



Ukrainian Genealogy Group

National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

February 2003

913 Carling Avenue Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4E3

Website: www.geocities.com/uggncr/ eMail: uggncr@canada.com
Events Calendar at: <http://calendar.yahoo.ca/uggncr>

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Of Interest

March 2, Sun. Shevchenko concert, under the patronage of UCC Ottawa (KYK). 4 PM. Orthodox hall, 1000 Byron.

March 14, Fri. The Chair of Ukrainian Studies, University of Ottawa and The Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association of Ottawa present the Seventeenth Annual Ivan Franko Memorial Lecture Dr. Olga Andriewsky will give a lecture on *Becoming Invisible: Ukrainians and the Construction of Russian National Identity in the 19th-early 20th c.* Dr. Olga Andriewsky is Chair of the Department of History, Trent University. In her lecture she will explore how the strange 'disappearance' of the Ukrainians in 19-th c. Russia shaped modern political discourse on Ukraine. Friday, March 14, 2003 - 7:30 PM Room 257 Arts Hall, University of Ottawa, 70 Laurier St. E. Public lecture, in English. Free admission.

March 26, Wed. Holodomor (Ukr. Famine-Genocide commemoration).

March 28, 29 - Gene-O-Rama Ottawa Branch, OGS, In partnership with the Ottawa Public Library presents Gene-O-Rama 2003 March 28-29, 2003. Ben Franklin Place, 101 Centrepointe Drive, Nepean, Ontario

March 30, Sun. Orthodox Easter Bazaar. 1000 Byron 1130am-3pm

For updated information, please see the on-line calendar - link above

Treasure Trove Of Ukrainian Historical Archives Discovered In Poland

A treasure trove of Ukrainian historical archive was recently discovered in Poland by Yevhen Misilo, director of the Ukrainian Archive Center of Documentation and Studies in Warsaw, as reported by ArtUkraine.com with a reference to The Ukrainian Weekly newspaper (Ukrainian National Association, Parsippany, New Jersey, USA).

On December 7, 2002, Mr. Misilo related his sensational findings to a packed house at the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) in New York City.

According to the newspaper, among the material found in Warsaw were the archives of the NTSh, Prosvita and Ridna Shkola societies in Lviv, those of the Legion of Ukrainian Sich Riflemen, the Galician Army, the army of the Ukrainian National Republic, the Western Ukrainian National Republic, the Ukrainian Representation to the Polish Parliament, to name just the major ones, as well as the personal archives of a number of prominent Ukrainians, among them Dmytro Dontsov.

All of these archives were removed from Lviv in 1944 by the retreating Nazis, who brought them to Silesia, now part of western Poland. From there most of the materials were transferred to the National Library in Warsaw.

In 1992 Mr. Misilo found these treasures in Warsaw, discarded in a dumpster. It took seven years of his efforts to get the Polish authorities to acknowledge the existence of these archives and then to make them available for study. Since then, Mr. Misilo has been researching and cataloging this chunk of Ukrainian history with the part-time help of Halyna Svarnyk, a prominent archivist from Lviv.

Equally bizarre has been the fate of the smaller portion of the Lviv archive, which remained in Silesia and is now stored in the Ossolineum building in Wroclaw. To this day, the Poles deny its possession and won't allow anyone to research it.

Very disappointing, said Mr. Misilo, has been the attitude of Ukrainian government officials, who, despite his numerous appeals, have refused to get involved in trying to gain access to or retrieving these archives that rightfully should be returned to Ukraine. Another major project on Mr. Misilo's agenda has been the study of Ukrainian martyrology on the territory of Poland during and immediately after World War II.

Prominent within this genre are his three documentary works dealing with the expulsion of ethnic Ukrainians from the territory of Poland in the years 1944-1947, an example of "ethnic cleansing" before that term was in vogue.

The newspaper reads that the first two volumes deal with the deportation of some 500,000 Ukrainians to Soviet Ukraine in the years 1944-1946. The third documents the so-called "Akcja Wisla" of 1947, which refers to the forcible, often violent, removal of some 150,000 Ukrainians from their ancestral lands, which were incorporated into Poland, and their resettlement elsewhere in Poland. That volume was published in 1993 in Polish, but was subsequently translated into Ukrainian and published in Lviv by the NTSh.

As soon as Mr. Misilo had published his book on "Akcja Wisla," he said he was dismissed from his job at the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Decades of persistent efforts enable Mr. Misilo to access the original records of the Polish concentration camp at Jaworzno (a branch of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Nazi death camp, which Polish authorities utilized after World War II), where in the years 1947-1949 some 4,000 Ukrainians were imprisoned.

Mr. Misilo has compiled a reference volume with complete biographical data on each of the Jaworzno prisoners, including the dates of their arrest, conviction and sentencing.

Furthermore, Mr. Misilo has been preparing a file on the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (WPA) soldiers who died on the territory of Poland, and has been assisting in the efforts to locate their burial sites.

In 2003 Polish authorities are planning to make the anniversary of what they refer to as the "Slaughter in Volyn" --the alleged killings of a large number of ethnic Poles by the Ukrainian underground in the Volyn region of Ukraine in 1943.

The committee charged with the documentation and commemoration of these alleged crimes includes a number of high government officials and is chaired by Poland's President Aleksander Kwasniewski. It has already received \$ 100,000 in funding.

Mr. Misilo feels that Ukrainians must launch a counter-project that would demonstrate and document the fact that during and after WWII Ukrainians were no less victimized by the Poles.

This would require a thorough search of the pertinent archives, as well as interviews with survivors, which in turn requires considerable funding. Mr. Misilo said his goal is not to exacerbate Ukrainian-Polish relations, but only to set the historical record straight.

Passages

CZUBOKA, Marie Laura Marjorie (McKinley) Peacefully on Friday, February 7, 2003, at the age of 64 with her loving family by her side. Beloved wife of William (Bill) Czuboka. Our sympathies and condolences go out to Bill.

Meeting Schedule 2002 - 2003

Our meetings take place on the 4th Tuesday of the month, at 1930h (7:30pm) and are subject to change.

Location:

St John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Shrine
952 Green Valley Drive
Ottawa, Canada

Meetings on on the 4th Tuesday (not the last) of the month

March 25th, 2003 April 22nd, 2003 May 27th, 2003

March Meeting

The March meeting will feature the event originally scheduled for February. **The Arms and the Man: Raymond Hnatyshyn** by Dr Jennie Dutchak Dr Dutchak will talk about her contribution to the coat of arms of the late Governor General, her time as his personal translator and her recollections of him.

As well, Stanley Klosevych will show the video he produced about the former Governor General. "In Memoriam: RAMON JOHN HNATYSHYN".

National Library of Canada Savoir Faire 2003

The seminars will be held in Room 156, at 395 Wellington Street, unless otherwise indicated, from 3:00 to 4:30 pm., refreshments beforehand beginning at 2:30 pm.

March 18 – **Lorne Pierce of Ryerson Press and Canadian Art, 1920-1950 – Sandra Campbell**, University of Ottawa.

April 16 – **Aboriginal Literature Inside Out: Contemporary Issues – Armand Garnet Ruffo**, Carleton University.

May 13 – **Canadian Writers: A New Presence on the National Library's Website – Susan Globensky**, National Library of Canada.

June 17 – **Considering Canada: A Look at Canada through Alphabet Books – Jeffrey Canton**, Children's Book Editor for Books in Canada.

For more information, go to:

<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/1/index-e.html> or contact Nina Milner, Coordinator at (613) 996-5867 or by e-mail nina.milner@nlc-bnc.ca.

UGG On-line Group and Calendar

We have started an **on-line group** for our members to ask questions. You can subscribe at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ugg-ncr/>

We have also put up an **on-line calendar** for both genealogical and Ukrainian events at: <http://calendar.yahoo.ca/uggncr>

1906 Census Now Available

The microfilmed records of the "Census of Population and Agriculture of the Northwest Provinces - Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta - 1906" can now be consulted at the National Archives of Canada.

As well as being accessible in Ottawa at 395 Wellington Street and online at www.archives.ca <<http://www.archives.ca/>>, the records can be obtained through inter-library loan or purchased. They will soon be available on microfilm in the provincial archives of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta and in certain public libraries across the country.

The 1906 Census is a "portrait" of a region that, at the time, was rapidly changing as hundreds of thousands of people from around the globe and other parts of Canada were choosing to settle in the Prairies. The provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta had just been established one year before the census was taken.

The census records from 1825 to 1901 are also held at the National Archives of Canada and are available to the public. Those of 1901 were digitized in 2002, and can be viewed online at: www.archives.ca