We arrived Wednesday July 30th, 2008 to the 61st Senior and 47th Junior U.O.L. Annual Convention in Johnson City, NY. Sessions were called to order on Wednesday evening. That evening St. John the Baptists’ Junior and Senior chapters hosted a great hospitality night. Everyone reconnected with old friends and met a few new faces. Seniors enjoyed a wonderful hospitality room that included wine tasting, while the juniors had a pool party.

Thursday began bright and early with a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy followed by an excellent brunch at the hotel restaurant. Following the brunch, the juniors and seniors proceeded with sessions for the day. Sessions included a review of reports for the year as well as committee reports. After the very productive meetings, everyone kicked back, relaxed, and enjoyed the view of Binghamton from the top of the State Office Building (just a block from the hotel). Here, members received “A Taste of the Southern Tier” which was complete with delicious food, dancing, fun, and trivia games enjoyed by all! Everyone found great entertainment during a one of a kind “dance off” between one of our seminarians, Ivan, and junior member Fernando Melnychenko. The incredible night ended with a spectacular display of fireworks from the nearby stadium. The evening was such a hit that we found it very difficult to leave the gorgeous view and memories that will last a lifetime.

On Friday, August 1st, the juniors held the last sessions for the 47th Annual Convention. Sessions closed with the election of officers. Although we were sad to close these meetings for another year, we absolutely could not wait to get to the ballroom for a fantastic “Rally with Friends.” We danced the night away to a terrific live band, and all members danced to the beat waiting to hear the outcome of the winner of the Hot Air Balloon Ride. The winners were His Grace Bishop Daniel, and Michael Nakonachny. But the party didn’t end there! The convention body later enjoyed a Hospitality Night, hosted by the Senior and Junior Chapters of Youngstown, Ohio, who were busy planning next year’s convention.

(continued on page 4)
By the time you read this the Sr. Executive Board will have held its first meeting, and all of its members will have outlined their plans and goals for the upcoming year. As I did last year, I would like to make an increase in membership, in both the number of active UOL chapters and the total number of UOL members, one of my goals for the upcoming year. Last year we managed to increase our total membership, just barely, but not the number of active UOL chapters. This year we are off to a flying start, with the newly rejuvenated chapters in Pittsburgh and South Bound Brook, and I would like to see that momentum continue and carry us forward throughout the upcoming year.

I intend to work closely with all of our Board members, especially our Chapter Development Chairperson, Emil Skoczyce, and Natalie Bilynsky (Membership Chairperson), who will focus on our members at large, to increase the total number of both U.O.L. chapters and U.O.L. members. We can’t do it alone, however, so I ask all of you to help in this effort.

Take time to reach out not only to past members who are no longer active but to those parishioners who have never been members of the U.O.L, and invite them to join (or rejoin) the U.O.L. Our Chapter Development and Membership Chairpersons will, among other things, be sending out letters to potential new members, but a personal invitation is always preferable. A personal invitation not only gives you the opportunity to extol the virtues of the U.O.L, but also gives you the chance to answer any questions the “invitees” may have.

As I stated last year at this time, I am very proud to call myself a member of the U.O.L. and I hope every U.O.L. member is equally proud. That being the case, we should do all that we can to “spread the news” and increase our membership, so that as many as possible can participate in our “mission” and thereby share in our joy and pride.

In my own church of St. Vladimir’s in Philadelphia, I am part of the Parish Board sub-committee focused on increasing the membership of our local church, and having a strong local U.O.L chapter can only help that effort. In my humble opinion the strongest parishes of our Church are those that have the largest and strongest U.O.L chapters, and thus by increasing our own membership we are also helping to make our Church both strong and vital. If every parish in our Church had not only a U.O.L chapter, but a strong and active U.O.L chapter, there is no doubt in my mind that our Church would not only be stronger, but would have a bright and unlimited future.

Yours in Christ,

Oleh V. Bilynsky

Ask Fr. Harvey Religious Questions

Answered by: Fr. John Harvey

What does it take to be a reader in church?

As there are epistles to be read at every Liturgy and Old Testament readings set for certain feast days, a proficient reader is a definite asset to a parish. It is not difficult to learn how to chant the appointed reading or to do the Prokimen that usually announces it. Your pastor can easily and should be very appreciative to train a candidate. To clearly enunciate and to chant with a strong voice also takes but a little practice and self-confidence. What is most expected of one who comes forward to be a reader in church is regularity. By this, I mean the one who would serve as a reader must be dependable and do this work of service to the parish on a regular basis. There is nothing worse than to expect that someone will have the correct reading prepared, then the person does not show up and at the last minute there is an embarrassing fumbling to find and execute the text. One’s job may preclude presence on weekdays services, but a regular Sunday schedule would be sufficient. A parish may have several readers set aside, thus making a pool to draw from on call. Doing the job of a reader is an exemplary form of service to your parish. Should the bishop make a parish visitation, what had been an informal service of a reader could be confirmed with a tonsure into the lectorate, thus making it all official. Again, this should be humble service to a community, and not that of a prima donna that comes and goes at will. Each parish should develop a pool of willing individuals, who can use their voice to proclaim God’s Word to the people.

At an ordination to the priesthood, I noticed that the Bishop came out after the person was elevated from the diaconate and presented each vestment article to him with the cry of Axios, to which the choir and people called out “worthiness.” What does this all mean and is there a history behind this practice?

Down through the history of the church, it was not at just the idea that a Bishop is going to ordain someone to the priesthood in general, totally on his own and without respect to the congregation. In celebrating the Divine Liturgy a priest cannot just serve solely by himself without the people. The prayers of the congregation for the Body and Blood of Christ need people to fulfill this and to confirm the calling down of the Holy Spirit. So also in the ordination, it is the whole community that must be represented.

In the Liturgy during which a candidate is ordained to the priesthood, it is the Bishop who ordains and through the action of the Holy Spirit the grace to fulfill this office is given. The congregation must confirm this action and the word axios, (worthy) shouted by the people is the sign that all are in harmony with this action. If the congregation has doubts about the worthiness of the individual, they are certainly encouraged to shout axios (unworthy). With a negative response from the people, things come to a halt and an investigation is made. Several years ago, a new Bishop of the port of Athens, Piraeus was consecrated. The very solemn ceremony with a number of prominent Bishops was destroyed by the impassioned cries of axios by the faithful. In the ensuing investigation, the candidate, seemingly already consecrated, was indeed found to be unworthy and so the ordination was null and void and a new acceptable candidate had to be found.

Here is a built in check and balance system. From the early church onwards, people were not ordained or set aside for an office. In general, but rather to be the reader of a parish in a certain place. With the higher orders people were not ordained or set aside for an office “in general,” but rather to be the reader of a parish in a certain place. With the higher orders this can be seen that when a priest is ordained for a certain parish or a Bishop for a certain diocese then the shouting of axios, axios, axios has particular meaning, for it is the confirmation and agreement that such person is deemed worthy and acceptable for service in that place.

Want to Make a Difference?

Volunteer at All Saints Camp

Volunteers are needed to:
- paint
cut grass
routine maintenance
clean

No experience needed!

For more information or to volunteer please contact:
Mike Nakonechny
440-503-315
mnakno@bryantstratton.edu

Hans Harasimchuk
440-212-4976

Oleh Bilynsky
NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR UOL PRESIDENT

Taylor Gladys

Glory to Jesus Christ!

This year is certainly off to a good start with the Junior board. Now that it is October, I hope that all of the chapters have at least held their first meeting, and if not, it would be a good idea to get that accomplished soon. I would also like to recommend reading over the convention reports for ideas that could help your chapter with new activities for this year. Please use these ideas to set a few goals for your chapter to attain over the next several months. The more you set, the more your chapter and the entire Jr. UOL can achieve!

This year has been going by so fast, and I hope that all of your chapters have already submitted a few items to the board. Please send any remaining roster forms, chapter dues, and membership dues to Financial Secretary, Ethan Rock, as the deadline for these passed on September 30th. Election report forms should have also been sent in to Corresponding Secretary, Arianna Rock, by this time. If you have not already submitted these papers, please do so as soon as possible.

To fill you in on what the national board has been up to- we held our first meeting on September 27, 2008 in Philadelphia, PA, in conjunction with the Senior National Executive Board. The hospitable Jr. and Sr. Chapters of St. Vladimir’s parish were extremely welcoming to our group, and I would like to thank them for having us, as everyone appreciated their hard work. Detailed information regarding our fall meeting will be posted in the next bulletin.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns about both the national board and your chapter. I would love to hear about everything going on in your parishes. Thank you and God bless!

Yours In Christ,
Taylor Gladys

Sts. Peter and St. Paul Sr. U.O.L. Chapter Carnegie, PA

“Another Year of Activities” Submitted by Dr. Stephen Sivulich

FIVE NEW CHAPTER MEMBERS- Our 2008-2009 year commenced with the addition of five new chapter members: Alice and Cliff O’Neil, Anastasia Markiw, Christine Wachnowsky, and Natasha Walewski. We said good-bye to our three departing college students at a regular Sunday Coffee Hour, giving each a cupcake adorned with a single candle for good luck. Anastasia will be attending Chatham University (Pittsburgh, PA), Christine will go to Allegheny College (Meadville, PA), and Natasha will be at Arcadia College (Glenside, PA).

SALVATION ARMY BAG LUNCHES- We again prepared fifty-two bag lunches for the homeless of Pittsburgh. Each bag contains two chipped ham with cheese sandwiches, cake or cookie, two pieces of candy, apple or banana, napkin, straw and soft drink. A real significance of this project is that a simple announcement is placed in our Sunday Church Bulletin and adequate money is donated to cover the cost of this project. A special thank-you to chapter members and parishioners for their continued generosity.

FALL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES- The chapter schedule for the Fall is going to keep all members very busy! Senior and junior UOL members have been helping with the food preparation for Carême Days scheduled for September 4-6. The chapter’s major role is in manning the booth with the assistance of many parishioners for the three days of the event. Then, on September 20th we will celebrate Fr. Steve Repa’s 25th ordination anniversary with a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, followed by a dinner at the Euro Party Center.

A U.O.L. CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP DRIVE- We will conduct an aggressive membership drive in an effort to increase the size of our chapter, but more importantly, to permit others to participate in the joy and fellowship...and work at parish events. We think we have a pretty good deal. You don’t have to pay chapter membership dues, you simply host a Sunday Coffee Hour with two other members and the chapter pays your national dues. And (continued on page 6)
On Saturday, August 2, 2008, many convention members arose at 6:00 to catch a ride to Binghamton’s renowned Spiedie Fest and Balloon Launch. Although the balloons didn’t launch according to plans due to weather, several people stayed around for the festival and later returned to the hotel for the terrific workshops. The workshops were torte making and a presentation on the Holodomor.

Later that evening preparations were made for the Banquet and Ball. Before the ball was held we had a Vespers led by His Eminence Archbishop Antony. At the Banquet and Ball speeches were made, awards were distributed, the silent auction winners were announced, and everyone danced to an amazing live band.

The conclusion of the 61st Annual Convention came on Sunday, August 3, 2008, ending with a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. The oath of office was held at the conclusion of Divine Liturgy.

On behalf of the Junior U.O.L. I would like to thank our Hierarchs, Fr. Zinoviy Zharsky (host pastor), Chairpersons (Pam Scannell, Alexis Oryhon, and Pat Scannell), St. John’s Senior and Junior Chapters, and the entire parish of St. John the Baptist in Johnson City, NY.

Thank you so much for an awesome convention!

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After liturgy, members enjoyed a tasty Ukrainian Cultural brunch at St. John the Baptist hall. Everyone loved the concert and Ukrainian dancing put on by parishioners of the Johnson City parish.

Patrick Scannell presents icon to Talia Serediuk President of newly formed Junior UOL Chapter in the St. Mary the Protectress parish in Southfield, Michigan.


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62nd ANNUAL UOL CONVENTION
Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH
July 22-26, 2009
We look forward to seeing you in Y-town!!

Start making plans for the 62nd annual Convention
See old friends and make new ones!
President- Taylor Gladys

Glory to Jesus Christ! My name is Taylor Gladys and I am extremely honored to introduce myself as the newly elected President of the Junior National Executive Board. I am from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where I live with my mom, dad, and (when she’s home from college) my sister, Jordan. I attend St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Church on the South Side. At Church, I sing in the choir, attend Sunday school, and am currently President of South Side’s chapter of the Jr. UOL. Church is a big part of my life and I certainly would not be the same person without it.

This year, I will be a sophomore attending Woodland Hills High School. At Woodland Hills, I am a member of both the soccer and basketball teams, as well as the Chamber Choir. I am also involved in various science fairs and other academic activities. Sports and school are an integral part of my life right now.

When I’m not at church, at school, or at sports, I like to kick back and relax with friends. I love listening to music, watching movies, and seeing plays with my best friends. As much as I like to spend my free time at home, my favorite place to be is All Saints Camp. My mom and I were among the first campers at Mommy and Me/Daddy and Me, I participated in five years of Diocesan Church School Camp, and three years so far at Teenage Conference. For the past two years, I have been a “Big Sister” at Mommy and Me/Daddy and Me camp, as well. Some of my best memories have taken place at the camp. I think of it as leaving this large, empty, cruel world and entering my own little, perfect, Orthodox world. I learned life lessons at All Saints Camp that I know I will never forget.

I sincerely hope and pray that I can serve the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League to the best of my abilities this year. I know that with support from my friends, family, and Church that this board can accomplish anything. We intend to work diligently to fulfill our duties throughout the year. As a board member, I have personally set a few goals for this upcoming year. I hope to see the induction of new chapters, as well as strengthening of our current ones. At this time, the Jr. UOL is just a grain of sand on a vast beach. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we may be able to expand and spread the Good News of Christ to others and continue service to the parish of Holy Trinity in New Castle, Pennsylvania. My parents own four restaurants and I wash dishes for the family in New Castle, Pennsylvania. My parents and I regularly attend the Holy Trinity parish with my family in New Castle, Pennsylvania, where my grandfather (Fr. Diakiw) is our pastor, but we reside in Butler, Pa.

I attend Butler High School as a senior this year, where I am a very active student. I participate on the Varsity Girls Golf team, Fast pitch softball team, Spanish Club, Ski club, and so much more! I have played golf for three years, and am planning on continuing to play at the college level. In addition, I have played softball for at least seven years, five of which were for my high school. I am also a committed student council member and speaker in an elite all girls chorus ensemble at my high school. In addition to the concerts put on by the choir, I have been involved in a handful of solo concerts as well. Some of my other hobbies include guitar, piano, art, jewelry making, fishing, and being outdoors.

I have attended Diocesan Church school camp, Teenage Conference, and Mommy/Daddy and Me as a counselor. I believe being involved with these encampments has made me a stronger Orthodox Christian.

I am especially looking forward to helping and working with all of you, alongside our fellow board members! Feel free to contact me with any questions! (alr521@zoominternet.net)

Treasurer- John Walewski

Glory to Jesus Christ! My name is John Walewski and I am the newly elected Treasurer of the Junior National Executive Board. I live in Pittsburgh, PA. I go to church at Sts. Peter and Paul in Carnegie, PA. At church I serve behind the altar and I also occasionally sing in the choir.

I live at home with my parents and my two sisters. My parents own four restaurants and I wash dishes at one of them. My older sister Natasha is going to college this year, she was on the board the past two years as the corresponding secretary. I also have another sister Danielle who will be going into the 8th grade this year. I am going to be a Junior at Chartiers Valley High School. I am on my school’s Varsity hockey and lacrosse teams. I also play for teams outside of my school teams. I am part of both the National Honors Society and the ski club. Outside of school I love to listen to almost any type of music and I also like to hang out with my friends. Once school starts I am always active and I will enjoy doing the things on the board too.

This year I will have both the website committee and the yearbook committee. At the convention the website joint committee made many requests of what the website should look like and I hope to implement as many of these requests as I can. I have high hopes for this year’s Junior National Executive Board and plan on making it the best that I can.

Recording Secretary-Elizabeth Hucul

Glory to Jesus Christ! Hi! My name is Elizabeth Hucul. I live in South Bound Brook, New Jersey. I am a sophomore at Immaculata High School, in Somerville, New Jersey. There, I participate in many activities, including the marching band, and various school clubs.

I attend church at Holy Ascension, in Maplewood, New Jersey, where my dad serves as the parish’s priest. In my parish, I serve as Junior president for my chapter, also having held positions in the past such as treasurer, secretary, and vice president. I also attend the Sunday School, where we do various activities such as a St. Nicholas play. I strive to help the other church organizations like the Sisterhood and St. UOL, as often as I possibly can. I am also on various Convention planning committees since we will be hosting in 2010.

In my spare time, I enjoy playing the guitar and piano, when I get the chance. Even though I am not very good, I try to make time to practice to get better. I also like to spend time with my parents, Fr. Oleh and Pani Matka Lidia Pencul, and my older sisters, Aleksandra. We are a very close family, and I like hanging out with them. I also enjoy writing, reading, and hanging out with my friends.

This year on the Jr. National Executive Board, I hope to do everything I can for the Board. Since my older sister holds the same position on the Sr. National Executive Board, I try to follow her example, and stay on top of my tasks. Ultimately, my goal is to do the best job I can representing the U.O.L. and all that it stands for.

Corresponding Secretary- Arianna Rock

Glory to Jesus Christ! I am very excited to introduce myself, Arianna Rock, as the new Corresponding Secretary for the Jr. National Executive Board this year. I hope to fulfill all the expectations, to the best of my abilities, of the office with the help of God, my family, and UOL advisors.

I have attended the Teenage Conference Programs (Love it!) and participated in Mommy/Daddy and Me as a counselor (Love it too!). I also have another sister Danielle who will be a Junior at Chartiers Valley High School, also participating in various activities, including the marching band, and various school clubs.

In my spare time, I enjoy playing the guitar and piano, when I get the chance. Even though I am not very good, I try to make time to practice to get better. I also like to spend time with my parents, Fr. Oleh and Pani Matka Lidia Pencul, and my older sister, Aleksandra. We are a very close family, and I like hanging out with them. I also enjoy writing, reading, and hanging out with my friends.

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Financial Secretary- Ethan Rock

Glory to Jesus Christ! My name is Ethan Rock and I was elected to the new National Board as Financial Secretary. With the help of God and my family I hope to do all that is expected of me and the office.

I am a PKK (priest kid’s kid) living in Butler, Pennsylvania. My family and I belong to the parish of Holy Trinity in New Castle, PA where my “Gigi”, Fr. Diakiw, is pastor.

I attend Butler Area Schools, where I will be a sophomore this year. My hobbies include playing baseball for my high school team, summer, and fall leagues. I also enjoy playing guitar, hunting, fishing, and going camping.

I have attended the Teenage Conference Programs (Love it!) and participated in Mommy/Daddy and Me as a counselor (Love it too!).

If I can do anything for you, please contact me. My e-mail is Ejrock7@q邮箱. I am looking forward to my new position and helping in the works and love of our Ukrainian Orthodox Church.
St. Vladimir Philadelphia, PA - submitted by Jim Sawchuk

Our Senior and Junior UOL Chapters recently held their election of officers. For the upcoming year, 2008 – 2009, the Senior Chapter officers are: President: Andrea Karbiwnyk Swan; Vice President: Lynn Szafranski; Recording Secretary: Jordan Gladys; Treasurer: Stephen Nemeth; Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Frank Estocin; Co-Reporters: Jim Sawchuk and Josh Oryhon. The Junior Chapter officers are: President: Christopher McNulty; Secretary: Peter Volchek; Treasurer: Lynn Nemeth; Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Frank Estocin; Advisors: Natalie Syfert Bilinsky and Theodora Nemeth. The Philadelphia Chapters were well represented at the UOL Convention in Johnson City and wish to extend their gratitude to St. John’s Senior and Junior Chapters for a wonderful convention. The Senior UOL Chapter is having multiple meetings to begin planning for the 2011 Convention.

Junior Chapter News - Palos Park, Illinois

In June Sts. Peter and Paul Jr. UOL Chapter of Palos Park held a car wash fundraiser. A decision by the youth was made that 50% of the profits would be donated to the All Saints Camp Chapel in Emlenton, PA. Juniors raised $200 and were happy to make a contribution to the building of the chapel at All Saints Camp.

Palos Park honored Junior UOL members who graduated from high school this year: High school graduates of Sts. Peter and Paul in Palos Park were presented with gifts and the Orthodox Study Bible.

(Pictured from left) Timothy Orhyon, Fr. Taras Naumenko, Stephanie Klimowycz, Paul Cepynsky. Not pictured - Carolyn Jakubczak

(UOL Essay Contest Winners)

St. Mary, Allentown, PA (9 entries)
Grade 1 - Anna Miller, age 7 – Honorable Mention
Grade 7 - Joel Hutzayluk, age 13 – First Place
Michael Hutzayluk, age 13 – Honorable Mention

St. Vladimir, Ambridge, PA (14 entries)
Grade 11 - Anna Swindle, age 7 – Honorable Mention
Baran Witovich, age 7 – First Place
Grade 3 - Dmitra Rakovan, age 8 – First Place
Grade 5 - Barbara Klavin, age 11 – Honorable Mention

St. Demetrius, Carteret, NJ (6 entries)
Grade 1 – Paulina Mostek, age 6 – Honorable Mention
Grade 2 – Daria Mostek, age 8 – Honorable Mention
Grade 3 – Magdalena Mostek, age 9 – Honorable Mention

Sts. Peter and Paul, Carnegie, PA (8 entries)
Grade 4 – Ivan Howe – Honorable Mention
Marina Lomazina – First Place
Grade 5 – Juliana Leit – Honorable Mention
Kristi Rozum, age 11 – First Place

St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY (15 entries)
Grade 4 – Maria Zharzh, age 10 – Honorable Mention
Grade 7 – Molly Hatala, age 13 – Honorable Mention
Grade 8 – William Ferrante, age 14 – First Place
Grade 10 – Olenna Zharzh, age 16 – First Place
Grade 12 – Patrick Scannell, age 18 – First Place

Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, IL (26 entries)
Pre-school – Aliie Rack, age 3 – Honorable Mention
Kindergarten – Frankie Bertucci, age 6 – Honorable Mention
Alexis Naumenko, age 6 – Honorable Mention
Grade 1 – Peter Gordan, age 6 – Honorable Mention
Abby Mihalkanin, age 6 – Honorable Mention
Grade 3 – Christina Koranda, age 9 – Honorable Mention
Kira Rolando, age 9 – Honorable Mention
Grade 5 – Hannah Mazur, age 11 – First Place
Grade 6 – Veronica Koranda, age 11 – Honorable Mention
Grade 7 – Dakota Bertucci, age 12 – First Place
Peter Irkandov, age 13 – Honorable Mention
Grade 9 – Dennis Koranda, age 14 – First Place

St. Vladimir, Parma, OH (9 entries)
Pre-school – David Greaves, age 5 – Honorable Mention
Grade 1 – Haley Johnson, age 7 – Honorable Mention
John Meaden, age 6 – Honorable Mention
Grade 2 – Jonathan Greaves, age 8 – Honorable Mention
Grade 3 – Matthew Greaves, age 9 – Honorable Mention

St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, PA (6 entries)
Grade 2 – Brett Wilbert, age 8 – First Place
Grade 3 – Natalie San Antonio, age 8 – Honorable Mention

2009 Convention News:
Sts. Peter & Paul Sr. & Jr. UOL of Youngstown, Ohio

Trying to curb our enthusiasm!

We have been actively planning your arrival for the 2009 UOL Convention, hosted by the Sts. Peter & Paul Sr. & Jr. UOL of Youngstown, Ohio, July 22-26, 2009. The event will be located at the Avalon Inn Resort in Warren/Youngstown, Ohio. You will feel perfectly relaxed the moment you step into the comfortable rooms of this old world resort which is nestled between two of Ohio’s finest golf courses! Your convention will begin on Wednesday with our “Kick-Off” hospitality night, as we welcome you to our area. On Thursday, excite your taste buds with an island menu at our Aloha Hawaiian Luau. You will partake in a casual evening under the stars while listening to Rudy and the Professionals entertain the crowd with their tropical flair and contemporary high-energy performance. Want to limbo? No problem, mon! Come dressed in your Hawaiian attire and dance the night away! Your Friday evening will bring…well, we’ll keep you in suspense until the next article!

For more information please contact your Y-town 2009 UOL Convention Co-chairs Robert Mark at ram4123@aol.com or Kevin Thomas at kmthomas627@aol.com . To make resort reservations, call Avalon Inn Resort at 1.800.828.2566 and visit their website to explore this beautiful resort online at www.avaloninn.com.
At the 61st Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention the UOL awarded scholarships totaling $6000 to six Junior UOL members whose dedication to their Church and their League have distinguished them from their peers. Since the LSSK Scholarship Fund was established in 1975 in memory of Lynn Sawchuk and Sharon Kuzbasiuk, the UOL has awarded 127 scholarships totaling over $141,350. The 2008 LSSK Scholarship recipients are:

Khrystyna Chorniy

Of St. John’s Junior UOL Chapter of Johnson City, NY. Patrick has served as National President and Financial Secretary of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League and President and Treasurer of his local Junior UOL Chapter. He is an altar server, member and assistant instructor of his local Ukrainian dance group, and a pysanka writer. He has attended Teenage Conference, UOL Lenten Retreats, and has been an active volunteer for his parish’s catering service, Ukrainian Day Festival and numerous pancake breakfasts, bake sales and other fundraising activities. He has also participated in a Down Syndrome Walk Fundraiser and the Magic Paintbrush Project, helping kids with disabilities. His Chapter Advisor writes, “Patrick is a fine young man. He is fun and always makes the younger juniors laugh. It has been a pleasure working with him all these years.” His Spiritual Advisor writes, “I can’t even try to sum up all the work he has done for our parish here in Johnson City, for the entire UOC of USA and the life of the UOL. He is always first to volunteer.” Patrick is also actively involved in his school and community. Patrick is an avid sportsman, playing JV and Varsity soccer, tennis, and track and field. He was a member of the National Honor Society, treasurer of his high school’s Russian Club, and a member of the Vestal Voices singing ensemble. His scholastic advisor writes “Patrick is a mature, responsible, bright young man. . . . He is a remarkable student and person!”

Emily Kominko

Of St. Vladimir’s Junior UOL Chapter of Parma, OH. Emily served as National Recording Secretary of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League and as President, Vice President and Treasurer of her local Junior UOL Chapter. She is a church reader and active participant in her parish’s Ukrainian language and Church School programs. She was a participant in the High School Mission Trip to the St. Raphael House homeless family shelter in San Francisco, California, dedicating her time and efforts to this worthy cause. She and her Junior UOL Chapter annually delivered gifts and Easter baskets to the parish shut-ins for Christmas and Easter, and serve dinner at the St. Herman’s House of Hospitality each year on December 24. Her Chapter Advisor writes, “(Emily) participates in everything that the chapter undertakes and is quick to volunteer on projects at every level within the parish. She is a friendly, kind, loving, and giving person with a warm and welcoming smile.” Her Spiritual Advisor writes “Emily is a dynamic Orthodox Christian who loves her Faith with deep conviction. When she is not in church in Parma, I know that she is participating in church-related events elsewhere, such as UOL Retreats, Junior National Board meetings or working at our Diocesan Center in South Bound Brook for St. Thomas Sunday.” Emily is also actively involved in her school and community. In addition to her church and her League, Emily is a member of Sadd (Students Against Destructive Decisions), the National Honor Society, Key Club, Biology Club, Science Club, Club Prom Committee and Marching Band. Her scholastic advisor writes “Emily is a very compassionate and value based individual . . . . when you get to know Emily personally, you will find her to be a very capable, reliable, and honest young woman.”

Khrystyna Chorniy

of Holy Ascension Junior UOL Chapter of Maplewood, NJ. Khrystyna has served as President and Vice-President of her local Junior UOL Chapter. She is a member of the church choir and has served as a church reader. She is a constant volunteer at church dinners, no matter who is the sponsor. She was a key organizer of her chapter’s Christmas Caroling project, delivering Easter Baskets to shut-ins. She was a participant in the High School Mission Trip to the Mission of St. Nicholas in Charlotteville, Virginia, and the March for Remembrance in New York City to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Holodomor in Ukraine. She also visited the church and her League, Emily is a member of Sadd (Students Against Destructive Decisions), the National Honor Society, Key Club, Biology Club, Ski Club, Prom Committee and Marching Band. Her scholastic advisor writes “Emily is a very compassionate and value based individual . . . . when you get to know Emily personally, you will find her to be a very capable, reliable, and honest young woman.”
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.

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For more information contact
Melanie Nakonachny
MelanieNak@aol.com

UOL RETREAT - BETHLEHEM, PA
April 3-5, 2009
For more information contact
Natalie Bilynsky
nsufler@aol.com

(LSSK - continued from page 7)

Please remember, donations to support the LSSK Scholarship are accepted at any time and may be forwarded to: Daria Pishko Komichak, 64 Coleman Avenue, Chatham, NJ 07928-2278. Scholarship applications for 2009 will be mailed to Junior UOL Chapters in March 2009 or may be downloaded from the UOL page of the www.uocofusa.org website. Completed applications are due May 31, 2009. All former Junior UOL members entering into or enrolled in continuing education within five years of high school graduation are encouraged to apply.