



UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth

VOL. 54 NO. 6

APRIL / MAY 2008

Youngstown Lock-In

Submitted by Krista Ulbricht Jr. UOL Chapter President



Youngstown's lock-in has opened its doors! We opened our doors to all the other Orthodox dioceses and got an amazing turn out. We had teenagers not only from our diocese, but also the Antiochian, Greek and Romanian. This year's theme for the lock-in was Choices. The fee was one dollar, a canned good or book for the local Rescue Mission, or a child's medical supply to send over to the orphanages in Ukraine.

Our dinner theme was "Wing-Ding Pizza Thing," where we served pizza and wings. We started our evening off by playing "Get-to-Know-You" games (GTKYG). One of the games we played was the famous, but still infamous, "Numbers" game. We then continued our evening with three wonderful speakers. Fr. Jonathan Tobias started it all off. We were truly honored with his presence. He was a phenomenal speaker, everyone really enjoyed his lecture. Next was Mr. Dick who is the one and only "Ukie Santa Claus" where he told us about his trips to Ukraine. The last speaker for the evening was none other than Sts. Peter and Paul's Pastor, Fr. John Harvey.

We all then busted out and went bowling at the local bowling alley. We arrived back later that night, after having a grand old time bowling. At our arrival to the hall we all participated in evening prayers led by Fr. John Harvey. The rest of the morning was free time and crafts. At this time some teens played basketball and board games.



Sts. Peter and Paul's Junior UOL would like to thank all the clergy, guest

speakers, chaperones, young adults, and teenagers that attended this year's annual lock-in. The juniors would like to thank our parish Senior UOL and our parish Youth Ministry for donating money to help defray the cost. We also would like to say a special thank you to Erika Mark who is a designer and lives in Las Vegas; she designed and donated the shirts for this year's lock-in.

We hope that the teenagers that attended this year's lock-in come back next year and bring many other teenagers from their parishes.

The Youngstown Sr. and Jr. chapters are also busy preparing for the 62nd Annual UOL Convention. The Convention will be held July 22 to July 26, 2009. "It's our time, and your time in 09."

All Saints Camp Lenten Retreat

Submitted by Melanie Nakonachny

The Ukrainian Orthodox League All Saints Camp Lenten Retreat was held April 4-6, 2008 in Emlenton, Pennsylvania. Participants from seven parishes attended this three day event which was held for the third time this year. Cancelled last year due to the inclement weather, the weather could not have been more cooperative, providing warmth and beautiful sunshine for the majority of the weekend.



Participants arrived at the camp on Friday evening. Following registration and unpacking, everyone gathered in the main hall of the Millennium building for the opening workshop which was presented by Rev. Paisius McGrath from Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Lyndora, PA. Fr. Paisius spoke on the various services of Great Lent as well as focusing on St. John Climacus' *Ladder of Divine Ascent*. The workshop was followed by dinner and an activity targeted to get participants acquainted with each other. Friday evening ended with socialization, board games and evening prayers.

Saturday began with morning prayers and breakfast and was followed by a workshop led by Rev. Robert Popichak from Holy Ghost Parish in Slickville, PA. Father Popichak focused his workshop on the practices of Great Lent, what it means to us as individuals, and how we should use this time to challenge ourselves to do what God has asked us, "Feed the hungry, clothe the poor..."



After this uplifting workshop, the participants enjoyed lunch and then began a service project for the orphans in Ukraine. More than 160 foam crosses were crafted. These crosses have the Jesus Prayer imprinted on them in Ukrainian and will be taken to the orphanages during the diocese's upcoming mission trip. During the afternoon participants also adorned a large cross that will be placed on the camp's Hill of Crosses, as a remembrance of this retreat. After

a short break of relaxation, hiking and socialization, participants gathered for the third workshop. This workshop was broken into two sessions. The first session was led by His Beatitude Metropolitan Constantine and was geared for the teenage participants. This allowed for the youth of our diocese to learn about the season of Great Lent and also ask questions of our hierarchy. The second session ran concurrently and was led by Michael Kapeluck of Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Carnegie, PA. His workshop was for the adult participants and was on the topic of iconography in the Church. The workshops ended with Great Vespers being served by His Beatitude Metropolitan Constantine and sung by all of the retreat participants. Following dinner the final workshop was led by His Beatitude and allowed participants to ask any

(continued page 3)

I♥NY 61st UOL CONVENTION I♥UOL

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ILLUMINES ALL

July 30 – August 3, 2008

Hosted by the Sr. and Jr. UOL Chapters of St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY

Holidayinnarena.com • (607) 722-1212 • 800-HOLIDAY Co-Chairs: Pam Scannell (607) 754-1554 Alexis Oryhon (607) 341-3748

UOL BULLETIN - The official publication of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the United States of America. Circulated to all UOL Members. Non-members subscription rate \$30.00 Canada \$40.00

<i>Oleh Bilynsky</i> UOL President 703 Pine Ridge Rd Wallingford, PA 19086	<i>Patrick Scannell</i> Jr. UOL President 2000 Clover St. Vestal, NY 13850	<i>Natalie Bilynsky</i> UOL Bulletin Editor 703 Pine Ridge Road Wallingford, PA 19086 nsufler@aol.com	<i>Father John Harvey</i> UOL Bulletin Spiritual Advisor
---	---	---	--

Sr. Staff Writer- Elizabeth Mitchell 46 Lexington Court, Carnegie, PA 15106

UOL Bulletin - Published seven times annually - September, October, November, January/February, March, April 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)

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



ASK FR. HARVEY RELIGIOUS QUESTIONS

Answered by: Fr. John Harvey

What is the Orthodox teaching about divorce?

Jesus Himself in the Gospels speaks out against divorce and hints even that our pairings in marriage might have had His hand in it in the first place. Certainly in Christian marriage, a couple that presents themselves for matrimonial coronation have heaven as a goal and have made this step of their own conscious free will. Once married, as a unit, joined like oxen in a yoke, they are to move inexorably towards achieving their heavenly crowns, though the world, the flesh and the devil seek to distract one or the other from it. Jesus mentioned that Moses allowed the Chosen People to have divorce due to the hardness of their hearts.

Now since the New Testament times are in the fullness of time and all of us, of the new Israel, should have evolved into a more perfect love, heartfelt forgiveness should be shown by one spouse to the other. Adultery is one of the most toxic of situations that a marriage must face, but Jesus holds that, unlike the eye for an eye attitude expressed in the Old Testament, Christ-like love should prompt forgiveness even when the marriage bond is shaken by infidelity.

Adultery, wife-bashing and a few other circumstances may test even the most forgiving Christian. If the offending spouse's grievous actions are further marked by a total lack of repentance and hardened by continuous misbehavior, then one partner may have to seek divorce for their own and their children's safety. Of course, a radical decision to dissolve a marriage should only come after there have been attempts at forgiveness and reconciliation. There is a point when love is completely dead, but this is a tragedy.

Divorce not only forces children to take sides between opposing parents, but within a church the toxin spreads as people back one person or the other. Another sad sign of the times is that divorce is sought by one or the other partner for the most slight and flippant of reasons. This latter day development shows that many entering into marriage have no idea that this union in love is being projected into the Kingdom of Christ, and that work and nurturing for its deepening must be done on a daily basis to survive and be sustained.

Let us be frank that the Church does not issue a divorce. What happens rather is that the state issues a divorce decree according to its own peculiar laws and standards. If and when a divorced party wishes to enter another marriage, then this is the time when the Orthodox Church intervenes. Full circumstances regarding the cause of the past divorce must be given to the Hierarchy, who will adjudge just who was the guilty party and whose actions perpetrated the final dissolution of the marriage. The guilty party should not be admitted to a further marriage in Church, but the aggrieved victim is given the permission to remarry. In the modern world, often both parties were contributors to the downfall of a marriage and so the judgment of a Hierarchy must deeply explore all circumstances before a decision can be made.

Divorce is a tragedy as it marks the death of love and has a toxic effect on the immediate family involved, but members of the parish family can become divided as well.



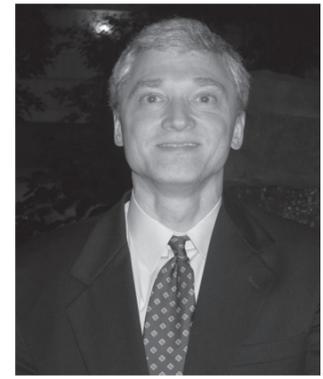
Do you have questions that you would like answered in the UOL Bulletin?

Send them to the Editor Natalie Bilynsky

nsufler@aol.com

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL PRESIDENT

Oleh Bilynsky



Glory to Jesus Christ! Slava Isusu Christu!

As we are in the home stretch of our Lenten journey, I pray that you and all of your families enjoy a blessed and joyous Pascha. Hopefully you had an opportunity to attend at least one of the UOL Lenten Retreats, and I pray that your preparations for Pascha are peaceful and full of reflection.

By now all chapters should have received the 2008 awards mailing. Please read the documents thoroughly and consider nominating a candidate for the Very Rev. Protopresbyter Stephen Hallick-Holutiak Senior UOL Recognition Award, the Metro J. Baran Achievement Award or the UOL Distinguished National Service Award (descriptions of all awards were enclosed in the mailing). Also, it is imperative that all chapters complete the Chapter Annual Report Form that was included in the awards mailing. This form allows the National Executive Board and other UOL members to be aware of your chapter's activities. These forms are printed in the Annual Report that is distributed at the annual convention and is a chapter requirement. The Annual Report Form will also be used to determine the Senior UOL Chapter of the Year. The deadline for all paperwork is April 30.

By now all chapters should also have received their Sr. Chapter Election and Convention Delegate forms. The deadline for these forms is June 15, and hopefully each chapter will be sending as many delegates as possible to the convention in Johnson City. It is my fervent wish that every UOL member attends the convention and actively participates in the committee deliberations. Those deliberations will not only guide the UOL in the forthcoming year, but also help to set long-term goals for the UOL, and every UOL member's input is needed.

As but one example of such a goal, the UOL undertook the task of raising the needed funds for the interior and furnishings of the All Saints Camp Chapel, and many UOL members also contributed their time and labor to this worthy project. The project was initiated by Debra Burgan of blessed memory, and spearheaded by P. M. Mary Anne Nakonachny, who was assisted by Diane Senedak and Irene Carman. Thanks to the efforts of those UOL members (and to all who contributed to this project) that goal has been reached, and it is my great pleasure to invite all UOL members to come and enjoy the "fruits of your labors" at the consecration of the All Saints Camp Chapel on June 22 (the celebration will take place on both the 21st and the 22nd, and all are invited to participate in both days' events).

I look forward to seeing many of you at the consecration, and also in South Bound Brook for the weekend of Saint Thomas Sunday. I also look forward to seeing many of you at the consecration of Bishop-Elect Daniel (Spiritual Advisor to the Sr. UOL) to the Episcopal Hierarchy of our Holy Church, which will take place on May 9-10 in the Metropolitan Cathedral of St. Vladimir in Parma, Ohio.

With the fiscal year winding down, I thank all who contributed to the UOL's various fund-raising efforts, and note that it is never too late to make a donation. The Jr. UOL's Great Lent Giveaway, the Sr. UOL's Annual Fund Drive, and both the LSSK and MJSF fund drives are all still in full swing, so please contribute generously to these worthy causes.

Lastly, the spring meeting of both the Junior and Senior National Executive Boards will be held in Maplewood, NJ on May 17. As always, everyone is welcome and I encourage all who are in the area, both Juniors and Seniors, to attend the meeting (and to cheer on your favorite team in the fourth annual Senior-Junior Executive Board "Battle of the Boards").

Yours in Christ,
Oleh V. Bilynsky

There is still time to submit your entry
UOL EDUCATION COMMISSION
ANNUAL ESSAY CONTEST
"THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ILLUMINES ALL"
ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY
MAY 30, 2008

Mail entries to : UOL ESSAY CONTEST
c/o Shirley Skocypec
135 Davidson Avenue
Somerset, NJ 08873-1358

61st Annual UOL Convention
THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ILLUMINES ALL
 Hosted by
St. John the Baptist Parish Johnson City, NY

August 2, 2008 Saturday! Saturday! Saturday!

*With all the business of the week completed, it's time to boogie
 – 1980s Style!*

Perhaps you were aware of the fact that the Johnson City (*WOO HOO!*) Chapter has not hosted a UOL Convention since 1985 (believe it or not!!). As an homage to this memorable decade, we have chosen to harness its indomitable spirit into one memorable evening: the "Illuminations" Banquet and Ball on Saturday night. (For those of you Flappers expecting a Roarin' Twenties jazzy theme, we're sorry to let you down – maybe next time around...)



Our mystery writer practices his dance moves!

Our Banquet and Ball guru, Pani Matka Linda Oryhon, has personally instructed this humble scribe to implore you to dress in your finest vintage Eighties gear on Saturday night, so feel free to break out the fluorescent colors, skinny neckties and perhaps even the side ponytails. Special points (maybe even prizes!) will be awarded to folks dressed in the same outfit they wore to the Banquet and Ball in 1985. Rad!

For those of you too young to own a ruffled tuxedo shirt or legwarmers, we will have officially-licensed 80s fashion consultants on hand all week to help you track down suitable threads at the local Salvation Army stores and other thrift shops in the area.

A Helpful Hint for Embracing the Eighties Style: If it feels good –Do It!

And though the apparel may be slightly outlandish, rest assured that this evening will still feature all the standard trappings you've come to expect of the Banquet and Ball as an enduring institution: a savory meal, deserved awards, riveting speeches, spirited dancing and, of course, a gravity-defying Kolomeyka. Jeff Nyschot's Groove (seriously, that is the band's name) will make sure the music never stops and we'll keep on dancing through to the morning light ...or midnight. Whichever comes first.

August 3, 2008 Sunday! Sunday! Sunday!

Sunday is always a bittersweet day at any Convention, but we promise absolutely no letdown after the memories made the prior evening. The day gets underway with Hierarchal Divine Liturgy at the church, which will be the spiritual apex of the week. For those of you who haven't been inside our church recently (perhaps even twenty years), be sure to take a moment to view our new Iconography, a glorious culmination of many years' labor. We then invite you to "Celebrate Ukraine" at our farewell picnic on the parish grounds, featuring a short cultural program showcasing our choir and dancers, St. John's legendary Holutbsi and the obligatory teary goodbyes. Don't forget your Ukrainian shirts and blouses!

So, there you have it! Over the last few months you've been given the inside scoop on every aspect of the 61st Annual Convention. We hope that these articles have encapsulated the spirit of what will prove to be a wonderful week. See you all in Johnson City! (*WOO HOO!*)

Respectfully Submitted,
 The UOL Mystery Writer

I♥UOL I♥UOL I♥UOL I♥UOL I♥UOL I♥UOL I♥UOL
2008 UOL Convention Registration Fees

Senior Delegate/Guest: \$200.
 Clergy: \$190.
 Junior Delegate/Guest: \$185.
 Pre-Teen: \$90.
 Senior/Junior Weekend (Sat. and Sun.): \$150.

A \$10. discount will be applied to each fee if registered by June 15, 2008

Hotel registrations can be attained at
 holidayinnarena.com (607) 722-1212 or 800-HOLIDAY

I♥UOL I♥UOL I♥UOL I♥UOL I♥UOL I♥UOL I♥UOL

**MESSAGE FROM THE
 JUNIOR
 UOL PRESIDENT**

Patrick Scannell



Glory to Jesus Christ!

It is already spring, and the year is going by so fast. I pray that everyone has had a wonderful Lenten season and is ready for Pascha. This is the time of year when we can really focus on the church and its importance. Also we are moving full speed ahead toward Convention.

The Great Lent Giveaway project was a Lenten project, and we are trying to finish it up. Thank you to all of the chapters who have already sent in donations that they raised. I hope more chapters will follow, and that this fundraising effort is as successful as possible. This year we are raising funds to donate the Altar Boy Vestments at the All Saints Camp Chapel.

As you probably already know, the raffle is another big project. Tickets have been sent out already to all the chapters, and I hope sales are going well. Please send in raffle tickets your chapter has sold to Jr. UOL Vice President Nick Anderson, 908 Stewart Rd., Salem, OH 44460, no later than May 1st. The drawing will be held during Convention in July.

If you plan on attending Convention, there is a great way to get money for travel. Once again, I'll mention the Pysh Travel Grant. This grant has been sent out to every chapter, and I recommend that chapters utilize this grant. If you or anyone you know needs an application, email me at xtreme20@stny.rr.com.

I am looking forward to Convention this year. I hope that many people attend, and I will be pleased to welcome you to Johnson City. Remember this year's theme, "The light of Christ illumines all."

Yours in Christ, *Patrick Scannell*

(continued from page 1)

questions. The day wound down with participants relaxing, discussing the workshops of the day and enjoying each other's company



On Sunday morning, V. Rev. John Harvey traveled to All Saints Camp from Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Youngstown, OH to celebrate Divine Liturgy. The singing of the responses by the retreat participants was truly moving. The retreat ended with a delicious brunch before it was time for everyone to say goodbye and depart.

This year's U.O.L. All Saints Camp Lenten Retreat was truly a time to come



together as Orthodox Christians, learning about our faith and preparing for the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We pray that next year even more participants will attend this event.



This Cozy Corner - An Orthodox Book Review

Submitted by Fr. John W. Harvey

We like to think that social problems such as alcoholism or narcotic addiction are other people's difficulties and tend to minimize that this could be found in our Ukrainian Orthodox communities. Like many with an addiction, we too may be in great denial about a real social cancer in our midst, that hurts people and renders some families totally dysfunctional. Once we can make a frank admission that there really is something wrong, then the issue can be addressed. This is the reason we have confession and Lenten seasons, so that through repentance, there can be transformation and healing from the weakness of sins. Repentance does not mean for the sinner that all temptation will wither, but rather the platform for successful spiritual battle is set up. Since an ongoing addiction has a sinful aspect, a spiritual therapy should have a positive therapeutic effect. How then is this accomplished? The traditional 12 step program, well known through Alcoholics Anonymous, had its beginning with Christian believers. Knowing that many would balk at what is essentially a spiritual approach to a problem, that is admitting guilt, confessing one's actions and acknowledging God, the overt Christian wording was masked. A believing Christian should instantly realize that the Higher Power is none other than Jesus Christ and that the various steps mimic stages of self-knowledge and repentance. AA has been a very great help to generations of suffering people, but it was hoped that a book would be written that would amplify the benefits of such a regimen specifically for Orthodox struggling with addiction.

Finally, an excellent book has been published and it is here! STEPS OF TRANSFORMATION : An Orthodox Priest Looks At The Twelve Steps by Fr. Meletios Webber has been published by Conciliar Press in 2003. Already it almost leaps off the bookshelf because of its popularity. In Alaska, where the native Orthodox population has been shackled, first with alcoholism and now the scourge of drugs, each Orthodox parish uses this book as the only effective tool for those who would do battle for sobriety.

The first part of the book is an overview of the twelve steps, the role of AA and the part that the spiritual life plays in the process of recovery. It notes that within the Orthodox context, one's own spiritual father might fulfill the role of sponsor. The remainder of the book delves into each of the twelve steps in great detail, delineating the general significance for an addicted person and then taking it one step further with the significance for the Orthodox believer. This exercise fine tunes each step to Orthodox spiritual life and practice. Instances from the Gospel, and moments from sacramental and church practice, make connections with what is already familiar. The use of the Jesus Prayer and the true significance of "Lord have mercy" expands what the reader may have considered as prayer in the past. If read with sincerity, this book can provide the means to an upgrade in the practice of the faith as well as providing help of a therapeutic sort in dealing with addictions. If yours is a household where alcoholism or one of the other addictions has a foothold, this very readable volume may be the godsend you have been awaiting.

LSSK Donations - Totaling \$1,720

Thank you to the following who made donations:

- UOL Clifton, NJ \$100.00
- Mr. & Mrs. Wm Kuzbyt \$200.00
- Adam and Marlene Piasecki \$25.00
- Mr. & Mrs. Nick Chichik \$30.00
- Mr. & Mrs. John Piropato \$50.00
- Mr. Richard Jendras \$20.00
- Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Leshchyshyn \$25.00
- Mr. Gary Markovich \$25.00
- Eugenia Arson \$50.00
(\$15 in memory of Debra Burgan)
(\$20 in memory of Pete Martinque)
(\$15 in memory of William Romanyk)
- Frank Di Giacomo \$20.00
- V.Rev. Jakiw and Pani-Matka Maria Norton \$100.00
- Walter & Nina Samijlenko \$100.00
- Michael & Daria Komichak \$100.00
- Natalie Bilynsky \$20.00
- William Ferente \$5.00
- Mr. & Mrs. Steven M. Sawchuk \$700.00
- Rose Boykas \$40.00
(\$10 in memory of Miguel Angel Chichik)
(\$10 in memory of Mrs. Kuzbyt's brother)
(\$10 in memory of Olga Piropato's father)
- Holy Ascension Jr. UOL Maplewood, NJ \$100.00

please see page 8 for details about how you can support the LSSK Scholarship Fund

STS. PETER & PAUL SR. UOL CHAPTER

Carnegie, PA

"We're Still Trying"

Submitted by Dr. Stephen Sivulich

It has been said that immediately following a UOL Convention, the hosting chapter generally experiences a lull in their activities. Well— we're still waiting for that lull. With a profit of \$37,324.20 from the 60th Convention, we've been inspired to keep on going with all of our regular activities . . . and we're still having fun.

The chapter continues to sponsor the Sunday Bulletin, which includes financing a very sophisticated photocopy machine. Michael Kapeluck is the perennial editor, as well as the organizer of our Annual Pysanky Sale scheduled for Sunday, March 26th. The regular egg making days are hosted in the church hall or at various members' homes. Of course, the Sts. Peter and Paul Kitchen Workers, supervised by Steve Sivulich, with the help of a number of UOL members, will provide a variety of foods during the egg sale. Steve also cooks for the regular Thursday Senior Coffee Hour and maintains that he has spoiled the "seniors" with pancakes, waffles, or French Toast. Now they're asking for bacon or sausage. He also has weekly take-out service to Willie and Joann, two of our parish's shut-ins.

Other UOL members involved in the life of the parish include: Sherri Walewski coordinates maintenance of the church properties, Michelle Kapeluck and Sherri administer the Church School, and Alice Sivulich coordinates the Bag Lunch Project which provides lunches to the Salvation Army of Pittsburgh for the homeless. Bonnie Reinhart and Alice Sivulich coordinate the Sunday Coffee Hour with all UOL members assigned sponsorship dates. The Coffee Hour profits then pay the annual membership dues for UOL members. Bo Hryshchyshyn manages the cultural sales and serves as the repairman of our soft drink machine. During the past year, Alexis Sawchuk served as President of the St. Matrona Ladies Society. Natalie Kapeluck Nixon serves as the Director of the Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble in which a number of UOLers are members. Their recent performance was simply outstanding.

The chapter has earmarked a portion of their convention rebate for an icon in the All Saints Camp Chapel and chapter members will be assisting with pierogie making for the camp chapel consecration.

We're looking forward to the installation of our new bishop, Archimandrite Daniel, the Johnson City Convention, our Sunday 50:50 Raffle for a proposed church elevator, and a fund drive for the renovation of our church steps. Other than that, it's business as usual in Carnegie and we want to thank delegates and guests to the 60th Annual UOL Convention for helping to make it a huge success. Thank you.

Edward Kulyk of Blessed Memory

Submitted by Helen Pershyn



Edward A. Kulyk fell asleep in the Lord, after a long illness, on August 25, 2007. In his early years, Ed lived in Philadelphia where he was an active participating member of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral. In 1947, plans for establishing the Ukrainian Orthodox League were held in New

York City. Ed attended the first meeting and was active in the organization of the League. For many years, he was a familiar face at League activities and Conventions.

In 1959, Ed was employed by General Electric as a nuclear engineer. He relocated to upstate New York and there became a participating member of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Troy, NY. Because of business commitments, he was not able to participate in many League activities, however, he showed support whenever possible.

In 1985, Ed retired to Florida, first to Sanibel and then to Fort Meyers where he spent the last years of his life. He will be missed by all who knew him. May his memory be eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!

**UOL Sponsored Educational Workshops
Weekend of St. Thomas Pilgrimage**

Tour of St. Sophia Seminary and Chapel
Speaker: Archimandrite Daniel

Saturday May 3, 2008
3:00 p.m.

Meet at the Seminary

GREAT LENT GIVEAWAY 2008 - CHAPEL CHALLENGE II

Submitted by Natalie Kapeluck Nixon photographs by Ethan Nixon



The **Great Lent Giveaway (GLG)** is designed to give our youth the opportunity to do good works for others during Great Lent. In addition to doing good works, they learn more about their faith and devote additional time to learning, prayer and fasting during this season of preparation for Pascha. The GLG is a joint project of the Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League and the Consistory Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry.

With the blessing of our Hierarchs, the GLG of 2008 will once again benefit the Interior Appointments Fund for the Chapel at All Saints Camp. Last year over \$2,700 was collected for the

Creation of Light Icon. This year's monies collected will be designated for six sets of altar boy robes. Monies collected above and beyond the needed amount will go into the general appointments fund.

A suggested program for conducting the GLG is available for use by Jr. Chapters and parish youth groups. The program is developed for three separate age groups for youth ranging in age from 4 – 18. If you used the program last year, we have an updated activity for this year. We encourage you to construct a program using these materials, as well as your own



ideas, to make the GLG more than just a fundraising effort. A program that is carried out throughout Great Lent will help the youth of your parish more fully understand the importance and beauty of mission work during fasting periods.



This program may be used any time throughout the year, not just during Great Lent. Please modify it for your needs. In an effort to reduce consumption of resources

and live as better caretakers of our Lord's creation, the full program is available in one of two ways: 1) Downloadable on-line at www.uocofusa.org - Offices of Ministry – Office of Youth Ministry or 2) Requesting a printed version from the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry.

Questions may be directed to the GLG Jr. UOL Coordinator Natasha Walewski at nwalewski247@hotmail.com or Office of Youth Ministry Director Natalie Kapeluck Nixon at uocyouth@aol.com. All funds should be sent to either of the above contacts. Funds will be accepted up until the start of the UOL Convention.

UOL Membership

Submitted by Natalie Bilynsky

In my last few years on the Board I have heard an ever-increasing murmur of “why be part of the UOL?” and “the Junior UOL is important but there is no need for a Senior Chapter.” It is clear, however, that parishes with strong Senior UOL chapters have consistently stronger Junior chapters. I think that this phenomenon is not simply by chance. It is through the UOL that our Juniors learn about their role in the Church, and it is through the connections and friendships of the Senior UOL that the Juniors see a place for themselves in the Church as a whole.

Often within meetings, there is a recurring theme, “if there were more of us” we could do more. I would argue that the things we have accomplished would never have started without the belief that it could be done, and the dedication of several individuals to get it done. In fact, the major accomplishments probably did not seem possible at the time of the idea. Would anyone have imagined that over one hundred thousand dollars would be donated to Ukrainian Orthodox in terms of scholarships? Would it have been predicted that the funds for the Chapel could have been raised in less than two years? Would anyone predict that our retreats would have over fifty participants consistently? Would anyone think that the young adults would themselves plan to attend the Sobor because they were interested in participating in the Church? If we think of the difficulties associated with each of the projects, the problems seem insurmountable. I would argue that with the Church, and with the UOL, all is possible.

With that said, it takes everyone. If you have a concern, an idea, a different way of doing something – your voice and talents are needed. If not you, then who? If you think something should be done – suggest it. The Juniors are typically bursting with ideas but not with the knowledge base to execute the task. I encourage you to look at these ideas and consider how your talents match these ideas. If you would like to plan something -- this is your time. I pray that we are all inspired to think of ways that the UOL and our Church can grow – not simply maintain, but flourish.

Fun Day at St. Vladimir's Parma, Ohio

Submitted by Emily Kominko

If you were to ask parishioners at St. Vladimir's in Parma, Ohio what exactly constitutes a “fun day,” many would be able to explain it to you. On Sunday, February 10, a group of parishioners from all walks of life gathered together in the church hall after the second Divine Liturgy. There, in the youth room, everyone enjoyed some pizza, pop, and each other's company. After the light lunch, we all traveled to a nearby bowling alley to continue the Fun Day. It was so amazing to see people, whether they were only three, twenty five, or fifty years old all come together and play a few games of bowling. Some new members signed up to join the Junior U.O.L. that day, and everyone cannot wait until the next Fun Day sponsored by St. Vladimir's Jr. U.O.L!



St. Vladimir's Senior UOL Chapter -- Philadelphia, PA



The last few months have been busy for our Senior Chapter. On a Friday evening in March, Lydia (Krupa) and Steve Economu hosted the chapter for a Tasty Delights sampling party. In addition to a wonderful opportunity for chapter members to socialize, a percentage of proceeds were donated to the chapter.

On Cheesefare Sunday we scheduled a Lenten soup and salad meal. All of the food items were donated and all proceeds from the event were designated to support the four young adults

from our parish who will be participating in the Mission Trip to Ukraine: Melanie and Matthew Trypupenko, Adam Kennedy and Matthew Bohlen. As part of our Lenten meal we were treated to delicious cherry and apple nalysnyky prepared by Lydia Bohlen. Our chapter was overwhelmed by the support from



our parish and raised over seven hundred dollars to support the cost of our four young adults traveling to Ukraine.

During the Sundays of Lent Mr. Anatolij Sufler is providing pysanky instruction in the parish. His first Sunday was well attended with young children and parents learning the art of writing pysanky.



The chapter has also started planning for the UOL Convention in 2011. It is hard to believe that the next Philly Convention is only three years away. To begin planning, a meeting has been scheduled for late March. We have now placed the chapter on a 10 year Convention plan (1981, 1991, 2001, 2011) so we might also start thinking about 2021. In many ways the thought of planning the Convention is rejuvenating for our chapter. We have had some of our most well-attended meetings in the last few months.

ANNUAL FUND DONATIONS

*Very Rev. Wolodymir Paszko - In Memory of
Pani Matka Katherine Paszko*

Irene Pashesnik - In Memory of Mary and John Pashesnik

Hazel and Stella Klipnick - In Memory of Steve and Mary Klipnick

Patricia Rychly - In Memory of Helen Rychly

Bettyann Woyewoda - In Memory of John and Pauline Woyewoda

Catherine Lesky Shaffer - In Memory of John Lesky

Helen Maslankowski - In Memory of John Lesky

Dr. George N. Krywolap - In Memory of Fr. Eugene Krywolap

Lillian M. Baran - In Memory of Metro James Baran ("Big Daddy")

Kathy Battisti - In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Koroczynsky

*Fr. William and Pani Dobrodyka Sonia Diakiw - In Memory of His
Eminence Archbishop Vsevelod*

Thomas Grzymiski - In Memory of Grzymiski and Meuch Family

Catherine Kocenash

Jane K. Yavarow

Stephanie Ritter

Rev. Fr. George and Pani Lillian Hnatko

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Pershyn

Joseph Woytovich

Martha and Michael Misko

Oleh and Natalie Bilynsky

Marilyn Druash

Janice Meschisen

Victor Melnychenko

Mr. and Mrs. George Shevchuk

W.A. Pysh

**You can still make your donation to the Annual Fund Drive
see Page 8 for information**

Saint Vladimir's Parma, Ohio

Welcomes Visitors on the Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Submitted by Melanie Nakonachny

The Sunday of the Prodigal Son is traditionally known as "Bring a Friend to Church Day" in parishes across the United States. On February 24, 2008 Saint Vladimir's Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League Chapter of Parma, Ohio invited friends to attend Divine Liturgy and learn more about the Orthodox faith. Also joining our Junior U.O.L. guests were members of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship chapters of the Greater Cleveland area. During the past three years, four OCF chapters have been formed at Case Western Reserve University, Baldwin Wallace College, Cleveland State University and John Carroll University. These college students have been visiting different Orthodox Churches throughout the semester, learning how we are all, together, a part of the one Holy Orthodox Church.

Upon their arrival guests were greeted in the vestibule by ushers who provided them with welcome buttons and escorted them to the pews reserved for our guests. The guests were greeted in church by Saint Vladimir's pastor, V. Rev. John Nakonachny. Following the Divine Liturgy all the guests congregated in the parish cultural center where they enjoyed a delicious breakfast and heard a presentation on the orphanages in Ukraine. This is the fifth year that Saint Vladimir's Cathedral in Parma celebrated "Bring a Friend to Church Day." We pray that the event will continue to be a success for many years to come.



The Junior U.O.L. Visits Southfield, Michigan

Submitted by Emily Kominko



There is not a better way to spend a Sunday besides talking to a potential new Junior U.O.L. chapter. That is why on Sunday, February 16, Junior Recording Secretary and National Membership Chairwoman, Emily Kominko, and Junior U.O.L. Advisor, Melanie Nakonachny, traveled to St. Mary the Protectress parish in Southfield, Michigan. The Divine Liturgy that was attended first thing in the morning was beautiful, with people filling the church. Pani Lesia Serediuk and her daughter, Natalie, who is a Junior U.O.L. Member-At-Large, have been interested in starting a Junior U.O.L. chapter in their parish for quite some time and had coordinated this visit. They escorted the guests to the church hall, where it was set up as a Junior U.O.L. paradise. The tables were covered with a blue table cloth with blue and yellow balloons. Surrounding the center pieces were cut out letters that spelled Jr. U.O.L. There were long tables that had a delicious Lenten spread upon them. Behind the food, there were big poster boards, each one of them dedicated to housing one letter in Jr. U.O.L. Not only was the decor amazing, but the hospitality of the parishioners was unbeatable. Everyone always had a smile on their face.

After enjoying lunch, the adults and the potential Junior U.O.L. members split up. Emily Kominko spoke to the youth about the Junior U.O.L. The workshop began with a Get To Know You Game. Following the game, the parish youth were familiarized with Junior U.O.L. activities. They were extremely interested



and asked plenty of questions. The workshop included shared pictures of events in which members of the Junior U.O.L. have participated. Projects that the U.O.L. sponsors were explained, and the soon-to-be Junior U.O.L. members are already ahead of the game, having participated in the U.O.L. Christian Caregiving and Missions Committee Souper Bowl Sunday collection. While the youth were enjoying their workshop, Melanie Nakonachny met with the adults. She familiarized them with the organization, introduced them to the Junior U.O.L. handbook, spoke with them about the steps it would take to form a chapter, and answered any questions they had about the Junior U.O.L. on a local or national level. Melanie and Emily could not sufficiently thank the parishioners who had helped to make this Sunday a reality. It was sad to leave, but exciting to have introduced another parish to the organization!

THE ANNUAL UOL CULTURAL CONTEST



****Participation is open to all UOL members**

****Entries will be displayed and voted on at
the 61st Annual UOL Convention in Johnson
City, NY**

****Any homemade item that involves
Ukrainian heritage and culture is permitted**

For more information, contact: Michael Nemeth
Jr. UOL Treasurer, Cultural Committee Chair
th_nemeth@comcast.net

BRING YOUR ENTRY TO THE CONVENTION!

**WANTED! A FEW MORE SPONSORS OF FURNISHINGS
FOR THE
ALL SAINTS CAMP CHAPEL**

The 7-candle stand shown below is one of a number of items that is currently in need of sponsorship for the All Saints Camp Chapel. The cost to sponsor the beautiful candle stand for the altar is \$1,250.00. As we prepare for the June 22, 2008 consecration of this beautiful edifice, the Committee to Furnish the Chapel at All Saints Camp is working hard to ensure that all is in order and that all the needed furnishings and appointments have been sponsored and purchased.



Following is a list of items that are still needed:

Items #017B, #018B, #019B
\$350.00 ea 3 sets of Altar Boys' Robes

Items #028B & #029B 2
Processional Banners \$325.00 each
(with poles and banners)

Item #030B 7-Candle Stand for Altar \$1,250.00

Items #041B, #042B 2 Upholstered Benches \$325.00 each

Item #050B Chandelier price to be determined

Multiple Donors are Requested for a Year's Supply of:

Item #051B Incense	\$ 70.00
Item #052B Charcoal Briquettes	\$ 45.00
Item #053B Candles (1000)	\$190.00

Most sincere thanks are extended to the many donors who continue to show their support of this project by their generosity. Since the last Bulletin article, the donors include:

*His Eminence Archbishop Antony
Holy Ghost U.O.Church, Coatesville, PA
St. Mary's U.O.Church, Allentown, PA
St. Vladimir's Junior UOL, Pittsburgh, PA
Junior UOL National Executive Board
Archimandrite Daniel
David & Rebecca Babilya
Sarah Catanese
Olga Stepowyj Coffey
Matthew & Frances Connolly
Barb & Paul Creely
Dorothy C. Dulick
Mrs. Jodi Dimitriou
Michelle & John Edwards
The Gazella Family
Paul & Marlene Haluszczak
Mr. Bohdan Hryshchysyn
Wesley & Cindy Kalinik
Mrs. Beverly Kapeluck
John Kelleher
Florence Koss
Mykola & Ellen Liss
Harry & Theresa Makitka
Dennis & Carol Mark
& Melissa Dicks
David & Charissa (Sheptak) Martin
Rev. Taras Naumenko
The Osad Family
Bill & Donna Pencosky
Jim & Kathy Peyton
Robert N. Prokopchak
Rev. & Pani Matka Vasyl Sendeha
Jack Shannon & Golfers
Michael & Marie Solominsky
Helen, Nick & Sue Solominsky*

If you or your parish have not yet made a donation to this worthy project, it's not too late. Please do not feel that it is necessary to commit to any particular item in order to make a donation. There is also an immediate need for donations to the General Fund! EVERY GIFT, no matter the size, is greatly appreciated, and will be acknowledged in the same spirit it is given...to the Glory of God and His Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church!

Contact Pani Matka Mary Anne Nakonachny at (440) 885-1509 or via e-mail at nackos3201@aol.com to confirm availability of any specific item. Furnishing sponsorship and general fund donations may be sent directly to: Pani Matka Mary Anne Nakonachny, 3201 Marioncliff Drive, Parma, Ohio 44134



UOL T-Shirts:

Though the Binghamton area is consistently ranked high on the national list of most cloudy days every year, the Johnson City Junior and Senior UOL chapter members don't let that little piece of meteorological hogwash get them down. Rain or shine the I ♥ UOL t-shirts are sure to bring a smile to your face!

UOL T-Shirts: Put on a Sunny Day!

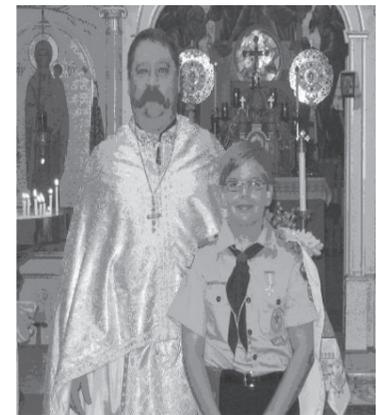
Seriously! It Won't Rain All Day.

Note from the Legal Department: The Junior and Senior UOL Chapters of St. John the Baptist parish take no responsibility for any rainy days experienced while wearing these shirts, especially if you're in Western Pennsylvania. Or in a monsoon.

**GREGORY MARKIW
RECEIVES ALPHA OMEGA AWARD
Sts. Peter and Paul Chapter News, Carnegie, PA**

Submitted by Dr. Stephen Sivulich, Chapter Reporter

Gregory Markiw of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Carnegie, PA was presented the **Alpha Omega Award** by Fr. Steve Repa. This was awarded through the Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting (EOCS). The Boy Scouts of America was incorporated to provide a program that offers effective character, citizenship, and personal fitness training for the youth. It endeavors to develop American citizens who are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit; have a high degree of self-reliance in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness; have personal values based on religious concepts; have the desire and skills to help others; understand the principles of the American social, economic, and governmental system, are knowledgeable about and take pride in their American heritage, and understand our nation's role in the world; have a keen respect for the basic rights of all people; and are prepared to participate in and give leadership to American society.



The Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting was created in 1960 by the Standing Conference of Orthodox Bishops in America (SCOBA), whose purpose is to conduct the mission of our Lord and His Church via the Boy Scouts of America and the Girl Scouts USA programs on a national level. Gregory is in Troop 262 in the Frontier District of the Greater Pittsburgh Council. He has been involved in scouting since he was six years old and currently holds the rank of Star. Gregory is an active member of his parish, having served as an Altar Boy for many years, is an active Jr. UOL Chapter member and has held a number of offices. For special events, he helps to make pierogies and works in the sales booth during a three-day event—Carnegie Days.

CONGRATULATIONS GREGORY!

Are you thinking about running for the National Executive Board? Would you like additional information about a specific office?

Contact Natalie Bilynsky nsufler@aol.com to get more information.

