



Ukrainian Genealogy Group

National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

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January 27, 2015 Meeting

Observing the Ukrainian Elections: Paint Patriotism, Auto Patriotism and Winning by Giving

At the January meeting, Borys Gengalo spoke on the topic, *Observing the Ukrainian Elections: Paint Patriotism, Auto Patriotism and Winning by Giving*.

Borys has visited Ukraine on several occasions relating to elections and military affairs. He described the many recent changes in Ukraine and provided the members with his interesting and perceptive insights based on his observations as a long-term election monitor. He presented a well-prepared selection of photos and illustrations of everything from licence plates to painted cars, from billboards to doughnuts to capture the feel of these changes.

He described Ukraine as a virtually bankrupt state faced with an on-going war, and a profoundly corrupt state mechanism with impossibly high expectations from its citizens. Despite these negative features, he expressed reasons for optimism. More specifically, he spoke on living conditions, security issues, the general political situation, Ukrainian political parties, electoral law and mechanisms, relevant non-governmental organizations, the role of women in the electoral process and role and responsibilities of election workers.

He mentioned that the electoral workers placed overwhelming stress on complying with all electoral regulations and procedures which complicated and delayed the production of election results. Borys provided some examples of electoral abuses, the use of western European

symbolism and style, and the use of blue and yellow in election signage.

He also mentioned the general and pervasive use of 'notaries' when conducting any business with government departments which further complicated daily life in Ukraine.



Borys Gengalo presenting at our January meeting

Borys identified a fundamental problem in the present over-centralized Ukrainian constitution where the only independent source of income for local municipal authorities was fees from parking limiting any financial autonomy at the local level. This situation has no doubt contributed to the present on-going crisis in Ukraine.

The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session.

Genealogical Sources on the Internet

Welcome to Alberta Genweb

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~canab/lhb/index.html>

This Local History Book Index of indexes contains 222,205 entries from 324 local history books. There are literally hundreds of these books about Alberta communities with many thousands of personal and family histories. These histories often include the names of all family members, dates and places of birth, places of origin, maiden names, marriages, etc. giving the genealogist an invaluable resource.

Ontario Vital Statistics (Ontario Births by Surname)

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~births/Ao_Az_Surnames.htm

Provides information on location, name of child, date of birth, father's name, his occupation, mother's name, township

Gene-O-Rama 2015

Ottawa Branch Ontario Genealogical Society. Presents the 31st. GENE-O-RAMA March 27-28, 2015. Confederation Education Centre 1645 Woodroffe Avenue (by the Nepean Sportsplex).

The Key Note Speaker will be Janice Nickerson. Registration is now open. For more information:

<http://ogsottawa.on.ca/gene-o-rama/>

Nashi Predky (Our Ancestors) - Workshop

The Nashi Predky (Our Ancestors) group from New Jersey will be hosting their second annual Spring Workshop on Saturday March 21 at the Ukrainian Historical and Educational Center of New Jersey (135 Davidson Ave, Somerset, New Jersey).

More details are available on their Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NashiPredky/>

Community Events

Wednesday, February 25, 7:30 p.m

The Ukrainian National Federation Ottawa branch, invites you to An Evening with Polish Ambassador Marcin Bosacki who will talk about Polish-Ukrainian Relations today. There will be an opportunity to ask Ambassador Bosacki questions, and there will be a Wine and Cheese reception.

Meet Ambassador Bosacki, members of the Polish and Ukrainian embassies, Polish and Ukrainian MPs and Senators and enjoy a glass of wine with friends. UNF memberships will be on sale at the event for \$60. Freewill donations accepted at the door. All welcome. RSVP to President Vera Yuzyk at vyuzyk@bell.net.

Location: The Ukrainian Orthodox hall, 1000 Byron Ave.

February

The Ukrainian Credit Union Ltd has initiated a campaign to assist in the rehabilitation of soldiers seriously injured in the Ukrainian conflict. The UCU features stories of the brave soldiers this initiative helps: <https://www.ukrainiancu.com/UCU>

To donate, visit the Ottawa Ukrainian Credit Union branch at 271 Bank St., or contact 1-800-461-0777.

March Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday March 24.

Donna Law will be presenting "Tracing Your Ukrainian Ancestor To and Within Canada"