



# UKRAINIAN AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TEXAS

2505 Overcreek Rd. Richardson, TX 75080 (972)235-4920  
UAST & ZORYA Web Site: <http://members.aol.com/andchob/zorya.html>  
E-Mail: [andchob@swbell.net](mailto:andchob@swbell.net)  
E-Mail Zorya: [zoryatexas@aol.com](mailto:zoryatexas@aol.com)

## NEWSLETTER

Quarterly

June, 2000

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

*Zoryians and Friends*

#### NEW FLASH!!!

*25 years and still kicking!*

#### Folklife Festival 2000 .....

Again you pulled off a speculator weekend of Ukrainian dancing. Performances from the heart with energy and vitality. If your wondering why you are still sore and tired it's because we had to do four complete shows. In the past few years the seniors got off easy only doing the evening shows while the juniors did the afternoon shows. I cannot explain where Nick finds the energy but he has raised the bar at least two notches. Not only did he do all our shows but also five Fire on the Mountain shows. Nick you're amazing!

Share your Folklife experiences .... send them to [andchob@swbell.net](mailto:andchob@swbell.net) and we will add them to the "2000 Folklife Review". Remember this is a family web site.

#### Zorya Practice Update .....

Mark your calendars ..... No practice June 11 & 18. R&R

First practice post folklife will be June 25th, same times: Jrs. 3:30-5:00pm,  
Srs. 5:00-7:30pm

#### Performance opportunities .....

Please review your calendars and let us know if your are available for July 15th, Meyerson Symphony Center, **Dallas International Festival**. In my opinion this is the best opportunity to recruit new dancers. We just cannot pass it up like we did last year. They are looking to fill a 10 minute slot. We could do our Hutsul Suite or a modified Poltava Suite. Let us know as soon as possible.

Another opportunity is the **State Fair of Texas**. The Fair is interested in having us again. Specific date to be determined possible options Oct. 7-8 or 14-15. This is another recruiting venue. War! .... What is it Good for??

Another opportunity is on Friday, November 3, 2000, **Ukrainian Day at the George Bush Presidential Library** at Texas A & M University, College Station. Preliminary plans include the following: a week long display of Wilton Tift's photographs of Ukraine and on Friday, November 3rd, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.: a reception, a cultural display and a program of Ukrainian songs and dances.

#### Reminder ... Confirmed performances.....

**Westfest**, West .....Sept. 2, 6:00 pm & Sept. 3, 6:00 pm  
**Oktoberfest**, Ft Worth .....Oct., 7, 6:00 pm ( have not heard back from them yet, time may change)

#### Zorya is celebrating its 25th Anniversary.....

We invite all dancers, retired dancers, friends and parents to send in their remembrances of our last 25 years. We will include them on a new 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary web page. Send all remembrances to [andchob@swbell.net](mailto:andchob@swbell.net).

In addition Zorya is preparing a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary video, T-shirt and poster. If you are interested in any of these items let us know.

#### Farewell to the Reisser's

If you could not hear Susie's farewell roast at the Saturday night party due to the decibel level ..... you can read her farewell. Please send your responses to [andchob@swbell.net](mailto:andchob@swbell.net) and we will include them on a new "*Farewell to the Reisser's*" page.

Regards,  
Andrew

## UPCOMING UAST EVENTS

By John Romanko, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Newsletter Editor

**Board Meetings** – Scheduled at AutoNation Dodge/Irving  
Saturdays: Noon – 3:00pm, --- July 29; Sept. 16; Oct 21; Nov. 4; and Dec. 2.

### Special Events

- Sat. July 15 Noon - 7:00pm - International Bazaar  
- Myerson Symphony  
Center Lobby
- Sat. Aug. 26 5:00pm-9:00pm - Ukrainian Independence Day  
Celebration  
- AAFES
- Oct. TBD - Evening Out
- Oct. 6 10:00am-3:00pm - State Fair Heritage Day  
- Dallas State Fair Grounds
- Sat. Nov. 4 - 5:00-7:00pm - General Membership/Election /  
Meeting  
- and Wine Tasting  
- AutoNationDodge/Irving
-  Nov. TBD 6:00-10:00pm - Polka Night
- Sat. Dec. 2 - 5:00-9:00pm - Sviata Vechera  
- AutoNation Dodge/Irving
- Sat. Jan. 20, 2001 6:00pm-1:00am - Malanka (planned)

**(MEMBERS: Put these events on your calendar. We will update them as necessary.)**

## MEMBERSHIP HAPPENINGS

By Linda Fielder – Membership/2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President

### Taras Shevchenko Tribute

The meeting room at AutoNation in Irving was filled the night of March 25th as UAST members paid tribute to Taras Shevchenko. The evening started off with the story of Taras Shevchenko by Marta Petrash-Vaughan. Marta followed this with some beautiful poetry readings and a medley of Ukrainian songs, including several duets with her mom, Nila. Some additional discussion of Taras Shevchenko was presented by her husband, Chandler. A truly wonderful performance by the Petrash-Vaughan family.

Additional readings given by Chrystya Geremesz and her daughter included the Ukrainian and English versions of a Taras Shevchenko poem. Michael Andriaschko concluded the evening with several verses from his favorite poem “The Caucasus” and provided us with copies of the entire poem.

Prior to the performance everyone enjoyed lots and lots of food as the tables overflowed with members dishes. This evening was organized primarily by John Romanko and his wife Rose. John also entertained us with his violin playing and he and Rose set up and cleaned up. So the next time you see the Romankos please thank them for their dedication to UAST and for all of the hard work they put into making the evening a success.

### Ukrainian News Update

For those of you who are a bit behind in Ukrainian news please take note of the following:

-- The May 7th issue of the Ukrainian Weekly contains a 14 page special supplement "A Ukrainian Summer". The supplement covers major Ukrainian events taking place this summer in the US and Canada as well as vacation specials to Ukraine. Most of the workshops, camps and festivals occur in the Northeast, i.e. PA and NY, but San Diego's Ukrainian Festival over Labor Day weekend as well as a few others are included.

-- Ukraine's new ambassador to the US is Kostyantyn Gryshchenko.

- and Win - AutoNation Dodge/Irving  
-- US visa regulations have been simplified to make it easier for Ukrainians wishing to travel to the US to do so.

-- Invitations are no longer needed for business and private visas for entry to Ukraine.

-- The Ukrainian Weekly has compiled a 2-volume publication of the most significant news stories and commentaries published by the Weekly during the newspaper's 66+ years of existence. Volume 1 is being provided to subscribers. I will provide you with more info on this next time.

-- The *Batkivschyna*, an 89 foot Ukrainian schooner, left Kyiv for the US on April 7 on the first leg of its journey to sail the globe and inform the world about Ukraine. The “Discover Ukraine” crew will take part in “Operation Sail 2000”, a gathering of some 400 historic tall ships and modern sailing vessels. The sailing vessels will cruise up the Eastern Seaboard of the US stopping at major port cities.

After OpSail 2000 the Discover Ukraine plans to sail to the Great Lakes before returning to the Atlantic and journeying to South America to spend the winter. I am hoping they will make a stop on the Texas coast so we can plan a van trip to greet them. I will keep you updated on this. What a terrific way to promote Ukraine in the US!

I hope to see everyone at our Ukrainian Independence Day celebration. While I know things are difficult in Ukraine our celebration gets us together as a community in the US. And what better way to do this than to have a party!

## DANCE NOTES FROM ZORYA

Susan Reisser, Co-Director

Saturday, April 15 Zorya took stage for the International Museum of Culture in Duncanville. An enthusiastic audience gave a rousing standing ovation, and then the Museum surprised the group with a check for their performance.

For the 25th anniversary of the group, Zorya women have recreated and revised the Hutsul suite wreath dance, and the men have reworked their Arkan. Both dances debuted at the Texas State Folklife Festival in San Antonio at the afternoon shows. This year, festival officials had decided to try a new date, hoping to avoid the intense hot weather of late summer, and the group traveled down June 2-4. Junior and senior dancers performed Friday night, Saturday afternoon, Saturday evening, and Sunday afternoon. Evening shows highlighted the Texan and Poltava, with Transcarpathian and Hutsul dances in the afternoons. We celebrated our anniversary at a party at the Menger Hotel Saturday evening.

We welcome new dancer, Nadya Skrnyk, daughter of Natalia and Igor. Natalia brought her lovely dance talent and expertise from Ukraine to our group last year.

#### Post Folklife Festival Update

Zorya had a blast in San Antonio for their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We performed four shows over the weekend, including the newly revised and expanded edition of the Hutsul suite, and had terrific feedback from the audience, as well as standing ovations. John Romanko added a new dimension to the show with violin interludes and as a strolling musician.

#### HOUSTON CONCERT NEWS -From Olia and Bill Parmer through "Houston Ukes Announcements" email network

The Society for the Performing Arts of Houston, Texas has included the Veriovka Ukrainian National Dance Company in their 2000-2001 season.

Veriovka will be presented in concert at Jones Hall in Houston on Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2000 at 8:00pm. Subscriptions to the SPA season are being accepted now. Single tickets won't be available for a couple of months. For more information, check the SPA website:

<http://www.spahouston.org>. Don't be dismayed when you go to this site and find that SPA's website still has the 1999-2000 season information all over it. Click on the "SPA News" icon in the left-hand sidebar to see a description of next season's offerings.

#### **THE UKRAINIAN LITURGY**

By Chrystya Geremesz

St. Sophia Ukrainian Catholic Mission continues to have their weekly liturgies at Holy Trinity Seminary Chapel in Irving, Texas. The following is the schedule for the summer:

Sunday,	June 18, 2000	10:00 AM
Sunday,	June 25, 2000	10:00 AM

Sunday,	July 2, 2000	10:00 AM
Sunday,	July 9, 2000	10:00 AM
Sunday,	July 16, 2000	10:00 AM
Sunday,	July 23, 2000	10:00 AM
Sunday,	July 30, 2000	10:00 AM

The Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of Chicago is currently reviewing a church site in The Colony as the future site for St. Sophia's Ukrainian Catholic Church. This site has an existing church building with enough space to house the sanctuary, rectory and a reception hall with adequate outdoor parking. There is also an outdoor playground and approximately 3 acres for expansion. We are very excited and blessed to have the financial and spiritual support of His Excellency, Bishop Michael Wivchar.

We welcome all Ukrainians, their families and friends to our liturgies and know you will share in our excitement in establishing this vital link amongst Ukrainians in the Dallas / Fort Worth area. For more information, please contact either Father Taras at 972-579-4965 or Chrystya Geremesz at 214-368-2055.

#### Board Contacts:

Andrew Chobany	<a href="mailto:andchob@swbell.net">andchob@swbell.net</a>	972-235-4920
John Romanko	<a href="mailto:jromanko@fwst.net">jromanko@fwst.net</a>	817-292-0022
Linda Fielder	<a href="mailto:lfielder@westla.net">lfielder@westla.net</a>	972-416-1966
Cathy Teinert	<a href="mailto:Browntoe@flash.net">Browntoe@flash.net</a>	817-267-0391
Michael Andriaschko	<a href="mailto:entouch2001@home.com">entouch2001@home.com</a>	972-306-8407

#### **TWO VIEWS OF UAST PICNIC**

By Linda Fielder and by Cathy Teinert

#### Linda

A beautiful sunny, breezy day, a shaded pavilion and picnic tables laden with terrific food describes the setting for the second annual UAST picnic at Canyon Creek Park in Richardson. UAST members and guests had a great time socializing, playing volleyball and other games, swimming and of course eating terrific food including marinated chicken breasts, hamburgers and hot dogs cooked to perfection by our own chef Michael Andriaschko. A wonderful time was had by all who attended.

Special thanks for this affair goes to our president Andrew Chobany who for the second year in a row planned and organized this picnic. Not only was he at the park by 9AM saving the pavilion for us but he was also responsible for the blue and yellow balloons on the street corners leading to the park, the decorations and games, and most of the food provided including the marinated chicken breasts. It was because of his enthusiasm and leadership that we are able to have this picnic and UAST. Thanks, Andrew!!!

#### Cathy

Bocci Ball Champion Crowned at UAST Annual Memorial Day Picnic!

The annual Memorial Day UAST Picnic was held May 28th at the Canyon Creek Park in Richardson. The day started with our chef, Michael Andriaschko cooking up great hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken breasts! (Thanks Andrew for marinating the chicken in your special sauce, delicious!!) Several salads and fixins were also enjoyed on the side and there was no shortage of cold beer and drinks. Children enjoyed swimming in the park pool and all enjoyed the good food and company. The highlight ended up being several rounds of bocci lawn ball which sparked a championship round between the winners of previous matches. It was jeers and cheers from the watching crowds as balls were hurled towards the targeted area. The game was challenged by particularly high grass, wet areas and a gravel pit. The tossers fine tuned their skills with each toss as ground conditions were changing rapidly as afternoon sun dried the grass. The competition was intense! The score stayed closed in the championship round till the final throw. The winner was Mark Glagola...with one final precise toss of the ball! The weather was picnic perfect with a gentle breeze blowing the warm late May air against our proud Ukrainian flag. Music was festive and friendships were made and renewed. This was one event that should not have been missed. Thanks to all the UAST members who organized and contributed to another great Ukie get together.

**Dmetro Andrychuck UKRAINIAN SCHOLARSHIP**  
Status Report by Dmetro Andrychuk

Jerry Shuhan and I are working out the details of establishing this scholarship for UAST in the Dallas County district colleges and universities. When these details are worked out this information will be conveyed to the membership

**THANKS DUE**

Our thanks to AutoNation/Dodge Irving for their ongoing



support by providing our organization the complimentary use of their Community Room for various meetings. If you need information on an auto, you may contact Chad Gregory at AutoNation/Dodge at the following:

<http://www.autonationdodgeirving.com>

or phone 972-731-3832 to get him directly.



**UKRAINIAN AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TEXAS**

2505 Overcreek Rd.  
 Richardson, TX 75080