Dear Fellow Veterans,

The 69th UAV Annual National Convention will be held from October 13 to October 15, 2016, in Chicago, Illinois, and will be hosted by UAV Post 32. This will be the last convention under my gavel. It has been an honor and privilege to serve you as National Commander for the past four years.

As I reflect back on my term in office, I can truly state that the success of the Ukrainian American Veterans, Inc., is a reflection of the dedication and professionalism of the UAV National Executive Board, State and Post Commanders, and their officers.

The National Executive Board is made up of individuals who have devoted a major portion of their adult lives to serve in various positions on the Board. They are an exceptional group of professionals, and we are a better organization because of their hard work and perseverance.

New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut have renewed energy in their respective State Departments. The Post Commanders in these states have responded to the “grass roots” challenge and have integrated their Post activities with those of local organizations!

Last year was a hallmark year for the UAV. After a decade of planning and fundraising, we dedicated the Ukrainian American Veterans National Monument in South Bound Brook, New Jersey, on October 3, 2015. The dedication was the first step of a three-step process. The remaining two steps involve landscaping, installation of a proper walkway, etc. and arranging for perpetual maintenance of this beautiful memorial.

The UAV National Monument Perpetual Endowment Fund was established to ensure perpetual care. The current UAV National Executive Board and future Boards will focus on these needs to ensure that we honor all Ukrainian American veterans who proudly served in the US Armed Forces and those who sacrificed for our country—the United States of America. In accordance with UAV 68th Convention Resolution 68-4, UAV National Monument Standing Committee will be added to the UAV National Executive Board to oversee the needs, proper care, and management of affairs related to the UAV National Monument.

Although we have accomplished a great deal, much needs to be done. In this respect, we are no different from other veterans’ organizations. We need to recruit, recruit, and retain! We need to become better at reaching out to veterans by using social media more efficiently. We have asked for volunteers to manage this process; so far, there are no takers, and I fervently hope that someone (or several “someones”) will volunteer for this important task soon!

On the sad note, I want to inform you that Michael Demchuk, a long time UAV National Executive Board officer, passed to his eternal rest on June 25, 2016. Michael served on the National level as Senior Vice Commander, Judge Advocate, Adjutant, and chaired the Scholarship program that he founded. See full obituary on page 7.

On a happier note, I am very pleased to announce that Immediate Past National Commander, Br Gen Leonid Kontratiuk was elected National Commander, 26th (Yankee) Infantry Division Veterans Association. This great honor reflects General Kondratiuk’s commitment to service! Hearty and heartfelt congratulations!

Looking forward to seeing you at the 69th UAV National Convention in Chicago! My best wishes to all UAV members and their families.

God Bless America!

God Protect Ukraine!

Ihor W. Hron
UAV National Commander
Statement by the President on the 25th Anniversary of Ukrainian Independence

Twenty-five years ago today, Ukraine declared its independence from the Soviet Union. On behalf of the American people, I’m proud to join the Ukrainian people in marking this historic anniversary. As we have been reminded in recent years, Ukraine’s path has not always been easy. From the hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians who linked arms in a great human chain in 1990 to the fallen heroes of the Maidan, realizing the dream of independence has called on the solidarity and sacrifice of the Ukrainian people. The people of the United States, including proud Ukrainian-Americans, have been honored to partner with Ukraine on this journey. Today, we reaffirm that the United States will continue to stand with the Ukrainian people as they protect their sovereignty and territorial integrity, embrace the vision of a strong and united Europe, and deepen their commitment to democracy, anti-corruption, and respect for human rights. I offer my best wishes to all the people of Ukraine. On this occasion, we are reminded that even in the most difficult moments, the glory and freedom of Ukraine—and the indomitable spirit of the Ukrainian people—lives on.


by Anna Osinska Krawczuk, UAV PNC

The Ukrainian American Veterans extend greetings to the Ukrainian nation, all Ukrainian citizens living in Ukraine and Ukrainians who live all over the world on the 25th Independence Day of our ancestral homeland.

As immigrants and members of the Ukrainian diaspora, we have been with Ukraine in spirit during the turmoil of the 20th century, including the last 25 years since Ukraine declared its independence from the Soviet Union on August 24, 1991. As American war veterans of Ukrainian heritage we understand the hardships the Ukrainian nation has endured over these 25 years, and especially the hardships associated with the ongoing struggle to preserve and protect Ukraine’s sovereignty and independence.

For those of us who live beyond Ukraine’s borders, this has been a painful struggle to watch. Two years ago we saw Russian aggressors illegally annex Crimea. Today we watch as they continue their assault on Ukraine, shedding Ukrainian blood and fomenting unrest in occupied Donbas and other cities in Eastern Ukraine. But we have also seen things that inspire hope. One of these uplifting moments was watching (in person or via the Internet) the 25th Independence Day military parade in Kyiv, a sight that was inspirational because it revealed and underscored for us that the Armed Forces of Ukraine are strong, determined, and ready to protect their country—a phalanx of Davids facing their own 21st-century Goliath with hope, with courage, and with an unwavering belief that their cause is just and will prevail.

We bow our heads to them and to all who were killed by terrorists, beginning with “The Heavenly 100” who perished on Euro-Maidan in Kyiv and extending to the ATO warriors killed in action in Eastern Ukraine and to civilians who lost their lives during the invasion that continues to this day. May God bless their souls and protect those who are determined to defend their homeland and preserve Ukraine’s territorial integrity.

You can watch the 25th anniversary parade in Kyiv, at www.youtube.com/watch?v=1EBp3EyuaBE
St Thomas Sunday at St Andrew Cemetery
South Bound Brook, New Jersey

This year St. Thomas Sunday fell on May 8, 2016. It was the first time that Memorial service was held at the UAV National Monument after its dedication on October 3, 2015.

The Memorial service was celebrated by His Eminence Metropolitan Antony of the UOC of the USA and Archbishop Jeremiah (Ferens) of South America. Other clergy, UAV veterans and general public were also in attendance. Metropolitan Antony and Br. Gen. Leonid Kondratiuk, UAV IPNC, ceremoniously placed the wreath at the foot of the monument. At the conclusion, a lone UAV bugler played the sorrowful Taps that echoed throughout St. Andrew Cemetery.
News from the UAV Headquarters

UAV 69th Annual National Convention Committee welcomes all the UAV delegates, members and guests! Special welcome to UAV National Ladies Auxiliary members and delegates!

HAVE A GREAT CONVENTION!
Enjoy your stay in Chicago!

July 8-10, 2016. Kerhonkson, New York
The 10th Ukrainian Cultural Festival was held at Soyuzivka Heritage Center. Over 3,000 visitors were in attendance to enjoy the festivities and concerts by artists from near and far. Despite rainy weather they came to Soyuzivka to enjoy this event. As in prior years, UAV New York State Department Color Guard opened the festival on July 9, 2016, with presentation of Colors.

UAV National Quartermaster Stephen Kostecki and UAV Post 31 Social Member Michael Hotz manned the UAV Vendors booth.

REMINDER FROM UAV NATIONAL FINANCE OFFICER, JERRY KINDRACHUK
Updated UAV Post Rosters are mandatory when paying Membership and Post dues to the UAV NEB.
Deadline for submitting UAV membership and Post dues is April 15 of each year.
Checks made payable to: UAV
Should be mailed to: Jerry Kindrachuk, UAV NFO
3535 Fox Run Drive
Allentown, PA 18103

MESSAGE FROM UAV TRIBUNE COEDITORS:
We are grateful to all readers of the UAV Tribunes for their observations and their support. We especially thank all authors who have contributed articles that have enriched our newsletter with interesting and important news and all photographers who have provided illustrations for the articles and stories we have published.
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Seated L/R: Marian Bojsiuk, Bernard W. Krawczuk, NC Ihor W. Hron, William Szozda, Anna Krawczuk and Roman Rondiak.
Standing L/R: Joe Nasevich, Stephen Kostecki, Mathew Kozia, Jerry Kindrachuk, Br G Leonid Kondratiuik, Nicholas Skirka and Edward A. Zetick.
(not on photo: Myroslaw Pryjma).

L/R: State Commanders: Jerry B. Rudko, Michael P. Hrycak, Peter Polnyj

Oksana Kozia, President
UAV National Ladies Auxiliary
Michael Hynda — 1948-1949
Walter Shipka — 1949-1950
Walter T. Darmopray — 1950-1952
Martin Horobiowski — 1952-1953
Walter T. Darmopray — 1953-1954
Alexander Pronchick — 1954-1956
Walter Bacad — 1956-1957
Emil Senkow — 1957-1959
George Wolynetz, Jr — 1959-1960
Anthony Kutcher — 1960-1961
Matthew J. Pope — 1961-1963
Stephen Shegda — 1963-1965
Walter Klawsnick — 1965-1966
Eugene Sagasz — 1966-1968
William M. Dubetz — 1968-1970
Michael Wengryn — 1970-1972
William Harrison — 1972-1973
Emrick Prestash — 1973-1974
Vasyl Luchkiw — 1974-1976
Harry Polche — 1976-1978
Bohdan B. Bezkorowajny — 1978-1980
Michael Chaika — 1980-1982
Edward A. Zetick — 1982-1984
Joseph Brega — 1984-1986
Jaroslav Fedoryczuk — 1988-1989
Roman Rakowsky — 1991-1993
Miroslaus Malaniak — 1993-1995
Dmytro Bodnarczuk — 1995-1997
Steven Szewczuk — 1997-2000
Mathew Koziajk — 2000-2004
Anna Osińska Krawczuk — 2004-2008
Leonid E. Kondratiuk — 2008-2012
Ihor W. Hron — 2012-2016
Michael Demchuk was born on January 24, 1946, in Hanover, Germany, to Teodor and Ketrin Demchuk (both deceased) of Ukraine. Michael passed on Saturday, June 25, 2016.

A past World War II child, he immigrated with his parents to Allentown, PA., at the age of three and after a while the family settled in Cleveland, Ohio. Michael graduated from Lincoln High School. He attended Ohio State & Case Western Reserve University until he was drafted into the Army on December 24, 1965, and served one year with 15th Admn Company 1st Air Cavalry Division in Vietnam. Sp4 Demchuk was honorably discharged on December 20, 1945. He was awarded an American Campaign Medal, a Good Conduct Medal, and a Victory Medal.

Returning home after his discharge, Joseph joined his brother Peter at Peter Brega, Inc., Family Run School Bus Co., & Gas Station. In 1956, Joseph married Jenny Sharon; the couple had three daughters: Susan, Nancy, and Mary. The family worshipped at STS Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church and were active members of the Ukrainian Hall in Spring Valley, N.Y. His wife Jenny passed away in July 1976. Widower Joseph married Katherine Bonnano in 1980.

Joseph joined Ukrainian American Veterans Post 19 and participated enthusiastically in Post activities. He held many Post positions and faithfully attended the UAV Annual National Convention Journal. PNC Brega noted: “... while National Commander (1984–1986), I was also leading incorporation efforts of UAV New York State Department. When my term as National Commander expired, I was elected first Commander of UAV New York State Department.” He continued: “... I believe that we have made significant inroads into Ukrainian community here and we are also known in Ukraine. Now is the high time to do the same in the USA. We must keep in mind that together we can do wonders.” He ended his statement with “Together we stand!”

PNC Joseph Brega passed on January 16, 2016, at Nyack Hospital. A funeral mass was held at Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church; internment followed at F.W. Loescher Veterans Cemetery in Spring Valley, N. Y. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to STS Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church or The Ukrainian Hall in Spring Valley, New York. His second wife Katherine predeceased him in December 2005. His three daughters, three grandchildren and three stepsons survive him with their families.

Memory Eternal!
George A. Mizuk, NJSC the only son of the late Omry and Irene Kuziv Mizuk, was born on December 1, 1961, in Trenton, New Jersey. When his parents moved to Florida, George followed them and settled in Daytona Beach. He attended Daytona Beach Community College and received his certificate as a Class “D” Security Officer. He was employed by the El Caribe Resort and Conference Center as a computer programmer until his death on April 13, 2016. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church of Port Orange, Florida, on April 22, 2016.

After his honorable discharge from US Marine Corps on April 23, 1982, George joined the UAV Post 25, Trenton, New Jersey. He became active in the Ukrainian American community and especially in the UAV. He was elected as UAV New Jersey Department of State Commander and also served as National Adjutant, Editor of the UAV Tribune, and PR Officer on the UAV National Executive Board. During his tenure as a UAV NEB officer, membership recruitment was his priority; he worked on organizing UAV Posts, including Major Myron Diduryk UAV Post 30 of New Jersey, which was founded in 1990.

George is survived by his mother Irene, cousins in Brazil, distant family, friends and fellow veterans who worked closely with him before he moved to Florida. Condolences may be shared at lohmanfuneralhomes.com.

Memory Eternal. Вічна Йому пам’ять!


St Thomas Sunday continues from p3

Wreath laying ceremony

UAV Color Guard
While in France filming a Smithsonian TV production about the 26th “Yankee” Division in World War I, the film crew and I were shooting footage of the graves of US servicemen buried in the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery some 40 miles northeast of Paris. The cemetery contains the remains of several thousand American soldiers, marines and sailors who died in action during the Aisne and Aisne-Marne Campaigns from June to July 1918.

As I was photographing graves of 26th Division soldiers I came across the grave of Private Peter Lukoskuk. He was killed in action on 9 July 1918 and one of the first Ukrainian Americans to die in our nation’s defense.

Lukoskuk, age 25, was born in Volyn, Ukraine and I could not discover when he arrived in the United States but several years before 1914. Like many young men from Ukraine, he came alone to seek his fortune. He was a resident of Brooklyn, NY and lived at 210 Greene St.

He enlisted in the Army on 5 June 1917 in order to serve his adopted country. He was given a physical at the recruiting depot at Fort Slocum, New York and sent to a small Army camp at Syracuse, New York where he was initially assigned to the 48th Infantry Regiment. and undertook basic training.

On 14 August 1917, he was transferred to Company H, 9th Infantry Regiment. which was shortly there after assigned to the 2d Division. The 9th was a Regular Army regiment with a cadre of experienced officers and NCOs. The 9th and the 23d Infantry Regiments were assigned to the 3d Infantry Brigade, 2d Division, that also included the 4th Marine Brigade.

The 9th Infantry Regiment, one of the first infantry regiments to deploy to France in World War I, departed from New York City on 18 September 1917. Lukoskuk, no doubt, stared at the New York skyline as his ship sailed for Europe. After reaching France, the 2d Division, with thousands of recent recruits, trained until 17 March 1918 when it entered frontline trenches.

The 2d Division took part in operations under the control of the French II and X Corps until May. The 2d Division then entered the line near Chateau-Thierry on 1 June during the latter part of the German offensive. There they stopped the Germans and went on the attack.

The story of the Marines at Belleau Wood is well-known but on their flank was the 9th Infantry Regiment who fought just as hard. Lukoskuk and his buddies in Company H took part in a series of defensive and offensive operations that went on for several weeks.

The 2d Division, at low strength due to casualties and exhausted from the fighting was relieved by the 26th Division on 9 July. During the relief, Lukoskuk was killed by German artillery as one of the first, if not the first, Ukrainian American to die in defense of America.

Peter had no family in Brooklyn, only a friend who was ultimately told of his death. World War I, the Russian Revolution and other calamities in Ukraine prevented Peter’s family of learning of his death for years. He was buried near the battlefield and several years later his remains were moved to the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery located on the battlefield itself.

When German intelligence officers questioned American POWs about their ethnicity they were amazed that German, Italian, and Polish sons of immigrants and recent immigrants stated that they were Americans with emphasis. Peter Lukoskuk, American soldier, is buried with his other American brothers-in-arms.
Between Hitler and Stalin
Ukraine in World War II, The Untold Story

A review by Major Petro R. Sodol, US Army (Ret.)

As World War II was ending in Europe, U.S. war correspondent Edward Snow wrote: “The whole Titanic struggle, which some are apt to dismiss as Russian glory, was first of all a Ukrainian war. No fewer than 10 million people had been lost to . . . Ukraine since 1941. The Allies won the war, but Ukraine paid the bill.” In fact his article, which was published in March 1945 in The Saturday Evening Post (a popular American magazine at that time) was entitled “Ukraine Pays the Bill.” Between Hitler and Stalin, written by Wsevolod W. Isajiw, Andrew Gregorovitch, and Oleh S. Romanysyn and published in 2013 in Toronto by Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Centre (www.ucrdc.org), explains, at least to some extent, how that payment was made and its short-term and long-term implications and consequences.

The 120-page book was intended to serve as a companion to a prize-winning documentary film of same title created in 2004, but it can readily stand on its own. Those unfamiliar with the topic, however, are encouraged to read or at least peruse this book before viewing the film, an approach that will provide a preliminary understanding of and appreciation for the events and people presented in the film. It should also be noted that the book will appeal even to people with a deep knowledge of this subject, as it will increase their understanding of the war period, behind-the-scenes negotiations and deals, and their consequences.

The primary focus of Between Hitler and Stalin is the 1941-1945 period, but the book also provides details about important events preceding World War II as well as a discussion of what happened after the war officially ended. Not surprisingly, it includes a brief comparison of Hitler and Stalin. The authors argue that although “Hitler and Stalin ideologies appeared to be dissimilar, in application they were both based on the same general principles . . . opposition was to be destroyed by the most expedient means.” Everyone knows that Hitler started his reign of terror and destruction with the Holocaust directed at the destruction of the Jewish population in Germany and German-occupied territories, but few realize that Ukrainians were to be targeted next. The reason behind this targeting was that Ukraine, the so-called Breadbasket of Europe, was a country blessed with fertile soil and was also desired by Hitler as part of his lebensraum initiative, acquiring “living space” for German expansion. Not as many people know that Stalin actually preceded Hitler in enacting this expansionist policy when (in 1933) he devised and unleashed a Genocide of Ukrainian peasants. Then in 1945 Stalin wanted to relocate the remaining Ukrainians, those who had not starved to death, to Siberia. According to Nikita Khrushchev, Stalin’s plan to decimate/eradicate the Ukrainian population did not happen only “because there were just too many of them.”

Some of the subtopics of Between Hitler and Stalin cover the following subjects: Carpathian-Ukraine, the German-Soviet Pact of Non-Aggression, Ostarbeiter slave labor, the Resistance, the Polish-Ukrainian conflict, the Holocaust in German-occupied Ukraine, Ukrainians in the Red Army, Western aid to the
Continued from page 10

Soviet war effort, and the Displaced Persons camps. The entire text is generously illustrated with photographs, maps, caricatures, posters, etc. Additionally, even though this is not technically considered a scholarly publication, it is extensively annotated and includes 172 scholarly footnotes. One feature that is likely to be of special significance to potential researchers is a bibliography of English-language sources (95 books). There is also a listing of six documentary films on Ukraine during the 20th century and information about two documentary exhibits available on CD and online.

One especially informative part of this publication is a simple one-page table listing estimated populations losses (military and civilian) during World War II in 19 countries/nations that were involved as combatants or suffering occupation by one or both sides of those waging war. Not surprisingly, Ukraine ranks on this list as #1 with 10 million (4.1 military and 5.9 civilian) losses. The occupiers of Ukraine are shown as #2: Germany (6.5 million) and #3: Russia (without the former Soviet republics that are independent today, 5.7 million). The table also shows the losses of each country/nation as a percentile (%) of pre-war population. In this column Ukraine is again #1 with a 23.8% loss whereas Germany lost 9.1% and Russia only 2.9%. These statistics come from sources published since 1975, and this raises an interesting question: How could Edgar Snow know about the 10 million in 1945? Neither the book nor the film disclose his sources, but it is known that he visited Ukraine twice (in 1943 and again in 1945) and was able to see first-hand the horrible devastation of cities and countryside.

This raises the possibility that he made an educated guess. On the other hand, another reason that precise numerical data is not definitively cited points to Stalin who (at that time Edgar Snow was compiling his facts and figures) was maneuvering to get Ukraine (now firmly subdued as part of the USSR) qualified as Charter member of the United Nations.

The three authors (professor emeritus Wsevolod W. Isajiw, librarian emeritus Andrew Gregorovich, and veteran newspaper editor-in-chief Oleh S. Romanyshyn), and the editorial staff under their direction have done a superb job of putting this book together. This publication and the film of same title should appeal to a wide audience beyond the Ukrainian Diaspora community. It will be especially useful to any student, regardless of ethnic background, who needs to write a senior paper or a master’s thesis or is in the process of selecting a PhD dissertation topic. Anyone interested in 20th-century history should have access to these sources in their personal libraries; educators and librarians should ensure that copies of the book and CD are available in school and university libraries.

Major Petro R. Sodol, US Army (Ret.) is a Vietnam War Veteran, a recipient of two Purple Hearts, and a member of the UAV. He is also the author of UPA: They Fought Hitler and Stalin, which was published in 1987.

**TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 4, 2016</td>
<td>240th Anniversary of USA Independence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 24, 2016</td>
<td>25th Anniversary of Ukraine Independence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 5, 2016</td>
<td>Labor Day observance nationwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 11, 2016</td>
<td>15th anniversary and commemorations of 9/11 terrorists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 3, 2016</td>
<td>1st anniversary of UAV National Monument Dedication</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 13-15, 2016</td>
<td>69th UAV Annual National Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 8, 2016</td>
<td>Election Day nationwide</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 11, 2016</td>
<td>Veterans Day observance nationwide</td>
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<td>November 24, 2016</td>
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<td>December 25, 2016</td>
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<td>January 1, 2017</td>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
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<td>January 7, 2017</td>
<td>Christmas Day by Julian Calendar</td>
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<td>April 15, 2017</td>
<td>UAV dues deadline</td>
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**U.S. ARMED FORCES:**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 14, 1775</td>
<td>*U.S. Army Founded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2, 1926</td>
<td>*U.S. Army Air Corps established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 4, 1790</td>
<td>*U.S. Coast Guard established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 18, 1947</td>
<td>*U.S. Air Force established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 13, 1775</td>
<td>*U.S. Navy established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 10, 1775</td>
<td>*U.S. Marine Corps established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 7, 1782</td>
<td>Purple Heart Medal established (Per Veterans of Foreign Wars 2016 calendar)</td>
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**FROM THE UAV NATIONAL QUARTERMASTER, STEPHEN KOSTECKI**

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NEW UAV Monument Coin</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New in Box</td>
<td>30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>UAV Coins Silver/Brass</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>UAV Crest for blazer</td>
<td>18.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>UAV Black B/B hat</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>UAV Blue Golf Shirt</td>
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MEMORIAL DAY

We remember.

As in previous years, this year’s Memorial Day (the 150th) once again served to demonstrate to our communities that Ukrainian American Veterans have served and are still serving to protect and defend the United States of America. Under the leadership of Post Commander, Edward Zetick, PNC, UAV Post 1 members gathered to pay homage to the memory of our comrades in arms who have passed. Hundreds of American flags were placed at the gravesites of veterans who have served the United States with distinction in conflicts from WWII, Korea and Vietnam.

A memorial services (panakhyda) was offered at St. Mary’s Cemetery and Oakland Cemetery to honor the memory of our departed comrades. UAV Post 1 Chaplain, Father Paul Makar, who also serves as pastor of St. Michael’s Church in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, led the service at St. Mary’s Cemetery. (The service can be seen on YouTube by searching for UAVets Post#1 and also by using MAH00047.) The memorial service at Oakland Cemetery was celebrated by the Very Reverend Taras Naumenko, pastor of St. Vladimir Cathedral in Philadelphia. The panakhyda was moving, evoking tears and good memories for everyone. Memory Eternal. Vichnaja Pamiat’.

We shall never forget!

Taras Kalyta was born to Mychajlo and Luba (Kozlenko) Kalyta on December 12, 1946, in Bayreuth, Germany. Arriving in Philadelphia, Pa., he and his parents settled in the Logan section of the city. Taras attended Roman Catholic High School and Olney High School, graduating from the latter in 1965. On January 12, 1966, he enlisted in the US Marine Corps. He served with the 2nd Battalion, 6th Marines in Vietnam. Lance Corporal Kalyta was honorably discharged in 1968. He was awarded the following medals: National Defense Service, Vietnamese Service, Vietnamese Campaign, Good Conduct, and Rifle Marksman Badge. He continued his service with the Marine Corps Reserve, retiring in 1999 as Master Gunner Sergeant Taras Kalyta. As a civilian, Taras worked for US Postal Service for over 30 years. He joined the UAV Post 1 in 2009.

Funeral services for Taras were held on February 12, 2016, at Annunciation BVM Ukrainian Catholic Church in Melrose Park, Pa. Internment with full military honors followed at a later date at Washington’s Crossing National Cemetery, Newtown, Pa. Taras is survived by his wife, Lubomyra Kuzma Kalyta whom he married in 1969, and by his daughter Andreja Kulyk and her husband Michael, his son Mark, and grandchildren Michael, Matejko and Lukian. He was predeceased by his siblings Lesia and Leo. He will also be greatly missed by his fellow veterans and the Ukrainian American community. Вічна Йому пам’ять.

At the family’s request, contributions in Taras’s memory can be made to UAV Post 1, 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, Pa 19046 to support Post 1’s mission to expand and offer assistance to our Ukrainian American community in the Greater Philadelphia area.

UAV Post 1 continues to remember our comrades who have passed by entering each of their names and US Service branch on the Memorial Plaque, which was installed near the entrance to the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center in Jenkintown, Pa. Hundreds of names will be added to this Memorial Plaque to honor their service to America and to keep their memory alive. The ceremony transferring the name plate for the late Taras Kalyta to the Memorial Plaque was held on March 12, 2016, at 11:00 a.m.
Very Reverend Taras Naumenko of St. Vladimir Cathedral in Philadelphia

Rifle Salute

Honor Guard (l/r) Andrew Passyn and Peter Labiak

St. Mary's Cemetery

A few good men of Post #1
UAV Post 17 – Passaic, NJ
by Zenko Halkowycz, Post Adjutant

UAV Post 17 Commemorates Departed Comrades

UAV Post 17, based in the Clifton/Passaic area of New Jersey, held its annual memorial services on June 5, 2016, at the Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Paterson, New Jersey. Post members and guests gathered at the UAV Post 17 Monument at 12:30 p.m., where they met Reverend Oleksii Holchuk of St Mary Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Clifton, N.J., who conducted the Memorial Service at the UAV Monument.

At the invitation of Post 17, UAV National Vice Commander Wasyl Szozda participated in our ceremony with his wife Julia, along with UAV New Jersey Department of State Commander Michael Hrycak. Once Reverend Holchuk arrived, UAV Post 17 Commander James Fedorko led the procession to the monument. After the religious service, Commander Fedorko read the UAV preamble and Post Adjutant Z. Halkowycz recited the names of our departed members, those who died at war along with those who died as veterans after serving in the US Military. A young member of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) played taps, and Post 17 Vice Commander Andrij Hadzewycz placed a wreath at the foot of the monument. Sadly the list of our departed fellow veterans is growing. We honor and remember annually each and every one of them during the Memorial Day commemorations.

Once the formal ceremony was completed, Commander Fedorko invited all attendees to the Spanish Tavern in Clifton for a Post meeting and a luncheon. We spent about three hours talking about general topics and planning for future events. July 3, 2016. Ellenville, New York. Members of ODFFU and SUM commemorated “Sviato Heroiv” (Ukrainian Heroes’ Day) at the SUM campgrounds. This event is an annual commemoration of all Ukrainians who fought and died in battles for a free and independent Ukraine. The keynote speaker was Jurij Shumko, a former Ukrainian World Congress president. Other participants were Ukrainian American community leaders from the tri-state area as well as campers and senior councilors of SUM.

Stepan Kaczurak, who chaired this event, invited UAV New York Department of State Commander Peter Polnyj to participate with the UAV Color Guard. Additional members of the Color Guard included UAV Post 17 Commander James Fedorko and Post members Walter Kovbasniuk and Zenko Halkowycz; UAV NVC William Szozda and Nikolas Jakoniw from UAV Post 19; and NYS Commander Peter Polnyj, who represented UAV Post 27. The UAV Color Guard led the procession to the chapel where Most Rev. Bishop Paul Patrick Chomycky, OSBM, celebrated liturgy.
On April 23, 2016, UAV Post 24 donated seven boxes of clothing and supplies – socks, T-shirts, deodorants, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shaving kits, etc., to the Sandusky Veterans home, in Ohio. Our member John Stolar resides at this VA facility.

Poppy sales were held at Ukrainian churches in our area in May and proceeds raised went to the welfare fund for needy veterans.

It is with sadness that we bid the final farewell to three UAV Post 24 members: Dr. Jarema Rakowsky, Michael Switlyk and Michael Demchuk. We will always remember them.

MEMORIAL DAY

On May 29, 2016. Memorial Service for the veterans was served at St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral by UAV Post 24 Chaplain Very Rev. John Nakonachny and his assistant Fr. Michael.

May 30, 2016. Memorial Day service was held at St. Andrew Cemetery in Parma, Ohio. American Legion Post 572 members joined our post for this service.
We are pleased to welcome our new post member, Major James D. Scanlon, USA (Ret) of Ocean City, New Jersey, and an Honorary member Bohdan Kramarchuk.

As in previous years, especially on Memorial and Veterans Day, we always remember our Post Patron Major Myron Diduryk, KIA on April 24, 1970, by a sniper in Vietnam.

We continue our search for other Ukrainian American veterans who were KIA, are still classified MIA, or served during the Vietnam era. If you have information about a veteran who fits this description, please contact us at uav.post30@verizon.net.

On May 7 - 8, 2016, UAV Post 30 members participated in ceremonies on St. Thomas weekend at St. Andrew Cemetery in South Bound Brook, New Jersey. The UAV table was manned by Anna Krawczuk and Jurij Jacus. On Sunday, May 8, Post 30 members also participated in the procession and attended the services at the UAV National Monument.

May 30, 2016. Memorial Day. Together with the UAV New Jersey Department of State Commander Michael Hrycak and members of other New Jersey UAV Posts, Jurij Jacus attended the services held at the UAV National Monument.
May 30, 2016. MEMORIAL DAY PARADE IN CHICAGO, IL.
For the last three out of four years, UAV Post 32 has had the honor to be in Position 32 with over 170 groups participating in the Memorial Day Parade.

This APC was built by Fred Kolodziej, UAV member and Commandant of the USMC Detachment in Arlington Heights for members who have difficulty walking. Thank you Fred.

Group photo with everyone who participated in the Memorial Day Parade, with Marina Twin Towers in the background.

UAV Post 32 Calendar was filled with important activities
The Suburban Council of Ukrainian Voters hosted an evening with Congressmen Peter Roskum and Bob Dold. UAV Post 32 posted colors for this event, which drew an audience of more than 100 people. Congressman Roskum chairs the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus and had recently returned from a trip to Ukraine, and both Congressmen reported on the current situation in Ukraine. A lively discussion followed during which Congressman Roskum responded to numerous questions. Attending Post 32 members were active participants, posing numerous questions and offering comments.

November 1, 2015. St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kyivan Patriarchate, Bloomingdale, Illinois, dedicated a monument honoring the “Heavenly 100” who were killed during the Euro-Maidan demonstrations in 2014.

March 17, 2016. Ukrainian Cultural Center, Chicago, Il.
The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Illinois Division, in cooperation with the Kyiv Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International Program, attended a private meeting with United States Ambassador to Ukraine Geoffrey Pyatt, who is highly regarded as a strong advocate for Ukraine’s national independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

March 20, 2016. At the Annual Meeting of the Selfreliance Ukrainian Federal Credit Union, Bohdan Watral (CEO) and Oresta Fedyniak (Selfreliance Foundation) were recognized by UAV Post 32 for their continued support of veterans and Veterans Affairs.
Continued from page 17

May 29, 2016. UAV Post 32 donated an American flag to St. Nicholas Catholic Cathedral before the arrival of Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk, head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.


June 8, 2016. For the past 13 years, UAV Post 32 has sponsored an essay contest for 7th and 8th grade pupils of St. Nicholas Cathedral School. This year’s winners were Martha Nalysnyk (1st place), Roma Oleskyn (2nd place), Sophia Yarowyj (3rd place), and Anastasia Shybitov and Evelyn Lopez (who tied for 4th place). The 7th and 8th grade students also visited the Ukrainian American Veterans Exhibit at the Ukrainian National Museum. Exhibit curator John Steciw led the tour, which gives children an opportunity to learn about the contributions and sacrifices made by Ukrainian Americans in the U.S. military.
Activities During First Half of 2016

During the first half of 2016, the activities of UAV Post 40 of North Port, Florida, were centered around larger celebrations and commemorations planned and/or hosted by the Ukrainian community of North Port as well as those in surrounding areas. Post 40 also held monthly meetings every first Friday of the month.

On January 24, 2016, Post 40 members served as the Color Guard for the commemoration of the anniversary of the Unification of all Ukrainian lands on January 22, 1919. The ceremony took place at the Ukrainian Religious and Cultural Center “Oseredok” in North Port. As always, the commemorative event was well attended by members and by the local Ukrainian American community.

At the end of April, a memorial service was held to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the tragedy at Chernobyl. Post 40 again provided the Color Guard for the panakhyda held at St. Andrew Church.

At the beginning of May, Post 40 bid the final farewell to one of our long-time members, John Homick. On May 9, we attended the Panakhyda (Memorial service) and Military memorial ceremony for John who was interred at the Sarasota National Cemetery. A sad moment in the history of the Post.

The end of May was marked by all of the activities generally associated with the recognition of Memorial Day and all that it stands for. Post 40 volunteers organized and ran the fundraiser associated with passing out ribbons to all members of the general public participating in the Memorial Day commemorative events at three different locations in the North Port area. The UAV Post 40 Color Guard participated in the Panakhyda at St. Mary’s Catholic Church and also served as Color Guard at the City of North Port Memorial Park ceremony.

In Memoriam

John Homick was born on September 14, 1928, to Teodosia Meloditz and Joseph Homick, in Trenton, PA., and was raised in Cumbola, Pa. He was a 1947 graduate from Blythe Township High School in 1947. John served on active duty in the US Army Signal Corps during the Korean War Era from January 17, 1951. On January 16, 1953, he was transferred to US Army Reserve (ERC Signal Corps) and served for an additional five years. Cpl. Homick was honorably discharged from the US Army in 1957.

In 1952, John married Ann Katchmar, and the couple moved to Bridgeport, Conn., where they raised two children and where John worked at Avco Lycoming until his retirement in 1992. That year, the family moved to Warm Mineral Springs, Florida, and it is here that John passed on May 2, 2016.

John was a member of the American Legion, Ukrainian American Veterans Post 40 and St. Mary’s Ukrainian Catholic Church in North Port, Fla. Funeral services were held at St. Mary’s Ukrainian Catholic Church on May 9, 2016, and John was interred with full military honors at Sarasota National Cemetery, Florida, the next day.

John left behind his loving wife Ann of 64 years, his children Joseph and Cynthia and two grandchildren—Stephanie of Virginia Beach, Va. and Gregory of Brooklyn, N.Y. He will be greatly missed by his family, his friends, and his fellow veterans.

Memory Eternal!
Jack Palance UAV Post 42 – Lehigh Valley, PA.

This year’s St. Thomas Sunday observances were especially memorable for Post 42 members who participated in commemorative services held on Sunday, May 8, 2016, and also at the site of the UAV National Monument in South Bound Brook, New Jersey. It was the first such St. Thomas Day service at the UAV National Monument since its dedication on October 3, 2015. The service culminated with taps played by UAV Post 42 Commander Oleh Balaziuk.

Several Post 42 members also took part in Memorial Day ceremonies on May 30, 2016, at the UAV National Monument.

Congratulations are in order to Michigan Post 101 member David K. Scott, who was among the Warren residents honored by Mayor James R. Fouts as the 2016 City of Warren Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award.

You made us very proud!

UAV Michigan Post 101 – Warren, Michigan

By Matthew Wroblewski, Post Commander

Congratulations are in order to Michigan Post 101 member David K. Scott, who was among the Warren residents honored by Mayor James R. Fouts as the 2016 City of Warren Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award.

You made us very proud!
AMERICAN VETERANS OF UKRAINIAN HERITAGE – JOIN US! HELP US! WE NEED YOU!

In conjunction with the dedication of the UAV National Monument at St. Andrew Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J., on October 3, 2015, our project became the UAV National Registry and our work continues.

The UAV Registration Project was initiated in 1998. Its principal mission is to register and honor American servicemen and servicewomen of Ukrainian heritage who have served honorably or are currently on active duty in the US Armed Forces. By the end of 2003 we had 3,115 recorded names, which included the names of registrants as well as names acquired from archival sources. The UAV Registration Project Report 1998–2003 Volume I, dedicated to World War II veterans, was released to coincide with the dedication of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., on Memorial Day in 2004. Limited copies of this volume are still in stock.

Registration is mandatory for UAV members, as specified in the UAV Constitution and By-laws. A copy of DD Form 214 (separation document or equivalent) must be submitted with each registration.

We have a long way to go and need the help of the Ukrainian-American community. We request that you tell your relatives and friends about our continuing project and encourage them to register. You may register your loved ones as well. Don’t let them be forgotten! The contribution of American veterans of Ukrainian heritage to the US Military history needs to be told. You can help! To get a copy of the UAV Registration Form please visit the UAV Official website at www.uavets.org and click on the UAV REG Form. Or email us at: uav.registration@verizon.net

By 2015, the number of fully documented registrants exceeded fifteen hundred; with the names added from archival sources, our listing has increased to almost eight thousand names. But this is only the tip of the proverbial iceberg, as it has been estimated that more than 200,000 Ukrainian Americans served in World War II alone.

There is no fee to register and you do not have to be a member of the UAV to do so.

Volume II, dedicated to Korean and Vietnam veterans, has been compiled for release. The UAV Registration Project is an ongoing and evolving project and future volumes will follow. Registration of Ukrainian American veterans is continuing and their names will be published in Volume III.

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Please send to: UAV REG PO Box 172 Holmdel, NJ 07733-0172
 I would like to be interviewed. Please contact me
 I would like to become a UAV Member at Large. UAV REG and DD Form 214 are attached. My check for annual dues in the amount of $15 made payable to: UAV is enclosed.*
 I would like to become a UAV member; please send information on UAV Post(s) in my area.

Name______________________________________signature_________________________________
address______________________________________________________________
City____________________________________STATE_____ZIP tel:____________________
e-mail___________________________________ date:____________________
cell:____________________

* DUES EXEMPTION: Personnel on Active Duty, 100% Military Disability and Permanently Totally Disabled (PTD) members in good standing for five (5) or more consecutive years, if unable to pay. (2016)
UAV REGISTRATION or APPLICATION FORM

For Ukrainian American veterans of active duty, Reserve, National Guard, living or deceased.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION.

LName: ___________________________ FName: ___________________________ (_______________________) put maiden name if applicable

Address: ____________________________________________________________________________ ID#_______________________

City: ___________________________ State: ___________ ZIP: ___________________________

Daytime phone: (___)____________________ evening: (___)____________________ cell: (___)____________________

fax: (___)____________________ e-mail: _____________________________________________

Birthday: / ______ / ______ / ______ / ______ / month day year If Deceased / ______ / ______ / ______ / month day year

When did you and/or your ancestors arrive to the USA? _____________________________

From which country? _____________________________

When did you and/or your ancestors become USA citizens? [ ] [ ] _________ (indicate year)

[ ] myself [ ] ancestor

Your Ukrainian ancestry is on your [ ] mother's side [ ] father's side [ ] both [ ] spouse

Your mother's maiden name: ___________________________

Are you UAV member? [ ] if yes, UAV Post # ____________ Other US Veteran's Organization _____________________________

Branch: (circle) USA USN USMC USAF USC CG WWII-USMM WWII-AAF

SERVICE DATES - including active duty, Reserve, and National Guard (copy DD Form 214 or equivalent)

From: ___________________________ to ___________________________

From: ___________________________ to ___________________________ Reserve

Military Decorations: __________________________________________________________________________

Highest Rank or Grade: ___________________________ If deceased, place of burial ___________________________

Other: _______________________________________________________________________________________ [ ] Retired from military service

[ ] Photo taken in uniform enclosed, if available - no photocopier prints, please.

If registered by other than above, please indicate relationship to the veteran being registered: ___________________________

If you have memorable military experiences, please write on the back of this page. Your short autobiography will be appreciated.

[ ] date __________________ Signature: __________________

Please return entire form with a copy of DD Form 214 (or equivalent) and photo to the above address.

Thank you.


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

(rev 2016)
The Story of Taps
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Washington, DC 20420

The 24-note melancholy bugle call known as “taps” is thought to be a revision of a French bugle signal, called “tattoo,” that notified soldiers to cease an evening’s drinking and return to their garrisons. It was sounded an hour before the final bugle call to end the day by extinguishing fires and lights. The last five measures of the tattoo resemble taps.

The word “taps” is an alteration of the obsolete word “taptoo,” derived from the Dutch “taptoe.” Taptoe was the command — “Tap toe!” — to shut (“toe to”) the “tap” of a keg.

The revision that gave us present-day taps was made during America’s Civil War by Union Gen. Daniel Adams Butterfield, heading a brigade camped at Harrison Landing, Va., near Richmond. Up to that time, the U.S. Army’s infantry call to end the day was the French final call, “L’Extinction des feux.” Gen. Butterfield decided the “lights out” music was too formal to signal the day’s end. One day in July 1862 he recalled the tapto music and hummed a version of it to an aide, who wrote it down in music. Butterfield then asked the brigade bugler, Oliver W. Norton, to play the notes and, after listening, lengthened and shortened them while keeping his original melody.

He ordered Norton to play this new call at the end of each day thereafter, instead of the regulation call. The music was heard and appreciated by other brigades, who asked for copies and adopted this bugle call. It was even adopted by Confederate buglers.

This music was made the official Army bugle call after the war, but not given the name “taps” until 1874.

The first time taps was played at a military funeral may also have been in Virginia soon after Butterfield composed it. Union Capt. John Tidball, head of an artillery battery, ordered it played for the burial of a cannoneer killed in action. Not wanting to reveal the battery’s position in the woods to the enemy nearby, Tidball substituted taps for the traditional three rifle volleys fired over the grave. Taps was played at the funeral of Confederate Gen. Stonewall Jackson 10 months after it was composed. Army infantry regulations by 1891 required taps to be played at military funeral ceremonies.

Taps now is played by the military at burial and memorial services, to accompany the lowering of the flag and to signal the “lights out” command at day’s end.

TAPS
Signals that unauthorized lights are to be extinguished. This the last call of the day. The call is also sounded at the completion of a military funeral ceremony.

TAPS
Day is done.
Gone the sun.
From the lakes
From the hills.
From the sky.
All is well.
Safely rest.
God is nigh.

Fading light.
Dims the sight.
And a star.
Gleaming bright.
From afar.
Drawing nigh.
Falls the night.

Thanks and praise.
For our days,

Neath the sun
Neath the stars.
Neath the sky
As we go.
This we know.
God is night.

Donations are appreciated

Name: ___________________________________________ UAV Post ________

Address:___________________________________________________________

City:_________________________State:_________ZIP:____________________

Daytime phone:_____________ e-mail:_______________________________

Signature: __________________________

I am making a pledge of:

$______________

☐ UAV NM FUND
☐ UAV NM PERPETUAL FUND

Check # _______ amount of

$______________ enclosed

Please make your check payable to: UAV
OR VISIT
HTTP://WWW.UAVETS.ORG
TO DONATE ONLINE.

The Ukrainian American Veterans, Inc. is a 501 (c) 19 tax exempt entity EIN:23-2238720.
Your charitable contribution is tax deductible as allowed by law. Please mail to:
UAV National Monument PO BOX 172 Holmdel, NJ 07733-0172

UAV Tribune September 2016
WE WILL NEVER FORGET
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

THE NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11th
MEMORIAL & MUSEUM
is open at
180 Greenwich Street
New York, New York

For detailed information visit their Official
website  www.911memorial.org