



UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth

VOL. 64 NO. 1

SEPTEMBER 2017

70th UOL Convention - 2017 - Woonsocket RI



For 70 years UOL members have gathered together for the Annual UOL Convention. This year approximately 150 faithful from parishes across the US gathered in New England for the Convention hosted by the UOL Chapter in Woonsocket, RI. The 70th Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention was truly a celebration of the UOL family. A true family in Christ, the Ukrainian Orthodox League is a unique organization with families both young and old gathering together as one family united in the Church.

The Convention was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 26th by UOL President John Holowko. Following the Invocation offered by His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, the Pledge of Allegiance to the US flag, the singing of the National Anthem, opening remarks and greetings were expressed by Senior and Junior UOL National Executive Board Presidents John Holowko and Orest Mahlay. Convention Spiritual Advisor Rev. Fr. Borislav Kroner and Sr. Convention Committee chairperson Cindy Charest welcomed all to Rhode Island. The first business session of the day included approval of the Agenda, Minutes, Financial Records and Audit Reports and review of Annual Reports. Following evening prayers, members gathered for a hospitality night. It was a time to catch up with old friends and rekindle UOL bonds. It is wonderful to

see families come to the Convention year after year.

Thursday morning started with a "Teaching" Divine Liturgy. Very Rev. Taras Naumenko served Divine Liturgy with Archdeacon Vasyl and Deacon Ivan Tchopko, while Very Rev. Anthony Perkins offered reflections during the Divine Liturgy. For many the "Teaching" Divine Liturgy was a highlight of the Convention. It was a wonderful time to learn more about our faith. Following Divine Liturgy the entire Convention body gathered in a beautiful Atrium room for brunch. We enjoyed a delicious brunch that included both breakfast and lunch items. Business sessions started with a short ice breaker where individuals learned more about Rhode Island.

Dr. Gayle Woloschak, the keynote speaker, spoke eloquently about "Our Church in Today's Secular World." The afternoon continued with two groups. The first, led by Fr. Anthony Perkins, focused on "Caring for One Another" and focused on strategies to listen and care for those in need. The second, led by Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay, focused on Christian Leadership.

Later that afternoon the Convention body broke into committees. Reports from the Education Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee are published in this issue.



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"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11

71st UOL CONVENTION

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE U.S.A.
Celebrating

100

1918-2018

SOUTH BOUND BROOK NEW JERSEY

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

You are cordially invited to...
The 71st Annual U.O.L. Convention
South Bound Brook, New Jersey
July 25-29, 2018

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Jeremiah 29:11

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UOL BULLETIN - The official publication of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the United States of America. Circulated to all UOL Members.

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Note to Contributors: All articles submitted to the UOL Bulletin must be in 11 point Times New Roman (font), or typed and double spaced in 12 point type. Articles may be submitted via e-mail attachments. (Submit to: nsufier@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.

St. Vladimir's Philadelphia Chapter of the Year 2017 Submitted by John Holowko



The Senior Chapter Achievement Award for 2017 was awarded to St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, PA. One of the requirements of remaining a Chapter in good standing of the UOL is for each chapter to submit an annual report of the chapter's activity during the UOL year. The NEB reviews the reports anonymously and chooses a recipient of the Senior Chapter Achievement Award.

Throughout the year, St Vladimir's chapter assisted with all parish fund raising projects, as well as meeting on Wednesdays in the summer months to complete projects around the church and to have dinner together. The chapter has worked to encourage its youth and young adults to stay involved by conducting projects which included: sponsoring a Thanksgiving Dinner for the parish where all funds received were donated to charities; planning a Theophany Supper, Holodna Kutya, Malanka and a Theophany Breakfast; having a bridal shower registry for the Parish; and having a conference call with Morning Prayers, Monday-Friday.

The Chapter's Pastor wrote, "It is truly a blessing to be a part of this Chapter. The unique combination of old and new immigration has truly infused the Chapter with even more love and care."

Strategic Planning: What is the Parish Champion?

Submitted By Gayle Woloschak

Each parish is supposed to designate a representative to the Strategic Plan who will be approved by the parish priest. The role of this person is to be the point of communication for the Strategic Plan—to receive vital information and updates about the strategic planning implementation work and how your parish can benefit and participate. It is the duty of this person to use all means available to effectively and continually communicate the progress, activities and success of the strategic plan to ALL of the faithful in the parish community.

The bishops have sent out a letter requesting each parish to carefully and prayerfully consider a choice for parish champion (or co-champions, if that is easier). They indicated that this person should be a Parish "thought leader"—one whose opinion is respected and who knows best how to communicate with the parish as a whole. In addition, the person should have the ability to communicate by email since that is a major means of communication for the strategic plan.

The Strategic Planning group asks each parish to select their parish champion, approved by the parish priest, and send the email address to gayle.woloschak@gmail.com (Gayle Woloschak) or liralex@gmail.com (Lisa Ryan).

Note from the Editor:

Each month we will have an article regarding the UOC Strategic plan in the UOL Bulletin. It is essential that all UOL members actively participate in the Strategic Plan!

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL PRESIDENT

John Holowko



Glory to Jesus Christ! Slava Isusu Khrystu!

It is with great humility that I greet you again as the re-elected President of the Senior Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA. As I write this, only a few weeks have passed since our 70th Convention in Woonsocket, RI. On behalf of the entire UOL, I sincerely thank St. Michael's Parish and the 70th Annual Convention Committee for their warmth, love and hard work. As I said previously, you are lucky to have each other as a parish family. I believe this year's convention offered great balance, between spirituality, getting some business done, having fun together and ideally each of us taking something away that can help someone else in their parish or community. Each convention strives to set the stage to improve upon our accomplishments of the past, to focus on the future ministry of our League and to support our Church.

I would like to thank our discussion leaders, Father Deacon Ihor Mahlay, Father Anthony Perkins, Father Nicholas Apostola and Dr. Gayle Woloschak. Much of our focus was on the responsibility we all have as being Brothers and Sisters in Christ, in helping out each other, caring for one another and understanding the complexity of certain issues that families face each day, and living our Faith. There are so many people that we interact with that need help, whether it be the ill, the depressed, the angry, or the elderly. It is just so easy for us to expect all the pastoral duties to fall upon our Clergy, when in fact there is much that can be done as a Church Board or as an individual to help others; to genuinely be a Parish Family- being there for one another. It is a challenge for us all, as loneliness affects all of us at one time or another. As Dr. Gayle Woloschak discussed, we face many challenges in the secular society we live in today. The pace of change, the demands on our time, or the polarizing political times we live in. As with most things, it is about the choices we make, but listening, pausing and helping others can not only help those in need, but can also be fulfilling to one's self.

One of the highlights for me at the convention, and there were several, was the attendance of our Juniors- we doubled it from the prior year and it demonstrated the linkage between All Saints Camp, the UOL and the Church. It was great to see! Nearly every Junior that attended this Convention attended camp this summer and they were already friends; friends with the same challenges, and of the same Faith. In the upcoming year, you will hear much about the needs of All Saints Camp. I truly believe our parishes and those that can, need to spiritually and financially invest in All Saints Camp. Many of us have seen our Sister Churches doing the same for years, we are behind them and in need of infrastructure improvement, however, what we have not provided in terms of facilities, we have provided in love and care. That being said, both parts of the equation are needed to attract even a larger interest and attendance. There should be no reason that families of our own Church send their children to other Orthodox Camps, instead of our own.

September is Chapter membership drive month. I hope you give it some serious effort at a local level—not for purposes of simply increasing your chapter roster. Rather, providing your chapter a greater opportunity to help others through involvement and bringing people together. This past year, St. Vladimir's of Philadelphia was awarded Chapter of the Year. The one activity of St. Vladimir's chapter that caught my eye was having a conference call with Morning prayers, Monday through Friday. I truly believe that this spirit of family is helping people here. Take the initiative to increase your membership, not for the sense of obligation or some other statistical purpose, but rather, to be inclusive, to help one another and along the way get some things done that have a positive impact on your parish or community. Perhaps, some of the burnout experienced at a local level is because we are not focusing on the right things; if so change it.

The Assembly of Bishops has designated the first Sunday of October, in conjunction with OCF's Orthodox Awareness Month, as the date for College Student Sunday. For 2017, this falls on Sunday, October 1st. However, it is during the first forty days of every school year that the OCF makes a concerted effort to reach new college students. The OCF provides fellowship; further education; the opportunity to work on service projects; and opportunity to worship together. Do your college students know about it? www.ocf.net You can easily provide information about your student to the OCF through the site, or call and provide information to a local parish nearby just to let them know

(Continued on page 3)

**71st Annual UOL Convention
A Rare Opportunity
Submitted by Michael J. Komichak**

Following a very successful 70th Annual UOL Convention hosted by St. Michael UOC in Woonsocket, RI, it is time to look forward to next year's UOL Convention at the Metropolia Center in South Bound Brook, NJ taking place from Wednesday July 25 to Sunday July 29. The 2018 UOL Convention will be a unique gathering unlike any other in the seven-decade history of the UOL. This is because the Convention will be held concurrently with the Centennial Celebration in South Bound Brook of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the US.

Around the time of the first World War, several existing Ukrainian parishes and clergy sought the establishment of a separate jurisdiction to serve the growing population of Ukrainians in America. After initially organizing under the spiritual protection of Bishop Germanos of the Syrian Orthodox Church in the USA, the Ukrainians petitioned Metropolitan Lypkivsky of the newly independent Autocephalous Orthodox Church in Ukraine to establish the Archdiocese of the American-Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. This Archdiocese was formed with the assignment of Archbishop John (Theodorovich) and the convening of a Sobor for that purpose. Now, one hundred years later, the Centennial Celebration in South Bound Brook in 2018 will feature a symposium tracing the history of Ukrainians in America in general and that of the UOC of USA in particular.

The Centennial Celebration is expected to draw hundreds of participants from all across the UOC of USA. By holding the UOL Convention concurrently and in conjunction with this historic Centennial Celebration, the UOL will have a golden opportunity to introduce (or re-introduce) the UOL to a wide audience of laity and clergy beyond the current boundaries of our existing Senior and Junior UOL Chapters. Through our interaction with non-UOL attendees at the symposium, at worship services, and at social events we can explain first-hand the value of the UOL and the importance of becoming a member and establishing chapters in all of our parishes.

I encourage all to attend next year's UOL Convention and UOC of USA Centennial Celebration. The theme of the 2018 UOL Convention is "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11). Let's show we are proud of our Faith, proud of our Church, proud of the UOL, and especially proud of our Junior UOL and we are optimistic about the future. This is indeed one of the most important Conventions for us to attend. It is an opportunity for us to demonstrate our love for each other and for our Church: By this all will know we are His disciples. Hopefully many will be inspired to join us. The best way to commemorate the Centennial of the UOC of USA and to celebrate the vital role the UOL has played in the life of our Church is to attend next year's Convention. See you there!

(President - Continued from page 2)

they have caring hands nearby. We talk about not losing touch with our Youth during their college years—the OCF is just one more opportunity to assist them and even provide them an additional social network.

The following appointments to Commissions and Committees have been approved in our first few weeks, further committee and the liaison appointments will be posted to our Website. We have much to do, not just on a stand-alone committee or commission basis, but together, with the guidance of our Senior Board's Spiritual Advisor, V. Rev. Taras Naumenko (and our part time *autioneer, another convention highlight*).

Commissions:

Christian Caregiving & Missions
Education
Public Relations
Vocations & Clergy Support
Youth
Ways & Means

Committees

All Saints Committee Delegate
Annual Fund Drive
Archives
Awards
Chapter Development
Constitution/Handbook
Educational Seminars
Essay Contest
LSSK
Retreats
The ABC's of my Church
UOL Bulletin Editor
UOL Tribute Fund
Young Adults

Daria Pishko-Komichak
Teresa Linck
Ginny Ulbricht
Mickey Komichak
Oleh Bilynsky
Jack Roditski

Anna Anderson
Alex Shevchuk
John Holowko
Alex Shevchuk
Daria Pishko-Komichak
Natalie Bilynsky
Teresa Linck
Teresa Linck
Anna Anderson
Daria Pishko-Komichak
Teresa Linck
Natalie Bilynsky
Natalie Bilynsky
Oleh Bilynsky

I want to take this opportunity to thank all those that served this past year. Finally, sincere congratulations are extended to the 2017-2018 Junior UOL National Executive Board guided by Orest Mahlay as President, Junior Advisor Father Deacon John Charest and Spiritual Advisor Very Rev. John Haluszczak.

Yours in Christ,
John Holowko

**MESSAGE
FROM THE
JUNIOR
UOL
PRESIDENT**

Orest Mahlay



Слава Ісусу Христу! Glory to Jesus Christ!

Let me re-introduce myself as the re-elected President of the Executive Board of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League. On behalf of the Board and all the youth participants at the recent Convention, I would like to thank Saint Michael Parish in Woonsocket, RI for the time and effort they put into the UOL Convention this year. I would also commend the Convention Chair, Christine Charest, and the pastor, Father Borislav Kroner, for welcoming all the guests into their parish so warmly.

Let me take this opportunity to congratulate and thank all of the graduates of the Junior UOL. I invite all graduates to join us again next year at the Convention in South Bound Brook as senior delegates. Gratitude is extended to our advisors, Taylor Gladys, Fr. Deacon John Charest, and Father John Haluszczak, for all their efforts during the last year. I would also like to thank our outgoing board members, Erica Holowko (Vice President) and Sophia Dobronos (Financial Secretary), for their service. The Junior UOL wishes all of them God's Blessings in their future.

The newly elected National Executive Board of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League for the 2017-2018 year:

President: Orest Mahlay, Parma, OH
Vice President: Charles Ames, Youngstown, OH
Secretary: Alexis Naumenko, Philadelphia, PA
Financial Secretary: Maddie Zetick, Philadelphia, PA
Treasurer: Cyril Sheptak, Pittsburgh, PA
Advisor: Fr. Deacon John Charest, Chicago, IL
Spiritual Advisor: Father John Haluszczak, Pittsburgh, PA

During the past year, the Junior UOL contacted the clergy and lay leadership of over 10 parishes to discuss the status and potential of youth programming (including Junior UOL activities) in their parishes. We were able to welcome a new chapter (West Islip, NY) and able to bring back a former chapter (Allentown, PA). I, along with my board members, will continue this effort of further promotion of the UOL to new parishes in our UOC and will encourage the youth of all parishes to engage on a local and national level. As shown in our progress last year, encouraging service, fellowship, and prayer is the best way to promote the UOL effectively in the various demographics that exist in our parishes, both English and Ukrainian speaking.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments about the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League in this coming year, please contact me at orest.mahlay@gmail.com or at my number (440) 829-5873. As we approach the centennial of our Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the USA, I pray that this year is productive and rejuvenating for our UOL and for the Church as a whole.

Yours in Christ,
Orest Mahlay

Seminary Van Campaign Nears 50% Goal

Submitted by Michael J. Komichak

After one year, the UOL's national campaign to fund the \$16,000 purchase of a 12-passenger van for St. Sophia Seminary is approaching the 50% mark! St. Demetrius UOL Chapter in Carteret donated \$250 raised during parish coffee hours. At this past summer's UOL Annual Convention in Rhode Island, one individual set the tone by pledging \$500 and challenging other delegates to follow suit. Three other anonymous donors met the challenge, resulting in \$600 collected on-the-spot, with an additional \$1400 being pledged to the fund! One of the donors pledged to give \$100 per month for five months – a manageable giving plan that other potential donors might find attractive.



If you'd like to help the UOL reach this 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 to all of our donors!

(Convention - continued from page 1)

President John Holowko presented Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay, President of St. Andrew Society, a check from the UOL "Souper Bowl Sunday" project in the amount of \$6,000. Accepting the donation, Protodeacon Ihor spoke of the great part that the UOL has played in helping St. Andrew Society in the past 25 years of St. Andrew Society's ministry.

Very Rev. Fr. John Haluszczak, acting manager of All Saints Camp, addressed the delegates of the Convention, sharing with them the successes of this year's Camping Ministry and asking the general UOL membership to be the moving spiritual force behind the spiritual and physical improvements at the Camp.

Teresa Linck, Chairperson for the UOL Essay Contest, reported that there were 134 entries. She announced and presented the UOL Essay Contest Awards. Winners will be published in the October issue of the Bulletin.

That evening everyone boarded buses to go to Northern Rhode Island for a wonderful traditional chicken dinner and a Pirate-themed dinner show. Everyone was given a character to play, and we had multiple mermaids and pirates. A highlight of the evening was Hunter in his pirate costume! Members were also part of the fun night where all had to participate in the evening. Once everyone returned to the hotel, members gathered for Evening Prayers followed by social time for both juniors and seniors. Everyone enjoyed popcorn, snacks and fellowship!



The group then had free time to wander around historic Newport. Despite predictions earlier in the week that we would have rain, the day was absolutely beautiful, sunny with a pleasant breeze. Everyone had a chance to get some lemonade and ice cream and just enjoy the tranquil Rhode Island views.

Everyone boarded buses to head to our fantastic dinner by the ocean. The views of the sunset were awe inspiring. At one point many of our Juniors climbed a rock and looked over the ocean. It was a wonderful photo opportunity. Dinner was fantastic. We had wonderful appetizers including clams and hushpuppies. For dinner, lobster and corn was fabulous. It was a wonderful New England evening and everyone got a true taste of Rhode Island. Everyone returned to the hotel for Evening Prayers led by Rev. Philip Harendza. Following Evening Prayers, there was a hospitality night hosted by the 2018 Convention. Hospitality night was a time to gather together and talk about the day and also to discuss plans for the 2018 festivities.



Friday of the Convention began with the liturgical celebration of the life and legacy of Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Great King Volodymyr. The Divine Liturgy for the feast of the day was celebrated by Very Rev. Myron Oryhon, Very Rev. John Haluszczak, Rev. Vasyl Pasakas, Rev. Fr. Phillip Harendza, Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay and Deacon John Charest. His Eminence Archbishop Daniel spoke about the spiritual legacy of St. Volodymyr the Great and called upon the delegates of the Convention to keep St. Volodymyr's legacy alive by offering themselves in service to others through acts of charity and kindness.

Following breakfast, Very Rev. Nicholas Apostola of the Romanian Orthodox Church of Wooster, MA spoke about "Caring with Faith for our Elderly." Following a very informative discussion, everyone was provided a lunch and boarded buses to visit a beautiful Newport mansion. Both Junior and Senior UOL members got to visit the Breakers, a mansion owned by the Vanderbilts. It was fun to walk the grounds and to see everyone with their headsets. The mansion is phenomenal and it was fun to have a relaxing day.

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(Convention—Continued from page 4)

Saturday morning began with the Akathist Service in front of the icon of Pochaiv Mother of God. The chanters from various parishes and chapters joined in singing the uplifting praises to the Mother of God served by Archbishop Daniel and Very Rev. Taras Naumenko.

Sessions continued on Saturday with time to complete committee meetings. Committee reports were presented, discussed and adopted. Chairperson for the 2018 Convention Mickey Komichak presented an inspirational talk about the Convention. The 2018 UOL Convention will coincide with the Centennial Celebration of the UOC of the USA at the Metropolia Center of the Church in South Bound Brook, NJ. The Sr. and Jr. UOL Chapters of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Philadelphia, PA, placed a bid for the 2020 Convention. A highlight of every Convention is Chapter Challenge, where our juniors compete regarding knowledge about our faith. Every year we are impressed with their knowledge and have a chance to see if we know the answers.

Senior and Junior UOL Convention bodies elected their Executive Boards:

Senior UOL President: John Holowko, Holy Ascension, Maplewood, NJ
 1st Vice President: Daria Pishko-Komichak, Holy Ascension, Maplewood, NJ;
 2nd Vice President: Oleh Bilynsky, St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, PA;
 Corresponding Secretary: Ginny Ulbricht, Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH;
 Recording Secretary: Anna Anderson, Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH;
 Financial Secretary: Alex Shevchuk, Holy Ascension, Maplewood, NJ;
 Treasurer: Jack Roditski, Holy Ascension, Maplewood, NJ;
 Auditor: Teresa Linck, St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, PA.

Junior UOL President: Orest Mahlay, St. Vladimir, Parma, OH;
 Vice President: Charles Ames, Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH;
 Treasurer: Cyril Sheptak, St. Vladimir, Pittsburgh, PA;
 Financial Secretary: Madeline Zetick, St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, PA;
 Recording/Corresponding Secretary: Alexis Naumenko, St. Vladimir Philadelphia, PA.

President John Holowko adjourned the 70th UOL Convention and Juniors and Seniors ended the convention with a closing prayer and singing of the Ukrainian National Anthem. Following the close of sessions, the group gathered for the annual picture.



Saturday evening all Seniors and Juniors gathered for the formal banquet in honor of the 70th Annual UOL Convention. It is always wonderful to see our Juniors dressed in their finest. The banquet room was packed and everyone was ready to celebrate the accomplishments of the year. Cindy Charest led the banquet proceedings and guided the evening very gracefully. Awards were presented including: Chapter of the Year to Philadelphia, PA, Fr. Hallick-Holutiak award to Donna Kominko, and Metro Baran award to Michael Sally (see articles about each recipient in this issue). Junior UOL President Orest Mahlay presented Junior UOL awards including the Fr. Bukata Award to Jeffrey Senediak and the Junior UOL Chapter Award to Philadelphia, PA. (Details about Junior UOL winners will be in the October issue of the UOL Bulletin). Additionally, Mickey Komichak presented the Seminarians of the Church with scholarships from the Metropolitan John Scholarship Fund. In gratitude four seminarians from St. Sophia Seminary sang at the Banquet.



A highlight of the banquet was an impromptu auction, with our fabulous auctioneer Fr. Taras Naumenko. The Senior UOL Chapter of Woonsocket developed a project to sustain several special education teachers for the Znamyanka Children's Orphanage in Ukraine. Three embroidery pieces that were done by the children of the orphanage were introduced by Eleanor Kogut (2017 Summer Mission Trip participant) and were auctioned. Bids were raised in the room and even by on-line bidding. It was a wonderful project that will benefit the children. Following the banquet everyone enjoyed a fantastic band and there was a full night of dancing. It was a wonderful evening that was enjoyed by all.



The 70th Annual UOL Convention came to a formal conclusion on Sunday at Archangel Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Woonsocket, RI, for Divine Liturgy concelebrated by His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel. The parish President, along with Senior UOL President John Holowko and Junior UOL President Orest Mahlay, greeted our hierarchs. It was beautiful to see the inspirational icons in the parish. The walls of the parish glowed with icons of saints. It was amazing to walk around the parish and to recall that this parish had suffered a tragic fire just five years ago.

At the conclusion of Divine Liturgy, the newly elected executive boards of the Senior and Junior UOL were called to come forward for formal induction into their service in the UOL and the Church.

Following Divine Liturgy, everyone was invited to participate in a wonderful brunch at the parish hall. The Parish Chapter and Parish are to be commended for an absolutely fantastic Convention. Special thanks to Convention Chairperson Cindy Charest and Spiritual Advisor Fr. Borislav Kroner for all of their hard work. Their labor of love in planning this convention truly serves as an inspiration.



All Saints Camp Annual Meeting 2017 Submitted by Chris Mills

Summer is here! The change in the seasons indicated it was time for the ALL SAINTS CAMP Annual Meeting, which was held on June 10, 2017 at the camp. The designated parish delegates and ASC Executive Committee met at the Dining Hall, where all good discussions occur at camp. The committee was honored to have his Eminence Metropolitan Antony join us for the meeting and provide words of inspiration. He thanked everyone for their efforts and the work done for the camp. He indicated there were good role models to be followed with those that worked at the camp previously. Metropolitan Antony stated he is looking for good and great things to come from the Camp and the Committee Members. The Annual Meeting was led by newly appointed Chairman, Fr. John Haluszczyk. Normal business issues were discussed such as the budget, opening items related to the camp and issues from the winter. A meeting for development discussion is being determined. The election of the All Saints Camp Executive Board was conducted and those listed below will graciously serve:

Chairman: Fr. John Haluszczyk (appointed by Consistory)

Vice-Chairman: Hans Harasimchuk

Secretary: Chris Mills

Financial Secretary: Sandy Rozum

Treasurer: Eric Senedak

Members at Large: Kira Senedak, Alya Kocelko, Melanie Nakonachny

Auditors: John Holowko, Rob Prokopchak

Chairman of the ASC Maintenance Sub-Committee: Michael Nakonachny

ASC Com. Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Paisius McGrath (appointed by Consistory)

Chaplain at St. Thomas Chapel: Fr. John Haluszczyk (appointed by Consistory)

All Saints Camp Manager: Fr. John Haluszczyk (interim manager)

Director of Consistory Office Youth and Young Adult Ministry: Natalie Kape-luck-Nixon

The ASC Committee would like to thank everyone who donated or helped in ANY way over the last year at camp. Your generosity in any form is greatly appreciated by all and especially the many campers who enjoy All Saints Camp each summer. The Committee hopes to see YOU at camp! If you would like to help the camp by donating or offering your time and talents, please contact Fr. John Haluszczyk or any of the above ASC Committee members!



70th Annual UOL Convention Education Committee

NEB Chairperson: Teresa Linck

The Education Commission would like to recommend the following:

1. Make the Andrew and Annie books available in E-book format in both English and Ukrainian.
2. Survey parishes to ask them if they would be interested in purchasing the Andrew and Annie books in Ukrainian. They would be published as one book.
3. Continue to encourage chapters to host Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreats and offer help in the planning.
4. Share a YouTube video link that has our liturgy with explanations.
5. Encourage parishes to purchase the video education series called A Journey to Fullness by Fr. Barnabas.
6. Create a TedEd on women in the Bible (or see if there is already something out there) and women in Orthodoxy.
7. Organize to have the Book Club in South Bound Brook become a video Book Club.
8. Create a booklet "Being a Ukrainian Orthodox Christian" to be available for use in Church School.
9. Investigate more information that can be shared via the website that is currently available.

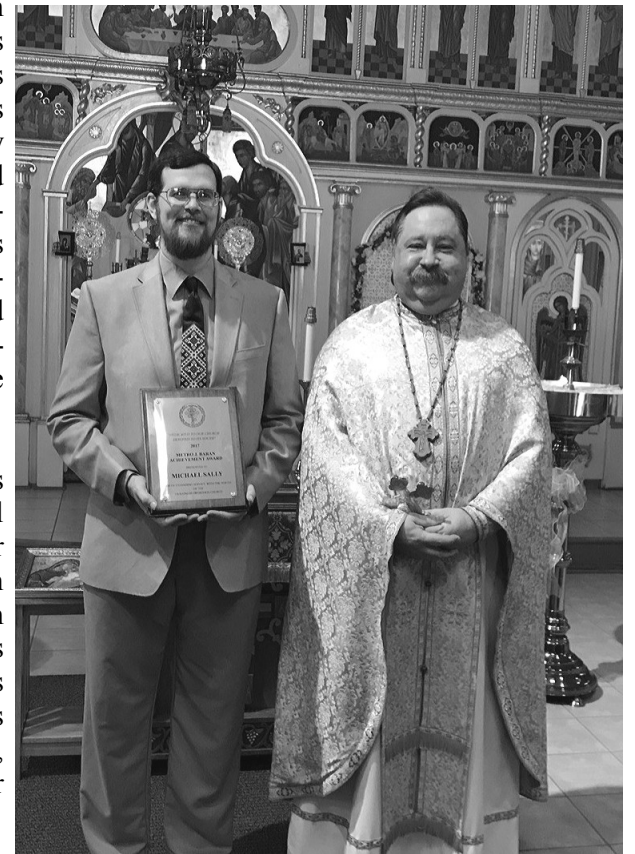
UOL History Project

When we celebrate the 100th anniversary of our Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA in 2018, we plan to have a collection of essays from UOL members answering the question, "Why is the UOL important to me?"

We have already started our collection of essays. We encourage every UOL member to write an essay so that we have a full collection of essays in 2018. Take a moment now to write your essay. Please submit your essay to nsufler@aol.com by December 31, 2017.

Metro J. Baran Achievement Award Present to Michael Sally Submitted by John Holowko

The Metro J. Baran Achievement Award is presented for outstanding service with the Youth of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. The award was instituted to honor the memory of Metro (Jimmie) Baran for his many years of dedicated service and efforts in working with the Juniors of the UOL. This award is not an annual award. It is to be presented only when, after reviewing and discussing all submissions, the NEB determines that an extraordinary candidate has been nominated and has done truly outstanding work with the Junior members.



This year, the award was presented to Michael "Myki" Sally. His Pastor writes "For this gentleman the church is not a burden or a chore. He nurtures young Altar boys, guides the youth at camp, and is an example of piety, prayer and dedication for them."

His activities include serving as a Church School Instructor, Leader of the Altar Boys, DCSC Cabin counselor for over 18 years, assisting with the National Youth Ministry, Christmas Caroling with the youth and teaching at the Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble & School.

Eric Senedak, former Camp Manager at All Saints Camp, said that "Michael is the one counselor you always expect to be at DCSC. It wouldn't feel the same without him there." He received his nickname from one of the Church youth who at the age of three couldn't say Michael. Ever since then he has been "Myki." His Chapter writes "He leads by example and making everything fun for the kids. It is not uncommon to see a group of kids circled around him with questions or laughing. His ideas, participation and presence add so much to the programs at All Saints Camp. To see the kids' faces light up when they hear, Myki is here, is awesome!"

A Message from the Chapter and Membership Development Committee Submitted by Daria Pishko Komichak

It's that time of year again! Time to tally up your membership list and send your dues to the National Financial Secretary Alexander Shevchuk. But do we focus too much on getting our list finalized so early in the year and forget to reach out for new members?

If so, try taking the two step approach. **Step one**, send in the \$125 annual chapter dues and the \$20 per chapter member for the "Old Faithful" that you know will be renewing their membership this year. Don't forget to include everyone's email address (great way to get info to the members in a timely fashion) AND add the names of your college-aged young adults. (Chapters are encouraged to sponsor membership for their college-aged students as an incentive to keep them in the information loop and active through maintaining their membership.) Get the basics in before the September 30th deadline and ensure that no late fines are imposed.

Step two, plan a membership recruiting drive as part of your annual program. September is usually the month that chapters begin their planning for the year's activities and may not have executed or initiated their new member recruitment before the September 30 due date. That's OK!! **Chapters can add names to their membership list throughout the year without penalty.**

Don't forget to leaf through the Annual Reports that were distributed at convention to seek new ideas for chapter activities and ideas for membership recruitment. Feel free to contact the president of the chapter who may have sponsored an activity of interest that was reported and get a few first hand pointers.

Have a member that moved out of the area? Send their name and address to Daria Pishko Komichak, this year's Chapter and Membership Development Chair so that we can invite them to become a member-at-large! Members-at-large have the same rights as chapter-based members and can also be delegates at the convention!

We're aiming to make the 70th year of the UOL, which kicked off in July, the biggest year ever. Let's get excited and reach out to our parish community, to our graduating Juniors, to the college-aged and post college-aged young adults. Remember, our Executive Board members are available to visit to support you in these efforts. We hope to be seeing you all soon!

**Senior UOL Recognition Award Presented to
Donna Kominko
Submitted by John Holowko**

This year's Very Reverend Protopresbyter Stephen Hallick-Holutiak Senior UOL Recognition Award was presented to Donna Kominko, of St Vladimir's Parish in Parma, Ohio, the daughter of Protopresbyter Stephen and Pani-Matka Anna Hankevych, of Blessed Memory.

As a young adult, Donna was herself a member of the Junior National Board. She has been a lifelong member of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. For the past 10+ years, she has served as the Sunshine Chairwoman. She is active on many committees in the parish which includes the Festival Committee, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Altar Boy's Society and the Pyrohy Group. She participates in all UOL projects. As a mother, by her example, she has encouraged and supported her children's involvement in the Church and the League. Her pastor of over 30 years wrote, "I find her to be a wonderful, upbeat and cheerful individual who always has a smile on her face. Her love of her Faith and parish is a very important part of her life."

Her Chapter writes, "Despite a busy career schedule, she can be seen at the church and parish center many times a week, assisting in any number of activities. She is a very cheerful, upbeat individual with a quick smile and willing hands, helping whenever and wherever, without being asked. This a lady with a heart of gold."

In 1957, the Orthodox of the Year Award Program was created by St. Vladimir's Senior Chapter of Cleveland to recognize a lay member of the League for their accomplishments in furthering the aims and goals of the League. In 1991, the name was changed to the Senior Recognition Award. In 1995, the award was given the name of Father Stephen Hallick-Holutiak to honor the lifelong role of Father Hallick-Holutiak in the life of the League.

Congratulations Donna!



MJSF Awards \$8,000

Submitted by Michael J. Komichak

The Metropolitan John Scholarship Fund (MJSF) was established in 1966 by the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA (UOL) in honor of Metropolitan John (Theodorovich), the first Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA (UOC of USA). The purpose of the MJSF scholarships is to provide scholarships and loans to seminarians preparing to enter the priesthood in the UOC of USA, and grants to Clergy of the UOC of USA for continuing education. Following the recommendation of the NEB Vocations and Clergy Support Commission, and with the approval of the UOL National Executive Board, scholarships totaling \$8,000 were presented at the 70th Annual UOL Convention Grand Banquet to Full-time Resident Students Subdeacon Volodymyr Yavorskyi, Subdeacon Mykola Zomchak, Yuri Bobko, and Ihor Prot-sak; and to Part-time Students Dn. Michael Abrahamson (St. Michael, Woonsocket), Dn. John Charest (St. Volodymyr, Chicago), Dn. Paul Cherkas (St. Michael, Woonsocket), Archdeacon Vasyl Janick (St. Michael, Woonsocket) and David Murphy (St. Nicholas, Charlottesville). We pray for their continued success in their studies and ministries, and thank the donors to MJSF who have made it possible to award scholarships to these worthy recipients.



**70th Annual UOL Convention Committee
Local Insight into the UOC of USA Strategic Planning Process**

Dr. Gayle E. Woloschak, Advisor
Daria Pishko Komichak, Executive Board Representative

As a Co-Team Leader in the Strategic Planning process, Gayle updated the committee members regarding progress of the process thus far. She highlighted the key talents members of the UOL and their chapters could bring to contribute to the Strategic Plan's success, including their established channels of communication among parishes, leadership skills and long history of successfully accomplishing complex projects across many parishes.

She emphasized the importance of the "bottom up" approach being utilized by the process and the fact that most of the goals to be accomplished are targeted to benefit the parishes directly. As a result, there is a great reliance on involving volunteers from every parish.

Participation on Strategic Plan committees is open to all church members. The purpose is to strengthen the local parishes through the products developed by the program/plan. One of the intended outcomes of many of the goals will be to develop "templates" of programs that will be available to the parishes for their use and benefit.

Various committee members shared their experience regarding their involvement in the process thus far, highlighting their individual progress and challenges.

The following suggestions and recommendations were offered:

In order to attract more volunteers and to keep volunteers motivated throughout the process, regular communication is of paramount importance. Although the Strategic Team is planning to appoint a Communications Coordinator to facilitate communications among the Parish Champions, Task Coordinators and Goal Captains, the UOL can support the communications process by publishing regular updates in its established communications channels (UOL Bulletin, Facebook page, blast e-mails, etc.).

Also, specifically we recommend that the UOL--

- Designate a UOL Executive Board member as a liaison to each Strategic Plan Goal to support their Strategic Plan efforts.
- Establish a regular Strategic Plan Update page in the UOL Bulletin "Strategic Plan 101" to increase the dissemination of information. In addition, we recommend that the NEB research the cost/feasibility of distributing one or two issues of the UOL Bulletin to the entire UOC of USA which would feature Strategic Plan progress and updates in support of the Communications Coordinator's efforts.
- Invite Strategic Plan leaders (Task Force, Goal Captains, etc.) to participate in UOL events and provide them a forum to address the attendees regarding their progress on or needs of their specific/related topics.
- Invite Parish Champions to become members of the UOL and to participate in our events in order to benefit from/contribute to increased communications.

The Strategic Process is seeking greater involvement on all levels and is looking for volunteers to contribute to the effort.

As a point of information at this point, most teams are convening via conference call about once every two to three weeks, each call lasting approximately



an hour to discuss the results of independent efforts and opinions.

UOL members are asked to seek appropriate candidates from their parishes to join this effort.

It was further suggested that a "copy ready ad" be developed in Ukrainian and English so that it could be "dropped" into parish bulletins or webpages seeking the talents/experience necessary for the topics in need of greater participation (stewardship, healthy parishes, education, etc.)

St. Sophia LIBRARY BOOK CLUB
A place to meet and discuss various Orthodox books and topics

Third Thursday of each month
6:30-8:30 PM

Thursday, August 17, 2017
Pani Matka Oksana Pasakas and Daria Pishko-Komichak - "Liturgy and Life: Christian Development through Liturgical Experience" (Alexander Schmemmann) and Discussion on Youth Ministry

Thursday, September 21, 2017
Lynette Hull - "The Art of Seeing: Paradox and Perception in Orthodoxy Iconography" (Fr. Maximos Confessors)

Thursday, October 19, 2017
Fr. Anthony Perkins - Discussion of the NY Times Best Seller "The Shack" (William P. Young)
For more information, and to RSVP call 732-356-0090, ext. 120
Free-will donations accepted
Light refreshments will be served

St. Sophia Library at the Consistory of the UOC of USA - 135 Davidson Avenue / Somerset NJ 08873

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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
Lesky Family	In loving memory of Joseph Lesky, by Sisters Catherine and Helen and Joe's children Joseph Jr., John, James and Kathleen, and grandchildren Jessica, Joe III; Nicholas, Christopher; Jamie, Patrick, Benjamin and Anna.
Steve and Alice Sivulich	In memory of Mike Woloschak, our dear friend and Steve's Ukrainian dance teacher.
Father Myron and Pani Linda Oryhon	In honor of Dr. Jordan Gladys-Oryhon for graduating from medical school.

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.

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Ukrainian Orthodox League
Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat
February 23-25, 2018 FLORIDA

"Need for Repentance in an Unsorry World"

Sponsored by the
Ukrainian Orthodox League and Holy Protection Orthodox Church
February 23-24, 2018 Sunday, February 25, 2018
Bethany Center Holy Protection Orthodox Church
Lutz, FL Dover, FL

"Come, and let us return to the Lord, for He has torn, but He will heal us; He has stricken, but He will bind us up...that we may live in His sight."
(Hosea 6.1-2)

More details will be available on our website: www.HolyOrthodox.org

Mark your calendars!
Lenten Retreats

*March 24, 2018
Bethlehem, PA*

*March 3, 2018
Villa Maria, PA*