



UKRAINIAN COMMUNITY
SOCIETY of IVAN FRANKO



УКРАЇНСЬКЕ ТОВАРИСТВО
ім. ІВАНА ФРАНКА



5311 Francis Road Richmond, British Columbia V7C 1K2 Phone 604-274-4119 Fax 604-272-0020

Another Swinging Success

Beneath sunny skies at the Country Meadows Golf Course on 9 September, 44 golfers enjoyed themselves despite a few hooks, slices and lost balls.

In a Texas Scramble format, Kevin Berry's group (Bill Campbell, Ray Hans and Chris) shot an 8 under par 50 to win the tournament. The foursome of Faye and Harvey Manchuk, and Adam and Robert shot a 6 under with two eagles to finish second.

The longest drives were hammered by Theresa Herchak and Myron Kynach, and the closest drives to the pin were by Sherri Frier and Harvey Manchuk. The most honest golfers consisted of Maryanne and Walter Pylypchuk, Joan Brander and Theresa Herchak.

Kudos go to Donna Billas and her team for providing the hungry golfers with a delicious meal, and to Wally Lohvinen for handling their thirst at the bar.

Corporate sponsors and members of the golf community in the Lower Mainland were very generous with donations when approached by George Daschko and George Brandak; we were able to distribute prizes to all golfers.

The corporate sponsors were: Air Systems Supplies, ALLANCO International Environment Products, BC Air Filter, ECCO, Energy Technology, Engineered Air, Flexmaster, Lower Mainland Sheet Metal, Odessa Manufacturing, Soloway Travel and

Texas Instruments. Prizes included shirts, golf balls, gift certificates and an iPod.

Golf supplier sponsor Riverside Golf Centre (Marine Drive, Vancouver) donated a Nickent Driver, and tees and golf discount certificates to all golfers. Jenifer Wyatt, an instructor at Pacific Golf Academy, gave away a golf lesson. Country Meadows donated some free games, and Golf Town and Perfect Lies also donated prizes.

Pacific Sunspot Tours provided all golfers with the opportunity to win a trip to Hawaii, but nobody had a hole-in one.

Golfers and Society members also showed their generosity with prizes donated by Myrna Arychuk, Anne Brandak, Lesya Dawydiak, Larry Herchak, Roman Herchak, Mir Huculak, Marcia Moroz, and George Yarmaluk.

At the end of the day, golfers loudly applauded teams and players receiving prizes, but not as loudly as the suggestion to continue holding our tournament at Country Meadows. We acknowledge their courteous and professional manner.

Let's hope the great weather returns for our tournament in September 2008. Thanks to all for making it a great tournament.

by George Brandak

UKRAINIAN WORLD GOLF CHALLENGE COMING TO LOWER MAINLAND

Over the past nine years, the World Golf Challenge has been held in Spain, Australia, Hawaii and Florida, and will be held in Vancouver this coming summer from 26 July to 2 August 2008. Registration forms were distributed at our recent golf tournament.

If you do not require hotel accommodation, the cost for playing the courses and attending social events will be \$1490 per golfer. The cost for attending only the social

events is \$615 per person.

This tournament is an excellent opportunity to meet 150 to 200 golfers from around the world, including Kyiv. Golfers have the opportunity to play competitively for their country, or socially.

If you require further details, contact George Brandak at 604 274 2025 and he will place you in touch with the organizing committee.

З новим роком та різдом христовим

May St Nicholas continue to bless our community and all its families. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish to thank all our members, volunteers and supporters who have done so much to make 2007 a memorable year, and wish them a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Our Friday Night Suppers, various catered events, cultural displays and workshops, reading club, post secondary educational scholarships, and events such as our annual golf tournament have given our Society a solid presence in the community.

We will again host our annual Malanka Celebration on Saturday 12 January 2008. Past Malanka events have had fabulous food, great entertainment, and much dancing and fun. We hope to continue in this spirit as we welcome 2008. I look forward to enjoying the evening with many of you.

George Brandak

Centre of Operations Annual Report

We have had a busy and somewhat expensive autumn; however, we have completed a number of long overdue major improvements to the hall.

The entire exterior of the building was repainted by Gord Kemp and crew.

The roof parapet shingles were rejuvenated (pressure washed and retreated).

The large blue canopy over the main entrance was recovered, complete with new lettering.

The hall hardwood flooring was recovered by BC Hardwood Floors. This will be followed by cleaning and waxing the tiled portion of the hall. Gravel improvements to landscaping and perimeter of parking area.

We are now currently discussing details of repainting the interior of the hall. If anyone has any special ideas please don't hesitate to bring them forward.

by Al Mogus

Svitanok Chorus Christmas Concerts

Svitanok Chorus will be participating in the following concerts and festivals over the holiday season. They will not be hosting their Annual Christmas Carol Festival as usual.

For more information about these events: email a.kozak@telus.net; wzavadell@shaw.ca or phone 604 929 2581.

Sunday 9 December, 2pm

St. Helen's Church
3871 Pandora (church on Triumph St), Burnaby

Sunday 16 December, 1pm

Holy Eucharist Cathedral
501 4th Ave, New Westminster

Sunday 16 December, 6pm

Van Dusen Gardens
5251 Oak St, Vancouver

Monday 7 January, 6pm

Burnaby Rotary's Ukrainian Christmas Dinner
Scandinavian Center, 6540 Thomas St, Burnaby
Tickets: Soloway Travel 604 430 6789

Christmas Gifts

Our Society is selling English translations of Ivan Franko's books launched on November 4 2007. Both *Fateful Crossroads* as well as *Decorum's Veil* for \$14.95 each. If you wish to order them, contact Wally at the Ivan Franko office (604-274-4119).

Nash Holos

Ukrainian radio, Nash Holos, airs on Sundays from 6 to 7pm on AM1320 and CHMB 97.5 FM Programs are archived for six weeks at www.nashholos.com. Nash Holos's programs are filled with Ukrainian music, cooking and travelling tips, and much more.

Langley Ukulele Orchestra

Tropak Ukrainian Dance Theatre will be performing a short excerpt of the Nutcracker at three of the shows in the Langley Ukulele Orchestra's Christmas Series. For information and tickets, email boxoffice@langleyukes.com or phone 604 340 UKES (8537).

Sunday, December 9, Michael J. Fox Auditorium,
7373 McPherson Ave, Burnaby, **Show Time:3:00 PM**

Saturday, December 15, Chandos Pattison Auditorium
10238 168 Street, Surrey **Show Time:3:00 PM**

Sunday, Dec.16, Matsqui Centennial Auditorium
32315 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford **Show Time:2:30 PM**

THE READING ROOM

Taras Bul'ba, written in 1835 by Mykola Hohol (Nikolai Gogol), is the current Book Club selection. Ernest Hemingway acclaimed it to be "one of the greatest books of all time".

In a nutshell, it is an historical fiction about an old Cossack, Taras Bul'ba, and his two sons, Andriy and Ostap, who set out on a journey to the Zaporizhian Sich located in modern day Ukraine.

The trio joins other Cossacks and goes to war against the Polish nobles. *Taras Bul'ba* is full of adventure, romance, history, culture and timeless relevance to our current world unrest.

Nikolai Gogol (1809-1856) was a contemporary of Taras Shevchenko but unlike Shevchenko, Gogol chose to write in Russian. However,



Gogol's characters, settings and plots draw heavily from his Ukrainian heritage.

The story of *Taras Bul'ba* has been made into several films in 1909, 1935, 1936 and 1962. Book Club members Adam and Kvitka

Kozak were fortunate to see part of a *Taras Bul'ba* movie being filmed in Ukraine last summer! It has also been made into an opera by Ukrainian composer Mykola Lysenko.

The next Book Club meeting is on November 27. After discussing *Taras Bul'ba*, we will sit back, enjoy a take out dinner and watch the 1962 Hollywood version of *Taras Bul'ba* starring Yul Brynner and the then gorgeous Tony Curtis.

The musical score for this version received an Academy Award nomination, and features such Ukrainian favourites as *Schedryk (Carol of the Bells)*.

Copies of *Taras Bul'ba* (novel and DVD) are available from the Ivan Franko society library along with previous Book Club selections.

Ivan Franko Library News

We are progressing nicely towards establishing a lending library featuring archival reference material in Ukrainian and English as well as contemporary "Ukrainian experience" literature.

The Society is very grateful to Halina Timoviv who

has graciously offered to oversee the book cataloguing and computerizing the lending process.

For information on the Book Club or Ivan Franko Library, phone Theresa at 604 295 0693.



Tropak Dance Studio

begins 17 January

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



Malanka ~ Маланка

Malanka is the name of a Ukrainian deity or mythological figure of pre-Christian origin. Pagan carols and incantations still extant today indicate that the cult of Malanka was celebrated during the winter solstice cycle on a night called Shchedry Vechir (Generous Eve). Traditionally, Malanka was represented as a maiden wreathed in blossoms and fruit, and accompanied by her consort Vasily. The rites of Vasily (Vasily's Day) followed those of Generous Eve (Malanka).

The pagan ancestors of Ukraine were nature-worshippers with the sun god Dazhboh at the head of the pantheon. It was on the day of the winter solstice that the sun, having reached its lowest point south of the equator, turned back to begin its northward ascent. It may then be surmised that Malanka (Generous Eve) was the eve before the day of the winter solstice (longest night of the old year) and the rites of Vasily's Day (day of the winter solstice) were an obeisance to the returning sun.

Unable to eradicate the deeply-rooted rites of paganism, Christianity was forced to absorb and disguise them under Christianised names and Christian festivals. Thus, Malanka became Saint Melania, and her festivities were moved to New Year's Eve, or the Eve of Epiphany in some regions. Vasily's Day was integrated with New Year's Day (January 14th by the Julian Calendar of 46BC, or January 1st by the Gregorian Calendar of 1582AD).

Once great religious celebrations, they became secular festivities, with the church recognizing neither in its religious calendar. The liturgy of Saint Basil, rather than that of Saint John, celebrated on New Year's Day is in deference to Saint Basil the Great and not the pagan Vasily.

A prominent rite of Malanka festivities was called Shchedruvannia (house-to-house carolling) performed separately by troupes of maidens or young men masquerading as maidens, with the chief characters in either troupe being Malanka and Vasily. The shchedrivky (carols) were incantatory (formula words chanted or sung as part of a ceremony) in function and partly improvised to meet the needs of the household visited.

On Generous Eve, it was believed that both good and evil spirits descended upon Earth. Only with the first crowing of



the cock would the evil powers depart. Man must, therefore, spend this night in occult rites and incantations, warding off the evil forces, and invoking the beneficent forces to bring him happiness and agricultural prosperity in the coming year.

In the female troupe, Malanka and Vasily performed the ritual gestures (in pantomime), supported by the maiden chorus in recitation and song. The male troupe, which generally included such stock characters as a gypsy, a fortune-teller, musicians and animals (symbolic), and which introduced both humour and spontaneity into its performance, had a specific role for each character in the ritual drama.

With Shchedruvannia over, male and female groups then gathered for a festive supper, fortune-telling, dancing and merriment. Young men viewed this as a propitious night for courting, and the maidens, for enchantment and casting of spells.

Until a generation or two ago, the rituals of Malanka survived Christianity with little change. Only in latter times did the magic of the ancients turn into esoteric symbolism no longer understood by the participants.

Today, Malanka is celebrated as an ethnic holiday, which has adopted much of the traditions of the Canadian New Year's Eve celebrations.



MALANKA CELEBRATION

Date and Time: January 12, 2008; Pre-dinner entertainment and snacks 6pm, Dinner 7pm

Place: Ukrainian Community Centre, 5311 Francis Road

Entertainment: Tropak Ukrainian Dance Theatre, and dancing 'til midnight. Champagne served at midnight.

Cost: Adults - \$50; Seniors over 65 - \$40