



Ukrainian Genealogy Group

National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

November 2020

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October 27th 2020 Meeting

“The suitcase returns to Ukraine”

Maria Rypan made an interesting and informative presentation ‘*The Suitcase Returns to Ukraine*’ based on documents and photographs that her family were able to take with them in a small suitcase when they left western Ukraine in 1944 during the Second World War



Maria Rypan - our October speaker

The suitcase was on display in 2018 at the National Museum of the History of Ukraine during the Second World War, 1939-1945 in Kyiv. The museum display was prepared to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Cardinal Lubomyr Husar (1933-2017), head of the Greek Catholic Church in Ukraine. Maria Rypan is the niece and goddaughter of Cardinal Husar.

She began the presentation with a summary of the lives and careers of three generations of her family - her grandfather, Yaroslav Husar, her

mother and her uncle, Cardinal Lubomyr Husar. To describe the various periods in her family history, she presented and described documents that included birth and baptism certificates, school records and diplomas, marriage certificates and identity documents. These documents were issued during the Austro-Hungarian, Polish, Soviet and German occupations and administrations in western Ukraine. Additional documents and photos were presented from their sojourn in Austria and in the Displaced Persons Camps in Germany after the war. All these documents and photos were preserved in the small suitcase that the family took with them to the United States.

Maria also researched the buildings and locations in cities in western Ukraine that were connected with her family. She presented family trees of the Husar family and mentioned that the family was descended from Lithuanian nobility. Also, the extended Husar family included several generations (dynasties) of Greek Catholic clergy. The Husar family immigrated to the United States in 1949 where Maria was born. Lubomyr Husar completed his theological education in the United States.

This presentation was introduced by a short commentary on the National Museum of the History of Ukraine during the Second World War, 1939-1945 in Kyiv and concluded with events of the Second World War in 1944 in western Ukraine and in the Displaced Persons Camps.

Questions were submitted by members and participants that Maria will answer at a future date.

“What Mendel Osherowitch saw: Ukraine during the Holodomor”

Professor Lubomyr Luciuk will discuss *How People Live in Soviet Russia: Impressions from a Journey*, Mendel Osherowitch's account of his visit to Soviet Ukraine in 1932 at a time when millions of Ukrainians were dying of starvation. Professor Luciuk edited the volume, newly translated from the Yiddish, which has been described as "one of the most penetrating and moving accounts of daily life in Ukraine during the famine."

Sponsored by the Holodomor Research and Education Consortium (Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta) and the Writers' Union of Canada.

DATE: Thursday, December 3, 2020
TIME: 5:00 PM MST / 7:00 PM EST
Zoom registration ([click here](#))

The lecture will be also live-streamed on the CIUS Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/canadian.institute.of.ukrainian.studies>

For more information [click here](#)

Surname Map of Ukraine

We have previously made mention of this Ukrainian-language map on the internet (<https://ridni.org/karta/>) which shows the distribution of surnames within the various regions of Ukraine. You would simply type in the surname in Cyrillic which results in a “heat map” distribution of the surname depicting the relative concentration and number of occurrences of the surname within individual raions (counties) in Ukraine.

The information on this website is based on 2011-2013 data. Although this website is in the Ukrainian language, browsers such as Chrome allow for a basic translation into English in order to get the gist of information displayed.

The website also indicates if the surname is contained in records such as:

- Officers of the Hetmanate
- Database of the Repressed
- Cossack Registers

This information could be helpful for further research.

The last database in particular is interesting given the topic of our November meeting. By entering the surname of our speaker Col. Viktor Siromakha, the following information is provided (*translation courtesy of Chrome*):

Mentions of the surname SIROMAKHA in the Cossack registers.	
▶ 1756 - 2 people	
Register of the Zaporozhian army in 1756	
Ivan Siromaha, Cossack, Vasyuryn hut	
Ivan Siromaha, Cossack, Vasyuryn hut	
▶ 1649 - 0 people	
▶ 1638 - 0 people	
▶ 1581 - 0 people	
▶ 1571 - 0 people	

UGG-NCR Memberships and Donations

We have recently instituted an e-transfer capability to allow our members to forward us their voluntary annual membership fees (*suggested amount of \$20 per person/couple*) or donations from the comfort of home. We are a not-for-profit organization and use this revenue to defray our operating costs.

The e-transfer procedure is as follows:

- Log onto to your Bank or Credit Union’s online or mobile banking app and select the account your dues/donation are to be paid “from”.
- Choose or Add the **UGG Treasurer** and the email address: **uggncr1@gmail.com**
- Enter the amount (\$20.00 for annual memberships dues or any amount for donation). Note: This is an Autodeposit eTransfer!
- Click “Send”. An email acknowledgement will be sent to you.

If you still wish to pay/donate by cheque or other means, please send us an email at uggncr1@gmail.com .