January 26 Meeting

Displaced Persons

The topic of this meeting was Displaced Persons. The meeting viewed the documentary film, *Destination Home*, that was produced by James Motluk.

This story is based on the career of Bohdan Panchuk, who with his wife, was very active in lobbying for the immigration of Ukrainian Displaced Persons to Canada in the years 1945-1952.

Documentary Film: *Directions Home*

The documentary contains interviews with researchers and specialists in the field of immigration to Canada and the experiences of Displaced Persons. The showing was followed by a question-and-answer period. The UGG would like to thank James Motluk for permission to show this documentary. For information on this and other documentaries produced by James Motluk, contact http://www.guerrillafilms.com/

The UGG also thanks Vicki Karpiak for the loan of the DVD.

Displaced Persons

In celebration of Heritage Day, the Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister responsible for Parks Canada, announced the designation of 38 nationally significant persons, places and events that helped define Canada’s history. Among the historical events, the Arrival of Displaced Persons in Canada, 1945-1951 was declared an event of national significance on February 15, 2016. A historical plaque will be erected to commemorate this event. For further information:


Arolsen Archives

If your parents or grandparents lived in a Displaced Persons Camp in Germany after the Second World War, it may be possible to obtain a record of their stay at one or more Camps. The Arolsen Archives preserve files on individuals who lived in the Displaced Persons Camps and, in some cases, provide information on their location in Germany during the war. The site is located at:


Click on 'Inquiries by family members' and the 'Application form'. Read the instructions carefully and complete the form. If you do not know the information requested, include 'unknown'. The goal is to complete as many questions as possible.

If you have any documents from the post-Second World War years regarding your father/grandfather, use the spelling of the names in the documents that may be in Polish or German. This application for information can be sent electronically and at no cost. It may take several weeks or a few months before you receive a reply.
**Service in the Polish Army (Anders Army)**

If your father/grandfather served in the Polish Army during the Second World War and was stationed in Great Britain, it is possible that a military record of his service exists in England. The Ministry of Defence will have his records but you may have to know what specific unit he was in. In addition, you will also have to prove your relationship to him. A birth certificate should suffice but you can still enquire beforehand to determine what exactly they want to see before a copy of the record is sent to you. You may write to:

Ministry of Defense
APC Polish Enquiries
Building 28 B, RAF Northolt
West End Road
Ruislip, Middlesex
England
HA4 6NG

The UGG will be interested to learn of any success story in applying and receiving a record of your relative who served in the Polish Army in England.

**Nashi Predky – Our Ancestors Spring 2016 Genealogy Workshop (March 19th)**

Registration is now open for the Nashi Predky Spring 2016 event. This workshop will feature presenters from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, who will also be bringing their computer terminals and will help you search for information on your relatives in the International Tracing Service archives!

Ukrainian Americans who have made inquiries to the ITS have often been surprised and even shocked by the level of detail those records contain. If your family was in Germany as forced laborers or displaced persons, this is a fantastic opportunity to get information without waiting for months for the ITS at Bad Arolsen to get back to you...

For more information, refer to the following link:
https://www.ukrhec.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=23

**Community Events**

**March 6, Sunday, 12 pm**,

Borscht Cook-Off, following the Liturgy at the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 1000 Byron Avenue. Competition for the People’s Choice “Best Borscht” to raise funds to support the needs of the Orphanage in Kryviy Rih, Ukraine.

To enter the competition or for more info contact Iryna at iccrph@gmail.com, or Fr. Ihor at 613-325-3903, stامaryuocc@sympatico.ca, or Olena at ostetskevych@yahoo.com.

**March 18, Friday, 7:30 pm**,

"Homeland" concert, exploring East European folk music as it intersects with the classical tradition. NACO violinist and Tyt i Tam member Carissa Klopopushak, with Thibault Bertin-Maghit (bass) and Alexandru Sura (cimbalom). Folk-inspired classical violin favourites, folk music from Ukraine and Romania.

At MacKay United Church, 39 Dufferin Road at MacKay Street. Tickets: Adults $25, Seniors $20, Students $15, from Books on Beechwood, The Leading Note, or at Door.

https://www.facebook.com/events/1530455310588346/

Facebook Event. About Carissa:
http://www.carissaklopopushak.com

**Mid-March**

Registration deadline for trip to Ukraine August 16-31. Historical and spiritual sites of Kyiv; Western Ukraine; Lviv, Ternopil, Pochayiv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Yaremche; Pilgrimage sites: Zarvanytsia, Krekhiv, Hoshiv and Univ.

For further information, contact Fr. Damian Dutka, OSBM (613)-723-1673 or Mariyka Lachowich (613)-225-3988