



## Malanka January, 2015

There was a buzz in the air in the early evening of January 10 at the Ukrainian Community Centre in Richmond. In front of the banners of Malanka, people lined up for hors d'oeuvres and the Ukrainian Prairie Band played old-time Ukrainian music a sold out attendance at the Ukrainian Community Centre.

The musicians, *Gladys Andreas*, *Shyrley Kasper*, *Don Olds*, and *Chris McGregor*, ended their set with "Peace in our Family" as the staff set up the buffet. It was a hearty meal including breads, salads, salmon, roasted sauerkraut, varenyky, holubtsi, and roast beef that would give our guests the energy necessary to dance the evening away. As the staff served black forest cake to the guests, the M.C. explained the traditions of Malanka – a Ukrainian folk holiday which celebrates the coming of the New Year following the Julian calendar, and that Malanka is the daughter of Mother Earth.

The *Tropak Ukrainian Dancers* followed with three creative and lively dances which were appreciated by a loudly applauding audience. They were followed by *Gustapo Ferman* and *Virginia Heatherton* with a trio of latin dances in their initial performance at Malanka. Back by popular demand, *S-Bahn* played and sang for the next three hours: *Richard Tyce*, vocals, accordion, and keyboards; *James Bartz*, drums, vocals; *Kurt Ward-Tyce*, fiddle, bass, vocals; *Ron Thompson*, guitar. The dance floor was always full as they played and sang a wide variety of songs.



During breaks in the dancing, door prizes donated by supporters of our Society were given out to our guests. As midnight approached, various snacks, sparkling wine, noisemakers, and hats were handed out to guests. The New Year was celebrated by all, with *Richard Tyce* singing "Peace in the Family." The music and songs continued as people went home after a very satisfying evening.

Malanka would not have been possible without the hard work and efforts of the following people: *Rosa Wideski*, *Penny Charlebois*, and staff for the dinner service; *Tanya* and *Tasha Zukewich* as bartenders; all the volunteers who made varenyky on Tuesday, and holubtsi on Thursday; and especially the Malanka Organizing Committee consisting of *Fran Zukewich*, *Theresa Herchak*, *Karen Wideski*, and *George Brandak*.

The Ukrainian Community Society of Ivan Franko wishes everyone a very Happy New Year. May it treat you gently – May it favour you with excellent health – May it shower you with many joyful moments!!

The next Malanka will be held on January 9, 2016. Tickets will go on sale in October.

## Volunteer Brunch



Our volunteers are the backbone for the success of the Society. They contribute directly or indirectly to the operations of the Society. They commit their time to be Board Directors, to prepare varenyky (perogies) and holubtsi (cabbage rolls) weekly, putting on the Monthly Friday Night Suppers for the general public, and by participating in cultural and social activities.

The Society is very grateful to all our volunteers for giving their time and energy to assist the society. The volunteers enjoy coming to the Ukrainian Centre. The annual volunteer brunch funded by the Society is our way of showing our appreciation to the volunteers.

This year's Volunteer Brunch was held on November 23 at the River Rock Casino in Richmond and was attended by 38 volunteers. They especially applauded the Board Volunteer Director, *Fran Zukewich*, for her organizational efforts and dedication for all volunteer activities. Fran replied that she very much enjoys her involvement with all of the volunteers.

## Donations from the Society

One of the objectives of our Society is to award charitable donations. They are awarded in two categories: for scholarships; and for needy organizations and individuals.

Scholarships for a total amount of \$2000 annually are offered to high school graduates for Post Secondary Education and for Cultural Advancement and Enrichment. Applications are available once annually in February, and forms are mailed to senior secondary schools in Richmond. You can also download the form from our website, or pick up a form at The Ukrainian Centre.

To date for 2015, needy organizations and individuals were offered \$2100 by the Society. These included Ukrainian-Canadian organizations in British Columbia to permit them to continue their charitable works, such as the Richmond Food Bank and the Ukrainian Canadian Social Services Committee and individual members of our Society who were in need of living assistance. The Society will consider additional applicants for donations which meet the objectives of the Society within our budgetary framework.

# THE READING ROOM

## Ivan Franko Book Club

We are beginning the ninth year of our highly successful **Ivan Franko Book Club**. Through our readings we have met unforgettable characters, shared incredible experiences and have travelled extensively in time and space. Our selections reflect a variety of genres: mystery, thriller, humorous and historical novels; memoirs; classic Ukrainian literature in translation; poetry, a play and movies. Some of the books reduced us to puddles of laughter, while others brought upon a stillness born of empathy and reflection. We did not always agree with each other's interpretations or evaluations of the books, but we certainly enjoyed the spirited discussions and learned a lot about what it means to be Ukrainian.

On Tuesday, February 3, at 6:30pm our book club will be viewing the movie "*Everything Is Illuminated*." It is the story of a young Jewish American man who tries, with the help of an eccentric local guide, to find the Ukrainian woman who saved his grandfather during World War II in a Ukrainian village, which was ultimately razed by the Nazis.

We will have a follow up discussion on the movie and a preview of our new Book Club selection for May, the 2014 Kobzar Award winner, *Luba, Simply Luba*.

## Ivan Franko Library

The Library and Members' Lounge is open on Saturdays from 11am to 2pm. We have a wide selection of hard to find books in Ukrainian language, classical Ukrainian literature and books in English language on Ukrainian history, culture and current events.

Current acquisitions include the following contemporary novels:

- Fieldwork in Ukrainian Sex by Oksana Zabuzhko (Author), Halyna Hryn (Translator) – 2011
- The Boy Who Glowed in the Dark by Orest Stelmach – 2014
- Caught in the Current: A Novel by Daniel Hryhorczuk – 2013
- Making Bombs for Hitler by Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch – 2012
- Luba, Simply Luba by Diane Flacks, Luba Goy, Andrey Tarasiuk – 2013

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Society members that would like to join us as guests for the movie "*Everything Is Illuminated*" or to become members please contact Theresa at [info@ivanfranko.ca](mailto:info@ivanfranko.ca) as soon as possible to let her know of the numbers you will be bringing to this movie.

For more information on the Ivan Franko Book Club, the Library or Lunch Time Movies please contact Theresa at [info@ivanfranko.ca](mailto:info@ivanfranko.ca).

## Saturday Lunch Time Movies

### Exciting New Event at our Library

We will show general interest movies that our members will find entertaining and informative. Suggestions are welcome.

Our first movie is **Royal Cousins at War** to be shown February 28 at 11am. Members and their friends are invited to bring a lunch or snack for this 2 hour movie. There is no charge to members.

Narrated by *Tamsin Greig (Shaun of the Dead)*, *Royal Cousins at War* tells the story of the three monarchs who reigned over Europe's Greatest powers at the outbreak of the First World War—*Tsar Nicholas II* of Russia, *Kaiser Wilhelm II* of Germany and *King George V* of England. The emerging divisions and rivalries between the inter-related houses of Europe brought change, tragedy and personal humiliation.

While it was war that delivered the final blow, this fascinating series shows how the rot had set in much earlier and how the European royals contributed to their demise. Mismanaging their countries and mishandling foreign policy, they failed to adapt to the forces of nationalism and democracy, and so brought tumbling down their own ideal of a Europe governed by the descendants of *Queen Victoria*.

Of the four great Imperial dynasties – Germany, Austria-Hungary, Russia and Great Britain – only *George V*, the least personally powerful, remained standing. Monarchy, for centuries the prime form of governance in Europe, was finished as a serious political force.

## Tropak

Are you looking to try something new?

Want dance to be your workout?



Are you Ukrainian, or wish you were?

Have you ever wanted to try Ukrainian dance?

Tropak Ukrainian Dance Theatre is looking for new members! We are a fun, friendly, and enthusiastic adult dance ensemble looking for new dancers!

Class is open to anyone with previous dance experience. Members will be invited to perform at the discretion of the Artistic Director. First month of rehearsals are at no cost. Drop-ins welcome. Performing members pay a reasonable and low monthly fee. Rehearsals are in Richmond, on Thursdays and Sundays.

Contact us for more info! *Stephania*, 604-728-7915 or [contact@tropak.ca](mailto:contact@tropak.ca)

## Friday Night Family Suppers

Suppers are held on the 3rd Friday of each month from 5pm to 7:30pm. The next Friday Night Family Supper will be on February 20.

## Membership Payments

Current, previous, and new members are reminded that their membership dues for 2015 should be paid no later than **February 28, 2015**. For those who have not paid their 2014 dues, payment is waived for 2014, and their membership continues with their 2015 payment.

The annual meeting of the Society is expected to be held in late March or early April, with the exact date to be provided in the next newsletter. Any member, including new members, who wish to serve on the Board of Directors should advise *Roman Herchak* at [info@ivanfranko.ca](mailto:info@ivanfranko.ca).

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.

