

January 1993  THE WASHINGTON GROUP
Volume VIII Number 12 An Association of Ukrainian American Professionals

**Annual
Meeting
Friday
March 5, 1993**

**Holiday Inn
Georgetown
2101 Wisconsin Avenue
Washington, DC**

6:30 PM cocktails
(cash bar)

7:30 PM meeting
(more socializing after the meeting)

see page 2 for detail

Mustn't let Ukraine re-enter Russian orbit, Sears warns

By R.L. Chomiak

When you see the name John Sears, what comes to your mind? Kingmaker, right? Isn't he the man who helped put Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan in the White House? Sure, kingmaker.

But then you meet John Sears, and he tells you that he is an amateur, or at least he was an amateur, when he decided to help his favorite leaders win the big one. Before that, Sears was a pilot in Vietnam, who lived after being shot down. He also became a lawyer. Now, an invitation to meet with John Sears identifies him as "Republican party strategist; former presidential campaign manager for Nixon and Reagan," and that means "Mr. Success" (at least that's what his Japanese clients seem to think these days, when they pay him to smooth the way in, among other places, Yakutia.) As for his amateur status when he decided to lead the battle for the White House, Sears explains that "politics is a game of amateurs."

TWG members (very few of us) had a chance to meet John Sears December 11 at La Colline restaurant for the latest in the series of TWG breakfast forums arranged by Nick Babiak.

Help Ukraine?

Sitting at a table over a plate of scrambled eggs and bacon, Sears opened the proceedings with a question, "How do we help Ukraine?"

What happens in Ukraine, he contended, will influence Eastern Europe, and that was most important, to Europe and to America.

If you look at a map of the former Soviet Union, Yakutia is in the northeast corner, where the landmass runs out, and Yakutsk, the capital, where John Sears travels on

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TWG NEWS

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*Веселих Свят
і Щасливого Нового Року*



Notice



From the Board of Directors:

It's that time again. The Washington Group's Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, March 5, at the Holiday Inn in Georgetown, 2101 Wisconsin Avenue NW, just north of the "social" Safeway, beginning at 6:30 PM.

The election of a new Board of Directors, Members at Large, and Auditing Committee will take place at the Annual Meeting. The Auditing Committee, chaired by Myron Wasyluk, is currently selecting a Nominating Committee which will prepare a slate of candidates. Full Members interested in being on the TWG Executive please call Myron at (202)234-7584.

Going on to its ninth year, TWG continues to attract professionals nationwide. Members in the Washington area bear both the burden and the honor of keeping TWG running — they provide the leadership, and the management, as well as the inspiration to out-of-town members. TWG needs more active involvement from the full members. Now is your chance to be part of a great organization, meet interesting people from all over the US, help Ukraine and have lots of fun.

Special Thank You to:

Andres Jakymec from Pittsburgh PA who contributed \$100 for the TWG Fellowship Fund.

TWG T-Shirts

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

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Marta Pereyma - Ukrainian of the Year

(Marta Pereyma, Charter Member and member of the Board of Directors of TWG was honored as Ukrainian of the Year by the Ukrainian-American Association of Greater Washington. Below are excerpts of the award presentation in English made by Dr. Larissa Fontana, Director of the Ukrainian-American Community Network)

"In the greater Washington DC area we are blessed with many individuals who selflessly give of their time and themselves, to serve in the Ukrainian Community and to educate their fellow Americans about their homeland Ukraine. However, this year I believe that the Ukrainian of the Year Award goes to an individual who personifies the definition of the word — SERVICE.

Our choice for this award, Marta Pereyma, hails originally from Buffalo, New York, one of four children. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and, her Master of Arts in Political Science from Carlton University, Ottawa, Ontario.

Presently she is a cultural exchange specialist with the US Information Agency, where she works with the US government's largest cultural exchange program in East Asia, specifically being responsible for programs with the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, Mongolia and Hong Kong...

...It is her service in our Ukrainian community that has earned her our respect and love. As soon as she arrived in Washington, Marta became involved in parish activities, carefully cultivating Ukrainian religious traditions. She worked with the Ukrainian Scout Movement, *Plast*, and Saturday Ukrainian School... She served as a board member of the Ukrainian-American Association of Washington...

Presently, Marta concentrates on public relations by coordinating the work of the Virginia Branch of the Ukrainian-American Community Network, an entity that informs local elected officials and media of issues of concern to Ukrainian-Americans...

She promotes projects for the Chernobyl Committee, here in Washington, DC. The most current project is the inclusion of Ukrainian-Americans into the National Bone Marrow Registry...

This is just a small fraction of the activities of Marta Pereyma. She has touched many of our lives, with her honesty, energy, creativity and compassion. Marta has indeed served well. On behalf of the Ukrainian Association of Washington DC it is my delight and pleasure to introduce the Ukrainian of the Year for 1993 — Marta Pereyma."

TWG Breakfast Forum: One Year Old

By Nick Babiak

(Nick Babiak, Treasure of TWG, has been the host and organizer of the TWG Breakfast Forum since its inception)

TWG members who have been fortunate to sample the fare at any of the previous Breakfast Forums have been treated to more than a year's worth of scrambled eggs and bacon, sprinkled with presentations and discussion of timely issues.

A modest milestone was attained recently as the Breakfast Forum celebrated its first anniversary.

The series received a big boost at its very inception when Congressman David Bonior, Democrat from Michigan, agreed to be our initial speaker in October 1991. Bonior, newly elected House majority whip by his Congressional colleagues, spoke fondly of his Ukrainian ancestors who came to America from western Ukraine.

Another high point of the past year was a visit from former CIA Director William Colby. Colby whose professional career has spanned virtually the entire Cold War era, offered his observations on the recent disillusion of the USSR and urged attention

be paid to the newly independent republics.

Another highlight came about spontaneously when journalist Robert Cullen's last minute schedule changed unexpectedly precluded his appearance, two TWG members on leave from their work in Kiev took up the baton. Irene Jarosewich and Dora Chomiak regaled the breakfast diners with their observations and wry comments about goings-on in Ukraine. (*Memo to Irene: Yes, it was all a plot — your visit to DC, dragging you to breakfast downtown at 8:00 AM, the scheduled speaker — just to get you out of your shell and to convince you to say a few words.*)

For Irene, her unscheduled appearance was just a warm-up for a subsequent evening where she held court before about a hundred rapt listeners.

Robert Cullen who has written a well-received article in the *New Yorker* about his visit to Ukraine did appear for breakfast the following month.

Breakfast goes also met Kent Hill, who spoke of religious

Continued on page 8

The TWG Connection in Kiev

By Yaro Bihun

An old friend with whom I grew up in Cleveland called me the other day to talk about what was going on in Ukraine. A vice president of a firm that produces medical equipment, he had visited there a few times in recent months looking for joint venture opportunities in the former republics of the USSR and actually signing some contracts. I had been there a number of times in recent years as well: on two TWG trips in 1989 and 1990, a couple of times privately, and most recently on a two-month temporary assignment as press attaché with the US Embassy, from which I returned in December.

During the lengthy phone conversation, we shared experiences and observations. There was nothing particularly new or surprising in what he said about his experience, except for one remark, which resulted in my writing this piece. He said that on his visits to Kiev he had felt isolated, very much alone. Except for the few specific business and government contacts, he said, he knew no one else with whom he could meet socially or professionally. This surprised me because my experience was completely the opposite. I knew so many people in Kiev, both local friends and acquaintances within the government and in just about every other social grouping and Ukrainian Americans working in Kiev, that I found it difficult to find time to meet with many of them as often as I would have liked or at all.

What accounted for the difference? It didn't take me long to realize that it was what I now call the TWG connection. The vast majority of the people I knew in Kiev, I knew through TWG—they were either members or former members of TWG, participated in TWG leadership conferences, addressed TWG Friday Evening Forums or other events, were hosted by TWG in Washington, or were in some other way associated with the group.

Many of the visitors from Ukraine hosted by TWG since 1989 are now in high government positions, and they retain fond memories about the organization and its members; others were already in influential positions when they visited here. Of the first VIP group hosted by TWG, in March 1989, Mykola Zhulynsky is now deputy prime minister and Ivan Dzyuba is minister of culture (recently replacing Larissa Khorolets, in whose honor Laryssa Chopivsky hosted a reception on her visit here last September).

In the next group, theater director Les Tanyuk and poet Pavlo Movchan are now influential members of Parliament, where Tanyuk chairs the committee on culture. There are many other TWG-connected deputies: Yavorivsky, Skoryk,

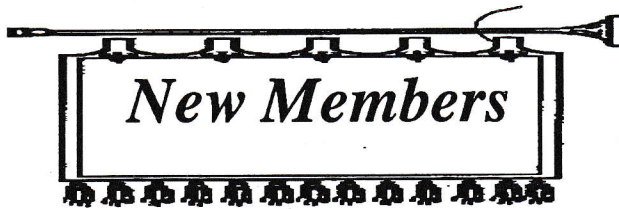
Horbal, Nechepurenko, Mostysky, to name a few, as well as the participants of two groups of parliamentarians that visited Washington over the past two among others years, which included its chairman Plyushch, foreign affairs committee chairman Pavlychko and the Horyn brothers, among others.

While I was in Kiev, Serhiy Berezovenko, who was in the first business group that visited Washington, for which TWG hosted a dinner, was named Australia's honorary consul; Friday Evening Forum speaker and Minister of Environmental Protection Yury Scherbak left as Ukraine's first ambassador to Israel; and Ukraine's former ambassador to the United Nations, Gennadiy Oudovenko, who addressed the 1991 Leadership Conference, was named Ukraine's first ambassador to Poland.

Elsewhere in the government, Andriy Demydenko, who most recently attended the TWG Ukrainian Independence reception atop Hotel Washington in August, was promoted in the Environmental Protection Ministry from director of information to director for international relations and was busy organizing the US-Ukraine Center for Environmental Education and Information, which will be housed at the new Kiev-Mohyla Academy University, whose rector, Viatcheslav Brioukhovetsky, will again address a TWG forum on February 5. Another participant in the Independence reception, Vice Minister of Education Vasyl Kozoriz, moved into his new offices next to those of Minister Petro Talantchouk.

Remember Raisa Ivanchenko (from the Zhulynsky-Dzyuba group)? She still teaches history at the Kiev National University and writes—her latest work is a short popular history of Ukraine called *From Kyiv to Kravchuk*. Art historian Hryhoriy Lohvyn, who is along in his years but can still tell you the details about every icon and brick in just about every church or historical monument in Ukraine, was recently nominated for the coveted national Shevchenko Prize. Former student leader Oles Doniy, who helped topple the Masol government and spoke about it at the 1991 Leadership Conference, ran for a vacant seat in the *Verkhovna Rada* from a district in Kiev, but not enough voters turned out to make it official. And Yuri Lukanov, who attended many TWG functions while on a National Forum Foundation Fellowship here last year, still heads the Rukh information section and is a fantastic source of information on the media and just about everything else that's worth knowing in Kiev.

Continued on page 8



Luba Ivanna Demchuk (Full)
Actress
Burke, VA

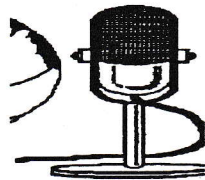
Mike Drabek (Full)
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Editor
Washington, DC

Alicia Szendiuch (Associate)
Banker
Boston, MA

TWG Volleyball Team Update

On January 12th TWG GEESE defeated the STRIKERS, three games to none in the first match of the 1993 DC Winter League. Seven more matches are scheduled on Tuesday nights, as follows:



January 25 - 8:30 PM
February 2 - 8:30 PM
February 9 - 8:30 PM
February 16 - 9:30 PM
February 23 - 6:30 PM
March 2 - 7:30 PM
March 9 - 6:30 PM

All games will be played at the Carlos Rosario Adult Education Center in upper Georgetown (34th Street and Wisconsin Avenue, NW - opposite Social Safeway). Provide support for the undefeated TWG GEESE — attend a match. Then join the team for pizza and beer afterwards!

For further information contact Larysa Kurylas (202)979-8236

Notes on Members

Orest Deychakiwsky traveled to Ukraine for three weeks in December where he wore several hats. In addition to working with the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy in Kiev, Orest was a member of a delegation of the Library of Congress's Congressional Research Service as well as an observer for the Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine at the Rukh Congress. (Orest is currently on leave of absence from the Helsinki Commission)

Orest, who stayed with his brother, Mykola Deychakiwsky, now living in Kiev and working as Executive Director of the Council of Advisors to the Ukrainian Parliament, was pleasantly surprised and encouraged at the growing number of Ukrainian-Americans and Ukrainian-Canadians living and working in Kiev and helping further economic and democratic reform efforts there. This of course includes a large number of TWG members currently residing in Kiev (see story page 4).

Commenting on the situation in Ukraine, Orest said: "You can't help noticing the scars that the Soviet system left behind in every area of life, scars that will take a long time to heal. The economic situation is especially difficult now. On the other hand, the new Kuchma government is making some serious moves with respect to real economic reform, and this gives some cause for optimism."

Adrian Karmazyn was part of the reporting team for the inaugural program of the first Voice of America (VOA) 30-minute TV program. The Ukrainian-language news and features program airs on Saturdays at 10:30 P.M. local time in Ukraine. The anchorman was Peter Fedynsky, a former TWG member. The program, *Window on America*, will be aired for one year, according to an agreement between the government of the United States and Ukraine.

Adrian reported on the celebration of Ukrainian Christmas at St. Andrew's Autocephalous Orthodox Church and the Holy Trinity Particular Ukrainian Catholic Church in Silver Spring, Maryland. He also interviewed Ukrainian-Americans on their reactions to these celebrations.

Adrian is scheduled to depart for Kiev in March as VOA correspondent, replacing the present correspondent Roman Ferencevych.

World Book Encyclopedia will be using photos taken in Ukraine by photographer Natalie Sluzar in its 1993 revised edition, devoting a separate section to Ukraine. Included in the photos selected by World Book is a photograph of Daria Stec demonstrating the making of a *pysanka*. Congratulations to the photographer and model!

John Sears

continued from page 1

business these days, is closer to Alaska, and what's more important for Sears's clients, closer to Tokyo, than it is to Moscow. Yakutia is a rich (in mineral resources) and neglected (until now) huge piece of real estate, which has had it with Moscow and has taken steps towards independence. Just as all other parts of the former Soviet empire, Yakutia is not "ethnically pure." Sears mentioned, for example, that his interpreter in Yakutsk is a 64-year-old woman, who is Ukrainian, and who does not plan to move back to Ukraine, but who would like to see Yakutia get out of its neglected condition.

Individual freedom

For a kingmaker, Sears is surprisingly soft-spoken, but he lays out his beliefs and his views in a firm, categorical manner.

"I believe in individual freedom," says Sears, and adds that this is why he is a Republican. The essence of Americans, he insists, is that "we're individuals," and "we're the only ones like that." His corollary — no other country is like that, and it would not do for Ukraine to try to copy America. Despite much talk over the past decade about the power of special interests, Sears insists that in America there are no blocs, just individuals.

How do we help Ukraine? Sears says that he can trace his roots to a Sears and a Fitzgerald who fought in the American Civil War. He says that what is happening in Ireland today upsets him, but he feels that he is an American, not an Irishman. The two main attributes of an American, according to Sears, are:

- you speak American; and
- whatever you think is your own idea.

But while Ukraine and Ireland may be different from America, politics, says Sears, is the same everywhere, and that means that "if you're not doing well, you're going to be gone." (In a democracy, this process is faster, Sears notes, but it works in other systems, too. This was his comment on Mikhail Gorbachev's departure. He didn't do well. It would also apply to the recent governments of Ukraine — those of Vitaliy Masol and Vitold Fokin; they certainly didn't do well. The government of Leonid Kuchma was still very new, when Sears chatted over breakfast with TWG members.)

So how do we help Ukraine? According to Sears, we should help its leaders do well or help see to it that leaders who can do well are running things.

For American, individualist, lawyer, dealmaker and kingmaker, John Sears, it is very important that Ukraine does not re-enter the Russian orbit. "We must not let this happen," is how he puts it. "If Ukraine can hold on to its independence," he adds, "it will be part of Europe, and it will solve problems of Eastern Europe."

The map changes

What seems to bother Sears the least, is something that upsets many Americans — all these new countries popping up all over, breaking up the stability many like to covet. "The map changes all the time.... The world is not stable," says the man who knows so well that what was thought to be Soviet gold really is Yakut gold, and what was thought to be Soviet chrome comes from Kazakhstan.

Political strategist Sears also did not spare his praise of Richard Nixon. "Nixon," he told the TWG forum, "understood American power." And Nixon, Sears added, "changed the world" when he went to China and to the Soviet Union.

But on the question of power, John Sears, in his usual soft voice while exhaling cigarette smoke, also issued the following maxim: "All people of power need people who guard them against abusing the power."

Present and would-be powerful people of Ukraine, please take note.

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Views on the Inauguration

By Michael Savage

For two weeks prior to the inauguration, the normal hustle and bustle of Washington was replaced by a keen sense of anticipation. Initially, I had balked the idea of attending any of the lavish ceremonies: the Bell Ringing, the Children's Walk and the fireworks were all viewed from the comforts of my home, away from the tourists. To me, the events were trite and clichéd, and showed no semblance of the democratic process these events were meant to pay homage to.

However, a burst of college idealism inspired me to go the one event I viewed to be legitimate: the swearing-in. It was to be held on the 20th of January at high noon, as the Constitution dictated. That morning, I packed a sweater and a couple of sandwiches and headed off to the Mall. Aside from the expected hassles — a packed Metro and being herded like sheep by the omnipresent police force — all went well, and I got myself situated in what appeared to be a good location, in the first row of the crowd bordering Third Street—until I noticed the camera stand in front of the podium, blocking the view for me, and just about everyone else. I was in a crowd of some 300,000, witnessing the inauguration of William Jefferson Clinton on a big screen TV mounted on a truck. The situation, I decided, was not nearly as comfortable as my couch at home.

It appeared that all went well up on the podium however, and I cheered along with the throngs of people around me. With the swearing-in complete, I worked my way through the crowd to Pennsylvania Avenue and a party in one of the buildings along the parade route. As I went, I envisioned the food, champagne and bathrooms that awaited my arrival.

Along the way, my attention was caught by the numerous vendors in the streets hocking their wares. They were selling some of the most undeniably tacky memorabilia I had seen since my senior-year in college trip to Las Vegas: T-shirts, buttons, ribbons, flags — the works. Of particular interest to me was the "Official Inauguration Baseball Cap," where the top of the visor flipped up to a pop-up history of Bill Clinton and Al Gore.

I managed to avoid these earthly delights and finally made it to across the street from my desired location on Seventh Street. Finding an officer, I asked him if I could cross.

"Nope. Try 17th street. There's no crossing here."
"But 17th is on the other side of the White House!" I cried.
"Sorry," came the disgruntled reply, and that was that.

Three hours later, I had managed to cross at 20th Street, and by that time most of the parade, and certainly President Clinton,

had passed my Seventh Street destination. I threw in the towel and watched the remainder of the parade from the street.

My inauguration was nothing like the celebrations I later saw on television and read in the papers. I didn't go to any of the balls, and witnessed the inauguration and the parade in the crowd with thousands of others. And while I held no romantic delusions about the event, on the Metro ride home later that night I was left with a real sense of satisfaction. I was a witness to most powerful nation in the world peacefully changing the reigns of power as it had forty-one times before. Billions around the world saw the democratic process played out — and were awed by the American Experience that I took for granted. It was a moment our nation could be proud of.

John A. Kun, Agent

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How do You Transform the Ukrainian Military?

Most would agree that the military is a key factor in Ukraine's ability to protect its long awaited independence and enjoy economic prosperity in the community of nations. However, when declaring independence, Ukraine had within its borders a Soviet army of nearly one million soldiers. The task of transforming this massive Soviet presence into a Ukrainian army is a major challenge.

A first step toward Ukrainianizing the army was the appointment of General Morozov as the Minister of Defense and head of all military personnel on Ukrainian land. The second step was the oath of allegiance to the people of Ukraine which was taken by soldiers and officers on a voluntary basis. By February 1992, over half a million former Soviet soldiers and officers took the oath. A third step was to establish a department charged with the task of "Ukrainianizing" and humanizing the former Soviet military.

This department is directed by a general very open to those Western information, tools and techniques that may be useful to accomplishing the transformation task. From that perspective, he invited Ms. Wawa Baczynsky and Dr. Halya Duda to introduce his officers to western style training. As a pilot, Dr. Duda designed a 2-day training focusing on communication and interpersonal skills. Both women facilitated the training, two times in Kiev and once in Lviv, in the fall of 1992. Participant feedback was positive and the team was invited to conduct follow-up training.

The task ahead is massive and the potential for making a contribution enormous. Dr. Duda is interested in making contact with other Ukrainian-speaking professionals in the human resource development and organization effectiveness areas who may be available to participate in a project in Ukraine. Ms. Baczynsky would like to contact other Ukrainian-speaking professionals in the social work area. To contact Dr. Duda, call (203)656-7775. To contact Ms. Baczynsky, call (617)354-1961.

Friends in Kiev

Continued from page 4

These are but a few examples of TWG *connections* with prominent Ukrainians from Kiev. There are, of course, many more—writers, artists, journalists, scientists, military, educators, performers—who not only have fond memories of their TWG experience but would welcome renewed contacts with its members. When most of these connections were established, few expected that some day they would be pursued in Kiev and elsewhere in Ukraine. Like all good friendships, however, they are mutual in nature and they must be culti-

Breakfast Forum

Continued from page 3

persecutions and freedom in the former USSR, Charles William Maynes, editor of *Foreign Policy* magazine, and John Sears, Republican strategist and former campaign manager for President Nixon and Reagan.

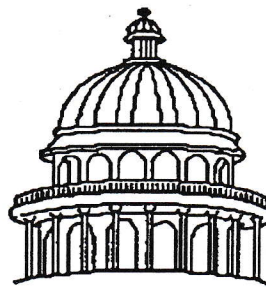
The idea of a Breakfast Forum had been discussed for a few years but it wasn't until October 1991 that it came to fruition. Originally conceived as an exchange with journalists, it has taken a somewhat broader and eclectic scope.

TWG is fortunate to have available an enormous pool of policy makers and leaders of government, business and the non-profit world. This allows the Breakfast Forum to offer a diverse mix of speakers, many whose time constraints would not permit them to set aside an entire evening for a community reception. While convenient for the guest speakers, the Forum has proven to be convenient to a loyal cadre of TWG members, mostly those who work downtown.

Nevertheless the chief purpose of the Breakfast Forum is to bring before TWG and the Ukrainian community noted experts who may not even know much about us. It presents us with the opportunity to instruct these influential guests about issues that concern Ukrainians, leaving for other venues the social role.

In turn, we hope that the Breakfast Forum revitalizes TWG's other venues — Friday Evening Forum and the occasional luncheon and banquet.

Ultimately TWG members have the sometimes rare opportunity to disseminate their concerns among a body of influential non-Ukrainians with whom we must ally ourselves to accomplish progress.



vated, respected and never abused.

(The TWG connections are broader, of course. In the second part of this article, next month, I'll look at the TWG presence in Kiev. There is a surprisingly large number of TWG members and former members working for the US Embassy, various aid agencies and foundations, in the news media and the performing arts; advising the Ukrainian government; and pursuing business opportunities. The size of the network will surprise you.—YB)

John Sears: Background

White House

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After graduation from Georgetown University Law School in 1963, John Sears clerked for Judge Adrian P. Burke of the NY Court of Appeals in New York. In 1965, he joined the Wall Street law firm of Nixon, Mudge, Rose, Guthrie and Alexander. There he was assigned to the litigation department where he came to the attention of Richard Nixon.

In 1967-68, when Mr. Nixon re-entered the political arena, Mr. Sears served as Executive Director of his presidential campaign and later became Deputy Counsel to the President at the White House.

It was during the 1968 presidential campaign that John Sears came into national prominence and earned the reputation of being the "wizard" of delegate counting.

After leaving the White House in 1969 and serving as guest lecturer at Harvard's Kennedy Institute of Politics and Government, Mr. Sears returned to Washington and private law practice in 1970. In 1975-1976 he was campaign manager for Ronald Reagan's presidential campaign. Although Mr. Reagan did not win the nomination in 1976, Mr. Sears' participation in the campaign was described by the *Washington Star* as the man who "conducted a guerrilla operation to find a way to unseat an incumbent President without antagonizing so many Republicans that it would jeopardize Reagan's chances in the general election... Sears was conducting a dazzling one-man virtuoso performance when the drama came to a climax at the Republican Convention in Kansas City." In 1976, the *New York Times* described Mr. Sears as "widely acknowledged to be one of the best political operatives in either party."

In 1979-80 Mr. Sears served as campaign manager for Ronald Reagan. He left the Campaign after the New Hampshire primary in a staff shake up. The *Wall Street Journal* described Mr. Sears as "a brilliant political strategist" and the *Christian Science Monitor* described him as an "astute political operative."

Currently, Mr. Sears practices law in Washington, D.C. He has been a paid political analyst for the TODAY show and has written articles for newspapers such as the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *L.A. Times*, the *Washington Post*, and the *Miami Herald*. He speaks before numerous business and trade associations.

There was also the personal task of redoing my resume, finding out who's going where, what jobs are available. The Washington DC Employment Office even had a special day for presidential appointees to come in and register for unemployment. Standing in an unemployment line is never a pleasant experience, even if you're with some once high-powered people.

The holidays provided some especially moving and beautiful moments. The White House was decorated more splendidly than usual for Christmas. The White House Christmas party for the staff was really a series of day-long events, complete with artificial snow on the South Lawn, an ice skating rink with Peggy Fleming gliding effortlessly on the ice, and sleds, and reindeers. The evening reception was particularly glamorous and memorable with Mel Torme leading the Christmas carol sing-along. For me and my family, whom I invited to the event, it certainly was a trip to fairyland.

After the holidays, as the work pace increased again, there were also some special moments. The White House staff was invited to have their picture taken with the President and Vice President. I presented both of them with a pillow embroidered in the traditional Ukrainian pattern, which I literally grabbed from my sofa at home. The photographs, and a certificate for meritorious service, both signed by the President were presented to each White House staffer.

As January 20th approached there were more tell tale signs of the inevitable—the bleachers and the reviewing stand being erected along Pennsylvania Avenue. Daily, we could hear the hammering outside, the building of the "gallows".

On the morning of the 20th I entered the White House for the last time with my official pass. I had to surrender it to the Secret Service. (You can keep your voided pass as a souvenir if you wish, which I did.) As I walked out the Old Executive Building double doors, and walked down the huge, elegant stairs to the sidewalk on Pennsylvania Avenue, I thought about how great it was to have had an opportunity to serve on the White House staff. I felt very lucky.

TWG donated books
from the TWG shop to three area university
libraries:
American University
Georgetown University
George Washington University

I Lived Through it Twelve Years Ago

By Natalie Sluzar

For me, the most poignant moment of the entire Inaugural Day was the Bush's departure from Washington. It reminded me of a similar event twelve years earlier when I stood at Andrews Air Force Base watching the departure of President Carter. Since the presidential election in November, hundreds of us presidential appointees dreaded this moment for it marked the end of the Carter Administration and with it the end of our presidentially appointed jobs. President Carter's loss was much greater than what any of us could experience.

The chilliness and drabness of the day reflected the gloom as we waited for the helicopter to land. As the swearing-in of Ronald Reagan took place on the Capitol steps we also waited for news of the rumored hostage release in Iran. At last, just after noon, we got word that the hostages were, in fact, released. It was a travesty of history that after all the efforts of the Carter Administration to get the hostages released the glory for their release would go to the Reagan Administration.

Finally the chopper landed besides the waiting Air Force Two. A red carpet stretched between the two aircrafts. A military honor guard stood at attention. The first to exit from the helicopter were close friends and family of the Carter's and finally President and Mrs. Carter and their daughter Amy. Everyone began to applaud, cheer, and wave. The President seemed surprised by the number of well-wishers and their enthusiasm. Suddenly it was like old times again, the crowds, the cheering, the greetings. But that didn't last.

The President went around and shook a few hands. Mrs. Carter and Amy warmly hugged their friends. Many of Amy's school friends came to the airport to see her off. Tears were flowing down their faces. Tears were flowing down the faces of those in the crowd. It was the end of an era that profoundly touched all our lives.

The Presidential entourage quickly ascended the steps of Air Force Two, paused for a last wave at the top of the stairway, and quickly disappeared inside. Within seconds the engines roared, the aircraft was air bound.

I stood around with some of my White House colleagues talking, saying our good-byes. We joked that it was only 3 years until the Iowa caucuses and how we were ready to start campaigning again. "See you in four years," we said. Afterwards a few of them stopped by my house for beer and burritos and more conversation. There was something great about being together, even if it was for the last time; no one wanted to face the loss and separation alone.

I were preparing to leave my White House office since November 4th, the disastrous rejection of the Carter Administration by the American voters. The day following the election, I came to my office late in the morning, just in time to see the Carters taking off from the White House lawn for Camp David. This was a regular White House event and each time it was a thrill to see the President and the Presidential helicopter.

On that day his departure had special meaning. The President looked tired and glum, but he spoke with reporters and even joked with some of the teary-eyed White House staffers gathered on the lawn. The pain of defeat was much more visible on the face of the First Lady. Her devastated looks more closely reflected what we all felt — the disbelief, the anger, grief, sadness. We all worked so hard, how could we lose?

Back in my office in the East Wing, all was quiet. No phones rang. It was like a morgue. We took comfort in being sequestered in our offices, away from the cruel world outside. But the world goes on.

Soon there were some calls. Friends called to offer their sympathy and condolences. One friend sent me flowers to my office. I remember the look on the delivery boy's face when he entered the East Wing foyer. It was his first time in the White House and he was thrilled.

Others calls were not so pleasant. There were always the "I-told-you-so's." Or those who always had the right answers: "Pay more attention to the ethnics, that's why you lost." More cruel was a prominent leader of an ethnic community who called to ask how he could arrange for his boss' daughter to get my job. He thought she'd be perfect for it and he could get on the good side of his boss!

Then the true colors of our loyal supporters began to show. Suddenly all the ethnics were coming out of the closet and declaring themselves for Reagan. It was painful to see a prominent leader of our "Ethnics for Carter" coalition get an award from the Republic National Committee for his work on behalf of Reagan. But such is politics!

Besides dealing with all these type of characters, there was real work to be done. Specific mandates came from the National Archives in preparing all our records for the presidential archives. There were boxes and boxes to pack. In addition, there were various papers and documentations that had to be prepared for the transition team. Meetings with the transition team were set up to discuss the office and the transition.

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Community Calendar

Tuesday, 2 February

*Volleyball Game
8:30 PM

Friday, 5 February

Discussion with Vyacheslav Briukhovetsky
Director, Kiev Mohyla Academy
7:30 PM
St. Andrews Orthodox Church
Silver Spring, MD
For information call: Lydia Chopivsky Benson
(202)686-6975

Tuesday, 9 February

*Volleyball Game
8:30 PM

Tuesday, 16 February

*Volleyball Game
9:30 PM

Tuesday, 23 February

*Volleyball Game
6:30 PM

Tuesday, 2 March

*Volleyball Game
7:30 PM

Friday, 5 March

TWG Annual Meeting
Holiday Inn Georgetown
2102 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Free parking available or
Take any #30's bus to Friendship Heights
6:30 PM - Cocktails
See page 2 for more details

Sunday, 7 March

Ukrainian National Association Seminar
Special seminar to make the community aware of
many new products and services which the UNA
has to offer
Free
Location to be announced
For information call: UNA Washington Office
(202)347-8629

Tuesday, 9 March

*Volleyball Game
6:30 PM

*Note:

All Volleyball Games are held at the
Carlos Rosario Adult Education Center
34th Street & Wisconsin Avenue
Come to cheer the team — TWG GEESE
Beer and pizza following game
For information call: Laryssa Kurylas (202)979-
8236

Danusia Wasykiwskyj is the Community Calendar Coordinator. Organization leaders are requested to notify Danusia of their upcoming events, prior to the 15th of each month. This schedule will be published in the TWG NEWS calendar. Danusia's phone number is (301)652-3938

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