



# Ukrainian Genealogy Group

## National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

September 2005

913 Carling Avenue Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4E3

Website: [www.geocities.com/uggncr/](http://www.geocities.com/uggncr/) eMail: [uggncr@canada.com](mailto:uggncr@canada.com)

Events Calendar at: <http://calendar.yahoo.ca/uggncr>

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### **September 27, 2005 Meeting**

Welcome back to the Fall meetings of the Ukrainian Genealogy Group - National Capital Region. A few new members have joined us and there were a number of inquiries regarding Ukrainian family history from members and from the public during the summer .

The September meeting is an introductory meeting and we will review the resources available in the Ottawa area for research in Ukrainian family history. The Annual Reports for 2001-2003 and 2004-2005 will be available. Also, we will discuss the 1911 census which was made available over the summer and some of the problems regarding the use of this information.

To access this database, enter <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/>

Click on "Archivianet:Search Archival Materials". The link to "Census of Canada, 1911" will be found under the List of Research Tools.

The next meeting will be held on October 25, 2005 and this will be a joint meeting with the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association. The speaker will be Orest Martynovych from Winnipeg. He will make a presentation of the life and career of Vasile Avramenko who introduced Ukrainian dance in Canada and the United States in the late 1920's.

Orest has been researching the activities of V. Avramenko for several years and has prepared a manuscript for publication.

Tentative plans are being made for the November meeting. It may be possible to obtain a video from the University of Alberta on an ongoing project to interview members of the Ukrainian pioneer communities in north-central Alberta.

Suggestions for research topics, speakers and presentations are always welcome..

### **Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group (TUGG) site**

The Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group (TUGG) site is finally up and running. The site is <http://www.torugg.org/>. It is still under construction and some of the links may not be operational. The home page features a rousing rendition of the Ukrainian National Anthem. Make sure your speaker is on and at a good volume. You may want to check out the AResearching Your Roots@ button on the Navigation Bar on the left side of the pages. This page shows one how to conduct a genealogy search from scratch. The ATUGG Links@ carries a large number of related links and is organized into categories.

The site has a lot of material on it and will grow with input. The purpose is not only to inform

about TUGG's events, but to provide all people interested in Ukrainian and Polish genealogy tips on how to carry out research.

Input and recommendations are always welcome.

### **Alberta Homestead Index Online**

Various resource materials can be found at the link: <http://abgensoc.ca/> from the Alberta Genealogical Society. Search names can be extracted from 486 of 685 films.

Happy 100th Birthday Alberta

### **Archives Of Ontario**

New Year of Ontario Vital Statistics Available. Indexes and registrations for 1908 births, 1923 marriages, and 1933 deaths are now available on microfilm.

These records are available for consultation in the Main Reading Room of the Archives of Ontario in Toronto. They may also be:

- borrowed through the Microfilm Interloan Service:  
<http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/english/interloan/index.html>,
- consulted at a Family History Centre  
<http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/english/geneal/fmlyhist.htm>, or
- purchased from the Ontario Genealogical Society  
<http://www.ogs.on.ca/>

### **Author looking for descendant of WWI Ukrainian veterans of Canadian Army**

*From: Peter Broznitsky  
ukesinthecef@gmail.com*

William Burianyk first posed a question in 1960: what role was played by Ukrainians in the Canadian Army during the First World War?

Inspired by my grandfather, I am attempting to answer Mr. Burianyk's question. I have been researching for two years now, and have collected over three thousand names of men from Ukrainian regions of what was then Russia, who enlisted in Canada and served in the Great War.

Are you a descendant of one of these veterans? I believe the stories that can be told about these soldiers is very interesting, and I want to learn more about their lives. I'm interested in military records, photos, letters, ephemera, and experiences. The tale has been told of the Ukrainians forced into internment camps. Now it is time to talk about the men who fought for Canada.

You may contact me at:

- [ukesinthecef@gmail.com](mailto:ukesinthecef@gmail.com),
- phone (daytime) 604-598-4077,
- (evening) 604-952-0878.

Yours truly,  
Peter Broznitsky

### **State Archives in Lviv Closed to Investigate Theft**

The Central State Historical Archives of Ukraine in Lviv has been closed to investigate evidence that documents and archival records have been stolen and sold at European antique markets, shops and even through Internet auctions.

The State Committee on Archives of Ukraine stated that it is likely that in Spring/Summer 2004 a large-scale theft of documents of 16th-20th centuries was committed at the L'viv archives. Similar documents from this archives were confiscated by Polish authorities from a numismatic shop in Gdansk in 2004.

In another case, in July 2004, the National Museum of History of Ukraine was presented with some letters on behalf of the Prime Minister of Ukraine. It turned out to be archival material stolen from the Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in L'viv.

## Scultetus

*(Submitted by Alexandra Opar)*

The term that I have found in the birth records of my Lemko village is scultetus (Latin). I have come across this term in two books so far, one as it pertains to a village and second as it pertains to a medieval urban town.

The following explanation of scultetus comes from Rosemary A. Chorzeempa's book "Korzenie Polskie Polish Roots" (pgs. 96-97). This book is available in the Reference section of the Main Branch of the Ottawa Public Library. Here is the relevant paragraph:

A lord who wished to form a new village (sometimes called Nowa Wies = New Village) would issue a "Charter of Location" to a man who would recruit settlers, often foreigners and usually Germans to practice their trades and crafts in the new village. This agent (scultetus in Latin, scultheiss in German, solty or wojt in Polish) would oversee the layout and planning of the new village, was granted land outside the village and took charge of the administrative duties once the village was established. The office of scultetus was hereditary thereafter, and can even be seen in 19th century records as an occupation or status.

By flipping through the birth records of my village Petna, I noticed that some fathers had this term written as their status right after their names. Only certain families were designated as scultetus and this term was inherited by their children.

In 1785 my village of Petna had 451 inhabitants on 14.55 sq km and 5 or 6 scultetus families. I have been able to trace back my ancestry in 1784 to 3 of these families (Hliwa, Semanicki, Wolny). Petna is first mentioned in Polish records of 1581. In that year Petna was a newly settled village. This would mean these specific three families of mine were in this village in 1581.

I have also traced back my ancestry to 1784 to the Cicila family in the neighbouring village of Malastow. Malastow is first mentioned in Polish records of 1440 when it was granted the Magdeburg Law by the Giebultowski family. The Cicilas were scultetus in Malastow.

Even further back, I have traced my ancestry in 1784 to the Jurkowski family in the nearby village of Rychwald. The Jurkowskis were scultetus in Rychwald. Rychwald (Reich Wald) was founded by German immigrants in the 1200s.

Even though I cannot go back directly on my family tree to these earlier dates, I think I can safely pinpoint some of my ancestral families to certain villages at certain pre-1784 times. The second citation of the title scultetus comes from the book *Microcosm: Portrait of a Central European City* by Norman Davies, available at the Main branch of the OPL. This book traces the history of the city of Wroclaw in present-day SW Poland.

The town of Sroda (Newmarkt) [near Wroclaw in present-day Western Poland] took its law not directly from Magdeburg but from Halle, which had developed its own variant of the Magdeburg code. Sroda's contacts with Halle went back to 1210 and its incorporation appears to have been completed before 1223. The Law of Newmarkt envisaged only limited municipal autonomy where authority was exercised either by a scultetus (schultheiss/soltys) or by a hereditary advocatus (vogt/wojt) and by their accompanying bench of magistrates. It was suited to small settlements and was consequently adopted by more than 500 localities both urban and rural, throughout medieval Poland.

Wroclaw was prevented from developing the full-blown institutions of municipal authority for several decades. The City Council, which appeared in the 1260s, did not initially enjoy plenary powers. But, in 1326, it bought out the rights of the hereditary advocate (schertilzan) for the modest sum of 40 marks. Thereafter the city's executive and legislative functions

including those of the advocate, were gradually taken over by the merchant-elected City Council (Rat/Rada) and, with some delay, by a mayor chosen by the council.

I have come across other titles both in Petna's birth records and Petna's 1787 land cadastre records. Terms such as advocatus, judex, wojt, przysiegli, iuratus which do not seem to be hereditary. I am collecting explanations of these terms as I go along.

### **Questions asked in 1911 census**

The following website has a list of the questions asked in the 1911, 1921, 1931, 1941, and 1951 censuses.

<http://www.canada.uottawa.ca/ccri/resources/year1911.htm>

### **Notre-Dame-des-Neiges Cemetery in Montreal**

Notre-Dame-des-Neiges Cemetery in Montreal has a great online cemetery database that is searchable:

<http://www.cimetierenddn.org/en/services/necrologie/recherche.asp>

In 2001, it was the third largest cemetery in North America. There are many Ukrainian names in this database.

### **Information from "Field Notes From Ukrainian Canada", Volume 1, Number 3, (Summer, 2005)**

Two recent titles now available in print:

Gerus, Oleh, and Denis Hlynka (eds.), Hlynka: The Honourable Member for Vegreville. The Memoirs and Diary of Anthony Hlynka, M.P. Calgary: University of Calgary Press, 2005. Pp. 388. This book is an invaluable source of documents and information about the federal Member of Parliament and Ukrainian community spokesman during the late 1930s and 1940s.

Warring, Molly Anne, Paradise Acres: The Stryker Family Saga. Ottawa: Borealis Press,

2005. Pp. 518. This novel deals with a Ukrainian Canadian family and is inspired by the author's background growing up in the Smoky Lake area of Alberta, fictionally renamed Shady Hollow.

Also worth noting is an article that appeared in the 1 July 2005 issue of Maclean's magazine by the former Premier of Saskatchewan, Roy Romanow. Titled "Rich in Diversity", the excellently-written piece has the following descriptive subtitle: Roy Romanow reflects on growing up in a Saskatchewan family of immigrants, who, like many seeking a future in Canada, spoke neither official language.

### **Photographs of Villages in Ukraine**

<http://www.village.sk/index.php>

They apparently will go and take pictures of your ancestral village. Under the references link there is a list of 23 villages in Ukraine they have photographed. Anyone have any info/experience with this firm?

1. Bohdanivka2. Bukovynka3. Caslivci4. Czumalovo5. Dolina6. Drahovo7. Dravci8. Chyrovtytsi9. Khudlove10. Komorovyczi11. Kopychinci12. Korytnyany13. Kurdivanivka14. Kuzmyno15. Mala Kopanya16. Mykulivtsi17. Novi Petlykivci18. Oryszkivci19. Packanovo20. Seredne21. Sjanki22. Volosjanka23. Zalizsci

### **Chair of Ukrainian Studies**

*September 29 - October 1, 2005: The First Annual Danyliw Research Seminar in Contemporary Ukrainian Studies, at the Chair of Ukrainian Studies. University of Ottawa campus.*

The Seminar will feature ten papers by discussants from Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and Ukraine, as well as a special panel on regionalism in Ukraine, from the disciplines of political science, anthropology, sociology and geography. The Seminar will be open to the public. Contact: Yulia Yarotska, Seminar Coordinator, at [yuliyai@rogers.com](mailto:yuliyai@rogers.com) .

## **East European Genealogist**

We received two issues of the East European Genealogist:

Volume 13, Number 2 (Winter, 2004). In this issue, there are the following articles

- “Beginners Guide to German Research”
- “Canada’s Kashubs”.

Volume 13, Number 3 (Spring, 2005). In this issue are the following articles:

- An Overview of the Cadastral Surveys in the Austrian Empire
- Cadastral Land Surveys and Maps for Galicia, Austria

Six feature articles regarding the cadastral map and record holdings in the Central State Historical Archives in Lviv, Lviv Oblast State Archives and the State Archives in Katowice (Cieszyn and Zywiec branches), Krakow and Przemysl.

These issues are available in our library.

## **Stolen Children (From the Globe and Mail, August 20, 2005)**

During the Second World War, Nazis stole thousands of aryan looking children from Russia, Ukraine and Baltics, as part of their Lebensborn germanization programme, to place with German families.

In 1946, due to the Cold War, they were prevented from returning to their original families, and were resettled in Canada. A British TV documentary company is searching for any of these individuals today. Please email Jo: [joanneji@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:joanneji@yahoo.co.uk)

## **Review by Alexandra Opar of the book "The Seven Daughters of Eve" by Brian Sykes.**

This book is available at the Ottawa Public Library (599.935S983).

In "The Seven Daughters of Eve" the author gives a first-hand account of his research into a remarkable gene, the mitochondrial DNA gene

(mtDNA), which passes undiluted from generation to generation through the maternal line. After plotting thousands of DNA sequences from all over the world, Sykes found that they clustered around a handful of distinct groups.

Among Europeans, there are, in fact, only seven. Almost all people of native European descent, wherever they may live throughout the world, can trace their ancestry back to one of the seven women, hence, the Seven Daughters of Eve. Naming them Ursula, Xenia, Helena, Velda, Tara, Katrine and Jasmine, Sykes determined that the seven European clan mothers lived at different times from 45,000 years ago for the oldest to only 10,000 years ago for the youngest.

Indeed, six of the seven clan mothers lived well before agriculture spread into Europe. Devoting a chapter to each clan mother, their worlds are brought to life, pinpointing where they lived and how. Ancestral reading of the ancient kind.

## **Everything is Illuminated**

*submitted by Alexandra Opar*

Our members may be interested in a movie that will be playing at the Bytowne Cinema Oct.21-27. The movie is "Everything is Illuminated" based on a bestselling book by the same name.

The book is a complex novel, containing numerous historical passages, about a neurotic American Jew who, while searching for his Jewish roots in Ukraine, travels through Ukraine with a Ukrainian interpreter and guide. The historical passages were removed and fantasy sequences added to create a trim, stylish movie script. The result is a road-trip movie and apparently a really fun ride. The wildly extroverted interpreter and guide Alex is played by Ukrainian Gypsy punk rock musician Eugene Hutz.

For more information see the September/October issue of the Bytowne Cinema Film Guide newspaper.

Bytowne Cinema, 325 Rideau St.

<http://www.bytowne.ca/>

## **UGG-NCR Library (Update)**

We've recently added some new material to our UGG-NCR Resource Library and have updated our overall catalogue which appears on our Website. To access this catalogue from our UGG-NCR Home Page, look for the link for "*UGG-NCR Resource Center Holdings*". Or you access the Library Resource page directly via the following link:

<http://www.geocities.com/uggncr/resource.html>

As before, all attendees are welcome to browse through the material found in the open cabinet during the meetings and to return them before the end of the evening.

However for anyone wishing to borrow material for the upcoming month, please see either Mike, Bud, or Myron .. who will record the loan in a sign-out sheet that will be hanging on the inside of the cabinet door. Each of our holdings should now have a "UGG-NCR LIBRARY" label with a unique reference number – usually on the front cover, or just inside the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> page. Use this reference number to find the requested item on the signout sheet – and then provide the required signout information (i.e. name, telephone #, date borrowed). This way we will have a record of who has borrowed which item and when. We ask that items only be borrowed for a month at a time.

For anyone who has previously borrowed materials and still have them in their possession, we would kindly ask that you bring them back to us as soon as possible.