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The Magazine of Ukrainian Things

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by Nestor Gula

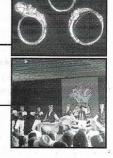
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by Yuriy Diakunchak

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Volume 2 Number 7

May 20, 1998

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Roman Wynnyckyj at Lava Computer MFG. Inc. Myros & Luba Trutiak at MST Bronze, Peter Carter, Bohdan Madaj, John Martin

Zdorov!: The Magazine of Ukrainian Things is published four times a year by Ripple Press Inc. in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Contents copyright 1998 by Ripple Press Inc. Reproductions in any form is forbidden without written consent of the owner of the copyright.

Zdorov!: The Magazine of Ukrainian Things is published quarterly for \$14.99 U.S. or \$14.99 Canadian per year by Ripple Press Inc. Price does not include GST for Canadian orders. Price outside North America is \$20.00 U.S. Single copy price in Canada is \$3.99 Canadian not including applicable taxes. Single copy price outside Canada is \$3.99 U.S. not including applicable taxes.

Advertising inquiries, subscriptions, address changes, undelivered copies, and all other communications should be addressed to address below.

Editorial Contributions: We welcome material from writers and photographers new or established but can assume no responsibility for unsolicited material. Writers and photographers are asked to submit query letters.

Zdorov!: The Magazine of Ukrainian Things,

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ISSN 1206-3673 Canadian Publications Mail Product Sales Agreement #1046268 Printed in CANADA

Editorial

Welcome to the summer issue of Zdorov!

This issue was published a few weeks earlier due to some conflicting schedules – weddings and such.

Our presence on the magazine racks in various cities across Canada is paying dividends. Not just because of the extra sales but because of the positive exposure we are receiving. We are competing with hundreds of titles and are holding our own. We would like to eventually get on the newsstands in the United States, but that is a long term project.

Since this is a summer issue we have devoted a considerable amount of space to the Ukrainian festival scene in North America. Although this scene is not a cohesive one, nor is it well coordinated at times, it still can be a lot of fun if approached with the right mindset.

Our main feature for this issue is on Ivaan Kotulsky. We could write something here about him but then again you should read, if you haven't already, the feature starting page 16.

Zdorov! is still searching for people who are interested in writing articles for us. We do pay. It's not a whole lot, but it is something. Drop us a line with your idea. If you do not have a story idea we can suggest one to you. We are more than happy to sit down with writers and help them develop their story ideas.

On a technical note: we are still grappling with the intricacies of the printing process. We have cut the trim size of our magazine down a little so we do not cut off any images like we have in previous issues.

We at Zdorov! wish you and yours a happy summer. Take in a few Ukrainian festivals. You'll have a good time.

Yuriy Diakunchak Nestor Gula

Cover photograph ov Ivaan Kotulsky by Eya



Dear Zdorov,

I was reading the profile of Olanna Taskey and have a few comments to make.

The general tone of the article is reminiscent of a teen magazine like 16, very whiny and superficial. Gosh it must be neat to be a model's cousin! The article does nothing to take a look at a model's life. If you would watch Fashion Television for five minutes you would get the same information – maybe even more. Wow, I learnt that the stars are just like us common folk and that they wear good make-up as opposed to this stuff you find in dollar stores. What a revelation!

As someone who also is not a size six (most women aren't) I am offended by the following statement, made by the article's author: "Who wouldn't feel intimidated by a stunningly beautiful 20-year old woman, who makes her living as a perfect size six?" I wouldn't be intimidated. Most women wouldn't be intimidated. If the writer feels intimidated fine, "don't hate her because she's beautiful."

I feel that your magazine should dig deeper when doing profiles. Write pieces which give the readers a sense of who the person(s) is(are). Leave the trivial stuff to others.

Signed: A Perfect size 12 - (Name withheld by request)

Dear Zdorov,

Thank you for your brief article on Maestro Kolesnyk. His passing has left a huge gap in Ukrainian music circles in Toronto, Edmonton, and all over North America. He was Conductor of the Lysenko Opera Chorus (Canadian Ukrainian Opera Association) in Toronto from 1975 to 1997.

I can't begin to describe his accomplishments (and there were even more than what you had mentioned) nor am I qualified to tell you of the magnitude of the impact he had on Ukrainian culture, by allowing us to fully appreciate the beauty of our Ukrainian classical music.

But I can tell you that, having sung under his mesmerizing leadership for 17 years, his serious yet delightful manner, hypnotizing command, and demand for perfection will be sorely missed. Maestro Kolesnyk was able to draw out of a singer everything he/she was capable of and more.

May his legacy continue, in those who were his faithful followers.

Oksana Rozanec

P.S. Keep up the good work! Your off-the-wall style and humour is fun and refreshing.

Paul Kolodij

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OUR "INFOMERCIALS

by Yuriy Diakunchak

I never thought I'd see this infomercials in Ukrainian. Is it not enough for the corporate world that I'm already addicted to Ronco Dehydrator® and The Sandwich Machine® commercials. Now they're trying to lure me in a second language.

The informercial in question features the Prime Tech Institute, an establishment that offers career education in fields such as computers, graphic design, web publishing etc. Sort of the high-tech answer to those secretarial and truck driving courses offered on the back of matchbooks.

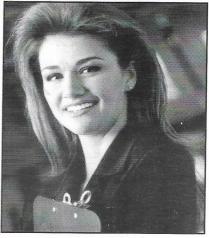
The spokesperson is none other than Laryssa Harapyn, formerly of Svitohliad, a Toronto-area Ukrainian TV program. Harapyn has since moved on to work for a local cable channel.

Obviously, Prime Tech's marketers have identified the Ukrainian community as a source for new clients.

"I'll be really blunt with you," says Harapyn, "it's just a hook. There's lots of people coming from Ukraine who are having a hard time finding a job. And they're calling. I guess that's why (Prime Tech) is running it again."

The pay for this kind of work isn't bad. Harapyn says you can earn between \$500-\$1,500 for a half day's work, but beware of the fine print in the contract. "I assumed it was a onetime deal, but now I'm seeing it being rerun."

Harapyn isn't opposed to doing more infomercials in the future, but she is selective about what she'll endorse. "The only things I'll stick my name to is those batons that make you



Prime Tech's spokesperson Laryssa Harapyn lose weight. I'm just waiting to hear from them."

As convincing as Harapyn was in the Prime Tech ad ("Find out how to get rich," she says in the ad, and people flock to the phone) we at Zdorov! believe only a healthy diet and proper exercise will do the trick.

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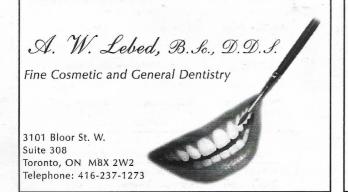
Ten things about

- 1 year the Virsky Dance ensemble was founded 1937
- 2 year of their North American debut at New York's Metropolitan Opera 1958
- 3 length of standing ovation at their debut New York show 25 minutes

compiled by Nestor Gula



- 4 amount of cities included in their 1998 tour of North America '38
- 5 total amount of shows in North America 56
- 6 year when planning for 1988 tour started 1996
- 7 total number of seats to be filled during their 1998 tour of North America 126,726
- 8 amount of dancers in the Virsky ensemble 70
- 9 amount of Musicians 16
- 10 tons of costumes and props being brought from Ukraine to support their tour 4.5





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BABAHALYNALIVING

by Heather Olivetz

Call my maternal grandmother any evening and the conversation might go something like this: "Hi, Baba. Whaddya do today?" "Well, I baked some *medivnyk*, made and froze a few dozen *varenyky*, hung up the wash, went grocery shopping, weeded the garden, took Mrs. Pampushok some *borscht* (she's not been well after her stroke, you know), and then, after lunch...."

Martha Stewart has nothing on my Baba.

Now, according to Martha's calendar (which she so thoughtfully includes in each issue of *Martha Stewart Living* magazine), it will take her a whole week to have the air-conditioning units serviced, appear on CBS's *This Morning*, regravel the driveways, lecture the Lupus Foundation, and stake the peonies. What this woman needs is a few lessons in time management ... courtesy of my grandmother.

What takes the self-appointed model of domestic virtue six days to complete is a mere afternoon's labour for my 86 year-old SuperBaba. Baba's version of Martha's calendar would look something like this: Bribe strapping young grandson to come over

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with promises of *holubtsi* and lemon meringue pie for lunch. Appear baffled that air-conditioning unit is not functioning properly. Delegate repair duty to grandson. While overseeing his work, mention shoddy state of driveway and what must the neighbours be thinking. As he regravels driveway, lecture him on how he really should find a nice Ukrainian girl and settle down. Stake peonies and talk of your dream of dancing at said grandson's wedding.

That's maybe three hours work – tops, leaving Baba plenty of time to turn the garden (by hand, of course), prune the fruit trees and clean out the eaves before dinner. Impossible, you



say? This is the woman who regularly walks the two-and-a-half miles into town (a trek which takes her across the large bridge spanning the highway, so technically the journey really is uphill both ways), cane at her side, to do some shopping or go to church.



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ZDOROV! CDR...OU!!

My Baba is a paradox. She does not have a clothes dryer (she puts her wash through a circa-1950's wringer and hangs her laundry on the clothesline), but owns (and uses) a VCR and cordless phone. When she bakes *pasky* and *babky* for Easter and *kolachi* for Christmas, she mixes and kneads the dough by hand. But she uses her microwave daily. She wages a daily battle with the rabbits that raid her strawberry patch, but last summer she put food out for the vixen and seven kits that temporarily took over Baba's shed. "Seven little ones," Baba exclaimed. "Imagine that! How does she manage?"

Baba's green thumb would make Martha salivate all over her designer gardening togs. From early spring to first frost, her perennial gardens are a riot of colour. Her large vegetable gardens are planted in tidy rows. I helped her turn her cucumber and beet patch once; I gave out before she did. Thanks to the fruits of her labour, no one in our family has ever ventured into the jam or pickles sections in the supermarket.

Like Martha (and Cher and Madonna), she needs only one name to identify her. She is "Baba" to the young man who has mowed her lawn for the last ten years (he invited her to his wedding, the invitation addressed simply to "Baba"), and "Baba" to my uncle's co-workers who enjoy the trays of *varenyky* sent to the office, and "Baba" to my sister's university housemates who pounced on her many care packages. Unlike Martha, my grandmother was happily married for

over fifty years to a warm and loving man.

My Baba may not have a summerhouse in Maine, a collection of antique lustreware, or her own line of house paints. Her sofa is finally back in style again, thanks to a craze for all things retro. If they were handing out mottos, Baba's could be "Why sleep when you can worry about your grandchildren." I wouldn't trade her for the world. She has a good heart, works hard, and, in my opinion, could out-Martha Martha any day.

And that's a good thing.

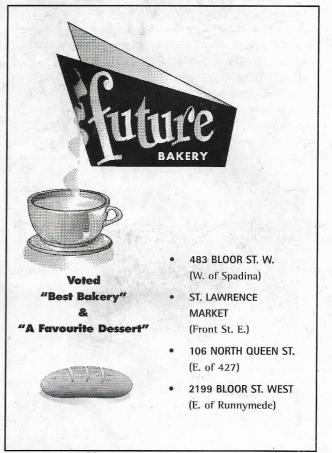
Heather scored big points with her Baba by baking her own babky for Easter. Alas, she used a KitchenAid. Baba still loves her, regardless.

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UNDERTHEVOLCANO

by Nestor Gula

Walk into Lava Computer MFG. Inc. on just about any day and you will see the owner/president scurrying around putting out whatever crisis the company is in at the time.

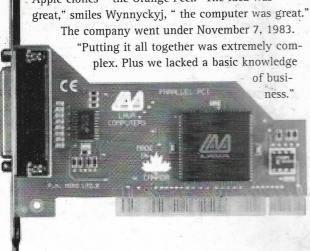
Whether it is a breakdown somewhere in the computer network, the need to have products shipped out as soon as possible or a printing job on flyers that are needed immediately to be sent to some computer show half-way around the world. Roman Wynnyckyj, for he is the boss, is always there, looking like he has last seen a bed a week ago and wound up so tight that if provoked in the slightest way he will blow with the force of a thousand suns collapsing. I've seen it.

"I wouldn't do this if I didn't love it," he smiles. The big deadlines have all passed and a major new client has put in a first order. He is at ease. "If I did not love what I'm doing I most definitely would not kill myself like I do."

I should mention at this point that without Roman Wynnyckyj's help Zdorov! would either not exist or exist on a much different level. He paid for all the production costs of the first four issues and has lent us an offset press so we can print subsequent issues. Printing is not his business, "A very expensive hobby," he puts forth. He was always interested in printing and started doing it to cut down on his costs. His business is with computers at Lava.

However Lava is not Wynnyckyj's first venture. In March 1981 as he was completing his mechanical engineering degree at the University of Waterloo he started Orange

Computers. Orange at first manufactured 16k memory boards and soon evolved into making successful Apple clones - the Orange Peel. "The idea was great," smiles Wynnyckyj, " the computer was great." The company went under November 7, 1983. "Putting it all together was extremely complex. Plus we lacked a basic knowledge





Wynnyckyj took six months off. "I basically sat around, moped and blamed everybody for what happened to me." In May 1984 he started Lava by manufacturing multi-function boards (boards which combined a serial and parallel port, a clock and 384k of memory) for the original IBM PC-XT computers (the computers which have evolved into the Wintel machines). Lava expanded its line, manufacturing, serial, parallel, ethernet, video cards. In 1990 they started to specialize in the manufacturing and selling of high-end parallel and serial ports for IBM-compatible computers. These parts are relatively cheap - starting at a bit over \$20 (retail), the most expensive one costs around \$130. His major competition is, of course, in Asia.

"We are fully automated so we can compete," he explains. "We were one of the first companies in Canada to surface-mount our circuit boards. We did this in 1988." Surface-mounting refers to the method used to attach microchips and other components to a printed circuit board. The other method, called through-hole, requires more labor per board. "We were fully automated about the same time Northern Telecom and all of those other big guys," boasts Wynnyckyj. "We also are making a product that works."

Lava employs 22 people in their small factory in the north-west corner of Toronto. The factory is located as far from downtown Toronto as you can go. With assets totalling about \$2,000,000 and an average annual revenue of \$6,000,000 his company is doing extremely well. Frequently arrogant, (he usually has a Latin dictionary on the front seat of his car), he does not like to discuss his business figures or his charity work. Besides helping out Zdorov! he is a big contributor to the Help us Help the Children Fund, he gave \$60,000 in 1997. He also supports the Oleksander Kopach Fund, a Ukrainian scholarship fund, and to the Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky Institute. He also helps out budding Ukrainian entrepreneurs who come to him with business ideas. His method here is, "sure I'll help you. But only if you do it my way."

"I have a story to tell you," he says. "The V.P. of Computer City, a huge North American chain of computer products, bought an ISDN modem and got a communications card from his warehouse. He loaded the drivers but the thing did not work. He phoned his tech support and they told him to get our drivers from our web site. It still didn't work. He went and bought our card installed it – worked fine. He phoned his warehouse and asked why Computer City was not carrying Lava cards. We just got the first order which will total about \$25,000 (the usual sum for a first order)." He says that Lava is known in the industry for making top quality products. "When IBM buys from us it is not because we are the cheapest but because our boards work. They bought 35,000 boards and only one had a defect. That is why we are successful," he adds.

They are also successful because they keep ahead of their competitors, "in the PCI interface, we were about a year ahead," explains Wynnyckyj. His secret to staying ahead – "I don't sleep. I look at it this way – usually if I need something I can sell it to others because they will want or need it too. This also indicates that it is not available, because if it is, I'd go out and buy it."

Another major step for Lava's is the leap from designing and manufacturing boards to manufacturing microchips. The technology to do this is incredibly expensive. It is counted in the billions of dollars, according to Wynnyckyj.

Ukraine had several plants which produced chips for the military. "They are all rotting away now. I tried to

get something going there but it was quite impossible, the plants are all now deserted," comments

Wynnyckyj. He bought a bunch of equipment from a

plant near Ivano-Frankivsk and had it shipped to Canada where he is slowly setting up the manufacturing facility. He says that this is not the best or latest technology but for his purposes it is more than adequate. He expects to get it running within a year or two. "Once it is up and running, it costs a great amount to keep it running," explains Wynnyckyj. "I'm not going to rush into it. We are looking at a couple of million dollars to get it going."

To get it going he is bringing computer engineering students as well as people who worked in those facilities in Ukraine to Canada for training at Lava. "They get to see how things are done in the west, which is an invaluable lesson, and they see what is the state of the technology here," explains Wynnyckyj. He says that he benefits from the fact that these people from Ukraine do some work at Lava but mostly he takes pride in seeing the change in them. "One PhD student upon return back to the Lviv Polytechnical Institute, he told his professors that he had to redo his whole thesis because what he was working on was already out of date here," notes Wynnyckyj.

Problems, breakdowns and frustrations aside, Roman Wynnyckyj considers himself very fortunate. "I'm one of the lucky people that has turned a hobby into a full-time job." he says. "Sure, there are some things which really give me a pain; sure, sometimes I would rather lie down and go to sleep but that's not the real issue. Once, several years ago when I was in Kyiv and I saw a Lava board on sale in a computer store. I wondered how it got there. That experience is very difficult to explain but it makes it worthwhile."

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MONITORSUNK

by Nestor Gula



Sometimes after Christmas came the rumors that the magazine *Canada Ukraine Monitor* was ceasing publications. Sure enough, my Winter 1998 issue came with the banner "Final Issue".

The Monitor was a magazine devoted to Canada's diplomatic and business relations with Ukraine. It was started by Orest Dubas and Nina Romas in the early days of Ukrainian Independence in 1993. Based in Ottawa, The Monitor was published by the Ukraine-Canada Policy and Trade Centre. The magazine covered major events and major players in the trade and diplomatic relationship between Ukraine and Canada.

The demise of this magazine was not due to lack of material but because of government budget cuts.

the Canadian International

Development Agency for the last two
years. The Editor-in-Chief, Orest Dubas
said "after five years we decided to
end the magazine. There were possibilities of perhaps getting funding
through other sources but we decided
not to pursue this." Dubas mentioned
that since Canada's Prime Minister
Jean Chrétien might be visiting
Ukraine at some time in 1998 a special
issue of *The Monitor* might be pub-

The Monitor was heavily subsidized by

The content of *The Monitor* was very specialized giving its readers trade news and technical cooperation updates, insights into partnership opportunities and information on the

lished to commemorate this event.

"Then that will be the last one," he

said.

political and investment climate in Ukraine. For the past few issues the magazine included Ukrainian translations of some of the articles and usually included one or two articles of news about Canada.

Published on a quarterly basis *The Monitor* had a circulation of about 4,000 with readers in Canada, USA, Europe and Ukraine. Copies were targeted at business conferences, conventions and forums on topics dealing with Ukraine. *The Monitor* was available in Ukraine at the Canadian Embassy, Canada-Ukraine Partners Office and the Union of Journalists of Ukraine in Kyiv.



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UKRAINIAN

Reviews

Beginner's Ukrainian

by Johannes Poulard

Beginner's Ukrainian is one of a handful of Hippocrene books dealing with the Ukrainian language and Ukrainian subjects. It's not a bad book if you already have some basic familiarity with Ukrainian.

First, I'll mention the things I like about the book. It includes both the letter "h" and the letter "g". Various travel guides, language books etc. published over the past few years have opted to use either one or the other sound, which results in varying degrees of inaccuracy in pronouncing certain Ukrainian words.

Another smart feature is the pronunciation guide, which comes complete with diagrams showing how to position the tongue and teeth to create Ukrainian consonants. The glossary at the back offers translations in both directions (English-Ukrainian, Ukrainian-English). You'd be surprised how often authors forget to do that.

The book follows the format of introducing new vocabulary in each

chapter, reinforcing the learning of the new words through dialogue and reading exercises. Each chapter also contains lessons in grammar, idioms and a homework section at the end to recap the new things learned.

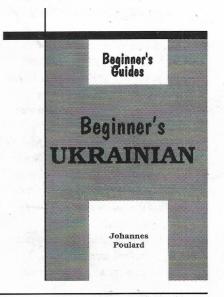
On the negative side, the book doesn't provide transliterations of the Cyrillic words, so until you have mastered the Ukrainian alphabet, you may find yourself constantly flipping to the front of the book to check up on various letters.

Also, while most of the book seems to be accurate in its presentation of the Ukrainian language, there are a few silly mistakes. For instance the almost bizarre use of "zhinskiy monastyr" to mean women's monastery or the mistranslation of "popade" as "become." Also a bit jarring is the inaccurate assertion at the beginning of the book that the Kyiv region of Ukraine is mostly Byzantine Catholic and Western Ukraine is mostly Roman Catholic. There are a few more typos than I'd like to see in a language guide. Oh yeah, according to the author, Odessa, Texas, and

Vancouver, British Columbia, rank as centers of Ukrainian settlement in North America, while Philadelphia, Edmonton and Cleveland are not mentioned.

I don't want to be too hard on what I think to be a useful book, but it could stand a little bit more editorial scrutiny in subsequent printings.

Reviewed by Yuriy Diakunchak



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Reviews

YARAPUBLISHESPOETRY

Ten Years of Poetry from the Yara Theatre Workshops at Harvard

Poetry is not unlike a stage upon which scenes of human experience play out in words and in the mind. This link between verse and histrionics is most palpable in *Ten Years of Poetry from the Yara Theatre Workshops at Harvard*.

Featuring award-winning translations by Virlana Tkacz and Wanda Phipps, this well-crafted chapbook highlights 20 of the best Ukrainian poems that students enacted while enrolled in the Yara Arts Group's Harvard Ukrainian Summer School Theatre Workshops from 1988-1997.

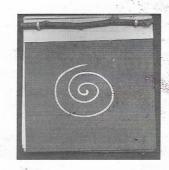
A veritable drama of existence, the anthology presents early modern and contemporary poets who grapple with subjects and experiment with forms as multifaceted as life itself. In the retrospective "Village Landscape" (1922), Mykhail Semenko presents a pastoral poem whose triangular shape and euphonic vowels sound out the simplicities of peasantry: "O / AO / AOO / PAVLO / GO TEND / THE COOW." Seventy-four years later, Anka Sereda protests the complexities of being a poet in the self-reflexive "I Don't Want To Be A Poet" (1996). Even in an imaginary vegetable state ("I'd rather be sauerkraut"), Sereda cannot escape the inherent inquisitiveness of the poetic self, "I'd lie there / without the slightest desire, / for example, / to take a shower. / I'd lie there in peace / with little bits of / garlic and carrot / Meditating ... / STOP! / but who would be the carrot? / Who's the carrot / You?"

Existential questions also run rampant – literally – in Yuri Andrukhovych's "Library" (1989). The poem's enjambled, alliterative lines suggest our endless quest for abstruse meaning as we "climb ladders to reach the highest sections in the stacks", "rummage through the shelves with spiders", and "... dive into the thickest tomes". Surprisingly, our search for knowledge ends when we make the humble and beautiful discovery "of a simple swallow" nesting between



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the covers of books and the concluding lines of this poem.

By contrast, Oksana Zabuzhko's "Through the looking Glass: Mrs. Merzhynsky" (1994) is perturbingly irresolute. In wistfully maternal and dreamily domestic images, Zabuzhko conjures the repressed desires of Larysa Kosach (a.k.a. Lesia Ukrainka, Ukraine's greatest female writer who found herself

unhappily married and childless after losing the true love of her life (Serhii Merzhynsky) to tuberculosis). Readers watch as "Mrs. Merzhynsky (Kosach) / Pushes the baby carriage past the café" where her now-deceased lover similarly awaits her presences in the motific form of a coffee-ordering angel. Ultimately, however, the two are not destined to unite in life or in death. In the last lines of the poem, "Mrs. Merzhynsky" lies comprised beside "her sleeping husband" (Klyment Kvitka) with whom life is but a nightmare of illusion and reality: "Her eyes, dry but burning as if after a long cry, / are opened wide as she stares into the empty night."

A dense collection that melds historical truths, quotidian dreams, and future considerations with deftness and sensitivity, Ten Years of Poetry is available in a limited number of hand-made and signed copies for \$25+\$5 shipping and handling. You can order the book from Yara Arts Group. 306E 11th Street, #3B, New York, NY 10003 USA.

Reviewed by Tanya Adèle Koehnke

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COOKBAKEFRYBOIL...EAT

Reviews

The Best of Ukrainian Cuisine

Expanded Edition by Bohdan Zahny

Borscht, borscht and more borscht. The Best of Ukrainian Cooking contains 22 different recipes for borscht, a record no doubt. But aside from this vummy soup and other staples of Ukrainian cuisine the book also contains some lesser known gems of Ukrainian cooking. There are a good 20 pages of various Ukrainian-style salads, much different from the standard North American fare. They range from "Meat Salad," which is quite a tasty variation on an egg salad, to "Boiled Eggs with Horseradish Gravy." I don't really need to explain that one.

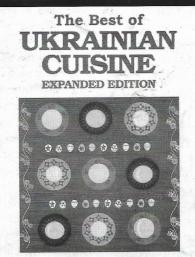
The beverages section has a few honey beer and kvas recipes. Kvas is a low-alcohol, fermented drink usually made from rye bread and water. It's very refreshing in the summer and has a slightly tart flavour. There are also some bizarre drinks such as "Egg Tea" and "Cocoa with Egg Yolks." "Beer

Drink," a mixture of tea, beer, and sugar, sounds like a waste of good

I'm particularly pleased that there is a whole range of recipes showing how to make jellied pork, fish, chicken, beef etc. I can't get enough of that kind of stuff.

and simple. I would have liked a bit

On the whole, the recipes are short



Bohdan Zahny

more information on where some of the dishes come from, but as long as it tastes good, I don't really care.

The book's one glaring failure comes in its translation of recipe names. Each title is written in two languages. The English titles are straight translations which create such bland names as "Milk Sauce" and "Cooked Cod" and the above-mentioned salads. As for the Ukrainian, you'd think between the writer and editor, one of them would be familiar enough with the language to catch the multitude of glaring errors that appear. Often, it seems that the translator was in the process of cobbling together a new language, using elements of Ukrainian, Russian and perhaps a mysterious, as yet uncovered, third Slavic language.

Boring names and poor grammar won't make the recipes any less tasty, but they take something away from the book.

Reviewed by Yuriy Diakunchak

УКРАЇНСЬКА КНИГАРНЯ

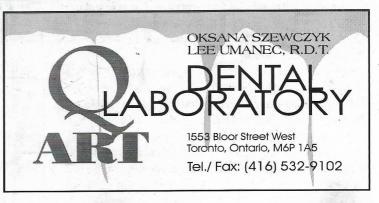


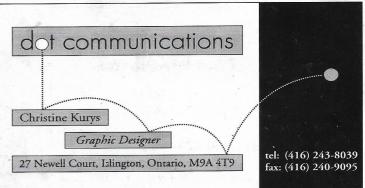
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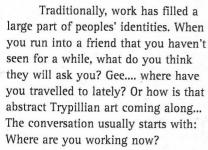




A Healthy Shot

BALANCINGWORKANDALIFE

by Aleksandra Basarab, RN



Work takes up a big chunk of a person's time, yet it is only ONE part of life. There are 168 hours in a week. Approximately 56 of those are spent sleeping, leaving 112 waking hours. If you spend 40 of those hours working, you have 72 hours for other pursuits.

Learning to balance your work hours is essential to both your wellbeing and your career. There is only so much stress that your body can take. Constantly functioning within an exhausted state leads to high blood pressure, migraines, hormonal imbalances, strained relationships, and above all, a drop in self-esteem and an increase in the likelihood for depression. According to Socio-Technical Systems research (work design theory incorporating people, environment and technology), working in a physically and mentally tired state leads up to a 75 percent decrease in efficiency. Although, one may get a "high" from landing that big account, the feeling is usually temporary and superficial.

Imagine a 50-year old executive who is suddenly forced to take early retirement. Despite being financially secure, he experiences a powerful personal crisis. Who is he without his job title, and work? All of a sudden, he has time to spend with his children, but finds out that they have grown up and he doesn't really know them. His

wife of 25 years has her own life, and is not about to rearrange it to spend all of her time with her husband. The executive never developed any interests or hobbies, his identity is severely shaken, and he gets depressed.

Sometimes it may be legitimately necessary to work extra hours because of unusual circumstances. Often this is due to poor time management. It can be an excuse for dealing with reality. A familiar work environment is one that is comfortable, and does not challenge us to face the unknown or meet new people. Therefore, absorbing oneself in work leads to a false sense of "security" and a false sense of accomplishment. This inevitably leads to a feeling of emptiness and causes one to say: surely there must be more to life than this?

Your success in life is dependent on



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your ability to find a balance: a balance between work, friends, interests, fitness, hobbies and further training and schooling. When are you finally going to pursue that PhD? Or when are you going to learn how to make *borscht* from your baba? How about volunteering time to a worthy charity? When you give of yourself to others, you will find true happiness.

The difference between a dream and a goal is a timeline and a strategy. Start to think about how you spend your time and how you *want* to spend it. Make plans in your life to incorporate being with people you like, having fun and staying fit. Remember, you must be good to yourself before you can be good to others. Examine your priorities and to calculate the amount of time spent on each. Spending 50 percent of your time on any one priority can lead to an unbalanced and unhealthy life.

Are you presently spending an inordinate amount of time at work? Here is a quick assessment: Is it because of poor time management or because of the nature of the job? If its the latter, start thinking about a change. "Nobody on their deathbed says, 'I wish I had spent more time at the office." (Covey, 1991) Life is short. The secret of life is to live it!



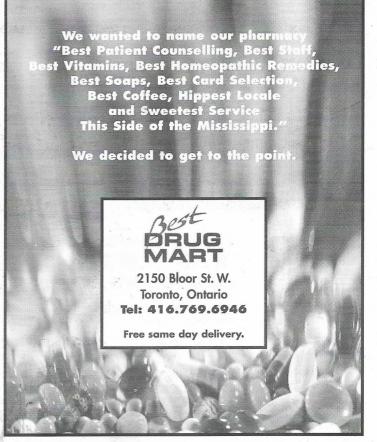
Despite your best attempts, are you still finding that you are spending an inordinate amount of time at work? According to top career counselors, here are some clues that it may make sense to look for a situation offering more opportunity:

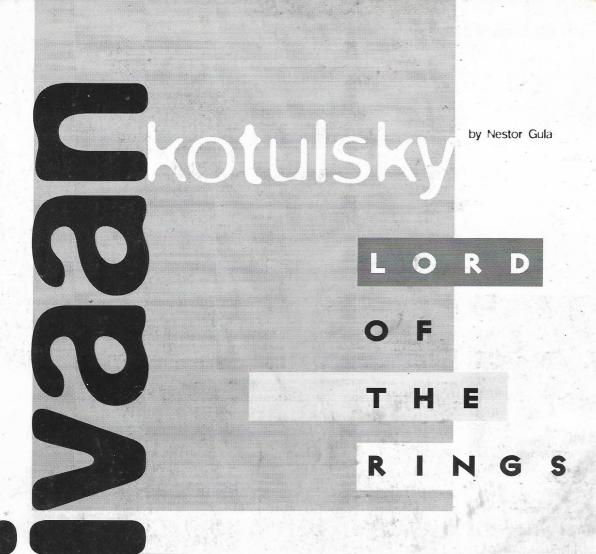
- Your boss is an autocrat and is not genuinely interested in your future with the company
- There seems to be no clear career path ahead of you. Promotion lines are non-existent. New employees or even relatives seem to have the upper hand.
- Your best skills are not being utilized, and you can't use your top talent in your current job.
- You're never picked to make key reports or to attend important meetings.
- Your employer is not top rate. If your organization is not the best in the field, maybe it is time to stop apologizing for it.
- Your employer is not supportive of work/life balance.

Reference:

Covey, Stephen (1991) Principle-Centered Leadership. Toronto: Simon &







I met Ivaan quite by accident. My fiancée, Agata, and I were checking out some hip wedding dresses on Queen Street West in Toronto. In one store my attention was drawn away from the dresses (easily done) and focused on some jewellery displayed in cases. Then my eyes hit it. A big Slavic three-armed cross with the words, written in Ukrainian, "1000 Years of Christianity in Ukraine 988 - 1988."

There is only one type of animal in the world that would make something like this – a Ukrainian animal.

And there he came ambling out, as if on cue, black hair atop a strong Slavic face which was creased by an easy smile. Of course he was wearing black clothes – the standard uniform of any self-respecting artist.

Although I had never heard of him, he had heard of me (quite flattering I must admit) – he picks up *Zdorov!* at a nearby newsstand. He showed me a few of his intricate pieces, fantastic rings, opulent broaches, phantasmagoric letter openers and fabulous bracelets. "Now I'll show you some stuff from my first career." he winks.

Ivaan pulled out photographs, he had taken at the first

Beatles press conference, photos of Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix and others in concert. These weren't fan shots snapped from row DD. It was obvious that these were shots taken by somebody who had a backstage pass at the very least.

Ivaan's trip to the stage with Janis and Jimi is as interesting as his trip from that stage to where he is right now. Ivaan was born in a Nazi labour camp just outside of Köln (Cologne), Germany in 1944. His parents ended up in this camp after being snatched by the Germans, like so many other Ukrainian families, to perform work that would have ordinarily done by the Germans who were at the front or had been already killed. His first memories are

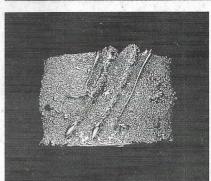
samples of Ivaan's work











of life in a Displaced Persons camp. He remembers lining up to get hot chocolate from the British soldiers at some point after the end of the Second World War, "that was the biggest thing for me then," intones Ivaan. He came to Canada with his parents, Mykyta and Maria Kotulsky, and older sister, Nadia in 1949 and settled in Smoky Lake, Alberta – about a one-and-a-half hour drive north-east of Edmonton. There they lived for two years with a blacksmith named Tyvoniuk. "I remember watching him work in his shop," says Ivaan. "I can still picture him, some of that blacksmith magic must have rubbed off on me, now that I think about it."

The Kotulsky family migrated back east to Toronto in 1951. The family first lived in an area know as Cabbagetown and then moved to the Queen and Bathurst area. He now lives within 15 minutes of leisurely walking from this area with his wife of three years Eya. Although his parents have both passed away he is still close to his sister Nadia. Ivaan claims her *borscht* is the best and she treats him just like his mother did. "She brings me the *borscht*," laughs Ivaan. "She thinks I'm starving. At Easter

she always phones to remind me to go to church. She's my number one fan."

They travelled to Toronto with Reverend Foty who had been assigned to the St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral on Bathurst Street. "Make sure you stress the Orthodox part," says he.

"Are you passionately Orthodox?" I inquire. "Yea, I think the Catholics are traitors, that's all!" says he without hesitation. "When I was in Ukrainian school I remember learning about the history and why the Uniats signed off under the Poles. Well the Poles are gone so why not come back? That's what I always thought. It's like not leaving the death camp after the war is over. I always found it so weird to see Ukrainian Bishops and Cardinals pictured with the Pope. I mean there are shots of the Pope with all these Roman Catholic guys and there's the Ukrainian sticking out – its so incongruous."

In high school, Ivaan attended the Harbord Collegiate Institute, he was a member of the photography club and became very interested in the darkroom. "Of course I had to go to Ukrainian school," Ivaan says with a note of resignation. "While other kids were out playing hockey or whatever on a Saturday – I was in Ukrainian School. You would not catch me with a pair of skates on Saturday. It was not



allowed. I know how to skate but not during Ukrainian school time."

Since no career as a forward with the Toronto Maple Leafs was on the horizon, Ivaan enrolled at the Ryerson Polytechnical Institute (also in Toronto) to study photographic arts upon graduation from high school.

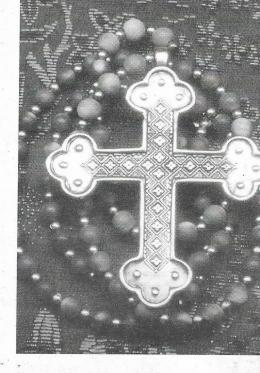
"They taught me well there," says Ivaan. "Back then there were very few programs and not many people would graduate. Now there are so many minions that all the photographic schools turn out every year. I do not know what the hell happens to them." Ivaan himself was lucky enough to get a job with the prestigious *Chatelaine* magazine (a Canadian women's magazine published by Maclean Hunter) and eventually became the head of the photography department at Maclean Hunter.

In 1973, Ivaan gave up his photo gig because he rebelled against art direction. Specifically Ivaan did not like the routine into which his job as a photographer was turning. Sure he had a good time – taking a train across Canada with the Grateful Dead, ("I dropped acid with Jerry Garcia,") hanging out with Janis Joplin, Gordon Lightfoot and other sixties luminaries. "I wanted to do something else, that was one reason," imparts Ivaan. "I had this professor in

photography that said you should always change careers every 5 years." He scoffs at the idea of being a commercial photographer. "I would rather die than do a shot of a Kotex box. I'm perfectly capable to do it. Of course for a huge sum of money I could hold back the gagging and do it."

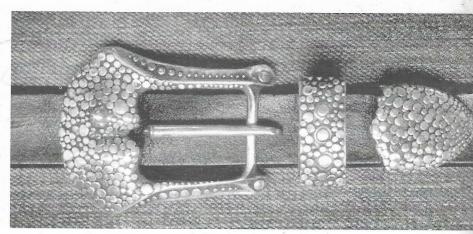
Now the conversation turns to the realm of advertising - what could Ivaan do for a large bag of money (there sure are big bags of it out there). "Take, for example, a car advertising. I could not do the standard shot of a car speeding down a road. That's somebody telling me what to do. If I see the car and want to smash it up with a bulldozer and drop it from a cliff then shoot it for the advertising that is what I would do. This is obviously not the image that a car manufacturer would want to present. If Ford of Canada went to Picasso and said 'do the next ad' that's all they would say. He would not listen to one more word. Nobody could tell Picasso that the image has to be this or that way."

Ivaan quotes Leonard Cohen, "'They sentenced me to twenty years of boredom.' That's what it is!" he cries. He recalls a visit to a native village on Manitoulin Island, which is located on the north end of Lake Huron. "This woman I saw was really infatuated by this Indian who was making a chair. She loved the chair and asked how much it cost. The guy said 25 dollars. She asked how much four of those chairs cost. The guy said 500 dollars. The woman asked how could this be.



The Indian said that the extra was for the boredom." Suddenly shifting to the present, to jewellery, Ivaan says, "That's exactly it. If someone orders a piece and thinks two of the same should be cheaper, two should be four times the money."

Ivaan got into making jewellery because of a personal need. "All the hash pipes in town were really ugly." As a person who was always practically-minded, and learned the lessons from his dad well, he decided to fashion his own. After all, his dad was able to make just about anything. The hash pipe, which was Ivaan's first foray into making three-dimensional objects, was made out of a silver quarter. "That's what they used back then," he explains to

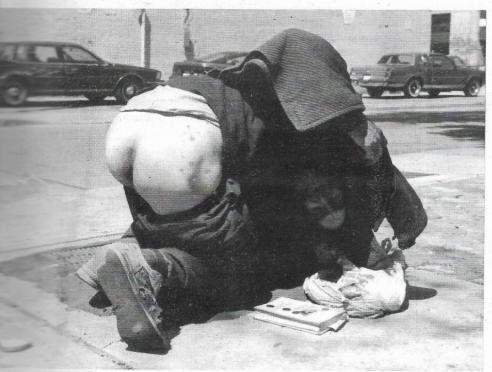


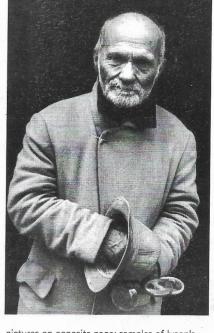
me. "Silver. I beat the hell out of it. To make the bowl and some of the stem." The pipe, let's call it a *lyul'ka* for arguments sake, was used by a host of people that Ivaan steadfastly, and wisely, refuses to name. "Let's just say it's a list of the Who's Who..." It actually appeared on the cover of some Canadian band's album (he does not have the album – just a dim memory remains). "I got credited with 'pipes by Ivaan' like I was a part of the rabble of musicians."

He settles back and starts enjoying the vegetarian meal that we are having – fries and beer. It is time for philosophy.

"If you want to be an artist," he repeats. "My motto is – from the mind, through the hands, to the object – that's how art works." To Ivaan photography is a pseudo art – "It can be clever, it can be artistic, it can be a lot of things but it can't be art. It is a record. The perfect example is if a photographer takes a picture of a flower," says Ivaan. "Where is the art – the picture or the flower? The art is in front of the camera. Now an artist does not need the flower there. He paints from his brain. The flow is from the other direction."

"Photographers want to be artists but artists do not want to be photographers. Art goes from the brain to the medium while photography goes the other way – from what's out here into the medium."

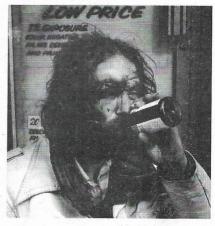




pictures on opposite page: samples of Ivaan's creations pictures on this page: top, "Dignity." middle, "The book is where he keeps his change. I met him at Queen and St. Patrick, where the Indians hang out. We chatted until he'd had enough. I asked if I could take a photograph. This was his response." bottom, "Medicinal purposes."

Creating and working with his hands has always been a passion with Ivaan. I remember my dad making all sorts of great stuff for us out of practically nothing. He made shoes, boots and other stuff for the house," enthuses Ivaan. He made his own fishing pole. He used safety pins for the eyelets – where the line runs through. He snipped off one end and bound it to the pole. It was sheer genius,"

Before Ivaan started making jewellery he was praying that something new would come along. He felt he had reached the peak of his potential as a photographer in Canada and was bored to death shooting covers for *Chatelaine* and other magazines. "The only thing left to do was to go to New York and put on the real bullshit, go talk to the real assholes, the art directors and beg for work.



That wasn't in me." He tried painting, combining his photographs with painting but that did not grab him. "I fell into jewellery with the pipe," says Ivaan. "I didn't take a course or read up on it. I guess there was a little of it in the back of my brain from the blacksmith in Smoky Lake. I knew how to solder. I knew how metals melted. You learn if you burn yourself, that is hot. If you drill a hole through your finger not to push so hard next time."

His main influences are two art nouveau artists, Rene Lalique (1860-1945) who began his career as a jewellery designer in Paris but his main fame came with his glass creations, and Hector Germain Guimard (1867-1942), an architect who is best known for his design of subway entrances for the Paris Métro. He remembers being fascinated by the mediaeval armour on display in Toronto's Royal Ontario Museum (ROM). "Some of the armour is in impeccable shape, that was usually the ceremonial dress," he explains. "I like the stuff that is hacked. It was in battle."

Several years ago he came across Scythian sculpture while browsing in a library. Ivaan was overwhelmed. What amazed him that such great art was made on the territory of Ukraine. The detail of the Scythian metal work is of the highest calibre in the world, contends Ivaan. "There's a reason why no one makes stuff as good as the Scythians anymore," explains Ivaan. "They had fifteen or so years to make one piece. If the piece was ugly the artisan would get killed. Sure they made fabulous pieces." He has contempt for common, everyday objects which are regularly found on archeological digs. "Trypillian pottery," he snorts. "it's just boloto. Simple mud. I'm concerned with the finest stuff. Every period produces ugly things. That's what shocked me about that Treasures of Ukraine exhibit that was supposed to be at the ROM. They chose, or were given by the Soviets, really ugly pieces. There was one, which was supposed to be the show's emblem, which looked like Bullwinkle. I'm happy I got that squashed." Sculpture and artwork which is made out of precious metals usually suffers through time, he explains. "It gets melted down. You need money for a war - how much do all those fabulous pieces weigh? Sell them for cash. Turn the bronze statues into cannons." He reasons that so many great Scythian artwork remains because it was buried deep and well hidden. There are nearly no great pieces remaining from the Kyivan state because these were all sold off and destroyed. "I can't for a minute believe that St. Volodymyr was dumb enough to wear the ugly things that we see from the Kyivan era," he says. "What we have in the museums are the ugly stuff which no one cared about. The good stuff was melted down. The stuff we have was horrible then and is horrible now."

After nearly 30 years of making jewellery Ivaan is very happy with this calling. He still dabbles in photography, "for myself. I take pictures of street life in the city." In July 1996, *Toronto Life* published a series of his photographs of

the homeless under the title *No Fixed Address*, "somehow they heard of what I was doing and wanted some shots," he says. This *Toronto Life* series won Ivaan a Gold award for Words and Pictures and a Silver award for Photojournalism at Canada's annual National Magazine Awards. The photographs are part of Ivaan's larger series called "World Class City" which he hopes to eventually have published. He claims not to be interested in pursuing photography as a profession. He just does it because he enjoys it. He has a whole series of photographs he took while on a trip to Ukraine which he wants to display, "at some time in the future."

Although not shy about giving his opinion about any subject Ivaan does not name drop. He is very reluctant to mention his client list. Gordon Lightfoot has a few of his pieces, as did Janis Joplin and Jimi Hendrix. He refuses to divulge any other names on the record. "Mostly I do wedding rings now," he says. "This is something I did not expect." Almost all of the rings are custom-made but sometimes a client will want one that I have made as a sample. Of course the sample is always either too big or too small. That's always the case."

A custom piece is not cheap, starting at around \$600 dollars for just the labour. The materials, gold, silver, diamonds, whatever, is extra. It takes him a few weeks to make each piece. "I've killed my eyes by doing the detail," Ivaan sighs. "The strain is incredible. I have these special glasses, but I still can't work more that a couple of hours at a time."

Until 3 years ago Ivaan sold his jewellery by word of mouth. He operated out of his studio, where he lived, and kept a low profile. "I kept on bumping into this woman, Lowon Pope, who lived not to far from me," explains Ivaan. "One day on Queen Street I asked her what she was up to. She said she was looking for a store to sell her sexy wedding and evening dresses. I told her I make rings and we could share a store. We did." The store, on 692 Queen Street West, is dominated by the dresses. Ivaan's jewellery occupies two display cases on the left hand side as you walk in. He says that he has a lot of space in the back which is a frightful mess. He doesn't take me to see it.

Mostly you will see him on the streets or in one of the small café/restaurants in the Queen and Bathurst area. He is rarely without one of his many cameras (he has collected about 250), taking pictures of street scenes and the derelicts who inhabit them.

facing page clockwise from top right: breakfast with Janis Joplin; Jimi Hendrix; The Band; Mick Jagger; Ivaan holding Janis Joplin in the fountain of the Manitoba Legislature – "There were a whole bunch of Ukrainian dancers there for some reason. I took a picture of Janis with them. No one believed that it was Janis Joplin. I have no idea where those photographs are now."; Ivaan in the late 1960s; centre: the Beatles arriving in Toronto

















THEUKRAINIANSALADSCENE

If you're like most young people growing up in the diaspora, you've undoubtedly survived on a meager salad selection of sliced cucumbers in sour cream; tomatoes and onions smothered in vinegar and a rather bland mix of iceberg lettuce and Kraft French dressing — the émigré's ultimate acquiescence to American bad taste.

In Ukraine, an all-domineering salad triumvirate rules: a potato salad, a beet salad, and a potato AND beet salad. These "grand dames" of Ukraine's sparse salad scene are named, respectively, *Olivier*, *salata z*

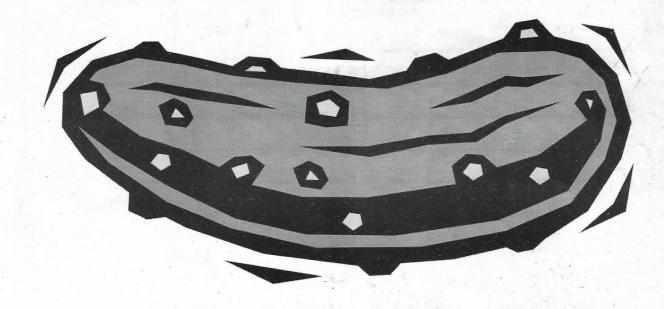
buryakiv and vinegret.

It should be added that every spring a delightfully simple salad of sliced cucumbers, tomatoes, herbs and fresh cream makes inroads into the monopolized salad landscape. But sadly this refreshing addition disappears by September.

Spend more than a few days in Ukraine, and you're bound to be served the three cooked-vegetable salads at least a dozen times. *Olivier*, however, is the undisputed great leader of the three. The salad is rumoured to have been named after the French chef who created it for a tsar's court.

Incredibly, it has retained its pre-revolutionary bourgeois name even though its usage was long banned by the Communists — both in cookbooks and on restaurant menus. Instead, the salad appeared as *domashna*, or house salad. Yet, be it due to habit or to a sneaky desire to subvert a totalitarian regime's culinary dictates — everyone continued to call it *Olivier*.

Shortly after I arrived in Ukraine to work, I innocently named my new dog Olivier. I thought it sounded elegant and French. Ukrainians thought it was a joke. "You named your dog after a salad??!!" they asked, astounded.



One day in the park, I overheard a group of school children debating my dog's name. "It's *vinegret*, I swear it's *vinegret*," I heard one of them say, in reference to Ukraine's yet other famous salad. "No, "I shouted back, "It's *salata z buryakiv*."

While few westerners turn into diehard Olivier fans, the salad can be wonderfully tasty if made well. Unfortunately, few Ukrainians make it well. They prefer to smother it in unctuous, greasy mayonnaise and fill it with soggy moss-coloured peas from the can. One summer, I made the mistake of preparing the salad with fresh, sweet green peas, gently cooked. I faced a table of guests giving each other knowing, somewhat embarrassed glances. "But Roma," my friend Ira whispered to me as she pulled me aside, "You're supposed to make Olivier with CANNED peas!!"

My apologies to Ira, but here's my own version of fresh-pea Olivier, which beats hers any day.

OLIVIER

1 lb (600 grams) waxy potatoes, boiled and peeled

2 to 3 carrots, cooked

2 dill pickles

2/3 cup fresh or frozen green peas, cooked till just tender

1 chicken breast, poached

2 hard-boiled eggs

1/2 teaspoon Dijon mustard

Mayonnaise to taste

Sour cream to taste

Salt and pepper

Chop up the vegetables (minus the peas), the chicken and the eggs into small, evenly-cut 1/4-inch cubes. Mix the mustard with equal amounts of sour cream and mayonnaise (I start with about four tablespoons). Add salt and pepper to taste. Add to the vegetables, and mix carefully. Add more mayonnaise and sour cream if necessary or to taste.



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by Yuriy Diakunchak

Zdorov!'s incomprehensive guide to the Ukrainian summer festival scene

As summer approaches, the number of events with Ukrainian themes balloons. Winter has its Christmas and Easter bazaars, student *zabavas* and *Malankas*, but the summer is chock full of festivals.

Ukrainian festivals throughout North America are a motley group of events. While many of them have a similar cultural theme, revolving around Ukrainian dancing, bandura music, folk songs and traditional Ukrainian food, each has something different to offer the festival goer.

In recent years, the perception has been that the appetite for Ukrainian events has diminished somewhat. Everywhere people remember larger crowds, bigger events. Unsubstantiated rumors of financial collapse and imminent sale surround Ukrainian resorts such as Glen Spey and Soyuzivka in New York State. The festival in Dauphin suffered a decline in attendance in recent years. Caravan, a multi-ethnic festival in Toronto which used to boast five Ukrainian pavilions, has had only one in recent years. The list of ills is long.

But all is not gloom and doom. A

lot of festivals are picking up steam, their organizers are cautiously optimistic. New festivals are popping up and some old ones never really lost their lustre.

The Ukrainian festival scene can be divided into four broad sections: Local festivals, festivals targeted at youth, large scale events targeted at the family, and multi-cultural festivals.

Local festivals, by far the largest category of Ukrainian summer events, come in many different shapes and sizes. Just about every church or community group has some sort of event. Usually it involves a festive meal and a dance display by the local children's dance group.

Two good examples of the smaller festival are the Ukrainian festival at St. George Catholic Church in Manhattan and the festival at Cawaja Beach, Ontario. The St. George festival runs from May 16-17 and is basically a street party. A section of East 7th Avenue by the church is shut down and the area is filled with singers, dancers, food vendors and other attractions. The best part of the Cawaja festival is the beach not far

from the church where the festival takes place. It usually takes place in June so bathing and tanning are in order. It's nice for a day trip if you're in Southern Ontario or a weekend if you know one of the many Ukrainians with a cottage in the area.

Some local festivals take place on a much larger scale. The Ukrainian Independence Day festival in Toronto for example, has recently expanded to a two-day, two-venue event. It kicks off on Saturday August 22 with a parade down Bloor St. West in the Bloor West Village. Shriners in minicars, kozaks on horseback, local dignitaries and children's groups were all involved in last year's parade. Throughout the day, dancing, children's shows, comedy and other events take place on a stage set up at the intersection of Bloor and Jane streets. A small bazaar area, a food court and a beer garden round out the attractions. Local businesses participate with sidewalk displays and a cabaret follows in the evening.

The second leg of the festival takes place at the St. Volodymyr Cultural Centre in Oakville, Ontario about a

half hour west of Toronto. A more formal outdoor concert, more vendors, food and beer await you at the centre. Admission is \$10 per person and includes a dance in the evening. Bring an umbrella and plenty of water because it gets mighty hot out there.

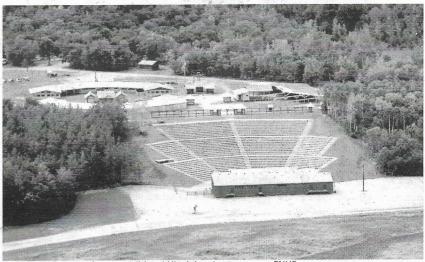
Youth-oriented festivals tend to take place on long weekends. The biggest such festival takes place on the Labour Day weekend in the Catskills. It's actually two separate events, one at the UNA resort Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, NY and one at the SUM resort in Ellenville, NY, the two resorts are colloquially referred to as Suzy-Q and Ellenville respectively. If you want to be at a place where you can meet and party with other young Ukrainians, this is the place to be. Thousands of like-minded individuals descend on these two resorts from all over North America.

Suzy-Q attracts an early 20s to late 30s crowd on Labour Day weekend while Ellenville tends to have a slightly younger bunch with a lot of teenagers thrown into the mix. At both resorts zabavas, late-night partying, late-afternoon wake-up calls, and sports events like beer chugging, shot glass relays and marathon keg draining are the order of the day. If you're older, don't stay away, there are enough things to see and do to entertain the whole family young or old.

Suzy-Q has the better accommodations of the two. There is a central hotel and a number of smaller satellite guest houses. Some of the accommodations are quite nice, but other buildings have seen better days. There's a large pool, a bar, indoor and outdoor dance floors, diningroom, fast food vendors, and tennis courts. The zabava last year was standing-room only. There's a great view of the mountains from the outside dance floor. The area around Suzy-Q and Ellenville has a small number of seedy hotels. Expect the worst and bargain down any price the proprietor offers. Reserving ahead is a good idea.

Ellenville is for the more adventurous. It's just a really humongous,





Top: Entertainers performer traditional Ukrainian dance steps at CNUF Above: Aerial view of the CNUF Grandstand. Photos courtesy of CNUF archives.

unserviced campground. There's a road your own. that stretches from the main entrance some two kilometres into the woods. Last year, there were hundreds of cars, tents, and RVs crammed along the road and in six or seven large camping areas that lead off the road.

Ellenville has a much better vendor area than Suzy-Q, you can buy everything from books, to T-shirts, to CDs and games, all with Ukrainian themes. There's a wooden outdoor dance floor that bounces in rhythm with the people on it. There's also a small bar on site that is so jam-packed in the evenings that getting a beer is a real. challenge. Luckily there are a couple of satellite bars set up outside. And of course no one really cares if you bring

Suzy-Q also has a number of other events throughout the summer. In fact, there's something going on almost every weekend. Independence Day (both American and Ukrainian) and the Miss Suzy-Q weekend are a few other events that attract a good amount of young people. There's also a tennis tournament. A zabava follows each event.

The third category of events is the family festival. I'll review three of them here and you can read about Vegreville, Alberta's Pysanka Festival in the sidebar.

The best known of these festivals is Canada's National Ukrainian Festival (CNUF) in Dauphin, Manitoba. Going

into its 33rd year, CNUF is rebuilding after years of declining attendance. Optimism and morale are riding high among the organizers.

"We're projecting 10,000 (attendees) this year. Hotels in Dauphin are already booked up," says Roberta Michasiw, Executive Director of the CNUF. This is a marked improvement from the 4-5,000 that attended in recent years. Even last year's 8,000 total looks to be eclipsed.

"The festival is still struggling financially but the future is looking brighter. We're the first to admit we've had some difficulties. We've had a few hard years. Last year was very promising, we considered it a success," she says.

Taking place from July 31 to August 2, CNUF covers all tastes. Last year contemporary, experimental Ukrainian music co-existed with "Shake Your Dupa" T-shirts, so there really is something for everyone at this festival. Vohon from Edmonton, Arkan from Toronto, Canada's National Riding and Dancing Cossacks and-Zirka (both from Dauphin) will showcase their dancing. Bands will include Shoom

(Winnipeg), reviewed in *Zdorov!* Winter 1998, and Charka (Edmonton). There's a large bazaar area on the festival grounds which includes folkart, music, books, children's stuff and other paraphernalia. There will be *zabavas* Friday and Saturday night, and possibly on Sunday as well. A multi-cultural grandstand will take place on Sunday.

This year, the festival is celebrating the 100 anniversary of Dauphin as a town and the 100 anniversary of the Trembowla Cross of Freedom, one of the first Ukrainian churches in the area. There will be a service on Sunday about 15-20 miles north of Dauphin. A plaque honouring Philip Konowal, who won a Victoria Cross in WWI, will be unveiled in the presence of local, provincial and federal representatives.

The site offers plenty of unserviced campsites, split into two sections, quiet and festive. Six to eight bus tours are expected and inquiries about the festival have come in from as far away as California.

"You're going to see lots of colour of the Ukrainian dancers. A lot of

energy. You're going to smell the baked oven bread, the food from the concessionaires," says Michasiw.

There are games and events for children, so parents can enjoy the cultural events while kids fool around. A parade takes place on Saturday in Dauphin (the festival site is a few minutes south of the town.) The Chamber of Commerce puts on a street dance in the evening.

The Vohon festival is a relatively new, one-day event in its third year. It takes place on May 23 near Broadmoor Lake in Sherwood Park, Alberta. It will feature 750 performers, a trade show with arts and crafts, and other vendors. "It grew out of a desire to have a family day for Ukrainians in Edmonton," says Tammy Komarnisky, one of the organizers. Coca Cola is one of the event's main sponsors.

The festival is meant to showcase Edmonton's dance skills. "Edmonton is the dance capital," says Komarnisky. There are around 20 major groups in the city and many smaller ones. 3,500 people attended last year. Those coming this year can expect interpretative canoe rides with information about the

MAKING SENSE OF PYSANKA

IS THIS WHAT UKRAINIAN CULTURE IS ALL ABOUT?

Last summer I attended the Vegreville Pysanka Festival. Having left the prairies over 15 years ago to live in Vancouver, immersion in a Ukrainian-Canadian environment was a strange yet pleasant experience.

According to Pysanka's festival guide: Here we celebrate the Ukrainian arts attempting to bring back our young people and old alike to their Ukrainian roots. However this is not only a celebration of Ukrainian arts it is a celebration of a unique culture deep in tradition and beauty to be appreciated by all. The working language of the Festival is *English*, (emphasis mine) yet enough Ukrainian spirit and hospitality are evident to let you know that the Ukrainian culture is alive and well.

What is implied in this greeting is that our 'young people' do not speak the language of their parents or grandparents. In using English as the working language of the festival, the organizers hope to appeal to 'non-Ukrainian-Canadians' and assimilated Canadians of Ukrainian descent.

While I welcome the festival's attempts at inclusiveness, I wonder what arts and traditions are we really celebrating? How are we presenting ourselves to one another and to the communities that are Canada? I don't think the average Ukrainian woman walking through the village or town is carrying bread and salt, or dancing to the *kolomeyka*, but for some reason there she is 3 generations and a continent away, kicking up her heels on stages across the prairies.

Wandering through the festival landscape, I thought I recognized the voices of

my elders. There is a certain way of moving, a certain cadence of speech that will always speak Ukrainian to me. Yet despite this familiarity, there were recurring instances of mistaken identity.

What I saw at the Vegreville festival were walking tableaus of manufactured Ukrainianness. These 'alive and well' examples of Ukrainian culture, look suspiciously similar to the rouged faces of 'Ukrainians published in Catechism books and calenders. They are not at all like the people or culture I recall from weddings, or funerals, Ukrainian school, Church, or the farm.

The most bizarre case of mistaken identity was revealed while interviewing a young woman from the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village (museum). As a rôle player, the young women's duty is to memorize tape recorded histories of elder Ukrainians. Reliving the life of a deceased person too well, museum visitors have mistaken museum staff for the actual inhabitants of a working village. In one instance, a distraught European, appalled at the material conditions in the village, attempted to give money to the rôle player.

Far from the urban reality of the aboriginal, multi-racial and multi-ethnic populations of Canadian cities were most of us live and work, the festival community is a temporary space. This community is nothing like the Ukraine our families left 2 or 3 generations ago – it is a suspended reality where we indulge in the fantasy of a coherent Ukrainian-Canadian place. Ukraine has a diverse population and was home long before independence, to Russians, Jews, Poles, Lithuanians, Moldavians,

first settlers, dance and music shows on two bandstands featuring the Vohon dancers from Edmonton and fifteen other groups from Alberta and BC, children's activities, Carlene Friesen a Ukrainian Canadian country western performer, and Calgary Fiddlers a non-Ukrainian folk group. Admission is \$3/person. A dinner and dance are held in the evening are extra. A golf tournament with \$5,000 in prizes is scheduled.

The Gardenton festival is also located in Western Canada, 70 miles southeast of Winnipeg, Manitoba. In its 33rd year, the festival features concerts on Saturday and Sunday, July 11-12. Around 1,000 people mostly from southern Manitoba and midwestern states are expected. The festival is run by the Ukrainian Museum and Village Society which operates a 3,000 sq. ft. museum that displays a historical record of 30 area churches, traditional Ukrainian costumes, and various hand tool and instruments used by the first Ukrainian settlers in Canada. There's a one-room, thatched pioneer school house on site. A gift shop is attached.



A baseball tournament attracts around 14 teams to the festival and brings in members of other ethnic groups to participate in the activities. Tickets for the festival range from \$5-\$7. A *zabava* Saturday night takes place at the Ukrainian National Home. The zabava costs \$8 and camping is \$7.

The final set of festivals are the multicultural events. I'm going to detail one here and list a few more that may be of interest. Folklorama in

Talk about compact cars. Shriners make an appearance at Toronto's Ukrainian Day Festival. Photo by: Nestor Gula Winnipeg comprises 40 pavilions, of which two are Ukrainian: Lviv and Kyiv. The Lviv pavilion is run by the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians and is open from August 2-8. It features three shows per evening. Acts include the AUUC School of Folk Dancing and the Tryzub dancers from Winnipeg. The Winnipeg Mandolin Quintet, under the direction of Myron

by Mary Anne Charney

Greeks, Muslims, Belorusyns, Romani, and Tatars in addition to Ukrainians.

Various museums and individuals contributed displays of contemporary and historical embroideries, clothing, and weaving. I do not possess the knowledge to weave, dye or embroider. I can not write pysanky, although I'm sure I could learn. The complexities of these artifacts impress me, yet this feeling is followed by sadness – tagged and cataloged, these items are now museum pieces, no longer for daily or ritual use.

Displacing these ancestral objects, kitsch has come to represent Ukrainian culture in Canada. Whether mass produced or home made, these objects are impressed with symbols of Ukrainian identity: wheat, tryzub (trident), poppy, cossack, baba, dido. Cross stitch embroidery covers every imaginable surface. Other souvenir items meld figures from mass culture with Ukrainian-Canadian kitsch: A T-shirt depicts Minnie Mouse dressed like a festival princess, replete with flowers behind her ears and draped in Ukrainian-esque embroidery.

Two groups performing at the festival managed to combine elements of our collective past, with contemporary influences. The Vancouver based group Zeellia sings in the hauntingly beautiful style of *bilij holos* or pure voice. Performing in Ukrainian, English and *Half-na-piv* (a mixing of English and Ukrainian), Zeellia performances are easily accessible.

Director Beverly Dobrinsky has collected Ukrainian and Ukrainian-Canadian music from people throughout the prairies. For Dobrinsky, performing at Pysanka

was an opportunity to honor and name those in attendance that had taught her the songs. Since last year, Dobrinsky has sent lyrics to young women, completing the circle that began with learning songs from our elders. "I'm aware of the contradictions of playing folk music on a stage, Since we no longer live in a village, our traditions are transformed, our music has been concertized," says Dobrinsky.

Another group performing at the festival, the Kubasonics, from Edmonton, combined Ukrainian and Ukrainian Canadian music with folk, classical and funk for the creation of fresh sounding dance music.

Our ancestors came from Ukraine, their cultures diverse and complex. Industrialization and assimilation have changed rural and urban life, both in Ukraine and in Canada, yet we continue to reproduce forms frozen in time. Extracting single elements from our histories, misrepresent a complex whole.

Swimming in a sea of Coca Cola, I want, need, more than what mass culture produces for us. I suspect that people who participate in Pysanka and other festivals are also looking for something more. Despite our poverty in language skills, and near total assimilation, we persist in holding on to an imagined, romantic past. In order for Ukrainian-Canadian culture to be vital, we need to develop beyond museum pictures of ourselves.

Shatulsky will also perform. The pavilion is located at the Ukrainian Labour temple, on the corner of Pritchard and McGregor, which was built in 1918 and contains a museum dedicated to Ivan Franko, a Ukrainian poet, writer and political activist.

Zenoviy Nykolyshyn, one of the organizers estimates that 9,000 to 10,000 people will pass through the pavilion this year, about 70% of them non-Ukrainian. The pavilion features a bar, arts and crafts and other souvenirs from Ukraine.

The Kyiv pavilion will pick up where Lviv left off on August 9 and stay open until August 15. Run by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, it is located at the Garden City Collegiate, 711 Jefferson St. The pavilion plans to have theme rooms showcasing Ukrainian traditions for Ivana Kupala, harvest time, Christmas and weddings. Shows will be similar to those at Lviv, with a number of Winnipeg area groups performing. The Hoosli Folk ensemble, the Dumka choir and the O. Koshetz choir will provide vocal entertainment.

200 volunteers help serve the 2,000 nightly visitors many of whom come in on bus tours from the United States. This is the 29th year that Kyiv is operating as part of Folklorama. A *zabava*

is held for the volunteers. Though the *zabava* is not open to the general public "because of trouble with gangs," according to Lesia Szwaluk of UCC you can get in if you speak with the coordinator. Free bus service is provided between all of the pavilions so you can see as many cultures as you can handle.

Similar multicultural festivals with Ukrainian pavilions are held in Toronto (Caravan), Mississauga, Ontario (Carassauga), Brampton, Ontario (Carabram). In Burlington Ontario, the Ukrainian community hosts a Ukrainian pavilion during the Sound of Music Festival. Held on June 27-28 the pavilion showcases local dance groups. There's an outdoor dance geared towards adults, prize draws, souvenir vendors and food. There is no charge for admission and the rest of the Sound of Music Festival is just steps away with a bandstand, street performers, fire works and more.

For a list of contacts for most of the festivals reviewed, see the shaded area.

Lieutenant-Governor's Horse Guard escorts flags through the streets of Bloor West Village during Ukrainian Independence Day parade.

photo by: Nestor Gula



St. George Catholic Church Manhattan, New York (212) 674-1615 (refectory)

Cawaja Beach Midland, Ontario (705) 526-1555

Ukrainian Independence Day Bloor West Village, Toronto St. Volodymyr's Centre. Oakville, Ontario call Maria Lopata (416) 762-9427

Soyuzivka Kerhonkson, New York (914) 626-5641 http://www.soyuzivka.com

CNUF
Dauphin, Manitoba
Roberta Michasiw
(204) 638-5645

Vohon

Edmonton, Alberta Tammy Komarnisky (403) 478-2877 For the Dinner Dance call Mike (403) 476-9490 For the Golf Tournament call Larry (403) 476-1561

Gardenton Festival Gardenton, Manitoba Linda Shewchuk (204) 425-3501

Lviv Pavilion, Folklorama Zenoviy Nykolyshyn (204) 589-4397

Kyiv Pavilion, Folkorama Lesia Szwaluk (204) 942-4627

Ukrainian Pavilion, Sound of Music Festival Burlington, Ontario (905) 634-6598 (refectory)



Tripping Ukraine

AHOUSEINTHEMOUNTAINS

by Nestor Gula

I'm not sure whose idea it was.

It happened about a month before my brother's marriage. Taras, my brother, was getting married in May 1991 — Ukraine had not declared its independence but it was becoming more open each day. We, the wedding party, were sitting in a bar discussing what to get Taras. We decided to buy him a house in the Carpathian mountains of Ukraine.

I came home and called the most trustworthy person I knew in Lviv, Yuriy, who said he was going to the mountains that weekend and would look for a house. I phoned him at the appropriate time and he told me that there was some farmer, a Hutsul, who was willing to sell a house which he built for his son. The farmer's son had moved to the city, Kolomiya, and had no intention of moving back to the country.

The house could be had for about \$400 U.S., Yuriy said. Was it a traditional Hutsul house? Yuriy informed me that it was. Buy it and I'll pass the money on to you, I said.

Money was collected from the wedding party, then passed on to Yuriy in Lviv and he went about the negotiations.

Now this was the middle of 1991. The Soviet Union was still around and although the cracks were already showing it, nobody knew what was going to happen. Ownership of property was unheard of. Foreign ownership of land was not even a concept most people in the dissolving USSR could fathom. But here we were, the "bourgeois nationalists from the decadent capitalist West," buying a house for a king's ransom, by their standards, or cheap, by ours.

In the ensuing summer, fall and winter, Ukraine declared independence and confirmed it in a referendum, and reports came back about the house. The guy wants to sell, he doesn't, he sold it to someone else, it's not his, he still wants to sell it, etc.

Negotiations were approaching the surreal — the Hutsul did not want American dollars ("dooliary," as he called them), but was trying to decide what currency he wanted and what the price was going to be.

As he pondered which currency he was to be paid in — Soviet/Russian/Ukrainian rubles, Polish Zloty, German or Swiss Marks — his price began to vary widely.

The only bright side was that our friend Yuriy managed to register as a resident in the house.

Once the farmer unregistered himself the house passed to Yuriy and de facto to my brother.

I visited the house with my father in the summer of 1992 – my brother has never been there. The house is located in



This really is the house that was "bought" for my brother

Photo by: author

Kosmach — a village of about 10,000 souls stretched out over a 100 square kilometre area, a greater area than Moscow they claimed — encompassing several peaks and hilltops. To get to the house itself requires a good hourand-a-half climb up a muddy path. I could not imagine any vehicle managing the trip.

We met the Hutsul farmer, whose name escapes me. He told me that, indeed, no vehicle had ever been up there. Humans, horses, cows, sheep, goats, donkeys and other domesticated animals but no vehicles.

When we reached the house we were surprised.

It was really nice. Traditional. The house has two rooms. One serves as the kitchen, dining room, bedroom — the room where everything happens — and is the only room with a heat source — a wood stove. The other room, as the farmer told me, was kept clean to show visitors and only occasionally was used for sleeping in the summer.

There were two freshwater springs. One five metres from the house the other 20 metres. The farmer said the spring closer to the house had bad water. I did not try it. A cow and a calf wandered up. They didn't come with the house, the farmer told us, but had grazing rights in the area.

We didn't do much negotiating that night. Yuriy introduced us to the farmer as tourists, not purchasers. To introduce us as buyers would have pushed the price up astronomically, he said.

But we did sleep in the house – in the kitchen.

It is now 1998, and there is no real change in the situation.

When the Ukrainian Hryvnia was introduced in 1996, Yuriy informed us that the farmer wanted to be paid in his country's new currency, but wanted to wait and see if it would stabilize before he would commit to a price.

The Hryvnia has been quite stable since its introduction, but the last I've heard is that the Hutsul is no longer sure if he wants to be paid in Hryvni.

Quiz

Summer is on us and there is no escaping the Ukrainian festivals/parades/gatherings. They draw us like honey draws bees (we have enough of it at home but a little more won't hurt). Even if you try to avoid them it is hard to pass up these festivals. They are inexpensive and you will probably meet someone you haven't seen for a gazilion years.

- 1. Upon hearing that a Ukrainian festival is going to take place in your general area (let's say a 20 kilometre radius (that's 16 miles for you Yanks), you...
- a) plan a vacation for your family that is at at least 1,000 kilometers (or miles) away from this, or any other, Ukrainian festival.
- b) ignore the information and resume the regular mundanity of your life.
- c) advertise in Zdorov! for rooms for rent.
- d) volunteer you place of residence to house the visiting performers from Ukraine
- e) volunteer to perform, although you have no talent in any artistic field. Of course you are accepted.
- 2. Knowing that there is going to be a hell of a lot of Ukrainian dancing going on, you...
- a) eat more donuts
- b) eat less donuts
- c) eat more varenyky
- d) eat less varenyky
- e) exercise so much that your knees give out and you can legally use the handicapped parking spaces at you favorite shopping mall.
- 3. There is going to be a bunch of singing at the festival, you...
- a) practice the theme to Gilligan's Island
- b) think of excuses not to go
- c) wish you were a von Trapp fleeing the Nazis in the Austrian Alps
- d) join every song faithfully you follow but don't lead.
- e) lead the singing with the little song books you printed at home.
- 4. At this festival you will undoubtably meet someone you were close to several years ago, you...
- a) ignore this person hoping that they ignore you or don't recognize you.
- b) say "Hi, how are you," quickly as you pass each other.
- c) greet this person with all the diplomacy warranted by this person's social status.
- d) greet each and every person with at least three kisses on the cheeks and a good bear hug which can only be inter-

preted as overt friendliness and not sexual harassment..
e) hope to have intimate relations with this person now that so much time has passed and you are both still single and everything is, as they say, "water under a bridge."

- 5. It is always hard to leave a Ukrainian party. Your excuse is...
- a) a complaint that the singing of patriotic songs is hurting your ears.
- b) there's no more food.
- c) there is no more vodka (horilka for the purists)
- d) you can't stand anymore never mind about linking ideas into coherent sentences.
- e) there are part's of Shevchenko's *Kobzar* you have not quite memorized and you need to do this right now.

Score some points:

Score one point for each a. Score two point for each b. Score three point for each c. Score four point for each d. Score five point for each e.

5-10 Evasionist

You avoid any large gathering of celebrating Ukrainians. You had traumatic childhood experiences of being forced to attend these celebrations – all that food being crammed down your throat, the dancing the singing. You still have nightmares. You know if you attended a festival it would be like going back in time, and you would never want that – would you?

11-17 Fence sitter

The only reason for you to go to a Ukrainian festival is to check out the local color, sample some epicurean delights and gawk at the handicraft displays. You like the festivals but wish they weren't so Ukrainian. You feel a twinge of guilt because they cause you embarrassment. You like the concept but don't like the scene. Still you feel that you have to go – it's your Ukrainian duty.

18-25 Festivalnik

You throw yourself into festivals with the gusto of a *kozak* throwing himself at a barrel of pork. You try to attend every festival that you can. You volunteer at most of them – this gets you in free and the work you do is sheer joy. You are upset when two festivals occur on the same day because that puts you in a bind.

CyberUkes

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Looking for books on Ukrainian topics? This general site lists hundreds of books that fit the description. Go to the home page and use the search function to find books using key words such as Ukrainian, Ukraine, Kiev, Galicia, Crimea etc. to find books on Ukrainian history, culture, fiction, children's books and much more. Of course not all books that come up are really topical, but then if you were expecting that, you haven't been on the net long enough. Some of the books reviewed in *Zdorov!* can be ordered through this site. Some books come with synopses and even with reviews so you can get an idea of what they are about. Truly a wonderful site for the bibliophile.

Soyuzivka http://www.soyuzivka.com



Summer is coming up sooner than you think. If you have the urge to spend some time in a sea of other Ukrainians over the holidays, this site provides the reservation info that you may be looking for.

Maintained by Tanya, the "Suzy-Q Webmistress", the site is packed with photos of half-in-the-bag Ukrainians whooping it up at last season's party events. Sadly the last time I checked, the new list of events wasn't yet available, but you can pick a long weekend in the summer and something is happening there. Suzy-Q (and Ellenville) are still the best bet for a blast on the Labour Day Weekend.

Part of the site is dedicated to a band called "Midnight Bigus." How can you go wrong with a name like that? Which brings me to something that's been bothering me for a while. Why aren't there any *bigus* recipes on the net? Arguably, its the best thing dreamt up by a Ukrainian since *kutia*.

Sunshine Records www.sunshinerecords.com



Sunshine Records' subsidiary, Baba's Records, offers numerous selections of Western Canadian Ukrainian folk music on this website. Offerings range from the Ukrainian Old Timers to the Kapusta Kids and comedy by Freddie Chatybrok. Go nuts. Sunshine also offers Aboriginal, country gospel and other music. Sunshine's comedy section is made up entirely of Nestor Pistor albums (there's ten including 3 Best of Volumes) and one album by Peter Hnatiuk "12 Goofy Ukrainian Hits."

Ukemonde http://Ukemonde.com/

Ukemonde is really still a work in progress, but I'm including it because I think it's a good idea. Set up by Roman Golásh, it's a mini-



guide to the Ukrainian community in Montréal. Divided into three sections, Church, Organizations and Business, it serves as an introduction to netsurfers interested in the Ukrainian community in Montréal. It needs a whole lot more work, the business section for instance has very little aside from the local credit union and Yevshan. There's a couple of people in Florida doing similar things (www.orbiter.com/gam/ukiefl.htm) and in Western Canada there are a number of sites listing Ukrainian groups, associations and individuals of note. Golash's site is visually appealing and, given some more work, will be a useful addition to Ukrainian websites.

The Largest Ukrainian Web Site on the Internet

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Final Phrases

LOSING MYRELIGION

by Yuriy Diakunchak

There's a new church organizing in my neighbourhood.

"Big deal" you may think to yourself, but this is actually a crisis point in my life. Ever since my parents sold the house out from under me a few years ago and fled to Florida, I've been hiding a terrible secret from them – I don't go to church. Sure, I'm there on the Big League holidays such as Christmas and Easter and the occasional wedding, but the days of weekly worship are far in the past for me.

Don't get me wrong, this isn't some sort of lapsed-Catholic hand-wringing about overbearing priests, thin-lipped school nuns, or the trauma of viewing Jesus' burial shroud for the first time as a child. I really don't understand the people who display hostility to their religious upbringing. I look back on my church-going days with fond memories. I've always felt spiritually uplifted in a church, whether it was the singing, the beautiful icons, or just the sense of community that a church brings to its parishioners.

Most of my friends are regular church-goers and some aren't too inhibited in their observations about my absenteeism. If this were a few centuries ago, I can picture them tying me to a stake and setting me alight. I don't blame them though. My wife is even less church-inclined then I am and frankly, I suspect her of being some sort of communist. In her defence, she used to sing in a church choir for a number of years, so perhaps her reasons for not going are as murky as mine.

Friends have occasionally physically taken me to church. Really, if it wasn't for their efforts I'd even have missed Christmas and Easter this year. But, it's not church itself that repels me. I feel no less religious today than I did ten years ago.

Yet, week after week, month after month, I've successfully resisted the urge to put on the old suit, polish up my good shoes and belt out a few "Hospody pomyluys" with the boys. Why? Laziness is probably sounding like a good reason to you right about now.

My liturgy-free life has been based on coming up with sound excuses to fool myself and others into believing that there are reasons other than pure, outright, shameless laziness for not going to church.

Skipping church does have its drawbacks. What if I need emergency Extreme Unction? Whom do I call? Not being a member of any church even made it hard to find a place to get married. One priest, ironically the same one that is heading up the new parish, had mercy on me and agreed to carry out the ceremony at his old church. But first, he turned to me and said, "Yuriy, come to church at least a couple of times before your wedding, okay." I looked him straight in the eye, right there by the altar and said, "No problem." The fires of hell never seemed closer. The next time he saw me, I was saying "I do."

But let us return to the founding of the new church. The new church threatens the harmony that reigns over my Sundays. I've built a house of cards around a broken down car, a stated desire to walk to church and the need to do my laundry. And now it is collapsing around my ears, wrecking my comfortable, church-less way of life. Not only are the services held in a school no more than a 15 minute walk from my flat, but the Laundromat is conveniently located along the way. And worst of all, rumour has it that the new parish may eventually settle into a church just minutes from my door.

The parish has been functioning for a couple of weeks and though its stated mission is to bring people like me back into the fold, I've already managed to come up with a nice set of stop-gap reasons for not attending. But I'm drawing a blank on a more durable, long-term reason for not being there. I feel myself being forced into making a choice I never really wanted to be faced with – admit that I'm lazy or become an atheist. If there are any support groups out there that can help me, I'd really like to know.

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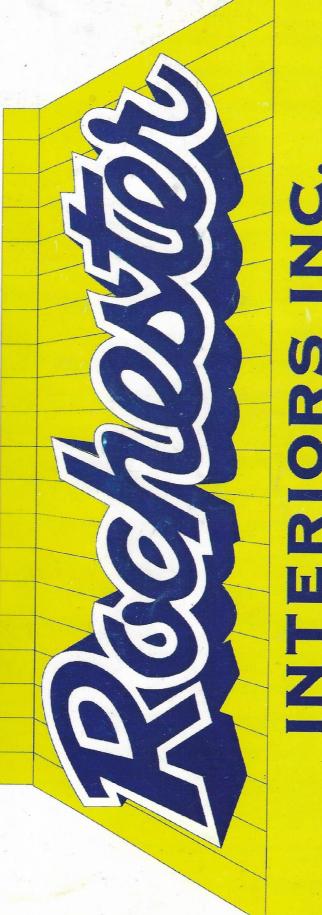
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