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

TWG Board Meeting HIGHLIGHTS

March 1993 Meeting:

The Board voted to co-sponsor, with the Baltimore Ukrainian community, a Ukrainian Independence Day picnic in Columbia, MD, on August 22.... Events Director Sophia Caryk suggested a regular schedule of TWG happy hours

Board voted to keep apprised of TWG events/activities the producers of VOA's television news program (broadcast in Ukraine), *Window on America*, at the request of the show's producers.... The Board asked Membership Director Bohdan Radejko to aim for a May publication date of the 1993 Member Directory....

(See BOARD , Page 10)

Important!

1993 TWG Directory

The 1993 TWG Membership Directory will be going to the printer in June. If you have any directory corrections or additions to report, please fill out the membership information form on the back cover and send to: TWG, Attn: Directory, P.O. Box 11248, Washington, D.C. 20008.

TWG Hosts Countess Ute Baudissin, *Head of Goethe-Institut in Kiev*

Germany, which already has a strong economic foothold in Ukraine, is establishing a cultural presence there with the opening soon of the Goethe-Institut in Kiev.

According to the institute's first director, Countess Ute Baudissin, the goal will be not to impose Germany's culture on Ukrainians but to react to their needs and interests in getting to know the German language and culture better.

Countess Baudissin spoke about the Goethe-Institut and its plans for Ukraine during a reception in her honor April 25, hosted jointly by TWG and the Goethe-Institut in Washington, of which she is currently director.

Closer ties with West

Opening a brief discussion program, TWG President Mykola Babiak stressed the importance for Ukraine, long isolated from the culture and economies of the West, to establish these ties. And the presence of the Goethe-Institut in Ukraine is a step in that direction, he said.

The institute will have to overcome many obstacles, Countess Baudissin said, such as obtaining appropriate office space, housing and personnel. But there will also be the problem of overcoming the Nazi legacy of World War II, which brought unimaginable death and destruction to Ukraine and its people.

Germany maintains Goethe-Instituts worldwide. The cultural outreach facility,



Countess Ute Baudissin

known primarily for its German-language teaching programs, was founded as a private initiative in 1952. It is funded by the German government, but maintains a separate presence outside the embassy.

Until a permanent location is found in

(See GOETHE, Page 8)

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New Members



Notes on Members

- Peter Chopivsky, full member, physician, of Leesburg, Virginia.
- Nicholas Kohut, associate member, retired, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Myron Liszniansky, full member, electrical engineer with the Naval Sea Systems Command, of Arlington, Virginia
- Max Pyziur, associate member, of St. Louis, Missouri
- Olena Shevchenko, full member, translator/interpreter with the IMF, of Arlington, Virginia.
- Orest J. Turczyn, associate member, electrical designer with Raytheon Engineering, of Jenkintown, Pennsylvania.
- John P. Wiazivsky, associate member, certified public accountant, of Cheltenham, Pennsylvania.
- Marc M. Zaharchuk, associate member, an engineer with The Aerospace Corp., of Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania.

Thank You: The TWG Fellowship Fund expresses its thanks to Olena Shevchenko and Marc Zaharchuk for sending along a contribution to the Fellowship Fund with their membership applications.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Marta Zielyk

EDITOR

Yaro Bihun

CIRCULATION MANAGER

Ihor Hulawyj

CALENDAR

Danusia Wasylkiwskyj

PHOTO CREDITS

Natalie Sluzar, p. 1

R.L. Chomiak, p. 4

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Do you know some interesting news about a TWG colleague—or about yourself? Share it with the rest of the TWG family; forward it to the TWG NEWS editor.

• Dora Chomiak was the featured speaker at Internews in San Francisco April 21, discussing the International Media Center in Kiev, which she co-directs. Founded earlier this year as an independent mechanism for media reform, the IMC is a joint project of UNIAN newswire service, the Ukrainian National Press Club, the Center for Creative Television and Radio, and Internews. It is supported by funds from private foundations and USAID.

• Martha Jarosewich and Larysa Kurylas received an Honorable Mention in February for their design of a water feature in the competition to design a National Garden at the U.S. Botanical Garden on the Mall in Washington, DC. Their shoreline garden was selected for recognition among 170 entries submitted by design professionals nationwide.

Mykola Stepanenko

Was Vice President of UNR in Exile

Mykola Stepanenko, former vice president of the Ukrainian National Republic in Exile, died in March in California after a lengthy illness at age 75.

Mr. Stepanenko, an associate member of TWG, was born in the Poltava region of Ukraine. As a young teacher, he fled to the West after World War II and settled in the United States, continuing his studies at Columbia and New York universities. With a Ph.D. in Slavic studies, he taught at a number of universities in the United States and Australia as well as at the U.S. Army Language School.

In the political arena, along with Ivan Bahriany, Mr. Stepanenko helped found the Ukrainian Revolutionary Democratic Party, was secretary of the Ukrainian National Rada, and vice president of the Ukrainian National Republic in Exile. He was also vice president of the Ukrainian Mazepa-Mohyla Academy of Sciences.

Mr. Stepanenko contributed articles to numerous Ukrainian periodicals as well as to the Voice of America and Radio Liberty. When he retired four years ago, Mr. Stepanenko was ordained a priest of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church and served in parishes in Oregon and Washington State.

He is survived by his wife, Halyna, and son, George.

From the President

A Ukrainian-American Federation?

Over the course of the next year or so, TWG members will be asked to contribute their opinion about the need for and the formation, structure and role of a national federation of professionals and business persons.

A major step was taken on April 3, at a meeting convened in New Jersey, where representatives of seven Ukrainian-American organizations, as well as the head of the Ukrainian-Canadian Professional and Business Federation, met to map out the formation of such an entity in the U.S.

Ukrainian-Canadians are enviably far ahead of us in terms of political strength and influence. Success there can be measured in the number and importance of key government officials. The Canadian Federation was born and has developed in a supportive environment. The results have been fruitful for all, for the Ukrainian-Canadian community and for Canada as a whole.

Can the Canadian federation model be transplanted here?

The idea is not new, but it seems to take on more urgency in these heady days of Ukrainian independence. How long must the Ukrainian diaspora look on as the fate of our Ukrainian brethren is decided by officials who ignore our community's advice?

Ideally structured, a federation of professional and business persons would strengthen the representational capacity and increase the influence of Ukrainian-Americans at the national level. In addition, it would allow our communities to more efficiently share limited resources, exchange information and cooperate on special projects.

TWG, as virtually the only current P & B organization with a national membership, as well as having the largest membership, will have a great amount of input into the debate, because, frankly, TWG will also potentially have to give up the most by ceding some of its national role to a federation.

Each group represented at the April 3 meeting will be asking its membership whether or not the issue deserves further examination. If the groups agree that it does, then steering committees tentatively formed pending anticipated "yes" votes will be empowered to study and make recommendations on various aspects of the plan. These recommendations will then be debated and discussed by the members of each group. TWG will be an active participant in this discussion.

Mykola Babiak

Letter to TWG:



**Посольство України
у Сполучених Штатах Америки
Embassy of Ukraine**

April 29, 1993

Mr. Mykola Babiak
President
The Washington Group

Dear Sir:

Allow me to express my deep gratitude to the TWG Fellowship Committee members for granting the Fellowship Award to me as a Press Attache of the Embassy of Ukraine. Despite my several previous attempts I have been unable to raise a necessary sum required for joining the National Press Club. Your generous grant enables me to represent Ukraine at the NPC on par with press attaches of other major countries that hold membership at the NPC.

I believe that membership at the National Press Club will open up greater professional opportunities for me as the first press officer of Ukraine in Washington, and other press attaches who would replace me in this position when my term of office expires.

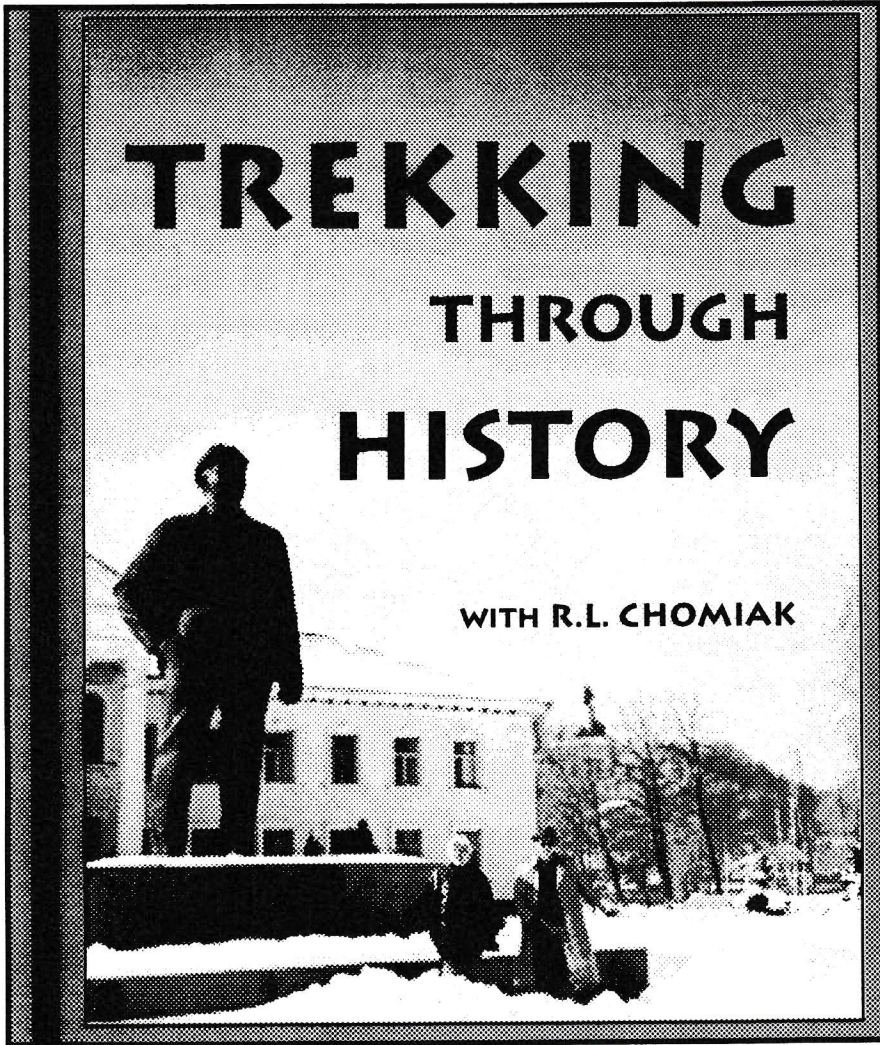
I intend to use membership at the National Press Club for establishing strong professional contacts between the NPC and the National Press Club of Ukraine, The Union of Journalists of Ukraine, of which I am an active member, and other professional journalistic associations of Ukraine. I also hope to actively participate in all NPC activities for the sake of a worthy representation of Ukrainian interests in this field.

Again, please accept my gratitude and pass my special thanks to Fellowship Committee Chairman Mr. Orest Deychakiwsky and my good friend and mentor Mr. R. Chomiak.

I would be glad to meet with the Fellowship Committee members to tell about my activities in the National Press Club at the time which you may find appropriate and convenient for you.

Sincerely,

Dmytro Markov



TREKking THROUGH HISTORY

WITH R.L. CHOMIAK

Friends in Cherkasy

Cherkasy is southwest of Kiev, about as far as Richmond is from Washington. You don't have anything resembling I-95, but the two- and sometimes four-lane roads along the left bank of the Dnipro are quite adequate. (Most of Kiev and Cherkasy are on the right bank, but the roads between them are better on the left).

In June, 1990, TWG hosted two Cherkasy journalists—Mykhalo Likhtsov and Stepan Matsyutsky—who were on their way to their sister city, Santa Rosa, CA, as winners of an environmental essay contest. Laryssa Chopivsky threw a pool party in their honor, featuring varenyky in silver chafing dishes. Likhtsov and Matsyutsky have fond memories of the visit here. They took us around Cherkasy and its region.

In Cherkasy, there is a new, small museum devoted to the *Kobzar*. It has old original editions, some facsimiles, drawings by Shevchenko, and books about Shevchenko. The interesting thing is that it is located in a building where Shevchenko stayed for a few days in the 1840's. The building was owned by a wealthy Ukrainian, who learned that Shevchenko had been detained for questioning in the city jail. He put up bail and even gave the Russian police chief his gold watch, just so that Shevchenko could stay in the house, while the official investigation-harassment continued. The bedroom where Shevchenko slept is part of the museum, between two larger exhibition halls. Olha Sharan is the museum director.

Also in the city, overlooking the Dnipro, is a four-story modern museum of the Cherkasy oblast. It was going through a metamorphosis when we were there in March. The two lower floors were Soviet schlock: heroic faces, medals, socialist realism and slogans on red

This summer, or next winter, or the next time you're in Ukraine, consider visiting some places that Bohdan Khmelnytsky, Taras Shevchenko and Vasyl Symonenko called home. My wife Martha and I did, last March, and there's nothing like driving and walking over the footsteps of these pillars of the 17th, the 19th and the 20th century to make what you've read in history books and heard in classrooms or at *akademias* come alive; to make you a part of their time.

The place is the Cherkasy region.

Yes, Kaniv is in Cherkasy oblast. I've been to Kaniv back in 1987, and Kaniv was a disappointment; too much Soviet schlock, like the little gremlin who turns on the tape with *Zapovit* as soon

as two or three people approach Shevchenko's burial mound and blasts it through the low-tech loudspeakers. And the museum next to it (in 1987) looked more like a flea market of Shevchenkiana than a Mecca we had hoped to find there.

Yes, Shevchenko is buried in Kaniv, but Moryntsi, southwest of Cherkasy, is where he was born; in Chyhyryn he condemned Khmelnytsky for signing the 1654 pact with Tsar Alexis; in Subotiv, he stood near Khmelnytsky's church and made a drawing of it; in Cherkasy he was detained for questioning by the Russian police. These are places where Shevchenko and Khmelnytsky and Symonenko *lived* and *worked*.

background. But the top two floors show what museum curators can do when they don't have to create displays to reflect the decisions of the latest Central Committee plenum. There, museum director Mykola Kornienko has gathered authentic attire from various parts of the Cherkasy region, as well as archeological finds of pottery, metal and glass objects, and displayed them on par with world museum standards.

Looking at the fine linens, woolens, leather, embroidery and jewels once worn by simple peasants, I joked to the museum director, that these people had to have quite a few "coupons" (Ukraine's temporary currency) to acquire such threads. He smiled, and waving his hand said, "They had better than that; they had land."

Yes, land. You drive south from Kiev and you see acres and acres of this land, and you wonder: Why is this country buying grain abroad? It occurred to me, that if Senator Bob Dole were to see it, he would feel uneasy. With better management, this area could give a Kansas a real run for its money. Meanwhile, in April the Ukrainian government, in the person of Ihor Markulov (the one who stirred up Ukrainian-Americans last year because he held a press conference in Russian), signed a deal with Archer Daniels to buy about 120 million greenbacks worth of grain.

Symonenko's town

It was Cherkasy that Vasyl Symonenko (1935-1963) chose as the place to live and work, after he graduated with a degree in journalism from Kiev University.

He worked for Cherkasy newspapers, he wrote poems (some have become popular songs) and children's stories, and he was a Communist Party member. Yet had he not died at 29 of

cancer, he probably would have ended up in the *gulag* along with the other dissidents his age.

In one of his odes to Ukraine, he speaks as a son to his mother and says, "Let America and Russia keep quiet when I chat with you." That was 30 years before Ukraine's independence and such utterances guaranteed an involuntary journey to Mordovia. But aren't these words applicable today? And while we were in Cherkasy, *Literaturna Ukraina* published Symonenko's letter to one of his early teachers, written in 1957, with sharp criticism of the Journalism Department



"You can choose anything in the world, son, but you can't choose your native land."

—Vasyl Symonenko



of Kiev U. from which he was about to graduate. It was a special school for special people, the privileged propagandists for the Communist Party, but Symonenko saw through it as a 22-year-old. He was a good journalist and a good writer, despite what they tried to inculcate in him during his five years there.

Vasyl Symonenko's grave is on the main path of Cherkasy cemetery: the monument is a large granite boulder with a sculpture of his head at the top and a polished front with his words from a poem that has become a song in

the repertoire of numerous singers: "You can choose anything in the world, son, but you can't choose your native land."

Symonenko was a native of the Poltava region. He attended university in Kiev, and, as he said, "love(d) it endlessly, but at the same time I'm afraid of it"; he wrote a poem in praise of Lviv after visiting it ("Ukrainian Lion"); but he chose to live and work in Cherkasy, and he is buried there.

15 capitals

From Cherkasy, it's about 40 miles to Chyhyryn—Ukraine's capital when Bohdan Khmelnytsky ruled it, after winning the war of liberation in 1649.

Ukrainian poet and filmmaker Mykola Vinhranovsky has counted 15 capitals of Ukraine throughout its history (Kharkiv was one in the 1920's, so was Lviv, Halych and Baturyn in earlier times) and he plans to produce a 15-part TV series about all of them. If he succeeds, just think what one could do with the video version for the video-generation Ukrainian school kids!

Now, the center of Chyhyryn boasts a display of colorful panels telling the history of the city and of Khmelnytsky, and a large statue of the great hetman stands on a high hill overlooking Chyhyryn and Dnipro. (Lenin is at the bottom of the hill, near city hall, but a blue-and-yellow flag flies over him from the roof of the building.)

Three wells in Subotiv

And a few miles further down the road is Subotiv, where Khmelnytsky owned land and built a church in 1653 in which he was laid to rest. As you come around the bend into Subotiv you see this church on a hill, and it looks just as it does in Shevchenko's drawing made in 1844. And down in the valley, near the center of the town are "the three wells."

(See TREKKING, Page 8)

The ambitious timeline established by the government of Ukraine to draft, review, and approve a new constitution by the end of 1992 has been slowed by that most frustrating of democratic political realities: lack of political consensus.

Ukraine began to modify its Soviet-style constitution shortly after its Declaration of State Sovereignty in July 1990. Work on a completely new constitution, however, began in earnest only after Ukraine declared independence in August 1991. At the beginning of July 1992, President Leonid Kravchuk presented the draft that had been prepared by the parliament's Constitution Commission. This draft was distributed to heads of regional councils for comment and was debated in a series of open public meetings throughout the country. It was also reviewed and analyzed at the first World Congress of Ukrainian Jurists in October 1992. Comments from dozens of foreign constitutional experts, lawyers, and judges were recorded. Most who offered comments and criticisms about the draft nevertheless commended the work of the commission and the review process itself. By the end of 1992, over 46,000 comments and suggested changes had been received by the commission. Although the revised draft varies substantially

Bohdan A. Futey is a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims and has been actively involved in programs to foster democratization and the rule of law in Ukraine and Russia.

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from the original July draft, there is no general feeling that the revised version is necessarily a better legal document.

The revised draft has not yet been prepared for final publication. Still, working copies indicate that several fundamental problems remain. These problems result from, and in turn provoke a lack of political consensus, and unless resolved will sap the viability of the new constitution as a long-term fundamental legal document.

The structure of government, particularly the division of power

UKRAINE'S
DRAFT
CONSTITUTION
MEETS
POLITICAL
REALITY
By Bohdan A. Futey

between national and local governments, has surfaced as the key political issue. Unless this issue is resolved, there can be no serious expectation of approving a new constitution. The original draft of the new constitution called for a unitary form of government. In each *oblast*, administrative districts that range in population from one to four million people each, the President was given the power to appoint presidential representatives to supervise the implementation of national policy. This proposed structure was met by

resistance on the oblast level, where local leaderships demanded self-government.

One proposed modification is that the presidential representatives be directly elected by the people, rather than being appointed. Thus the presidential representatives' role would be changed from oversight to executive coordination. However, this proposal does not resolve the issue of division of power between national and oblast authority. Ukraine's President Leonid Kravchuk acknowledged this in a recent speech when he stated, "[we] have not been able to ensure due clarity in establishing the structure of the organization of state executive power and [local] self-government and their interaction."

*Unclear federalism
and separation of powers*

Furthermore, at the insistence of Crimea and several other large oblasts, the concept of "autonomy of the oblast" was introduced without a clear delineation of the federal structure that such a concept implies. Still, the majority of the members of the government and parliament value the

unity and territorial integrity of the Ukrainian nation above all. Oblast autonomy, as well as other federal solutions, are perceived as potential threats to the territorial integrity of Ukraine and receive little support in Kiev.

The separation of powers among the three branches of government as presented in the original draft was also sharply criticized. The original draft gave a great deal of authority to the President, including powers that would normally be considered to be in the

purview of the judicial or legislative branches. The parliament objected, and has now embarked on a strong movement to increase the authority of the legislative branch, one of the few points on which there is considerable political consensus among the divisive parliamentarians.

Speakers at the World Congress of Ukrainian Jurists noted that a constitution that provides for rights that cannot be enforced will lose public confidence and credibility as a legal document. In the revised draft of the constitution, "negative" rights vouchsafing individual protection against the government, such as freedom of speech, press, religion, and assembly, have been strengthened. "Positive" rights and government benefits for the individual, such as right to a clean environment, adequate medical care, cultural pluralism, and full employment are also included, however. President Kravchuk has acknowledged the obstacles posed by the inclusion of positive rights that are difficult for courts to enforce. However, he stated that their elimination would not be in line with the current public consciousness concerning rights. He suggested that positive rights be included, but separated into a special chapter on social intentions of the state that will clearly articulate the humanistic objectives of the nation.

In the area of economic rights, the revised draft affirms the right to individual ownership of private property. There is, however, more protection for private ownership by groups, such as cooperatives in lieu of state collectives. There is also strong support for the codification of the regulatory role of the state. Overall, there does not seem to be full acceptance of the idea that for democracy to function as a political system, there must be fundamental economic decentralization.

Only with the existence of an independent judiciary, one coequal with the other branches of government, will there be any guarantee of the supremacy of the rule of law. In this area some positive steps have been taken. In the original draft, three higher courts are proposed, a Supreme Court of General Jurisdiction, a High Economic Court (Arbitration Court) and a Constitutional Court. In an alternative proposal, two higher courts would remain, a Supreme Court of General Jurisdiction and a Constitutional Court. The function of the High Economic Court would be merged with the Supreme



Only with the existence of an independent judiciary, one coequal with the other branches of government, will there be any guarantee of the supremacy of the rule of law.



Court of General Jurisdiction. However, there is also a strong proposal for the establishment of one Supreme Court with several divisions, i.e., constitutional, general jurisdiction and a division for specialized courts. Further, the concept of trial by jury has been incorporated into the draft and has sparked great interest.

Still of concern, however, is the yet unresolved role of the Office of the Procurator General. Under the Communist system, the procurator

general was not only a defender of the state, but also had oversight over all government agencies, judicial decisions, and the imposition of sentencing. In the revised draft the procurator is placed within the judicial branch, which is charged with interpreting and applying the law. However, the procurator is also provided with some supervisory powers over the executive to ensure implementation and adherence to the law. In addition, the procurator prosecutes state cases in courts. The potential for conflict of interest and lack of objectivity is quite evident. Those who are responsible for ensuring a fair and impartial hearing of disputes must in no way be connected to the parties in dispute.

The Constitutional Commission also received numerous suggestions with regard to increasing the independence of judges. In the original draft, the appointment of judges was unclear, and judges of general jurisdiction were appointed for five-year terms with no clear process for reappointment. There was little protection for judges from political backlash as a result of unpopular decisions. This is one area that must be strengthened. However, the same attorneys and judges who advocate stronger guarantees of independence for the judiciary in the constitution also pushed for special privileges in the "Law on the Status of Judges." The law retains some old "Party perks" such as priority housing for judges, priority placement of children in schools, assignment of telephones and restriction of media criticism of trials. The simultaneous advocacy of independence and special privileges gives the impression that many in the legal profession are more interested in creating an elite legal corps than in fortifying a system of checks and balances and the rule of law. The "Law on the Status of Judges" has been passed by the parliament but not yet signed by the President or published officially.

(See CONSTITUTION, Page 9)

TWG Geese Reach semi-finals

By Laryssa Kurylas

After concluding the regular playing season with an evenly split 12/12 win/lose record, TWG GEESE (surprisingly) advanced to the DC Volleyball Playoffs. Effortlessly progressing through two preliminary rounds, the drama (finally) unfolded in the semi-final match against earlier rivals (they killed us) IDB.

TWG GEESE fought valiantly! Markian Hawryluk, team strategist, executed countless incredibly powerful spikes, even from behind the 10' line (some so powerful they even hit the gym walls above the 10' line!). Laryssa Kurylas, team manager, made the block of her life against IDB's star spiker, which brought play to a screeching halt in the TWG GEESE nest, while she collected high (medium and low) 5's from fellow players. Louis Ann Sabol, a.k.a. Noosia,— a wanabe Ukrainian who's building a colorful Ukrainian vocabulary, set balls magnificently at the net from the (infrequent) good bumps she happened to receive. (Saint Tamara Gallo, head of the team youth

division, sacrificed life and limb, (selflessly) diving for incredible saves. Ihor Kolcio, Ihor the Younger, displayed wide ranging skills from (Baryshnikovian) pirouettes at the net, to (Lendelian) aces from the serve line. Ihor Vitkovitsky, Ihor the Elder, flustered the other team continuously with high finessed (an sneaky) ball placement. After much trial and error, Olenka Dobczanska, team psychologist, finally put her better foot forward in the service stance (she was confused about this for a very long time) and regained her awesome serve. Other team members (present in spirit only at the semifinal) included: Roman Kramarchuk, Richard Heapes and Uland Bilynsky. Despite the huge effort (and the fact that only two rotations could be made in the first game) TWG GEESE lost the match in (only) two heartbreaking games— 15:2 and 15:10

Undaunted, TWG GEESE will be playing a 3rd A-level season this spring in Montgomery County at Sligo
(Continued on Page 10)

Goethe-Institut

(Continued from Page 1)

Kiev, the institute will be housed in the Kiev Polytechnic Institute on prospekt Peremohy. The institute will have a 15,000-book library, much of it donated by the Ukrainian Free University in Munich, the countess said, adding that she is learning Ukrainian through UFU.

The institute's programs also include cultural exchanges, exhibits, the showing of films and a language teaching department, which will be headed by Dr. Friederike Fruhwirth, currently head of the program in Toronto.

Dr. Fruhwirth, who flew in from Toronto to be at the reception, said that the language-teaching program consists of classes, seminars and workshops, teaching students and language teachers, as well as specialized language instructions, such as German for business.

Dr. Fruhwirth caused some alarm among the Ukrainian Americans at the reception when she said that she was studying Russian in preparation for her new assignment. Many in the audience underscored that while it might appear to be expedient to use Russian in some of their programs, the practice will not serve their interests in the long run.

Sophia Caryk, TWG events director, introduced the audience to the Countess, Dr. Fruhwirth and Count Baudissin, who will live in Kiev with his wife.

Ms. Olga Meyer, editor of The Graduate Bulletin, the newsletter of the Ukrainian Graduates of Detroit and Windsor, was among those who attended the reception

TREKKING THROUGH HISTORY

(Continued from Page 5)

As Khmelnytsky was leaving for Pereyaslav to sign the treaty with Russia, the legend goes, a girl carrying water from the wells crossed his path, and that was a bad omen. The treaty led to colonization of Ukraine, Shevchenko denounced it and in a poem suggested that Khmelnytsky must have been drunk when he signed it, and present-day Ukrainian democrats say it was the first time Ukraine stepped on a rake (the second time was in 1922, when it joined USSR, and they don't want Ukraine to be hit on the head the third time.)

There is very little Soviet schlock in Chyhyryn and Subotiv. When you visit these authentic places you become one

with your history.

Although I have a modest suggestion for PepsiCo. When they build their 120 Pizza Huts in Ukraine, could they put one near that "general store" in the middle of Subotiv?

After trekking through history, it would be nice to sit somewhere and have a cup of coffee, or a Pepsi, and a couple of slices. Right now there is no place to do it in Subotiv, or Chyhyryn for that matter.

Ukrainian law student interning in Washington for the summer looking to rent or sublet an apartment in DC or VA.

Call Roman Chikalo (201) 661-2118

UKRAINE'S DRAFT CONSTITUTION (Continued from Page 7)

A new strategy may be needed

Serhiy Holovatiy, a Ukrainian parliamentarian and director of the Ukrainian Legal Foundation, which organized the public forums to discuss the draft constitution, believes that the entire strategy for writing the new constitution and for developing political consensus needs to be changed. Expanding on an idea introduced at the World Congress of Ukrainian Jurists (of which he is the president), Mr. Holovatiy proposes that a directly elected constitutional assembly be convened and that parliament should no longer be primarily responsible for writing and managing the debate of the document. This idea is supported by the leadership of Rukh, Ukraine's grassroots pro democracy movement.

The idea of a constitutional assembly is particularly timely, since the current parliament is too busy with the critical state of the economy and other issues to focus on developing a solid constitution. Furthermore, vested interests, including those of a significant number of old Communists in the parliament, make a political consensus nearly impossible. There is growing public support, as well as support from the President and the government, to hold pre-term elections for a new parliament in the Fall—yet another reason to take the management of the constitutional process out of the hands of the legislature.

A public education program needs to be undertaken as well. In particular, the credibility of an independent judiciary must be reinforced in the public consciousness. Much confusion results from a lack of awareness on the part of both politicians and the public that the primary purpose of the legal system is to protect the individual and not simply to execute the interests of the state. It is important that the public understand that under the rule of law, a court can rule in favor of an individual and against the state.

As the debate over the new constitution continues, the current Ukrainian constitution, a patchwork of the old Soviet constitution modified by legislative votes and presidential decrees, continues to function. A Constitutional Court has been approved but is not yet functioning; members of the Court have been nominated but not yet confirmed. One of the most controversial nominations, that of a hard-line member of the old *nomenklatura* has been withdrawn. Confirmation of other members of the court may occur in the Spring. In the meantime, constitutional issues are debated and resolved on an *ad hoc* basis by the parliament.

"We are in a transitional phase and cannot necessarily clearly envision Ukraine's future, says Leonid Yuzkov, Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court and chairman of the parliamentary working group on the constitution. "It is not necessarily inappropriate to

have a transitional constitution or transitional laws. The process of a new constitution that will receive political consensus could take several years." In the meantime, the Constitutional Court should be convened, "so that people begin to understand the concept of rule of law. People need to understand that the parliament enacts laws, but that an impartial, non-political body, the court, ultimately decides what is legal or illegal."

At present, the timeline for adopting a new constitution is in flux. Within parliament itself there is a division between those who believe that a new constitution is imperative and those who believe that the process should extend for a longer period of time. The second position is held by deputies who find the current parliament too conservative and hope that the next elections will bring in new people with fewer vested interests. In any case, the constitution is not on the agenda for the spring session of parliament, and according to Mr. Yuzkov, "only under the most optimal of conditions could we adopt a new constitution by the end of 1993."

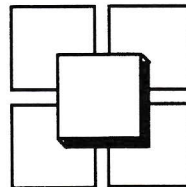
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TWG GEESE (Continued from Page 8)

Intermediate School, 1401 Dennis Avenue, Silver Spring.

The GEESE sincerely thank TWG members Daria Stec and Martha and Irene Jarosewich for attending games and cheering the team. Thanks gals — the blue and yellow pom-poms were a nice touch! As always, we invite spectators to our games, as well as participants in our lively discussions over beer and pizza after the games.

For information contact Laryssa Kurylas (202)979-8236.

TWG T-SHIRTS

T-shirts are now available for \$12.00 plus \$2.00 postage and handling. They are teal blue with a tryzub and TWG logo. Specify size with your order — S, M, L, XL.



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Board Meetings (Continued from Page 1)

President Mykola Babiak asked Board members to examine viability of establishing a computer E-mail network account for TWG members/Board members....

April 1993 Meeting

The Board ratified the selections of Andrew Bihun as Vice-President, and Marta Zielyk as Public Relations Director....Babiak and Leadership Conference Chairman George Masiuk announced site selection for 1993 Conference: Georgetown University Conference Center, a full-service, on-campus facility.... Former Membership Director Masiuk reported the findings from 1992 member survey....

Fellowship Committee Chairman Orest Deychakiwsky made presentation, led discussion, and received recommendations about the Committee's awards, including selection qualifications, priorities, standards, conditions, etc. Board recommended to the Fellowship Committee that award grantees receive at least one referral from a TWG member, and, where applicable, should present a report, written or verbal, to TWG, on the results of the research....

Board decided to employ a telephone network for event planning when rapid response is required, or short notice available. Babiak reported that TWG is considering sponsoring another TWG Trip to Ukraine in 1994 and the viability of a TWG excursion to the Atlanta Olympics in 1996....

Babiak reported about the meeting of Ukrainian-American organizations April 3 to study formation of a Professional and Business Federation.... Board voted to approve the work of the steering committee and to proceed with further study....

Board member Laryssa Chopivsky presented plan to establish a TWG Cultural Fund to promote Ukrainian art. Board asked for further recommendations about sources of funding.... Board formed an executive committee task force to respond to media editorials/opinions/articles, etc., as deemed necessary. Board also urged TWG News editor to encourage TWG members to respond to published materials, by reprinting pieces by members....

Board authorized VP Andrew Bihun to act as TWG spokesman at professional conferences/seminars.

MYRON J. TELUK ATTORNEY AT LAW

407 CHURCH STREET, N.E., SUITE 1
VIENNA, VIRGINIA 22180
(703) 281-4778

LET'S GO!

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND "BEACH BASH"



The Ukrainian Professional Society of Philadelphia (UPS), in conjunction with TWG and the N.Y./N.J. B.'s & P.'s invite you to a *Memorial Day Weekend Beach Bash* in Wildwood Crest, New Jersey

Get your baggies, bermudas and bikinis out of storage and drag your winter-weary bods down here for a weekend vacation.

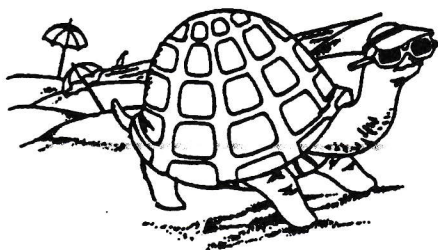
**Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday
May 28th - 31st, 1993
Wildwood Crest, N.J.**

Hotel Accommodations

Special room rates have been arranged for this event at the Cape Cod Inn, 6109 Atlantic Ave., Wildwood Crest, N.J. (609) 522-1177. Call and check for room availability. Please mention Ukrainian Professional Society when booking your room.

Friday Night "Welcome Party"

9:00 PM at "Carney's Pub", just minutes from the hotel. **Directions from Wildwood:** Pacific Ave., across the Cape May Bridge, T/L at light, cross 2nd large bridge, cross little bridge, stay in left lane & take 1st left, T/R on Washington to end, T/L at mall, go to the water, T/R on Beach Drive to Franklin. (On corner of Beach & Franklin across from arcade.) Live Band and D.J. GREAT PLACE! (609) 884-4424.



Bicycle Excursion

Touring Victorian Cape May on Sunday morning. Rent bike in Wildwood. Leave Wildwood Crest by bike at 9:30 AM, return 12:30 PM. (Approx. 18 miles round trip ride) or rent your bike in Cape May just for the tour.

Beach Time

We'll be doing the beach thing everyday (Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon.) at Sweetbriar Rd. & the Beach, down the street from our hotel. Don't forget your sunglasses and sunscreen!

Casino Night!! \$!! \$!!

Saturday Night... It's all right! Atlantic City - here we come! What's your game? Roulette? Craps? Black Jack? It's all here! We'll start off with dinner in Wildwood then leave for A.C. by 7:00 PM sharp! Get your buddies set-up for the car pool now.

Rain or Shine

This is not being scheduled as a "weather permitting" event. We have daily activities planned even if the sun is not shining, so DON'T WORRY...BE HAPPY...and BE THERE!

If you think that's it ... you're wrong! We also have: Bar-B-Q at the hotel. Beach tanning contest. Fun on the beach - frisbee, volleyball, boardwalk stroll, and, yes, we'll do rides, too. Much more!! And I'll tell you, if you miss this beach party, you'll miss a heck-of-a-good time!

CONTACTS:

Genia Wolowec	(215) 698-8300 (W)
	(215) 722-8550 (H)
George Bush	(215) 395-0404 (H)

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.)

USE THIS FORM ALSO FOR SENDING IN TWG DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Home phone _____

Company _____ Position _____

Business address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Office phone _____

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*)

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THE WASHINGTON GROUP
P.O. BOX 11248
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Is your membership expired?



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