Unprecedented and virtual — words that have been used to describe almost everything in 2020 are the words we can use to describe the 73rd annual convention. While we were initially scheduled to attend the UOL Convention in Philadelphia, this year the UOL Convention was a Zoom event. It was clear in the spring that the UOL Convention for 2020 would need to be different because of the COVID-19 Pandemic. So for the first time in 73 years the UOL Convention was held using the Zoom platform. Over 80 UOL members registered for the UOL Convention. Lisa Ryan managed the registration and the Convention. We are incredibly grateful for her diligence. The Convention went off without a hitch.

At 9:00 a.m. Convention delegates and guests logged onto the program and attended the first ever virtual Convention. President Karen Ferraro called the Convention to order. She had pictures from past Conventions as a backdrop reminding us of Conventions past and setting a theme of hope of Conventions to come. Members of the Ukrainian Orthodox League (UOL) of the USA gathered via teleconference for their Annual Convention. This was the 73rd Annual Convention for the Senior UOL and the 59th Annual Convention for the Junior UOL. Senior UOL President Karen Ferraro welcomed the approximately 60 attendees to the abbreviated single-day virtual event that included combined Senior/Junior, Junior-only, and Senior-only sessions. The UOL was honored to have both His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and His Eminence Archbishop Daniel present for the entire day.

(Continued on page 4)
IN UKRAINE, the first Sunday of October marks National Teachers’ Day. President Leonid Kravchuk declared it a professional holiday in 1994. The day recognizes all individuals in the education field with concerts and public addresses. Students are known to show their appreciation by giving flowers to their teachers.

This day of appreciation was started to draw attention to the priceless gift educators give to society. Included in this list of influencers are our Sunday School Teachers.

In recognition of National Teacher Day in Ukraine, we would like to honor our Sunday School Teachers in our diocese. We are asking children to send in a picture/drawing and a few words about their Sunday School Teacher. Please include the teacher’s name, child’s name, parish name, and a few ways that teacher makes Sunday School so special.

We would love the UOL Bulletin readers to see how dear our Sunday School teachers are to our Ukrainian Orthodox Church and her future generations.

Submissions can be sent to: Matushka Laryssa Charest
200 Walnut Street
Carnegie, PA 15106

ALL recognized Sunday School teachers will receive a personalized thank you card and a small token of our appreciation. Please send acknowledgments by November 15, 2020.

Thank you, Janice!

Submitted by Karen Ferraro

For six years, Janice Meschisen has been the lead for the UOL’s “Praying Our Way” journeys through Great Lent and, in recent years, for all of the Lenten periods of the Church year. Janice has decided to step down as the lead, but has offered to help us where needed. The UOL thanks Janice for her many years of dedicated service to this worthwhile project that has contributed to our spiritual growth! In announcing her departure, Janice wanted to thank the priests who have assisted her over the years and Subdeacon Mykola Zomchak, who handled Ukrainian translations. Great teamwork!

Statistics: Did you know that we’ve had more than 750 participants in our Praying Our Way series since 2015?

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL PRESIDENT

Karen Ferraro

Glory to Jesus Christ! Cana Icyce Xpystryu!

What a joy and honor it is to have been re-elected President of the Senior Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA! Once again, I ask for your prayers as I continue in this office, and as the UOL navigates through 2020 and 2021 in new and innovative ways!

In my letter last year at this time, I mentioned that our 72nd UOL Convention at All Saints Camp was so unique and heartwarming! I must say, I feel the same about our 73rd UOL Convention. The pandemic made it unsafe to meet together in Philadelphia, as planned, but we were resilient and I was thrilled to see so many smiling faces join our first-ever virtual UOL Convention. We are planning for an in-person convention in the Philadelphia area July 21-25, 2021.

At our Convention, we normally have a charity designated for “late fees” – from those who show up late after a session break. A recommendation was made from the convention “floor” for us all to be marked “late” at this virtual convention, make $10 donations via the UOL’s Tithely account, and donate the proceeds to All Saints Camp as part of the UOL’s $25,000 pledge. I’m happy to report we have raised nearly $400 via this effort! Thank you all so much for your kind and generous donations! Special thanks to those who gave significantly more than the requested $10.

Congratulations to all of the new officers of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA and thank you to last year’s board members. I’d like to recognize those who served last year and are not continuing on the board this year, namely: Patricia Walton, who served as 2nd Vice President last year and head of the Ways and Means Commission, Lisa Ryan, who served as Corresponding Secretary and head of the Public Relations Commission, and Jack Roditski, who served as Financial Secretary last year, several years prior as Treasurer, and was head of the Vocations & Clergy Support Commission. Each of you left your mark in wonderful ways in your dedication to our Church! Thank you all so much!

At the post-Convention meeting of the old and new boards, the following Sr. UOL Commission and Committee appointments were made for 2020-2021:

Commissions:

Christian Caregiving & Missions  Anna Anderson
Education  Oleh Bilinsky
Public Relations  Chris Mills
Vocations & Clergy Support  Joe Goode
Youth  John Stasko
Ways & Means  PM Laryssa Charest

Committees:

74th Annual Convention (2021)  Andrea Swan (Philadelphia)
All Saints Camp Governor  PM Laryssa Charest
Annual Fund Drive  open
Archives  open
Awards  Joe Goode
Chapter Development  Daria Pishko-Komichak
Constitution/Handbook  Daria Pishko-Komichak
Cultural  PM Laryssa Charest
Educational Seminars  Oleh Bilinsky (via Education)
Essay Contest  Teresa Linch
LSSK  Anna Anderson
Retreats  Natalie & Oleh Bilinsky
ABC Books  Teresa Linch
UOL Bulletin Editor  Natalie Bilinsky
UOL Tribute Fund  Natalie Bilinsky
Junior Advisor  John Holowko

Sr. Spiritual Advisor (app. by Metropolitan Antony)  Fr. Taras Naumenko

I send greetings on behalf of the new senior officers to the newly elected National Executive Board of our Junior UOL, in the capable hands of President Madeline Zetick, Spiritual Advisor Fr. John Charest, and Junior Advisor John Holowko!

(continued on page 7)
Save the Dates

**UOL LENTEN RETREAT**
APRIL 10, 2021

**WESTERN PA ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT**
APRIL 17, 2021

**MESSAGE FROM THE JUNIOR UOL PRESIDENT**

Madeline Zetick

The Very Reverend Protopresbyter Stephen Hallick-Holutiak Senior Recognition Award was presented to Michael Nakonachny, from Parma, Ohio. This award was established in 1957 as the Orthodox of the Year Award Program. It was created by St. Vladimir’s Senior Chapter of Cleveland to recognize a lay member of the League for accomplishments that furthered the aims and goals of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA. In 1991, the award was re-named as the Father Stephen Hallick-Holutiak Award to honor the lifelong role of Fr. Stephen in the life of the UOL.

As this year’s recipient, Michael Nakonachny was recognized for his service to the League and the Church overall. Extremely active in supporting All Saints Camp (ASC), Michael strongly advocated for the 2019 / 2020 Annual Convention to be hosted at the camp and took on the role of Convention Chairperson. At the helm, he ensured everything ran smoothly, providing strong leadership to the Convention Committee, and physically laboring himself whenever an extra pair of hands was needed.

Michael has been a member of the All Saints Camp Board and the chair of the Maintenance Committee, which required spending nearly 30% of his weekends volunteering at ASC. He is currently the head of the Capital Campaign for ASC, hoping to raise $1,000,000 for the camp. His nominator commented, “[Michael] spends his time volunteering for the Church and the camp in a manner that does not bring attention to himself. Most people do not even realize the amount of work he does.”

At his parish, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of Parma, Michael is often the first person there and the last to leave after parish events. He has been involved in activities from snow shoveling, to setting up scaffolding to change the lightbulbs.

Congratulations, Michael, and thank you for your service to the Church and the League!

**Parma Awards Scholarship to Khrystyna Tsybulya**

Submitted by Pani Mary Anne Nakonachky

On Sunday, August 16, 2020, at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, OH, the annual Brotherhood Scholarship was presented to High School graduate, Khrystyna Tsybulya by the clergy of the Cathedral, Fr. John Nakonachny, pastor, and Fr. Michael Hontaruk, assistant pastor.

Khrystyna is a graduate of North Royalton High School and an active member of the parish. She sings in both the English and Ukrainian choirs, is a reader in church and a member of the Junior U.O.L. chapter. This fall she will be attending Ohio State University.

The scholarship is awarded annually by the Brotherhood in memory of Very Rev. Stephen Hankavich, former pastor of St. Vladimir Cathedral.

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His Eminence Metropolitan Antony led the opening prayer which was followed by a moment of silence in honor of UOL members of Blessed Memory. The first business session included introductory remarks from President Karen Ferraro and Junior UOL President Alexis Naumenko.

The Junior UOL members had their own sessions and the Senior UOL continued with their sessions which included review of 72nd Annual UOL Convention Minutes, review of the Annual Report 2020, Audit Report, and review and approval of Financial Report 2019-2020 and acceptance of a 2020-2021 Budget.

Josh Oryhon, Camp Manager of All Saints Camp, gave the Senior UOL a detailed report on the positive steps taken to provide virtual camp experiences to our youth this summer. All Saints Camp continues its Capital Campaign and the UOL is committed to making a significant contribution this year toward its overall $25,000 pledge.

During business sessions, President Ferraro presented Fr. Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay with a check for more than $10,000 to the St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Society with proceeds from the 2020 Souper Bowl Sunday fund-raiser, held by 20 parishes across the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. These funds were raised as part of the UOL’s Souper Bowl Sunday fund-raising project. Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay spoke of recent donations from St. Andrew Society to flood victims in Western Ukraine.

Martha Misko served as nominations chair and the following officers were elected to the Senior UOL Executive Board – 2020-21:

- **President:** Karen Ferraro, Philadelphia, PA
- **First Vice President:** Olleh Bilinsky, Philadelphia, PA
- **Second Vice President:** Anna Anderson, Youngstown, OH
- **Treasurer:** Daria Pishko-Komichak, Maplewood, NJ
- **Financial Secretary:** Joe Goodge, Sharon, PA
- **Corresponding Secretary:** PM Laryssa Charest, Carnegie, PA
- **Recording Secretary:** Christine Mills, Carnegie, PA
- **Auditor:** John Stasko, Carnegie, PA

The Very Reverend Protopresbyter Stephen Hallick-Holutiak Senior Recognition Award was presented to Michael Nakonachny, from Parma, Ohio. This award, originally named Orthodox of the Year, was given to Michael in view of his work as chairman of the 2019 UOL Convention at All Saints Camp and his continued devotion to and support of All Saints Camp in Emlenton, PA.

The Metro J. Baran Achievement Award was presented to Natalie Kapeluck Nixon from Carnegie, Pennsylvania, for outstanding service to the youth of the UOC of USA. Natalie, the National Youth Director for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, was presented this award for the innovative daily ministry she set up at the national level for three different age groups in a virtual format in the midst of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2020 Senior Chapter of the Year was awarded to Saints Peter and Paul Chapter in Youngstown, Ohio. This chapter raised over $22,000 for their parish in the past 12 months. They sponsored 5 free community dinners for the needy and cleaned/updated their church hall kitchen in preparation for their 100th Anniversary celebration. (More details about each Senior Award winner can be found within this UOL Bulletin.)

(Continued on page 7)
Join in the fun! Take your UOL Bulletin with you and take a picture reading your Bulletin. Submit pictures by sending to nsufler@aol.com

Our UOL Bulletin has travelled across the world! Enjoy pictures of our UOL members reading the UOL Bulletin. During this time of quarantine and social distancing we hope that you will be creative and share pictures of you and your family reading the UOL Bulletin.

Michael Nakonachny travels with his UOL Bulletin. Here he and his wife Emily are with the UOL Bulletin in the north woods of Georgia at Fort Peanut! He also travelled to Tennessee and brought his UOL Bulletin! He does not leave home without it!

Oleh Bilynsky travelled to Costa Rica for his 60th birthday in February. He was reading the UOL Bulletin in front of the sloth (who slept during the picture). Later the sloth was seen reading the UOL Bulletin.

Yuriy Vartsaba from Philadelphia enjoys reading the UOL Bulletin with his cat!
The UOL Education Commission thanks
Gayle Woloschak
Pat Dorning
Lisa Ryan
For donating their registration fees from the Western PA-OH Retreat for the Education fund.

Thank you for your support!

The Philadelphia UOL Convention Committee is fundraising by selling Mary’s Tears Prayer Bracelets

The bracelet, a variation of the Orthodox Prayer Rope, is made with seeds commonly called “Mary’s tears.” The beads are said to come from a plant that sprouted at the Cross during the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ. The plant sprung from the tears of the Mother of God. A story is told that a monk struggled making a prayer rope and the Theotokos appeared to him as he was crying in desperation that he could not master the prayer rope. She placed these seeds into his hand so that he could create a prayer bracelet. The seeds of this plant naturally have an area that can be tied together.

The bracelet is beautifully packaged in an organza purse with a brief description of this story and how to use a prayer bracelet. All bracelets are made for adults (approximately 8 inches – with a slight variation based on the size of the seeds). Please specify if you request a larger or a smaller bracelet. To order send your name, address, and phone/email. Bracelets are $10. Please add $2.00 for shipping. Please make check payable to “St. Vladimir’s Senior UOL.”

Send order and payment to Natalie BiIynsky 703 Pine Ridge Road Media, PA 19063 Questions? nsufler@aol.com

UOL Member Dr. Dinah Fedyna Honored Submitted by Dr. Gayle Woloschak

Dr. Dinah Fedyna was recognized by the NEOMED Alumni Association which recognizes alumni and other individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership. While award winners are typically honored at the annual Alumni Reunion and Awards Dinner, the event was postponed until 2021, due to COVID-19.

Dinah Fedyna, M.D. (’82), a former Northeast Ohio Medical University clinical professor of family and community medicine is this year’s recipient of the Alumni Association’s Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Fedyna is well known and admired in the Department of Family and Community Medicine and among practicing physicians. Widely respected, she has presented numerous times at the national level on the topic of medical student education.

Dr. Fedyna has been a family medicine faculty member, residency educator and medical student educator for 30 years, serving as a role model for many. One example of her commitment to serving the underserved is the bimonthly dinner that she established, feeding more than 150 members of the underserved community in Youngstown and sending them home with lunch bags and essential care products after each event. As well as serving as a night out for the guests, the dinners also encouraged medical and pharmacy students to assist by offering blood pressure screenings and health information.

“Dr. Fedyna is well known to thousands of NEOMED graduates. The selection committee members can all contribute a time in which Dinah made a positive impact on them, whether it was as a student, a colleague or a friend. Probably the best way to say it is, Dr. Fedyna is a NEOMED physician and that should speak volumes.” Doug Moses, M.D. (’95), Chair of the Alumni Awards Committee

UOL Thanksgiving Project

November is the month we celebrate Thanksgiving in the U.S. and also the month we commemorate the victims of the Holodomor. The UOL National Executive Board has decided that our yearly recommended Thanksgiving Project will focus on bringing a greater awareness of the Holodomor while helping the hungry in our own communities now and in the future. Here are the UOL project recommendations:

Conduct a food drive at your parish collecting non-perishable foods and donate them to a local food bank, or have a pop-up food drive at your parish with Thanksgiving-related foods to distribute to the community. Have your advertising and, if possible, label the food donations with the following message:

"In 1932, 10 million people perished in an artificial famine in Ukraine. We pray no one ever goes hungry again. #Holodomor #UkrainianGenocide #NeverForget"

The UOL website has this text formatted for a sheet of 30 labels (1" X 2 5/8” each) if you’d like to download it for printing.

Send photos of your Thanksgiving project participation to UOL Publicity Commission at recscorray@uolofusa.org and we will post it on the UOL’s Facebook page and in our UOL Bulletin.

If you cannot support a food drive, please consider a fund-raising drive and send the donations to a local food bank or Soup Kitchen.

Let’s remember the innocent victims of the Ukrainian Holodomor, honor their memory, and help those in need within our own community at this time of giving!

The Metro J. Baran Achievement Award was presented to Natalie Kapeluck Nixon from Saints Peter and Paul U/O Church of Carnegie, Pennsylvania. This award is presented “for outstanding service with the Youth of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.” It was instituted to honor the memory of Metro (Jimmie) Baran for the many years he worked with the Junior members of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA.

Natalie was recognized for going above and beyond with the innovative daily ministry she established, as the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, for three different age groups via teleconferences during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. She was so quick to act, that the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA was the first group to have a platform for engaging youth during the pandemic in a live format, and a model for others. After two months, the program was expanded to include our Young Adults. This program of engaging the youth proved especially important during the times of unrest in our country, as the teenage group was able to work out their emotions and understandings in an Orthodox, Christ-centered, mediated setting. Natalie also lent her talents to the formation of a virtual 2020 Camping Program for All Saints Camp.

Our Church is greatly enriched by Natalie’s talents! Congratulations and MANY YEARS, Natalie!

Metro Baran Award Presented to Natalie Kapeluck Nixon Submitted by Karen Ferrao

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The 73rd UOL Convention was a success we are excited and can not wait to see everyone (in person) at the 74th Annual UOL Convention from July 21 to 25, 2021 in the Philadelphia area. We pray that everyone is safe and that we can resume our traditional conventions in 2021!

Senior Chapter Achievement Award - Youngstown, Ohio

Submitted by Karen Ferraro

The 2020 Senior Chapter Achievement Award was presented this year to Saints Peter and Paul Chapter in Youngstown, Ohio. This award is presented yearly to the Senior Chapter of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA “that has shown the greatest achievement in terms of accomplishing the aims and purposes of the UOL during a one-year period of time.” Selection is based on the Annual Reports submitted by each chapter. Identifying information is blacked out by the Awards Committee Lead, and UOL National Executive Board Members vote on “Senior Chapter of the Year” based on the listed merits. The chapter name is only revealed after voting is concluded.

The Youngstown Senior Chapter raised over $22,000 in 2019/2020, prior to the shut down that all parishes experienced during the pandemic. The majority of those funds were donated to the parish for projects to renovate the building in preparation for their 100th Anniversary. They sponsored 5 free community dinners, which included the distribution of toiletries and non-perishable food items to those in need. Going one step further, the chapter set up a system for the needy to receive basic health checks while they were at the events.

As we all entered into difficult times this Spring, members of the Youngstown Senior Chapter helped the parish by providing cantor services, and delivering prosphora and weekly bulletins to those without electronic access to the live-streamed liturgies.

Congratulations to the Senior Chapter members of Saints Peter and Paul of Youngstown on their well-deserved award!

The convention was closed with the Prayer in Time of Coronavirus by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, for all those suffering, those who have reposed, and for those in our communities on the front lines caring for the sick.

Eminence Archbishop Daniel, for all those suffering, those who have reposed, and for those in our communities on the front lines caring for the sick.

Ukraine's National Foundation Day is October 2. We pray everyone is safe and that we can resume our traditional conventions in 2021!
**UOL Tribute**

A donation to the Tribute Fund is an acknowledgment of a Milestone, Memorial, or Accomplishment, or is a Special Recognition of an individual or group. Your much-appreciated contribution is used to support and further the Mission of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. All donations are published in the UOL Bulletin.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Tribute</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Walton</td>
<td>In honor of Christine T. Charest for her thoughtful work in making masks for anyone in need.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda and Howard Winters</td>
<td>In memory of Carol Bentley. Memory Eternal!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**To submit your Tribute:**
Submit a card that includes your Name and Address, the Name of the Person to Receive the Tribute, the occasion of the Tribute (for example In Memory or To Honor), and the Name and Address of the person to whom an acknowledgment card should be sent.

For a contribution of $20 or more, the name and occasion is printed in the UOL Bulletin.

UOL Tributes should be submitted to: Natalie Bilinsky 703 Pine Ridge Road Media, PA 19063

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**All Saints Camp**
110 All Saints Road Emlenton, PA 16373
(724) 867-5811
allsaintscamp.org
@allsaintscamp

We are now scheduling parish visitations for the fall, winter and spring months. ASC representatives will visit your community to promote our ministry and the Capital Campaign.

**Remembering Metropolitan CONSTANTINE**
It’s impossible to spend time on campus without thinking of His Beatitude Metropolitan CONSTANTINE and his long-standing advocacy for All Saints Camp. We commemorate his devotion to the youth of our Church and wish to honor his memory by compiling a lasting visual display of his life and ministry that will reside on campus. If you have any photographs of Metropolitan Constantine - especially of his association with ASC - please contact us.

Completing your pandemic clean-out at home? Have old issues of the UOW, UOL Bulletin, UOL Ad Books or other memorabilia to repurpose?
Send them to the St. Sophia Library! Fill out the attached form and mail your “treasures” to:
Metropolitan John Teodorovich and St Sophia Seminary Library 135 Davidson Ave. Somerset, NJ 08873
Here’s the link to the form online: https://uocofusa.org/files/forms/St-Sophia-Library/Donation-Form.pdf

We thank you in advance for your copies of:
- UOL Bulletins
- UOL Convention Yearbooks
- Parish Commemorative Books
- Old Editions of the UOW

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**Summer 2020 Recap**
It was truly a joy to connect with the ASC family during this past summer’s online gatherings: our Annual Meeting, “Faith, Hope and Love: Home Edition” programming, the 73rd Annual Convention and virtual Family Fest.

While these screened interactions are sometimes sub-optimal, it’s heartening to note the willingness of our community to step outside of comfort zones and embrace unfamiliar technology. The UOC of the USA and her organizations face an unprecedented challenge, and yet we have been flexible in seizing new opportunities for socially-distant and responsible fellowship. And while there is no substitute for face-to-face interaction, we now possess new tools that can enhance our ministry in profound ways.

The Off-Season and Beyond
In years past, we would use this space to announce off-season Work Weekends and the schedule for next summer. Due to ongoing pandemic protocols, we must adjust how we can gather safely on campus — but there is still work to do in the coming months. All Saints Camp was established and is maintained by the generosity of our community. We kindly ask all prospective volunteers interested in helping out to email josho@allsaintscamp.org or call (724) 867-5811.

The goal for summer 2021 remains the same: All Saints Camp will open if and only if the safety of our campers and staff can be guaranteed.

We have every intention of re-opening in 2021, but kindly ask for your patience. Information about 2021 dates/rates will be available soon and will be distributed to parishes, chapters and the faithful in print, via email and social media.

Improving the Foundation, Cementing the Future
Thanks to the hard work of our Executive Committee and volunteers, we were able to use the summer months to complete a number of projects around campus. These projects — and those planned for the future — allows All Saints Campus the opportunity to expand by hosting private gatherings, weddings, retreats, conferences, in addition to the existing roster of summer programming. In the coming years we want our ministry to become more accessible to the faithful of the UOC and other organizations.