



Ukrainian Genealogy Group

National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

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April Meeting

The topic for the April meeting was 'Ukrainian Canadian Coats of Arms'. We were very fortunate that B/Gen. (Ret'd) Isidore Popowych and Ron Sorobey agreed to make a presentation on this theme. Gen. Popowych stated that he became interested in this subject many years ago when he saw a Popowych Coat of Arms purchased in a shopping mall in Sudbury. The information stated that the Popowych family was of Polish origin and from Russia. He always wanted to correct this information and when he had the opportunity, he began to locate and record accurate information relating to his family name. His research led him to consult many reference books, libraries and Ukrainian experts in this field. When he concluded his research, Gen. Popowych was awarded his Coat of Arms by the Governor General on November 15, 2005.

Gen. Popowych's research took him to the dawn of Ukrainian history and in his presentation, he mentioned the Scythians, the Greeks colonies, Kyivan-Rus and the Cossack period. He traced the origins of the Tryzub (Trident) now the official symbol of Ukraine and there are two Tridents on his Coat of Arms. Other Ukrainian symbols include the Lion of Halychyna, a Ukrainian

Cross and the blue and gold colours resembling the official colours of Ukraine. It also includes a Bulava which he received from the Ukrainian Armed Forces for his services as a Canadian Military Advisor. The Coat of Arms also included representations of his military medals and distinctions which reflected his profession as a pilot and military officer.

Gen. Popowych concluded his presentation by stating that he began this research to record his family history, to honour a legacy and his parents and to inspire future generations. The Coat of Arms provides at a glance, a permanent record of his family history, origins in Ukraine and his service to Canada. His Coat of Arms may be viewed at: <http://www.gg.ca/heraldry/pub-reg/project.asp?lang=e&ProjectID=1022>

Ron Sorobey gave the second presentation on the Coats of Arms. He began his presentation by outlining the key elements of a Coat of Arms. He researched the origins of his family in the Chortkiw region of western Ukraine. He adopted heraldic symbols from the Chortkiw Coat of Arms which he incorporated in his own Coat of Arms. The colours on his Coat of Arms are also blue and gold. Also included were

symbols relating to his career in the Canadian Public Service and his family roots in Manitoba. He displayed the Coats of Arms of various contemporary Ukrainian families in Ukraine. He stated that in his case, the process to acquire a Coat of Arms from the Herald took about a year. Ron Sorobey was granted his Coat of Arms by the Governor General on August 15, 2008. He concluded his presentation by mentioning the emotional reception by members of his family when he presented them with his Coat of Arms.

Information on the Canadian Heraldry Authority can be seen at:
http://www.gg.ca/heraldry/pub-reg/index_e.asp

We are also particularly grateful to Mrs. Dania Popowych for providing the desserts for the meeting. This hospitality is greatly appreciated.

Ukrainian Cemeteries

The following list of cemeteries was found on various web sites. If members locate other sites, please forward this information to the editor and it will be included in future newsletters.

St. Mary Ukrainian Cemetery, 438 Cedar Road, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.
Lists names of people buried along with the names of their spouses and/or parents.

<http://files.usgarchives.org/pa/philadelphia/cemeteries/stmarysu.txt>

St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Cemetery, Oakville, Ontario. List includes name and date of burial.

<http://www.stvolodymyrcemetery.ca/Registry.aspx>

Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery, Athens Borough, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, USA. List includes name, date of birth, date

of death, comments and also some obituaries.

<http://www.joycetice.com/cemb/ukrain03.htm>

Pioneers of the Holy Ascension Greek Orthodox Cemetery, Smokey Lake, Alberta. Lists of names only.

<http://www.smokylake.com/history/graves/holyascensionukrainiangreek.htm>

Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery, Coldstream, British Columbia (near Vernon). List of names only.

http://www.vdfhs.com/coldstream_uk.htm

St. Constantine and Helena Ukrainian Cemetery, Buchanan District, Vasloutz School District, Saskatchewan. List includes names with birth and death years; also photo of cemetery and individual grave stones.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cansa/cem/vasloutz2.html>

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery in Minersville, Pennsylvania. Includes name, birth date, death date, notes.

<http://semanchuk.com/gen/data/MinersvilleCemeteries.html>

Next Meeting

The May meeting concludes the Winter series of meetings and there will be no meetings in June, July and August. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 22, 2009.

Members who would like to discuss their own research during the summer, are welcome to contact Myron Momryk, Mike Dowhan or Bud Budzinski and individual meetings can be arranged. Suggestions for topics, speakers and issues for future meetings are always welcome.