

UAV Tribune



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Dear Fellow Veterans:

I hope that the summer has been an enjoyable one for you and your families and that none of you have been adversely affected by the hurricanes, floods, forest fires, and other natural disasters that have been a major problem in many parts of the country this year.

The first six months of 2013 have been busy, both for the UAV National Executive Board and for

the UAV National Monument Committee. This committee met on March 11, 2013, in South Bound Brook, New Jersey, to discuss two important matters—specifically the projected completion date for the monument and planning the program for the dedication ceremonies. UAV PNCs Mathew Koziak, Anna Krawczuk and Edward Zetick, as well as other UAV members serving on this committee, participated in this important event on May 12, 2013.

Special services were held at St. Andrew Cemetery in So. Bound Brook, N.J., at the sacred grounds on which the UAV National Monument will stand. His Eminence Metropolitan Antony of the UOC of USA officiated. Following the religious service was the groundbreaking ceremony during which UAV National Vice Commander William Szozda, in the presence of UAV members, clergy and guests, raised the first shovelful of the consecrated ground. UAV Color Guard consisted of UAV Posts 1, 6, 17, 19, 23, 25, 30, 31, 42, and 301. Post Commanders or members served as flag bearers, while other UAV members and as well as members of the UAV NLA, including president Oksana Koziak, watched with pride.

But now that we are moving ever closer to our dream of a UAV National Monument, harsh reality looms. The costs associated with building a base, ground preparation, equipment rental, labor, etc., are quickly eroding our budget. I am thus requesting all UAV Posts to consider making fundraising for the Memorial a priority for the remainder of 2013.

As we plan for the future of the UAV, one critical question surfaces time and again: How do we recruit new members? How do we overcome the reluctance of potential recruits to join our local posts or become members-at-large? How can the UAV NEB, State Commanders and Post Commanders become

more effective in their recruiting efforts? The best response to these questions is to engage in grassroots activities and find ways to get all our membership involved in this important endeavor by helping us make the prospect of joining the UAV interesting and attractive. Post meetings (especially those hosting potential new members) must be meaningful, with content that is interesting and inspiring. Another essential activity is to integrate each UAV post into the core fabric of the local community in which it functions. If you have any ideas on how to implement these strategies or other ideas on how to improve UAV recruitment stats, please share them with me.

In late June, the National Executive Board met in Glen Spey, New York, for a face-to-face meeting (as mandated by the UAV Constitution and Bylaws.) Our National Finance Officer, Jerry Kindrachuk, graciously offered his home (and the home of one of his relatives) to accommodate overnight attendees. He also demonstrated his cooking prowess, keeping us fed for two days. Thank you Jerry for your hospitality and thank you Steve Kostecki and Michael Hotz for providing the delicious Ukie soul food (kowbasa, etc.), a treat we all enjoyed. Another treat was food for the spirit—we were honored to have PNC Eugene Sagasz join us and share his insights on UAV organizational rules and regulations.

As summer draws to a close, we look forward to our 66th UAV Annual National Convention, which will be held in Warren, Michigan, from October 4 through October 6, 2013. Attendance at UAV annual conventions has waned over the last few years, and I encourage all Post Commanders and their delegates to attend. Let's help members of UAV Michigan Post 101 celebrate their 30th anniversary and our organization's longevity in record fashion. UAV Post 101 Commander Oleh Cieply and the Convention Committee are doing a wonderful job in planning this event, and it promises to be a productive as well as entertaining convention.

I close this letter with a request that we all remember our ailing veterans in our thoughts and prayers.

GOD BLESS AMERICA! GOD BLESS UKRAINE!

See you in Warren, Michigan!

Ihor W. Hron
UAV National Commander

UAV National Monument Groundbreaking

by Bernard W. Krawczuk, UAV National PR and Publications Officer

The UAV National Monument groundbreaking took place on St. Thomas Sunday, May 12, 2013, on the grounds of St. Andrew Memorial Church and Cemetery, South Bound Brook, New Jersey, at the site where the monument is to be erected. Donated by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, this plot is optimally located at the right side at the entrance to St. Andrew Memorial Church and will be visible from Easton Avenue.

Led by UAV National Vice Commander William Szozda, the UAV was well represented by Posts from surrounding states: CT, MA, NJ, NY, PA and by the UAV National Ladies Auxiliary. Attendees participated in a solemn procession after the services in church and the groundbreaking ceremony that followed.



Ukrainian American Veterans with Metropolitan Antony.

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony of the UOC-USA officiated at the groundbreaking service. He briefly underscored the importance of memorializing all American veterans of Ukrainian heritage who honorably served in the U.S. Armed Forces, especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice on the battlefields of the 20th and 21st centuries.

UAV National Vice Commander William Szozda performed the ceremonial groundbreaking in the presence of clergy, guests, veterans and fellow UAV members. Thus began the first step of erecting the UAV National Monument honoring all men and women of Ukrainian descent who served honorably and with distinction in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, members of the UAV and nonmembers alike.

The UAV leadership expressed indebtedness and gratitude to Metropolitan Antony for his support, especially for his service as a member of the UAV National Monument Committee since its establishment in 2004.

Articles regarding this event were published in The Ukrainian Weekly and other Ukrainian newspapers. We thank Roma Hadzewycz, editor-in-chief of The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda, for publishing articles about the UAV and especially for the editorial, which appeared on page 6, of the June 9, 2013, issue, heartily supporting UAV projects. (See page 19 of this issue of the Tribune for the full text of the editorial)

Thanks to this publicity, we were able to reach out to Ukrainian American community at large and have subsequently received inquiries about the UAV's National Monument Project from families of veterans who have passed away, from living American veterans of Ukrainian descent, and from active duty personnel as well. Contributions to this important project can be made by regular mail at UAV National Monument, PO Box 5058, Somerset, NJ 08875-5058 or online through PayPal. For more information please visit UAV website http://www.uavets.org.



UAV NVC William Szozda leading the UAV Color Guard.



UAV Color Guard during Commemorative Services

UAV National Monument Groundbreaking (continued)











UAV members at the site of future UAV National Monument.

Saipan Revisited

Life sometimes surprises us with incredible and wondrous coincidences. Eerie evidence of this came soon after I had finished writing up the moving story of Private William Yawney and his long journey back to America, many decades after he was killed in action during WWII. Shortly after I had crossed the final "t" and dotted the final "i" in the article, I received this email and photograph from my nephew, Viktor K. Decyk, PhD., who was an active participant - lecturer at a Space Simulation Conference in Taiwan. — AK



July 30, 2013 I am currently in Saipan, learning about the history of the people here as well as Hi Anga about the World War 11 battles. Just before 1 left home, I read in the Ukrainian Weekly that the body of a UKrainian-American soldier (William Yawney) had been discovered in Saipan. lafter some research on the Web, I learned that his remains were found in Achugao Village, not far from where I am staging, so I went there today and said a prayer for his soul. I did not learn exactly where he was found, but some local people told where it was likely to be. Love, Viktor

Here is a photo I took near Achugau. I am leaving Saipan and going home tomorrow morning. - Viktor

WW II Army Private comes home.

By Anna Osinska Krawczuk, UAV PNC

Remains of WWII soldier laid to final rest at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Cemetery, Northampton, Pa.



US Army PVT William Yawney

William Yawney was born on March 22, 1921, in Freemansburg, Pa., where he grew up and attended school. He worked at Laraus Silk Mill and Bethlehem Steel in Bethlehem, Pa., before joining the Army at the beginning of 1944.

On June 15, 1944, Private William Yawney was part of an Allied strategic goal to secure the Mariana Islands. U.S. forces were ordered to occupy

Saipan Island and Yawney was part of the 105th Infantry Regiment (IR), 27th Infantry Division (ID)'s position when enemy forces conducted a final attack. The 105th IR sustained very heavy losses, with more than 900 servicemen injured or killed, Yawney among the latter.

Private Yawney's family was informed that he was KIA on July 7, 1944, and that he had been buried in a military cemetery on Saipan. Four years later, in December 1948, an investigation by a military review board reported that the Army was unable to find his grave and thus listed him as "non-recoverable," devastating news to the 23-year-old private's grieving family. William's mother Katherine never accepted

this official news and never stopped believing that her son's remains would one day return to America. She so strongly believed this that she had his name etched on his late father's headstone. She passed away in 1983, never wavering from this belief.

Nearly three-quarters of a century would pass before her faith would bear fruit and William Yawney's family would at last find closure. On May 20, 2013, a press release issued by the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office announced that human remains had been uncovered by a private archaeological company excavating land near Achugao Village, Saipan, on September 3, 2011. The remains were handed over to the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) by Community and Cultural Affairs of the Northern Mariana Islands. Circumstantial and physical evidence suggested that the remains discovered at the archeological site were those of Private William Yawney; DNA testing subsequently conducted in Hawaii provided positive proof that the remains were indeed Yawney's—the DNA matched the DNA of William's brother Harry. Thus positively identified, William Yawney's remains were flown from Honolulu to Philadelphia International Airport, accompanied by Army Sgt. Hector Aviles. Upon their arrival a full Army color guard was waiting to escort them to

Lehigh Valley. Honoring military tradition, Sgt Aviles stayed with Pvt. Yawney's cremated remains until they were formally laid to rest in Northampton, Pa.



William Yawney was buried with full military honors, which included taps played by a lone bugler from the US Army Reserve, fittingly on Memorial Day, May 25, 2013. Participating in the burial ceremonies were members of UAV Post 42 of the Lehigh Valley, Pa., together with the Lehigh Chapter of the 4th Infantry Division and members of the New Jersey military tribute troop Rolling Thunder. A graveside service was held at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Cemetery in Northampton. Officiating at the service was the Very Rev. Daniel Gurovich, pastor of St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Bethlehem, Pa., where Yawney's surviving relatives worship. Jerry Kindrachuk of Post 42 read the UAV prayer and placed a red rose and baby's breath bouquet next to the wood and glass box holding Yawney's remains. William's Purple Heart Medal and Bronze Star were placed beside pictures showing the young private in uniform with his family.

US Army Lt. Benjamin Dickey presented Yawney's dog tags and an American flag to William's nephew John Yawney. Another nephew, Max Yawney, circled the memorial with his cell phone held high, thus sharing live highlights of the proceeding with his father Harry, who watched from his home in Vermont.



All Photo's by Stephen Flood/The Express Times -www. photos.lehighvalley Sixty-nine years after his death, Private William Yawney had finally come home, fulfilling his mother's hopes and wishes in a mysterious and perhaps miraculous way. Survived by his brother Harry W. Yawney of So. Burlington, Vermont; his sister Olga Zawarski of Bethlehem, Pa.; his nephews John Yawney of Allentown, Pa. and Max Yawney of New York City, N.Y.; his niece Carol Ann Sieling of Bethlehem; and many other relatives, he was laid to rest between his parents, the late Theodore and Katherine Yawney.

News of this unique event and the long and convoluted story behind it went viral. Reports on Private Yawney's story appeared in local and national newspapers, including The Ukrainian Weekly, and the story was featured on CNN iReport on May 20, 2013.



John Yawney, center, and wife Betty, left, of Hanover Township, along with Aggie Mullner, of Northampton, attend the funeral for their uncle William Yawney, who was killed in action in World War II in 1944

UAV Tribune September 2013



UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS, INC

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L/R: Bernard W. Krawczuk, Eugene Szgasz, Mathew Koziak, Roman Rondiak, Nicholas Skirka, Jerry Kindrachuk, NC Ihor W. Hron, Anna Krawczuk, Oksana Koziak, UAV NLA. Stephen Kostecki, and Marian Bojsiuk.

(not on photo: William Szozda, Myroslaw Pryjma, Edward A. Zetick, and Leonid Kondratiuk, IPNC)



UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS, INC



PAST NATIONAL COMMANDERS HONOR ROLL

Honorary Commander Michael Darmopray — 1948, PA Post 1

Michael Hynda — 1948-1949	NJ Post 6	Vasyl Luchkiw — 1974-1976	NY Post 19
Walter Shipka — 1949-1950	NY Post 7	Harry Polche — 1976-1978	NY Post 7
Walter T. Darmopray — 1950-1952	PA Post 1	Bohdan B. Bezkorowajny — 1978-1980	NY Post 7
Martin Horobiowski — 1952-1953	PA Post 4	Michael Chaika — 1980-1982	CT Post 15
Walter T. Darmopray — 1953-1954	PA Post 1	Edward A. Zetick — 1982-1984	PA Post 4
Alexander Pronchick — 1954-1956	PA Post 1	Joseph Brega — 1984-1986	NY Post 19
Walter Bacad — 1956-1957	NY Post 7	Atanas T. Kobryn — 1986-1988	NY Post 7
Emil Senkow — 1957-1959	PA Post 4	Jaroslaw Fedoryczuk — 1988-1989	PA Post 18
George Wolynetz, $Jr - 1959-1960$	NY Post 7	Dmytro Bykovetz, Jr. — 1989-1991	PA Post 4
Anthony Kutcher — 1960-1961	CT Post 14	Roman Rakowsky — 1991-1993	OH Post 24
Matthew J. Pope — 1961-1963	NY Post 7	Miroslaus Malaniak — 1993-1995	NY Post 23
Stephen Shegda — 1963-1965	PA Post 4	Dmytro Bodnarczuk — 1995-1997	NY Post 19
Walter Klawsnick — 1965-1966	NY Post 7	Steven Szewczuk — 1997-2000	NY Post 27
Eugene Sagasz — 1966-1968	NJ Post 17	Mathew Koziak — 2000-2004	NY Post 27
William M. Dubetz — 1968-1970	NY Post 7	Anna Osinska Krawczuk — 2004-2008	NJ Post 30
Michael Wengryn — 1970-1972	NJ Post 17	Leonid E. Kondratiuk — 2008-2012	MA Post 31
William Harrison — 1972-1973	NY Post 19	$Ihor\ W.\ Hron-2012$	FL Post 40
Emrick Prestash — 1973-1974	CT Post 15		

ABOUT THE UAV'S ONGOING PROJECTS

by Anna Osinska Krawczuk, PNC, UAV Registration Project Coordinator

Construction on the UAV National Monument is getting closer to realization. Once completed, the monument will stand as tangible confirmation that men and women of Ukrainian descent served honorably in the United States Armed Forces and will pay tribute to them for their dedicated service. Above all, it will memorialize those who made the ultimate sacrifice on the battlefields since the late 19th century for the freedoms that we all enjoy here in America.

The UAV Registration Project is an ongoing project as more and more Ukrainian American veterans realize its historical significance, not only as an important component of U.S. military history but also as significant evidence of the demographics of Ukrainian immigration to the United States of America from the late 19th century to 1991. As we have previously emphasized on the pages of the UAV Tribune, entry records of Ukrainians immigrants were haphazard, often recording Ukrainian-born citizens as nationals and citizens of occupying countries, creating many inaccuracies and a void in true demographic data about Ukrainians coming to America. The registration project will help fill this void by showing that even though Ukraine did not exist as a sovereign country for decades and even centuries, *Ukrainian people were Ukrainian—they did not identify themselves as nationals of their foreign occupiers*.

Over the years, we have received inquiries and registration forms from the families of Ukrainian Americans who served in World War I, World War II, Korea, and all other conflicts that

followed. Many registered their loved ones who passed on; others registered themselves. It is clear that no matter when or from which country they emigrated, these individuals knew their ethnic roots. They were American by choice or by birth but Ukrainian by heritage. They craved freedom for their original homeland—Ukraine—but as American soldiers or sailors or marines or pilots, they fought for America as well as for freedoms around the world. They fulfilled their military obligations and served well. It is vital for us to add pieces of this Ukrainian mosaic to the larger icon that makes the United States of America. It is multiculturalism that makes America strong, and as the motto of the United States of America proclaims: "E pluribus Unum—Out of many, One."

At this time we are also compiling biographical and military histories of the UAV Past National Commanders. Although we have information about and photographs of most of them, we are still seeking the information on the following PNCs: Michael Hynda (1948–1949), George Wolynets, Jr (1959–1960), Matthew J. Pope (1961–1963), Walter Klawsnick (1965–1966), William M Dubetz (1968–1970), William Harrison (1972–1973), and Michael Chaika (1980–1982).

We appeal to our readers please fill in those blank spots in our organization's history. Please send any information that you may have, including photographs, to UAV Registration Project, PO Box 172, Holmdel, NJ 07733-0172, or via email to: uav.registration@verizon.net.

NEWS FROM UAV HEADQUARTERS

March 11, 2013. UAV National Monument Committee meeting in So. Bound Brook, N.J.

The National Monument Committee meeting was held at the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA in South Bound Brook, New Jersey. The agenda included discussions on the need for continuous fundraising, foundation construction estimates, and the upcoming groundbreaking of the UAV National Monument. To date, only one-third of the estimated cost of \$250,000 required to complete the entire project has been raised. At the time of this meeting, however, the UAV NMC had sufficient funds to cover the cost of the foundation construction, and a decision was made to go forward with this part of the plan.



L/R: Bernard Krawczuk, Mathew Koziak, V. Rev. Daniel Gurovich, Anna Krawczuk, Metropolitan Antony (UOC of USA), Bishop Daniel (UOC of USA), Emil Skocypec, Brig Gen Leonid Kondratiuk, Jerry Kindrachuk and Walter Bodnar. (Committee members not on photo: Metropolitan Stefan of UCC of USA, Michael Wowk, Oksana Koziak and Edward Zetick).

March 5, 2013

UAV National Executive Board teleconference. This was a routine teleconference with all UAV NEB Officers reporting. Major upcoming events (see below) were discussed:

April 15, 2013

Due date for UAV Post and MAL dues. Post rosters are to accompany payment.

UAV National Monument groundbreaking

was held in South Bound Brook, New Jer-

sey, on St. Thomas Sunday.

May 27, 2013 Memorial Day observance nationwide.

June 22, 2013 UAV National Executive Board face-to-face

meeting in Glen Spey, New York.

July 4, 2013 Fourth of July Independence Day celebration

nationwide (1776-2013)

July 12 to 14, 2013 Seventh annual Ukrainian Cultural Festival

at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center.

August 24, 2013 Independence Day of Ukraine (1991–2013)

October 3 to 6, 2013 Pre convention UAV National Executive

Board face-to-face meeting and the 66th UAV Annual National Convention in Warren, Michigan, to be hosted by UAV Michi-

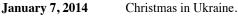
gan Post 101.

November 11, 2013 Veterans Day commemoration nationwide.

November 28, 2013 Thanksgiving Day observance nationwide.

December 25, 2013 Christmas Holiday.

January 1, 2014 New Year's Day.





July 12, 2013 - Opening ceremony at Soyuzivka Heritage Center L/R - Stephen Kostecki, Jurij Jacus, Michael Hotz and Peter Polnyj.

Photo by M. Koz

CONGRATULATIONS GENERAL NICHOLAS KRAWCIW!



It is with great pride that we notify the UAV membership that Major General Nicholas S.H. Krawciw has been nominated for induction into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame. General Krawciw, one of ten men who will be inducted at the ceremony scheduled for November in Tulsa, Oklahoma, will be honored for his 31 years of active service (1959–1990) in the US Army. Having served with great honor, dedication, sacrifice, and distinction, Krawciw has received many awards and has earned numerous military medals and decorations, including a Purple Heart (Vietnam War), two Legion of Merits with oak leaf clusters, four Bronze Starts, three Silver Stars with oak leaf clusters, Defense Distinguished Service Medal, among others.

Born in Ukraine, Nicholas Krawciw witnessed the horrors of World War II as a young boy; he later experienced DP camp life in Germany. Immigrating with his family to America in 1949, he was determined to serve in the US military. He was accepted to and graduated from Bordentown NJ Military Institute, and this opened the door to his acceptance at the United States Military Academy West Point from which he graduated in 1959. Thus began his long distinguished career and dedicated service to America.

Congratulations General Krawciw and Godspeed in all your future undertakings!

WELCOME ABOARD UAV MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Walter M. Duzzny, Sr. (Youngstown, Ohio) – Vietnam and Persian Gulf era veteran
Eugene W. Gulycz (Wethersfield, Connecticut) – Vietnam era veteran
Orest Kaczmarsky (Matawan, New Jersey) – Korean War era veteran
Walter C. Malys (Westerville, Ohio) – GWOT veteran
Michael Resty, Jr. (Colorado Springs, Colorado) – GWOT veteran
Peter F. Rondiak (Henderson, Nevada) – Vietnam, GWOT veteran!

INVITATION TO THE 66TH UAV ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION AND 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF UAV MICHIGAN POST 101.

by Oleh R. Cieply - Post Commander

On behalf of the Convention Committee, it is my pleasure to invite you to the 66th National Convention of the Ukrainian American Veterans. The upcoming convention coincides with another special event as UAV Michigan Post 101 will be celebrating is 30th anniversary this year. Come and help us celebrate both events.

The convention will be held in Warren, Michigan, October 4–6, 2013, and the convention site will be the Ukrainian Cultural Center, located at 26601 Ryan Road, south of 11 Mile Road/I-696 Freeway. The event will begin on Friday, October 4, 2013, at 9:00 a.m.

Lodging for those attending has been arranged at the Baymont Inn & Suites, located at 7447 Convention Blvd., Warren, Michigan, 48092. Telephone: 586-977-7270. The UAV National Executive Board will meet on Thursday, October 3, 2013, at 7 p.m. at the facility's Conference Room. This meeting is open to all UAV members.

Headed by Post Commander Oleh R. Cieply, the Convention Committee includes Matthew Wroblewski, Oleh Karanec, Roman Mak simowich, Chris Shalay, Leo Cionka, Marion Zarewych, and Osypa Shalay. All committee members have been hard at work in executing their assigned duties.

Anthony Bilyj UAV Post 1 – Greater Philadelphia, PA

by John R. Hill - Post Adjutant

2013 is proving to be another successful year for the Ukrainian American veterans of the Philadelphia area. Among other things, we are proud to report that UAV Post 1, under the leadership of Post Commander Edward Zetick, PNC, saw its membership grow to over 40 members with meetings averaging 25 members in attendance.

Our Memorial Day activities included services at St Mary's Cemetery and the Oakland Cemetery where prayers were offered by our post chaplain Father Paul Makar, pastor of St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, and by Father Taras Naumenko, pastor of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of Philadelphia. American flags were placed on each of the hundreds of graves of veterans. In addition, a rifle salute and the playing of "Taps" at each cemetery, punctuated the quiet settings, accentuating the memory of our deceased veterans. Videos of the occasion are available on youtube at "UAVpost-1memday1may2013" or "UAV post1memday2may2013" or "UAV post1memday2may2013" or "UAVeterans Day 2012."

Our Memorial Plaque project is moving forward under the guidance of member Peter Labiak.

The plaque will honor all the deceased Ukrainian American Veterans in the Philadelphia area and will feature brass name-plates indicating each veteran's branch of service. We plan to have the initial plaque installed in time for the annual Veterans Day activities in November at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center (UECC). The event will include a luncheon hosted by the UECC to honor all veterans. The luncheon, as in previous years, will feature a welcoming speech by the Center's President Borys Pawluk and performances by the Center's Heritage School students.

We hope that other Ukrainian American veterans (male AND female) join the UAV Post 1. Prospective members are requested to submit a UAV Registration form and a copy of their DD Form 214 (honorable discharge paper). Annual membership dues are to accompany these documents. All UAV members receive a semi-annual newsletter, The UAV Tribune, which is published by the UAV National Executive Board and features interesting articles, photographs, and information about our organization, the Ukrainian American Veterans, Inc., its activities, its history, its posts and members. Each new member's name will also be included in the UAV Registration Project database and published in the upcoming Volume II - UAV Registration Project Report covering the years 2004-2013. Original documents will be saved in the Ukrainian American Veterans, Inc., National archives.

We meet officially six times a year with other assemblies scheduled as needed.

UAV Post 1 Commander Ed Zetick hopes to see many veterans at the 66th annual convention.







To Honor and Remember



UAV Post 6 - Newark, NJ

UAV Post 6 Memorial is located at Hollywood Cemetery in Union, New Jersey.

Founded in 1946 by World War II veterans, UAV Post 6 membership includes Ukrainian American veterans who served in other wars as well.

On May 26, 2013, members and guests paid a special tribune with wreath laying ceremony and reading of the names of their departed members.

UAV Post 17 – Passaic, New Jersey

UAV Post 17 Memorial monument is located at Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Paterson, New Jersey. It honors Ukrainian American veterans who DIED IN SERVICE, DECEASED MEMBERS of the Post whose names are etched in stone and the Ukrainian American veterans from Bergen and Passaic counties





On June 2, 2013, UAV Post 17 members, other veterans, family members and guests gathered to honor and remember their comrades for their sacrifice and service to our country. A Memorial Service (Panakhyda) was held at the Monument and recitation of the names of their departed comrades followed.

Pvt Andrew Prestash UAV Post 15 – New Britain, CT

by Michael Wowk

It was on September 1946 that World War II veterans decided to establish Pvt. Andrew Prestash Ukrainian American Veterans Post in New Britain, CT. and held their formal election of officers.

The post received its Charter in 1948 and in 1955 became a member of the national organization,

Ukrainian American Veterans (UAV). In 1954 the post erected and dedicated a monument for those veterans who "Gave their tomorrow for our today" and held Memorial Day observances throughout the years.

Post 15 was named after Private Andrew Prestash who made the supreme sacrifice for his country on December 18,1944, in Luxembourg. Andrew was one of six Prestash brothers who served during World War II era. The brotherly tradition at UAV Post 15 is continued by the Wowk brothers: Roman is a Korean War veteran, while Michael and Steven are Vietnam era veterans.



L-R: The Wowk brothers: Michael, Roman and Steven - (2013)

UAV Post 24 — Cleveland, Ohio

by Bohdan Samokyszyn - Post Commander

May 2013

UAV Post 24 members were very busy with Poppy Days at the three Ukrainian churches on May 18, 19, and 26.

On May 17 our members placed flags on the deceased veterans' graves at five cemeteries.

On May 19, Pentecostal Sunday, the UPA memorial service ("panakhyda") was well attended by our membership.

On Memorial Day (Monday, May 27), our members attended commemorative services held at St. Andrews Cemetery.

In Memorium

UAV Post 24 members mourned the loss of two members, bidding a final farewell to Peter Zeleniuch and Valentin



Post 24 members N, Bartikiw, J. Shutovich, E. Galandiuk & PNC R. Rakowsky at St. Andrews cemetery after placing flags at the Veterans' graves

Kusnecov, in March and June respectively. Both veterans were very active at our Post functions. They will be greatly missed and will be remembered forever.

On July 22, 2013, our member and UAV Past National Commander Roman Rakowsky, underwent major heart surgery, which involved heart valve replacement and other medical treatment. His surgery was successful, and he is recovering comfortably at the Cleveland Clinic. GET WELL Roman!

On August 24, 2013, UAV Post 24 Color Guard will lead the Ukrainian Village Festival Parade in Parma, Ohio, in commemoration of Ukraine's Independence Day.



PNC R. Rakowsky & J. Shutovich passing out poppies at St. Andrews Church in Parma, Ohio

Major Myron Diduryk UAV Post 30 — Freehold, NJ

by Anna Krawczuk, UAV PNC, UAV Post 30 Adjutant

May 7, 2013, Vietnam Veterans Remembrance Day in New Jersey. Since 1995, commemorative ceremonies have been held at the site of New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Holmdel, N.J. This year (as they have every year since 1995) members of the UAV Post 30 gathered at 11 a.m. to participate in a wreath-laying ceremony, not only to honor their patron Major Myron Diduryk but also to commemorate all American veterans who made the supreme sacrifice on the battlefields of Vietnam. We are grateful to WMBC-TV 63 reporter Lisa Voyticki for including part of her interview with Anna Krawczuk in the station's news broadcast at 5 p.m. that day. We were also pleased to find our members' photos featured on other reporters' Websites.

UAV Post 30 members have been working to compile biographical data on the veterans of Ukrainian heritage who are listed on the New Jersey Memorial; thus far, we have had only limited success, having located such information on only a few of these veterans with the help of UAV members and The Ukrainian Weekly readers. We are grateful to The Weekly's editor-in-chief Roma Hadzewycz for publishing our press releases, as these have reached out to the Ukrainian American community, often yielding important information. Our project continues, and we appeal to UAV members and others for help in locating additional data. Anyone with information about U.S. veterans of Ukrainian descent who served in Vietnam including those whose names appear on the New Jersey monument is asked to contact us at uav.post30@verizon.net or by regular mail at UAV Post 30, PO Box 172, Holmdel, NJ 07733-0172.

May 12, 2013, in South Bound Brook, NJ L/R Anna Krawczuk, Bernard Krawczuk, Stan Jakubowycz and Jurij Jacus

In Memorium

We are saddened to inform readers that since the last issue of the UAV Tribune we lost two members. One of these was Alexander Jakubowycz, who passed away on his 80th birthday on March 10, 2013, in Florida. We extend our sympathy to his brother and Post 30 member Stanley and his family. The other was Edward Kuchar, who left this world on May 10, 2013. We extend our sincere condolences to his family. Both Jakubowycz and Kuchar were Korean era veterans and long-time members of our post. Memory eternal.



May 7, 2013. Wreath-laying ceremony: John Dzera and Gerald Tchir



L/R - G. Tchir, J. Dzera, P. Yurkowski, M. O. Jacus, M. Polanskyj, B. Krawczuk, J. Jacus S and H Jakubowycz.

Sp4 Nikolaus Zozula UAV Post 31 – Boston, MA

By Stephen J Kostecki – Post Commander

May 27, 2013

UAV Post 31 members attended the 45th Annual Memorial Day Service, which was held at the Gardens at Gethsemane, Garden of Honor Veterans Corner in West Roxbury, Massachusetts.

West Roxbury VFW Post 2902 conducted Ceremony at the Memorial Cannon from the USS Constitution. State Senator Mike Rush was the keynote speaker. Marking the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, guest speaker Brig. General Leonid E. Kondratiuk, Director of Historical Services, Director of Militia Affairs, and UAV Immediate Past National Commander, delivered an eloquent presentation on the War Between the States.



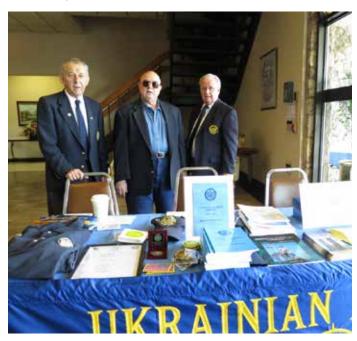
Brig Gen Leonid E. Kondratiuk



UAV Post 31 members: L/R Andrew J. Galonzka, Leonid E. Kondratiuk and Walter Michajliw

May 11-12, 2013

UAV table at the Cultural Center in South Bound Brook, New Jersey.



L/R: Bernard Krawczuk, Michael Hotz and Stephen Kostecki.

July 13, 2013

As in prior years PC Stephen J Kostecki, who also serves as UAV National Quartermaster, participated in the opening ceremony of the Seventh Festival at Soyuzivka Heritage Center in Kerhonkson, NY. He also manned a UAV table and informed the visitors about the UAV.



L/R: Stephen Kostecki, PNC Mathew Koziak. and Jurij Jacus,

Cpl Roman G. Lazor UAV Post 40 – North Port, FL

by Atanas T. Kobryn, PNC/PPC - Public Relations Officer

News from Florida's only UAV Post - a brief but distinguished history.

For years, veterans of the United States Armed Forces as well as veterans of various Ukrainian military and semi-military groups and organizations settled in Florida (some on a part-time basis and some permanently), but there was no record of any Ukrainian or Ukrainian American veterans organization in the "Sunshine State" until the Cpl. Roman G. Lazor UAV Post 40 was established.

It took some time for Post 40 to become a reality, a process that included extensive communication between the organizers and the UAV National Executive Board, several informal meetings, and eventually, composing and sending letters to potential members. Among these efforts was a letter dated November 14, 1998, written by this author, asking recipients to state whether they would be interested in becoming members of the Ukrainian America Veterans, Inc. Following the receipt of numerous responses, a letter dated February 22, 1999, was sent to all respondents, setting a date for a meeting to "start the ball rolling." This meeting was scheduled for March 11, 1999, and was held in the Juliano Memorial Room of the North Port Area Public Library. The initial meeting, while interesting, was mostly exploratory and did not result in the formal creation of a UAV post in North Port.

A follow-up meeting was scheduled and took place on April 30, 1999, at Wm. A. Garvey VFW Post 8203 in North Port. Four potential members attended it. Four additional potential members were unable to attend but gave their consent abide by the decision of those who were in attendance and also agreed to serve if elected to a post leadership team. That meeting resulted in the election of several Post officers: Commander Atanas T. Kobryn, PNC; Vice Commander Bohdan Wysocky; Adjutant Roman G. Lazor; Finance Officer Edward Rokisky, PE; Quartermaster Myron Ferenc; Judge Advocate Karen A. Bapst, Ph.D.; and Chaplain/Welfare Officer Orestes S. Lazor. It was decided to set post membership dues at \$10 per year, to open an official post account at the North Port Branch of Ukrainian Selfreliance Michigan Federal Credit Union, to meet at the Veterans Day community observance in the Veterans Park in North Port, and to hold a formal election of officers no later than 60 days after the receipt of a UAV Charter.

It was the date of this second meeting, April 30, 1999, which we recognize as the official birthday of North Port's UAV, which was eventually assigned number 40 (in honor of the 40th anniversary of the City of North Port). Following a hallowed UAV tradition that honors distinguished Ukrainian American veterans, Post 40 bears the name of one of the post's original members—Roman G. Lazor, a highly decorated Korean War veteran (Bronze Star, Silver Star, Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal and Korean Service Medal), who served as the post's first adjutant. Lazor eventually succumbed to the long-term effects of wartime injuries and other ailments and passed away on May 18, 2001,

missing by six months the November 10, 2001 installation dinner/dance during which the UAV Charter was formally presented to the post by UAV National Adjutant Peter Polnyj, who also presided over the installation of the post's 2001–2002 officers.

Soon after it was created, Post 40 initiated a series of activities, many of which continue to this day. Among these is annual participation in local all-veteran observances of Memorial and Veterans days, attendance and participation in requiem services ("Panakhydy") for all fallen veterans on the Sunday preceding Memorial Day at the Ukrainian Catholic Church in North Port, ceremonial raising of the Ukrainian national flag in front of the North Port City Hall on August 24 (Ukraine's Independence Day), and participation in all patriotic observances organized by the local Ukrainian American community's representative body, the "Hromadskyi Komitet," of which the post is a member.

Post 40's second post commander was Jerry (Jaroslaw) Zinycz of Venice, Florida, a US Air Force veteran, whose outgoing personality and organizational know-how resulted in a surge in post membership, which soon exceeded thirty members. Zinycz was succeeded by Marian Bojsiuk of North Port. Ihor W. Hron of Osprey followed and was succeeded by Eugene A. Tomashosky of North Port.

UAV Post 40 leadership for 2012-2014: Commander Eugene E. Tomashosky, Vice Commander Roman Rondiak; Adjutant Roman E. Kilar; Finance Officer Askold D. Misijczuk, M.D.; Quartermaster Dr. George Baranowskyj; Chaplain/Service Officer Orestes S. Lazor; Historian John Czerkas; and Public Relations Officer Atanas T. Kobryn, PNC.

UAV Post 40 is very proud to be the home post of the Past Post Commander and current UAV National Commander Ihor W. Hron; Post Vice Commander and current UAV National Adjutant Roman Rondiak; Past Post Commander and current UAV National Chaplain/Service Officer Marian Bojsiuk; and two Past National Commanders, Walter Shipka (1949–1950) and Atanas T. Kobryn (1986–1988).

Each November, Post 40 holds its traditional installation of officers and a very popular dinner dance. One of the highlights of this annual event, in addition to the ceremonial posting of colors and installation of officers' ceremony, is the presentation of awards to members of the community for outstanding activities and contributions to the Ukrainian American and the local community. During last year's installation, awards were presented to two members of the Ukrainian American community - Lidia Bilous and Klara Szpiczka. Another recipient was friend of the Ukrainian American community and supporter of all community undertakings North Port City's Vice Mayor James Blucher, who attended the event with his wife Ardith, unaware of Post's plan to present him with an award.

UAV Post 40 is highly respected by the local Ukrainian American community and is held in high esteem by the City of North Port community at large as well as by local government officials. One reason for this is the post's commitment to active participation in community-wide events; another is our individual members' active membership in the city administration as well as in community, veterans, and other clubs and organizations. Examples of this wide-ranging commitment are: Past Post Commander and UAV National Chaplain/Service Officer Marian Bojsiuk is a member and Past Commandant of the North Port's Marine Corps League Detachment 948, Honor Guard Captain of the Sahib Shrine of Sarasota, former trustee of St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Parish in North Port, and the recipient of a prestigious Vatican award for his contributions to the church.

Myron Ferenc is an active member of Wm. A. Garvey VFW Post #8203 and is currently serving as Captain of its Honor Guard.

Atanas T Kobryn, who was honored as North Port Citizen of the Year in 2001, is member and past president of the North Port Kiwanis Club, member and past president of Friends of the North Port Area Public Library, life member of AMVETS Post 2000, PUFL member of American Legion, member and past secretary of the North Port Area Republican Club, member of the Board of Directors and former vice chairman of North Port Community Health Center, and member and former chairman of the City of North Port Citizens' Tax Oversight Committee. In addition, for more than 17 years, the author has written a weekly column entitled "Our Neighbors—The Ukrainians" for The North Port Sun, the region's daily newspaper. He was recognized and awarded by the UAV National's plaque of appreciation during the 62nd Convention banquet. All post members (including those mentioned above) are active members of local churches and numerous secular clubs and organizations.

Among its many accomplishments, UAV Post 40 hosted a very successful 62nd National Convention (October 15–17, 2009), which coincided with the post's tenth anniversary. In connection with this, the North Port City Commission issued a proclamation designating October 17, 2009, as "UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS DAY." Past Post Commander Marian Bojsiuk served as convention committee chairman and coordinator of the Convention Journal, which was very profitable.

Another noteworthy achievement of Post 40 has been the erection of a memorial to all Ukrainian and Ukrainian American Veterans. The memorial is located at Venice Memorial Gardens in Venice, Florida, the final resting place of many Southwest Florida Ukrainian Americans. The solemn unveiling of the memorial took place Sunday, November 12, 2011, and included a blessing by Rev. Dr. Severyn Kovalyshin and Rt. Rev. Mitrat Archpriest Wolodymyr Woloszczuk, pastor and pastor emeritus of the Presentation of the Most Holy Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church in North Port, respectively. The Southwest Florida Ukrainian American community generously contributed all the funds for the memorial. Post 40 members are very grateful for this support, and the names of all contributors are engraved on the monument's side panel.

At each post meeting, it is with sadness in our hearts that we remember the thirteen members who have left our "Vale of Tears": Roman G. Lazor; William Byk; Ihor Bilynsky; Wasyl Mackiw; Henry Sheldon; John Lypowy; Iwan "Ukie" Prynada; Eugene Steckiw, M.D.; Walter Pytlowany; Zenon Stromeckyj; George Dychdala; Edward Rokisky; and William Drabyk.

"VICHNAIA PAMIAT!"
MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL!

Jack Palance UAV Post 42 – Lehigh Valley, PA.

By Mathew Koziak, PNC

Members of the UAV Post 42 were present at St. Josaphat's Cemetery services conducted by Archpriest Daniel Gurovich, pastor of St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Bethlehem, Pa. After the memorial service (panakhyda) for all deceased members of the parish, he blessed each gravesite in the cemetery.

UAV Post 42 provided a color guard during the services and accompanied Very Rev. Gurovich as he blessed the individual graves. Members of the color guard were: Post Commander Oleh Balaziuk, Orest Harasymovych, John Solotwa and Mathew Koziak, PNC.

On May 25, 2013, UAV Post 42 members participated in burial ceremonies of Private William Yawney, almost 69 years after he was killed in action in Saipan during World War II at the age of 23.

Ukrainian American US Army Private William Yawney's remains, were laid to rest, between his parents, with full military honors in St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Cemetery in Northampton, Pennsylvania. (see full story on page # 4).



Honoring Pvt. William Yawney UAV Post 42 Color Guard: Mathew Koziak, Oleh Balaziuk, Zenon Balaziuk, Viktor Litkewycz, Jerry Kindrachuk, John Solotwa, and Orest Harasymowycz.

UAV Michigan Post 101 – Warren, Michigan

by Oleh R. Cieply - Post Commander

Memorial Day 2013

This year's Memorial Day Observance was held on May 27, 2013, starting with a memorial service (panakhyda) at the cross at St. Josaphat Church grounds. The wreath-laying ceremony was held at the Ukrainian American Veterans Monument. The reception at the Ukrainian Cultural Center followed and was well attended by veterans and guests.

June 2, 2013. UAV Post 101 Historian Matthew Wroblewski was elected to the Audit Committee of the Ukrainian Cultural Shareholders. Congratulations Matt!



IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sadness that we inform Tribune readers of the passing of three UAV Michigan Post 101 members:

Stephen Zdan died on April 24, 2013, at the age of 95. He was a long-time member of our post and a World War II U.S. Marine Corps veteran. His late wife, Irene, was also a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and a long-time member of UAV Post 101.

Ivan Melnyk passed on May 13, 2013, at the age of 81. Ivan was a U.S. Army veteran and served from 1957 to 1961.

Christian Shalay, who was a very active member of our post, departed this world on August 12, 2013, at the age of 71. Christian was U.S. Army veteran and served from 1961–1967. His final resting place is at St. Andrew Cemetery in South Bound Brook, New Jersey.

VICHNAIA PAMIAT! MEMORY ETERNAL!

From the National Quartermaster Please Contact Quartermater Stephen Kostecki to place your order:

email: skostecki108@comcast.net call: 508-245-1890

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NEW! UAV Black B/B hat	15.00
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UAV Car decal	2.00
UAV tie	6.00



UAV Tribune September 2013

UAV Registration Project

1998-2003 (report in booklet form) S/H included

UAV Small emblem



UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS, INC

UAV Registraion Project email: uav.registration@verizon.net PO BOX 172 Holmdel, NJ 07733-0172



<u>UAV REGISTRATION</u> or <u>APPLICATION FORM</u>

For Ukrainian American veterans of active duty, Reserve, National Guard, living or deceased. **PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION.**

LName:	FName:		()
Address:		 ID#		en name if applicable
City:				
Daytime phone: ()	evening: ()		cell: ()	
fax: ()	e-mail:			
Birthday: / / / / / / / month day year When did you and/or your ancestor From which country? When did you and/or your ancestor Your Ukrainian ancestry is on your Your mother's maiden name: Are you UAV member?if	ors arrive to the USA?ors become USA citizens? [mys ar [] mother's side [] []elf ancestor] father's side Other US Vetera	(indicate ye	ear)
SERVICE DATES - including	active duty, Reserve, and N	ational Guard (copy DD Form 214)	
From: From: Military Decorations:	to to	F	Reserve	
Highest Rank or Grade:Other:	If de	eceased, place of	burial	
[] Retired from military service [] Photo taken in uniform enclose If registered by other than above, I If you have memorable military exappreciated.	sed, if available - no photoco please indicate relationship to operiences, please write on th	the veteran being	ng registered:	
date S	ignature:			

<u>Please return entire form with a copy of DD Form 214 and photo to the above address. Thank you.</u>

You do not have to be a member of the Ukrainian American Veterans to register

(Rev. 2013)

The Ukrainian Weekly Sunday, June 9, 2013

Editorial by Roma Hadzewycz

Honoring our veteran's service

On May 12, the Ukrainian American Veterans Inc. marked a new milestone in their activity. On that day, ground was broken for the UAV National Monument that will be erected in a prominent location on the grounds of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Memorial Church and Cemetery in south Bound Brook, N.J. Fittingly, the ceremony took place on Providna Nedilia (St. Thomas Sunday), when the Metropolia Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. is visited by thousands of pilgrims who come to remember their deceased loved ones, hierarchs of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and those who fought for the independence of Ukraine, as well as victims of Soviet repression and the millions killed in the Holodomor.

The installation of the first brick at the UAV monument site was the beginning of the fulfillment of the decades-long dream of American veterans of Ukrainian descent to build a monument to honor the service and sacrifice of their fellow comrades in arms, servicemen and servicewomen of the U.S. Armed Forces. As the UAV website notes, there are "hundreds of thousands of Americans of Ukrainian ancestry who gave so much - in far too many cases their very lives in service to the United States."

It was back in October 2004 that the Ukrainian American Veterans National Monument Committee was established; it comprises veterans and clergy of the Ukrainian Orthodox and Ukrainian Catholic Churches. Metropolitan Antony of the UOC-U.S.A. is a member of the committee - the UAV leadership recently referred to him as "the pivotal force behind this great undertaking" - while Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Church is its honorary chairman. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church provided the land on which the memorial is to be built.

The UOC- U.S.A. website reported that, speaking at the dedication service, Metropolitan Antony - whose own father, John Scharba of Sharon, PA was a veteran of World War II - recalled the ultimate sacrifice that the men and women of Ukrainian descent had made for the United States of America, and he expressed the gratitude of all Americans to the veterans present.

Designed by artist John Jaciw of Windsor, Ontario, the UAV National Monument will feature the seals of the five branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, as well as the UAV logo. It will be dedicated to all veterans (not only UAV members) who have served, and are serving, the U.S. with honor. The memorial's total cost is estimated

at \$250,000 and thus far nearly \$100,000 has been raised.

We encourage our readers to help make our veterans' dream a reality. Isn't providing a little financial support for the UAV monument the least we can do to honor their service? Donations maybe mailed to UAV National Monument, P.O. Box 5058, Somerset, NJ 08875-5058. (The UAV is a not-for-profit 501 (c) 19 organization.)

A relevant postscript: We should also note that since 1998, the UAV has been working on a project to compile the names of men and women of Ukrainian descent who served in the U.S. military into a computerized database. The intent is to make such data available as a historical record to researchers and all who are interested in this information. One book of registration data has already been published as "Volume I of Registration Project Report (1998-2003)" and was

dedicated to World War II veterans. Work on Volume II, which will be dedicated to veterans of the Korean and Vietnam wars, is under way. (See page 8 for more information on how to register yourself or a family member.)



\$250,000
\$200,000
\$100,000
\$50,000
\$50,000

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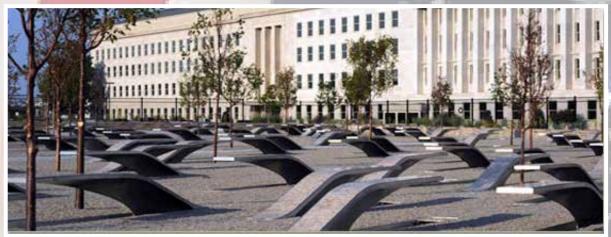
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to support this project Check # amount of enclosed PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: UAV **OR VISIT** WWW.UAVETS.ORG TO DONATE ONLINE.

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We Shall Never Forget

September 11, 2001



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