



Ukrainian Genealogy Group

National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

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913 Carling Avenue Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4E3

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October 28, 2014 Meeting

The Internment of 'Enemy Aliens' in Ottawa in May, 1918

The subject of the October meeting was the internment of 16 Ukrainians from Ottawa on May 1, 1918 as 'enemy aliens' and their incarceration at the Kapuskasing Internment Camp.

This presentation dealt with some of the problems and sources for research on individuals at the local level. Myron Momryk outlined the political situation in Canada in the early months of 1918 when the international political and military situation in Europe for the Allied countries was desperate. The Bolshevik Revolution led to the collapse of Russia as an ally against Germany and Austria-Hungary and a growing union movement in Canada created a fear among the business and political leadership that 'disturbances' may also result in Canada that would disrupt the war effort.

To prevent these alleged disturbances, some political and labour organizations were placed under surveillance including the branch of the Ukrainian Social Democratic Party in Ottawa. The meeting of this group was raided and the members were interned. Most of the internees were released in October, 1919, almost a year after the First World War was over.

Myron described the sources of his research including release forms for the internees (RG6-H-1) at the Library and Archives Canada; the local newspapers, the Ottawa Journal and the Ottawa Citizen and the Ukrainian newspapers, Robochyi Narod (Working People) and Zhyttia i

Slovo (Life and Word). Obituaries were located for some former internees that provided more detailed information about their lives and careers.

The Ottawa City Archives have the annual reports of the Chief of Police for 1914-1920 that included some statistical information on the internment of 'enemy aliens'. The Archives of Toronto were consulted but did not have information on the events of May, 1918 in Ottawa. It seems that any police records older than 40 years are routinely destroyed. The internet database, Ancestry.com was a good source of information when locating individuals after their release in 1919 and their movements across Canada and the United States.



Myron Momryk presenting at our October meeting

During the presentation, Myron was able to provide some information on several individual internees from Ottawa while information on others could not be located using the available sources. A few of the internees later became the founders of the local branch of the Ukrainian Labour and Farmer Temple Association. The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session.

The Carpathian Reflections [website]

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

Carpathian Reflections is a website to share information about a collection of films on the Greek Catholic records of the Munkacs diocese with the Genealogy community. The films are held by the Mormons in their family search archive. Unfortunately, the catalogue listing is written in Cyrillic and does not include location details. As a consequence, it is difficult for English speakers to make effective use of this data.

This project aims to clarify the contents of this film collection. The Greek Catholic Munkacs diocese encompassed the Maramaros, Bereg, Ung, Zemplen, Szatmar & Szabolcs counties of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire. The area straddled the Carpathian mountains, an area known as Transcarpathia; home to an active community of Jewish, Ukrainian, Rusyn, Slovak, Hungarian, Austrian and German residents. The Greek Catholic Church was suppressed during the communist era, but has now re-emerged. It is now known as the Eparchy of Mukachevo. The area suffered great upheavals during the first and second world wars.

Today the areas covered by the former Munkacs diocese are split between the Zakarpattia region of the Ukraine, eastern Slovakia, north eastern Hungary and northern Romania.

Overhead Projector

The Ukrainian Genealogy Group acquired an overhead projector when we began to hold our meetings almost fifteen years ago. With our new computer projector, this overhead projector is no longer used and we would like to dispose of it. If any UGG member would like to acquire this projector for a useful purpose, please contact the coordinators of the UGG.

Encyclopedia of Ukraine

The Ukrainian Genealogy Group has an extra set of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine /five volumes plus map/ (University of Toronto). If any UGG member would like to acquire this set, please contact the coordinators. A donation would be appreciated.

St. John the Baptist Commemorative Book

The Capital's Parish, St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, Ottawa, 1914-2014", 100th Anniversary Commemorative Book will be available for purchase after every Sunday Mass.

For details: parish office (613-723-1673) or pastor-st-john-baptist-shrine@rogers.com

Community Events

Sunday, December 7, 12:00 – 3:00 p.m

The Ukrainian Catholic Women's League holds its Christmas bazaar at the St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Shrine hall, 952 Green Valley Crescent.

Sunday, December 7, 5:00 p.m

10th annual "Pyrohy and Koliady" evening fundraiser. Ukrainian Dinner, carolling concert, silent auction. Featuring the AKORD Ukrainian Men's Choir and the choir of the Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral. Dinner from 5-7 pm., concert at 7:00.

Adults \$20, seniors & students \$15, children 4-10 \$8, FREE admission for children under 3. Tickets, reservations: Michael Reshitnyk 613 277 4664, mj.reshitnyk@gmail.com

Thursday, December 11, 6:00 p.m

The UCPBA-O Christmas Dinner includes presentation of the 2014 UCPBA-O awards: Filip Konowal; member of the year; scholarship.

- 6 PM Cash bar
- 7 PM Dinner

Everyone is welcome. At Marconi Centre, Library Room, 1026 Baseline Rd. \$50 per person.

Advance ticket sales only - purchase by Nov 27. Seating is limited. Info and tickets: Cornell Popyk (Cornell.Popyk@gmail.com 613-851-9171); Michael Kostiuk (michael@michaelkostiuk.com 613-324-5409); Borys Gengalo, (613-744-8367); Buduchnist Credit Union, (913 Carling Ave. 613-722-7075); Ukrainian Credit Union, (271 Bank St. 613-288-0206).