.



I attend church at Holy Ascension, in Maplewood, New Jersey, where my dad serves as the parish's priest. In my parish, I serve as Junior president for my chapter, also having held positions in the past such as treasurer, secretary, and vice president. I also attend the Sunday School, where we do various activities such as a St. Nicholas play. I strive to help the other church organizations like the Sisterhood, and Sr. UOL as often as I possibly can. I am also on various Convention planning committees since we will be hosting in 2010.

In my spare time, I enjoy playing the guitar and piano, when I get the chance. Even though I am not very good, I try to make time to practice to get better. I also like to spend time with my parents, Fr. Oleh and Pani Matka Lidia Hucul, and my older sister, Aleksandra. We are a very close family, and I like hanging out with them. I also enjoy writing, reading, and hanging out with my friends.

This year on the Jr. National Executive Board, I hope to do everything I can for the Board. Since my older sister holds the same position on the Sr. National Executive Board, I try to follow her example, and stay on top of my tasks. Ultimately, my goal is to do the best job I can representing the U.O.L. and all that it stands for.

**Corresponding Secretary- Arianna Rock**

Glory to Jesus Christ! I am very excited to introduce myself, Arianna Rock, as the new Corresponding Secretary for the Junior Executive Board this year. I hope to fulfill all the expectations, to the best of my abilities, of the office with the help of God, my family, and UOL advisors.

I regularly attend the Holy Trinity parish with my family in New Castle, Pennsylvania, where my grandfather (Fr. Diakiw) is our pastor, but we reside in Butler, Pa.

I will attend Butler High School as a senior this year, where I am a very active student. I participate on the: Varsity Girls Golf team, Fast pitch softball team, Spanish Club, Ski club, and so much more! I have played golf for three years, and am planning on continuing to play at the college level. In addition, I have played softball for at least seven years, five of which were for my high school. I am also a committed student council member and singer in an elite all girls choral ensemble at my high school. In addition to the concerts put on by the choir, I have been involved in a handful of solo concerts as well. Some of my other hobbies include guitar, piano, art, jewelry making, fishing, and being outdoors.

I have attended Diocesan Church school camp, Teenage Conference, and Mommy/ Daddy and Me (as a counselor). I believe being involved with these encampments has made me a stronger Orthodox Christian.

I am especially looking forward to helping and working with all of you, alongside my fellow board members! Feel free to contact me with any questions! (aLr521@zoominternet.net)

**Financial Secretary - Ethan Rock**

Glory to Jesus Christ! My name is Ethan Rock and I was elected to the new National Board as Financial Secretary. With the help of God and my family I hope to do all that is expected of me and the office.



I am a PKK (priest kid's kid) living in Butler, Pennsylvania. My family and I belong to the parish of Holy Trinity in New Castle, Pa where my "Gigi", Fr. Diakiw, is pastor.

I attend Butler Area Schools, where I will be a sophomore this year. My hobbies include playing baseball for my high school team, summer, and fall leagues. I also enjoy playing guitar, hunting, fishing, and going camping.

I have attended the Teenage Conference Programs (Love it!) and participated in Mommy/Daddy and Me as a counselor (Love it too!).

If I can do anything for you, please contact me. My e-mail is Ejrock7@aol.com. I am looking forward to my new position and helping in the works and love of our Ukrainian Orthodox Church.



**St. Vladimir Philadelphia, PA - submitted by Jim Sawchuk**

Our Senior and Junior UOL Chapters recently held their election of officers. For the upcoming year, 2008 – 2009, the Senior Chapter officers are: President: Andrea Karbiwnyk Swan; Vice President: Lynn Szafranski; Recording Secretary: Jordan Gladys; Treasurer: Stephen Nemeth; Spritual Advisor: Fr. Frank Estocin; Co-Reporters: Jim Sawchuk and Josh Oryhon. The Junior Chapter officers are: President: Christopher McNulty; Secretary: Peter Konchak; Treasurer: Lynn Nemeth; Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Frank Estocin; Advisors: Natalie Sufler Bilynsky and Theodora Nemeth. The Philadelphia Chapters were well represented at the UOL Convention in Johnson City and wish to extend their gratitude to St. John's Senior and Junior Chapters for a wonderful convention. The Senior UOL Chapter is having multiple meetings to begin planning for the 2011 Convention.

**Junior Chapter News- Palos Park ,Illinois**

In June Sts. Peter and Paul Jr. UOL Chapter of Palos Park held a car wash fundraiser. A decision by the youth was made that 50% of the profits would be donated to the All Saints Camp Chapel in Emlenton, PA. Juniors raised \$200 and were happy to make a contribution to the building of the chapel at All Saints Camp.



Palos Park honored Junior UOL members who graduated from high school this year. High school graduates of Sts. Peter and Paul in Palos Park were presented with gifts and the Orthodox Study Bible.

(Pictured from left) Timothy Oryhon, Fr. Taras Naumenko, Stephanie Klimowych, Paul Cepynsky. Not pictured - Carolyn Jakubczak

*(Carnegie - continued from page 3)*

... there are no requirements as to what you serve. Obviously, we have a huge variety of goodies at every coffee hour. ***If anyone has suggestions about attracting new members, please share your ideas with our chapter president, Steve Sivulich: (412) 276-1130.***

**SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS**

The Senior Chapter extends a special congratulation to Jr. UOL Chapter President, Zachary Kapeluck who attended a summer dance program at the Julliard School of Performing Arts in New York City. Zachary is a high school senior and will now apply for Julliard's four year program. ***Good luck Zach!*** We have had the pleasure of seeing Zach sing and dance in his high school musicals, and we think he's pretty talented.

**UOL Essay Contest Winners****St. Mary, Allentown, PA (9 entries)**

Pre-school/Kindergarten- **Andrew George**, age 3 – First Place  
Grade 1- **Anna Miller**, age 7 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 7 – **Joel Hutzayluk**, age 13 – First Place  
**Michael Hutzayluk**, age 13 – Honorable Mention

**St. Vladimir, Ambridge, PA (14 entries)**

Grade 1 – **Anna Swindle**, age 7 – Honorable Mention  
**Baran Witowich**, age 7 – First Place  
Grade 3 – **Dmtira Rakovan**, age 8 – First Place  
Grade 5 – **Barbara Klavin**, age 11 – Honorable Mention

**St. Demetrius, Carteret, NJ (6 entries)**

Grade 1 – **Paulina Mostek**, age 6 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 2 – **Daria Mostek**, age 8 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 3 – **Magdalena Mostek**, age 9 – Honorable Mention

**Sts. Peter and Paul, Carnegie, PA (8 entries)**

Grade 4 – **Ivan Howe** – Honorable Metion  
**Marina Lomakina** – First Place  
Grade 5 – **Juliana Leis** – Honorable Mention  
**Kristi Rozum**, age 11 – First Place

**St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY (15 entries)**

Grade 4 – **Maria Zharsky**, age 10 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 7 – **Molly Hatala**, age 13 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 8 – **William Ferrante**, age 14 – First Place  
Grade 10 – **Olenka Zharsky**, age 16 – First Place  
Grade 12 – **Patrick Scannell**, age 18 – First Place

**Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL (26 entries)**

Pre-school – **Allie Rack**, age 3 – Honorable Mention  
Kindergarten – **Frankie Bertucci**, age 6 – Honorable Mention  
**Alexis Naumenko**, age 6 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 1 – **Peter Gordan**, age 6 – Honorable Mention  
**Abby Mihalkanin**, age 6 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 3 – **Christina Koranda**, age 9 – Honorable Mention  
**Kira Rolando**, age 9 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 5 – **Hannah Mazur**, age 11 – First Place  
Grade 6 – **Veronica Koranda**, age 11 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 7 – **Dakota Bertucci**, age 12 – First Place  
**Peter Iordanov**, age 13 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 9 – **Dennis Korando**, age 14 – First Place

**St. Vladimir, Parma, OH (9 entries)**

Pre-school – **David Greaves**, age 5 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 1 – **Haley Johnson**, age 7 – Honorable Mention  
**John Meaden**, age 6 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 2 – **Jonathan Greaves**, age 8 – Honorable Mention  
Grade 3 – **Matthew Greaves**, age 9 – Honorable Mention

**St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, PA (6 entries)**

Grade 2 – **Brett Wilwert**, age 8 – First Place  
Grade 3 – **Natalie San Antonio**, age 8 – Honorable Mention

**2009 Convention News:**

***Sts. Peter & Paul Sr. & Jr. UOL of Youngstown, Ohio  
Trying to curb our enthusiasm!***

We have been actively planning your arrival for the 2009 UOL Convention, hosted by the Sts. Peter & Paul Sr. & Jr. UOL of Youngstown, Ohio, July 22-26, 2009. The event will be located at the Avalon Inn Resort in Warren/Youngstown, Ohio. You will feel perfectly relaxed the moment you step into the comfortable rooms of this old world resort which is nestled between two of Ohio's finest golf courses! Your convention will begin on Wednesday with our "Kick-Off" hospitality night, as we welcome you to our area. On Thursday, excite your taste buds with an island menu at our Aloha Hawaiian Luau. You will partake in a casual evening under the stars while listening to Rudy and the Professionals entertain the crowd with their tropical flair and contemporary high-energy performance. Want to limbo? No problem, mon! Come dressed in your Hawaiian attire and dance the night away! Your Friday evening will bring... well, we'll keep you in suspense until the next article!

For more information please contact your Y-town 2009 UOL Convention Co-chairs Robert Mark at ram4123@aol.com or Kevin Thomas at kmthomas627@aol.com. To make resort reservations, call Avalon Inn Resort at 1.800.828.2566 and visit their website to explore this beautiful resort online at www.avaloninn.com.

**LSSK SCHOLARSHIPS 2008 submitted by Daria Pishko Komichak**

At the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention the UOL awarded scholarships totaling \$6000 to six Junior UOL members whose dedication to their Church and her League have distinguished them from their peers. Since the LSSK Scholarship Fund was established in 1975 in memory of Lynn Sawchuk and Sharon Kuzbyt, the UOL has awarded 127 scholarships totaling over \$141,350. The 2008 LSSK Scholarship recipients are:

**Patrick Scannell** of St. John's Junior UOL Chapter of Johnson, City, NY. Patrick has served as National President and Financial Secretary of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League and President and Treasurer of his local Junior UOL Chapter. He is an altar server, member and assistant instructor of his local Ukrainian dance group, and a pysanka writer. He has attended Teenage Conference, UOL Lenten Retreats, and UOL Conventions. He is an active volunteer for his parish's catering service, Ukrainian Day Festival and numerous pancake breakfasts, bake sales and other fundraising activities. He has also participated in a Down Syndrome Walk Fundraiser and the Magic Paintbrush Project, helping kids with disabilities. His Chapter Advisor writes, "Patrick is a fine young man. He is fun and always makes the younger juniors laugh. It has been a pleasure working with him all these years." His Spiritual Advisor writes, "I can't even try to sum up all the work he has done for our parish here in Johnson City, for the entire UOC of USA and the life of the UOL. He is always first to volunteer." Patrick is also actively involved in his school and community. Patrick is an avid sportsman, playing JV and Varsity soccer, tennis, and track and field. He was a member of the National Honor Society, treasurer of his high school's Russian Club, and a member of the Vestal Voices singing ensemble. His scholastic advisor writes "Patrick is a mature, responsible, bright young man. . . . He is a remarkable student and person!"

**Emily Kominko** of St. Vladimir's Junior UOL Chapter of Parma, OH. Emily served as National Recording Secretary of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League and as President, Vice President and Treasurer of her local Junior UOL Chapter. She is a church reader and active participant in her parish's Ukrainian language and Church School programs. She was a participant in the High School Mission Trip to the St. Raphael House homeless family shelter in San Francisco, California, dedicating her time and efforts to this worthy cause. She and her Junior UOL Chapter annually deliver gifts and Easter baskets to the parish shut-ins for Christmas and Easter, and serve dinner at the St. Herman's House of Hospitality each year on December 24. Her Chapter Advisor writes, "[Emily] participates in everything that the chapter undertakes and is quick to volunteer on projects at every level within the parish. She is a friendly, kind, loving, and giving person with a warm and welcoming smile." Her Spiritual Advisor writes "Emily is a dynamic Orthodox Christian who loves her Faith with deep conviction. When she is not in church in Parma, I know that she is participating in church-related events elsewhere, such as UOL Retreats, Junior National Board meetings or working at our Diocesan Center in South Bound Brook for St. Thomas Sunday." Emily is also actively involved in her school and community. In addition to her involvement in our Church and her League, Emily is a member of SADD ( Students Against Destructive Decisions), the National Honor Society, Key Club, Biology Society, Ski Club, Prom Committee and Marching Band. Her scholastic advisor writes "Emily is a very compassionate and value based individual . . . . when you get to know Emily personally, you will find her to be a very capable, respectful, reliable, and honest young woman."

**Khrystyna Chorniy** of Holy Ascension Junior UOL Chapter of Maplewood, NJ. Khrystyna has served as President and Vice-President of her local Junior UOL Chapter. She is a member of the church choir and has served as a church reader. She is a constant volunteer at church dinners, no matter who is the sponsor. She was a key organizer of her chapter's Christmas Caroling project and delivering Easter Baskets to shut-ins. She was a participant in the High School Mission Trip to the mission parish of St. Nicholas in Charlottesville, Virginia, and the March for Remembrance in New York City to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Holodomor in Ukraine. Her Junior UOL Vice President writes, "[Khrystyna] is devout in all that she is involved in, especially the UOL." Her Chapter Advisor writes, ". . . Khrystyna has demonstrated time and again that she is an exceptional leader and a gifted student. . . . she is an excellent role model to our Junior UOL members. She is a highly dedicated and devoted individual—to both the Ukrainian American and American communities, as well as her Ukrainian Orthodox faith." Her Spiritual Advisor writes "Motivated, enthusiastic, cheerful, and helpful are but some words to describe this good-natured soul and bright child of God." In addition to her involvement in our Church and her League, in high school she was a member of the Key Club, Italian Club, Columbia High School's "Inspired" Club and an executive officer of Future Business Leaders of America. Khrystyna also participated in her high school's Foreign Language for

Elementary Students program where she taught young children French. Her scholastic advisor writes "[Khrystyna] is kind, honest, caring and compassionate. These characteristics are exemplified in Khrystyna's everyday life."

**Aleksandra Kocelko** of St. Vladimir's Junior UOL Chapter of Pittsburgh, PA. Aleksandra has served as President and Treasurer of her local Junior UOL Chapter. She was one of the original members of the reactivation of her Junior UOL Chapter in 2000 and has been an active member and leader ever since. She is member of the church choir and is also a church reader. She is a member of the Kiev Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Carnegie, PA. Aleksandra has served as treasurer for the Mommy & Me –Daddy & Me encampment sponsored by the Office of Youth Ministry of the UOC of USA, and as counselor for the Diocesan Church School Camp. She's also been an active participant in Teenage Conference. Her Chapter Advisor writes, "Alya has shown great maturity and Christian love by serving our Church community. She exhibited great leadership, organization and direction to our small, young Junior UOL members ." Her Spiritual Advisor writes, "It is when she *isn't* involved that it is unusual. She can be counted on to help on a moments notice and shows great love for the Church." Aleksandra is also actively involved in her school and community. In high school, she was a member of the National Honor Society, French Club, Science Club, Yearbook, and Environmental Club. She was instrumental in obtaining a chart for her school's National Business Honor Society and is now a Charter Member. Her Scholastic Advisor writes, "[Aleksandra] has been an excellent role model both in and out of school."

**Krista Ulbricht**, of Sts. Peter and Paul Junior UOL Chapter of Youngstown, Ohio has served as President and Secretary of her local chapter. She participates in her church choir, local Ukrainian dance ensemble, works with the church catering service and helps at bingo. She has served as a staff member for the Mommy and Me/Daddy and Me encampments at the All Saints Camp, as a counselor for the Diocesan Church School encampment and is a regular Teenage Conference participant. She participated in the 2006 and 2007 High School Mission Trips to St. Nicholas Mission parish in Charlottesville, Virginia and to St. Sophia's Seminary in South Bound Brook, New Jersey. Krista organized her chapter's trip to New York City to participate in the March for Remembrance to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Holodomor in Ukraine. She also visited Youngstown area Orthodox parishes, to invite local Orthodox youth to attend her chapters Annual Lock-In, thus creating a Pan-Orthodox event. Her chapter president writes "Krista Ulbricht is a very special young woman. She is the most devoted UOL member I have seen in my life. It is her passion. . . . Krista does not care about awards or recognition, but she deserves them." Her Spiritual Advisor writes, "Krista is a ball of energy and is always helping or spearheading some activity or volunteer program." Her Chapter Advisor writes ". . . Krista loves to help others and took great joy in assisting the elderly by raking leaves and delivering paskas. She organized the youth of our church to participate in a "Trick or Can" project to collect food for our local food pantry." In high school, Krista was a member and officer of the Drama Club and SADD. She was also a member of the high school marching, symphonic, jazz and concert bands, German Club, Letterman's Club, and 4H. She was active in numerous fund raising and charitable activities at her high school. Her high school counselor writes, "[Krista] is a hard worker with lots of common sense, not afraid to tackle anything that comes her way and wants to better herself for her family, community and her world."

**Natasha Walewski**, of Sts. Peter & Paul Junior Chapter in Carnegie, PA has served as President, vice president, corresponding and recording secretary of her junior chapter, is a member of the Kyiv Dance Ensemble, church reader and choir member. She also served as National Corresponding Secretary for the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League. She is a pysanka writer and avid participant in her parish's Christmas Cookie Walk. She has attended UOL Lenten Retreats and is a longtime participant in Teenage Conference. Her Spiritual Advisor writes "Natasha is a person of great faith, talent and potential. She is giving and a consistent participant in church services and events." Her Junior Advisor writes "Natasha is one of the most dedicated teenagers at our home parish of Sts. Peter and Paul. She regularly makes personal sacrifices to give of herself and her time for the betterment of our parish life and our community outreach." In high school, she was a member of the National Honor Society, Thespian Society, Drama Club, and German Club. She also participated in the Fall play and Spring musical at her high school. Her Scholastic Advisor writes, "Natasha is a wonderful student and person. She has earned the respect of her faculty and peers."

The LSSK Scholarship Committee would like to congratulate this year's recipients on their accomplishments and thank the UOL members, friends and chapters for their support of this worthwhile scholarship.

(continued page 8)



## All Saints Camp Work Weekend

I  ASC

October 10-12, 2008

Emlenton, PA

Projects include cleaning and repairing gutters,  
milling wood, painting and general camp  
maintenance.

All volunteers will receive meals and housing  
free of charge.

Questions or to RSVP please contact:

Mike Nakonachny  
440-503-3151

Hans Harasimchuk  
440-212-4976

mjnaka@bryantstratton.edu HMHarasimchuk@gmail.com

## 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.

The UOL sincerely thanks the following for their recent contribution:

CONTRIBUTOR	OCCASION
Jack Roditski	Thank you!

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

UOL Tributes should be submitted to:

Natalie Bilynsky  
703 Pine Ridge Road  
Wallingford, PA 19086

please make check payable to Ukrainian Orthodox League

## THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE YOUNG ADULTS COMMITTEE

### Winter Weekend Getaway

Pocono Mountains, Pennsylvania

January 9-11, 2009

Come and Catch up With Old Friends and Make New Ones  
Ski, Snowboard, Snowtube, Shop

\$15.00 registration covers all meals!

The first 15 registrants will get free housing!

Questions?

Michael Nakonachny, mjnako@bryantstratton.edu

Melanie Nakonachny, MelanieNak@aol.com

## ORDER SONGBOOKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

HYMNS OF THE EASTERN ORTHODOX  
CHURCH

These songbooks make wonderful gifts  
for Sunday School Programs

\$5.00 per copy (Check should be made out to UOL)

To purchase send check to:

Natalie Bilynsky  
703 Pine Ridge Road  
Wallingford, PA 19086  
nsufler@aol.com

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

## SAVE THE DATES

UOL RETREAT - ALL SAINTS CAMP

March 27-29, 2009

For more information contact  
Melanie Nakonachny  
MelanieNak@aol.com

UOL RETREAT - BETHLEHEM, PA

April 3-5, 2009

For more information contact  
Natalie Bilynsky  
nsufler@aol.com

(LSSK - continued from page 7)

Please remember, donations to support the LSSK Scholarship are accepted at any time and may be forwarded to: Daria Pishko Komichak, 64 Coleman Avenue, Chatham, NJ 07928-2278. Scholarship applications for 2009 will be mailed to Junior UOL Chapters in March 2009 or may be downloaded from the UOL page of the www.uocofusa.org website. Completed applications are due May 31, 2009. All former Junior UOL members entering into or enrolled in continuing education within five years of high school graduation are encouraged to apply.

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

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