



Ukrainian Genealogy Group

National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

May 2010

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April Meeting

One of the most expert researchers in our group, Frank Cedar gave a very informative presentation on the results of his family research in the Ukrainian-Polish border areas. His presentation was accompanied by several large and detailed maps of the Polish-Ukrainian-Slovak border regions and there were also maps at the village level. He gave research advice based on his many years of travel to this area and his contacts with archives and local land registry offices.

For example, he suggested that researchers investigate records of property ownership based on house numbers in the villages to trace the occupants. He mentioned the Wisla Operation when in the post-Second World War years, there was an exchange of populations between Ukraine and Poland. As a result the Ukrainian population on the Polish side of the border was transferred sometimes with the use of military forces, to the Ukrainian side.

In some cases, efforts were made by the authorities to re-settle the Ukrainian population in close proximity similar to their previous village patterns in Poland. Frank made a similar presentation to the Toronto Ukrainian Genealogical Group

Frank also invited Mr. Volodymyr Ropetsky, President of the World Lemko Federation visiting from Lviv to give a presentation to the group. He gave a brief outline of the Federation, their goals and activities. He mentioned that the Lemkos were an ancient people who trace their origins to the pre-historic era.

Mr. Ropetsky also gave a demonstration by speaking in the Lemko and Hutsul dialects. He was proud of the achievements of distinguished members who trace their origins to the lands of the Lemkos and gave several examples of prominent clergymen, authors and scientists.

This session was followed by a question and answer period.

Annual Report

Anyone who wishes to submit information for inclusion to the Annual Report should contact Mike Dowhan or Myron Momryk.

We are interested in short articles, book reviews, genealogical advice and related information which may assist our fellow members with their research and writing.

Interesting WebSites

Submitted by Mike Dowhan

CIS Phone/Address Directory

This site contains directories of addresses and phone numbers covering several of the former nations of the Soviet Union including many locations in Ukraine. It is available in both English and Russian.

<http://telkniga.info/>

Ukrainian-American Newspaper Archives

PDF versions of Ukrainian Newspapers are increasingly being made available on the Internet. Recently I found two such sites:

Svoboda (Свобода) – a Ukrainian-only daily with issues from 1893 to the present day:

<http://svoboda-news.com/арxiv.htm>

Ukrainian Weekly – an English language weekly with issues from 1933 to the present:

<http://www.ukrweekly.com/>

Both sites feature very good search capabilities to help narrow down search results. These articles in these publications touch many topics of interest to the Ukrainian community throughout the years (e.g. news from Ukraine, politics, cultural/social organizations and events in the US, obituaries, etc.) including some articles from the Ukrainian-Canadian community. It was also interesting to see letters published after WWII from Displaced Persons in Europe trying to contact relatives in the US.

Of personal interest to me, was an article from 1930 mentioning my Grandfather in Montreal heading a fundraising committee for his village back in the Old Country and another article later that year mentioning

his brother involved in the same fundraising cause but in Brooklyn NY.

And I found another article from 1940 containing a letter a reader had received from the Lemko village where my father-in-law is from, describing how the war was affecting them. Articles like these can provide interesting perspectives of the lives of some of our ancestors.

Community Events

May 30, Sunday, 2-4 pm. “Presentation of Eastern European music”

Presentation of Eastern European music by Vasili Kosenko and Sergei Rozin-Gurevich at the CNCAC 'Belonging' art exhibit at the Shenkman Arts Centre, 245 Centrum Blvd., Suite 260.

<http://artemapale.com/BelongingAOEandPATRICK>

May 30, Sunday, 5 pm. “Traditional Ukrainian Dinner, concert”

Ukrainian Social Services (Ottawa Branch) and Assumption Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral invite you to a traditional Ukrainian dinner, concert, silent auction and program for children. Dinner 5 - 6:30 pm . Concert 6:30 pm. Location: 1000 Byron Ave (Assumption Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Auditorium). Tickets: Adults \$20, Students/seniors \$17, Children 6-12 \$7, under 6, free. Ticket reservation: 722-1372 or 728-0856 or purchase at the door.

Meal includes: freshly made Varenyky (Perogies), Cabbage Rolls, Borsch, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert and Cash Bar (Wine and Ukrainian Beer). Certain food items will be available for purchase after the dinner.

This event is organized together with Ukrainian Social Services. Proceeds will go to help the Orphanage in Ukraine.