



*We Can Do Better:
Expanding Horizons
For Ukrainian Americans*

1997 TWG Leadership Conference

co-sponsored by

**The Embassy of Ukraine
The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation
The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America**

October 10-12, 1997
Georgetown University Conference Center
Washington, D.C.

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1997 Washington Group Leadership Conference*



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October 10, 1997

On behalf of the membership and Board of Directors of The Washington Group I welcome you to the 1997 TWG Leadership Conference. This is a relatively peaceful time in our community and in world politics, making it a well-suited time to ask ourselves "How can we do better?" and "How can we expand our horizons?"

This conference will address these questions by giving us the opportunity to learn from other ethnic communities, by providing us with insights to the current state and future direction of our own institutions, and by providing ideas and examples on how we as a community and as individuals can reach out beyond our traditional confines and participate in a larger world by getting involved in business, politics, and culture, and by creating links between Ukraine and the United States and between the Ukrainian-American community and Ukrainians world-wide.

Perhaps this TWG conference—with its good food, good dancing, and good entertainment serving to embellish thoughtful discussion and vigorous socializing and networking—can serve as a model for the future Ukrainian-American community.

George Masiuk
President

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Friday, Oct. 10

7:00 – 10:00 **Reception at the Embassy of Ukraine**

Saturday, Oct. 11

8:00 – 9:00 **Registration**
9:00 – 9:15 **Welcome and Introductory remarks**
9:15 – 10:00 **Keynote Address**

10:00 – 11:30 ***Panel 1: Creating a model of a successful community:
Lessons from other communities***

Adrian Karmazyn (moderator)

Chairman
TWG Fellowship Fund

Daniel Blondy

Director
Alliance Francaise of Washington

Ewa Matuszewski

Member
National Board of Directors, Polish American Congress

Fred Rotondaro

Executive Director
National Italian American Foundation

11:30 – 2:00 **Luncheon and Town Hall Discussion and Featured Speaker
Ambassador William Courtney**
Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for
Russia, Ukraine and Eurasian Affairs at the NSC

2:00 – 3:30 ***Panel 2: How are Ukrainian-American organizations doing?***

Myron B. Kuropas (moderator)

Adjunct Professor
Northern Illinois University

Roma M. Hayda

Chair
Laity Council, Ukrainian Catholic Church in the U.S.

Bohdan Vitvitsky

Vice President
Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons
Association of N.Y. and N.J.

Bohdan Watral

President/CEO
Selfreliance Ukrainian Federal Credit Union in Chicago

Very Rev. Stefan Zencuch

Rector
St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of Metropolitan
Washington.

3:30 – 5:00 ***Panel 3: Exercising influence within American society***

Orest Deychakiwsky (moderator)

Staff Associate
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Laryssa Lapychak Chopivsky

Director
TWG Cultural Fund

Andrew Fedynsky

Consultant
Business, government and non-profit clients in Cleveland

Robert McConnell

Counsel
Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher

Michael Sawkiw

Director
Ukrainian National Information Service

7:00 – 8:00

Cocktail hour

8:00 – 10:00

Awards Banquet

Friend of Ukraine Award presentation to theater director **Lidia Krushelnytsky** and choreographer **Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky**

10:00 – 1:30

Dance, to the music of TEMPO

Sunday, October 12

8:30 – 10:00

Meeting of Federation of Ukrainian-American Business & Professional Associations

10:00 – 11:30

Panel 4: *Building connections to Ukraine*

Andrew Masiuk (moderator)
Former Director General
International Management Institute, Kyiv

Andrew Bihun

Senior Commercial Officer
U.S. Embassy, Kyiv

Jaroslav Dutkewych

Country Director
U.S. Peace Corps, Ukraine

Marta Zielyk

Interpreter
U.S. Department of State

11:30 – 2:00

Brunch and performance by Peter Ostroushko and Dean Magraw

2:15 – 3:45

Panel 5: *Local government project: A case study of how to win and execute grants involving aid to Ukraine*

John A. Kun (moderator)
Financial and Grants Administrator
U.S.-Ukraine Foundation

Nadia Komarnycky McConnell

President
U.S.-Ukraine Foundation

Joyce Warner

Deputy Project Director
Community Partnerships Project, U.S.-Ukraine Foundation

Adjournment



ЦЕНТРАЛЯ УКРАЇНСЬКИХ КООПЕРАТИВ АМЕРИКИ (ЦУКА)
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Дмитро Григорчук
Президент Управи

NOTES ON PARTICIPANTS

Andrew Bihun is the Senior Commercial Officer with the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, responsible for American trade and investment activities in Ukraine. Prior to his assignment there in August 1995, he was an international trade specialist and manager of industry sector analysis in the International Trade Administration of the Department of Commerce. Mr. Bihun is a graduate of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service. He has been active in TWG since the organization's founding, and served as its vice president before going to Kyiv.

Daniel Blondy, is director of the Alliance Francaise of Washington. A nonprofit cultural and educational association, the Alliance Francaise is the largest network of French language and cultural centers in the world, with 1,300 chapters established in 112 countries, including 150 chapters in the United States. Before becoming director of Alliance Francaise of Washington in 1993, he was the director of the organization's center in Durban, South Africa, in the 1980s, and taught in France, Lebanon and Morocco from 1970 to 1982. He received a BA in history education in 1973 and a Masters in contemporary history in 1976. Has lived abroad for 24 years.

Laryssa Lapychak Chopivsky was a founder of The Washington Group Cultural Fund in 1994 and is in her fourth year as its director. Under her leadership, the Cultural Fund has presented many artists and groups, such as the Berkeley Chamber Chorus, soprano Oksana Krovtytska, and the winners of the Horowitz International Piano Competition, to name a few, and has raised over \$35,000 for the Odessa Philharmonic Orchestra's Chernobyl Tenth Anniversary Commemorative Concert Tour, which not only focused attention on the continuing problems of Chernobyl, but also showcased Ukrainian culture at its highest level. Earlier, she served as TWG special projects director, chaired the TWG Leadership Conference, and organized TWG's inaugural trip to Ukraine in 1989 to network and establish contacts with professional counterparts, and to familiarize TWG members with their cultural heritage. An active member of the Ukrainian community, Ms. Chopivsky was in the leadership of the youth organization Plast in Chicago and later in Washington. She was a member of the Chernobyl Committee of Washington and a founding

member and first treasurer of the Ukrainian Washington Federal Credit Union. With a special interest in the arts, she is a longtime member of the Board of Directors of the Washington Performing Arts Society and a performing member of the Friday Morning Music Club. Ms. Chopivsky has a B.A. degree from the University of Illinois and an M.B.A. from George Washington University, and was formerly an owner and vice president of Commonwealth Broadcasting Company, Inc. Ms. Chopivsky is also a member of the Board of Development of the Hospital for Sick Children.

Ambassador William Courtney is Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Russia, Ukraine and Eurasian Affairs at the National Security Council. He took over the NSC position in August, replacing Stephen Pizer, who was later nominated as the next U.S. ambassador to Ukraine. A career diplomat since 1972, William Courtney last served overseas as ambassador to Georgia from 1995 to 1997. Prior to that he was ambassador to Kazakstan, co-chair of the U.S. delegation on Safety, Security and Dismantlement of Nuclear Weapons, and head of the U.S. delegation, with the rank of ambassador, to the implementing commissions established by the Threshold Test Ban and Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaties. He served in the Nuclear and Space Talks in Geneva and at the American Embassies in Moscow and Brasilia, and was an international affairs fellow at the Council of Foreign Relations. In the 1980s, when Ukraine was still part of the Soviet Union, Ambassador Courtney was selected to head the planned American consulate in Kyiv. The plan didn't come about, however. His interest in Ukraine continued, for which he was named one of the first honorary members of TWG. A native of West Virginia, Ambassador Courtney is a graduate of West Virginia University and received a Ph.D. in economics from Brown University. He and his wife, Paula Feeny, have two young children.

Orest Deychakiwsky is staff associate at the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission). His responsibilities at the Helsinki Commission include Ukraine, Belarus, Bulgaria, and Hungary; intern coordinator; and liaison with non-

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NOTES ON PARTICIPANTS

governmental organizations at OSCE meetings. Mr. Deychakiwsky has served on over a dozen U.S. delegations to meetings of the CSCE/OSCE held in various countries in Europe. He has also been an international observer at elections in Ukraine, Russia, Bulgaria and Bosnia. Previous employment includes project manager at the Republican National Committee and a consultant for the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. Mr. Deychakiwsky holds an M.A. in Government and International Relations from Georgetown University and a B.A. from the University of Notre Dame. Mr. Deychakiwsky's activity in the Ukrainian-American community includes being a founding member of TWG, where he has held various positions on the board of directors and was chairman of the TWG Fellowship Fund. He has been a periodic contributor to various Ukrainian-American publications, including the Ukrainian Weekly. In the 1970's and 1980's, he was active in Ukrainian human rights organizations, including Smoloskyp.

Jaroslav J. Dutkewych, Director of the U.S. Peace Corps-Ukraine since 1992, is responsible for overall development and management of U.S. foreign technical assistance programs of the Peace Corps in Ukraine, implemented with a staff/volunteer compliment of over 150 management consultants, economists, attorneys, and educators involved in the economic and educational development of Ukraine's potential in business, industry and entrepreneurship, as well as teaching English as a foreign language, in over 25 cities throughout the country. Earlier he has been consultant to ABT Associates/U.S. Agency for International Development, NIS Health Care Finance and Service Delivery Reform Project; the American International Health Alliance/U.S.A.I.D. in establishing hospital partnerships between health organizations in the United States and those in Ukraine and Belarus; the Ministry of Labor-Ukraine on re-employment skills development and training; the Lviv Oblast Health and Medical Leadership on privatization, management and organization of health delivery; and industry and business concerns involved in the economic and social transformation underway in Ukraine. He served as assistant vice president for human resources at the Henry Ford Health System (1972-1991). Mr. Dutkewych's educational credentials include: Salzburg Fellow

(Austria), examining "Economies in Transition: The Role of the Private Sector in Central and Eastern Europe," post-master studies at the University of Michigan, Master of Public Administration and B.A. degrees from Wayne State University. Mr. Dutkewych has authored numerous professional articles and is a frequent speaker at professional conferences in the U.S.A., Ukraine, Canada, Europe and the Middle East.

Andrew Fedynsky is a government consultant to business, government and non-profit clients in Cleveland, Ohio. He is also director of the Ukrainian Museum-Archives in Cleveland and serves on the board of the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame and the National Democratic Ethnic Coordinating Committee. In 1996, Mr. Fedynsky was co-chair of Ukrainian Americans for Clinton-Gore. He is active in civic organizations in the broader American context as well as the Ukrainian community and is a monthly columnist for the Ukrainian Weekly. In the 1970s, Mr. Fedynsky worked as a translator, writer and lecturer for Smoloskyp Publishing, which specialized in Ukrainian *samvydav* and human rights. This opened the door for him to the political world, where he served on the staff of Senator Bob Dole and Congresswoman Mary Rose Oakar, from his hometown of Cleveland. During his years on Capitol Hill, Mr. Fedynsky worked on every major issue involving Ukraine, including Helsinki Accords, creation of the Ukraine Famine Commission, Chernobyl, the Myroslav Medvid case, the Millennium of Christianity in Ukraine and, in 1992, on U.S. and World Bank assistance to Ukraine. Mr. Fedynsky holds a B.A. from the University of Notre Dame.

Roma M. Hayda chairs the Laity Council of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the U.S., which is responsible for drafting the *North American Declaration of Ukrainian Catholic Concern* and conducting the laity conference "A More Perfect Knowledge of Our Rite and Church." She is a member of the Patriarchal Society, of which she was national president (1989-1993), assisted in the renewal of the Ukrainian Youth for Christ movement in Ukraine, initiated and organized the renewal of the Students and Academic OBNOVA societies in Ukraine, an organization of lay academics and professionals. She is also a member

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NOTES ON PARTICIPANTS

of the international federation of similar organizations—Pax Romana International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs, where she serves on the executive board. Ms. Hayda chaired the Millennium Committee of Greater Bridgeport, which published the *Ukrainian Christian Heritage*, a brochure about the this jubilee of Kyivan spiritual legacy. She was a delegate of the Stamford Eparchy to the first session of the Patriarchal Council of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in 1996 in Lviv. For many years Ms. Hayda has coordinated catechetical instruction in her parish.

Adrian Karmazyn is a journalist with the Ukrainian Branch of the Voice of America. Since joining VOA in 1988, he has conducted interviews with hundreds of Americans and Ukrainians involved in various aspects of US-Ukrainian relations. During two reporting assignments in Kyiv, in 1993 and 1995, he covered Ukraine's domestic and international politics and the growing number of non-governmental organizations in the country. Adrian has a M.A. in Russian and East European Studies from the University of Michigan. He is married, has two children and serves as chairman of TWG's Fellowship Fund.

John A. Kun has served as the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's financial and grants administrator since 1993. Mr. Kun previously worked as the assistant director of governmental relations for the Ukrainian National Association in Washington, DC, as a budget/management analyst for the Town of Arlington, Massachusetts, and in marketing and sales capacities with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in New York City. He holds a B.A. from Holy Cross College (Worcester, MA) and a Masters in Public Administration from Suffolk University (Boston, MA).

Myron B. Kuropas has been on the Ukrainian National Association Supreme Assembly for 28 years, 16 as a supreme advisor, 12 as supreme vice-president. During the 1970s, he was a special assistant to President Gerald R. Ford and a legislative assistant to Bob Dole, and served as a regional director of a federal agency. Mr. Kuropas is the author of *Ukrainians in America* (Lerner, 1995), *The Ukrainian Americans: Roots and*

Aspirations, 1884-1954 (University of Toronto Press, 1991) and *Ukrainian American Citadel: The First Hundred Years of the Ukrainian National Association* (East European Monographs, 1996). He is an honorary member of the UNA national assembly and has written a biweekly column for *The Ukrainian Weekly* since 1984. Mr. Kuropas worked as a teacher, assistant principal and principal in the public schools of Chicago and DeKalb. Currently he is an adjunct professor at Northern Illinois University in the Department of Leadership and Educational Policy Studies.

Andrew Masiuk was the Director General of the International Management Institute in Kyiv (IMI-Kyiv) from 1992 to the end of 1996. He had worked with IMI-Kyiv since its inception in 1989. The International Management Institute in Kyiv is the oldest business school in Ukraine. It has awarded more than 300 MBA degrees and is licensed by the Ukrainian ministry of education. Its graduates are prominent in both business and government. Earlier in his career, Mr. Masiuk held faculty positions at Simmons College (Boston), West Chester State University (West Chester, PA) and the International Institute for Management Development (Lausanne, Switzerland). In addition to academic experience, Mr. Masiuk has worked as a manager for Digital Equipment Corporation. Mr. Masiuk has a bachelors degree from LaSalle University, a Masters degree in social service from Bryn Mawr College, and an MBA from the Wharton School of University of Pennsylvania.

George Masiuk is President of The Washington Group. He has been active in TWG since its inception, helping to plan and organize the previous TWG Leadership Conferences. Mr. Masiuk is a communications engineer currently working on the modernization of the National Airspace System. He holds a B.S.S.E. from the University of Pennsylvania and a M.S.E.E. degree from George Washington University.

Ewa Matuszewski, member of the National board of directors of the Polish American Congress, became a political activist as an undergraduate at Wayne State University and a radio commentator of the daily Polish Varieties Program in Detroit. She was asked to serve on
(Continued on page 11)

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NOTES ON PARTICIPANTS

President Richard Nixon's re-election committee and became the youngest paid campaign staffer working as ethnic coordinator with the Michigan Committee to Re-Elect the President. Her work in state and local political campaigns continued through the 1970s. Ms. Matuszewski also worked as a freelance writer in Polish and English, taught Polish as a second language, and served on various committees and commissions in the Polish-American community. She was membership coordinator of Polish Arts Associates, Detroit Institute of Arts; chairperson of the 50th Anniversary World War II Commemorative Celebrations in Detroit; local coordinator of Polish Flood Relief 1997; vice president of American Agenda, Polish American Congress Michigan Division; board member of the International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit; member of the Programming Board, Endowed Chair for Polish Studies at the University of Michigan/Dearborn; and was editor-in-chief of the *Polish World/Tygodnik Swiat Polski*. Ms. Matuszewski is currently executive director of Medical Network One, a managed health care organization, and president of Physicians Network Management, an international consulting firm specializing in health care management issues.

Nadia Komarnycky McConnell is the president of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation since its founding in 1991. She previously was in charge of NKM Associates, a public and government relations firm. Ms. McConnell has spent her 30-year professional career, 10 of it in government service, creating and implementing programs—both commercial and institutional—that utilize personnel training and effective communication to facilitate policy development. She holds a BA in political science from Arizona State University.

Robert McConnell, Counsel with Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher's Washington, D.C., office since 1988, established the firm's Legislative Advocacy Practice. He specializes in advising and representing clients regarding matters of interest pending before the U.S. Congress, Federal Executive Branch departments and regulatory agencies. Between December 1984 and the time he joined Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher, Mr. McConnell was Washington vice-president for CBS, Inc. He was nominated by President Reagan

and confirmed by the Senate to be Assistant Attorney General, and served in that position from 1981 to 1984. As Assistant Attorney General, Mr. McConnell supervised and coordinated the entire legislative agenda for the Justice Department. He also supervised the Senate confirmation process for all federal judges, U.S. attorneys and marshals, and managed the confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. In the early 1970s, he served as legislative assistant to Congressman John Rhodes and was in private law practice from 1973 to 1980. Mr. McConnell is on the Board of Directors of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. He was the original vice-president of the Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine in the early 1990s, and served as Chairman of Governmental Relations for Ukraine 2000. Mr. McConnell spoke at several conventions of Rukh in Ukraine. He received his law degree in 1970 from Arizona State University, where he also received his B.A. degree.

Fred Rotondaro has been executive director of the National Italian American Foundation since 1979. He previously worked as president of the National Center for Urban Ethnic Affairs, executive director of the York County Community Progress Council, president of the Pennsylvania Association of Community Action agency directors, as a teacher at the University of Scranton, and a reporter for the Scranton Times.

Michael Sawkiw is the Director of the Ukrainian National Information Service since January 1996. In this capacity, he successfully organized the 10th anniversary commemoration of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, and the 5th and 6th anniversaries of Ukrainian Independence on Capitol Hill. His activities in the Ukrainian-American community includes being the youngest member elected to the board of directors of the Albany Branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, where he was in charge of governmental and public relations. Since 1992, he has been on the UCCA National Council and a member of its External Affairs Commission. Mr. Sawkiw's professional experience includes three years of state/federal banking regulations; experience in coordinating foreign currency transactions at the General Electric Company. He has worked for American International Group (AIG) Financial
(Continued on page 12)

NOTES ON PARTICIPANTS

Products. In May 1992, he received an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and has a B.A. from Union College. While at RPI, Mr. Sawkiw was the financial director/consultant for the Center for New Technology, a business incubator center established at the Kyiv Polytechnic Institute.

Yuri Shcherbak is Ukraine's second ambassador to the United States; he also serves concurrently as Ukraine's ambassador to Mexico. Prior to this appointment in October 1994, he had served as Ukraine's ambassador to Israel (1992-1994) and as minister of environmental protection (1991-1992). A writer and physician by profession, Dr. Shcherbak began his political career in 1989, when he won a seat in the USSR Supreme Soviet. Having never been a member of the Communist Party, he worked closely with the Russian human rights advocate Andrei Sakharov. As chairman of the subcommittee on energy and nuclear safety, he initiated the first parliamentary investigation of the Chornobyl nuclear accident. Dr. Shcherbak exposed the malfeasance before and after the accident in his documentary novel *Chornobyl*. He has also written extensively about the Stalinist man-made famine in Ukraine in 1932-33. In all, he has authored 20 books of poetry, prose, plays and essays. Dr. Shcherbak received his Ph.D. and D.Sc. degree in epidemiology from the Kyiv Medical College. In 1988, he founded and led the Ukrainian Green Movement (which became the Green Party in 1990). He is a member of Ukraine's Academy of Environmental Sciences.

Bohdan Vitvitsky is one of the founders of the Ukrainian-American professionals and business movement in the U.S., having imported the idea for such organization from Canada. He was the first president of the Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons Association of New York and New Jersey (1982-1986) and is currently that association's vice president. He is also one of the founders of the Education Fund of the N.Y. & N.J. P's & B's, which has administered and funded a scholarship program that sponsors some of Ukraine's best students for a summer semester of study at Harvard University. Mr. Vitvitsky holds both a Ph.D. in philosophy and a law degree from Columbia University. He has taught at Columbia and has been a guest lecturer at Harvard, the University

of Toronto, the University of Pittsburgh and other universities. He has written and lectured on such diverse topics as the rule of law, the Ukrainian Constitution, the victimization of the Slavs by the Nazis, and politics and philosophy. He is a contributor to the Encyclopedia of Ukraine. For the past 12 years he has worked as a lawyer, first on Wall Street and more recently as a federal prosecutor.

Joyce Warner is the deputy project director for the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's Community Partnerships Project. She previously was a program officer for IREX, where she provided direct oversight and management consultation for eight partnerships between U.S. and Ukrainian and Russian institutions under the USAID Institutional Partnerships Project in the areas of business development, public policy, environment, health and agriculture. Ms. Warner also has experience in implementing technical support programs in Kazakstan and Georgia. She holds a B.A. from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and an M.A. from The American University.

Bohdan Watral is the president and chief executive officer, since 1980, of the Selfreliance Ukrainian Federal Credit Union in Chicago, the 8th largest Credit Union in Illinois. He has been a member of the Illinois Governor's Board of Credit Union Advisors., board vice chairman of the World Council of Ukrainian Cooperatives, board vice chairman of the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association, member of the newly formed Ukrainian National Credit Union Association in Ukraine, and member of the City of Chicago-Kyiv Sister City Committee. During his tenure as the CEO/treasurer of Selfreliance Ukrainian Federal Credit Union, it grew from \$32 million to over \$195 million in assets, while reserves grew from \$1.2 million to over \$21 million. From 1992 through 1996, Mr. Watral planned and helped lead twelve missions to re-introduce the credit union movement in Ukraine and has participated in numerous international workshops on development of credit unions in Central and Eastern Europe. Mr. Watral has received numerous awards, among them the Herb Wegner Memorial Award in 1996, the Ukrainian Presidential Achievement Medal, two Executive

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NOTES ON PARTICIPANTS

of the Year awards for credit unions over \$25 million, and letters of commendation from President Clinton, Illinois Governors Thompson and Edgar, and the mayor of Chicago, Richard J. Daley.

The Very Rev. Stefan Zencuch is rector of St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of Metropolitan Washington. He received his Diploma of Orthodox Theology in 1972 in Czechoslovakia, where he was born. Later, he received the Licentiate in Theology from St. Andrew's College in Winnipeg, Canada, an M.A. from the Wheaton College Graduate School in Illinois, and his Doctor of Theology degree from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN. He is the author numerous articles on theological issues and of the book, *The Ethnic Orthodox Congregation and the Parish Council*, published in 1996 by the Light and Life Publishing Company in Minneapolis, MN.

Marta Zielyk has been sought after for her interpreting skills since 1988-89, when it first became apparent that Ukraine was going to be a

player in the international arena. In 1995 she joined the State Department, becoming the first ever permanent Ukrainian interpreter for the U.S. government. As such, she interprets for the President, Vice President, cabinet secretaries and other high-ranking government officials when they deal with their Ukrainian counterparts. She served as President Clinton's interpreter during his state visit to Ukraine, the first ever by an American president. She was also the lead interpreter during the nuclear disarmament negotiations between the U.S. and Ukraine. Before joining the State Department, Ms. Zielyk worked for 12 years with the Ukrainian services of the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. A native New Yorker, Ms. Zielyk completed her undergraduate studies in Barnard College and is a graduate of Columbia University School of International and Public Administration, where she earned a M.A. in International Relations and a Certificate from what is today the Harriman Institute. Marta Zielyk is vice president of The Washington Group, is on the executive committee of the TWG Cultural Fund and is active in PLAST.

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The Washington Group's "Friend of Ukraine" award for 1997 is being presented jointly to theater director and actress Lidia Krushelnytsky and choreographer and ballerina Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky, both of New York, "in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the cause of Ukraine and the Ukrainian-American community."

Lidia Krushelnytsky, theater director and actor, directs the Ukrainian Stage Ensemble in New York, the only professionally trained Ukrainian theater group in the U.S.

The ensemble's repertoire contains both world classics as well as allegorical fairy tales and includes the works of such Ukrainian writers as Taras Shevchenko, Ivan Franko, Lesia Ukrainka, Volodymyr Vynnychenko and Lina Kostenko.

Ms. Krushelnytsky began her stage career in her native Stanyslaviv (Ivano-Frankivsk) in the 1930s. In 1937 she moved to Lviv, where she



Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky



Lidia Krushelnytsky

began what promised to be an operatic career. World War Two brought about her emigration to the West, however, to Austria, where she—along with ballerina Roma Pryma (Bohachevsky) and her mother—organized the performing arts group Muza (Muse). Due to

an illness, however, she lost her singing voice and began concentrating on acting. When she arrived in New York in 1949, she joined Yosyp Hirniak's and Olimpia Dobrovolska's Drama Studio. When Hirniak's theater group disbanded in the mid-1960s, Ms. Krushelnytsky took the reins from Olympia Dobrovolska in running the Studio of the Artistic Word, a theatrical-training studio for children, from which the present Ukrainian Stage Ensemble descended.

Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky, artistic director and choreographer of *Syzokryli* dance ensemble, is internationally recognized prima ballerina and choreographer. She began her ballet career in Ukraine, received a diploma from the Vienna Academy of Music and Performing Arts, and continued her studies in the United States. Ms. Bohachevsky's stage appearances have included solo performances and concert tours of Europe, North America and Central America. Eventually she turned to teaching and choreography, deeply influenced by the methods of Agrippina Vaganova and Martha Graham, with whom she studied.

Among Ms. Bohachevsky's many choreographic creations are *Peer Gynt*, *Kvit Paporoti* (Blossoming Fern), and *Cinderella*, which have been danced over the years by hundreds of her students.

But the most impressive choreographies are
(Continued on next page)

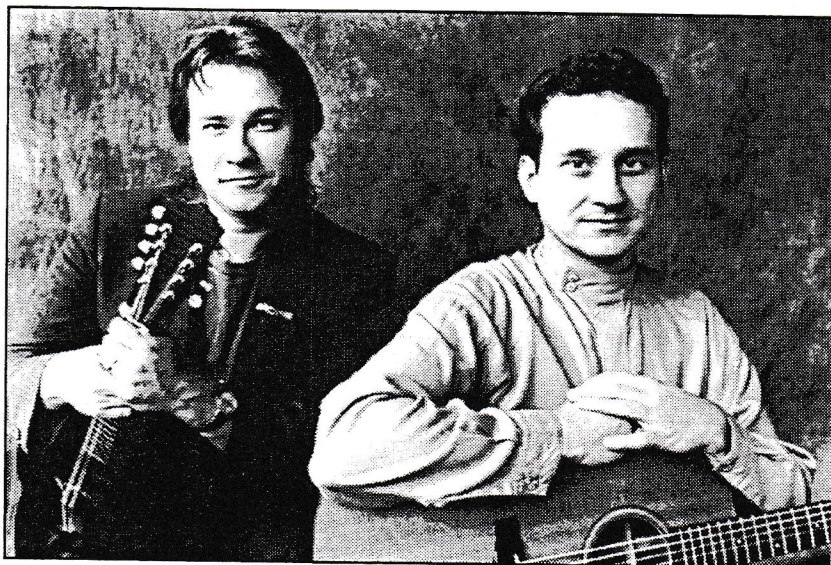
This year's TWG Leadership Conference Sunday brunch program features a widely acclaimed musical duo **Peter Ostroushko and Dean Magraw**.

Peter Ostroushko, widely known for his appearances on National Public Radio's *A Prairie Home Companion*, is acclaimed as one of the country's finest mandolin and fiddle players. His tours have taken him to clubs, performing arts centers, music festivals and theaters across North America and Europe.

A master of instrumentation and composition, his 1995 recording "Heart of the Heartland" earned a N.A.I.R.D. Indie Award, the highest honor from the independent music recording industry.

His most recent album, *Pilgrims on the Heart Road*, includes the song "My People," in which, with a touch of humor, he looks at his Ukrainian heritage.

Mr. Ostroushko also has played lead ukulele with the Minnesota Symphony Orchestra, appeared on The David Letterman Show and Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood (whose other rare musical guests have included Wynton Marsalis and Yo-Yo Ma), composed and performed scores for a number of theatrical productions including The Children's Theater in Minneapolis, and appeared on such radio and television music shows—in addition to *A Prairie Home Companion*—as *Mountain Stage*,



Good Evening, Nashville Network, Lonesome Pine Special and Austin City Limits.

Dean Magraw has been called an elegant, exciting and extraordinarily innovative guitarist, who thrives in any musical environment. In addition to solo tours throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe, Mr. Magraw has played with classical violinist Nigel Kennedy, the Irish group Altan, with jazz and bluegrass artists and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, among others. And for more than ten years he has frequently appeared with Peter Ostroushko, both on stage and in recordings.

Magraw was the lead guitarist on the *Heart of the Heartland* CD. And like Mr. Ostroushko's *Heart* album, Mr. Magraw's 1994 solo album *Broken Silence*, too, won the N.A.I.R.D. Indie Award for acoustic instrumental album of the year.

FRIEND OF UKRAINE AWARD

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unquestionably those that she created specifically for the *Syzokryli* ensemble, comprised of her most talented students. Each choreography brings out the beauty of the Ukrainian theme developed in the dance, interwoven with elements of ballet, modern and stylized folk dance. Among her creations are *Battle for Freedom*, a dramatic ballet commemorating the tragedy of Chernobyl, and *Icon*, celebrating the millennium of Christianity in Ukraine.

Founded in 1978, the *Syzokryli* dance

ensemble has performed extensively over the years throughout the northeastern United States, having graced the stages of Alice Tully and Avery Fisher Halls at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Madison Square Garden, and the Brooklyn Academy of Music in New York City, the Academy of Music and Robin Hood Dell in Philadelphia, the Garden State Arts Center and Newark's Symphony Hall in New Jersey, and Constitution Hall in Washington, DC. In 1992, the ensemble concluded a critically acclaimed tour of Ukraine, appearing in the opera houses of Kyiv, Lviv, Kharkiv and Ivano-Frankivsk.

The Washington Group would like to express its sincere appreciation to the co-sponsors of the Leadership Conference—the Embassy of Ukraine, the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, and the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America—for their assistance in organizing this event, to the corporate sponsors—The Heritage Foundation of the First Security Federal Savings Bank and the Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union—for their generous financial support, and to the members of the conference committee and volunteers, whose time and effort brought it to fruition:

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