

TWGW NEWS

March-April 1996
Volume XII Number 3



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

TWGW Embassy Internship

The Washington Group, in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine, is seeking candidates to participate in a two-month internship at the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of the project, which is being conducted under the auspices of the TWGW Fellowship Committee, is to provide the Ukrainian Embassy with an intern who could serve as a research assistant to the embassy staff. In turn, the intern would gain valuable experience in learning how a foreign embassy in Washington works and how the embassy interacts with various Washington individuals and institutions.

Candidates should:

- 1.) have completed at least two years of undergraduate studies;
- 2.) be proficient in English and Ukrainian;
- 3.) possess excellent oral and written communication skills;
- 4.) be able to demonstrate excellent computer skills, including database programs and the Internet;

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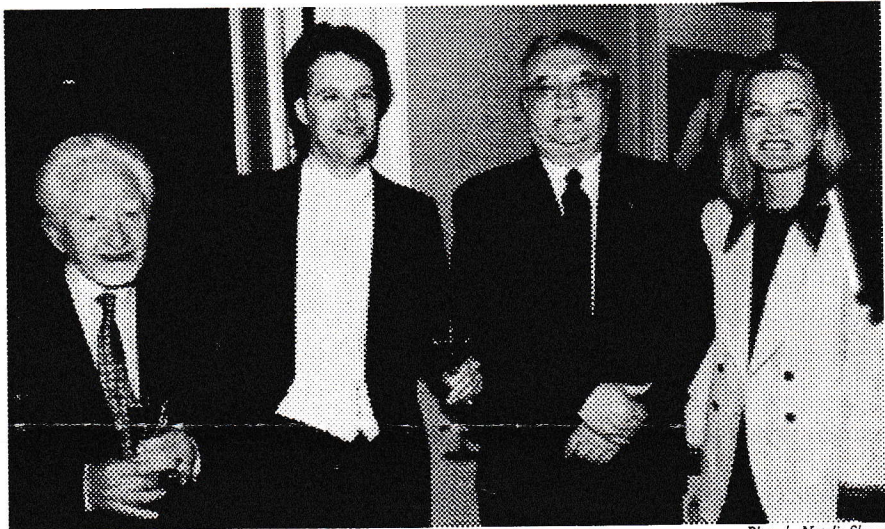


Photo by Natalie Slezar

Celebrating the Odessa Philharmonic's Kennedy Center triumph (from left): Composer Mykola Kolesa, Conductor Hobart Earle, Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak and TWGW Cultural Fund Director Laryssa Chopivsky.

Odessa Philharmonic Marks Chornobyl Anniversary with Kennedy Center Concert

By Marta Zielyk

Among the highlights of the 10th anniversary commemoration of the Chornobyl tragedy was a stirring performance by the Odessa Philharmonic Orchestra in the Concert Hall of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington on Sunday, April 28.

The performance was presented by the Washington Performing Arts Society, with our very own TWGW Cultural Fund and its director, Laryssa Chopivsky, working through the Chornobyl Challenge '96 coalition to

arrange the appearance.

The orchestra, under the baton of Hobart Earle, the first U.S. citizen to serve as music director of an orchestra in the former Soviet Union, delighted the audience with a diverse program

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MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The Washington Group will soon publish its 1996-97 Membership Directory.

If you have additions or corrections to any of the information called for in the information/application form on the back page of this TWG News, please fill in the corrections and return the form to TWG, P.O. Box 11248, Washington DC 20008, or call Membership Director Michael Drabyk at 301-565-3808 or e-mail at mdrabyk@aol.com. Please do so NOW. The deadline has already passed, but the directory has not yet gone to press.

This would also be a good time to make your contributions to the TWG Cultural and Fellowship Funds. As you can see from this issue, they have been doing some great things, and they need your support to continue their work.

TWG NEWS

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ADVERTISING: Business card size: \$10 per issue, or \$25 for three issues for TWG members; \$15/\$40 for non-members. Quarter page: \$45 members, \$55 non-members. Half page: \$60 members, \$75 non-members. Full page: \$100 members/\$140 non-members. Please contact TWG Treasurer Roman Stelmach (410) 997-0853.

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) or by "snail-mail" to TWG, Attn: Editor, P.O. Box 11248, Washington DC 20008.

Chornobyl anniversary

Many TWG members were involved in the organization of the 10th anniversary commemoration of the Chornobyl tragedy, working locally and nationally through Chornobyl Challenge '96.

Cultural Fund Director **Laryssa Chopivsky** organized the Odessa Philharmonic tour and Kennedy Center concert. She also had a hand in bringing about the May 1 White House ceremony with the First Lady Hillary Clinton and Vice President Al Gore, as did **Taras Bazyluk**, another member of the TWG Board and speech writer in the Clinton administration, who was instrumental in assisting Melanne Verveer and other White House officials in planning and shaping the event, while former TWG member and coordinator of Chornobyl Challenge '96 **Alexander Kuzma** was among the principal speakers.

Among the many individuals and organizational representatives present at the White House ceremony—in addition to the above—were: **Irene Jarosewich**, now working with the Children of Chornobyl Relief Fund; Judge **Bohdan Futey**; **Nadia McConnell**, president of US-Ukraine Foundation; **George Chopivsky**; **Ross Chomiak**; and, probably, others.

In Congress, TWG Secretary and Helsinki Commission staff **Orest Deychakiwsky** organized a hearing April 23 for the CSCE (Helsinki) Commission, entitled "The Legacy of Chornobyl: 1986-1996 and Beyond," which featured testimony by the ambassadors of Ukraine and Belarus, Georgetown Professor Murray Feshbach and Mr. Kuzma. It was the first time an ambassador from Ukraine testified before Congress. (The following day Commission Chairman Rep. Christopher Smith (R-NJ), along with nine fellow Congressmen as co-sponsors, introduced a resolution on Chornobyl in the House. Helsinki Commissioner Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ), together with four of his Senate colleagues, introduced the same resolution in the Senate, and were able to secure its passage the next day. The House resolution was approved by the International Relations

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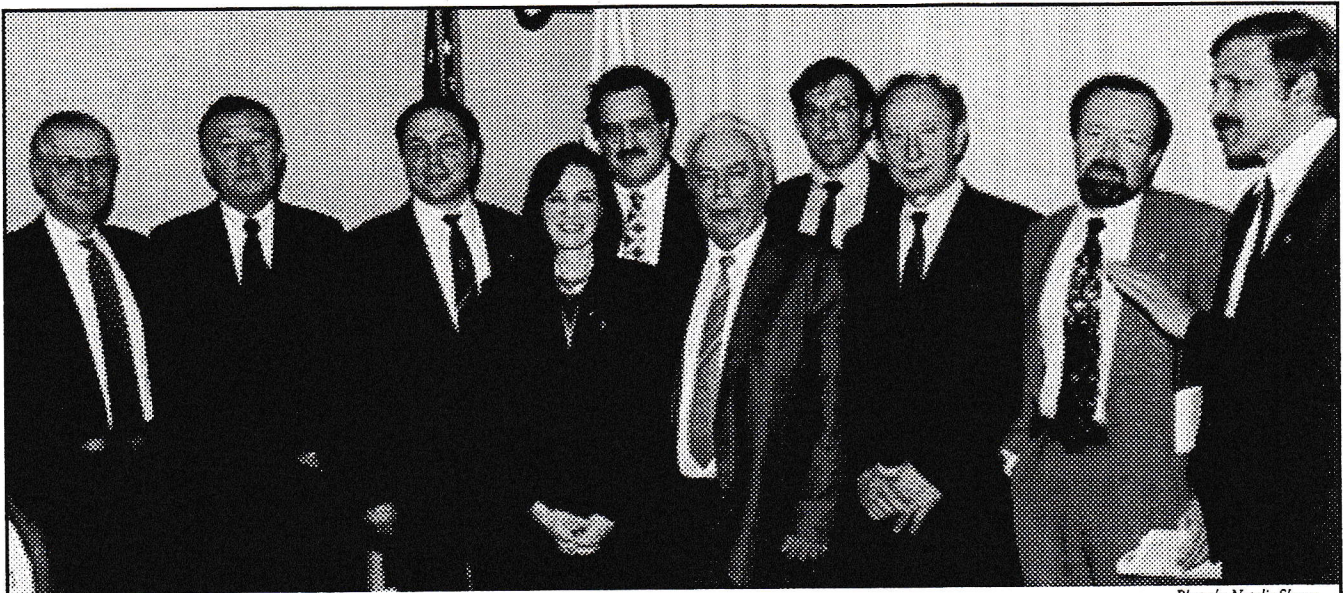


Photo by Natalie Slezar

(From left) Dr. George Gamota; Prof. Vitaliy Pokhodenko, director of the Institute for Physical Chemistry; Major-general Mykola T. Honcharenko, chief of Verification Center of Armed Forces, Ministry of Defense; Dr. Marta Cehelsky, executive officer, National Science Board, NSF; TWG President George Masiuk; Prof. Victor Pylypenko, director of the Institute for Technical Mechanics (Dnipropetrovsk); Prof. Volodymyr Andreev (in back), Ukrainian Physical Society, Taras Shevchenko University (Kyiv); Dr. Theodore Kostiuk of NASA; and Prof. Volodymyr Savitsky, director of the Institute for Applied Physics I. Franko State University (Lviv).

Ukraine Has Marketable Ideas, Scientists Say

By R.L. Chomiak

Ukraine may be energy-poor, its population continues to suffer from the effects of the Chernobyl disaster, but it still has brain power to devise new and unique technologies. (Ukraine frequently is compared to France because of its size and population. It could also borrow France's slogan from the oil-shortage 1970's: "France has no oil, but it has ideas.")

Ukraine's ideas, its scientific and technological potential, was the subject of a TWG meeting April 6, when representatives of the top-echelon of Ukraine's severely shrunk, but far from destroyed military-industrial complex who were visiting the United States, shared information not only about the present situation and the glorious past, but also what could be for Ukraine a source of some serious income.

Yes, they reiterated that Dnipropetrovsk-designed and

Dnipropetrovsk-manufactured space rockets Zenit and Tsyklon are the best in the world. This is something that had been highlighted by members of President Leonid Kuchma's delegation last February, because one of the agreements signed then in Washington was for commercial launching of space vehicles from which Ukraine would get rent-a-rocket income in hard currency.

But how about Ukraine's T-94 tank that tooled around the sands of Abu Dhabi at last year's military hardware trade exhibition and was judged best in the show? Or how about a system to reduce vibrations of a space vehicle, that may be applied to a car seat? These products of Ukrainian brain-power are potential export-income earnings, too.

The meeting with Ukraine's scientific establishment was chaired by Marta Cehelsky, who suggested that it

was important to look at what Ukrainian science and technology will be like in ten years' time, not so much what it was like, and what it is now. (Dr. Cehelsky is executive officer of the National Science Board, the oversight body of the National Science Foundation [NSF], and it was thanks to her that the meeting was held in the new NSF building in Arlington.)

What had been Ukraine's military-industrial complex was awesome. Prof. Victor Pylypenko, head of the Institute of Technical Mechanics in Dnipropetrovsk—the school that produced scientists and designers for "the world's biggest rocket factory" or the Pivdenmash complex in that city, recalled that at its height the complex produced 100 strategic rockets per year, and by way of comparison, said the United States at that time needed five years to produce 60 MX missiles.

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That was then; this is now: In 1991, Prof. Pylypenko's institute employed 1,260 specialists, and now only 500. Then—contracts covered 75% of the work done there, now they only cover 10%. But the Dnipropetrovsk complex still produces Zenit and Tsyklon rockets that, according to Prof. Pylypenko, remain the best in the world. And reflecting the changes of the post-Cold War period, it now also produces trolley buses right along the Zenit assembly line, he said. (Not mentioned at the meeting was that coincidentally, the Dnipropetrovsk complex also produced one president of Ukraine—Leonid Kuchma, and his national security adviser—Volodymyr Horbulin.)

But for a mentor of high-tech designers like Prof. Pylypenko the preferred form of conversion is something like the vibration-suppression system his institute developed to keep rockets on a steady course. "We have demonstrated that it can be applied to automobiles and sold wherever cars are made," he said.

Prof. Volodymyr Savitsky—another member of the delegation, who heads the Institute of Applied Physics at Lviv University, blamed the precarious situation of Ukraine's economy on the fact that 80% of it served the defense needs of the old USSR and because—as he put it—manufacturing in USSR "was done behind a Chinese Wall," everything was done "locally." The trend now, he said, is to establish priorities ("because we can't do everything"), and look for cooperative arrangements on the global scale, by buying some technologies and selling some.

As examples he cited Ukraine's advances in material science, in metallurgy and in geology that could be sold abroad. Ukraine also has good depos-

its of uranium, gold, zirconium, lithium, sulfur and potassium that could be developed with international partners, he said, and added that there are good but underutilized refineries in Ukraine that need "more than one source of oil" (i.e. Russian). He suggested that Ukraine must look to the Middle East and Central Asia for new sources of crude.

There are revolutionary changes going on in Ukraine, said Prof. Savitsky. Many factories just aren't needed anymore. Revolutionary changes, he contended, "require careful thinking about where to put the money, what to fund that can be taken into the marketplace."

The Lviv professor said he felt "the bottom has been reached" in Ukraine's disrupted economy, and there was a tendency now to stabilize it, but he cautioned that it was too soon yet to talk about growth.

Two members of the delegation—Prof. Volodymyr Andreev and Prof. Oleksandr Slobodyanyuk—both physicists and both members of the six-year-old Ukrainian Physical Society, talked about the society's international contacts, including its World Wide Web home page on the Internet (www.ups.kiev.ua).

Andreev talked about Ukraine's world-class capabilities in telecommunications technology, demonstrated at a recent NATO-funded workshop on this subject. (He was a co-chairman of the workshop, along with a representative of the American Physical Society.) He also talked about ten international summer schools and seven domestic ones that the society had organized; about a Ukrainian-Polish workshop; and about Ukraine's participation in a European conference on plasma physics, which he characterized as "very productive."

International contacts are vital for the health of Ukraine's technological

potential, said Prof. Andreev. A visit to Ukraine by just one American colleague, he said, may offer a chance for him or her to meet a hundred Ukrainian physicists, spend time in their laboratories, watch work in progress, "and that's how cooperation with scientists in Ukraine begins."

No small achievement of the Ukrainian Physical Society, noted Prof. Slobodyanyuk, was that the society's first president (Prof. Victor Baryakhtar, vice president of the National Academy of Sciences), was replaced at the end of the first term by another physicist, because the by-laws of the society call for rotation of the leadership. Under the old Soviet system, he explained, persons in such positions would never be removed by democratic means. He commended Baryakhtar for not holding on to the office despite his great stature and not resigning from the society. (Prof. Baryakhtar led the nine-member delegation, but was not at the TWG meeting, because he had another out-of-town appointment at the time.)

An interesting perspective on Ukraine's military-industrial complex was provided by Major General Mykola Honcharenko, chief of the Verification Center of the Armed Forces (his office is responsible for facilitating visits of foreign inspection teams that come to Ukraine to check on its compliance with arms limitation treaties).

He talked about the continuing reduction of Ukraine's armed forces—not an easy task for Ukraine, because jobs and housing have to be found for demobilized military people. He also talked about Ukraine's T-94 tank, the star of the Abu Dhabi show, and about artificial barriers set up by other countries to keep Ukraine's armaments from world markets. Mykolayiv, he said, is the site of one of the best shipyards in the world, and vessels built there are

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Odessa...

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that also included works by Ukrainian and American composers.

The concert began with rousing renditions of the Ukrainian and American anthems performed by the full orchestra. As The Washington Post music critic Charles McCardell noted April 30 in his review of the afternoon concert, "Philosophical musings dominated the concert's first half. With trumpet and flutes querying and attempting answers to the meaning of existence from strategic locations off-stage, the quiet strings provided sustained chords like a minimalist hymn during Charles Ives *The Unanswered Question*."

This piece was followed by the symphonic poem *Taras Shevchenko*, whose composer Kostiantyn Dankevych was born in Odesa in 1905. The first half of the program ended with the appropriately solemn and

moving *Addagio* from the Tenth Symphony by Gustav Mahler.

Following intermission, the Odessa Philharmonic Orchestra presented several works by contemporary Ukrainian composers. The orchestra performed the *Carpathian Concerto* by Myroslav Skoryk, and *Orchards Blooming in the Carpathians* by Mykola Kolessa, who, at 92, is the grandfather figure of contemporary Ukrainian music. Mr. Kolessa was present at the Kennedy Center that day and received a standing ovation from the audience after being acknowledged by Mr. Earle.

The official program ended with the ever popular *Appalachian Spring* by Aaron Copland and a standing ovation for maestro Earle and the orchestra. Critic McCardell again praised the Odessa Philharmonic's performance of this piece, noting that "Thanks to patient collaboration of Earle and the orchestra nothing was lost in the translation."

After sustained applause from the

audience, the Odessa Philharmonic Orchestra ended the afternoon concert with a rousing rendition of the overture to Mykola Lysenko's opera *Taras Bulba*. In a brief statement to the audience prior to performing the encore, Hobart Earle remarked that even though the intention of the concert was to commemorate a tragic episode in Ukrainian history, he would like to end the program on an uplifting note, which would more aptly reflect the hope of the Ukrainian spirit, which has remained unbowed through the centuries of its tragic history.

In the audience were members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of the U.S. government—Ambassador at Large to the New Independent States James Collins, Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff to the First Lady Melanne Verveer, the first US ambassador to Ukraine Roman Popadiuk, and Victoria Reznick, of the National Se-

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Scientists...

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being bought, but such countries as Japan, Sweden and Denmark work actively to keep Mykolayiv products off the market because they compete with production of those countries.

Fulfilling the obligations of various arms limitations agreements—START, Conventional Forces in Europe, Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces, Open Skies—are no small burden for Ukraine, said General Honcharenko. One nine-hour inspection by a foreign team costs Ukraine \$8,000, according to the general, and since 1992, "we have received 400 such inspection teams—all this just to prove that Ukraine is complying with the agreements" made by the superpowers back when the USSR was one.

But General Honcharenko made

these points not to complain about Ukraine's lot, but to cite some of the difficulties the military-industrial complex faces. He emphasized, however, that it was "up to us, ourselves, to come out of the situation in which Ukraine finds itself," and implied that they are up to it.

Also at the TWG meeting were Prof. Serhiy Doroguntsov, a member of the National Council on the Study of Productive Forces of Ukraine and president of the Environmental Academy of Ukraine, and Prof. Vitaliy Pokhodenko, head of the Institute of Physical Chemistry in Kyiv.

Prof. Stanislav Konyukhov, who heads the Dnipropetrovsk Design Bureau ("KB" or *konstruktors'ke byuro* in the old Soviet parlance) like Prof. Baryakhtar, had another appointment and didn't make the TWG function.

The delegation's visit to the United

States to meet with colleagues and potential collaborators was arranged by Dr. Cehelsky, who had visited Ukraine last October at the invitation of the State Committee on Industrial Policy.

Dr. George Gamota, who had done a study of Ukraine's scientific and technological potential, also helped in the arrangements, as did Natalie Sluzar, TWG's first president, whose firm, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC)—a sort of American "KB"—hosted the delegation for part of its stay in Washington. And Dr. Theodore Kostiuk hosted the delegation at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

Earlier that day the Ukrainian scientists gave a briefing at the Embassy of Ukraine to summarize the research done to date on the effects of the Chernobyl disaster. □

Leadership Conference to Mark Ukraine's 5th Anniversary

Following a few preliminary planning meetings, the secret is out: TWG will hold its 1996 Leadership Conference October 11-13 at the Key Bridge Marriott. The selected theme will mark the 5th anniversary of Ukraine's independence—*Ukraine at Five: A Progress Report*.

Conference planners, headed by TWG President George Masiuk, decided that the primary goal of the conference will be to provide an objective assessment of Ukraine's accomplishments towards its goal of entering the world community, improving its geopolitical position, achieving economic reform, and building the institutions that form a foundation for a democratic society.

The planners also assigned a secondary goal to this year's conference: to examine how Ukrainian Americans can participate more effectively in American life. Representa-

tives from each presidential campaign will be invited to address the conference, and there will be a roundtable discussion by leaders of community organizations on establishing mechanisms for better coordination of their work.

The conference program—in addition to major addresses, banquet and dance and the annual journalism award—will include panel discussions on Ukraine's:

- Place in the World
- Progress in Implementing Economic Reform
- Progress in Building Democratic Institutions
- State of Health Care

If you feel that you can contribute to the planning and execution of this year's leadership conference, don't hold back—call George Masiuk at 703-960-0043 or e-mail to gmasiuk@aol.com.

TWG Investment Club

Several TWG members have expressed an interest in forming an Investment Club.

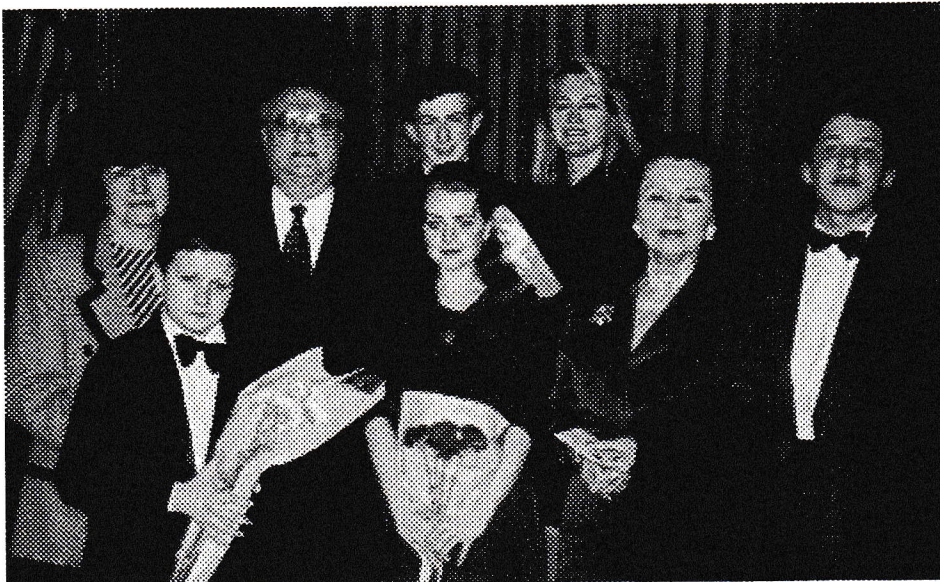
For those who may not be familiar with the concept, an investment club involves a group of similarly inclined individuals agreeing to invest a fixed amount of money each month into a stock or stocks selected collectively by the members.

Typically members are expected to take turns in researching and then presenting a stock for purchase by the club. The members then become *shareholders*, owning a portion of the stocks in the club's portfolio. The monthly contribution does not have to be very

large. The idea is to give both the relative novices as well as the more experienced investors the benefit of the diverse corporate memory and unique personal perspectives of the individual members. This is a great way for someone "to get their feet wet."

Historically, such clubs have done very well by investing conservatively. One club, formed by a group of proverbial "old ladies," recently made the evening news by accumulating a portfolio worth a couple million dollars.

Anyone interested in coming to an organizational meeting—before deciding whether to join—please contact either Natalie Sluzar at 703-573-6118 or Ihor Procinsky at 703-264-0246.



**HOROWITZ PIANO
COMPETITION WINNERS**
The winners of the First International Competition for Young Pianists in Memory of Vladimir Horowitz following their recital at the Charles Sumner School Museum March 15. Standing in the back row are Mrs. Maria and Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak and TWG Cultural Fund Director Laryssa Chopivsky. The event was sponsored by the Embassy of Ukraine and the TWG Cultural Fund.

Intern...(Continued from Page 1)

5.) anticipate assisting the embassy with whatever issues and needs that arise, including general office work.

6.) submit a one-page essay explaining their interest in the internship, when they would be available to participate in the project, and how their work, educational and personal experience would help meet the goals of the project;

7.) submit copies of academic transcripts and one letter of recommendation, and provide two references

To be considered for this internship, candidates must submit this information to TWG no later than May 25, 1996.

The Washington Group Fellowship Committee will provide the successful candidate with a stipend of \$1,500.

Application materials should be addressed to:

The Washington Group Fellowship Committee

Ukrainian Embassy Internship Project

P.O. Box 11248

Washington, D.C. 20008

For more information call Adrian Karmazyn at 301-460-9755 or Orest Deychakiwsky at 301-937-0492 (evenings).

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Committee and is expected to pass the full House in the near future.)

Chrystia Sonevytsky, coordinator of the American Forests ReLeaf International Program, and the Chernobyl Committee of Washington, were responsible for the March 29 tree-planting ceremony and commemoration of the Chernobyl Memorial Forest in Ocklawaha, Florida.

And honorary member and noted Chernobyl expert **David Marples** was busy writing articles on the subject, which were placed in a number of newspapers.

New Twigette

Former TWG President **Lydia Chopivsky Benson** and her husband Randy were blessed with a second daughter, Sophia Joanna, born on March 22.

Odessa...(Continued from Page 5)

curity Council.

Following the concert, there was a reception at the Watergate Hotel for dignitaries, sponsors of the concert, and members of the Odessa Philharmonic Orchestra. The reception, sponsored by Odessa Foods International, Inc., was hosted by Ambassador and Mrs. Yuri Shcherbak.

COMING EVENTS

17 May, Friday, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Visit TWG Member Alla Rogers at the Alla Rogers Gallery and the other Galleries at Canal Square, as they host an open house, with light refreshments and music. 1054 31st St. NW, Georgetown. Contact: 202-333-8595

18 May, Saturday, 7 p.m. Annual Ukrainian School Dance. Sponsored by the Taras Shevchenko Ukrainian School. For teens and young adults, but adults are welcome. St. Andrew's Cathedral Hall, 15100 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD. Contact Zirka Harabach 301-916-0978.

19 May, Sunday, 5 p.m. Leontovych String Quartet. concert at the Corcoran Gallery. In the Salon Doré. Reception follows. 17th St. and New York Ave. NW, Washington. Members \$20, non-members \$25. Register by phone 202-347-3601.

2 June, Sunday, 5:30 p.m. Pianist Lydia Artymiw, et al., recital at the Corcoran Gallery. Frances Armand Hammer Auditorium. Members \$10, non-members \$15. (If buying tickets for both Leontovych and Artymiw events, members \$25, non-members \$35.) Register by phone 202-347-3601.

7 June, Friday, 6-8 p.m. "Hat Party" at the Alla Rogers Gallery and the other Galleries at Canal Square. Join in the fun—wear a hat and meet lots of interesting people. 1054 31st St. NW, in Georgetown. Contact: 202-333-8595.

15 June, Saturday, 5-7 p.m. Flag Day Open House at the Alla Rogers Gallery and the other Galleries at Canal Square, honoring Francis Scott Key. The Star-Spangled Weekend includes the waterfront festival, Odyssey lunch cruise, rowing regattas, music and art exhibitions during the day, and dinner at the Halcyon House 7-11 p.m. Contact: 202-333-8595.

SUMMER SEMINARS

30 June - 20 July. Ukrainian Experience: Summer Course at the University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. With Prof. Wolodymyr Pylyshenko, SUNY College at Brockport. Ukrainian culture, history, economy, politics, arts, traditions, etc. Three credit hours (optional). Applications: Office of International Education, SUNY College at Brockport, 101P the Rakov Center, Brockport, NY 14420. 716-395-2119 or 1-800-298-298-SUNY. Evenings: W. Pylyshenko 716-637-4867.

21-26 July. Ukraine: Current Trends, Future Prospects: an intensive summer seminar at the Harvard Ukrainian Institute. Fourth annual seminar for specialists in government service, businessmen, journalists, scholars and graduate students in associated fields. Speakers will include scholars from the Ukrainian Research Institute and other institution in the U.S. and Ukraine, analysts, and diplomats. Contact: Dr. Lubomyr Hajda, Associate Director, Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute Summer Seminar, 1583 Massachusetts Ave. Cambridge, MA 02138, 617-495-4053, FAX 617-495-8097.

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*)

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