

UKRAINIAN COMMUNITY
SOCIETY of IVAN FRANKOУКРАЇНСЬКЕ ТОВАРИСТВО
ім. ІВАНА ФРАНКА

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

Ukraine and the Winter Olympics

The XXI Winter Olympics will be held in February 2010 at venues in Vancouver and Whistler. They are the third winter games hosted by Canada, and the first in BC. Over 80 nations will participate with Ghana, Bahamas and Cayman Islands making their Winter Olympic debuts.

Ukraine will send approximately 60 athletes, and 50 coaches and support staff to participate in 11 sports (biathlon, alpine skiing, ski racing, cross country skiing, ski jumping, sledding, freestyle (acrobatics) snowboarding, figure skating, short and long track speed skating). Ukraine expects positive results in biathlon, ski races, figure skating, sledding and freestyle.

The National Olympic Committee of Ukraine has appointed Walter Zavedell and Lubomyr (Mir) Huculak as assistant attachés for these Games. Following the success of the Ukrainian Olympic House in Beijing, the tradition will continue with a Ukraine House in Vancouver located at the Ukrainian Catholic Centre on Ash Street. Decorated with the national colours of Ukraine, the house will convey the cultural and historical richness of the Ukrainian people. Ukraine House will be a place for Ukrainians to gather for press conferences and receptions, watch Games events, sample Ukrainian cuisine, and honour Ukrainian athletes.

To date, Larisa Yurkiw is the one Canadian athlete of Ukrainian descent who will compete in the Games. Larisa is a downhill skier from Ontario. She earned her first top ten finish in the 2008-2009 season, and won a silver medal at the 2008 World Junior Championships.

The X Winter Paralympic Games will be held 12 to 21 March. Ukraine will be sending about 20 athletes, and as many coaches and support staff. Currently Ukraine has 72 regional centres, 123 sport clubs, and 27 youth sports schools for the disabled. They have organized championship events during the year to determine who will participate in the Games.

*by Mir Huculak, Honourary Consul of Ukraine for British Columbia
(adapted from Solovej, Fall 2009)*

3 Різдвом Христовим! 3 Новим Роком!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

The past year was a good but difficult one. Our office manager, Wally Lohvinan, had several knee operations that required several stays in hospital. He now courageously walks slowly to the office to do his duties. Thanks to Ian Senkow and Gloria Kemp who handled his duties in the interim.

Thanks to Theresa and Halina our library is now catalogued, and labels are going onto the books. Also, we now have an operational website (www.ivanfranko.ca) that brings up-to-date news on our activities to our members.

The work of our kitchen volunteers and catering staff have continued to keep us on a solid financial base so our cultural activities and scholarship donations can continue.

I hope that as many of you who are able will attend our Malanka this year as we will have our first live band playing music since the Blue Jackets played in the old hall.

With the help of our membership, we have struck gold and the Winter Olympic Games have not yet begun!

With your further assistance, we look forward to continue building our Society in 2010.

George Brandak, President



MALANKA CELEBRATION

Date and Time: Saturday January 9, 2010; Pre-dinner entertainment and Cocktails 6pm, Deluxe Buffet Dinner 7pm. Semi-Formal

Place: Ukrainian Community Centre, 5311 Francis Road

Entertainment: S-Bahn (live music), Tropak Ukrainian Dance Theatre, Dulcimer Ensemble. Door Prizes; Champagne & party favours at midnight

Cost: Adults - \$60; Seniors over 65 - \$50. Phone 604.274.4119

Tickets must be purchased in advance for this popular event

Another Swinging Success

Beneath the sunny skies of the Country Meadows Golf Course on 13 September our golfers enjoyed themselves in spite of the hooks, slices and lost balls. In a Best Ball format George Daschko, Mir Huculak and George Brandak shot a 55 (-3) to win the tournament. Al Mogus, Gerry Fleming, Len and Scott Müller (56) were second. Mike Brandak, Daron Cohen, Steve DeGroot, and Jay Hok (58) finished third. The longest drives were hammered by Lesya Dawydiak and Jay Hok, while closest to the pin shots were made by Nancy Murray and Scott Miller. The most honest foursomes asked me not print their names until their scores are at the top of the scoreboard!

Kudos go to the catering staff at our hall for providing a delicious meal to the hungry and thirsty group of golfers. Thanks to the generosity of the donors every golfer received a prize during the post-dinner presentations. Showing a dedication to golf, the winner of the raffle - who had the first pick of any prize on the table - chose \$100 of golf balls rather than a romantic weekend stay for two at the Marriott Hotel.

Our donors included: Riverside Golf Centre, Marine Drive, Vancouver, Country Meadows Golf Course, Savage Creek Driving Range, Pacific Golf Academy, Jennifer Wyatt Instructor, Marriott Hotel, Jersey City, Perfect Lies, Golftown, Burrard Acura, Future Shop, Myrna Arychuk of Soloway Travel, Flexmaster, ECCO, Engineered Air, Enviro Tech Pollution Controls, Air Systems Supplies, ALLANCO International Environment Products, BC Air Filters, Joan Brander, Larry Herchak, George Brandak, and our Society.

At the end of the day, golfers clapped loudly when it was suggested to continue holding our tournament at Country Meadows. We acknowledge their courteous and professional manner. Let's hope that the great weather returns for our tournament in 2010!

by George Brandak

Svitanok Chorus Holiday Concerts

Sunday 13 December, 1:30pm

Ukrainian Carol Concert and Sing-Along
Holy Dormition of the Mother of God Church
8700 Railway Ave, Richmond
Tickets by Donation; For info: 604.271.5551, 604.929.2581

Sunday 20 December, 2:30pm

Annual Ukrainian Christmas Carol Festival & Sing-Along
Sponsored by Svitanok Performing Arts Society of BC
Ukrainian Catholic Center, 3150 Ash St, Vancouver
Tickets: \$12 Adult, \$10 Senior, \$8 Student, 12 & Under Free
Refreshments; For info: svitanokchorus@gmail.com

Thursday 7 January 2010

Solovei magazine presents a Ukrainian Christmas Dinner with Ukrainian Carols and a sing-along with Svitanok Chorus
International Union of Operating Engineers
4333 Ledger Ave, Burnaby
For info: 604.430.6789

Saturday 23 January 2010, 7:30pm

Cultural Harmonies 2010, a program of the BC Choral Federation; Svitanok Chorus and 5 choirs will perform
Fraserview Church, 11295 Mellisi Rd (near Cambie & Shell)
Tickets \$15; For info: svitanokchorus@gmail.com

Svitanok Chorus is eagerly scouting for men with Bass/Tenor voices. If you love to sing, come!! The director, Ann Kvitka Kozak, and 26 singers will welcome you most heartedly.
Email: svitanokchorus@gmail.com



George Daschko and George Brandak, co-organizers of the annual golf tournament, on the 18th hole at Country Meadows Golf Course

Photo by Mir Huculak

Volunteers Needed



Canadian Friends of the
Ukrainian Olympic Committee
Vancouver Branch

16 volunteer drivers with valid licenses to drive Ukrainian dignitaries during the 2010 Olympics, 4 to 27 February.
Vehicles and gas will be supplied.

Volunteers are also needed for catering and other activities.

If you are interested in volunteering, and would like more information, please call:

George Brandak, 604.274.2025
Walter Zavadell, 604.926.3293
Mir Huculak, 604.331.2505
Mirko Petriw, 604.936.6177



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, the club has fun discussing the characters, plots, settings, historical backgrounds and our own connections with these books.

Reading four books with four meetings a year has worked very well so far. At present book club members consist of an enthusiastic group of 14 women and men of varying ages, and professional and occupational backgrounds who travel to our meetings from as far as North Vancouver and White Rock, and as near as Richmond.

The ties that bring the book club together are our Ukrainian heritage, a love of reading, and the 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

Someone with Me by William Kurelek

About the Author

William Kurelek is best known as a Ukrainian-Canadian painter who, before his death in 1977, produced an important body of landscapes, allegorical scenes of Canadian prairie life and religious themes that he called his "sermons".

About the book

At our meeting in November 2009 we will be concluding the Book Club's third year with William Kurelek's autobiography *Someone with Me*.

This autobiography describes the inspiring odyssey of a boy from an impoverished prairie farm who became one of Canada's greatest artists.

During our meeting and discussion we will have a chance to peruse Kurelek's other award winning publications and art books housed in the Society library, such as *Prairie Boy's Winter*, *Prairie Boy's Summer*, *Northern Nativity*, *The Polish Canadians*, *Lumberjack*, *The Passion of Christ*, and *Kurelek's Canada*.

There is a short film called *Kurelek* by the National Film Board that we hope to borrow and view during this meeting.

by Theresa Herchak

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



Tropak Dance Studio

Register your kids now

All ages welcome!

For more information

Email: contact@tropak.ca

Phone Anna - 604.767.9877

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



Volunteers Larry and Phyllis Herchak

Dedicated volunteers for almost 20 years, Larry and Phyllis Herchak are moving to Kelowna to be closer to their family. They moved to Richmond in 1991 to become manager/caretakers of the Ukrainian Village of Ivan Franko seniors' residence on Railway Avenue. Within months they became involved in activities within the Ukrainian community, especially our Society with Phyllis as a perogy-maker volunteer and Larry working on a variety of tasks relating to food preparation. In 1992 Larry was asked to manage Baba's Kitchen at the PNE during the Centennial Celebration of Ukrainian immigration to Canada when the kitchen netted \$120 000 in sales to help support this celebration.

With a background in cooking for large groups, Larry fit well into the volunteering scene at our Society. He prepared the dough and potatoes needed for perogies for over five years, as well as preparing the sauerkraut. Larry has been the perogy cook for Friday night family suppers for many years. He estimates that he has cooked over 500 000 perogies, cored over 60 000 lbs of cabbage and made over 10 000 lbs of sauerkraut.

Larry has also served over ten years on the Board of Directors of the Society in different capacities. In his present position as Operations Director, Larry has been diligent and conscientious in overseeing the maintenance needs of the building.

Larry and Phyllis have been very active in Richmond's Ukrainian Catholic Church. Phyllis is well-known for her pies at the annual Christmas and Easter sales. Larry was a member of the Steveston Lions Club for over 15 years. He is becoming well-known for his decorative Easter eggs. However, he has not yet mastered playing the tsymbali, but is trying and has much time to learn. After all, he is only 80!

Most importantly, Larry and Phyllis have done an outstanding job as Manager/caretakers of the seniors' home, made many friends, and assisted many people. They have made a positive difference to the seniors living in the Village. Larry and Phyllis have told me that they will miss the many friends they have made, and it is equally true that we will miss them.

We wish them all the best in the future.
by George Brandak, President



Tropak News

Tropak Ukrainian Dance Theatre entered its 15th season with a reprisal of its show "The Forest" at the PNE in August. This show was first performed at the European Festival in May 2009, and later at the Obzhinky celebration in October 2009 at St Mary's Catholic Church.

Currently Tropak is in rehearsals for two major events in the early months of 2010. First, the upcoming Malanka celebration at the Society hall in January will feature a mix of old and new choreography by both the adult and youth dancers.

On 5 February Tropak will perform as part of an ensemble dance and music show organized by world percussionist and cross-cultural specialist Hari Pal. This event will take place at the Surrey Arts Centre, starting at 8pm. According to the event's Facebook page, tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for Seniors and Students. Phone 604.501.5566 or email arts@surrey.ca for more information.

