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Monthly newsletter of The Washington Group  
An Association of Ukrainian American Professionals



Photo by Yaro Bihun

**Marta Zielyk, interpreting here for Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksandr Kuzmuk at the Pentagon, and other TWG members were involved in various ways in the recent visits by President Kuchma and other senior Ukrainian officials to Washington. Story and photos on page 5.**

## Morningstar focuses on Ukraine's investment, corruption problems

Washington got a preview of what the Clinton Administration was going to stress in the May 14-16 talks with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma during a TWG-co-sponsored event May 5.

The evening forum—co-sponsored also by the Meridian International Center, the International Management Institute in Kyiv, the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Barents Group—dealt with “Business and Banking in Ukraine,” as presented by a visiting group of 50 MBA students from IMI-Kyiv, brought here by its director-general, TWG member Andriy Masiuk.

The headlines, however, were made by Ambassador Richard Morningstar, who advises the President and Secretary of State on U.S. assistance to the new independent states of the former Soviet Union. He stressed that the issues of corruption and worsening investment climate in Ukraine would be at the top of the agenda of the first plenary meeting of the Kuchma-Gore Binational Commission and of other official meetings with the Ukrainian president. And, indeed, they were.

Ambassador Morningstar, who had recently returned from a fact-finding mission to Kyiv, said that “Ukraine is very much at a crossroads.”

“I think that those meetings will be very important in defining our relationship and our strategic partnership,” he said.

Ukraine has been under a lot of pressure in the United States and in

(See *Morningstar*, page 4)

## Cultural Fund schedule for July-December

The TWG Cultural Fund has a number of interesting programs planned for the second half of 1997:

**Tuesday, July 1** — New York Metropolitan Museum’s “Glory of Byzantium” exhibition lecture/slide presentation, with a special focus on the arts of the Kyivan Rus’ state, by Dr. Olenka Pevny from the Metropolitan Museum’s Medieval Department. 7 p.m. in the Sumner School Museum, 1201 17th Street, N.W. Sponsored by The Washington Group Cultural

Fund. Free, donations welcome. For more information, contact Laryssa Chopivsky at (202) 363-3964.

Also, mark calendars for other upcoming TWG Cultural Fund sponsored activities:

**September 13 and 14** — **International Children’s Festival** at Wolf Trap in Vienna, Virginia, featuring Ukrainian Dance Group from Kyiv.

**October 4** — **Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus** from Detroit. at the 4th Pres- (See *Cultural*, page 6)

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## New Members



## Notes on Members

- **Wira (Vera) Babiak**, Student Advisor and Coordinator, University of Colorado; Boulder, CO.
- **Dr. Roxolana Burachynskij**, Language Analyst; Silver Spring, MD.
- **Victor Chudowsky**, Meridian International Center; Washington, DC.
- **Marta Kolomayets-Yanevsky**, Press Officer, U.S. State Department/USAID; Kyiv.
- **Michael J. Metrisko**, Retired, Vienna, VA.
- **Helen Petrauskas**, Vice-President, Ford Motor Company; Davisburg MI.
- **Modest Lew Zacharczenko**, Law Student; Fairfax Station, VA.
- **John Zuk**, Investment Banking; Riverdale, NY.

### MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY CORRECTION

The 1997-1998 TWG Membership Directory will not be coming out this summer, as was reported in the previous TWG News. TWG is currently conducting an extensive membership drive and would like to include all new and renewing members in the new directory. If you know of anyone who you would like to join TWG, please contact Membership Director Mike Drabek by e-mail at [mdrabek@aol.com](mailto:mdrabek@aol.com), or call him at (703) 560-7734.

### TWG NEWS

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*If you have any interesting news about a TWG colleague, or about yourself, share it with the rest of the TWG family. Send it to the TWG NEWS editor by e-mail, if you can, ([yarob@aol.com](mailto:yarob@aol.com)) or by "snail-mail" to TWG, Attn: Editor, P.O. Box 11248, Washington DC 20008.*

### Writing speeches for Albright

**Taras Bazyluk**, a Clinton Administration official since 1993, is moving up to the State Department's Office of Policy Planning, where he will draft speeches and testimony for Secretary of State Madeline K. Albright.

### Adviser to USUN

**Tania Chomiak**, a foreign service officer with the U.S. Information Agency, was assigned to be public affairs adviser to the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York. The new assignment came through a few weeks after she and Luca Salvi, of New York, announced their engagement. They will be married on Columbus Day weekend, with the ceremony and reception being held at Georgetown University—when and where TWG will be having its Leadership Conference. Convenient. Her first overseas assignment was in Kazakstan.

### Off to Kazakstan

**Orysia Pylyshenko** has moved to Kazakstan for about five months to work on Booz Allen and Hamilton's Trade and Investment project for the United States Agency for International Development. While there, she will travel monthly to Booz Allen's offices in Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. She says she is looking forward to this adventure, but does not want to lose touch with friends, so she left *her koordynaty*: e-mail: [orysia@pylyshenko.almaty.kz](mailto:orysia@pylyshenko.almaty.kz); home phone: 011 7 3272 699-595; office phone 011 7 3272 695-098.

### Operates on Ukrianian child

**Dr. Marko Mostovych**, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, performed successful open heart surgery to correct a serious congenital heart defect called Tetralogy of Fallot on a little 2 and 1/2 year old girl Mariyka Priymak of Vilkhivtsi, Ivano-Frankivsk oblast, Ukraine. The operation was facilitated by the Wolfson Children's Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida, and Marko's tireless parents, TWG member **Dr. Leonidas Mostovych** and his wife Oksana, of Lexington, Kentucky. (Dr. Leonidas has also been instrumental in developing and upgrading the training and status of Ukrainian radiologist's over the last several years.)

With the help of Marko and his parents, little Mariyka now has a chance to live a normal life. All of this would not  
(See *Notes*, page 6)

## OBITUARIES

*The Washington Group lost two great friends and colleagues within the span of four days this spring. Ivan Shandor, vice president at Baxter Healthcare Corp., was killed April 30 when he stepped into traffic on the Tri-State Tollway near Chicago after his car developed mechanical problems. Four days later on May 3, Halya Duda, remembered for her participation in TWG conferences and conducting a management retreat for the TWG leadership, succumbed to cancer in Connecticut.*

*We asked former TWG News editor R.L. Chomiak and former TWG president Natalie Sluzar to share with us their thoughts about what made Ivan and Halya special. (Photos by Natalie Sluzar.)*

### IVAN SHANDOR

**You know what it is that I liked about Ivan Shandor? He did not take himself seriously. He wasn't pompous. And I really like that in a person.**

Yes, Ivan was a very serious professional. Would a multinational like Baxter hire him if he weren't? But I can also vouch for Ivan's professionalism, because for a few years while he lived in Washington, he did our taxes. He didn't have to do them. But I had asked him if he would, and he said, sure. And smiled. (Ivan frequently had a smile on his face). And his returns for us (with our salaries and my wife's grants on which the Tax Code is less than clear) were as professional as those he did for billion-dollar corporations. He didn't \*have\* to do ours, but he did. For friends.

I remember where I first met him: it was at a party given by Michael and Halya Boretsky in McLean, VA—probably in 1975. I had known his father, Vikentiy Shandor—\*the\* authority on the history of his native Carpathian Ukraine—from the early 1960s, so it was interesting to meet one of Shandor's sons.

When I got to know Ivan, I learned that he liked to make annual pilgrimages to Churchill Downs (Kentucky Derby), and I had been there not long before we met. We could always discuss the merits of various bourbons, or the fine points of ritualistic preparation of Mint Julep in Kentucky watering holes.

But he was no less interested when I told them over the phone one day about a book I had just read. It mentioned a number of noted Carpathian Ukrainians

(See *Shandor*, page 7)



### HALYA DUDA

**There's an old saying that you can't pick your relatives, but you can pick your friends. I got the best when I picked Halya Duda as my friend.**

I first met her at Club SuzieQ more than 12 years ago. I remember how strikingly beautiful she looked. Then I saw her in action. What an organizer she was! So much energy, enthusiasm, and such zest for life. By organizing Club SuzieQ she brought single Ukrainian-Americans together in a comfortable, relaxed, congenial setting. Who can forget those "Hug Ins," or the hilarious Miss Club SuzieQ contests. Nothing was sacred; even the most stoic and numbed succumbed to the laughter and silliness of the events, and joined in the fun.

Halya had a serious side to her as well. She gave generously of her brilliant thinking, her creativity, and her expertise. She volunteered a weekend of her time to lead a TWG retreat at Coolfont Resort in West Virginia. Under her guidance, the TWG Board and members sat through an intensive two days focusing on the future of TWG, determining its mission, goals and objectives. Thanks to her guidance and support the TWG Board revised its mission statement, redirected TWG's goals, and resolved to carry on with more energy and enthusiasm. She again participated in a panel on professional development at the 1995 TWG Leadership Conference. In one of the exercises Halya had the audience pair-up and each person had to simply look into the other person's eyes for two minutes. What

(See *Duda*, page 7)

## ***Morningstar...from page 1***

Europe—in the media, in the Congress, “and to some extent within the administration here in Washington” for it’s worsening investment climate, corruption and slowness in implementing economic reforms.

Mr. Morningstar said that it’s in the interest of Ukraine and of the United States that Ukraine “develop as an independent, stable, market democracy.”

And the greatest threat to that end is a lack of economic growth, he said. “It’s one thing to achieve macroeconomic stabilization, but that doesn’t necessarily translate in to economic growth.”

“And if Ukraine cannot establish over the next several years a clear pattern of economic growth,” he cautioned, “there’s a tremendous risk, I think, to the stability of Ukraine.”

In order to achieve economic growth, he said, Ukraine needs to develop a good investment climate. American investors, he added, are increasingly complaining that “doing business in Ukraine is actually becoming more and more difficult.”

“And it’s not just corruption,” he

said. “It’s a very, very difficult bureaucracy to deal with and very difficult laws to deal with as well.”

“It’s very important that these investment disputes get solved, because even if they are exaggerated in the newspapers, they have developed such a life of their own that, until they are solved, American investors are going to be much less likely to go to Ukraine.”

Ukraine agreed with international financial institutions and bilateral partners like the United States that it would enact a very bold reform package. While there has been some limited success, Mr. Morningstar said, a lot more needs to be done in order to get International Monetary Fund and World Bank funding and to develop a good investment climate.

Mr. Morningstar stressed that Ukraine must pay attention to problems the important sectors of its economy if it does not want to lose the assistance of international financial institutions. Agriculture is such a key area. Unfortunately, he added, reform in agriculture “is going backwards, and not forwards.”

“It was almost incredible to see the decree that Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko issued establishing a new

parastatal” in agriculture when he should be going in the opposite direction, he said.

The U.S. official also pointed to a major problem area in the energy sector, where, as in the case of agriculture, backsliding not only has a negative effect on its development, but can result in the loss of \$240 million in undisbursed World Bank loans.

And yet another problem area, Mr. Morningstar said, is in medium- and large-scale privatization in Ukraine, the rate and transparency of which must be improved.

Mr. Morningstar stressed, however, that one should not judge Ukraine by looking only at its negative side, because it has an impressive positive side of the ledger as well.

“So I raise these issues not to be negative about Ukraine but to spur all of us on to work towards and make the decisions to make Ukraine a strong economically prosperous country,” Mr. Morningstar said.

“But these issues need to be addressed,” he added.

And they were a week later in the preparatory talks and in the official discussions with President Kuchma and his delegation.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

## **1997 Washington Group Leadership Conference**

**Columbus Day Weekend**

**October 10-12, 1997**

**The Georgetown University Conference Center**

**Washington, D.C.**

For more information contact George Masiuk 202-651-2302 (office), 703-960-0043 (home),  
or e-mail [gmasiuk@aol.com](mailto:gmasiuk@aol.com)

# TWG members doing their share in furthering U.S.-Ukraine ties

TWG Vice President Marta Zielyk was, of course, the most visible, sitting next to President Clinton and translating his discussion with President Kuchma in the White House Oval Office May 16, or with Vice President Gore, who, along with the Ukrainian president, heads the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission.

But there were a number of other TWG members involved in various ways in the recent visit by President Kuchma and his large cabinet-level delegation, the visit two weeks earlier by Defense Minister Oleksandr Kuzmuk and in other events related to these visits:

Former TWG vice president and now senior commercial officer at the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv Andrew Bihun came to Washington along with Ambassador William Miller to participate in the bilateral talks; Federal Judge Bohdan Futey had the honor of presenting the toast to President Kuchma during the State Department banquet, at which the president received the International Foundation for Electoral

Systems' Freedom Award; Marta Pereyma did the simultaneous interpretation during the Gore-Kuchma news conference; and Zoya Hayuk also translated in the bilateral talks.

In a Kuchma visit-related event, Board Member-at-Large Dick Murphy, officiated at the inaugural reception of the newly created American Friends for Ukraine Foundation, of which he is the first president.

During the Kuzmuk visit, Marta Zielyk again did the primary high-level interpreting at the Pentagon meeting with Defense Secretary William Cohen and other important venues; Yuriy Holowinsky also interpreted; and retired Major General Nicholas Krawciw, who has been advising the Ukrainian military for a number of years, was seen standing just behind the principals at the various events.

Between the two official visit, Andriy Masiuk, TWG member and brother of the TWG president, came to Washington with a group of more than 50 MBA students and faculty from the International Management Institute,



Photo by Yaro Bihun

**Andrew Bihun with Roman Shpek, the head of Ukraine's Agency for Reconstruction and Development**

of which he is director-general (see the lead story on page 1).

It seemed like most of the press corps covering the visits was from TWG: Fellowship Fund Director Adrian Karmazyn for VOA, Michael Mihalisko for Radio Liberty, former TWG News editor R. L. Chomiak for Svoboda, and the current editor Yaro Bihun for BBC, The Ukrainian Weekly and IntelNews.

There may well have been other TWG members doing their share—like Board Member-at-Large and staff advisor on the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe Orest Deychakiwsky—but they somehow succeeded in remaining in the background and not being noticed.

## Garnett book on Ukraine

1996 TWG Leadership Conference speaker Sherman Garnett of the Carnegie Endowment for Democracy has published a book, *Keystone in the Arch: Ukraine in the emerging Security Environment of Central and Eastern Europe*.

In his acknowledgments, Mr. Garnett thanks TWG members Orest Deychakiwsky, Nadia Diuk and Richard Murphy.

The book can be obtained from Brookings Institution Press. Call 202/797-6258 or 800/275-1447.



Photo by Kristina Lew

**Marta Zielyk interpreting for President Clinton and President Kuchma.**

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# *Kyiv dance group to perform at Wolf Trap*

By **Katya Bowers**

With the cooperation of the TWG Cultural Fund, this year's International Children's Festival will include, for the first time, a dance group from Kyiv.

The Festival, which will be held September 9-15, 1997, in the Washington area, has also invited student performers from Bolivia, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, South Africa, and Taiwan. The annual international event features cultural, social and educational experiences for both the international participants and American students.

The Program of the International Children's Festival, produced in cooperation with the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts and the National Park Service, is in three parts: an Educational Enrichment Program, a Public Festival and a Gala Reception Dinner. All international cultural groups will give repeating performances at Wolf Trap in Vienna, Virginia, during the two-day Public Festival, September 13-14. The participants will also perform at the Gala Reception Dinner on September 13, at the McLean Hilton, before an audience of diplomats, U.S. officials, major corporate sponsors, and guests.

The TWG Cultural Fund is cooperating with the International Children's Festival in bringing the Ukraine dance group to this prestigious cultural exchange. The Interna-

tional Children's Festival will cover all but the transportation costs from Kiev to Washington. With your help 20 children aged 14-18 from the Ukraine Folk Dance Group—eight pairs of dancers and several musicians—will be able to share their talents, culture and traditions with other children of the world at this prestigious cultural exchange.

Please sponsor a young performer from Ukraine by giving \$250 toward his/her transportation costs. A portion of this donation is tax-deductible and includes two tickets to the Festival, September 13-14, 1997. Tax deductible portion is \$230. The full donation is tax deductible without the two tickets. Checks are to be made payable to: International Children's Festival and marked "for TWG Cultural Fund."

If you can give more, a donation of \$500 to \$999 includes two tickets to the Gala, listing in the Festival program and six tickets to the Festival.

Please send checks to:

International Children's Festival

c/o TWG Cultural Fund

3722 48th Street NW

Washington, D.C. 20016

For more information, please call Katya Bowers tel. (703) 549-1544, fax (703) 549-7425.

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## ***Cultural...***from page 1

byterian Church in Bethesda, Maryland.

**October 12** — **Peter Ostroushko** of Garrison Keillor fame, performing Ukrainian bluegrass at the Leadership Conference Brunch.

**December 20** — **Kyiv Chamber Choir**, at the George Mason University Center for The Arts.

### **Pianist Juliana Osinchuk to play at Kennedy Center in Washington**

Juliana Osinchuk will be the featured pianist and accompanist during an upcoming concert of the Alaska Chamber Singers at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. The performance will be on Monday, July 7, at 6:00 p.m., at the center's Millennium Stage. Admission is free.

A long-time TWG member, Ms. Osinchuk last performed at the Kennedy Center in October 1995, in a recital that featured works by Alaskan composers.

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## ***Notes...***from page 2

have happened without the intercession and prayers of Father Petro Semenysh, pastor of the Holy Family parish in Washington and childhood friend of Mariyka's father, who was a Chernobyl cleanup worker.

Shortly after the successful operation, on May 23, Marko and his wife, Rhonda Dixon-Mostovych, welcomed the birth of their first child, Alexander Lucash Mostovych, weighing in at 7 pounds and 2 ounces. Congratulations, Marko and Rhonda!

### **Opens eye-care practice**

**Dr. Chrystyna Kuzmowych**, who had been chief of the contact lens department of the Humana Group Health Plan, Inc., is now in private practice in Washington and Virginia. She is available, by appointment, for all vision and eye-care needs, specializing in contact lenses, low-vision as well as pre- and post-op management for refractive laser surgery. Her office locations are: 635 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, in Washington DC (phone: 202-546-2838), and in Virginia at 6740 Old McLean Village Dr., in McLean (703-  
(See *Notes*, page 7)

## *Shandor...* from page 3

in the 18th century. He wanted that book and took down the bibliographic data.

But he didn't take himself seriously. He could laugh at himself. There was a time when he bought a condominium apartment in a new building in Washington's West End—once the site of a couple of dairies. He also decided to buy a parking space for his car in the building's garage, and his comment on that was: "You know what I had to pay for a piece of concrete? Eight thousand bucks!" This followed by a hearty laugh—at himself.

But he was serious, when he "forced" us to buy our house. We had taken a bath on a house in Manhattan in 1974, and for six years after that we rented. Didn't want any part of home ownership. But tax attorney and accountant—and friend—Shandor was insistent. After completing our annual tax returns he repeatedly advised that we were losing too much money for taxes. We had to own real estate. We finally did take his advice, and it was a good move. Our *Sadyba Chomiak* in Northern Virginia is yet another monument to this fun guy, and a pro.

When Ivan left Washington for Chicago and a job with a big corporation, we stayed in touch less frequently: we'd see each other at a TWG Leadership Conference or talk on the phone (like that time about the book mentioning famous Carpathians), and it was always an easy conversation, interesting, interspersed with anecdotes and serious things—*nevymushena rozmova*

(as my mother would say).

And then one day a shocking phone call: Ivan Shandor dead. Highway accident. Near Chicago.

Ivane — we hardly knew ya! Ukrainians — we've lost a big asset. One of our best.

— *R.L. Chomiak*

## *Duda...* from page 3

an incredibly powerful experience what was! By looking into the eyes of a total stranger, we connected as human beings, we could see our own goodness in the other person's eyes, and we could see ourselves as caring, loving people.

During her ordeal with cancer Halya's deep spirituality and faith brought solace, not only to her but to those around her. She took this as yet another challenge in her life. Despite her pain, she was hopeful, vibrant, caring about the people around her, always wanting to help them in any way she could. This time, the challenge was bigger than her. It was in God's hands.

Halya died on May 3rd and was buried in a hilltop cemetery overlooking the valley at Johnson City, New York. Her memorial card contained the following words by Ralph Waldo Emerson: "To laugh often and much...to appreciate beauty...to leave the world a bit better...to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded." Halya's life is a testimony to her success. May God rest her soul in peace, and bring her eternal joy. *Vichnaya Pamyat*.

— *Natalie Sluzar*

## *Notes...* from page 6

356-1292) and 7263-H Arlington Blvd., Falls Church (703-573-1200).

### Harvard Conference

Historian **Martha Bohachevsky Chomiak**, who is now back in Kyiv on as a Fullbright Fellow, and demographer **Oleh Wolowyna** will be among the featured participants in a major conference, *Ukraine Since Independence: A Symposium on Politics, Economics, Society and Culture*, sponsored by the Harvard University Ukrainian Research Institute. The three-day conference, which follows an international conference on Ukraine's foreign relations held last December in Washington, will be held on July 31-August 2, 1997, at Harvard.

For further information contact Dr. Lubomyr Hajda, Associate Director, Ukrainian Research Institute, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138; telephone (617) 495-9828 or 495-4053; fax, (617) 495-8097; e-mail: huri@fas.harvard.edu. □

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

### Export/shipping

Full-time position available with overseas exporter/shipping agency in central New Jersey. Must be familiar with Letters of Credit, Bills of Lading etc. Must also speak Ukrainian/English. Send your letter of interest and resume to: via e-mail: Meest@aol.com or by FAX to: 908-925-7898.

### Overseas Assignment

International consulting firm seeks individuals with substantial experience (+3years) in qualitative research (focus groups) for an overseas assignment on media related issues. Requirements: language skills and professional experience in one of the following countries: Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Russia, Ukraine, Romania, Serbia, Croatia and Armenia. Send resume by e-mail to oscusa@aol.com or by fax to 1-215-735-5454, attention: Human Resources Department, 20a.

## *The Washington Group Membership Information/Application Form*

TWG is an association of Ukrainian-American professionals who live throughout the United States and in several countries of the world. It offers its members an opportunity to meet and get to know each other through a variety of professional, educational and social activities. TWG NEWS is a monthly newsletter for TWG members, and a membership directory, published for members only, helps them in networking.

**To apply for membership, please fill out the form below and mail with a check to:**

**The Washington Group, P.O. Box 11248, Washington, D.C. 20008.**

**(The Board of Directors considers membership applications at its monthly meetings.)**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  NEW MEMBER  RENEWAL  DIRECTORY CORRECTION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Profession \_\_\_\_\_

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Company \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Business address \_\_\_\_\_ Office phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

*Circle information you would like omitted from the published TWG Directory.*

Membership Dues (Please check where appropriate):

\$50 Full Membership

\$35 Associate (Members outside Washington metropolitan area and retirees)

\$15 Full-time students

\$10 Surcharge for foreign addresses (*Payment must be in US Dollars*)

VISA/Master Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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