



NEWSLETTER

March 2021

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Upcoming Events

Annual General Meeting

Saturday, April 10, 2021 at 2:00 pm via Zoom (online).

Friday Night Suppers

Our next FNS is March 19th.

Due to the current situation with COVID-19, we continue to do take-out only. Check our website for future dates and menus.

Saturday Sales

We continue to have Saturday sales from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Products available are: cheese and sauerkraut perogies, cabbage rolls (options are: rice & bacon, rice & meat, and veggie), borscht, beet horseradish (horseradish and beets) and Ukrainian sausage. This year we will also have delicious Babka (quantities limited). Stock up for Easter!

Saturday Sales for Easter will be Good Friday, April 2 & Saturday, April 3.

Take Out

We have the following prepared items for take out, perogies, cabbage rolls, roasted sauerkraut and sausage, and pickled beets. To place your order, call 604-274-4119 to leave a message or email us at info@ivanfranko.ca. Someone will return the call or email back to confirm your order.

Golf Tournament

We are planning our golf tournament for September. More details will be available in our June Newsletter.

AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2021

Please plan to join us for our Society's Annual General Meeting. Members will be informed of events that occurred during the year and vote for the new Board of Directors and issues that are presented at the meeting.

Your memberships for 2021 must be in good standing to be eligible to vote. If you have not renewed your 2021 Membership, please complete the renewal form attached to this newsletter and send it in to our office. We need to

receive it before April 10th. The Board is looking forward to meeting with our members and listening to any of their comments.

When: Saturday, April 10, 2021

at 2:00 pm

Where: Due to restrictions for gathering, our AGM will be available by Zoom. We will email a Zoom link to all members a few days before April 10th.

UKRAINIAN EASTER TRADITIONS

During the course of its existence, the Ukrainian nation has created immortal, spiritual and cultural treasures which manifested themselves in the unique beauty and richness of Easter customs and traditions. Their roots go back to the pre-Christian era and are connected with the Festival of Spring.

After the acceptance of Christianity in 988, many of the pre-Christian customs were retained but given new meaning and new interpretations according to the spirit of Christian teaching. Currently, only a few of these old customs have been preserved and Easter became essentially a church holiday commemorating the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

For Ukrainians, Easter has a great significance because of its specific religious rites, traditional baking, Easter songs called "hahilky and vesnyankiy" and decorated



Traditional Ukrainian Easter Basket

Easter eggs with artistic designs of symbolic nature.

Easter, or Holy Week, begins with Palm Sunday which, in Ukraine, is called "Willow Sunday" (Verbna Nedilya), and commemorates the triumphal entry of Christ into Jerusalem. On this day, small twigs of pussy willow are blessed in church. On the evening of Holy Thursday, called "Great or Passion Thursday", twelve gospels are read in church in commemoration of the Passion of Christ.

On the morning of "Passion Friday", Good Friday, The Royal Hours are chanted. After this, "Plaschanytsia", the Holy Shroud, representing the sheet that Christ was buried in following his death on the cross, is solemnly carried three times around the church and laid in the tomb.

At dawn on Easter Sunday, a special resurrection service is held at the beginning

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UKRAINIAN EASTER TRADITIONS ...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Traditional Easter Breakfast

of which The Holy Shroud is placed on the altar. The most beautiful and inspiring moment of this service is when the priest, after the procession, stops before the closed door of the church and intones the traditional triumphant song "Khristos Voskres" (Christ is Risen). The whole congregation repeats this chant several times with great joy. The closed doors of the church symbolize the closure of the Kingdom of Heaven up to the time of Christ's Resurrection.

Ukrainian Easter Breakfast

- Hard Boiled Eggs
- Paska and Babka
- Ham / Shynka
- Kovbasa / Ukrainian sausage
- Beets with Horseradish
- Butter
- Cottage Cheese
- Studenetz - Jellied Meat
- Potato Salad
- Syrnyk / Cheese Cake

The Easter breakfast begins with the Lord's prayer followed by the head of the family serving the blessed egg to each member of the family with the customary Easter greeting "Khrytos Voskres" (Christ is Risen). The traditionally accepted reply is

"Voistyno Voskres" (He is Indeed Risen).

Ukrainian Easter in Canada is acknowledged as a feast of joy that unites the community in a common celebration. Canadians of Ukrainian background will continue the observance of Ukrainian Easter with its unique traditions because it is a celebration of life and acknowledgment of Jesus Christ.

Recipe: Burachky - Beets With Horseradish

Ingredients

6 medium beets
½ cup sugar
½ cup freshly grated horseradish
OR
6 oz. prepared cream – style horseradish
1 tsp salt
½ cup sugar
1 cup vinegar

Directions

- Wash beets and bring to boil in salted water until tender.
- Drain, cover with cold water.
- When cool, cut off the stems and roots and slip off peel.
- Grate the beets on a coarse grater and mix with horseradish.
- Boil the vinegar, salt and sugar. Add to the grated beets. Stir well.



PYSANKY-UKRAINIAN EASTER EGGS



Ancient pre-Christian peoples decorated eggs believing that great powers were embodied in the egg. During the spring festivals, they used coloured decorated eggs to welcome the sun and to help the sun's rebirth into power and warmth, ensuring fertility to the fields and rivers. These were festivals of rejoicing, marking triumph of life over death, of spring over winter. With the advent of

Christianity, Easter eggs came to symbolize the Resurrection and the spiritual rebirth of man. Legend has it that as long as pysanky are decorated, goodness will prevail over evil throughout the world.



PYSANKY: WRITING WITH SYMBOLS

There are countless stories written in Pysanky which are determined by the historical time period, the regional origins and the combination of symbols and colours. We have chosen a few pysanky that tell a story using some of these symbols. We would like highlight Gypsy Roads, Forty Triangles, and Trypillian Pysanky.

GYPSY ROADS (TSYHANS'KI DOROHY)



Gypsy Roads Pysanka

Symbols and Their Meanings		
Plant Symbols	Animal Motifs	Geometric Patterns
wheat		bountiful harvest
grapes		friendship
evergreen		health
sunflower		warmth
rose		beauty
		deer
		ram
		hen
		fish
		spider
		leadership
		wealth
		fertility
		christianity
		patience
		rakes
		windmill
		triangle
		ribbons
		trinity
		eternity
		circle
		good fortune

Ancient in origin but popular in present time and in all regions of Ukraine. It is a simple design containing only 2 elements: the eternally meandering line and the power of colour.

In "Gypsy Roads" the meandering line divides the egg into equal fields of red and black. The evil in black is held in check by the

good in red and it cannot find its way off the road. On a universal level, this is a story of the eternal struggle between good and evil. On a personal level this is a story of protecting the holder of this Pysanka. This would be a good Pysanka to give a loved one that is setting off on a perilous journey.

FORTY TRIANGLES (SOROK-KLYNTSIW)

This pysanka is transitional in nature can be read as a pre Christian and as a Christian story.

The main design elements are the triangle and the number forty. Colour and additional symbols are not important, nor is the fact the egg is actually divided into 48 triangles.

In pre - Christian times, this Pysanka was intimately related to the total lives of the people. Each triangle encapsulated the specific 40 life tasks such as working the fields, and events such as the birth of children. The triangle

represented the heavens (sun, moon, stars) the elements (water, earth, air) and the life cycle (birth, life, death). Great care was taken in writing this Pysanka and a prayer for its recipient was breathed into each of the triangles. This is the perfect gift to bestow on a newly married couple.

In the Christian interpretation, this design signifies the 40 day lenten period, with 40 days of fasting, or the forty martyrs with the 40 birds hovering over the martyrs. The triangle also represents the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit).

TRYPILLIAN PYSANKY

Named after the city of Trypillia where, in the 1890's, shards of pottery and other artifacts were discovered dating back to 5000 B.C. The white and black designs on red clay were organically flowing

and repeated rhythmically. One of the interpretations of these patterns is that they represent Mother Earth and the female form from whom new life comes.



Trypillian Pysanky

Discover the Magic of Pysanky

Virtual Easter Workshop

Ukrainian Easter eggs made the traditional way with beeswax and dyes.
Ukrainian pysanky by local expert Joan Brander (artist, author, instructor, lecturer).

When: Saturday, March 27th 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Where: Online via Microsoft TEAMS

- Features:**
- make a pysanka the traditional way — it's easy, fun, and affordable
 - hands-on activity
 - a Spring Break activity for kids and adults too
 - simple, step-by-step instructions
 - teaching aids (visual, auditory, sensory) encourages creativity
 - no experience necessary
 - includes Student Kit (beeswax, kistka and dyes)

Cost: \$22.00 (covers the cost of the basic kit)

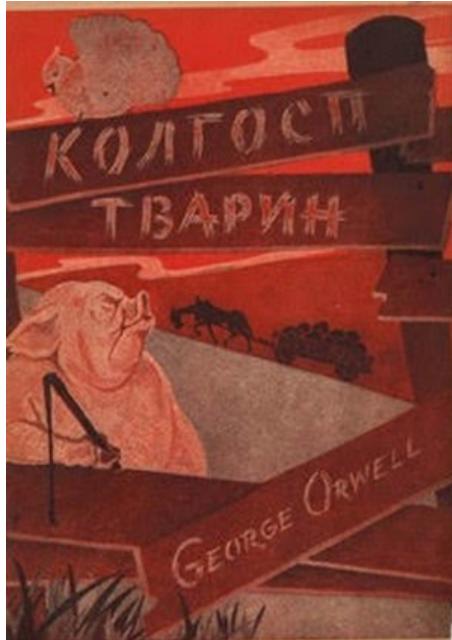
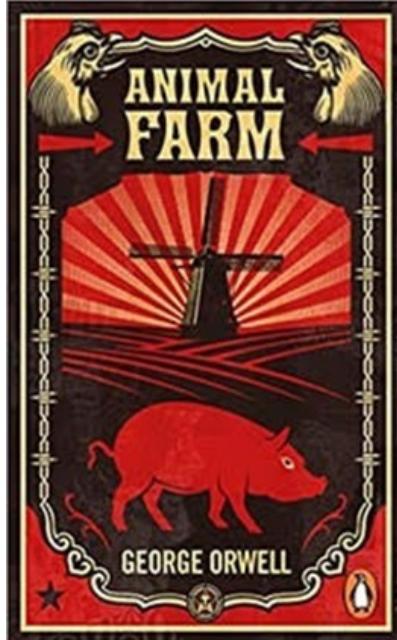
Pre-registration is required—
please call 778-317-8247 or
email
tashazukewich@gmail.com.

Materials for pick up and
instructions to access the virtual
workshop will be available once
you have registered. Materials
(preparation of dyes) should be
prepared a week in advance if
possible (March 20th).

IVAN FRANKO LIBRARY

"All animals are equal. But some animals are more equal than others."

Our library will reopen later this year. In the meantime, for a captivating story and interesting connections you are invited to revisit George Orwell's *Animal Farm*. This is brilliant satire published in 1945 on the corrupting influence of power and the history of a revolution that went wrong. It can be read free of charge at gutenberg.ca/ebooks/orwellg-animalfarm/orwellg-animalfarm-00-h.html.



and American administration. About 80 of these camps were fully or predominantly Ukrainian. It was for these Ukrainians that Ihor Szewczenko, a young - Polish born Ukrainian linguist and academic living in Munich, wanted to translate *Animal Farm*. In 1946 he received Orwell's permission to translate the book into Ukrainian and a year

later when the book was ready for publication, Orwell agreed to write a preface for it.

Orwell begins his preface with, "I have been asked to write a preface to the Ukrainian translation of *Animal Farm*....I am aware that I write for readers about whom I know nothing, but also that they too have probably never had the slightest opportunity to know anything about me. ...they will most likely expect me to say something of how *Animal Farm* originated but first I would like to say something about myself and the experiences by which I arrived at my political position."

The Ukrainian translation, *Колгосп Тварин*, can be found at www.academia.edu/42870816/
[Animal Farm by George Orwell Ukrainian Translation by Ihor Shevchenko](#)

Ukrainian is one of the first of at least 70 languages, including Esperanto, into which *Animal Farm* has been translated. The story of this Ukrainian translation and the personal connections George Orwell had with its translator and the journalist who exposed the atrocities of the Holodomor is a fascinating one.

After WW2, about 200,000 Ukrainian refugees were interned in 125 Displaced Persons' Camps in Germany under British

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IVAN FRANKO LIBRARY ...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

What follows is a fascinating story of Orwell's life and the most detailed explanation of his motives for writing *Animal Farm* found in any of his prefaces. The online book does not have this preface. However, it can be found at https://orwell.ru/library/novels/Animal_F (George Orwell: Preface to the Ukrainian Edition of 'Animal Farm: A Fairy Story'). An interesting side note is that this preface is actually a translation from the Ukrainian as the original preface written by Orwell in English was lost.

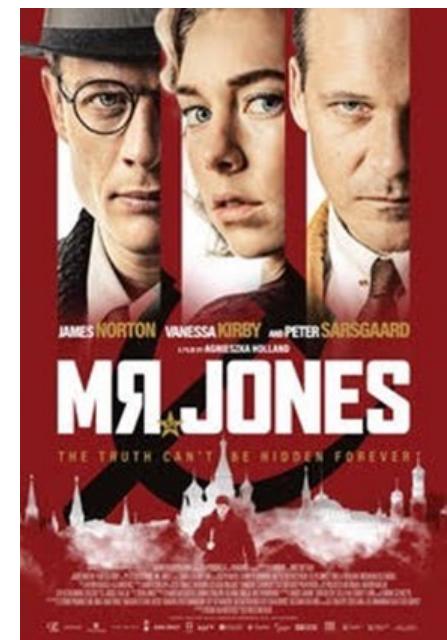
Another connection to *Animal Farm* is the movie *Mr Jones*.

Mr. Jones is a 2019 biographical thriller film. It was selected to compete for the Golden Bear at the 69th Berlin International Film Festival.

The film loosely tells the story of Gareth

Jones, an ambitious young journalist who gained fame for being the first foreign journalist to interview Hitler. Intrigued by the Soviet "utopia", Jones travels to Moscow, where he meets Ada Brooks, a British journalist, who reveals that the truth behind the regime is being violently repressed. Hearing murmurs of government-induced famine, kept secret by the Soviet censors, Jones travels clandestinely to Ukraine, where he witnesses Stalin's atrocities of man-made starvation. Deported back to London, Jones publishes an article revealing his findings, quickly denied by Western journalist Walter Duranty. As death threats mount, Jones has to fight for the truth. Meeting a young George Orwell, he shares his findings... helping inspire the seminal novel *Animal Farm*.

For information about our Library, Book and



Movie Clubs, contact Theresa at books@ivanfranko.ca or call our Society at 604-274-4119 to leave a message.

REMEMBERING MEROS LECKOW



It is with much sadness that we inform our members of the passing of Meros Leckow.

Meros Leckow, a valued member of our Society for many years, passed away at the age of 101 on Dec. 8, 2020. Meros was a well known and respected dance instructor, entertainer, musician, and organizer of many cultural events in Canada and the United States. He and his wife Liliya left Winnipeg in 1985 to join their family in

Richmond. Here Meros shared his talents and interests in culture, genealogy, writing and painting with members of our society. He was a member of the Board of Directors and a frequent volunteer. One of his many passions was reading and collecting books, many on Ukrainian history. When our new facility was completed in 1986, Meros helped to organize the library and began his frequent donations of excellent books and historic prints to our library. Of note is his outstanding collection on Ukrainian Cossacks. In his early years in Richmond, Meros taught Ukrainian dancing to

children and adults at our centre. At concerts in the late 1990's his daughter Marcia and granddaughter Carly entertained our members with dancing, singing while Meros read Ukrainian stories to captive young children. One of Meros' last official functions at our centre was to cut the ribbon at the 'Grand Reopening' of our reorganized and digitally catalogued library.

It was a pleasure to have known Meros. He will be remembered for his gentle smile and twinkling eyes, his kindness, knowledge and generosity.

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

For over 25 years our Society has been hosting an **Annual Ukrainian Community Golf Tournament** for members and friends. The tournament is for all golfers, young and somewhat old, regardless of ability. The emphasis is on everyone having a good time.



The tournament is a Texas Scramble format, enabling all players of varying skills to play and enjoy the game. We

will be returning to Country Meadows for our annual tournament and hope to gather for prizes and dinner at our hall after we finish playing. It will depend on public health orders at the time, however, we are very optimistic that everything will be a go.

Date and other details to be announced. We will post on our website and include more information in our June Newsletter.

Membership Payments 2021

Current, previous, and new members are reminded that their membership dues for 2021 must be in good standing to be eligible to vote.

If you have not renewed your 2021 Membership, please complete the renewal form attached to this newsletter or visit our website at www.ivanfranko.ca/ membership and send it in to our office.

HOW MANY MATCHES CAN YOU FIND IN THE PHOTO BELOW?



NEXT FRIDAY NIGHT SUPPER IS MARCH 19th — TAKE OUT ONLY!