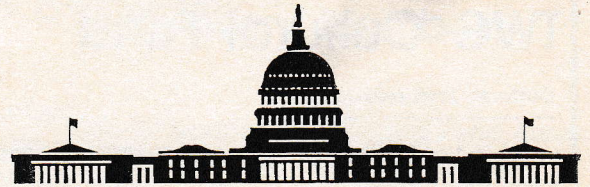


TWG News

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Fall/Winter 2001



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President's Report -- 2000-2001

TWG President Reports 2000-2001 was "a very good year"

by Ihor Kotlarchuk, *TWG President*

I am happy to report that this was a very good year for The Washington Group. We, as in previous years, have not only been able to retain the interest and loyalty of our members but we were also able to attract many new members by providing numerous high quality and varied events throughout the year.

Last year's annual and traditional three-day Leadership Conference, held over the Columbus Day weekend (October 6-8), had as its theme "Ukraine: Integrating into the Global Community" and focused on Ukraine's

TWG has been extremely fortunate in consistently attracting many dedicated and talented Ukrainian American professionals.

position and role in the evolving world community. The conference

panels, which were extremely well received by the audience, consisted of prominent experts in various fields, including representatives of both the Ukrainian and the U.S. governments, professors from renowned academic institutions and officials from international organizations. The conference was not only intellectually stimulating and socially enjoyable but it was also a financial success. In that regard, our financial situation is very solid and our assets are at a historical record high -- surpassing the \$50,000

mark.

TWG has maintained excellent relations with and has provided support to other Ukrainian organizations. As in previous years, it also continues to maintain good relations with governmental as well as non-governmental entities.

Events

As in previous years, most of our events can be categorized as either political, cultural, or social. It should be noted that this year, for the first time, TWG introduced monthly socials, referred to as "TWG Social Fridays," which enable its members and prospective members to meet on a regular basis, socialize and network. The socials are always held on the first Friday of each month.

Briefly, some of the other events that were sponsored and organized by TWG this year included: Independence Day Picnic (August 26); Annual Christmas Party at the Montebello Café (December 8); TWG Social Evening on Ice (January 25); TWG Cultural Fund Benefit Concert Series (October 3 & 16, November 13, March 5, and April 23); The Harry Watters Louisiana Swamp Romp (February 4) – a TWG Cultural Fund benefit concert to procure musical for the Music Conservatories in Lviv, Kyiv, and Odessa; an Evening with

See Kotlarchuk, page 3

TWG Cultural Fund Launches New Year

by Lesia Bihun, *Correspondent*

Singer and actress Mariana Sadovska launched TWG Cultural Fund's 2001-2002 concert series before a capacity audience at The Lyceum in Alexandria, VA, on September 23.

The recital program, the first of five concerts scheduled for this season, illustrated the depth and breadth of emotions expressed in the folk songs of Ukraine.

From a young woman's longing for the carefree moments of her childhood in "Oi vershe, miy vershe" to the rollicking "Pyiemo, pyiemo," in which four women wonder what kind of liquor could have made them so drunk after three days of drinking, the program moved the audience from sadness to laughter, and then further into the heartrending grief of a young widow asking her son about the whereabouts of his father in "Vdova" and to outright laughter over a young village woman's marital problems with a much older man in "Ozhenyvsia staryi did."

The program selections included songs from Ukraine's various ethnographic regions — Lemko, Lviv, Poltava, Hutsul and Polissia, to which Ms. Sadovska had conducted expeditions to collect their authentic folk songs and traditions, as well as examples from neighboring Poland and Serbia. Ms. Sadovska used a harmonium to intensify the colors and shades of her voice. When she sang about a girl who became a bird in her mother's orchard, the audience heard trills, warbling and quivers. And the coloration of her voice would change from a soothing mother's lullaby for a nursing baby to a raw, commanding

See TWG Cultural Fund, next page

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Need to renew your TWG membership or know someone who's interested joining? Check out the handy form on the back.

TWG Cultural Fund

Cultural, from previous page

voice in her "calling" songs, used to draw out spirits and push away clouds.

To enhance the audience's understanding and appreciation of the program, Ms. Sadovska introduced and explained each selection in English.

Born in Lviv, Ms. Sadovska performed for three years with that city's Kurbas Theater. From 1991 to 1999 she worked with the Gardzienice Theater in Poland, before coming to New York to perform with the Yara Arts Group, where she is now artist-in-residence.

In her opening remarks, TWG Cultural Fund Director Laryssa Courtney dedicated the concert to the memory of the victims of the terrorist attacks on September 11.

Minister Counselor Volodymyr Yatsenkivskiy of the Ukrainian Embassy, which has extended its patronage to this year's and last year's concert series, greeted the audience, which included the former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Green Miller and his wife Suzanne Miller, both staunch supporters of Ukrainian performing arts. ■

Editor's Note: See event photo on page 5.

Check out TWG's Web site
for upcoming events...

* * * * *

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TWG News

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* * *

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TWG Membership Annual Report -- 2001

by Juliana Kinal Ballard, *Membership Director*

This has been a growth year for TWG membership level. From this time last year, membership has increased from 433 to a total of 449. Full members are up to 226 from 190, associate members up to 175 from 171 and honorary up to 10 from 8 (including those inducted today). The two categories where membership has fallen are in student membership from 58 to 38, and corporate memberships.

The overall growth in membership can be mostly contributed to two events: the Annual Conference in October and the upcoming publication of the Membership Directory. The publication of the membership directory is a surefire way to prompt people to renew, including former members who renew after years of inactivity.

In addition, active bimonthly renewal campaigns, as well as the reminder on the mailing label of the *TWG News*, serve to encourage membership renewal and member recruitment. By active renewal campaigns, I mean the mass mailing of reminder letters. I'm sure you have all seen the numerous reminders to renew, in the form of letters, stickers, stamps, and announcements in *TWG News*.

As you may have heard, my husband and I are moving to Mexico with the Foreign Service. Adrian Pidlusky, former Membership Director, will be nominated at this meeting to take over the role again. This is a great bonus to TWG,

See Membership Report, page 6

Notes on Members

TWG Special Events Coordinator, Oles Berezhny, and long-time TWG member, Luba Shara, were married.

The reception took place on September 29, where many friends and relatives, most of them active in the Ukrainian community, sung: "Mnohaya lita!" to the happy couple.

They will live in Arlington, VA. ■



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President's Annual Report -- 2000-2001

Kotlarchuk, from page 1

Adrian Karatnycky, President of Freedom House (March 27); Panel Discussion on Freedom of the Press and the Current Political Situation in Ukraine at the Kennan Institute at the Woodrow Wilson Center (April 9) - participating panelists included Prof. Olga Andrievska, Roman Kupchinsky, Director, Ukrainian Service, Radio Free Europe and Olena Pritula, Chief Editor, Ukrainska Pravda; a Presentation by Dr. Taras Kytsmey on Information Technology Development in Ukraine at the Heritage Foundation (April 27); a Presentation by Dr. Bohdan Budzan, Director General of the International Management Institute (IMI) in Kyiv, on postgraduate business education in Ukraine (May 24); and Stephania Dovhan in Concert sponsored jointly by the TWG Cultural Fund and the Rosa Ponselle Foundation under the patronage of the Embassy of Ukraine (May 12).

Additional Activities

I am representing TWG on a recently formed committee whose primary function is to plan and organize a series of commemorative events as a part of a continuing celebration of the 10th Anniversary of Ukraine's Independence. In this regard, the members of this committee, consisting of representatives of the major Ukrainian organizations in the area, have been working closely with the representatives of the Embassy of Ukraine. Additionally, I have also been asked to be a member of yet another recently formed committee (an initiative of UCCA) which is exploring the feasibility of uniting all the major Ukrainian organizations in some manner and form, i.e. Council of Presidents, so that the organizations could, at least on some very important issues, present a united front and, therefore, more effectively represent the interests of the entire Ukrainian American community.

It is important to note that the TWG Leadership Conference 2001 was held on October 19, 20 and 21 at

the Key Bridge Marriott. [Editor's Note: See *TWG News* Conference issue for more.]

Many thanks to Yaro Bihun, our former *TWG News* Editor, for his many years of selfless and dedicated service. I would also like to thank Andy Szul, our new *TWG News* Editor, for taking on this difficult and time consuming task and George Masiuk for his outstanding work as Chairman of our last year's Leadership Conference.

Happily, I can report to all of you that, due to the efforts of Anya Silecky (TWG Directory Chair) and her hard working committee (Yaro Bihun, Juliana Kinal, Michael Drabyk, Jurij Mojsiak, and Natalie Sluzar), the new TWG Directory 2001-2002 has been completed and should be arriving in the mail to the members.

On Friday, June 1, we held a farewell party for Juliana Kinal Ballard, our hardworking Membership Director, where we had an opportunity to say good-bye and extend our thanks and appreciation. Juliana and her husband John departed for Mexico sometime in mid-June.

Steve Boyduy continues to maintain and develop the TWG website which provides timely information about our organization and our activities. I encourage everyone to visit our website: www.TheWashingtonGroup.org.

TWG, as an organization, has been extremely fortunate in that it has consistently attracted many dedicated and talented Ukrainian American professionals to its ranks.

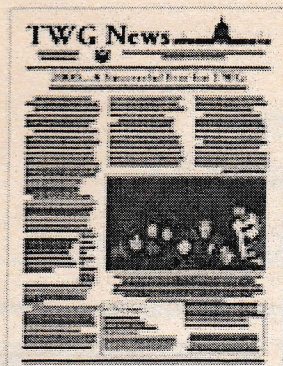
As a result, TWG, unlike many other Ukrainian American organizations, has grown and prospered through the years. However, we must not allow ourselves to rest on our laurel. Therefore, I ask that you encourage your family members and friends to join TWG and become a member of one of the most active, vibrant and highly regarded Ukrainian organizations in the United States today.

Thank you for the trust, confidence and the generous support you have given me and the Board during the year. Furthermore, I ask and hope that you will continue to support TWG during the coming year. ■

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TWG Members & Friends Enjoy Recent Recital Hosted by Cultural Fund



Earlier this year, on September 23, the TWG Cultural Fund hosted a recital featuring singer and actress Mariana Sadovska at The Lyceum in Alexandria, VA.

Pictured, from left to right: Nadia Diuk, Larysa Kurylas, Mariana Sadovska, Deputy Chief of Mission Volodymyr Yotsenkivskyi, TWG Cultural Fund Director Laryssa Courtney, Rosalie Norairand and TWG President Ihor Kotlarchuk. (Full story on cover page.)

TWG Cultural Fund Annual Report -- 2000 - 2001

by Laryssa Courtney, TWG Cultural Fund Director

The Cultural Fund brought in the new millennium with music - lots of music! Since the last annual meeting, we were involved in sponsoring an unprecedented nine events, including a standing room only "Opera Night at the Embassy," a lecture on the long lost Bach scores found in Kyiv, and a series of five concerts to benefit the Music Conservatory in Lviv, three of which were reviewed in *The Washington Post*.

On May 26, baritone Oleg Chmyr, accompanied by pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky, performed a program of "miniatures" by French, German, Italian, Polish, Russian and Ukrainian composers at the Embassy of Ukraine. The following month on June 22, Harvard University Dew Christoph Wolff and Patricia Grimsted, an associate of Harvard's Ukrainian Research Institute, gave a very interesting lecture to a lunchtime crowd at the Coolidge Auditorium in the Library of Congress on their remarkable discovery of some one million pages of music including works by J. S. Bach. Special thanks to Larysa Kurylas for her role in bringing them to Washington.

Once again we enjoyed a flattering review in *The Washington Post*: "The Musical Riches of Ukraine".

On October 3, the Benefit Concert Series, including many artists originally from Lviv, was launched at the Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre under the stewardship of Chrystia Sonevytsky. The inaugural concert featured members of the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra and pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky, performing the Washington premiere of Myroslav Skoryk's Concerto No. 3, as well as works by Beethoven and Mozart. Joseph McLellan of *The Washington Post* described Skoryk as "a very productive and impressively imaginative Ukrainian composer who is virtually unknown in the United States."

In his review, McLellan wrote that the performance "brought out the music's color and excitement."

Shortly thereafter, on October 16, two Ukrainian scholarship students at the renowned Curtis Institute of Music, violinist Solomiya Ivakhiv and pianist Christina Anum-Dorhuso, performed works by Bach, Beethoven, de Falla, Skoryk and Stankovych. Then on November 13, we heard cellist Natalie Khoma accompanied by Volodymyr Vynnytsky, in a spirited performance which included works by Beethoven, Cassado, Granados, and Shostakovich and featured "Sorrow", an elegy written by Mykola Lysenko following the death of his wife.

While the fall concerts featured instrumentalists, the song concerts highlighted vocal artists. On March 5, in a musical tribute to Taras Shevchenko, soprano Anna Bachynska, and tenor Roman Tsymbala, accompanied by Vynnytsky, performed songs by Ukrainian composers set to the poetry and prose of Shevchenko, as well as favorite arias and duets by Ukrainian and Italian composers. In addition, the bandura duo Lisova Pisnia performed popular folk melodies inspired by Shevchenko's words. Another review in *The Washington Post*, under the headline "Bright Voices and Bandura From Ukraine," described the bandura as "a Ukrainian folk instrument that looks like a lute or guitar and resonates like a harp... in the skilled hands of Alla Kutsevych this unfamiliar instrument flooded the auditorium with uniquely glittering melodies' it also mentioned Shevchenko's lifelong struggle with despotism and the "broad spectrum of his musical influence." On April 23, the last concert of the Benefit Concert Series, New York City Opera Diva Oksana Krovytska, accompanied by our artist in residence Volodymyr Vynnytsky (who this time also performed piano solos by Revutsky and Skoryk) delighted the audience with a varied program which included many songs by Ukrainian

See Courtney, next page

TWG Cultural Fund Annual Report -- 2000 - 2001

"We received over \$7,000 in donations in 2000, as well as a very generous gift of \$2000 from Arthur and Lydia Belendiuk."

Courtney, from previous page

composers. Once again we enjoyed a flattering review in *The Washington Post* – "The Musical Riches of Ukraine." The reviewer described the performances as "skilled and fervent" and noted that the program demonstrated that Ukrainian composers "deserve to be better known here."

Our most recent event was at the Dumbarton United Methodist Church in Georgetown on May 12, when we co-sponsored a recital with the Rosa Ponselle Foundation, featuring University of Maryland scholarship student Stefania Dovhan, who is the 2000 Gold Medal Winner of the prestigious Rosa Ponselle Young Classical Singers Competition and at 21 years of age, is on the threshold of a very promising career. In addition to these recitals, which were all followed by receptions for the artists, the Cultural Fund featured the avante garde bandura improvisations of The Experimental Bandura Trio at the TWG Conference last fall, where we also held a silent auction and, thanks to the organizational skills of Daria Stec, netted approximately \$3000.

We received over \$7,000 in donations in 2000, as well as a very generous gift of \$2000 from Arthur and Lydia Belendiuk. Special thanks to artist Yuri Khymych for permitting us to

use one of his beautiful paintings of the Lavra for our annual Christmas card. In addition, I would like to thank The Louisiana Swamp Romp, a New Orleans style jazz ensemble which donated proceeds from their very well attended concert at the Lyceum in Old Town, Alexandria, to our Lviv Conservatory Instrument Fund and included jazzy improvisations of Ukrainian songs in their program.

I would also like to thank all the artists in the Benefit Concert Series, who performed without remuneration, Chrystia Sonevytsky, whose initiative and involvement in all aspects of the organization of the Benefit Concert Series made it possible, the Embassy of Ukraine for their cooperation, all our donors, sponsors and supporters, and of course the members of the Cultural Fund Committee: Theresa Ben, Lesia Bihun, Yaro Bihun, Nadia Diuk, Natalya Gryshchenko, (Honorary Chair), Chrystyna Kinal, Mykola Kravchenko, Larysa Kurylas, Ksenia Kuzmych: Marta Legeckis, Stefan Maksymjuk, Suzanne Miller, Rosalie Norair (Treasurer), Slavko Nowytski, Marta Shmorhun (Secretary), Chrystia Sonevytsky, Daria Stec, Morgan Williams and Marta Zielyk. ■

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TWG Membership Annual Report - 2001

Membership Report, from page 2

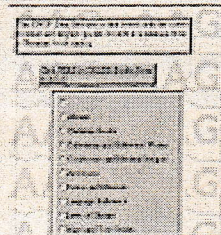
and to me personally, because the transition has been and will be very smooth.

I want to thank all the TWG Board members for their support. Without it, the work of the membership director would be overwhelming. I would especially like to thank Mike Drabyk for his technical expertise with the database and all things computer-related; Marta Zielyk, for picking up and sorting the mail; and Anya Silecky-Piazza for heading up the Directory committee, a role traditionally played by the membership director. In addition, all the Board members play a vital role in recruitment and retention of members, as do the members themselves.

As is said time and time again, TWG is a very dynamic group and it will continue to be so the more members we have.

Thank you. ■

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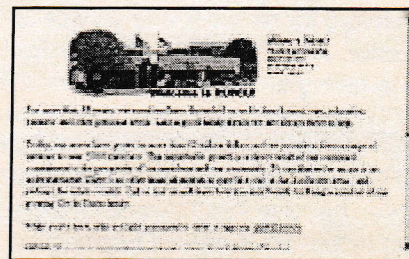
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* TWG Member

Mrs. Gongadze and IMI/Kyiv Director Budzan Named TWG Honorary Members

TWG Members Gather in Washington, D.C. for Annual Meeting to Discuss Various Issues and Start Planning

by Michael Drabkyk, *TWG Member-at-Large*

The Washington Group has named two new honorary members - Myroslava Gongadze, widow of the murdered journalist Heorhii Gongadze, and Dr. Bohdan Budzan, Director of the IMI-Kyiv Institute.

Mr. Gongadze's death is the focus of a controversy involving the Ukrainian Government, including President Kuchma.

Dr. Budzan is Director General of the International Management Institute, an international business school in Kyiv.

TWG took the actions during its recent Annual Meeting in Washington DC. Members also elected a slate of candidates, most of whom were current officers seeking re-election. Members also heard various reports indicating among other things, that The Washington Group treasury now stands at greater than 50 thousand dollars.

President's Report

In the first of the reports, TWG President Ihor Kotlarchuk described activities of The Washington Group since the previous TWG annual meeting in May, 2000.

These included the traditional TWG Leadership Conference held October 6-8, 2000, with the theme 'Ukraine: Integrating into the Global Community'. President Kotlarchuk called the conference intellectually stimulating, socially enjoyable, and a financial success. He also indicated the TWG financial situation was very solid, with historically high assets of more than \$50,000. He also indicated that the TWG Cultural Fund, TWG Business Forum, and TWG Fellowship Fund were all very busy during the year as well.

Yaro Bihun was thanked for his work and service as former *TWG News* Editor. Andy Szul was also thanked for his work and service in taking on the job as the new *TWG News* Editor. The TWG President also noted that Anya Silecky Piazza and her committee - Yaro Bihun, Michael Drabkyk, Juliana Kinal Ballard, Jurij Mojsiak, and Natalie Sluzar - were working on the new TWG Directory, expected to be sent to members in the near future. Outgoing Membership Director Juliana Kinal Ballard was also cited for her hard work and effective results, as she and her husband prepared to leave the Washington area for a government assignment in Mexico. Steve Boyduy was also thanked for his work in developing and maintaining the TWG website, www.TheWashingtonGroup.org.

The report concluded with a call to TWG members to encourage others to join The Washington Group, and to continue their support of the organization in the coming year.

Treasurer's Report

TWG Treasurer Roman Stelmach reported historically high assets at the time of the Annual Meeting in excess of \$50,000. Total assets at the end of last year, on December

31 2000, were reported to be \$47,817.61. Total income was \$42,285, including \$7,500 in Corporate Sponsorships, \$18,940 from the 2000 TWG Leadership Conference, and \$12,035 in membership dues. Total expense reported was \$32,925.90. TWG Net Income, including interest, was reported at \$10,908.14, as of December 31, 2000. Treasurer Stelmach also indicated that TWG shortly expected to receive its share of proceeds from the 1999 Joint Conferences of Ukrainian American Organizations, expected to be about \$6,000.

Membership Report

Membership Director Juliana Kinal Ballard reported that TWG membership stood at 449, the highest level ever.

Membership breakdown was as follows: Full Memberships, 226; Associate, 175; Student, 38; and Honorary, 10. While membership was up in most categories, Membership Director Ballard indicated membership had fallen in two categories: Student - from 58 to 38, and with Corporate memberships as well.

Overall growth in membership was attributed in part to two events: the annual Leadership Conference in October, as well as publication of the next TWG Directory. An example was cited in one case where an individual recently renewed their membership after letting it lapse for

TWG Membership Director Juliana Kinal Ballard reported that TWG membership stood at 449, the highest level ever.

eight years. Active bi-monthly membership renewal campaigns, renewal reminders on the mailing label of *TWG News*, and recruitment and retention efforts on the part of board members and TWG members

in general, were given as additional reasons for increased membership.


TWG Cultural Fund

As reported by Anya Silecky Piazza for Laryssa Lapychak Courtney, The TWG Cultural Fund indicated it was involved in sponsoring an unprecedented nine events since the last annual meeting. These included a standing room only "Opera Night at the Embassy," a lecture at the U.S. Library of Congress about the long-lost Bach scores found in Kyiv, a concert in tribute to Taras Shevchenko, a series of five concerts benefiting the Music Conservatory in Lviv - three of which were reviewed in *The Washington Post*, and a recital co-sponsored with the Rosa Ponselle Foundation, featuring award-winning University of Maryland scholarship student Stefania Dovhan. Other performers at these events included baritone Oleg Chmyr, pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky, New York City Opera Diva Oksana Krovytska, members of the Kennedy Center Opera House

See Meeting, page 19

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TWG thanks UNA for its continued support!

TWG Sponsored Popular Events Throughout 2000 - 2001...



Ambassador Carlos Pascual (right) discusses the situation in Ukraine. Next to him are Freedom House President Adrian Karatnycky (center) and TWG President Ihor Kotlarchuk.

With the government crisis and related political developments in Ukraine, TWG sponsored a discussion on the subject at the Freedom House in Washington, DC, on March 27. As planned, the evening was to feature one speaker, Freedom House President Adrian Karatnycky, who recently has been outspoken on the worsening of civil and human rights in Ukraine in remarks to the press, before Congress and in the latest issue of *Foreign Affairs* magazine. U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual, however, agreed to participate in the program and add his on-the-record observations and analysis of what has been happening in Ukraine and where the U.S. feels it should be going. The result was an overflow audience at the Freedom House Ballroom which also included some other notables then in Washington for the visit here by Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko and a lively discussion on the Gongadze affair, "Kuchmagate," the corruption problem in Ukraine as well as its relationship with Russia following the initial presentations. -- *Yaro Bihun, former editor, TWG News*



Oksana Krovytka (right) with William Green Miller, former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, during a reception following her concert.

The TWG Cultural Fund concluded its 2000-2001 series of benefit concerts to acquire instruments for the Lviv Conservatory on April 23. It was an evening with New York City Opera diva Oksana Krovytka and pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky at their finest, performing the works of Rossini, Scarlatti, Puccini, Chopin and other prominent European composers, as well as some less widely known Ukrainian composers: Liudkevych, Barvinsky, Skoryk, Liatoshynsky

and Kolessa, among others. Organized in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine, the benefit series combined the Cultural Fund's mission of acquainting the audiences of the greater Washington area with the culture of Ukraine with a response to a need in helping sustain that culture in difficult economic times. *Washington Post* music critic Joseph McLellan, who had reviewed previous concerts of the benefit series, once again focused on the Ukrainian composers in the program. These "exemplars of a vital and ancient musical culture that has struggled for centuries to win recognition for its distinctive identity," he wrote, "deserve to be better known here." Mr. McLellan added: "Not many performers in this country know the Ukrainian repertoire well enough to give such a performance, and the result was fascinating — a glimpse of musical riches hardly suspected by American audiences. The performances were both skilled and fervent, the music — Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian — carefully selected for quality and interest." Mr. Vynnytsky, whom TWG Cultural Fund Director Laryssa Courtney introduced as almost a "artist in residence" of the benefit series, performed as a soloist or accompanist in four of the five scheduled concerts. Chrystia Sonevytsky, who chaired the benefit concert series project, says that donations in money and instruments can still be made by calling her at 703-241-1817 or via e-mail at cwsny@yahoo.com.

-- *Yaro Bihun, former editor, TWG News*

TWG Sponsored Popular Events Throughout 2000 - 2001...

The TWG Cultural Fund joined with the Rosa Ponselle Foundation and the Ukrainian Embassy to sponsor a recital by soprano Stefania Dovhan at the historic Dumbarton Church in Georgetown. It was the first in a series of four performances in May honoring the memory of the legendary American soprano Rosa Ponselle. The 21-year-old Ukrainian-born soloist, who won the gold medal at the Rosa Ponselle Young Classical Singers competition in 2000, performed a demanding program of operatic arias, art songs and folk songs, covering three centuries of musical tradition — from George Frederick Handel, to Francis Poulenc and Vasyl Barvinsky. Pin-Huey Wang accompanied on the piano. Born in Kyiv, Ms. Dovhan emigrated to the United States with her parents in 1995. She is a scholarship student at the University of Maryland School of Music at College Park. -- Yaro Bihun, former editor, TWG News



Soprano Stefania Dovhan (right) and her accompanist, Pin-Huey Wang, accepting the appreciation of the audience.

TWG Summer Socials, 2001

-- Washington, DC --



Members & friends enjoying one of many TWG Summer Socials held earlier this year.

A View From Abroad: TWG Member Talks About Exciting Life In Poland

U.S. Cultural Attaché Tania Chomiak-Salvi Shares Some of Her "fun and interesting" Experiences

by Marta Zielyk, TWG Member-at-Large

"Living in Warsaw is a real treat," says Tania Chomiak-Salvi, who serves as the Cultural Attaché in the U.S. Embassy in Poland. "We feel almost guilty living in such a fun and interesting and easy place."

Tania and her husband Luca moved to Warsaw in August of 2000 and now live in a great apartment in the heart of the city overlooking the central thoroughfare - Independence Avenue. While Tania works at the Embassy, Luca works for the law firm of Latham & Watkins, traveling 2-3 days a week to London, Milan, Rome, or most recently to Treviso, to work with Italian companies who want to sell stocks on U.S. markets or merge with American companies.

As Cultural Attaché, Tania has the pleasant obligation of propagating American life, culture and institutions among a population that is already enamored of them. Ties between the United States and Poland are incredibly strong and vibrant dating back to the time when Polish General Tadeus Kosciuszko fought with the American colonies during our Revolutionary war. Polish Museums

Tania is most proud of the programs that the Embassy implements to support U.S. culture in Poland.

regularly display works of American artists; Warsaw's Teatr Roma translates and performs American musicals. On the academic front, the ties are even more

striking. The Rector of Warsaw University went to MIT and maintains his research links with American colleagues. Poznan's Adam Mickiewicz University cooperated with the University of Notre Dame to build a state-of-the-art research laboratory, which attracts scientists from around the world. The U.S. government's Fulbright program of scholarly exchanges celebrated its 40th anniversary in Poland two years ago and received high honors from Poland's President Kwasniewski.

Tania is most proud of the programs that the Embassy implements to support U.S. culture in Poland. Every year the Embassy sponsors four conferences, which bring together Polish scholars to discuss American studies. Recently, the Cultural Attaché's office was instrumental in transporting a collection of works by pop artist Andy Warhol to Poland's Zacheta Contemporary Arts Gallery. Tania and her staff also assisted rising U.S. film director Darren Aronofsky during his visit to Poland for the premiere of his somber work "Requiem for a dream."

In her remaining time Tania arranges public appearances and drafts speeches for the Ambassador, waves the flag at cultural events in Warsaw and beyond, supports Polish non-governmental organizations with grants from the Embassy, and identifies influential Poles to send to the U.S. for educational trips under the State Department's International Visitor program. And, when a U.S. government official decides to swing by, Tania drops

everything, and joins her colleagues in planning the visit.

This is exactly what Tanya had to do when President George W. Bush visited Poland recently. As she reports, this visit went amazingly well. Tanya was in charge of helping the White House advance set up the site of the major speech of the President's European trip during which he made many references to Ukraine. The behind-the-scenes work in which Tanya was involved included arranging for a webcast of the speech. The webcast got close to 50,000 hits, and she says, "No, I wasn't repeatedly logging on during the speech!" She also negotiated with Warsaw University, where the speech was being held, about the placement of the audience and TV cameras. It was also Tanya's job to find sheet music of the U.S. National Anthem in four voices so that the Warsaw University choir could learn it in a week. She adds that the choir, in the end, did a great job of rendering our anthem.

After living in Poland for more than a year, Tania has had a chance to contemplate the vast differences between the U.S., Poland, and indeed, her ancestral country, Ukraine. She feels that the one feature that makes the United States most different from Poland is its "population mosaic." She writes: "You walk down the street in Poland, and everyone looks alike. After a few months of living here, I stopped asking people whether they were related to others whom I had met because they shared the same last name. Poland is incredibly unidiverse. I will note that it is incredible to me (a Ukrainian-American who spent her childhood telling kids in school and at college that Ukraine is not Russia and that the Soviet Union is not the same thing as Russia) that Poles maintained their national identity even while their country did not exist on the map of Europe for more than 200 years."

Poland today, Tania notes, is almost 100% Polish. It is just now beginning to deal with immigration issues of the types that the United States has had for generations. Poles are facing anti-Semitism, dealing with the question of Ukrainians filtering into the southeast, struggling with the government of Belarus over the rights of Belarusians living in Poland and Poles in Belarus, among other things.

In response, Tania has begun a series of programs exploring the issue of diversity in America. The Civil Rights library at Warsaw University supports a course on the history and literature of the Black Americans. A professor in the American Studies Center of Warsaw University is teaching a seminar on Gender and Ethnicity thanks to a grant from the U.S. Embassy. The Cultural Attache's office hosted USC Law Professor Jody Armour tour of Poland with a series of lecture on

See Chomiak-Salvi, next page

Reduced Tickets For Sale!

Tickets are available for the Donetsk Ballet
Nutcracker at the Baltimore Opera House

Sunday, December 23, 2pm

Only \$38! (*reduced from \$45*)
Includes dessert, wine and
cheese reception during intermission.

And, get to meet the dancers
after the performance.

To order tickets send a stamped, self-addressed
envelope to: Laryssa Courtney, 3722 48th
Street, NW, Washington, DC 20016, along with a check
payable to "The Washington Group" and the total
number of tickets required.

For more information, call 202-363-3964.

Cultural Attaché Tania Chomiak-Salvi Talks About Life in Poland

Chomiak-Salvi, from previous page

U.S. race relations and is planning several video-conferences with American authors who write on diversity issues.

Yet, despite the inevitable problems that accompany a radical societal, political and economic transformation, Tanya notes that the progress Poland is making towards a normal West European country is striking, especially when it comes to creature comforts. "When we are not working or attending the latest cultural events here, says Tania, we like to try out Warsaw's eateries: great Italian food, surprisingly excellent Thai, decent French, abundant Vietnamese, almost non-existent Chinese, good Indian served by Poles wearing saris, and the inevitable Polish bigos, potatoes, kielbasa, pierogi, and borshch z ushkamy. In bad weather, or when we need a shot of home, we can always go to the gleaming new American style malls on the edges of Warsaw, or to the gigantic Euro-style "hypermarkets," which combine Giant with Kmart under one crowded roof."

Turning to thoughts of the future Tanya says: "The truth is that I have no idea what the future holds, and when that future might occur. The fun of working for two international institutions (Luca's law firm and the U.S. Department of State) is that there are so many combinations of what assignments might come up; Luca and I are just used to watching the opportunities come and go. We refuse to plan. As it is now, we're staying in Poland for the next two years or until it's no longer fun, whichever comes first."

That certainly sounds like a good plan. ■

TWG Fellowship Fund Annual Report - 2001

by Adrian Karmazyn, *Chairman TWG Fellowship Fund*

This year, The Washington Group Fellowship Fund is again sponsoring a summer internship at the Embassy of Ukraine in the United States. Maria Sonevtsky, a Slavic Studies and Music double major at Barnard College-Columbia University in New York City, was chosen for the internship from among 11 applicants. Maria will receive a stipend of \$1,500.

Last year's summer intern at the Ukrainian Embassy was Paul Pawluk, a student at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Last summer, the Fellowship Fund also provided stipends of \$750 each to two interns who served in the Washington offices of the Ukrainian National Information Service and the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council.

Oksana Rudiuk, a Muskie Fellow from Rivne studying for a master's degree in public administration at the University of Colorado, interned at UNIS. Andriy Yuzvenko, a student from Lviv studying international relations at a University of Maryland campus in Germany, helped out at the UACC office. In addition, the Fund provided scholar Yaro Kulchykyj of the Philadelphia area a stipend of \$300 in support of research he was conducting in Washington for his study of national identity and foreign policy in Ukraine.

I would like to thank the following persons for their contributions to the Fellowship Fund during the past year: Maria Kulczycky (with matching grants from Fannie Mae), Yaro Bihun, Yuri Deychakiwsky, Oksana Koropecy, Andrei Kushnir, Eugene Katzin, Mykola Kohut, Irene Jarosewich, and Daniel Kozak.

The current balance in the Fellowship Fund account is \$4,233.06. ■

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 - * Learn more about the TWG Executive Board...
 - * Check out photos from past events...
- ...and more!

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www.TheWashingtonGroup.org**

TWG Treasurer's Annual Report -- 2000 - 2001

The Washington Group Income Statement, January through December 2000

by Roman Stelmach, TWG Treasurer

Jan - Dec '00

Ordinary Income/Expense Income

Contributions Income
Unrestricted

-4,995.00

Total Contributions Income

-4,995.00

Corporate Sponsor

Benefactor

500.00

Corporate Sponsor - Other

7,000.00

Total Corporate Sponsor

7,500.00

Leadership Conference 00

Advertisement

625.00

Banquet & Dance

1,720.00

Brunch & Cultural event

665.00

Dance only

680.00

Dance only (student)

100.00

Friday Reception

1,960.00

Package

10,155.00

Panels only

2,160.00

Panels only (students)

300.00

Saturday Luncheon

175.00

Table rental

200.00

Total Leadership Conference 00

18,940.00

Membership Dues

Dues Associate

4,685.00

Dues foreign

135.00

Dues Full

6,975.00

Dues Student

240.00

Total Membership Dues

12,035.00

Program Fee

320.00

Reimbursed Expenses

0.00

Scholarship Fund

5,190.00

TWG CIF

2,450.00

TWG Directory

45.00

TWG News

800.00

TWG Student Fund

0.00

Total Income

42,285.00

Expense

Annual Meeting

737.99

Bank Service Charges

Credit Card Fee

-1,386.63

See Treasurer, next page

TWG Treasurer's Annual Report -- 2000 - 2001

Treasurer, from previous page

Monthly Bank Charge	5.00
Total Bank Service Charges	-1,381.63
Leadership Conference 00 (Exp)	
Administrative (various)	1,041.24
Advertisement	941.00
Audio Visual	470.00
Banquet	3,095.00
Brunch	2,097.50
Electronic Service Charge	334.65
Embassy Reception	2,000.00
Entertainment - Brunch	1,493.36
Entertainment - Dance	2,233.43
Panelists	2,057.02
Saturday breakfast	637.50
Saturday lunch	2,476.00
Sunday breakfast	350.00
Tables	473.26
Various hotel service charges	2,808.00
Leadership Conference 00 (Exp) - Other	<u>200.00</u>
Total Leadership Conference 00 (Exp)	22,707.96
Licenses and Permits	50.00
Office Supplies	
Membership	904.27
Miscellaneous	1,178.25
Office Supplies - Other	<u>97.87</u>
Total Office Supplies	2,180.39
Postage and Delivery	
TWG Directory Postage	0.00
TWG News	1,641.64
Postage and Delivery - Other	<u>127.00</u>
Total Postage and Delivery	1,768.64
Printing and Reproduction	
TWG Directory	0.00
TWG News	<u>2,120.69</u>
Total Printing and Reproduction	2,120.69
Program Expense	
Christmas Party	550.68
Happy Hour	29.25
Hrushevsky 4/12/00	300.00
Osinchuk 03-25-98	0.00
Plast event	0.00
Scythian Exhibit Tour	185.00
Shcherbak 10/25/98	0.00

See Treasurer, next page

TWG Treasurer's Annual Report -- 2000 - 2001

Treasurer, from previous page

Slavko Pekhvshek	0.00
TWG Picnic	10.00
TWG socials	13.93
UMANA 11115198	<u>0.00</u>
Total Program Expense	1,088.86
Scholarship Fund Transfer	3,300.00
Supplies	
Marketing	320.00
Office	<u>33.00</u>
Total Supplies	353.00
Telephone	
AOL Drabyk	<u>0.00</u>
Total Telephone	<u>0.00</u>
Ukrainian Events Week 1999	
99 TWG Leadership Conference	
TWG LC various	<u>0.00</u>
Total 99 TWG Leadership Conference	<u>0.00</u>
Total Ukrainian Events Week 1999	0.00
Uncategorized Expenses	<u>0.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>32,925.90</u>
Net Ordinary Income	9,359.10
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest Income	<u>1,549.04</u>
Total Other Income	<u>1,549.04</u>
Net Other Income	<u>1,549.04</u>
Net Income	<u>10,908.14</u>

See Treasurer, next page

What's new?

Have you gotten a new job or been promoted? Gotten married or just had a new baby boy or girl?
Or, did you learn about something that may interest *TWG News* readers?

Drop us a line at TWGNews_Editor@hotmail.com

TWG Treasurer's Annual Report -- 2000 - 2001

Treasurer, from previous page

Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2000

Dec 31, '00

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Rochester Ukrainian FCU	102.68
Selfreliance (NY) FCU	102.10
Selfreliance Baltimore FCU	20,200.44
Selfreliance Ukrainian FCU	101.76
SunTrust Bank	3,783.40
Ukrainian Selfreliance FCU	58.06
Ukrainian Washington FCU	<u>2,585.92</u>

Total Checking/Savings 26,934.36

Total Current Assets 26,934.36

Other Assets

Rochester Ukrainian FCU (CD)	5,175.60
Selfreliance (NY) FCU (CD)	5,176.94
Selfreliance Ukr FCU (CD)	5,164.97
Ukrainian Selfreliance FCU (CD)	<u>5,365.74</u>

Total Other Assets 20,883.25

TOTAL ASSETS 47,817.61

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

Opening Bal Equity	29,437.83
Retained Earnings	7,471.64
Net Income	<u>10,908.14</u>

Total Equity 47,817.61

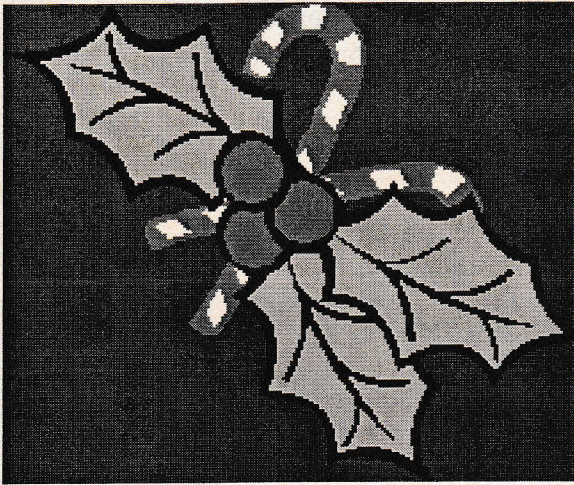
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 47,817.61

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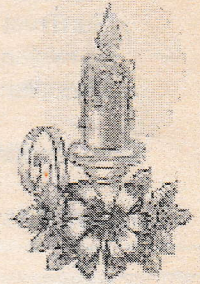
Interested in joining The Washington Group?

See the back page of this issue and mail in your application today!

* * *



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



The Washington Group Board of Directors

wishes you and your family

Happy Holidays and a wonderful New Year!



From our family to yours!

* * *



AND A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR!!

TWG Names Mrs. Gongadze and Budzan as Honorary Members

Meeting, from page 8

Orchestra, the avant-garde Experimental Bandura Trio, and the Louisiana Swamp Romp, a New Orleans-style jazz ensemble.

TWG Fellowship Fund

Representing the Fellowship Fund, fund Director Adrian Karmazyn and Immediate Past TWG President Orest Deychakiwsky reported the current fund balance to be \$4,233.06. It was also indicated that this year's intern at the Ukrainian Embassy would be Maria Sonevych, a Slavic Studies and Music double major at Barnard College - Columbia University in New York City. It was noted that she was selected from among 11 applicants, and would receive a \$1,500 stipend. Last year's embassy intern was Paul Fawluk, a student at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. The report also discussed two stipends of \$750 each for two students who worked in the Washington offices of two Ukrainian organizations last year. Oksana Pridiuk interned at the offices of the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), while Andriy Yuzvenko was at the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council (UACC). An additional fellowship stipend of \$300 went to Philadelphia-area scholar Yaro Kulchycky, for research he was conducting in the Washington DC area.

In the report, numerous individuals were also cited for their contributions to the Fellowship Fund. In one instance, it was noted that Maria Kulczycky's donation was matched with a grant from Fannie Mae.

Discussion About Reports

The following questions were asked, and suggestions made, by TWG members during discussion that followed the reports:

TWG Treasurer Roman Stelmach suggested TWG members take advantage of any corporate matching funds available at their workplace, in order to maximize their TWG donations.

Immediate Past TWG President Orest Deychakiwsky moved that an additional acknowledgment be added to the President's Report, citing TWG Board Member-at-Large George Masiuk for his work in running the 2000 TWG Leadership Conference. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

When discussions concluded, a motion was offered and seconded to accept the reports as amended, which was then approved unanimously by voice vote.

List of Candidates

The following slate of candidates was presented by George Masiuk: Ihor O.E. Kotlarchuk, President; Anya Silecky Piazza, Vice President; Volodymyr Yakymets, Secretary; Roman Stelmach, Treasurer; Adrian Pidlusky, Membership Director; Andy C. Szul, Public Relations;

Laryssa Lapuchak Courtney, TWG Cultural Fund; Adrian Karmazyn, TWG Fellowship Fund, Andrew Bihun, Business Development Forum; Olena Gaponenko, Events; Oles Berezheny, Special Projects; Orest Deychakiwsky, Immediate Past President; Members at Large: Nick Babiak, Arthur Belendiuk, Yaro Bihun, Steve Boyd, Michael Drabyk, Oleg Jerschkowski, Tatyana Kravinska, Maria Kulczycky, George Masiuk, Jurij Mojsiak, Natalie Sluzar, Tanya Stasiuk, and Marta Zielyk; Auditing Committee: Andrew Charchalis, Michael Kowalysko, and Ihor Procinsky. There being no further slates of nominees or additional nominations from the floor, it was moved and seconded that the proposed slate be elected. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Remarks and Other Business

Following his re-election, TWG President Kotlarchuk thanked George Masiuk for his work on the 2000 TWG Leadership Conference, as well as Roman Stelmach for his work as Treasurer. Kotlarchuk also presented outgoing Membership Director Juliana Kinal Ballard with a plaque honoring her for her hard work. The TWG President also pointed out a display of postcards, representing the numerous TWG events held since the previous annual meeting.

Next, Immediate TWG Past President Orest Deychakiwsky nominated Myroslava Gongadze, widow of the late journalist Heorhii Gongadze, for an Honorary TWG Membership. Ihor Kotlarchuk then nominated Dr. Bohdana Budzan, Director General of the international business school known as the International Management Institute (IMI-Kyiv), for an honorary TWG membership as well. Following discussions, both honorary memberships were approved by those present, 28 in favor and none opposed for Mrs. Gongadze's honorary membership, and 27 in favor and one opposing honorary membership for Dr. Budzan.

Bohdanna Pochoday also asked about the meeting in New Jersey that TWG President Ihor Kotlarchuk recently attended, of representatives of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) and other Ukrainian organizations. The meeting had been convened to explore the possibility of the Ukrainian organizations joining with the UCCA to function as a united umbrella group. President Kotlarchuk replied that a committee had been formed as a result of the gathering to study the matter further.

The Annual Meeting was held June 3rd 2001, at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington DC. John Kun chaired the meeting, with Michael Datsenko the Vice-Chair, and Michael Drabyk taking minutes. ■

The Washington Group Membership Application/Renewal Form

TWG is an association of Ukrainian American professionals who live throughout the world. TWG membership offers you opportunities to meet others through a variety of professional, educational and social activities. In addition to networking opportunities, TWG members receive the *TWG News*, and a membership directory, made available to members only. Visit TWG at www.TheWashingtonGroup.org for more information.

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 TWG Board considers membership applications as its monthly meetings.

Date: _____ New Member Renewal Directory Correction

Name: _____ Profession: _____

Home address: _____ Home number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ E-mail: _____

Company: _____ Title (position): _____

Business address: _____ Work number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Circle information above that you would rather not be included next to your listing

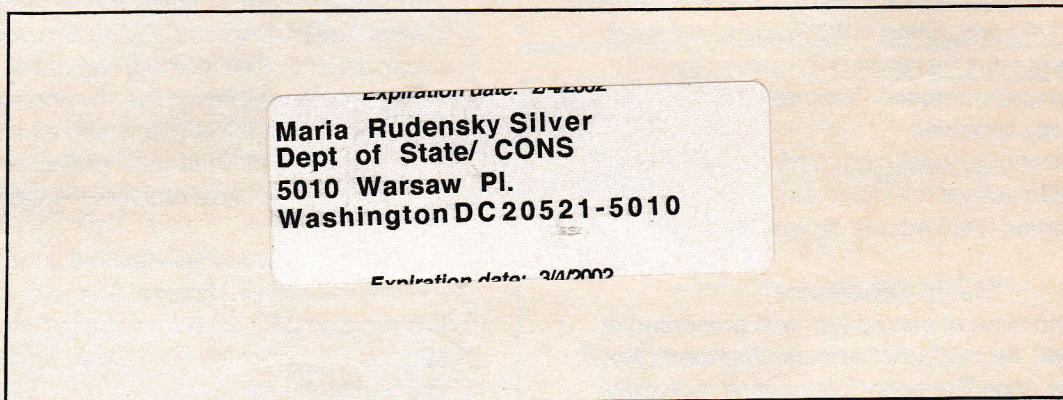
Membership Dues (Please check where appropriate)

- \$50 Full Membership
- \$35 Associate (Members outside Wash., DC metro area & retirees)
- \$15 Full-time students
- \$10 Surcharge for foreign addresses (Payment must be in US currency)

VISA/MasterCard No.: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Signature: _____

TWG News

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