

UKRAINIAN COMMUNITY
SOCIETY of IVAN FRANKOУКРАЇНСЬКЕ ТОВАРИСТВО
ІМ. ІВАНА ФРАНКА

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Tropak News

Tropak Ukrainian Dance Theatre will be participating in two upcoming festivals in May 2009.

On Saturday 23 May, Tropak will travel to Seattle to perform in the Folk Life Festival. A two-hour Ukrainian music and dance show is being jointly planned with several other groups.

The following week will see Tropak putting on a 25-minute show of its own at the European Festival in Burnaby (see back page of newsletter for further information). The show will begin at 1:30pm, and is part of a series of 25-minute music and dance performances by many cultural groups.

The European Festival will also have food stalls and information booths for each country, including one for Ukraine hosted by members from the IF Society.

Prior to these events, Tropak has participated in two multicultural evenings hosted by the Serbian dancers of Burnaby, and by the students of Princess Margaret Secondary School in Surrey.

Please visit Tropak online at www.tropak.ca. For more information about how you can join or support Tropak, email contact@tropak.ca



Filip Konowal Memorial Rededication



The Vancouver area Ukrainian community is invited to participate in the Philip Konowal VC and Jack Mahony VC plaque dedication Saturday 16 May at 11am at the New Westminster armoury.

FILIP KONOWAL, VC Acting Corporal, 47th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force
Decorations: VC, BWM, VM, GVI CORONATION 1937, EIIR CORONATION 1953, CROSS OF ST GEORGE (4TH CLASS) RUSSIA

Born near Kudkiv, Ukraine, in 1888 (d. 1959), Filip Konowal immigrated to British Columbia in 1913. While serving as a Corporal with the 47th Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, he fought with exceptional valour in August 1917, near Lens, France. For this His Majesty King George V personally conferred the Victoria Cross on Konowal in London on 15 October 1917, stating, "Your exploit is one of the most daring and heroic in the history of my army. For this, accept my thanks."

Konowal also served with the Canadian Siberian Expeditionary Force, finally returning to Vancouver in June 1919, having served three years and 357 days.

Other Konowal memorials are at Notre Dame Cemetery, Cartier Square Armoury, Ottawa, and Royal Canadian Legion Branch 360 (Konowal) Toronto.

Make our Annual Golf Tournament Another Swinging Success

The Annual Ukrainian Community Golf Tournament is near. This is a tournament for all golfers, young and old, regardless of ability. The emphasis is on having a good time for all.

Where: Country Meadows Golf Course, No. 6 Road, Richmond

When: Sunday, September 13, 2009. First tee-off at 10am. Texas Scramble Format.

Cost: Member \$50; Non-members \$60. Make cheques payable to Ukrainian Community Society of

Ivan Franko and mail them to 5311 Francis Road, Richmond, V7C 1K2

Banquet and prizes will follow at our community centre after the game.

Prizes: We appreciate donations so that all golfers can have the opportunity to receive a prize.

Contact: George Brandak at 604-274-2025
The tournament has been a fun experience for many years, and this year's will be no exception. We are looking forward to seeing you at the tournament!

Ukrainian on the airwaves

Tune in to Nash Holos' sister program Chetverta Khvilya (4th Wave), one full hour on CJSF 90.1 FM Sunday afternoons at 1 pm.. Join Pavlo Manugevych and his guests for the latest in Ukrainian music delivered exclusively in Ukrainian. Hear the program live at www.cjsf.ca or download from the Nash Holos audio archives.

Ivan Franko Library News

We are pleased to welcome Nikola Zhygan to our small group of library volunteers.

The library can happily report that the end of cataloguing our existing inventory is in sight. We are ready to start purchasing exciting new publications for our members to enjoy.

Your donations will help us purchase current publications, expand the arts and cultural section, and replace damaged books.

For information about the Ivan Franko Library, contact Theresa at 604.295.0693

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The Reading Room

About the Club

The purpose of the Book Club is very simple: to read Ukrainian books in English translation, and books in English on Ukrainian themes and topics. Then, in our comfortable Mezzanine Library, we meet 4 times a year to discuss the characters, plots, settings, historical backgrounds and our own connections with these books.

The ties that bring the book club members together are our Ukrainian heritage, a love of reading and an enjoyment of sharing our ideas. We do not always agree with each other's interpretations, but we always enjoy the discussions and the camaraderie.

Current Read

Death and the Penguin was written by Andrey Kurkov (born in 1961), one of the most successful Ukrainian authors in the post-Soviet era, and is featured highly on European bestsellers lists. Kurkov is the author of 13 novels and five children's books. His work is currently translated into 25 languages from Russian, which he uses for his writing.



About the book

Death and the Penguin, published in 1996, is a bleak, satirical work with surreal elements and dark humour. It follows the life of a young aspiring writer, Viktor Zolotaryov, in a struggling post-Soviet society.

The "Death" in the title refers to Viktor's job writing obituaries for a local newspaper. "Penguin" refers to Viktor's pet penguin Misha, a King Penguin obtained after the local zoo in Kyiv gave away its animals to those who could support them (a true story).

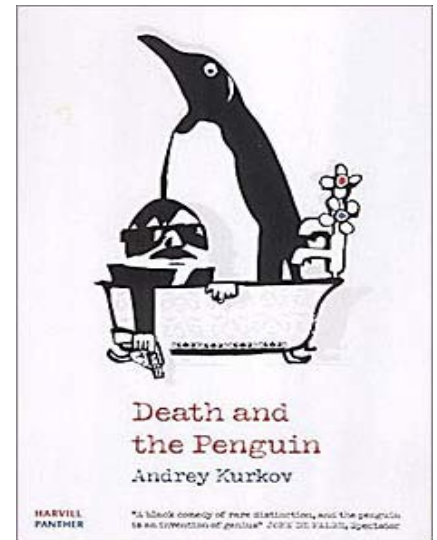
The story touches themes of loneliness, emotional relationships and

existentialism. *Death and the Penguin* contains a moving personal story, elements of mystery, suspense, mafia intrigue, and a surprise ending.

At our meeting of the Book Club on May 26, 2009 we will be discussing this book and will select a book for our summer read.

by Theresa Herchak

For information on the Book Club or Ivan Franko Library, phone Theresa at 604.295.0693



**Tropak Dance Studio starts up again
in September.**

Register your kids now - All ages welcome!

For more information - Email: contact@tropak.ca

Phone Christina: 604-738-0380

Tropak Ukrainian Dance Theatre is looking for guys and girls over 16 to join our performing group. No previous Ukrainian dance experience required.

For more information: contact@tropak.ca

