



## Special Documentary Film Show from “Babylon 13”

Two Ukrainian video-journalists of the *Babylon 13* documentary film team, brothers *Andriy and Pylyp Rozhen* continue their cross-Canada tour showing documentary screenings of “**The Winter That Changed Us**” from the 2013/14 Maidan Revolution to more than 10,000 Canadians, including Prime Minister *Steven Harper*.

Driving over 16,000 km from Victoria to Newfoundland, and performing over 50 screenings of their film which was featured at the *Cannes Film Festival*, they showed Canadians a new Ukraine and the new Ukrainians. We were honoured to have them at The Ukrainian Centre.

*The Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Vancouver Branch* together with the *Ukrainian Community Society of Ivan Franko* invited the community of the



Lower Mainland to **The Ukrainian Centre** on November 1 for a viewing of the documentary. The film clips illustrated the events of the *Ukrainian Maidan Revolution* (Revolution of Dignity) of last winter and the ensuing battles in east Ukraine.

This event was commemorating events of the birth of Ukraine’s first declaration of short-lived independence on Nov. 1, 1918, and the evolution since the second independence in 1991 into the Ukraine of today.

Proceeds of admission went to the *Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Vancouver Branch*. *Andriy and Pylyp Rozhen* were available to answer questions and gave interviews, while snacks were served.

## Golf Tournament a Huge Success - Again!

Clear, sunny skies over the Country Meadows Golf Course on September 14th and the excellent coordination by *George Brandak* helped make our annual tournament another swinging success for 55 golfers. The day was enhanced after the game by a wonderful meal prepared by our kitchen volunteers and prizes donated by many of our golfers, corporate donors, and our Society.

We have discovered that that **Best-Ball Forma (Texas Scramble)** is an excellent way to bring congeniality, fun, and teamwork into the golf tournament for all ages and all levels of play.

It was a well-played round with only 5 of 13 teams playing over par. The team of *Mike Brandak, Daron Cohen, Jay Ho* and *Aaron Stetzer* shot the top score of -6, followed closely by the team of *Lesya Dawydiak, Katherine Grant, Danny, and Lloyd*, who shot -5.

The ball closest to the hole (women) was registered by *Susan Lazaruk*, and *Roy Smith* did the same for men. The longest drives by women and men were shot by *Vickie Brkich* and *Doug Stavely*, respectively. Congratulations to all!

After nine holes under the hot sun, the golfers enjoyed a beverage and a hot dog or sandwich, and there were comments on the good quality of food. We thank the staff of the *Country Meadows Golf Course* for helping us have a wonderful experience in spite of hooks, slices, and missed putts, and, We Shall Be Back!

## Honouring the Late Olga Kotelko

This Book Club event was organized, by *Theresa Herchak*, and assisted by *Anne Brandak* and *Darlene Scribilo*, with help from *Karen Widesky*. The members of Ivan Franko Book Club hosted 32 people in our lounge with a special event introducing the book **Olga: The O.K. Way to a Healthy, Happy Life** by *Olga Kotelko*.

*Olga Kotelko* (2 March 1919 – 24 June 2014) was a Canadian nonagenarian track and field athlete. She held over 30 world records and won over 750 gold medals in her age group since she started competing at age 77, and was considered “one of the world’s greatest athletes” as a result. She was well known in and respected by the Ukrainian community not only in the greater Vancouver area, where she lived, but throughout the world. She visited our Society several times.

Guest speakers *Roxanne Davis* who worked with *Olga* on the book, and editor, *Michelle Carter* provided interesting insights and background to the book itself - and gave us glimpses into *Olga’s* amazing life! These two women surprised and entertained us as they recounted their experiences with *Olga* and with the writing of the book, with copies of the book available for purchase.

*Olga’s* daughter *Lynda* also attended adding more about *Olga’s* life and her passing. There was a special screening of excerpts from the documentary “**Grey Glory**” to see *Olga* in action! Refreshments included Ukrainian baking from the **Eparchial Cook Book** which *Olga* co-published.

## Malanka

Our next Malanka will be held on **Saturday, January 10, 2015** at **The Ukrainian Centre**. We celebrate Malanka starting with cocktails, and a traditional dinner followed by Ukrainian entertainment and then dancing for everyone to a live band, S-Bahn who are returning for another exciting evening of Malanka festivity!

**Advance tickets go on sale November 1**, and are only available through The Ukrainian Centre. They will go quickly, so don’t miss out! **Adult \$65, Seniors (65 and older) \$55**. Everyone is welcome - bring a crowd! Tables of 8 can be reserved for your group. Champagne, door prizes, and semi-formal attire.

## Youth of Maidan Project Support

This past summer Ukrainians of Vancouver welcomed a group of 13 young students from Ukraine who participated in a summer program to improve their English, to meet new Canadian friends, and to experience our multicultural and democratic Canadian environment.

This program was organized by the **Open World Learning** (O.W.L., owl-study.com) Ukrainian Canadian Education and Charity Trust in response to the tragic revolutionary events at the *Maidan Independence Square in Kyiv, Ukraine*, in the winter of 2013/14. "Maidan" became synonymous with the "revolution of dignity" that changed Ukraine and Ukrainians forever.

This group known as the "**Youth of Maidan**" consisted of young activists who suffered severe physical injuries themselves, or whose fathers survived after being shot or burned, or who were killed by snipers at Maidan. These tragic events left scars in the hearts of most of the 46 million people in Ukraine but especially in those students who matured in just a few months. They inspired the world even more with their fearless approach to life and their willingness to risk their lives for the better future of Ukraine.

Financial aid and support was provided by our Society contributing significantly to travel expenses, and by providing home-stays for these Youth of Maidan who were financially limited to participate in this program while travelling to and living in Vancouver.



## Membership Payments

Current, previous, and new members are reminded that their membership dues for 2015 should be paid no later than **Januray 31, 2015**. For those who have not paid their 2014 dues, payment is waived for 2014, and their membership continues with their 2015 payment.

Please complete and return the new membership forms found enclosed or available online for updating your requirements by our Office Manager. Of course, we encourage you to keep the Activities Page to ensure that you have the full benefits of your membership.



## Obituaries

**Sofia (Sonya) Petelycky** died peacefully on Sunday, June 1, 2014 at Richmond General Hospital at the age of 89. Sonya was a very valuable volunteer for many years not only in our kitchen, but also for various events, for over 30 years.

**Steve (Stefan) Petelycky** died peacefully August 29, 2014 at Richmond General Hospital at the age of 91.

Both Sonya and Steve were Honourary Members of our Society. Steve's awarding winning book "Into Auschwitz, for Ukraine" provides a fascinating look at the lives of these two highly respected and long time members of our Society.

**Hazel Tymchuk**, wife of our long time member and Director of Maintenance for our Centre, John Tymchuk, passed away on August 7, 2014 in Langley, BC. Hazel was an active volunteer, especially for our Friday Night Suppers, for many years.

**Ludmila Karpinsky** passed peacefully on August 20, 2014 in Vancouver. Ludmila was a volunteer at our kitchen for many years.

**Kathryn Chyrski**, born July 26, 1988 passed away suddenly in Richmond on September 17, 2014. She is survived by her loving parents Peter and Valerie, and her brother Andrew

The individual student we fully supported financially was 20 year old *Dmytro Tsarok* from *Vasylkiv*, near *Kyiv*. When "Maidan" started, his father became a "Maidaner" protesting the corrupt government of *Yanukoych*. In February 20, he was shot by 3 bullets from very close range. One of his dreams to commemorate his father was to further his activism for real independence and sovereignty of Ukraine. He learned to speak English and travelled to different countries which support Ukraine's Revolution of Dignity, returning to Ukraine sharing his experiences with people he met.

In his interview with our Society President, *Roman Herchak* before returning to Ukraine in September, Dmytro underscored his gratitude to our Society, and how he achieved his dream so much above his expectations because of our support for him. One day he may very well be one of Ukraine's top leaders. Our support was very well worthwhile!

## Tropak

**Tropak Ukrainian Dance Theatre** is the resident dance company of the Ukrainian Community Society of Ivan Franko. It brings together dancers dedicated to the purpose of cultivating Ukrainian dance as Canadian art form. The Dance Theatre welcomes male and female dancers, aged 16 yrs or older to join the performing group. No previous Ukrainian dance experience required.

## New Website

Have you visited our new website? It has the latest information posted regularly and is a great place to let everyone know about upcoming events, festivals, and social gatherings. Connect with other Ukrainians, and we'll help spread the word about news in our exciting and vibrant community.