



# Ukrainian Genealogy Group National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

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913 Carling Avenue Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4E3

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

## Contacts:

Ted Lomatski  
(613) 830-1627

Myron Momryk  
(613) 731-1870

## Local Author, World Traveller, Sailor and Adventurer Diane Stuemers, addresses Genealogy Group

Local author, world traveller, sailor and adventurer, Diane Stuemers will address the Ukrainian Genealogy Group - National Capital Region.

Diane is well known in the Ottawa area as well as across Canada, for the 4-year trip she took with husband Herbert and 3 sons aboard the sailing vessel Northern Magic. High seas, pirates, mechanical failures are only some of the problems they encountered. Of course they met great people, saw fantastic sites and experienced many cultural diversities and similarities, everywhere in the world.

The other side of the trip saw the tragedy in the National Park at Tanjung Puting, Indonesia. Illegal logging and gold mining out of control in the park are causing the destruction of the rainforest and the habitat of its wildlife, including critically endangered orangutans and proboscis monkeys. The Indonesian government has dramatically reduced funding for the park, creating a situation of near chaos.

In Kenya, the Stuemers experienced the human side of tragedy. There they met a young man trying to support his wife and four children on \$200 a month while attempting to pay for his 16 younger siblings to attend high school at a cost of \$500 per year each -- as well as pay for his father's desperately needed medical treatment. The

Stuemers have adopted both these causes and you can read more about them on the web at:  
<http://www.northernmagic.com>.

Before their trek around the world, Diane, a journalism graduate from Carleton University, researched and wrote a book about her grandfather, William Hawrelak, former mayor of Edmonton. Bill Hawrelak was one of the most colourful and memorable political figures in Western Canada's history. Successful businessman, community leader and mayor over a thirty-year span, he left an indelible mark on the City of Edmonton. He is remembered as the man who led Edmonton through its biggest boom, spearheading many projects that still count as city landmarks.

Diane will talk about her grandfather, about researching her book, writing it, what she learned from her experience, and what she might do if she had to do it over again. Not only will this interest those that are thinking of writing their family stories, but also those interested in western history.

The general public is invited to attend. Meetings of the group are held at St John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Hall, 952 Green Valley Drive, Ottawa, Canada The meeting will take place March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2002 at 1930h (7:30pm).

(Photo and electronic text available by eMail above)