



# Ukrainian Genealogy Group

## National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

September 2010

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### **Schedule of Meetings 2010-1011**

Meetings are held in the Church hall on the fourth Tuesday on each month. No meetings are held in December and in June, July and August. More particularly, the meetings will be held on the following days:

September 28, 2010

October 26, 2010

November 23, 2010

January 25, 2011

February 22, 2011

March 22, 2011

April 26, 2011

May 24, 2011

### **Change in UGG-NCR Executive**

After many years of service as our UGG-NCR treasurer, Emil "Bud" Budzinski has decided to step down this year. We wish Bud health and much happiness.

Effective immediately, we welcome Jerry Fikis to our Executive, replacing Bud as Treasurer.

### **Kopala Family**

In the Ottawa Citizen of August 4, 2010, Margret Kopala wrote an article entitled, *Canada Needed Them*, in which she includes information on her family history.

Her Polish grandparents, Michael and Aniela Kopala immigrated from Poland in 1928, among the last of the second wave of immigration from eastern Europe before the Depression of the 1930s practically stopped any further mass migration. They arrived with four children and six step-children.

They survived the first year on hunting and fishing and built a cabin on their new homestead. In the 1930s, the children attended a one-room school with eight classes.

The Kopala family held a family reunion on July 17 at a holiday camp near Bonnyville, Alberta. This was the fourth reunion in thirty years. Attending this reunion was the last surviving relative (Aunt Matilda, 88 years old) who arrived in 1928. Margret's Ukrainian great-grandparents arrived in Canada in 1895.

## **Alien Files Find New Home at USA National Archives**

*Press Release from the National Archives of the United States, September 1, 2010*

For the first time, more than 300,000 case files on alien residents of the United States who were born 1909 and prior are now open to the public at the National Archives at Kansas City. These files, known as “Alien Files” (commonly referred to as “A-Files”) were transferred to the National Archives from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) and are only a small part of the millions of case files that will eventually be transferred and opened to the public. They include information such as photographs, personal correspondence, birth certificates, health records, interview transcripts, visas, applications and other information on all non-naturalized alien residents, both legal and illegal.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), the predecessor agency of USCIS, began issuing aliens Alien Registration numbers in 1940, and on April 1, 1944, began using this number to create the A-Files.

A-Files are eligible for transfer to the National Archives when 100 years have passed since the birth date of the subject of a file. These transfers to the National Archives ensure that these records will be saved and made available to the public. A-Files may be viewed in person by appointment at the National Archives at Kansas City or copies of files may be ordered for a fee.

For more information about these records, contact Elizabeth Carrington, archivist, at 816-268-8093 or <mailto:afiles.kansascity@nara.gov>

## **Community Events**

*October 14, Thursday. 7:30 pm*

UCPBA presents the historical documentary film BEREZA KARTUZKA, in English. Under the patronage of Ukrainian Canadian Congress. At the Ukrainian Community Centre, 911 Carling Ave. The film deals with Ukrainian political prisoners in Poland during the 1930s.

The film documentary, Bereza Kartuzka by Director/Producer Yuriy Luhovy, may be purchased by contacting MML Inc. 2330 Beaconsfield Avenue, Montreal, QC H4A 2G8.

*October 28, Thursday 4 – 6 pm.*

Launch of the book *Modernism in Kyiv: Jubilant Experimentation*, by Dr. Irena Makaryk and co-editor and collaborator Virlana Tkacz, at the University of Ottawa.

*October 28 – 30.*

The Sixth Annual Danyliw Research Seminar on Contemporary Ukraine, at the Chair of Ukrainian Studies, University of Ottawa. Themes: politics of memory, and the political economy of Ukraine.

*November 2, Tuesday.*

The famous Virsky National Dance Company of Ukraine, with 50 dancers on their cross-Canada 25-concert tour, performs at Centrepointe Theatre. Tickets available now, 613-580-2700.

*November 12, Friday. 6:30 PM (Foundation Restaurant...18 B York Street)*

The UCPBA presents “Model Ukraïna” - an evening to meet the 2010 Canada Ukraine Parliamentary Interns and socialize with others in the Ukrainian community. Tickets \$10 available at Buduchnist Credit Union and from UCPBA members.