

UKRAINIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
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Newsletter Eight - May - 2010

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GREETINGS

In keeping with the special days – Mother's Day and Father's Day – we honor all mothers and fathers, likewise all grandparents, aunts, uncles, Godparents. We wish all of them good health, and "Mnohaya Lita".

OLYMPIC GOLD MEDAL RECIPIENT

Congratulations go out to Lucas Makowsky of Regina, Olympic Gold Medal winner in the Men's Long Track Team Speed Skate Pursuit. Lucas is a former CYMK member. We wish him good health and much success in the future.

UKRAINE PANDEMIC DONATION

We acknowledge a donation of \$250 to the Ukraine Pandemic Fund, which was sent directly to the Canada Ukraine Foundation by the Saskatchewan UWAC Provincial Executive. This generous donation raises the total monies sent from our Association to \$6375. Once again, thank you donors for your generosity.

PROMIN 50th ANNIVERSARY

As we have said in past communications, please do not forget this important date in the life of our Journal. We encourage all branches to mark this date in some way – eg. increasing subscriptions in your branch, holding a fund-raising event, selling Ads in your community, submitting articles along with a donation. We are only half way through this year. Each branch can in some small (or larger) way help our Journal to continue and carry on. If you have any good ideas for commemorating this anniversary, please do not hesitate, share them with everyone by submitting to Promin, or sending them on to us at National. Together we can make great things happen.

DIRECT MEMBERSHIP

Wherever branches have closed, we encourage Direct Membership. According to our Constitution, if there is no branch in your community, you may send in your UWAC Membership of \$20 directly to National. As a Direct Member you would have the right to attend and actively participate (speak up) at National Conventions. You would have the right to submit recommendations, in writing, to the National Executive for consideration. You would be placed on the mailing list and receive our Newsletters. This way you would stay connected with UWAC, and have input. Your membership dollars would also be helping us to carry out the work that we do.

UOCC SOBOR – 2010

As has been announced, the UOCC will hold their General Council, or Sobor, on July 13 – 18, 2010. We commend all UWAC Members who will be attending the Sobor as delegates from their parishes. Taking an active part in all activities of our Church has always been, and will continue to be, foremost within the branches of UWAC. The USRL organizations are inseparably connected with the UOCC - they have always been and will always continue to be. A simple fact - we need each other. We wish all the delegates safe travel. May God bless all the participants of Sobor, and may His blessings prevail at all the deliberations.

CONVENORS

The National Promin Convenors' Chair, Halia Scherbluk, has called on all National Promin Convenors to take the initiative to organize an activity which would recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Journal. At present they are in collaboration. We are encouraging them in this effort, and are wishing them success with this project. To date, we have not had reports from any other convenorships. Please let us know of your activities, share them in the Journal, and if you require any assistance, do not hesitate to contact our Office.

ARCHIVES

It is our hope that all Archive Convenors are continually working on their archives, be it within the Provincial Executives, or the branches. It is most important to keep up with your collection, and safe storage of pertinent archival materials – Minutes, Financial Records, Membership Lists, Photos, Records of special projects or events, important correspondence. In event that a branch is dissolved, the archives should be sent to the National Office.

WORLD FEDERATION OF UKRAINIAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

*The Annual Meeting of the WFUWO will be held in Przemysl, Poland, on August 19 and 20, 2010. Our representative, Orysia Sushko will report on behalf of UWAC.

*The Executive of WFUWO is organizing a banquet to honor Distinguished Ukrainian women in Toronto, which will be held on August 6, 2010. Honorees are: Senator Raynell Andreychuk; Olya Zaverucha(Int'l Ukr. Credit Union Movement); Marsha Shrypuch, author; Ms. Tataryn, for working with disabled children in Ukraine, as well as other parts of the world (she herself is disabled). The WFUWO executive is encouraging each member organization to hold similar events honoring Distinguished Ukrainian Women throughout their own communities.

*Updating of the WFUWO website will soon be completed. The address of the updated website remains the same: www.wfuwo.org

LIVING STRINGS

Orest Sushko is producing a documentary film entitled "Living Strings – The Story of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus". He is asking for financial support to help complete the film. Included in this newsletter is the letter he sent us, which explains the project. This is a very worthwhile project, especially given what is happening in Ukraine at this time. It is important to put forth an accurate representation of the history and culture of Ukrainians, not only to the world, but to our own people as well, especially our youth. We encourage everyone to be generous to this cause. Please pass on this information to anyone you know who might be a potential donor.

GRADUATIONS

This is the time of the year when Convocations and Graduations are being celebrated. We sincerely congratulate graduates within the parishes in each province. Every graduation signifies a new beginning, be it from Grade Eight, Junior High, High School, College, or University, because the young person graduating is moving into the next phase of their life. We sincerely wish every graduate much success in this new phase. Our message to them is: Stay true to your Faith. Jesus taught: "You can do nothing without me". Keep His teaching in your hearts, and walk with Him every step of the way. Continue to respect your parent's guidance and advice. Remember that your parents are your hindsight, they have walked the path you are walking right now. May God Bless you with good health, and sustain you in all your endeavours.

DONATIONS

The situations which I have outlined below, compel me to be candid in this part of the newsletter. I do not mean to be intrusive, and far be it from me to tell you how to apportion your donation monies, but with respect, I am offering a suggestion. We encounter many needs within our Church, our organizations, our communities, our societies. You have been generous with your donations toward these needs. It is necessary for us to support both the needs of the Church and our organizations. It is equally necessary to support the community and societal needs, which, as good citizens, we encourage you to continue.

However, when you are planning your budgets for the year I ask you to keep something in mind. Financial support for our Ukrainian Orthodox Church, and our Ukrainian Organizations, aid to Ukraine, basically comes only from us, Ukrainians. Financial support for community and societal needs comes from all citizens. With your permission and with respect, I ask you to consider this idea. I propose it in the form of an example: Let's say that you are giving \$100 to a local or national charity, would you consider cutting it back to \$75, or \$50, and giving the \$25, or \$50 to one of our organizational needs? (With the larger donations, perhaps the percentages could change.) If you were willing to do this with all, or most, of your donations, the community and society would still benefit, and the extra money toward our own needs would help us, your National Executive, do the work which we are mandated to do.

* Firstly, at the National Convention in Calgary in 2003, a pledge was made by UWAC to donate \$20,000 each year to the Ukrainian Museum of Canada. This was passed by the delegates attending the Convention. Each year this pledge was met with donations from UWAC branches and members. However, this past year, donations decreased, causing a shortfall of \$5000 to meet our pledge. This amount has to be covered by the National Executive, and because UWAC owns the Museum, it is the responsibility of all of us to support it.

* Secondly, we draw attention to the 4 categories of donations on Page 3 of your Anketa Form, with an explanation of how and what this money is being used for.

a) Natalia Kobrynska Publishing money is used for publishing materials. We have sold out all the Icon Books we had published some years ago, and requests are coming in. At this time, a second (updated) edition is nearing completion, and will soon be going to print. Publishing materials, especially those for youth, are one of our mandates. We are also out of the "Canadiana", which was published in Edmonton some years ago. This book portrays the story of Ukrainian Culture in Canada. We are in the process of beginning work on a second updated edition. Again, this publication is an excellent source from which our young people can learn about our heritage, our culture, and who they are.

We had published "For Our Children", a collection of Dobr. Jane Luchak's excellent articles printed in Visnyk. We still have some on hand, and may I suggest that no Orthodox home with children should be without one. What a wonderful way to assist parents with their "Home Church". On our wish list is the printing of a second edition. We thank and bless Dobr. Jane for her dedication and work on this valuable project, and these articles need to be collected, preserved and distributed.

b) Promin money is used for the publishing and distribution of the Journal. Our journal is vital to our Association for purposes of communication, information, education, etc.

Every successful organization produces a publication which keeps its membership united and informed. I have had feed-back from some readers regarding language.

I must explain that we have subscribers who can read only in one language or the other. It is necessary to satisfy everyone, and I believe that our Journal does just that. There is something in it for everyone. (Most people do not read any other magazine or newspaper from cover to cover, so why do we feel that we must read every page of Promin?) People have varying tastes, abilities, and interests, and the journal meets them well.

The average cost of printing and mailing the journal is approximately \$1500 monthly. We rely on your donations and subscriptions to help cover the costs. We urge all Soyuz members to subscribe, you may be pleasantly surprised.

c) The Organizational Fund does just what the name suggests. The monies from this fund help with expenses in running our National Executive office. I believe that the name itself is self-explanatory.

d) The Benevolent Fund is there to ensure that basic human needs are met by Ukrainian people in other countries. At present this fund is not very large. In 2008, we sent a donation toward assisting the flood victims in Ukraine. Our wish is to build up this fund so that it can be used in assisting other needs, eg. assisting Ukrainian immigrants to Canada.

ANKETA

There are still a number of Ankety to come in. Please check your records, and if you find that your Anketa has not yet been sent in, please do so as soon as possible. We would like to be able to send the Provincial Executive portions to them before the summer holidays, and we cannot do that until all the forms are in.

Please note: the membership fee for this year, 2010, is \$20 per member. We had a few branches that sent the old fee of \$15. Again, check your records, if your branch sent in only \$15, please send in the balance as soon as possible, otherwise your Provincial Executive will not get their full allotment.

THANK YOU

We thank all the branches for their work this past season. We thank you for staying strong and faithful to our Church and our Association. We often get questioned as to the purpose of UWAC, as many individuals do not really understand why we exist. We need the effort you put forth to keep our Faith, our culture our heritage progressive, alive, and well. We need to educate our youth, and to set good examples for them, especially those of leading good Christian lives, humility, compassion, tolerance, and love for all people.

May everyone have a great summer, spending time with family, and friends. This is the season for relaxation and fellowship. We wish safe travel to those who will be taking a holiday.

We'll meet some of you at Sobor. God Bless!

Zennia Yuzik, President

!ART CONTEST COMING!

LOOK FOR INFORMATION ABOUT AN EXCITING ART CONTEST FOR STUDENTS COMING IN JUNE.

Contest Committee