



# Ukrainian Genealogy Group National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

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## **Summary of the Meeting held on September 26, 2006**

Frank Cedar spoke on his research trip to Ukraine and Poland in May. He visited the site of his ancestral village in Poland along the Polish-Ukrainian border and later the villages near Lviv where his family members were re-settled from Poland after the Second World War. Frank visited the Lviv Archives and met with Ivan Svarnyk. Frank also took many photographs of various wooden churches in western Ukraine and showed them to the members. Frank's presentation was appreciated since he has visited Poland and Ukraine many times in the last several years and is a perceptive observer of changing conditions regarding the local society and bureaucracy.

Alexandra Opar described her experiences researching in local archives in Poland last summer. Unfortunately, not all the records she requested were available. However, she found the local staff to be friendly and cooperative. She described her attempts to gain access to the vital records (births) in the City Hall. She also described her efforts to locate the village Volovets in the Carpathian Mountains. She visited a Lemko village where previous inhabitants and their descendants visited the site, the Church and the local cemetery. She also attended a Lemko festival which attracted participants from Poland, Ukraine, Slovakia, Serbia and also Canada. She played some of the music from this festival. Alexandra also

described the local living conditions which in some cases were unsanitary so that future visitors are prepared for relatively rough living conditions during their holidays. Alexandra plans to visit Poland again to continue her research.

## **Moscow School Centenary – Time Capsule**

*By Bud Budzinski*

On July 1 2006, the final element of the 2005 Moscow School Centenary celebration was completed with the burial of a 5' x 1' cylindrical time capsule at the Drahomanow (Moscow Hall) Literary Society site, 10 miles south of Mundare, Alberta. Very simple in concept, the capsule is a section of capped plastic pipe of the type used as a watermain by the Edmonton Water Dept.

Inside, protected in Ziploc plastic bags, are submissions of photos, newspaper clippings, reminiscences of past and current events in the surrounding community. A somewhat unique deposit was a baseball uniform from one of the three teams that played in the area during the '60s and '70s. As the Budzinski family reunion had taken place one week after last year's centenary celebration in August, a display of their family tree was also one of the items contributed.

The opening of the capsule is planned for July 1 2030. Many who were at the events of August 2005 will be long gone by then, but hopefully

their children and grandchildren will be around to experience something of the past.

### **Forthcoming Publication from the University of Calgary Press**

*Zhorna: Material Culture of the Ukrainian Pioneers*

By Roman Fodchuk

\$34.95 sc

December 2006

250 pp.

8" x 10.25"

Colour and b/w Photographs, Index, Maps

Legacies Shared Series, No. 20

At the end of the nineteenth century, Canada opened its western frontier to mass immigration, and from this the pioneer legacy was born. *Zhorna: Material Culture of the Ukrainian Pioneers* is a testament to this legacy and chronicles the fascinating but lesser-known aspects of the Ukrainian culture and pioneering experience.

Author Roman Fodchuk takes the reader on a journey back to a time when survival was a matter of resourcefulness, and ingenuity often meant the difference between success and failure. Although they might at first glance seem mundane, the everyday items of these pioneers tell a story of initiative, tenacity, and the close relationship between themselves and nature.

Fodchuk focuses on items ranging from clothing, kitchen gadgets, and cooking utensils to building techniques and the specialized application of hand-made agricultural tools. Based on exhaustive research, interviews, and personal reminiscences, this analysis treats the subject with a passion and respect that demonstrates a knowledge of the Ukrainian culture rarely found in traditional ethnographic studies.

Complete with finely rendered line drawings and detailed photographs, *Zhorna: Material Culture of the Ukrainian Pioneers* is the unique and lasting record of the Ukrainian pioneer experience.

Roman Fodchuk has worked extensively as a planning and interpretive design professional for Parks Canada, National Capital Commission, Ontario Parks, and national historic parks across Canada, with projects from St. John's, Newfoundland to Fort Road Hill, British Columbia. He currently lives in Cochrane, Alberta where he operates a consulting business.

### **Australian White Pages**

Researchers interested in searching the telephone directories in Australia for anyone with their surname can check the following website: [www.whitepages.com.au](http://www.whitepages.com.au)

### **Map Your Ancestors**

You may wish to examine the web page "Map Your Ancestors"

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

which is an interesting combination of the database of Ancestry.com and Google Maps. You can sign up with the site and you can then plot your family tree on the site. It will put push pins onto the map that show where your various ancestors were born. You can also plot life chronology maps which record significant life events of your ancestors. You can annotate these entries with text and photographs.

### **Russian Consular Records OnLine**

The Li-Ra-Ma (Likacheff-Ragosine-Mathers) collection is now available online at:

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/i-ra-ma/index-e.html>

For researchers who have ancestors who immigrated to Canada from Ukraine which was then part of the Imperial Russian Empire (pre-1917), this is a unique source of family history information.

This fonds is a microfilm collection since the original documents along with the photographs were returned to the United States and then sent to the Soviet Union.