



UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth

VOL. 54 NO. 2

OCTOBER, 2007



46th Annual Junior UOL Convention

submitted by Emily Kominko

If you asked any member of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League what their favorite memory of this past summer was, chances are they would say the U.O.L. Convention. This year, the 46th Annual Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention was held in Carnegie, Pennsylvania and was sponsored by the Saints Peter and Paul Sr and Jr. U.O.L. Chapters. The Convention began on Wednesday, July 26, 2007 with a hospitality night at the main venue for the event, the Moon Township Embassy Suites Hotel.

Thursday morning began with Divine Liturgy prior to the opening of business sessions. The Divine Liturgy was held in the Convention chapel. This chapel was a beautiful room adorned with the icons which will soon be in the chapel at All Saints Camp. As soon as I entered the room, a calm feeling rushed over me when I saw the beautiful icons that were written by Michael Kapeluck. I knew that it was going to be a great Convention.



Chapter challenge round



Thursday evening Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble Performs



That evening, after sessions were adjourned, Junior and Senior members and guests boarded buses or drove their cars all the way back to our Motherland for an evening in a Ukrainian village. The delicious meal of salad, roast beef, vegetables, and potatoes was enjoyed by everyone prior to watching an outstanding performance by the Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble. The rest of the evening was spent dancing the night away. When we returned back to the hotel, many of the Juniors stayed down in the lobby to talk before curfew. The hotel had an amazing porch where people could sit and talk, and many Juniors spent the evening catching up with each other and laughing the night away. *(article continues on page 4)*

I ♥ NY 61st UOL CONVENTION I ♥ UOL

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ILLUMINES ALL

July 30 – August 3, 2008

Hosted by the Sr. and Jr. UOL Chapters of St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY

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The absolute deadline for each monthly issue is the 1st of the prior month. Photos will not be returned.

Note to Contributors: All articles submitted to the UOL Bulletin must be in 12 point Times New Roman (font), or typed and double spaced in 12 point type. Articles may be submitted via e-mail attachments. (Submit to: nsufler@aol.com)

The editor reserves the right to condense any material submitted. Material cannot be returned.



ASK FR. HARVEY

RELIGIOUS QUESTIONS

Answered by: Fr. John Harvey

Question:

In our modern world, there has been a slow change in people's attitude and tolerance regarding smoking. We have seen more and more restrictions imposed on smoking in public places. One of our local funeral directors has recently raised an objection to our using incense in the funeral home as he already has a ban on the smoking of tobacco there. I wonder if he has a valid point and if our church will move with the times and curb the billows of incense, which basically is smoke?

Our use of incense stems from the directions found in the Old Testament where the burning of incense, as an offering, is an essential part of the Temple ritual. The various sacrifices, temple equipment and explicit directions regarding the carrying out of the Temple worship are all delineated in a most clear manner. Scripture, being the inspired word of God, therefore directs clearly that incense shall be used. Incense is a fumigant and a sweet-smelling offering before the throne of God.

In the New Testament times, the use of incense is found universally throughout the church in all the lands where the faith was planted. In services we sing: "Let my prayer arise in Thy sight as incense and the lifting of my hands as an evening sacrifice." Be it in Divine Liturgy, Great Vespers, Matins, the Panachyda, and in most of the sacraments and some blessings, the offering of incense is explicitly directed. Each time the grains of incense are added to the charcoal a blessing is made before the incensing commences. The priest says, "Incense do we offer unto Thee for an odor of spiritual fragrance, do Thou also send down upon us the grace of Thy Holy Spirit." Incense then is not an optional thing that can be dropped at will, but really is part and parcel of our worship.

Incense has a history of thousands of years of use in temples, churches and throne rooms of kings as an element of worship or honor. Its use transports us from the smells of the household, the market place or even of the gathering of humans (sweat and unwashed bodies). Being present in a place where incense is offered, the ambience created helps to lift us from the ordinary and a sacred space of prayer and worship is created.

Smoking of tobacco is a relatively new phenomenon. Smoking provides for the smoker perhaps an uplift, but for those around it can be an annoyance and a health hazard as well. Walking into a stale, smoky bar one does not have the same experience as walking into a church where the fragrant afterglow of a worship service is felt in the floral scents that remain. How can one equate drapes or curtains that are suffused with stale tobacco odor from cigars of cigarettes to the soft smells of fragrant incense that cling to the vestments and cassock of the priest?

Incense will not go away in the Orthodox Church and its usage is not the same as the self-centered cravings and addictions of tobacco smokers. There may not be need for creating great intense billowing clouds of choking incense smoke during services. One can certainly use incense in worship, as directed, without overpowering or gagging those who have come to pray and worship.



Do you have questions that you would like to submit to Fr. Harvey?
If so, questions can be submitted to:
Natalie Bilynsky (address listed above) e-mail: nsufler@aol.com
All questions are listed anonymously

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL PRESIDENT

Oleh Bilynsky



Glory to Jesus Christ!
Slava Isusu Christu!

By the time you are reading this the Sr. Executive Board will have held its first quarterly meeting in Allentown, PA. At every such meeting each Board member is required to present an Officer's Report, along with a Commission/Committee Report for each such position held by that Board member. It has been customary, and the custom has been followed by this year's Board, that the first Report contain each Board member's goals for the upcoming year. As such, I would like to share one of my goals for the upcoming year, namely to increase both the number of active U.O.L. chapters and the total number of U.O.L. members.

I did not "grow up" in the U.O.L. and only found out about it when I met my wife, Natalie. I had no idea what the U.O.L. was, but knew it had to be pretty special by the way Natalie talked about it. She could only say positive things about both the Jr. U.O.L. and the Sr. U.O.L., and indeed had so many positive things to say about it (with not a single negative comment), that I wondered whether this mysterious U.O.L. she was walking about was "too good to be true." As such, I was very pleased to find out that all she had said was true, as I discovered from the very first moment that I joined the U.O.L. and attended my first chapter meeting (at St. Vladimir's in Philadelphia).

The U.O.L., which is no more than you, its members, by its actions has demonstrated, time and again, that it truly follows its motto, "Dedicated To Our Church - Devoted To Its Youth." I am very proud to call myself a member of the U.O.L., and I hope every U.O.L. member is equally proud. That being the case, however, we should do all that we can to "spread the news" and increase our membership, so that as many as possible can participate in our "mission" and thereby share in our joy and pride.

I intend to work closely with all of our Board members, especially our Spiritual Advisor, Hieromonk Daniel (who has graciously volunteered to "spread the news" about the U.O.L. at every church he visits) and our Membership and Chapter Development Chairperson, Natalie, to increase both the total number of U.O.L. chapters and the total membership. We can't do it alone, however, so I ask all of you to help in this effort.

If every U.O.L. member recruited one other person into the U.O.L., our membership would double in one year! I realize this may be somewhat unrealistic, but the Coatesville chapter basically doubled its membership in one year (from 20 members in 2005 to 37 in 2006), so it can be done (and kudos to you, Coatesville). I would rather aim high than low. The U.O.L. has always aimed high, and it would be unbecoming of us to not continue that fine tradition.

Yours in Christ,
Oleh V. Bilynsky



UOL SUNDAY -- UOL HOMECOMING

DECEMBER 2, 2007

submitted by: Natalie Bilynsky

In many ways the fall is a time of homecoming. Students return to school, workers return from vacation, and homecoming events are planned throughout the community. Our church calendar starts anew in the fall with rejuvenation and planning of the new ecclesiastic year.

Similarly, in the UOL we start our new year with a return to meetings and focusing on the upcoming year together as a UOL family. With UOL Sunday (the first Sunday of Advent), December 2nd, we are asking all chapters to plan a UOL Homecoming Event and Membership Drive. To make this UOL Homecoming a success -- we need the help of all chapter members.

Every member is essential to the UOL. I am asking everyone to think of individuals who have not been active in your parish and chapter in the last year or past few years and reach out to them. Call them, write them an e-mail or letter and invite them to a UOL event on UOL Sunday.

Together we can reach out to all former UOL members, and remind them of the joys experienced by being a part of the UOL.

61st Annual UOL Convention

Hosted by St. John the Baptist Parish, Johnson City, NY



Senior Co-Chairs Alexis Oryhon and Pam Scannell, Junior Chair Patrick Scannell

July 30, 2008 Wednesday! Wednesday! Wednesday!

The 61st incarnation of the Ukrainian Orthodox League's annual Convention kicks off in traditional fashion on Wednesday with opening sessions at the Holiday Inn Arena in downtown Binghamton, NY.

By now you should be fully aware of our logo, featuring the ubiquitous "I ♥ UOL and I ♥ New York" slogan (currently available on limited edition t-shirts!), and the Hospitality Night theme combines the best of these two objects of our affection. The tag-team duo of Mark and Jen Hatala has planned an event that celebrates both of these institutions, while welcoming everyone to the Southern Tier.

You may or may not be familiar with the legendary pedigree of Upstate New York wineries, but this evening serves to educate you. All are invited to sample the local flavor, which fully competes with anything that the Napa Valley produces. You won't find the new Beaujolais here, but have you ever had Dr. Konstantin Frank vintage from Hammondsport, NY?

The Juniors will be enjoying a Convention tradition of their own – that of the Pool Party. The Holiday Inn Arena features an indoor pool and a veranda that overlooks the mighty Susquehanna River, a setting where everyone can relax while socializing.

You are encouraged to get a good night's sleep before Thursday morning, where we will begin the Convention in earnest with Divine Liturgy in the hotel chapel followed by a brunch and the continuation of Sessions.

In the next issue we will try to find words expressive enough to describe Thursday night's, "A Taste of the Southern Tier" event, which features so many wonderful details that it deserves its own article.

We are extremely excited to welcome you to Johnson City next July - stay tuned to this spot for all the happenings!

Random Southern Tier Trivia: There are five Finger Lakes, which are home to New York State wineries. In order of size largest to smallest they are: **Cayuga, Seneca, Keuka, Skaneateles and Owasco** (Hint: It might be a good idea to write this down...)



Junior National Executive Board 2007-2008

MESSAGE FROM THE JUNIOR UOL PRESIDENT

Patrick Scannell



Glory to Jesus Christ!

It's already October and this year is off to a quick start. I hope that each chapter has had their first meeting already. You should also take some time to review the ideas, and committee recommendations from Convention, with your chapter if you have not already done so. It is important that each chapter reviews these convention topics because they are goals we want to achieve this year.

Also, since we are in October there are a few commitments each chapter should have done by now. Membership dues, chapter dues, and roster forms should have been sent to Financial Secretary David Koroczynsky. The deadline was September 30th so all those dues and forms should be in as soon as possible. Furthermore, if your chapter has not sent in an election report form that should be sent to Corresponding Secretary Natasha Walewski as soon as possible.

On the National level, our first meeting was held on September 29th in Allentown, PA. We appreciate the great hospitality of the Allentown Sr. and Jr. UOL chapters for hosting our meeting. This meeting, like most in the past few years, was held as a joint meeting with the Sr. UOL National Executive Board. More details about this meeting will be in the next bulletin.

Also, Convention Memorybooks are still being sold. If you would like a Convention Memorybook from the Jr. UOL Convention in Carnegie, PA you need to send \$3 and an address to send the yearbook to:

Natasha Walewski 95 Delfred Dr. Carnegie, PA 15106

These yearbooks are a great way to keep in touch with the friends you made at convention, and are a good reminder of the fond memories you made.

Finally, I would like to let you know that I am always willing to help out, so feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or comments you have about the Jr. UOL.

Yours in Christ,
Patrick Scannell

Young Adults Gather Prior to the 60th Annual U.O.L. Convention

submitted by Melanie Nakonachny

The Youth Commission of the Ukrainian Orthodox League sponsored Pre-Convention Young Adult Days July 24-25, in Pittsburgh, PA. Participants met on Tuesday, July 24th at the Moon Township Embassy Suites and departed for Station Square where fifteen Young Adults and Junior U.O.L. members participated in a *Just Ducky Tour* of Pittsburgh. The tour bus, which drives around the city and into the water, highlighted landmarks of the Pittsburgh area. Participants "quacked" through the tour, learning interesting facts about the city while enjoying each other's company. Once the tour was completed,



everyone gathered at Houlihans Restaurant for dinner. Everyone enjoyed having a chance to catch up with old friends and making new ones.

The following day, participants gathered in the hotel lobby and traveled to Kennywood Amusement Park. Participants rode roller coasters, enjoyed water rides and ate *Dippin Dots*. The event was a great way to have fun before beginning convention business sessions.

The Ukrainian Orthodox League sponsors Young Adult events annually, with a Memorial Day Weekend Retreat at All Saints Camp as well as the Pre-Convention Young Adult Days. This fall will also bring a new young adult event, held during the weekend of the Sobor, October 5-7 in South Bound Brook, NJ. More information concerning this event will be distributed to young adults.

(Convention Continued from Page 1)



Friday, after sessions, we once again went traveling. This time, instead of going across

a body of water, we traveled on one. The Convention body took a cruise down the Allegheny River on the Gateway Clipper. This evening was also a trip down memory lane for those who had ever been a participant at



Teenage Conference. Delegates enjoyed pictures, which decorated all of the tables, from 50 years of T.C.

Later that evening, the Johnson City Sr. and Jr. U.O.L. Chapters hosted a hospitality night to promote the 61st Senior and 47th Junior U.O.L. Annual Convention, which will be hosted by their parish next year.

Saturday, the last day of sessions, was also the day that the Juniors unveiled their well practiced Junior U.O.L. Hymn for the first time to the Seniors. The



music for this hymn was written by H.S. Thompson, and the words were written by Rev. S. Hallick. "Here's to her, whose name we'll ever cherish, love so well; Honoring with true devotion: Junior U.O.L." Those words reflect how people truly feel about this organization, as the song reminded everyone of the friendships and memories that have been made through it.

The session rooms were transformed for the Banquet and Ball later that evening. Dinner was served and many awards were distributed. After dinner, the rest of the evening was spent mingling and dancing.



Mike Nemeth presents award to Junior UOL Cultural Contest Winners- St. John's Junior UOL Chapter, Johnson City, New York



It was a late night, but a Hierarchal Diving Liturgy was held the next morning at Sts. Peter and Paul parish in Carnegie. A very nice farewell brunch was held after the liturgy. Goodbyes were said as people started to leave, but

it was not "so long" forever. Everyone knew



that they would be seeing each other at next year's Convention, which will be held in Johnson City, New York and hosted by the Junior and Senior Ukrainian Orthodox League Chapters of Saint John the Baptist Parish.



Very Reverend Bukata Award 2007 Krista Ulbricht

The Very Reverend Volodymyr Bukata Award was presented to Krista Ulbricht at the 2007 Convention. On a local level Krista helped to organize a Ukrainian dance group, attended and taught church school, decorated the church for Christmas, sent Easter cards to parishioner college students, decorated an area nursing home for February holidays, baked pascha bread for shut ins and helped clean up church grounds. Krista also helped to organize an annual "Lock-in" for local and regional church youth.

Nationally, Krista has attended the Annual UOL Convention as a delegate for five years, attended Teenage Conference, has served as a camp counselor, has participated in past High School Mission Trips and will be going on this year's trip as well.

Her spiritual Father says "At a time when so many of our young people veer away from the Church it is refreshing to have her and the example she gives as a model for her peers and younger children."



LSSK Scholarships 2007

At the 60th Annual UOL Convention the UOL awarded scholarships totaling \$4,000 to two junior UOL members whose dedication to their Church and her League have distinguished them from their peers. Since the LSSK Scholarship Fund was established in 1975 in memory of Lynn Sawchuk and Sharon Kuzbyt, the UOL has awarded 121 scholarships totaling over \$135,350.

Criteria considered by the Scholarship Committee include: being a current or past member of the Junior UOL; enrolled in or about to enroll in a program of advanced education; a record of outstanding performance in service to the Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the Ukrainian Orthodox League; academic performance in high school; involvement in extracurricular activities and being of high ethical and moral character.

The 2007 LSSK Scholarship recipients are: Oksana Mahlay and Mark Meschisen.



Oksana Mahlay of St. Vladimir's Junior UOL Chapter of Parma, Ohio. Oksana served as President, Treasurer and Secretary of her local Junior UOL Chapter. She is a member of the church choir and local Ukrainian Dance group, a church reader, and student and performer of the local Bandura School. She has been a participant in the High School Mission Trips for the last two years, dedicating her time and efforts to benefit the Raphael's House, an outreach center for at-risk homeless families in San Francisco, California, and the mission parish of St. Nicholas in Charlottesville, Virginia. She has also participated in the annual Walk for Life in Washington, DC. Her Chapter Advisor writes, "Oksana serves as our Junior UOL President and works very hard to make our Juniors become a closer group." Her Spiritual Advisor writes "Our candidate is a devout Orthodox Christian and an active member of our parish, attending Church every Sunday and receiving the Holy Sacraments."

Oksana is also actively involved in her school and community. In addition to her involvement in our Church and her League, Oksana is also a leader in the Cleveland area activities of PLAST, the Ukrainian Scouting organization. In high school, she served as a peer minister, working cooperatively with her sister ministers to plan and organize her high school's liturgies, prayer services, retreats and community service projects. She was a member of SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) and the president of her high school's Junior Council of World Affairs - Model UN ("JCWA"). Her advisor writes "Oksana personifies the ideals of scholarship, character, leadership and service that [our high school] strives to instill in all of our students."

Mark Meschisen of St. Michael's Junior UOL Chapter in Woonsocket, Rhode Island has served as President and Treasurer of his Junior UOL Chapter. He has also served as President of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA for the past year and National Financial Secretary for the previous two years. On the parish level, he has served as an altar server and church reader. He participates regularly in coffee hour duties, church flea markets, "Ukrainian Kitchen" and

was an active Ukrainian dancer and instructor. His Spiritual Advisor writes "[Mark is] totally dependable and a good leader. [He is] a leader that shows his worth by doing it himself. He is thoughtful, thorough and sensitive to others." His Senior Advisor writes "Mark is (and always has been) the first person to react when a helping hand is needed. He gives of his timewhether setting up, taking down or just participating."

In high school, Mark was an avid sportsman and scholar. He participated throughout high school in track and cross country while achieving the accolades of Renaissance Scholar, National Honors Society, and Adams MCAS Scholar, in addition to honors and high honors awards. His scholastic advisor writes "Mark is a committed and talented student. . . [he] is respected in school as a friendly, intelligent and mature student."

The LSSK Scholarship Committee would like to congratulate this year's recipients on their accomplishments and thank the UOL members, friends and chapters for their support of this worthwhile scholarship.

Please remember, donations to support the LSSK Scholarship are accepted at any time and may be forwarded to: Daria Pishko Komichak
64 Coleman Avenue
Chatham, NJ 07928-2278
(973) 635-8124 dapia@aol.com

Scholarship applications for 2008 will be mailed to the Junior UOL Chapters in March 2008 or may be downloaded from the UOL page of www.uocofusa.org website. Completed applications are due May 31, 2008.

All former Junior UOL members entering into or enrolled in continuing education within five years of high school graduation are encouraged to apply.

Junior UOL Chapter of the Year Holy Ascension, Maplewood

The Junior Chapter Achievement Award was presented to the Holy Ascension Chapter in Maplewood, NJ at the UOL Convention in Carnegie, PA. The Junior Chapter Achievement Award is presented to a Junior Chapter that has shown the greatest achievement in terms of accomplishing the aims and purposes of the UOL during a one-year period.

Chrystyna Chorniy, Chapter President, accepted the award. Maplewood's Junior Chapter recently reactivated and has sponsored many activities throughout the year. They contributed to their parish anniversary, held a Souper Bowl event, and participated in the Great Lent Giveaway. They attended numerous retreats, put on a Saint Nicholas Program and worked during Saint Thomas Sunday in South Bound Brook. They also hosted multiple luncheons, brunches, and breakfasts as well as monthly coffee hours.

Their Spiritual Advisor, Father Hucul says of their group "It is no boast to say that our Junior UOL members are a spirited, enthusiastic, creative, and hard working group. They work joyously in their work of the Lord and for His glory."



Meet the Junior UOL Board



Patrick Scannell- President

Hello, my name is **Patrick Scannell** and this is my second year on the Jr. UOL National Board. My first year was great, I held the position of financial secretary and also got to work with Natalie Kapeluck-Nixon on the Great Lent Giveaway. It was a fun and productive year, and I enjoyed it very much. This year I am the President of the National Board. I am excited with the challenge of a new position and look forward to another great year. Also, I am president of the St. John the Baptist Jr. UOL Chapter in Johnson City, NY. I love being so involved in the Jr. UOL and think it is a great organization for the youth of our church.

This will be my last year as a junior because I am now starting my senior year of high school. I attend Vestal High School in Vestal, NY. In school I am on the soccer and tennis team, and I also ran track. Every year in high school I have been a member of our school's Russian Club. When I'm not in school or doing work for the Jr. UOL I enjoy bowling, swimming, and golf. My two sisters have both been in the Jr. UOL but are now in college and members of our Sr. UOL chapter. Lucky for me, I have the house all to my self while they're both away at school.

Nick Anderson - Vice President

Hello, my name is **Nicholas Anderson** and I am the Jr. UOL National Board Vice President. This is my second year on the Jr. UOL NEB. I am looking forward to what this year will bring. In addition to being Vice President of the National Board, I am also Vice President of the Sts. Peter and Paul Jr. UOL Chapter in Youngstown, OH.

I am starting my senior year of high school. I go to Salem High School in Salem, OH. I am in the band, Teens Against Chemical Taking, National Honor Society, and a couple of other clubs. I also play basketball. I enjoy sports, being with friends, and watching movies. I am looking forward to this year and I hope it will be a fun and productive one.

Natasha Walewski- Corresponding Secretary

Hello everyone! My name is **Natasha Walewski**, and I am pleased to say that I will once again be serving the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League as Corresponding Secretary.



I live in Carnegie, PA, a small town southwest of Pittsburgh, with my mom, dad, brother (John, 15) and sister (Danielle, 12). I attend church every Sunday at St. Peter & St. Paul UOC, where I sing in the choir, attend Sunday School, and serve as President of my local Jr. U.O.L. Chapter. I am a senior this year at Chartiers Valley High School, where I am a member of the Thespian Society, Drama Club, German Club and National Honor Society. I also hold a steady job as a waitress, at my parent's restaurant.

Emily Kominko -Recording Secretary



Hello Everyone! My name is **Emily Kominko**, and I have been newly re-elected to serve as the Recording Secretary on the Junior National Executive Board. I am a Senior this year at my high school in Independence, Ohio, and I attend church every Sunday at St. Vladimir's Cathedral in Parma, Ohio. At school, I am involved in Key Club, marching band, musicals, and other activities. This year, I am the President of the Junior U.O.L. Chapter at my church. I also attended Teenage Conference for two weeks this past summer, and I think that everyone who went would agree that a great time was had by all! I also attended the Convention in Carnegie, Pennsylvania, which was amazing thanks to the Senior and Junior Chapters of Sts. Peter and Paul parish! I look forward to this year being very fruitful, as we have many returning members to the Junior National Board.

Mike Nemeth -Treasurer



Hello, my name is **Michael Nemeth** and I am in my second year as treasurer for the Jr. UOL National Executive Board. I live just outside Philly with my mom, dad, and younger sister, Lynn. I am a member of St. Vladimir's Parish in Philadelphia, PA where I am also treasurer for our Jr. Chapter. I am active in our

parish, participating in events and fundraisers while regularly attending Sunday school. We have an enthusiastic junior chapter this year, with a mix of all ages that should provide for a great year in our local parish.

This upcoming school year, I will be a senior at Germantown Academy. I am on the varsity baseball and varsity soccer teams. I also play both of my sports for out of school club teams. As well as being dedicated to my sports, I participate in clubs and other activities such as the community service organization, and patriot ambassadors, which is a group of upper school students who tour prospective incoming freshmen. I am also the speaker to my house regarding honor council education. When I am not involved with the UOL or school activities, I enjoy hanging out with friends, skiing, going to the shore, traveling, and occasionally playing the piano. For the 2007-2008 Jr. Board, I have been appointed chair of the cultural committee, and also have my duties as treasurer. I hope to accomplish many things and fulfill both of these, and all other, responsibilities to the best of my ability. I look forward to having another great year on the national board.

David Koroczynsky - Financial Secretary

Hi! I'm **David Koroczynsky** and I was just elected to the Junior National Board as Financial Secretary. I am looking forward to this year and helping the UOL on a national level. I currently don't hold an office for my local chapter, Ss. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH, but I attend almost every event we hold.



I have two more years in the Junior UOL, so I plan to stay involved throughout my short time left. I attend Poland Seminary High School and am going into my junior year. Outside of school and UOL related things, I'm usually playing baseball or some other sport, playing guitar, or just relaxing. My father, Mike Koroczynsky, was on the Junior National Board when he was a teenager, serving as Treasurer for one year.

STS. PETER & PAUL JUNIOR AND SENIOR CHAPTER UPDATE

submitted by Diane Senedak

Members of the Youngstown, Ohio Sts. Peter & Paul Senior UOL Chapter have been actively involved in projects throughout the year and are involved in many aspects of our parish life. We are active church-goers, and attend Adult Study classes conducted by Fr. Gregory Becker. We sing in the choir and participate as altar servers, attend missions in our community and on a regional, national and international level. We conduct Sunday school classes, are members of Sts. Peter & Paul Youth Ministry and Sisterhood, and volunteer as All Saints Camp counselors and for the ASC Development Committee. We participate and chair monthly fellowship coffee hours, host the Malanka Dinner Dance, work at bingo, are church board members and attend the UOL Convention as delegates, just to name a few! In addition, our Senior UOL holds many ethnic food fundraisers and bake sales to benefit our parish. Young adults and seasoned cooks are on hand to prepare, roll and cook stuffed cabbage and make halushki.



Chapter members also participated in the "Make an Easter Basket" sponsored by Sts. Peter and Paul Youth Ministry. They collected a plethora of items and filled to the brim 15 children's Easter baskets and 3 huge baskets for the Rescue Mission Shelter. The very appreciative director of the Rescue Mission, Rose Brown states, "Thank you Lord, the children will be delighted!" We all felt truly blessed to have participated and had warm thoughts of the children discovering their baskets on Easter morning!

The St. Peter & Paul Social Committee and Mission Team members Jason Senedak, Eric Senedak, Marc Senedak, Ginny Ulbricht and Krista Ulbricht, held a "family and friends" fundraiser to help sponsor the team's Mission Trips to Ukraine and to St. Sophia's Seminary in South Bound Brook, NJ. As a gift of appreciation, "Forget me Not" seed packet favors were given to each guest in hopes that as they plant the seeds and watch them grow, they would "not forget" Mission Teams during their upcoming journeys. Guest speaker, Dr. Dinah Fedyna-Novicky, talked about how difficult the life of a child is in an orphanage in Ukraine. The children are lacking proper medical supplies for the most common of ailments, and proper nutrition and cleanliness continue to be concerns. Dr. Fedyna-Novicky and her husband Joseph know about these hardships and challenges associated with adoption in Ukraine from their experience of adopting Natalia Ann two years ago. Dr. Fedyna-Novicky then talked about how mission work is an important part of our church history. She stated, "Mission team members bring hope, love, comfort and aid, which are all works of God's love for all."



The Youth Ministry of Sts. Peter & Paul of Youngstown awarded Fr. William Olynyk Memorial Merit Scholarships to two of our graduating Junior UOL Members, Michael Paul Koroczynsky and David Metro Woloschak. Michael, son of Michael & Bonnie Koroczynsky, is graduating from Poland Seminary High School. He has been an altar server for nine years, a member of the Jr. UOL for four years and has attended ASC for four years. He will attend Youngstown State University this fall. David, son of Chuck and Ann Woloschak, graduates from Jackson-Milton High School. David has been an altar server and a Jr. UOL member for nine years, a delegate to the UOL convention and worked in our parish catering program. He will attend Kent State University this fall. The graduates and their families were also honored with a fellowship breakfast sponsored by the Jr. UOL. Our best wishes to Michael and David. May God grant you both many years!



U.O.L. ANNUAL ESSAY CONTEST

Submitted by Anne N. Bohan

The UOL Education Commission recognized the winners of the Annual Essay Contest at the 60th UOL Convention in Carnegie, PA. The contest included 114 entries representing 11 parishes with 12 first place icon awards and 48 honorable mention icon bookmark awards. Everyone that participated received a certificate. The contest questions were based on the Convention theme, "Come Follow Me"—"Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 5:19).

Preschool /Kindergarten

First Place: Cyril Sheptak, St. Vladimir's, Pittsburgh, PA
Honorable Mention: Anna Miller, St. Mary's, Allentown, PA
 David Vineyard, Sts. Peter & Paul, Carnegie, PA
 Peter Gordan, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
 Alexis Naumenko, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
 John Meaden, St. Vladimir's, Parma, OH

Grades One/Two

First Place: Andrea Harder, St. John's, Johnson City, NY
Honorable Mention: Sam Hatala, St. John's, Johnson City, NY
 Alex Miller, St. Mary's, Allentown, PA
 Makenna Spotts, St. Mary's Allentown, PA
 Sebastian Leis, Sts. Peter & Paul, Carnegie, PA
 Eva Schacht, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
 Sophia Dobronos, St. Vladimir's, Parma, OH
 Jonathan Greaves, St. Vladimir's, Parma, OH
 Kendal Miller, Sts. Peter & Paul, Lyndora, PA
 Elijah Peterson, Sts. Peter & Paul, Lyndora, PA
 Natalie Sanantonio, St. Vladimir's, Philadelphia, PA

Grades Three/Four

First Place: Justin Kremposky, St. Mary's, Allentown, PA
 Rebecca Mills, St. Vladimir's, Ambridge, PA
 Juliana Leis, Sts. Peter & Paul, Carnegie, PA
 Michael Dobronos, St. Vladimir's, Parma, OH
Honorable Mention: Gabrielle Mills, St. Vladimir's, Ambridge, PA
 Ivan Howe, Sts. Peter & Paul, Carnegie, PA
 Mikaela Kapeluck, Sts. Peter & Paul, Carnegie, PA
 Grace Hatala, St. John's, Johnson City, NY
 Alec Masur, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
 Hannah Masur, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
 Caitlyn Miller, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
 Katrina Potter, Sts. Peter & Paul, Lyndora, PA
 Jasmine Pavlinsky, Assumption of the Virgin Mary, Northampton, PA

Grades Five/Six:

First Place: Juliana Kochis, St. Vladimir's, Ambridge, PA
 Brandi Rohal, Sts. Peter & Paul, Carnegie, PA
Honorable Mention: Natalie Schrantz, St. Mary's, Allentown, PA
 Morgan Spotts, St. Mary's, Allentown, PA
 Paul Onufrey, Sts. Peter & Paul, Carnegie, PA
 Danielle Walewski, Sts. Peter & Paul, Carnegie, PA
 Molly Hatala, St. John's, Johnson City, NY
 Theodore Peterson, Sts. Peter & Paul, Lyndora, PA

Grades Seven/Eight:

First Place: Timothy Rakovan, St. Vladimir's, Ambridge, PA
Honorable Mention: Katie Zimmerman, St. Mary's, Allentown, PA
 Michael Kochis, St. Vladimir's, Ambridge, PA
 William Ferrante, St. John's, Johnson City, NY

Grades Nine/Ten:

First Place: Olenka Zharsky, St. John's, Johnson City, NY
 Lesia Mahlay, St. Vladimir's, Parma, OH
Honorable Mention: Khrystyna Chorniy, Holy Ascension, Maplewood, NJ
 Darya Gapon, Holy Ascension, Maplewood, NJ
 Alexander Shevchuk, Holy Ascension, Maplewood, NJ
 Michael Stepowyj, Holy Ascension, Maplewood, NJ

Grades Eleven/Twelve:

First Place: Andy Zimmerman, St. Mary's Allentown, PA
Honorable Mention: Michele Schrantz, St. Mary's Allentown, PA
 Emily Kominko, St. Vladimir's, Parma, OH
 Oksana Mahlay, St. Vladimir's, Parma, OH

PALOS PARK SENIOR UOL SPONSORS SUMMER CHURCH SCHOOL PROGRAM

submitted by Fr. Taras Naumenko

"Growing strong in Christ's love" was the theme for our 2nd Annual Church School Program at Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Palos Park. What a successful, fun filled, and educational experience we all had! This three day program was made possible through the efforts of many. First



and foremost, we would like to thank our UOL chapter for providing all the funds necessary to run this camp with no cost to our campers.

On Wednesday, our day began with morning prayers led by Father Taras in church. We then completed an art activity and made placemats that the children got to creatively design for themselves. Upon our return from Pump It Up, we had lunch together and ended the day with a Veggie Tale video.

On Thursday, we began our day in church once again, followed by a lesson on how each of us can grow stronger in Christ's love by making a difference in our world through loving, caring and sharing. Our older students worked with a younger student partner to help them complete a mobile on this theme. Following this project, we moved to the kitchen for a lesson on prosfora, and then got to make our own. This has been a highlight of the camp for both years. As students completed this project, we put on our artistic caps and painted stained glass sun catchers for ourselves and for our hospitalized and shut-in parishioners. Some outdoor fun was our next activity, with the highlight being our water balloon toss. The day ended too quickly, and students



collected all their projects and received a shirt to wear the next day on our monastery trip.

On Friday, we visited the Serbian Orthodox monastery in Grayslake. We are happy that so many of our parishioners joined us for this trip. Our experience there was wonderful thanks to Father Tom, who provided us with so much insight into monastery life and guided us through the church filled with icons. It was a very educational and spiritual experience for all who attended. We got to have lunch on the beautiful grounds overlooking a lake. Some of our older students and adults also toured the cemetery, while our younger students enjoyed the playground. What a wonderful end to our Church Summer Program!! You know it's been successful when one of the older students says, "I can't believe it's over already. These three days have gone by so quickly. I wish we could have another day." This year's program expanded to three full days from two, and yes, drawing from the children's faces and words, I would say that this year's Church summer program was a huge success! Thank you to Fr. Taras for his spiritual guidance and for leading our prosfora baking class, our leader Janet Milton and our teachers PM Laura Naumenko, Lilly Naprata, and Maria Iordanov. Thank you to Carol Redmerski for all her help and our teen helpers Markian Masur, Sandra Iordanov and Denny Koranda. Thank you to everyone for the donations and support.

GROUND BEAKING OF HISTORICAL AND EDUCATIONAL COMPLEX

submitted by Dr. Stephen Sivulich

*"Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."
(Psalm 127:1 (RSV))*

It was a great day! The official ground breaking for the Historical and Educational Complex occurred on Monday, August 6th, as nearly 100 participants witnessed the historical occasion on the church grounds adjacent to the Consistory building in South Bound Brook, New Jersey. Many UOL members were present for this historic event: Krista Ulbrecht (Youngstown, OH), Cathy Bucharew (Harrisburg, PA), Aleksandra Hucul (Maplewood, NJ), Helen Greenleaf (Parma, OH), Emil and Shirley Skocypec (S. Bound Brook, NJ), Fr. Taras and PM Mary Ann Chubenko (Carteret, NJ), Fr. Bazyl Zawierucha (Northampton, PA), Fr. Jakiw Norton (Clifton, NJ), Fr. Stephen Hutnik (Wilmington, DE), and Steve Sivulich (Carnegie, PA).

The complex is a multi-purpose facility that will provide space for ongoing education and awareness of the history of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, as well as museum space for over 8,000 religious and cultural artifacts. Equally important, there will be a permanent Memorial and Exhibit dedicated to the Famine of 1932-33 in Ukraine, and space for the recognition of Ukrainian-American members of the Armed Forces. An important component of this building is the Ukrainian Orthodox Church Archive and Research Center and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church Library and Ukrainian Cultural Center. The Visiting Art Exhibit Hall will provide space for traveling art exhibits. The complex is designed to be an invaluable educational tool and research center for all members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the general public.

His Eminence Archbishop Antony, President of the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, opened the ground breaking ceremony with the following prayer: *"In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Most loving God, we thank You that through faith You make us all members of Your eternal family We give thanks for all the love that You*



send to draw our earthly families together, to heal us, and to heal those who have gone before us. Fill this building with Your divine presence, we pray. Pour out Your love to deepen the fellowship to be shared here. Let Your wisdom guide us, and all who will work to build his home, and let Your presence bless us, throughout this building process." The Archbishop said; "today is a significant day in the life of the Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. After many years of thoughtful planning, we gather here today to break ground for the Ukrainian Educational and Historical Complex. We welcome you and thank you for participating in this noble event. We are

appreciative of the moral and financial support already given and appreciate your intent to see this project to its conclusion. For those who may have some reservations, we respectfully request that you view this as not just another building, but a treasury from which the children of this and coming generations can be nurtured at the well-spring of knowledge."

Mrs. Nadia Mirchuk, President, United Ukrainian Orthodox Sisterhoods of the USA, greeted the gathering with the good news that her organization had already raised \$250,000 and that it will continue its efforts to include an endowment fund for operating expenses of the complex/museum. Mrs. Maria Konyk, President of Protection of the Mother of God (Pokrova) Sisterhood, South Bound Brook, NJ, announced that the sisterhood would fulfill its pledge of \$100,000 to the Historical and Educational Complex/Museum at our upcoming Sobor. Archbishop Antony praised this local sisterhood for its readiness over the past fifty years to assist the church with all its needs. The sisterhood has given over one million dollars to the church.

Dr. Stephen Sivulich, Director, Office of Development, offered thanks and appreciation to individuals, parishes and church organizations that have already contributed very generously. He also indicated that an aggressive fund drive for the balance of \$2.5 million that will include an endowment fund would



begin immediately. He encouraged those present to provide him with names of prospective donors. Mr. Emil Skocypec, Property Manager, commented on the construction phase of the building, and introduced Mark Dobbs, who will serve as General Construction Manager of the Complex/Museum project. (continued page 8)

Join the
solemn March
to honor
the up to 10 million
innocent victims
of the
Ukrainian Genocide
of 1932-1933

Saturday
November 17, 2007

March starts at St. George
Ukrainian catholic church
(7th street between 2nd and 3d avenues,
New York City)

UOL members will meet at
Cooper City Hall (7th and third).
UOL will march together with our bishops and
clergy.

March gets under way at 11:45 am

Final Destination: St. Patrick's
Cathedral for the solemn requiem
Memorial Service at 2 PM to launch
the 75th Anniversary of the
HOLODOMOR

Details will be forwarded to
chapters in October.
For more information contact
Daria Pishko Komichak

Encourage UOL Membership!! Share your UOL Bulletin with a friend who might be interested in joining the UOL!

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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.

The UOL sincerely thanks the following for their recent contribution:

CONTRIBUTOR	OCCASION
Anonymous	To Pani Matka Mary Anne Nakonachny for planning and organizing a wonderful Family Fest Weekend!
Anonymous	To welcome our newest seminarians: Vasyl Dovgan, Ivan Kostyshyn, Vasyl Pasakas, Andriy Matlak and Mykhaylo Gavretskyy. May Our Lord grant them fruitful studies!

Interested in honoring a special person or remembering a special event? Use the UOL Tribute to commemorate special events.

UOL Tributes should be submitted to:
Natalie Bilynsky
703 Pine Ridge Road
Wallingford, PA 19086

**Please make check payable to UOL Tributes*

**GROUND BEAKING OF
HISTORICAL AND EDUCATIONAL COMPLEX**

(continued from page 7)

\$88,500 Donated during the Ground Breaking

Mr. Victor Rosynsky, President of the Ukrainian Information Bureau, Inc., addressed the gathering and presented a check in the amount of \$58,500 in memory of Patriarch Mystyslav. Then, Mrs. Mary J. Kramarenko presented a check in the amount of \$30,000 in memory of Patriarch Mstyslav and dedicated to the memory of her husband, Petro Kramarenko, who was co-founder and Past-President of the Ukrainian Information Bureau, Inc.

Others participating in the actual ground breaking, with shovels and hard hats, included: Protopresbyter Taras Chubenko, Shirley Skocypec, Krista Ulbrecht, Ala Trochymchuk, Treasurer, Friends of the Memorial Church Museum; and Richard Jarmel, Engineer for the project. The ground breaking ceremony was followed by a delicious buffet lunch in the U.O.C. Cultural Center where the excitement of this historic event was repeated time and time again.

Indeed, this was a great day!

Information about the fund drive is available from: Dr. Stephen Sivulich, Director, U.O.C. Office of Development, 206 Christopher Circle, Pittsburgh, PA 15205, phone: (412) 389-1723.

SAVE THE DATES

UOL Lenten Retreat- April 4-6,2008
All Saint's Camp

UOL Lenten Retreat- April 11-13, 2008
Bethlehem, PA
Retreat will focus on the services of Holy Week

UOL EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS- May 3, 2008
Saturday of St. Thomas Sunday
South Bound Brook, New Jersey

CONSECRATION OF THE ALL SAINTS CAMP CHAPEL
June 22, 2008
Emlenton, PA

**More information about all events will be published in upcoming UOL Bulletins

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