



July-August 1997  
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Monthly newsletter of The Washington Group  
An Association of Ukrainian American Professionals

"We can do better"

## TWG Conference to focus on expanding Diaspora's horizons

The Washington Group is once again providing a venue for the Ukrainian-American community to look at itself and plan for its future development.

"We Can Do Better: Expanding Horizons for Ukrainian-Americans" is the theme chosen for this year's Leadership Conference, which will be held October 10-12 at the Georgetown University Conference Center in Washington.

"The basic thrust of this year's conference is to convey the message that if the Ukrainian-American community re-energizes itself there are many opportunities for success," said TWG President George Masiuk in presenting the conference committee's plans.

In addition to five expert panel discussions that will develop the theme, the annual three-day gathering also will include a keynote address, an

awards banquet and dance as well as a performance by the popular musician Peter Ostroushko.

As in recent years, there will be a pre-conference welcoming reception Friday evening, Oct. 10, at the Ukrainian Embassy, located in Washington's Georgetown district, within walking distance of the conference and hotel facility.

The conference will commence  
(See *Conference*, page 7)

## Courtney gets high NSC post

TWG honorary member Ambassador William Courtney has been appointed Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Russia, Ukraine and Eurasian Affairs at the National Security Council.

The appointment, announced July 25 by National Security Advisor Samuel Berger, became effective August 25.

William Courtney has been Ambassador to Georgia since  
(See *Courtney*, page 8)

**Leadership Conference material in this issue:**

- Page 4 – Schedule
- Page 5 – Registration
- Page 6 – Survey



1997 TWG summer intern Lesya Richardson standing at the entrance to the Ukrainian Embassy, where she worked in the press and cultural section. More about Marquette University senior on page 3.)

*Photo by Yaru Bihun*

## New Members



## Notes on Members

• Vlad Fedojuk, Registrar, Ukrainian-Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc., Croydon Park, Australia.

• Daniel Flannery, Student, Richmond, VA.

• Svitlana Marinova, Student, Washington DC.

• Adrian Pidlusky, Graduate Student at the Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies, Washington, D.C.

• Florian Steciuch, Commodities and Currency Trader, Chicago, IL.

• Orest Roman Swystun, Computer Senior Systems Analyst, Silver Spring, MD.

• Elias Xenos, Student, Troy, MI.

*(Mr. Flannery's membership is underwritten by TWG member Emilia Procinsky. She also underwrote the membership of another new TWG member, Modest Lew Zacharczenko, who we told you about in our last issue. Our thanks to Mrs. Procinsky for her generosity.—Mike Drabyk, membership director)*

### NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATES

**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 Drabyk by e-mail at [mdrabyk@aol.com](mailto:mdrabyk@aol.com), or call him at (703) 560-7734. Also let us know if your directory information needs updating.**

### 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 (215) 572-1481.

*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.*

Jurij Dobczansky, senior cataloger at the Library of Congress, participated in the Conference on Library Cooperation between Ukraine and North America held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign June 20-25. He delivered a report on the past, present, and future role of the Ukrainian Library Association of America (ULAA) and called for its revitalization through electronic communications. As a member of the program committee, he helped organize the conference and moderated a panel on library education. He was elected president of the ULAA and joined the Kyiv-based World Council of Ukrainian Librarians. (contact: [jdob@loc.gov](mailto:jdob@loc.gov))

Martha Jarosewich, an environmental scientist who works as a consultant to the World Bank, this summer married Stephen Holder. The newlyweds now live somewhere off the Khreshchatyk in downtown Kyiv, where Mr. Holder is director of the Regional Affairs Office at the U.S. Embassy.

TWG's cultural emissary to Alaska, pianist Juliana Osinchuk, came to Washington this summer as the accompanist for the Alaska Chamber Singers, who performed at the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage July 7 (see photo on page 9). The ensemble performed works by American—including Alaskan—and European composers. Following the concert, a small group of TWG members, Cultural Fund Director Laryssa Chopivsky among them, took the visiting artist to a nearby Georgetown waterfront eatery for some non-Alaskan seafood and wine.

On the subject of Alaskan seafood—former TWG News editor Maria Rudensky and former TWG president Daria Stec, who were at the concert and the restaurant, spent a couple of weeks in early summer visiting Alaska—and Juliana Osinchuk—sightseeing and fishing. They claim to have caught some big ones and were more than happy to show photos as proof.

Ms. Rudensky, by the way, changed positions at the State Department. She's now press officer at the Bureau of Consular Affairs. Since coming back from her four-year assignment in Kyiv, where she was the first U.S. consul in independent Ukraine, Ms. Rudensky was Belarus desk officer. □

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## *TWG intern works summer at Ukrainian Embassy*

TWG's 1997 embassy summer intern, Alexandra (Lesya) Richardson, who will be a senior majoring in history and political science at Marquette University in Milwaukee this fall, spent July and August working in the press and cultural section of the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington.

She was the second TWG intern to receive a \$1,500 stipend to work with Ukraine's diplomats during the summer months since the program was initiated in 1996.

Ms. Richardson's daily duties included assisting the press section employees gather relevant information from major U.S. newspapers and the Internet to keep the Embassy's diplomats informed about latest developments, translating from the English and Ukrainian and working on special projects.

Among the documents Ms. Richardson translated were independence day letters between President Kuchma and President Clinton; she wrote press releases on developments in Ukraine, helped produce the Embassy's monthly newsletters, researched data and helped the staff prepare an updated Embassy brochure about Ukraine. She also worked on preparing the Embassy's World Wide Web home page, a project still under construction.

"The most rewarding, certainly, was the experience that I would have never had in a university setting or even on my own—translating and improving my Ukrainian language to such a degree that I never would have had the opportunity unless I went to Ukraine to work," Ms. Richardson said in an interview at the conclusion of her internship.

"Also rewarding was getting some personal insight into the way the

Ukrainian political system works, especially in America," she said. "They're under pressure, and they're performing excellently. Everybody is very efficient, very hard working."

The TWG Embassy internship was not her first Washington experience. Ms. Richardson spent the fall semester of her junior year as an intern in the office of U.S.

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*"They're under pressure, and they're performing excellently. Everybody is very efficient, very hard-working."*

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Representative Gerald Kleczka (D-WI), her Congressman from Milwaukee. It was part of her Marquette University program, in conjunction with the Les Aspin Center for Government.

She didn't get to do any Ukraine-related work in Rep. Kleczka's office, she admits, since his work centered on the Ways and Means Committee and Health Subcommittee. "He did get the Ukrainian Weekly, though," she adds. The Ukrainian Weekly was the source from which she learned about the TWG/Ukrainian Embassy internship program for which she applied and was accepted.

In addition to her Washington internships, Ms. Richardson also participated in a high-school student exchange program and an environmental internship in Ukraine.

She spent her high school junior year in 1992-93 on a Rotary International student exchange program in

Lviv, studying in High School No. 4 and living with a local family.

She returned to Lviv for two months in the summer of 1995 as an intern at the Environmental Public Advocacy Center, an American Bar Association-funded project, helping with writing, translating and organizing conferences..

Ms. Richardson was born in Little Rock, Arkansas. When she was six, her family moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where her father got a position at Marquette University. Her Ukrainian-American life, developed during weekend trips—for Saturday school, Plast, church, etc.—to Chicago, where her mother had grown up and where many of her relatives live.

Summing up her Washington and Ukraine experiences, Ms. Richardson said that "everything I've been lucky enough to do has been exciting." The embassy internship, however, was special. "Just the thought of working in an embassy, and the more so in Ukrainian. Because that's my roots, my background, it means more to me."

Ms. Richardson says that she does not have any concrete, long-range plans for her own future yet, but she hopes that it will include returning to Washington.

"I wouldn't mind entering politics," she says. "Truthfully, I did get the Washington bug up on the (Capitol) Hill. It's just so exciting. I really enjoyed it there."

She says she would recommend the TWG Embassy internship to anybody who is interested in politics, in working with Ukraine and in learning about Ukrainian politics.

The intern must have a good grasp of Ukrainian and English and  
(See *Intern*, page 8)

## 1997 Leadership Conference

### *We Can Do Better: Expanding Horizons for Ukrainain Americans*

October 10-12, 1997

Georgetown University Conference Center

3800 Reservoir Road, N.W., Washington, D.C.

(202) 687-3200

#### CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

##### Friday, Oct. 10

7:00 – 10:00      **Reception at the Embassy of Ukraine**  
3350 M. St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

##### Saturday, Oct. 11

8:00 – 9:00      **Registration**  
9:00 – 9:15      **Welcome and introductory remarks**  
9:15 – 10:00      **Keynote Address**  
10:00 – 11:30      **Panel 1: *Creating a model of a successful community:  
Lessons form other communities***  
11:30 – 2:00      **Luncheon and Town Hall Discussion:**  
***What is important to Ukrainian-Americans?***  
2:00 – 3:30      **Panel 2: *How are Ukrainian-American organizations doing?***  
3:30 – 5:00      **Panel 3: *Exercising influence within American society***  
7:00 – 8:00      **Cocktail hour**  
8:00 – 10:00      **Awards Banquet**  
10:00 – 1:30      **Dance, to the music of *TEMPO***

##### Sunday, October 12

8:30 – 10:00      **Federation of Ukrainian-American Business & Professional  
Association meeting**  
10:00 – 11:30      **Panel 4: *Building connections to Ukraine***  
11:30 – 2:00      **Brunch and performance by Peter Ostroushko**  
2:15 – 3:45      **Panel 5: *Local government project: A case study of how to  
win and execute grants involving aid to Ukraine***  
**Closing**

#### FOR MORE CONFERENCE INFORMATION CALL:

Ihor Procinsky at 703-264-0246 (day) (or e-mail imro99999@aol.com)

George Masiuk at 703-960-0043 (evening) (or e-mail gmasiuk@aol.com)

#### FOR HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS CALL:

The Georgetown University Conference Center at 1-800-~~327-9789~~<sup>228-9290</sup>

**SPECIFY THAT YOU ARE WITH THE WASHINGTON GROUP**

**TO RECEIVE THE SPECIAL TWG RATE OF \$109/NIGHT.**

## Conference..from page 1

Saturday morning with the presentation of results of the pre-conference survey (on page 6) and the keynote address. (The keynote speaker had not yet been confirmed by press time but is expected to be a high U.S. Government official.)

The first panel discussion, which will try to identify a model for a successful community, will consist of representatives of other ethnic communities—Jewish, Armenian, Italian and Polish. They will analyze the purpose served by their communities, the services their organizations provide, how these organizations attract new members, and how their communities relate to their ancestral homelands.

The needs and aspirations of the Ukrainian-American community will be discussed at a "town hall" meeting during lunch.

The panels Saturday afternoon will focus on the state of Ukrainian-American organizations and on the influence the community exercises within American society.

The second panel will include representatives of various Ukrainian-American organizations who will give their reaction to the views expressed during the town hall discussion, talk about their organizations' condition and future plans. Among the panelists will be long-time community activist, author and chronicler of the Ukrainian Diaspora in the U.S. Myron Kuropas; Roma Hajda, president of the Laity Council of the Ukrainian Catholic Church; Bohdan Vitvitsky, vice president of the NY/NJ Ukrainian-American Business and Professionals Association; and Bohdan Watral, CEO of the Self-Reliance Ukrainian Federal Credit Union of Chicago.

The third panel, on influencing American society, will consist of activists with a particular focus on govern-

mental relations. They will discuss both the mechanics of exercising influence and what the rank-and-file members of the Ukrainian-American community need to be doing to raise the profile of their community and of issues of interest to their community. Chaired by Orest Deychakiwsky, staff associate at the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the panel will include Andrew Fedynsky, of the Ukrainians for Clinton-Gore campaign; Robert McConnell, of Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher; and Michael Sawkiw, director of the Ukrainian National Information Service in Washington.

The Saturday evening program consists of a cocktail hour reception, the TWG Annual Awards Banquet, and a dance, to the music of Tempo.

Before the panel discussions resume on Sunday, the Federation of Ukrainian-American Business and Professional Associations will hold a business meeting in the early morning hours.

Panel four, on "Building Connections with Ukraine," will include panelists who have succeeded in establishing connections between U.S. and Ukraine, among them Andrew Masiuk, the former director of the International Management Institute in Kyiv, and Andrew Bihun, commercial attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv.

As in the past few conferences, Sunday's brunch will have a cultural program. This year, it will be fiddler and mandolinist Peter Ostroushko, widely known from his appearances on the National Public Radio's *Prairie Home Companion* program, and, more recently, for his acclaimed CD albums "Heart of the Heartland" and "Pilgrims on the Heart Road," which includes the "My People," a humorous song about his Ukrainian roots.

The conference will conclude with the fifth panel, organized by the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. It will be a case study of a local government project, about how to build an organization that spans Washington and Kyiv, wins and executes multi-million-dollar government grants.

If successful, according to its organizers, the conference should point to ways the community can:

- stem its numerical decline,
- improve the services its organizations provide the community,
- form networks for sharing information,
- influence the positive development of U.S.-Ukraine relations,
- win more grants to aid Ukraine.
- help Ukraine integrate itself within the world community, with expanded political, economic, business and cultural ties. □



TWG and the Ukrainian Embassy July 23 sponsored a discussion with a group of visiting Ukrainian journalists about the role of a free press in a democratic society (above).



Photo by Yara Bihun

Olenka Pevny, research assistant at the Department of Medieval Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, describes *The Glory of Byzantium* exhibit at the Met at a TWG Cultural Fund presentation July 1 at the Sumner School Museum.

### *Intern...from page 3*

be skilled in working with computers, she says. "They have a very high-tech system here," she points out, and they depend on it for getting and sending information quickly.

One also needs patience, she admits, "because it does get stressful; the work-load does get heavy...and it's definitely more than a nine-to-five job."

Commenting on the internship program, TWG President George Masiuk said it is beneficial for all involved: "It promotes good will between the Ukrainian-American community and the Ukrainian Embassy, provides the Embassy with competent and much needed help, and provides the intern with the opportunity to gain valuable experience." □

### *Courtney...from page 1*

1995. Prior to that he was Ambassador to Kazakstan, co-chair of the U.S. delegation on Safety, Security and Dismantlement of Nuclear Weapons, and head of the U.S. delegation, with the rank of ambassador, to the implementing commissions established by the Threshold Test Ban and Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaties.

Earlier, he served in the Nuclear and Space Talks in Geneva and at U.S. Embassies in Moscow and Brasilia.

He was an international affairs fellow at the Council of Foreign Relations and since 1972 has been a career Foreign Service Officer.

In the mid-1980s, Ambassador

Courtney was selected to head the planned American consulate in Kyiv. The plan didn't materialize, but his interest in Ukrainian affairs continued, and he frequently attended TWG events and participated in its conferences. He was named one of TWG's first honorary members.

At the NSC, Ambassador Courtney succeeds Steve Pifer, whose predecessor, Coit Blacker, addressed the 1995 TWG Leadership Conference.

A native of West Virginia, Ambassador Courtney is a graduate of West Virginia University and received a Ph.D. in economics from Brown University. He and his wife, Paula Feeney, have two young children. □

## **Lack of funds keeps Kyiv dancers at home**

The *Ukraine* folk dance group will not participate in the International Children's Festival at Wolf Trap this September, as was reported in the TWG News, because not enough funds were raised for their travel from Kyiv.

The TWG Cultural Fund hopes that the group will be able to come next year. The Festival will not invite the group if travel funds are not ensured. If you would like to be a sponsor, please make your check out to TWG Cultural Fund, indicate that your donation is for the Children's Festival, and mail it to 3722 48th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016. For further information, contact Laryssa Chopivsky at 202-363-3964 or LaryssaC@AOL.com. □

## **POSITIONS**

**THE U.S.-UKRAINE FOUNDATION** seeks qualified candidates for:

### **In Washington, DC:**

1. **Grants Writer.** Entry-level opportunity for self-starter to assist in grantsmanship activities. Experience or knowledge in: public health, health care administration, international health care and/or health care philanthropic organizations helpful. Salary negotiable.

2. **Government Relations Consultant.** Self-starter sought to track and analyze Congressional and Federal activities on aid to Ukraine. Organizational/communication skills, interest in international affairs, public policy required. Part-time considered. Salary negotiable.

### **In Ukraine:**

1. **Financial Manager.** Financial/accounting training or experience required. Responsible for accounting system, budgets, financial reporting. Effective communication and Ukrainian language skills helpful. Salary: \$27,000.

Send resumes with letter of interest, salary history and requirements to: U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 1511 K St. NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005; e-mail: ukraine@access.digex.net; fax: 202-347-4267. No phone calls, please.

**The Washington Group &  
The Ukr.-Am. Nautical Assoc.**

invite you to the annual

**CHESAPEAKE BAY SAIL PARTY**

**Friday, September 26  
The Chart House Restaurant**

222 Severn Ave.  
On the Annapolis Waterfront  
410-268-7166

7:00 p.m. to midnight

See the sailboats, swap stories, and party like sailors! Limited space may be available on deck for sleep-overs, weather permitting.

Contact: Roman Goy 410-323-2312



*Photo by Yara Bihun*

Juliana Osinchuk accompanying the Alaska Chamber Singers at the Kennedy Center. (See Notes on Members, page 2.)

*Wine and Dine with The Washington Group  
in Virginia's Wine Country*

*Join us for a tour of Virginia wineries, and sample their harvest. Have dinner at a historic country inn in Middleburg, Virginia, the horse country capital of the world.*

**Meet: Saturday, September 20, 1997, at 1:00 p.m.  
Naked Mountain Vineyard and Winery, Markham, Virginia**

After a tour and wine tasting at the Naked Mountain Vineyards, we will proceed to two other vineyards near Middleburg: Piedmont Vineyards, and Meredyth Vineyards. It's harvest time in this area, and you can watch the grapes being gathered, and pressed. Some of the smaller vineyards cannot guarantee tours because all their staff will be picking grapes, but their tasting rooms will be open. There will be a \$1.00 or \$2.00 dollar charge for sampling of wines at each winery. Bottled wines may also be purchased. Bring a designated driver.

At 6:00 p.m. we'll meet at Bistro Belle Fleur, renowned country inn and restaurant, for a delicious four-course dinner. Located in Middleburg, one block south of the traffic light in a 208 year-old house, the restaurant will provide a private eating room for TWG. The menu will consist of appetizer, soup, salad, choice of entree, and dessert. The usual entrees include a choice of beef, chicken, fish, poultry or vegetarian. The four-course dinner is \$26.00 per person plus tax and gratuities. Wine, coffee and cocktails are extra.

Dinner reservations are a must. Call Natalie Sluzar (703) 573-6118 (eves) by September 15th to reserve your place for dinner. Directions:

Naked Mountain Vineyard and Winery  
2747 Leeds Manor Road  
Markham, Virginia 22643  
(540) 364-1609

Take 66 West to exit 18, Markham. Proceed on 688 North for one and a half miles. Vineyard is on the right.

Bistro Belle Fleur  
101 South Madison  
Middleburg, Virginia  
(540) 687-6456

To get to Middleburg take Route 50 West. Follow signs for Middleburg. Pass traffic light to South Madison.

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

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 \_\_\_\_\_

THE WASHINGTON GROUP  
P.O. Box 11248  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008



Expiration date: 8/4/97

**Ms. Maria Rudensky**  
**3400 39th St. NW**  
**Washington DC 20016-3756**

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