



Ukrainian Genealogy Group

National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

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April 26 Meeting

*Documentary film by James Motluk:
"A Place Called Shandro".*

During this meeting, the members viewed the documentary "A Place Called Shandro." This film was produced by James Motluk, who is a professional documentary maker from Toronto. One of his previous productions was "Jajo's Secret," dealing with the internment of his grandfather during the First World War.



Documentary Film: A Place Called Shandro

The film was shot on location in the Shandro district and at the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village, east of Edmonton, Alberta. The film also includes material from the Village's Research Programme. The documentary chronicles the settlement of east central Alberta at the turn of the twentieth century by immigrants from Galicia

(Halychyna) then part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

The film is narrated by the voices of actual pioneers and their descendants whose stories of struggle and celebration are brought to life through the cinematography. Radomir Bilash, a specialist in the immigration history of Alberta, explained some of the customs and traditions that disappeared or evolved as the Ukrainian settlers adapted to Canadian conditions.

The film traces the rise and decline of Ukrainian rural communities as family farms were replaced over the decades by large 'factory-farms.' Where there were twenty or thirty family farms, there is now one huge farm. With the decline of population, local services – schools, post offices, stores, churches – disappeared along with the distinct life style that characterized Ukrainian communities.

Attempts are made to preserve aspects of this former society, such as the architectural history, and there is a short description of the private Shandro family museum. The Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village is also an example of cultural preservation through a 'living museum' approach to history. The presentation was followed by a question and answer period. Several members claimed a connection with the Shandro family and with the Shandro area through their families.

It is possible to view the trailer for the film at:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R_zcKXEzncs

For information about purchasing a copy of this film, contact James Motluk at:
Phone: (647) 895-0212

Family History Event:

Voices from the Dust – Ottawa's Rootstech

This is a free family history conference hosted by the Ottawa Family History Centre on Saturday, June 18, 2016 from 1 pm to 5 pm at 1017 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa. The theme this year is on 'Records Defining Our Past'. The speakers will cover a number of topics including: census records, land records, Wiki Trees, Ancestry DNA, parish records.

Website: www.ottawastakefhc.on.ca

Plant Sale - Fundraiser

Submitted by Mariyka Lachowich

We are asking for donation of potted and labeled plants and soil, if anyone has access to some. The proceeds will go to help the ATO (Anti-Terrorist Operation) in Ukraine.

The Plant Sale is taking place this coming weekend (Saturday May 28, and Sunday May 29) at the St. John the Baptist Shrine, 952 Green Valley Crescent.

For more information, please call Mariyka Lachowich at 613-225-3988 or via email at marialachowich@gmail.com

Ukrainian Canadian Film Festival

A series of Ukrainian-oriented films are being shown in the auditorium at St. Paul University on Mail Street. Featuring films about Ukraine, made by Ukrainians or people interested in Ukraine.

This festival provides a forum for screening films that depict the past and current realities and artistic developments in Ukraine-related cinematography. Films are an accessible way to tell our stories and to inform the public when news becomes overwhelming.

For more information about the dates and times of upcoming films, please refer to the following link:

<http://kino-fest.ca/screening-schedule/>

Community Events

June 4 Saturday 6pm

Concert 'Our Shevchenko: Path to Freedom'. Featuring the Telnyuk Sisters and chamber orchestra, Gregory Hlady, Nazar Stryhun, Victor Morozov, Elvira Saale, Eskender Bekmambetov, Oleksandra Fedyshyn, Yana Bilyk.

At Saint-Paul University Amphitheatre, 223 Main St. Tickets: \$45 / students \$25 / children free of charge. Tickets online:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/our-shevchenko-path-to-freedom-tickets-25209880431>

Link on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1258684570826310/>

June 4, Saturday; 7:30 pm

The Svitanok Ukrainian Dance Society (Ensemble and School) presents "Waves of Freedom", at the Centrepointe Studio Theatre, 101 Centrepointe Drive.

The concert will commemorate the 125th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to Canada, and will express pride in the roots that Svitanok has in each of the five waves of immigration through its dancers, their families and their family histories. Tickets go on sale May 5th and can be purchased at Centrepointe Theatre, Shenkman Arts Centre, on-line at centrepointetheatre.com, or by phone at 613-580-2700. Website: <http://www.svitanok.ca/>

Facebook - Svitanok Ukrainian Dance Society.
Twitter - @SvitanokOttawa

July 18 - 22, Mon. - Fri

Children's Ukrainian Arts Camp. At 1000 Byron Ave. This year's theme "Malanka Magic". \$285 per child. Sibling discount and financial assistance available. Registration on now. Info and registration at www.pokrovanetwork.ca or contact Romanna rturchyn@gmail.com