



UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth

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Western Pennsylvania UOL Retreat 2017 Submitted by Marianne Carmack



On Saturday, March 18, 2017, the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA held the Ohio/Western Pennsylvania Annual Lenten Retreat at Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center in Villa Maria, PA. His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, President of the Consistory, presided over a day of prayer, worship, learning, and fellowship for the faithful of all ages. The day began with Morning Prayers, continued with inspiring talks, discussion and activities, great food, and a wonderful exchange of love filled with the joy of praying and learning with our clergy and our brothers and sisters in Christ from many different parishes.

The speakers included His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Ph.D., Fr. John Harvey, Fr. Kenneth Barchofsky, Ph.D. (ACROD) and Fr. Gregory Becker. They shared their insights and explanations of how the asceticism of Great Lent, the Sundays of Pascha, culminating in the Great Feast of Pentecost, should inform and shape our daily lives and Christian ministry throughout the Church year. And, that our spiritual striving doesn't stop the day after Pascha. Vladyko Daniel challenged our hearts and minds with the questions: Do we have the courage to be a Christian? Do we understand that that may mean sacrificing our lives and are we willing to do that? Do we fully appreciate the notion that we must make a daily commitment to the Lord and His Service?

In keeping with a vital Lenten theme - almsgiving - Fr. Deacon Ihor graciously shared information about the work of St. Andrew's Orthodox Society, an integral ministry of the Church. The Society's philanthropic mission focuses on providing humanitarian assistance to the needy and supporting church-related projects in Ukraine. Since its founding, the Society has raised

over 1.3 million dollars towards the support of religious, education and humanitarian projects.

In addition to our speakers, we welcomed Fr. Andrew Gall, Fr. Paisius McGrath, Fr. Daniel Rohan, Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay, John Holowko, President of the UOL, Seminarians Subdeacon Mykola Zomchak, Subdeacon Mykhaylo



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**Rhode Island.....the biggest little state in the Union
Cordially invites you to:
The 70th Annual U.O.L. Convention
July 26-30, 2017
Hosted by St. Michael the Archangel UOC
Woonsocket, RI
Declare Among the Nations, His Works! (Psalm 104:1)
Find us on Facebook "2017 UOL Convention"**



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UOL Bulletin - Published seven times annually - September, October, November, January/February, March, April/May and June.

The absolute deadline for each monthly issue is the 1st of the prior month. Photos will not be returned.

Note to Contributors: All articles submitted to the UOL Bulletin must be in 12 point Times New Roman (font), or typed and double spaced in 12 point type. Articles may be submitted via e-mail attachments. (Submit to: nsufler@aol.com). If submitting photos please be sure to obtain consents for photos to be included in the UOL Bulletin.

The editor reserves the right to condense any material submitted. Material cannot be returned.

**MESSAGE FROM
THE
SENIOR
UOL PRESIDENT**



John Holowko

Glory to Jesus Christ! Slava Isusu Khrystu!
I sincerely hope that your personal journey during Great Lent has brought or is bringing you closer to God. I believe God’s love for us could not be any greater than it already is, but our ability in today’s world to pause, reflect, forgive, fast, or simply change for the sake of being a better person is, to say the least, challenging. For me, as with many, Forgiveness Sunday has a special meaning. I see it in people’s faces. To ask forgiveness and then to hear the words that you are forgiven, face to face, with the very people that you interact with or have sinned against; to open your heart up and let go is certainly humbling, emotional and so meaningful that I cannot even begin to describe it. Simply said, as many clergy say, if we cannot forgive others, how can we expect God’s mercy on us? If you did not attend Forgiveness Sunday Vespers this year, and you seek that feeling of humility to come over you and your children, come next year for the benefit of your family. The sermon I heard this year was very meaningful, thank you Father Deacon Ivan.



**Ask Fr. Harvey
Questions answered
by Fr. John W. Harvey**

What does the tradition of the tapping on the head with the chalice represent?

As this is certainly not a universal custom in our parishes, I must explain. After all have communed during the Liturgy the priest prepares to return the chalice and diskos to the table of oblations. He blesses the people with the gifts by making the sign of the cross over them. In some parishes those who have communed as well as some of those who have not received the gifts line up and the priest touches their heads with the chalice.

This certainly is a pious custom brought from Europe, but even in Ukraine it wasn’t done everywhere. Let us analyze this tradition, which is perceived as a special blessing. For those who have just received the Body and Blood of Christ into their being this is a bit redundant as they already have God dwelling in them. Now for those who have not approached for Communion, for whatever reason, this tapping on the forehead represents at least a token blessing with the Sacrament and an intimate connection with the Liturgy just short of actually receiving the elements.

For those who have not communed, this can be a meaningful substitute, but wouldn’t it be better to properly prepare oneself to actually receive Christ into your being? As a tradition that exists in some parishes, it probably does not need to be suppressed, only clarified a bit for proper understanding. Definitely, in new parishes a tradition such as this should not be instituted, but rather a weekly reception of the Eucharist with due preparation should be encouraged.



In the Lord’s Prayer there is a confusing verse which states “and lead us not into temptation.” I don’t understand how the Lord could do such a thing, so what does it mean?

The problem is that all translations suffer and the full or clear meaning of a phrase in the original language can often get skewed upon translation. Certainly Jesus is not seeking to entrap us in a sin and He certainly is not the temptor by any means. The world, the flesh and the devil are our sources of temptation and God Himself is always trying to commune with His creation and not trying to trick us into falling into sin or put us in bondage to the enemy.

Remember our English translation is sixteenth century Anglican and translations often can reflect the personal views, beliefs or agenda of the translator. The correct meaning of this phrase should rather express the desire that the Lord not let us fall into the path of overt temptation but deflect us from such a danger.

Another misconception is the phrase rendered, “And deliver us from evil.” The Roman Catholic Church in its Liturgy prays right after the conclusion of the “Our Father” “deliver us from all evil, past present and to come.” In the original Greek, the word used does not refer to evil in general, but it is understood that it is the evil one, which would be Satan. This is why our prayer book concludes the Our Father with evil one rather than generic evil. See how a mistranslation, but used for centuries, can skew our perception and presuppositions.

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At the time of this writing, there have already been two Lenten Retreats for many to be able to partake in this Great Lent. Palos Park and the South-West with its focus on “Spiritual Growth and the Virtues.” Youngstown and Western PA with a focus on “Pascha to Pentecost,” that reminds us all that the celebration of our Lord’s resurrection is not a one day celebration-rather a season of 50 days with it culminating with the birthday of our Church, our own Passover. Further, the Bethlehem retreat is yet to come, and I am confident it will be rewarding as the Divine Liturgy will be discussed, giving us a better opportunity to participate in and understand the spiritual significance of the different portions of our Liturgy and the Eucharist and its place in the Liturgy and the life of our Church.

I see the number of retreats possibly doubling by next year, as many of our seeds have been planted this year with many of our Committee members reaching out. I also see the retreats becoming more and more Pan-Orthodox which is a great vehicle for sharing and learning from those in our sister churches. Much like the early settlers we are expanding westward—this year Palos Park—next year LA? Moreover, these retreats provide an additional opportunity to pause from the daily grind and mind-set and to truly focus on the important things within one’s self and family. That pause, in my world, seems so difficult to attain.

At the risk of repeating myself from my last article, and I know it’s only April, but I also know that many are beginning their planning for the summer. **I hope you and your Parishes strongly consider sending your children to ASC, even if it is just for a week.** Wanting and needing to get away as a family is wonderful, needed, as well as a challenge for all with many things to balance. I believe ASC is one of our jewels that can offer your children so much for a small investment. It is minor in costs, as compared to sport’s or other camps. I hope Parish Boards, not just families, ask if their children can go and even help with the investment. Is it not the responsibility of our Church Boards to be pastoral and planning for the future? Again, it is an investment in your Parish children and should our Boards not be focused on our children? We are Parish families that together need to focus on the pastoral needs of all. **“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it,” Proverbs 22:6.** Yes, a former convention theme. The Hosting Chapter being? What do you want for your parish children?

You are starting to hear more and more about this year’s convention in Rhode Island- no shortage of things to do for those wanting to mix in some beach or tourism. We continue to aim at getting it better for all—the Convention is not the purpose of the League- it is, however, an event where we can all unite as one family to help each other, connect, learn and walk away feeling better than before we arrived-an opportunity to pause, learn and connect. We will be working hard over the next few months to accomplish just that. We would like to bring all the attendees further spiritual growth, time to enjoy the local landscape, and to align ourselves in an efficient manner with the League’s goals for the upcoming year.

A reminder, in 2018, our Convention will be held at our Metropolia Center in South Bound Brook to coincide with the 100-year celebration of our Church here in the USA on July 28th, 2018. At the past convention in Coatesville, PA, your chapters were asked to work on archiving your local UOL history.

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Welcome to Woonsocket....Home of the "All-Inclusive" Convention!

Does your UOL convention registration form look a little different this year?

Are you wondering why the prices seem a little higher?

We can explain all that, and hope that it will entice you (even more) to join us at the 70th Annual UOL "All-Inclusive" Convention!

Our upcoming convention this July 26 to 30, 2017 will make it easy to enjoy your family and UOL friends. We have taken the time to set the stage for all meals being included in the packet registration price. 'Why' is a question you might be asking. And the reason is, we want you to be able to spend more time together and less time worrying about where to have breakfast and lunch, and running out of time before returning to the meeting schedule. It will also allow the business meetings to continue while you are finishing your meals.

Included in the package price will be continental breakfasts and boxed lunches on both Friday and Saturday. These meals will be in addition to a fabulous brunch after Thursday's Liturgy and our Saturday banquet and Sunday brunch at Saint Michael's in Woonsocket. And you will not have to leave our campus away from home.

Of course, we have more planned than just food! On Thursday, we will travel to Woonsocket to visit our parish and see just how far we have come since the fire of 2012. While it is still a work in progress, we have come a long way. And after our visit, we will have a traditional family style chicken dinner at the Village Haven Restaurant in Forestdale, RI. The meal will include a pirate themed dinner show, so be sure to bring your eye patches and pirate wear, matey! After dinner we will return to our hotel where there will be a special hospitality "popcorn night," where we hope to make our Juniors and pre-juniors especially welcome.

Friday will be a busy day. After a half day of business meetings, we will take our "grab-and-go" lunch on our coaches and head to beautiful Newport, RI. Home to some of society's elite, we will visit the Breakers mansion, after which we will head downtown to Thames Street, where the unique quaint shops will be sure to have some eye catching souvenirs to take home! Once your shopping bags are full, it's time to go back over the Newport Bridge to the small island of Jamestown where we will have our RI clambake on the water. There is a volleyball court for some Junior fun in the beach sand, as well as the ocean to dip your toes into! And although you should not be hungry returning to the hotel, there will be another hospitality evening planned by our 2018 Convention hosts.

If you haven't been to a convention in a while, why not consider joining us in Rhode Island! Our tiny state has so much to offer. Consider coming early and/or staying longer.

See you in Little Rhody! Visit our Facebook or church website for updates and more information.

(UOL President- continued from page 2)

I do hope you have been working on it, along with helping your own parish archive its own history. All questions, scans, pictures can be directed to our Church Archivist, Dr. Michael Andrec. He needs your information as soon as possible. **You are not doing it for yourself, rather for the memory of your relatives and the people before you.** It should be your goal to get this information to Dr. Andrec before the summer.

Lastly, please remember that the annual St. Thomas Weekend Pilgrimage will be held at the Metropolia Center on Saturday, April 22nd and Sunday, April 23rd. If you are in the NJ area that weekend, **please consider helping the UOL manage the parking at this major fundraising event.** Just two hours of your time makes a difference and just think of all the wonderful conversations you can have with the paying attendees (those having worked it know exactly what I mean, all fun). **Email sts@uolnj.org for more information.** Also on Saturday afternoon, treat your family to lunch at the Seminary Picnic and Cookout at 3:00 PM. Thank you.

Yours in Christ,
John Holowko

NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR UOL PRESIDENT



Orest Mahlay

Christ is Risen !

On behalf of the Executive of the Junior UOL I would like to greet everyone during this joyous Paschal season. We celebrate this greatest of Feasts, for the Resurrection gives us true meaning to our lives and confirms our eternal destiny. This season is a time for joy, unity, and peace for all Christians around the world. Spread this Paschal joy to everyone around you by expressing your love to one and all!

I would like to thank everyone who attended the two retreats during this past Lenten Season. Being able to attend the retreat at Villa Maria was an uplifting and exciting experience and helped me to prepare for the joy of the Resurrection.

As we approach the annual convention, the Junior UOL is continuing to collect for the Great Lent Giveaway, which this year is helping *Zoe for Life*, an organization that offers services to women in crisis pregnancies. Mothers are offered emotional, medical and material help (clothing, baby furniture, food, toys, etc.) and as well women are helped to find other resources and necessities through partnering institutions. Sophia Dobronos (smdobronos@aol.com / 216-789-4129) is coordinating this effort in cooperation with the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry (uocyouth@aol.com). We hope that everyone is able to contribute to this important charitable cause.

Also with the annual Convention quickly approaching, the Junior UOL raffle tickets are on sale now. The drawing will be at the Convention in July. Please send all of your tickets and payments to our Vice President, Erica Holowko. If you need more tickets or have any questions feel free to contact Erica at ehollowko105@aol.com. We would also like to remind everyone about the Pysh Travel Grant that is available to the chapters. This grant helps cover the costs of traveling to the Convention in July. Please consider applying for this grant so that you can join us for this special gathering. Feel free to contact me for more information.

Please feel free to contact me at orest.mahlay@gmail.com or at my number (440) 829-5873. I would be grateful if you could let me know how I could help the youth at your parish.

Yours in Christ,
Orest Mahlay



(Ask Fr. Harvey - continued from page 2)

My neighbor is a devout Baptist and has been encouraging me to attend services in his church. He explained to me that his parish places a strong focus on evangelism. It seems like Orthodox do not focus on evangelism. Is it orthodox to evangelize?

Looking back over the history of the Orthodox Church, there certainly was a spirit of evangelism in the early church as we see Christendom expanding to all corners of the known world. Kingdoms such as Armenia, Georgia and far off Ethiopia quickly embraced Orthodox Christianity due to evangelistic zeal.

The rise of Islam, and its bold practice of the evangelism of their faith by the sword, kept the Orthodox Church on the defensive. As a quarter of the world came under the sway of Islam, the remaining Christians in those lands expended their energy on just keeping Christianity alive in their communities. On the Northern front Orthodoxy spread from Kyivan Rus north to present day Russia and centuries later all across Siberia (many time zones) even to Japan, China and Alaska. Is this not evangelism in the truest sense???? The rise of Bolshevism had the same effect as the Moslem expansion. All effort is made to continue Christian existence even if it is just an underground existence In the late 20th century as Communism falls new possibilities for evangelism arise.

Orthodox missions spread in most African nations and missions opened in Asia as well. Go on the Orthodox Christian Mission Center website and feast

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UOL Souper Bowl at St. Vladimir Pittsburgh, PA

Submitted by Kaleena Peters

On Sunday, February 5th, Saint Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Pittsburgh held a "Souper Bowl." The soups were cheddar broccoli, borscht,



lentil, chicken noodle, vegetable and minestrone. The soups were made and donated by various parishioners. The event was organized by the Junior UOL.



Along with the soups, navy baseball hats embroidered with a Tryzub were a big hit. Over 25 children and adults got hats. All proceeds from the soups and hats will be donated to Saint Andrews Society. All in all, the Souper Bowl



was very beneficial and a very successful first event for our new group. Three hundred and fifty dollars was raised.

Would you like us to visit in 2019?

Prior to our summer months, talk amongst your chapter members—can you host a convention?

It is much work—but so rewarding in so many ways for parish family!

You will get the help you need.

Interested? Ask questions!

Make a bid at this year's convention!

Convention 2019?



Meet Our Seminarians

Submitted by Michael Komichak

There are seven full-time students currently enrolled in our St. Sophia Seminary in South Bound Brook, NJ. Below are brief profiles of two members of this year's resident class. When you attend this summer's UOL Convention in Woonsocket, RI, you can meet these students and get to know them better.

Subdeacon Mykola Zomchak "I am currently in my second year at St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Seminary studying theology and preparing for priestly ministry in our Holy Orthodox Church. I was born in 1995 into a Christian family in the village of Stankova in the Kalush district of Ivano-Frankivsk province (oblast). From an early age I practiced Christian traditions and helped serve at our local parish, the Archangel of God Michael Church. I enjoyed reading the Epistle during services, and I considered the church my second home. When I was older and had more experience with church life, I helped our church cantor with his duties.



After attending the Stankivskiy General Education School, I entered Kalush Polytechnic College to study finance, which is an area of study that I found very interesting. I continued my studies at the Ivano-Frankivsk Institute of Management at the Ternopil National Economic University, earning a Bachelor's degree in finance and credit.

While in Ternopil, I would often sing during services at the Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin, and the desire to know God better and pursue a priestly vocation grew in my heart. Feeling called to serve God and all people, I came to America to study at St. Sophia Seminary. I am here to learn more about God and hopefully, if it is His will, one day to be ordained as a priest so that I can help others find the true path to God and salvation in Him.

Every day here is interesting! Here at the Seminary I have the unique opportunity to serve with our Hierarchs and to visit parishes with them, thereby coming to better appreciate how great a responsibility it is to care spiritually for each parish and for the archdiocese as a whole. It is especially important for me and my preparation for priestly ministry to be involved with people who work with the children at All Saints Camp or who travel on the mission trips to orphanages in Ukraine.

In 2016 His Eminence Archbishop Daniel ordained me to the rank of Subdeacon. Assuming the duties of a Subdeacon, I am humbly aware that with this I have more responsibilities to the Church and to God. I thank the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA especially Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel, and all the faithful of the UOC of USA for their sacrifice and support of St. Sophia Seminary and for giving me the opportunity to pursue my studies at St. Sophia."

Hryhorii Matviiv "I was born in 1997 in the village of Zahir'ya in the Tlumach district of Ivano-Frankivsk province (oblast). Through my family upbringing, my whole life has been connected to the Church. From my earliest childhood years, I always attended Liturgy and helped our priest whenever I could. After my brother was ordained a priest, I used to accompany him as he traveled to nearby villages to serve and minister to the people. My cousin and I both hoped to attend seminary and someday follow in my brother's footsteps.



After attending the Bratyshivskiy General Education School, I entered the Subcarpathian National University V.Stefanyk Institute in the Mathematics and Informatics department of Applied Mathematics. Already during my first year at the University, I realized that my true calling was to be a priest. With the support of my brother, I went for an interview for selection to study at St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary in the US. By the grace of God, I received my first vestments during the Divine Liturgy shortly after arriving at the Seminary in September 2015. Now completing my second year of studies, I can see my dream of serving God and preaching His Word being realized. I sincerely thank the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, its hierarchs and parishioners, the Seminary administration, and everyone who helps me in my training."

(UOL Retreat - continued from page 1)

Bokalo, Hryhorii Matviiv and Tadei Surak; Alexandra Kocelko, Esq., Member of the Metropolitan Council and all those, undaunted by the gloomy winter weather, who came and participated, giving freely of themselves to each other during the day - so inspiring and exhilarating.

A very special thank you to the committee (Fr. John Harvey, Marianne Carmack, Dr. Dinah Fedyna, Stephanie Woloschak Rimedio, Ginny Ulbricht, and Pauline Witkowsky) for their efforts in this important UOL of USA organization outreach.



All Saints Camp Submitted by Alya Kocelko

All Saints Camp changed my life. I cannot make it any clearer that without ASC I wouldn't be the person I am today. My faith would not be as strong, my knowledge of theology would not be as deep, and my life would not be as full. I've been blessed to have been involved in nearly every aspect of All Saints Camp, from camper at Diocesan Church School Camp and Teenage Conference, to staff aid and counselor, to serving as Treasurer of DCSC, to working on the programming staff, to sitting on the Camp Executive Committee. I'd say the only part of camp I haven't worked on is maintenance and I assure you that's best for everyone.

From the time I was a DCSC camper, my summers revolved around camp. I can vividly remember counting down from basically the day we left camp until the following year. As a kid, I was drawn to camp for the activities: swimming, dancing, seeing friends from all across the country, and of course, the Ukie Olympics, where my poor athletic ability and competitive streak waged a tough war. While I can't say that it was the church school classes that inspired such anticipation and fervor (shocking for a 10 year old!), as an adult I can appreciate that while I looked forward to camp for the fun I ended up leaving with a deeper knowledge of our faith, a stronger prayer life and a foundation which guides me to this day. Christ tells us in His Sermon on the Mount that, "blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled." Matthew 5:6. I believe that ASC, and the fun, fellowship and friends found there, "salt the oats" so to speak, that make our youth "hunger and thirst for righteousness." It's unreasonable to expect that our children will stay tied to the Faith long after they leave home if all they do is attend church once a week. We all want and need to feel part of a community. While attending church and partaking in the sacraments is an essential part of living our Faith, there is much to be said about having fun and making friends along the way. Especially in high school, where there are so many activities



Seminary Van Campaign Crosses 25% Mark

Submitted by Michael J. Komichak

Just before last summer's UOL Convention, our St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary purchased a much-needed 2013 Ford Econoline E-350 Super Duty XLT 12-passenger van. The UOL subsequently launched a national fund raising campaign to reimburse the Seminary for the van's entire \$16,000 purchase price. Thanks to your generous contributions, as of April 1st we have so far raised over \$4000 for this project! Of course, we still have a long way to go. Donations received by May 31st (the end of the UOL's fiscal year) will be included in this year's financial reports presented at the upcoming Convention in Woonsocket in July. Let's show as much progress as possible in this first year on reaching our \$16K goal! Please send your contributions to: Ukrainian Orthodox League #SSSVan, c/o Alex Shevchuk, UOL Financial Secretary, 1 Glenbrook Court, Whippany, NJ 07981-2313. You can also make your donation online via the UOL Paypal account at uol.orthodoxws.com/donate.html. Just be sure to click on "Project / In Memory of / To Honor" and specify that your donation is for the Van Fund Drive. Many thanks!

and events pulling for time, having a great group of people and fun encampments can make all the difference as to whether we want to go to church camp, as opposed to sports camps, lounging by the pool, or making some money at that summer job.

Growing up Orthodox means living differently than most of our friends back home. Instead of Sundays spent watching cartoons, we attend Divine Liturgy. Instead of burgers on a Friday night, we fast from meat. Instead of celebrating Christmas on December 25, we wait a full thirteen days later. It's never easy to be "different" but it's especially challenging as a teenager. That's why I'm so grateful for ASC, for giving me a place where, for two weeks a summer, I wasn't "different" because we were all Orthodox Christians. I am still best friends with many of my fellow ASC campers, kids I met at 10 years old who lived states away are still the ones I call with good and bad news. These friends build me up and support me, not only in everyday life, but also in my journey as an Orthodox Christian. They are the ones I can call upon for prayers, the ones who will go with me to Lenten services and retreats, the ones who share the same beliefs.

What may come as a surprise to many who've known me for years, is that I can't guarantee where my faith would be without All Saints Camp. This comes from a person whose family is deeply grounded in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, who was taken to Liturgy every Sunday, who attended special services during Lent, who spent time with priests and hierarchs from a young age as the great-niece of Metropolitan Constantine, of Blessed Memory. And while it is likely that I would have stayed in this church after high school and college, I know that ASC is what tied me to our church. I know it was the friends I made, the lessons I learned, and the habits I developed attending camp that all but guaranteed my continued involvement. I am forever grateful for my parents for shipping me off that first year when I didn't know what to expect and then sending me year after year, to my friends who were along for the ride, and especially for Metropolitan Constantine who loved camp just as much as I did and did so much to support it. It is the reason I am involved

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2017 UOL Essay Contest

“Declare among the nations His works” Psalm 104:1

Deadline April 29, 2017

Pre-K and Kindergarten

Each day we see examples of the works of God. Remember that God created all in nature. Draw a picture of some of these works that you see every day. No names on the pictures front or back. No larger than 12 inches x 18 inches.

Grades 1 and 2

Draw a picture and write 2 to 3 sentences describing your favorite of all of God’s work in nature.

Grades 3 and 4

Write a paragraph (5 to 8 sentences) about how you give thanks and praise to God. Print or type.

Grades 5 and 6

Write 50 to 100 words. In Psalm 100:3 it says “Know that the Lord is God! It is He that made us.” We are a work of God. What should we be doing to protect this work of God? Print or type.

Grades 7 and 8

Write 100 to 175 words. Some of the large problems happening in the God’s world today are global warming and pollution. What are you doing to help God’s work and the Earth get better? How do you get your message to the rest of God’s people? Print or type

Grades 9 and 10

Write 200 to 300 words. In Psalm 96:3 it says, “Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples!” What do you do to declare God’s glory among His people? Must be typed.

Grades 11 and 12

Write 300 to 500 words. The goal of the high school mission trips is to do God’s work and help others. In the past missionaries have cleaned up the cemetery at our Metropolia Center, helped restore shrines, helped at homeless shelters in Philadelphia, New York and St. Augustine (to name a few), and many other works to help our fellow man. What would you suggest as future projects for the high schoolers and why do you feel these are important? Must be typed.

Adults 18 and over

Write a minimum of 500 words. In these times of political correctness, it is thought to be not politically correct to sing praises to God in public in the chance that we may offend someone. How do we as Orthodox Christians “Declare among the nations His work” in this time of political correctness? Must be typed.

On a separate sheet include: Name, age, grade if appropriate, name of home parish with city and state. Adults, just say adult. Minors need a note stating we can publish work in the Bulletin if they win first place.

Email entries to: Teresa Linck: tlinck430@gmail.com (typed entries only).

Or mail entries to: Teresa Linck, 9629 Chapelcroft St., Philadelphia, PA 19115

UOL History Project - Why is the UOL Important to Me?

Essay Collection

Submitted by Natalie Bilynsky

We will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of our Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA in 2018. As part of our celebration we plan to have a collection of essays from members answering the question, “Why is the UOL important to me?”

We encourage everyone to take up this challenge and submit an essay. It will be wonderful to have a collection of essays outlining the importance of the UOL. Please don’t delay. Many have answered saying that their essay is coming. We have received multiple essays and are thankful to those who wrote.

To submit your essay, please email it to Natalie Bilynsky at nsufler@aol.com. You can also send a hard copy to Natalie Bilynsky 703 Pine Ridge Road Media, PA 19063.

May for MJSF

Submitted by Michael Komichak



For over 50 years, the UOL’s Metropolitan John Scholarship Fund has helped to financially support the education of our seminarians and clergy, whether they be full-time or part-time students. Elsewhere in this issue of the UOL Bulletin, you can read brief profiles of two of our current resident seminarians attending St. Sophia Seminary. We are indeed blessed to have such dedicated, high-quality students at our Seminary. Everyone knows that a good college education is very expensive these days. A great way to help our seminarians achieve their goals is to contribute to the UOL’s Metropolitan John Scholarship Fund.

While we certainly encourage and welcome your individual contributions, please also consider organizing an event to raise donations in your parish or community for this important scholarship fund. Something as simple as “passing the basket” during coffee hour can help ensure that the UOC of USA has the qualified clergy we need to continue to minister to our faithful in the future.

This May marks the 46th anniversary of the repose in the Lord of His Beatitude Metropolitan-Archbishop John, the first Ukrainian Orthodox Bishop of the USA. Especially during this anniversary month, let’s honor Metropolitan John’s service and legacy while ensuring the future of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Your generous financial support for MJSF is urgently needed. Thank you!



(Ask Fr. Harvey - continued from page 3)

your eyes on worldwide orthodox evangelism efforts. I have been on 3 O.C.M.C. mission trips to South America and can vouch for the truth of Orthodox evangelism.

What about this country and the place of our parishes in evangelism. Orthodoxy in this land until recently had a very chaotic stance. Many dioceses of people with different backgrounds striving to keep their churches alive. For many, America was a strange land and church and survival of ethnicity and all of its traditions was the main thrust of activity. As an example of human nature ruling over spiritual considerations, we do have parishes that do not want anyone who is not from their village in Ukraine, or is from a different era of immigration. Sad to say many of our parishes have not evolved out of this ethnic preservation mindset. Yet our church as a whole has embraced evangelism. Our camping programme is pan-Orthodox and we co-operate with other Orthodox churches in so many ways. We have inter-orthodox organizations such as Orthodox Prison ministries and International Orthodox Christian Charities which give a fantastic Christian evangelistic and charitable witness.

Do you invite friends to your church or to your parish bible or adult study sessions? Our church does have evangelistic material available. If your church is still wrapped up solely in ethnic preservation or excludes others, then shame on you.

We are the Orthodox church which evangelized the ancient world and more recently Siberia and to the East. After centuries of slumber, or just trying to exist under Communism, we now should exhibit the zeal of evangelism. Be proud of Orthodox Christianity, which has remained unchanged over the centuries, and make its riches accessible to all mankind.



Why do we have Ukrainian and American flags in church?

In point of fact, flags of any kind are not necessary in church at all. As it is the custom to have flags in public places, the church often is the place where they are placed and duly honored. There is a rule that both U.S. and foreign or state flags must be displayed in a certain order, which must be followed if they are to be ensconced in the church proper. One of our parishes in Jones, Oklahoma displays flags of all the various ethnic groups which make up their diverse parish. Besides the American and Ukrainian flags, there exist the flags of Georgia, Romania and a host of others. This shows a healthy recognition of the various cultures and heritages that make for a small but vibrant parish.



Continue the UOL Tradition:

Sponsor a Seminarian to Attend Convention!

At past UOL Conventions, we have enjoyed the participation of our St. Sophia seminarians, made possible by the generous donations of several of our UOL Chapters and members who have heard the call for assistance. This year, the "costs," which include meals, lodging, and the overall Convention registration packet, amount to approximately \$500 per seminarian. We again ask for your help: whether as an individual or as a Chapter, please consider sponsoring a seminarian to attend the Convention. Any amount you can contribute will be greatly appreciated!

You can send your donation to the Convention Chair Christine Charest, St. Michael UOC, 74 Harris Ave, Woonsocket, RI 02895 or contribute online using PayPal at www.uol.orthodoxws.com/donate.html. Please include a note specifying the purpose of your donation as "Convention Seminarian Sponsorship." Thank you!

The 70th Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention

Hosted by St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Woonsocket, RI
July 26th–30th, 2017

"Declare among the nations, His works"–Psalm 104:1

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ E-mail: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: Day () _____ Evening () _____
 Representing: _____ (Chapter/Parish/MAL)

PACKET PRICES

Early Registration Discount (postmarked before June 15 th , 2017) <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy (Priests, P. Matkas, Deacons) \$200 <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Delegate/Guest \$275 <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. Delegate/Guest \$250 <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Junior \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Registration* \$995 Registration Prices (received after June 15, 2017) <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy (Priests, P. Matkas, Deacons) \$225 <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Delegate/Guest \$295 <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. Delegate/Guest \$275 <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Junior \$125
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*The Family Early Registration packet price is for 2 adults & 2 Juniors. Additional Junior Family Members beyond the 2 included in the Family Packet are only \$200 each. (Please fill out a separate registration form for each member of your family).

Banquet Meal Choices: (Please choose one)
 Prime Rib Pork Fish Eggplant Rolotini Children (under 13)
 All meals are gluten free. If ordering fish, please note **"no topping"**

Make checks payable to: 70th UOL Convention
Please mail completed forms with payment to:
 70th UOL Convention
 c/o Janice Meschisen
 140 Sutherland Road
 North Attleboro, MA 02760
 For individual tickets or questions
 Contact Bridesong150@gmail.com or 508-695-6095

CONVENTION LOCATION – HOTEL RESERVATIONS
CROWNE PLAZA 801 Greenwich Ave., Warwick, RI 02886 401-732-6000
 UOL Convention rate of \$129 per room/night
Reserve your room by June 30th to lock in your rate
 Come a little early, stay a little late at SAME CONVENTION RATE!

(All Saints Camp - continued from page 5)

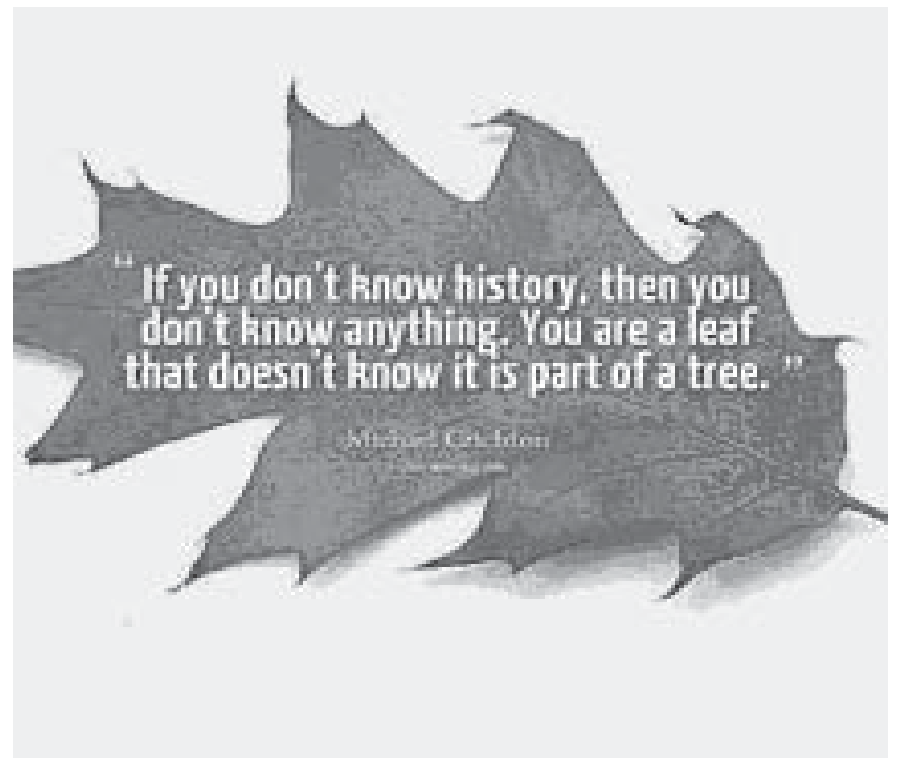
with our church on a national level, so that I can be a loud and present voice pushing All Saints Camp.

And it is because I owe so much of myself to ASC that I encourage everyone to attend. Whether it's kids going to DCSC for the first time, parents bringing their little ones to Mommy & Me/Daddy & Me, or young adults coming up for Family Fest to enjoy some relaxation, you will not regret your time spent there. ASC is an oasis that draws you in with its beauty and serenity and without even realizing it, will draw you closer to God. Whether it is bringing friends into your life who will encourage your walk with the Lord, connecting you with spiritual fathers who will support you on that journey, or providing you with lectures to teach you more about Orthodoxy, All Saints Camp can sustain our Church for decades to come. But it will only sustain us if we continue to support it. Tell your friends, send your parishioners, donate your time, or support the camp financially. There are a multitude of ways to help at ASC and we can use each and everyone's talent.

Centennial Celebration 2018 - The UOL's Role

Submitted by John Holowko

The formal and official celebration of 100 years of the UOC of USA will take place on July 28, 2018 at the Metropolia Center. This will be supplemented by other celebrations during the fall of 2018 in different



locations across the country. Your Parishes have received requests from the Consistory on this -just ask.

This past convention we discussed and agreed together that all our Chapters take a leading role in the Ukrainian Church records project. This includes the history of your local chapters and the history of your local Church. You need to aim to get this done by the beginning of this summer! Is it on your agenda? What is your plan? Only you know.

We need you to compile, organize, scan pictures, and write narratives about your UOL Chapter History. Recently your Parishes received instructions from the Consistory on this very matter. It will all be published together as part of the celebration.

At our National Cultural Center in South Bound Brook the UOL has an Archives room - many drawers filled with folders and papers—our goal will be to save this information digitally and to make sure this history is preserved properly. At some point, the actual information will properly be displayed in our Ukrainian Historical and Education Center. You need to do the same—**not because we ask you to -but for purposes of remembering and knowing our history -whether it be League or Parish.**

The Nashi Predky project will help you at a local and national level preserve that history digitally, but maybe you can also do something locally that preserves and educates you and your current parishioners about the history of Your Church, visually or in written form. With respect to organizing your records and efficient archiving at the Historical and Education Center contact them at <https://www.ukrhec.org/contact> or 732-356-0132

PYSH TRAVEL GRANT

If you are in need of financial assistance to attend the

Annual Jr. UOL Convention in Woonsocket, RI,

the Pysh Travel Grant is here to help!

A maximum of \$300 may be awarded in

3 grants per year to either a group or individual applicants.

Simply complete the application sent to your chapter, or contact Orest Mahlay (orest.mahlay@gmail.com) for an additional application.

The deadline for applications is June 15th 2017.

The 70th Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention
 Hosted by:
St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Orthodox Church
Woonsocket, RI 02895
July 26-30, 2017
“Declare Among the Nations His Works” Psalm 104
Stmichaeluoc.org/uol2017
Commemorative Yearbook Advertising Form

Outside back cover \$250. SOLD
 Inside Cover front \$200. SOLD Inside Cover back \$200. SOLD
 Full Page \$175. () Half Page \$90. ()
 Third Page \$60. () Quarter Page \$45. ()
 Eighth Page \$30. () Patrons List \$20. ()

Those purchasing a full page ad will receive a complimentary ad book. Additional copies can be purchased for \$20 each. Please list all your information as you would like it to appear, using a separate sheet. If your ad is not camera ready, please add \$10 for a set-up fee. Photos will not be returned. The book is printed in black and white. Reproduction quality cannot be guaranteed, but B&W material prints best. Pages are 8x11.5 and divided accordingly.

Please mail completed form with payment no later than May 19, 2017 to:

70th UOL Convention
 c/o Irene Shewchuk
 38 Norwood Road
 North Smithfield, RI 02896

Ads may also be submitted by emailing: uol2016ri@gmail.com
 Please make checks payable to “2017 UOL Convention”

Name _____ E-mail _____
 Address _____
 Day Phone () _____
 Evening () _____

Family Fest 2017

Looking for a fun and relaxing way to spend your
Labor Day weekend?

Hoping to reunite with some old camp friends, and also
 make some new ones?

**Come to All Saints Camp in Emlenton,
 Pennsylvania!**

You can stop by for a day, or stay for the whole weekend.

This free weekend will be held from

Friday, September 1 - Monday, September 4, 2017.

If you are planning on attending, or have additional
 questions, please contact:

Cathy Bucharew at (717)303-8651 cbucharew@gmail.com,
 or Eric Senedak at (412)390-8261 emsenedak@gmail.com.



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UOL Tribute

A donation to the Tribute Fund is an acknowledgment of a Milestone, Memorial, or Accomplishment, or is a Special Recognition of an individual or group. Your much-appreciated contribution is used to support and further the Mission of the Ukrainian Orthodox League.

All donations are published in the UOL Bulletin.

Donor	Occasion/Tribute
John Lehotsky	Congratulations to Denise and Chris Strashinsky on the birth of their daughter Karina Anna, born on January 20 th . Love, Mom and Uncle John
Steve and Alice Sivulich	In memory of Bohdan Hryshchyshyn former UOL National President, former All Saints Camp Manager and a dear friend.

*Have you been wanting to honor or
 thank someone special?
 The tribute fund is the ideal way to honor someone
 or commemorate a special event!
 It is very easy to submit a Tribute.
 Don't put it off -- send your tribute today!!*

To submit your Tribute:

Submit a card that includes your Name and Address, the Name of the Person to Receive the Tribute, the occasion of the Tribute (for example In Memory or To Honor), and the Name and Address of the person to whom an acknowledgement card should be sent.

For a contribution of \$20 or more, the name and occasion is printed in the UOL Bulletin.

UOL Tributes should be submitted to:
 Natalie Bilynsky 703 Pine Ridge Road
 Media, PA 19063.

Please make check payable to Ukrainian Orthodox League.

UOL Bulletin
 c/o Natalie Bilynsky
 703 Pine Ridge Road
 Media, PA 19063

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