



UAV TRIBUNE

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Ihor B. Rudko UAV NC

Dear Fellow Veterans,

As this year comes to conclusion, I would like to wish you all the blessings of Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ and a wish for health, wealth, and happiness in the New Year!

The UAV has just successfully completed its 72nd Convention. Approximately 45 delegates and officers were in

attendance. Delegates voted on numerous resolutions, most important of which were changes designed to build membership. As productive as this year was, we are challenging all of you to an even busier year. The following reflects new business placed before us:

Attendance at the Annual Ukrainian Veterans Forum - Ukrainian Ministry of Veterans Affairs has an open invitation to the UAV to attend this forum during each third week of August. We are to be provided topics for discussion and to solicit knowledgeable individuals to do the presentations. One of the topics foremost in my view for this coming year is PTSD and TBI.

UAV participation in Ukraine's 30th Independence in Kyiv in 2021 - A committee exploring the logistics is to be formed and anyone with experience or suggestions is welcomed to participate.

Yavoriv Christmas Cheer – It was suggested that we organize Christmas packages to the troops from the U.S. that are conducting training of Ukrainian soldiers. We did not have sufficient time to organize for this year, but with your help, this is doable for next year.

Marine Corps Marathon – The Marathon is held annually during the third week of October. It is suggested that we establish an annual go-fund-me drive to help defray the costs of bringing our wounded Ukrainian soldiers to Washington D.C. to participate.

Korean War Veterans – It was suggested that each Post survey their veteran's pool and identify living Korean War Veterans for receipt of recognition from the Korean Government. Information pertaining to the protocol for submission will be provided to each post that has an interest.

Convention Planning – Plans are in process to hold our next convention at Quantico Marine Corps Base. Further information to be provided as it becomes available. The convention for 2021 is tentatively to be held in Philadelphia, again, further information will be provided as details evolve. The convention for 2022, our 75th, is under discussion, with focus on holding the convention in South Bound Brook.

In addition to new business, we are still working with the Ukrainian Ministries of Defense and Veterans Affairs in providing a list of needed equipment. We have also engaged the Department of Defense in providing training to Ukrainian specialists in dealing with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury. We are continuing our efforts in resolving Ukraine's issue with allowing severely wounded Ukrainian soldiers to obtain medical treatment at U.S. Military medical facilities.

We have also not forgotten the needs of our aging veteran community, especially at this time of the year. Let's not forget their sacrifices and remember to show our gratitude before they become just a memory. God Bless our Heroes! You, all of those before us, and those that are currently serving are a reminder that freedom is not free, it comes at a high price.

God Bless America!

God Protect Ukraine!

Ihor Rudko

UAV National Commander





2019 Annual UAV National Convention Delegates and Guests

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 72ND ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

Story and photos submitted by Bohdan Dudycz, UAV Publications Officer

Our 72nd Annual Convention was held in New Haven, Connecticut on October 31 – November 2, 2019. This was a milestone convention where many topics were discussed, by-law changes were voted on and invited guest speakers presented us with valuable information.

By-Law changes:

1. Any person eligible for and desiring membership in the Ukrainian American Veterans, Inc. shall fill out and sign the UAV application form. The Post Commander to which application is made will retain a copy of the application in the post files and send the original application to the National Vice Commander. The National Organization is to provide all membership application forms (an example of the revised application form can be found on page 5 of this publication).
2. Veterans who have attained the age of 90 years old are exempt from payment of annual dues.
3. The Post Commander has the discretion to waive a member's annual dues if said member's ability to pay becomes impaired.
4. Each State Department Commander and each Post Commander, or their proxy shall be entitled to a vote at the National Convention.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 72ND ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

By-Law changes:

5. The official Class “A” uniform shall be: Veteran cap, white shirt with navy blue tie, gray trousers/skirts, solid black socks and black footwear navy blue blazer with brass buttons and UAV emblem on the lapel pocket, is the official uniform of the Ukrainian American Veterans, Inc.
6. One (1) to five (5) Members-at-Large present at the convention may elect one (1) delegate among themselves. Each additional five (5) Members-at-Large present at the convention can elect one (1) additional delegate among themselves.

More details will be available in the By-Laws on our web site in a few weeks.

PR/Publications:

1. We will be developing and distributing a tri-fold brochure to be unveiled in January. There will be a generic national brochure for all posts or a custom national/local brochure with information and photos targeted to activities held in specific post communities.
2. The official National Membership Roster will be maintained by our National Vice Commander. All membership deletions and additions will be directed to him.
3. Increased public awareness and community exposure was a major topic and some suggestions were raised by various delegates.
4. More activities and interactions with other organizations. i.e. Cym, Plast, UCCA, American Legion, local schools and/or churches.
5. More outdoor activities like Veterans Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day etc. where you pass out poppies, flags and brochures.
6. Sponsor family activities i.e. Little League football basketball, baseball teams or my favorite “Soccer Teams” – Ukrainian Soccer or American Soccer, either one works.
7. More American related activities. This will help us get a 501c(3) IRS designation which will help our fundraising.
8. Consider an organized drive making care packages for American troops stationed overseas. This is not a new idea, but it always pays dividends.
9. We should all strive to get celebrity endorsements, in writing, from everywhere. This helps in our publicity efforts.



Quartermaster holds “Special Sale”

I Save you \$\$\$!

**Look on page 23 in this
issue for more
UAV materials.**



(L/R) Collar/Lapel Pin, Tie Clip
\$7.00 each, includes shipping.
Buy now, Quantities are limited!



THE UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



I am a fellow veteran interested in becoming a member of the UAV.

I was honorably discharged.

I am still serving honorably.



PLEASE PRINT

BRANCH OF SERVICE

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

PHONE CELL

EMAIL ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

<input type="checkbox"/>	U.S. Army
<input type="checkbox"/>	U.S. Navy
<input type="checkbox"/>	U.S. Air Force
<input type="checkbox"/>	U.S. Marines
<input type="checkbox"/>	U.S. Coast Guard
<input type="checkbox"/>	U.S. National Guard
<input type="checkbox"/>	U.S. Reserves

I affirm that I have served honorably and have a DD214 showing an Honorable Discharge

My check for \$25.00 is enclosed (waived for 1st year)

Please return this application and payment to the selected Post Commander

DATES OF SERVICE

Select Post	Commander						
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Edward A. Zetick	740 Dale Rd.	Huntingdon Valley	PA	19006-8319	215-885-2826
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Michael Fedirko	207 Raritan Road	Linden	NJ	07036-4813	908-486-5543
<input type="checkbox"/>	14	Ihor B. Rudko	44 Jurach Road	Colchester	CT	06415-2106	860-705-1849
<input type="checkbox"/>	15	Emrick Prestash	32 Logan Street	New Britain	CT	06051-3434	860-677-9496
<input type="checkbox"/>	17	Walter M. Kovbasniuk	236 Bee Meadow Pkwy.	Whippany	NJ	07981-1322	973-884-3513
<input type="checkbox"/>	19	William Szozda	66 North William Street	Pearl River	NY	10965-1820	845-920-8325
<input type="checkbox"/>	23	Markian Slabyk	25 Stearns St	Lackawanna	NY	14218-2703	716-481-0543
<input type="checkbox"/>	24	Roman Rakowsky	1881 Jacqueline Dr.	Parma	OH	44134-6849	440-884-1673
<input type="checkbox"/>	25	Gregory Posewa	5 Aqua Terrace	Trenton	NJ	08620-9738	609-259-2763
<input type="checkbox"/>	27	Peter Polnyj	5855 Amboy Road	Staten Island	NY	10309-3110	718-869-3634
<input type="checkbox"/>	28	Roman Kostiuk	3966 April Drive	Uniontown	OH	44685-9358	330-896-4166
<input type="checkbox"/>	30	Anna Krawczuk	18 Telegraph Hill Road	Holmdel	NJ	07733-1431	732-888-0494
<input type="checkbox"/>	31	Stephen J. Kostecki	34 West Britannia St. #2	Taunton	MA	02780-1853	508-245-1890
<input type="checkbox"/>	32	Peter Bencak	2135 W. Potomac Ave.	Chicago	IL	60622-8270	773-489-2757
<input type="checkbox"/>	33	Carl Harvey	841 Alling Road	Orange	CT	06477-1352	203-389-6076
<input type="checkbox"/>	40	Ihor Hron	201 Osprey Point Drive	Osprey	FL	34229-9234	941-966-2845
<input type="checkbox"/>	42	Oleh Balaziuk	403 4th Street	West Easton	PA	18042-6115	610-258-9476
<input type="checkbox"/>	43	Michael J. Dobransky	17 Miriam Street	Johnson City	NY	13790-6658	607-729-0334
<input type="checkbox"/>	101	Matthew Wroblewski	25195 Pine View Ave.	Warren	MI	48091-1564	586-755-9575
<input type="checkbox"/>	301	Nicholas Skirka	109 Windsor Terrace	Yonkers	NY	10701-1512	914-965-3707

Any person of Ukrainian descent shall be eligible for membership in the Ukrainian American Veterans, Inc. if such person has served in the Armed Forces of the United States and has been honorably discharged.

Any person who is not of Ukrainian descent, but who meets other requirements of Section 1 and is married to a person of Ukrainian descent will be eligible for full membership in the Ukrainian American Veterans, Inc.

Any person who meets the eligibility for membership in the Ukrainian American Veterans, Inc. but who resides in a locality where there is no established Post may apply as a Member-at-Large. An application will be submitted to the National Executive Board for final approval. A Member-at-Large shall be entitled to all rights and privileges. Members-at-Large should join a member Post in their location. Individuals who want to join a local post should contact that post directly.



**Individuals wishing to become Members at Large should contact
Matthew Wroblewski, National Vice Commander,**



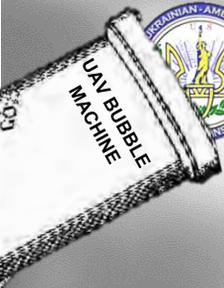
For more information please visit our web site at: <http://www.uavets.org>

Effective 11/15/2019

72nd National UAV Convention Banquet - November 2, 2019



2 WILD AND CRAZY GUYS



72nd National UAV Convention Banquet - November 2, 2019



SOMETHING YOU NEVER HEAR ABOUT D-DAY.

Submitted by: Ihor Dragonchuk, Post 32

Brigadier General, Theodore Roosevelt Jr. the son of President “Teddy” Roosevelt, was the oldest man to hit the beach on the D-day invasion. He was also the highest ranking person to directly participate in the beach landing invasion. He was supposed to be with the other command staff in England. Gen. Roosevelt knew the importance of the mission, he knew much of the invasion force were new, untried soldiers who had never seen combat. His requests to join his men were repeatedly denied, but he persisted, even when his superiors told him he faced near certain death.

Knowing that the chances of this plan succeeding were very minute, the Commander of the Allied Forces, General Eisenhower wrote Roosevelt’s eulogy before the invasion. Roosevelt felt his presence would inspire confidence in the invasion plan.

On the morning of the attack, as he requested, Gen. Roosevelt was in one of the lead landing craft. He led his men across the beach to a rally point under heavy fire. Being pinned down, it appeared they were going to be wiped out until Roosevelt took charge and led a move over the sea wall.

At that time, he realized other troops were trapped back on the beach, and cut off. He returned to the beach and led these men to join the attacking force. He repeated this action several times, under heavy fire and for these actions, he received the Congressional Medal of Honor. The official citation is below:

“For gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty on 6 June 1944, in France. After 2 verbal requests to accompany the leading assault elements in the Normandy invasion had been denied, Brig. Gen. Roosevelt's written request for this mission was approved and he landed with the first wave of the forces assaulting the enemy-held beaches. He repeatedly led groups from the beach, over the seawall and established them inland. His valor, courage, and presence in the very front of the attack and his complete unconcern at being under heavy fire inspired the troops to heights of enthusiasm and self-sacrifice. Although the enemy had the beach under constant direct fire, Brig. Gen. Roosevelt moved from one locality to another, rallying men around him, directed and personally led them against the enemy. Under his seasoned, precise, calm, and unfaltering leadership, assault troops reduced beach strong points and rapidly moved inland with minimum casualties. He thus contributed substantially to the successful establishment of the beachhead in France.”

What the citation does not say, is that Gen. Roosevelt was a combat veteran of WWI, where he was disabled by being shot through the knee. He required a cane to walk due to his injury. Gen. Roosevelt was 56 years old at the time of the invasion. He literally stormed the beach at Normandy with a cane in one hand and a pistol in the other!

When the beach was secured, later that day, command staff began to arrive. They were met on the beach by Gen. Roosevelt who gave a full report on the invasion operation.

Six days later, Roosevelt died of a heart attack. He is buried in France. He has been called “the toughest man on the longest day.”

“INFORMATION NUGGET”

HOW KREMLIN FALSIFIES HISTORY OF KYIVAN RUS TO UNDERMINE UKRAINE

Submitted By: Michael J. Dobransky, Commander Post 43

3 minutes of history to correct Russian propaganda about the origins of the Ukrainian people.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=cB4n-fFKxt0

MICHAEL STRANK – A PROFILE OF A UKRAINIAN-AMERICAN HERO

Story submitted by: Myroslav Dobroshynskyi

Photo: The U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery

By visiting Grave 7179, Section 12, in Arlington National Cemetery, one can find the headstone of Michael Strank, a United States Marine Corps Sergeant who served and was killed in World War II. Strank, a son of Ukrainian immigrants, is remembered as more than just a soldier, however. A short walk away from where he is buried, the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial depicts him as one of six men who iconically raised the American flag at the top of a rugged mountain on Iwo Jima, on February 23rd, 1945.



Only eight days after raising the flag, Strank was killed by artillery fire while attacking the northern part of Iwo Jima. Aged 25 at the time of his death, Strank was still the eldest and the highest ranking of the six flag-raisers.

Michael was born on November 10, 1919 in the village of Oriabyna, Czechoslovakia (modern-day northern Slovakia) into a Lemko Ukrainian family. Shortly after his birth, his family immigrated to southwestern Pennsylvania, where his father worked as a coal miner.

In 1939, two years after graduating high school, Strank enlisted in the Marine Corps. In 1942, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and deployed to Wallis Island in the Pacific, later participating in occupations of French Polynesian territories and the Bougainville Campaign.

On February 19th, 1945, Strank led his division as they landed on the Japanese island of Iwo Jima. This marked the start of the Battle of Iwo Jima, one of the deadliest battles fought by the U.S. Marine Corps in World War II, with more than 25,000 American casualties, including 6,821 deaths.

Strank's division participated in the seizure of Mount Suribachi on the southwestern corner of the island, after which LCT Chandler Johnson ordered Strank and his squad to place a large U.S. flag on top of the mountain.

As the men were making their way up the steep mountain with a heavy iron pipe that weighed close to 100 pounds, Strank carried the American flag in his hands. It was then that civilian war photographer Joe Rosenthal noticed them, later taking the pictured iconic photo Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima.

Strank has been honored as a local hero in both Slovakia and Ukraine. In Slovakia, he was recognized through a stamp series, while in Ukraine, he is honored with a statuette in the Carpathian city of Uzhhorod, as well as by a short film from the Ministry of Defense as part of a series on Ukrainian war heroes.

Strank was described by those who served with him as a "Marine's Marine", a warrior who led his men by example. According to the New York Times bestselling book *Flags of Our Fathers*, Strank told his squad, "Follow me and I'll try to bring all of you safely back to your mothers. Listen to me, and follow my orders, and I'll do my best to bring you home."

From the Halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli...

POST 40, NORTH PORT, FLORIDA CELEBRATES TWO DECADES OF SERVICE

Story and Photos submitted by: Bohdan P. Hirniak, Post 40 PR

This autumn UAV Corporal Roman G. Lazor Post 40 of North Port, Florida celebrated the 20th anniversary of its founding. The establishment and certification of this post was on November 7, 2019 where it was honored with the presentation of a Proclamation by the City of the North Port Council commemorating that event. The Proclamation was read by the City Mayor at a Council meeting and was attended by a squad of uniformed Post 40 members. The City Council proclaimed November 16, 2019 as "Ukrainian American Veterans Day".

On November 16th, Post 40 celebrated its 20th anniversary with a dinner dance that allowed for greater public participation. Held at the Herron Creek Country Club in North Port, the dinner dance was a great success and was attended by approximately 150 members, their spouses, clergy, members of the Ukrainian Armed Forces stationed at MacDill AFB, Tampa FL, and other guests. The guest of honor, and main speaker, was UAV's National Commander Ihor Rudko.

Appropriate opening ceremonies took place under the direction of Post Commander Ihor Hron. This included an honor guard and the posting of colors. All attendees participated by singing American and Ukrainian hymns. The invocation and blessing was presented by Post 40's own Rev. Roman Badiak, a Post 40 member of many years. Commander Ihor Hron and National Chaplain Marian Bojsiuk read a solemn "In Memoriam" to salute all members who have passed.

During the dinner the audience heard from two speakers. The first was Col. Zolotar of the Ukrainian Armed Forces who gave an update on where and how the situation in Ukraine presents itself. He was optimistic in his assessment of Ukraine's eventual victory over the Russian invaders and he offered thanks on behalf of his fellow combatants to all of those in the diaspora who help this cause.

As mentioned previously, the main speaker was National Commander Ihor Rudko. Commander Rudko spoke passionately and forcefully on the need for us in the United States to make sure that all wounded combatants of the Ukrainian Armed Forces get the best available treatment that the United States is willing and ready to provide. There have been too many cases where wounded soldiers were not provided with available care. Commander Rudko's presentation was very well received.

The formalities were concluded, a delicious dinner was enjoyed and the musicians tuned their instruments. The dancing portion of our evening began with live Ukrainian 'zabava' music provided by the Syzonenko Brothers, a talented and entertaining local group. The dance lasted late into the night where one could hear friends wishing each other a "Happy Holiday" season and delightful anticipation for the next celebration.

Photos on opposite page left column:

1. Commander Ihor Hron, Emcee for the evening
2. Commander Hron & Chaplain Marian Bojsiuk
3. Color Guard
4. Commander Hron & Rev. Roman Badiak
5. Nat'l Commander Ihor Rudko & Commander Hron
6. Post 40 Staff with members
7. National Commander Ihor Rudko, featured speaker
8. Col. Zolotar of the Ukrainian Armed Forces
9. Commander Hron & Col. Zolotar

Photos on opposite page right column:

1. Commander Ihor Hron
2. Commander Hron & Award recipients
3. Commander Hron & Award recipient
4. Commander Hron & Award recipients
5. Commander Hron awards commemorative UAV coins
6. Nat'l Commander Ihor Rudko & Commander Hron
7. Banquet Guests enjoying the festivities
8. Lively Florida Revelers
9. Syzonenko Brothers Band



UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS

Corporal Roman G. Lazor
Post 40 of North Port, Florida
Celebrating a landmark event



HEROES WE REMEMBER...

Submitted by: Michael P. Hrycak, UAV National Judge Advocate



Major Myron Diduryk 1938-70

Ukrainian American Veterans' Contributions to America's Wars

I have just graduated this Summer from Army Reserve Officer Training Corps' Advanced Camp at Fort Knox, Kentucky. During my senior year at college as I prepare for my commissioning in the United States Army at graduation next year, I am in awe of Ukrainian American Veterans' contribution to America's Wars in from its inception during the American Revolution, through to the War in Iraq, where my father, LTC (Ret.) Michael P. Hrycak, and his generation served.

Many Ukrainian Americans have served in the United States Armed Forces, but an outstanding example of the contribution to the War in Vietnam, which stopped the global expansion of communism in the Far East, is Major Myron Diduryk, who served in the United States Army from his commissioning in 1960 through his death by a sniper round in Vietnam in 1970.

Myron Diduryk was born in Muzhyliv, Ukraine, on July 15, 1938, and immigrated to the United States with his parents, Andrij and Isabella Newiacheny, in 1950. He attended Saint Peter's Preparatory School, followed by St. Peter's College in Jersey City, graduating in 1960 with a bachelor's degree in Physics, and commissioning as a second lieutenant in the United States Army. His life was typical of the Ukrainian Diaspora: he attended Plast, Ukrainian Boy Scouting, in Jersey City, and later as a "Starshiy Plastun" joined the Siromantsi Plast fraternity, as well as Ukrainian school. As a student, he worked during the summer at Soyuzivka, in Kerhonkson, New York, a gathering place for the Ukrainian Diaspora. 2LT Myron Diduryk served initially as a Platoon Leader in Europe, and deployed to Vietnam in 1965, as B Company Commander, of the 2nd Battalion 7th Cavalry Regiment (2/7 Cavalry) of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). It was toward the end of the day on November 14, 1965, that Captain Diduryk, with his 120 soldiers, arrived as a reinforcing company for Lieutenant Colonel Hal Moore's 1st Battalion 7th Cavalry Regiment, after the Battle of Ia Drang Valley had initiated earlier that day at Landing Zone X-Ray. Lieutenant Colonel Hal Moore's 1/7 Cavalry had been sent to the East of the Chu Prong (Prong Mountain) of the Central Highlands by his 3rd Brigade Commander, Colonel Thomas Brown, to find two suspected North Vietnamese Army (NVA) regiments that had attempted to seize a Special Forces' camp at the Montagnard village of Plei Me. The 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) was a unit of the United States Army that had been reorganized and equipped to fly their soldiers into battle utilizing helicopters. The Battle of Ia Drang Valley was the first major tactical employment testing this concept.

On the morning of November 14, 1965, LTC Moore had airlifted his battalion, as much as the helicopters could carry at a time, and was shaping the battle. By the afternoon he was fully engaged and had requested reinforcements, which CPT Diduryk's B Company 2/7 Regiment comprised. CPT Diduryk also had an exemplary Platoon Leader, Second Lieutenant Rick Rescorla, who had previously served in the British Army and had volunteered to serve in the Vietnam War. When the fighting became more intense the next day, LTC Moore shifted CPT Diduryk's B Company into reserve, and later committed them to reinforcing C Company.

CPT Diduryk immediately had his soldiers dig foxholes, establish interweaving fields of fire, and then during the night he and 2LT Rescorla visited their positions and ordered them to fix bayonets.

Continued on page 15

OHIO POST 24 ACTIVITIES



(L/R) Wasyl Liscynesky, Michael Kazymyriw,, Roman Rakowsky PNC, Bohdan Samokyszyn, Jerry Shutovich.



(L/R) Jerry Shutovich, Bohdan Samokyszyn,, Michael Kazymyriw , Roman Rakowsky PNC.



(L/R) Olena Ferguson, Roman Rakowsky PNC, Bohdan Samokyszyn PC, Nick Bartkiw, Russ Kmiotek, Jerry Shutovich..



(L/R) Bohdan Samokyszyn, Michael Kazymyriw, Mayor DeGeter, Roman Rakowsky PNC , Nick Bartkiw, Counsel rep, Nestor Kostryk, Chaplain Rev. Nakonachny.



(L/R) Post 24 members Nick Bartkiw, Roman Rakowsky, Michael Kazymyriw, Jerry Shutovich & Nester Kostryk.

OHIO POST 24 ACTIVITIES

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IM. PAST POST CMDR.
HISTORIAN
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 PARMA, OH 44134
 440-843-9943
 bohdan48@cox.net



6



7

Post 24 members inspecting WW II materials.



8

(L/R) J. Shutovich, M. Kazymyriw & N. Bartkiw.



9

(L/R) R. Rakowsky, J. Shutovich, B. Samokyszyn & N. Bartkiw.



10

Post 24 Members Michael Kazamyriv & Bohdan Samokyszyn



11

(L/R) B. Samokyszyn & J. Shutovich.

Continued on Page 15

Heroes We Remember... (continued from Page 12)

The next morning, November 16, 2019, Diduryk and Rescorla fought off three regimental attacks, outnumbered over eight to one, and didn't lose a Soldier but inflicted heavy NVA casualties. CPT Diduryk worked with LTC Moore and his Forward Observer to repeatedly illuminate and then attack with artillery and Close Air Support (CAS) all the attacking NVA formations. As later Lieutenant General Hal Moore and Joseph Galloway recounted in their memoir, *We Were Soldiers Once, and Young*, "The Ukrainian Diduryk and the Englishman Rescorla," write the authors, "were destined, over the next 72 hours to become battlefield legends in the 7th Calvary - as much for their style as for their fearless leadership under fire." LTC Moore called Diduryk the "Mad Kozak" and Rescorla the finest Platoon Leader he had ever served with, including himself in the Korean War.

This is just one example of the quality of Ukrainian Americans that have served our great Nation, maintaining our freedom. Ukrainian American Veterans' Post 30, including founder Jurij Jacus, who was a friend and fellow Plast Siromantsi member, chose Major Myron Diduryk as their patron.

Written by Cadet Brandon P. Hrycak, University of California-Irvine, Class of 2020, November 8, 2019.

Ohio Post 24 Activities (continued from page 14)

Photos on pages 13 & 14:

1. Commemoration of the Holodomor at the Pamyatnyk at St. Vladimirs Orthodox Cathedral.
2. Panakhyda for Victims of the Holodomor at St. Vladimirs Orthodox Cathedral.
3. Annual placing of American flags at the grave sites in St. Andrews Ukrainian Catholic cemetery. Afterwards the group met at the CO's house for pizza & beverages.
4. Parma Veterans Memorial Park, Veterans Day Ceremony.
5. Post 24 members visited the Soldiers & Sailors monument in downtown Cleveland. It was dedicated to Civil War dead from Cuyahoga County. Ohio had the third largest participants in that conflict following New York and Pennsylvania.
6. & 7. Post 24 members observe the WW II re-enactment of the 75th anniversary of the Normandy beach landing at Conneaut, Ohio on August 16-17, 2019 inspect an authentic WW II German Jeep.
8. Post 24 members attach the Ukrainian flag to one of the 2 flagpoles donated by their post to their local CYM. An American flag was also donated.
9. visit the Vietnam Moving Wall in Parma, OH on June 28,2019.
10. Poppy Day Sales at St. Andrews Church on May 1, 2019.
11. Post 24 march in the Polish League of American Veterans in their Independence Day Parade on May 5, 2019 in Parma, Ohio.

Further notes: 1. Roman Rakowsky was elected the new Post Commander, All the best to retired Commander Bohdan Samokyszyn. RIP to Nick Pascar (March, 2019) and John Zwarycz (April, 2019). Post 24 sponsored a hole in the Ukrainian American Golf Outing in Parma, Ohio. 1. In May, 2019 Flags were placed on Veterans graves in 5 cemeteries, sold Poppies at 3 Ukrainian churches attended mass at St. Josephat Cathedral and attended Memorial Day services at St. Andrews Cemetery.

A Vietnam Memorial Monument was dedicated by the American Legion Post 703 at the Parma Veterans Park on November 5, 2019. Emotive speeches were given by the mayors of Parma and Parma Hts. This monument listed all of the local citizens who died in the Vietnam conflict. During the Veterans Day program, our chaplain Rev. John Nakonachny gave the invocation and referenced the attending veterans. After a hand salute, the event ended with the mournful resonances of Taps echoing into the distance.

MICHAEL KOS

1940 - 2019

Born in 1940 in Lviv, Ukraine. Arrived in the USA in 1955. Graduated with a Law Degree from University of Illinois. Enlisted in the US Army in 1960's and, in active & reserves, served for 30 years and achieved rank of Colonel. Married to Darka for 52 years with 2 sons Michael & Mark. Elected to the Board of Directors of Selfreliance Federal Credit Union and served as the Chairman of the Board since 1996. He was active in many community organizations and was a member and vigorous supporter of the UAV. Michael Kos was a fearless activist who stood as a champion for worthy causes in both the United States and Ukraine.

He always said that he had four achievements in his life that he was proudest of:

1. Becoming a citizen of the United States
2. Marrying the love of his life, Darka
3. Belonging to the US Army and gaining the rank of Colonel
4. Being a member of the Ukrainian American Veterans

Michael was genuine to a fault. He was a true warrior with a stern manner and a soft heart. He was respected for his integrity and straightforwardness. We salute you and bid you farewell.

Photo: (L/R) Bohdan Watral, Retired CEO, Selfreliance Federal Credit Union, Michael Kos, Chairman BOD, Selfreliance Federal Credit Union, Ihor Rudko, National Commander, Ukrainian American Veterans.



THE "REVIVED SOLDIERS UKRAINE" FUNDRAISER

Presented by Charitable Concert which was held in Yonkers, New York at St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic. This event took place in conjunction with the Ukrainian Independence Day celebration. After church, Post 301 and the American Legion members took part in the flag raising ceremony.

The left photo: (L/R) Commander Nicholas Skirka Post 301, Peter Olijarczyk, and Dennis Wasiczko representing The American Legion.

The center photo: Yonkers representatives, Ukrainian Consulate representative, and Yonkers elected officials. After the ceremony, there was lunch and a concert to raise money for wounded Ukrainian soldiers.

The right photo: Oksana Mukha performed and her delegation raised a lot of money. The charitable donations help to cover medical expenses for the Ukrainian wounded soldiers.

There were approximately three hundred people who enjoyed the concert, lunch, auction, and they donated generously for a worthwhile cause. Post 301 had their own table that included family members. The event was well received and we all appreciated that Myxa and her group members remember and support veterans.



Above photo (L/R) Mr. Roger Wolfen, Mr. Walter Michajliw, Gen. Leonid Kondrachuk, IPNC. Placing a new wreath on the sign honoring Nikolaus Zozula, a UAV member killed in action. The sign overlooks the square that is dedicated to the memory of veteran Nikolaus Zozula.



UAV POSTING OF COLORS AT THE 2019 UKRAINIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL AT SOYUZIVKA, NY



COLOR GUARD MEMBERS

UAV National Commander -	Ihor Rudko (Hartford, CT - P 14
NYS Commander -	Peter Polny (Brooklyn, NY - P 27
NYS Vice-Commander -	Roman Makuch (Brooklyn, NY - P 27
NYS Adjutant -	Ivan Makuch (Brooklyn, NY - Post 27
UAV Judge Advocate & NJS Commander -	Michael Hrycak (Newark, NJ - Post 6
Post 6 - Newark, NJ -	Marta Biskup, Jared Hrycak
Post 17 - Passaic, NJ -	Walter Kovbasniuk (Post Commander)
Post 19 - Spring Valley, NY -	Wasył Szozda, (Post Commander) Nick Jakowiw
Post 23 - Buffalo, NY -	Markian Slabyk (Post Commander)
Post 31 - Boston, MA -	Dennis Iworsky
Vendors -	Stephen Kostecki, (Post Commander) Boston, MA - P31 Michael Hotz

The UNA and the Ukrainian Cultural Festival Committee have once again invited the Ukrainian American Veterans (UAV) to post Colors for the opening of this 13th annual event at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center in Kerhonkson, NY. As the UAV Color Guard marched with the Colors of the US, Ukrainian, Canadian and UAV National Flags, emcees Bogdan Tabaka and Larysa Bajus read the names of the members of the Color Guard. As the Colors were raised the Ukrainian, Canadian and American Anthems were sung by Swiatoslawa Kaczraj, soloist with the Dumka Chorus of NY. The emcees asked all to honor the Ukrainian Soldiers fighting for the freedom of Ukraine against Russian tyranny. Colors were raised once again in their honor and a round of applause was given to these brave Ukrainian Heroes.



(L) Roman Fontana and Jerry Kndrachuk “Colors team” at 11/11/19 Arlington National Cemetery .



Post 301 from Yonkers, NY participated in the Veterans Day Ceremony at City Hall. The members who were present from left to right are Raymond Wasiczko, Nicholas Skirka, Peter Olijarczyk, and Maksym Makarczuk. The weather was great, good turnout, and good speeches.

Corrections and clarifications:

A story on “Ukrainian American women in military service of America”, printed on page 11 of the December 2019 edition, was erroneously truncated. The conclusion of this article is printed below.

Fortunately, we also have histories of Ukrainian American servicewomen from WW II to the present time. U.S. Military who now have equal rights and equal ranks to men. This comes with equal dangers and sacrifices, especially during wartime. Ukrainian American women are strong and brave, and they still volunteer as they have done so many years ago, secretly at first and later openly. They are great warriors.

On this Memorial Day let’s remember all those who served and made the ultimate sacrifice on the battlefields. Let’s also remember all those who gallantly served and just “faded away” later. They all deserve our thanks for their service!

Author’s postscript: If you are a veteran or know of any other Ukrainian American women who have served in the US Armed Forces, please contact me at uav.registration@veteran.net.

The Tribune regrets the error.

VIETNAM: A PERSONAL RECKONING

Submitted by: Commander Peter Polnyj, Post 27



The U.S. Navy performed a wide array of missions in the Vietnam War. In the air, it was a key partner with the U.S. Air Force during the Rolling Thunder and Linebacker air campaigns against North Vietnam, and in other air operations in Laos and Cambodia. On the coast, it developed a highly effective blockade to prevent the resupply of enemy forces by sea, engaged in naval gunfire support missions against enemy targets in the littoral areas of Vietnam, and provided amphibious transport for Marines operating in I Corps. On the rivers, it stood up several task forces designed to protect commercial traffic, assist allied ground forces in pacifying these areas, and interdict enemy troops and supplies moving on these inland waterways. The U.S. Navy also supported the war effort with a massive sea and riverine logistics operation, built and managed shore facilities throughout South Vietnam, and provided extensive medical support for the allied military operation.

U.S. Navy advisors first arrived in South Vietnam in the fall of 1950, and by 1969 numbered 564. These advisors assisted the Republic of Vietnam in developing the Vietnam Navy (VNN) that grew from 5,000 sailors and 122 vessels in 1959 to over 42,000 men and 1,500 vessels in 1972, making it the fifth largest navy in the world. Naval advisors worked throughout the war to train this indigenous navy, and experienced many hardships and much danger serving on VNN ships and craft.

The U.S. response to the North Vietnamese attack on USS Maddox (DD 731) in the Gulf of Tonkin in August 1964 marked the beginning of the Navy's air and surface bombardment against North Vietnam. During the course of the war, Seventh Fleet aircraft carriers supported allied air campaigns by bombing fuel and supply facilities, power plants, bridges, and railroads in Laos and North Vietnam, and after 1970, in Cambodia. Navy surface vessels steamed up and down the coasts of both North and South Vietnam, raining down shells on a variety of targets. Rolling Thunder air and naval gunfire attacks, however, did not prove decisive. The 1965–68 interdiction campaign neither resulted in a peace treaty nor altered significantly the ground situation in the South. Linebacker attacks in 1972, by comparison, were more effective, especially in blunting the Communist Easter Offensive. During Linebacker I, the Navy flew an average of 4,000 sorties a month, which represented 60 percent of the air effort; Navy surface ships fired over 111,000 rounds at targets on the North Vietnamese coast. Navy aircraft also closed North Vietnam's major ports in a highly successful mining operation, code-named Pocket Money.

In December 1972, peace negotiations with North Vietnam stalled, compelling President Nixon to resume the air offensive. Linebacker II was a maximum effort air campaign, focusing heavily on strategic military targets in Hanoi and Haiphong. Air Force B-52s performed the brunt of the bombing missions during the operation, but Navy aircraft played a vital role in air defense suppression missions and also reseeded North Vietnam's major ports with mines. The discovery of a 100-ton enemy trawler in Vung Ro Bay in February 1965 led to the establishment of a U.S. Navy and Coast Guard patrol force to complement the existing VNN anti-infiltration program along the 1,200-mile coast of South Vietnam. The purpose of this deployment, which became Operation Market Time (Task Force 115), was to halt the seaborne infiltration of supplies to Communist troops. Market Time represented the Navy's most successful interdiction program during the war, all but eliminating infiltration by North Vietnamese steel-hulled freighters and significantly reducing North Vietnamese resupply by sea.

(continued on the following page)

VIETNAM: A PERSONAL RECKONING (continued)

In December 1965, the U.S. Navy initiated Operation Game Warden (more on this and other operations to follow) to patrol the major rivers and canals in the Mekong Delta and Rung Sat Special Zone. Consisting of a fleet of 31-foot patrol boats augmented by attack helicopters and SEAL units, this naval inshore force (Task Force 116) imposed a curfew in the region, interdicted enemy troop and supply movements, curbed Communist taxation of peasants, and hindered large-scale Viet Cong operations. Minesweeping forces and harbor defense units kept the vital waterways to Saigon and Hue and South Vietnam's major ports open for allied use. In performing these varied functions, Game Warden helped secure the major rivers in the area for commerce and extended government control to the "breadbasket" of South Vietnam, home to over six million people.

The Mobile Riverine Force was a joint Army-Navy river assault force designed to search out and destroy Viet Cong units operating in the Mekong Delta. In 1967, elements of the U.S. Army's 9th Infantry Division operating from a flotilla of armored Navy riverine craft (Task Force 117) launched a series of daring amphibious assaults in the region, achieving a 15 to 1 kill ratio against the Viet Cong. During the Tet Offensive, the Mobile Riverine Force, assisted by Task Force 116, saved the Mekong Delta by helping South Vietnamese troops defeat Viet Cong attacks on provincial capitals and other major towns in the Delta. Other riverine units based in I Corps (Task Force Clearwater) proved instrumental in keeping the Perfume and Cua Viet rivers open for supply traffic during the Tet Offensive.

Southeast Asia Lake, Ocean, River, and Delta Strategy (SEALORDS) combined elements of Task Forces 115, 116, and 117 with the VNN to halt the infiltration of enemy troops and supplies into South Vietnam from Cambodia. Beginning in late 1968, riverine forces established new patrol barriers near the border of Cambodia and established a military and South Vietnamese government presence deep in the heart of the Mekong Delta. This campaign reduced overall Viet Cong activity in the Mekong Delta and deterred the enemy from launching a major offensive in the area during the 1972 Easter Offensive.

The merchant ships of the Military Sea Transportation Service delivered 95 percent of the military equipment and supplies consumed by allied forces in Vietnam. Navy Seabee construction units built enormous support bases at Danang and Saigon to supply all Navy and Marine Corps forces in the field as well as some Air Force and Army units. Naval Support Activity Sailors administered these logistical hubs and operated a fleet of supply craft and barges that plied the waters of the Mekong Delta and beyond. The Navy also operated two hospitals at Danang and Saigon and two hospital ships, Sanctuary (AH 17) and Repose (AH 16), staffed by Navy doctors, corpsmen, and 425 female members of the Nurse Corps.

Amphibious readiness was a unique capability shared by the Navy and Marine Corps team in Vietnam. The Marine Corps took advantage of the fleet's amphibious assault ships to launch large and small assaults along the coast of South Vietnam. In Operation Starlight of August 1965, U.S. and South Vietnamese units wiped out the 1st Viet Cong Regiment. Subsequently, Viet Cong units generally shied away from combat with amphibious forces, ceding control of much of the coastline to allied forces. The naval command also utilized the amphibious forces as a floating reserve that could rapidly transport reinforcements to any hot spot on the coast. This was especially valuable during several set-piece battles near the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) during the period of 1967-68.

A total of 1.842 million Sailors served in Southeast Asia. The Navy provided the allied effort with many unique capabilities, the most significant being the projection of U.S. combat power ashore and control of the seas to support a land war in Asia far from the United States. Overall, the Navy suffered the loss of 1,631 men killed and 4,178 wounded during the course of the war.

For many Americans, the enduring memory of the Vietnam War is of the protests that defined a generation and shattered the illusion of America's purity on the world stage. But for the 3 million men and women who served in Southeast Asia in the 1960s and early 1970s, the memories are more visceral: the fog of combat, the stench of death, the sting of returning to a seemingly ungrateful nation.

Daily Hampshire Gazette, April 25, 2017



"...to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan... "

- Abraham Lincoln -

VA BENEFITS FOR SURVIVORS

VA Pamphlet 21-03-1, July 20/10

BURIAL

Reimbursement of Burial Expenses A burial allowance may be paid to help offset expenses of the Veteran's funeral and burial. The allowance is payable for Veterans who:

- died of a service-connected disability, or
- were in receipt of compensation or pension, or retired pay in lieu thereof, or
- died in a VA facility.

Plot Allowance - If not buried in a national cemetery, a plot allowance may be payable for Veterans who:

- were discharged for disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, or
- were in receipt of compensation or pension, or retired pay in lieu thereof, or
- died in a VA facility.

National Cemetery - Most Veterans, their spouses, and dependent children are eligible for burial in one of VA's national cemeteries at no cost to the family. Many states have Veterans cemeteries, built with VA grants, with similar benefits.

Headstone or Marker - VA provides a headstone or marker for Veterans buried in any cemetery worldwide.

Flag - An American flag is provided to drape the casket or accompany the urn of an eligible Veteran. The flag is presented to the Veteran's next of kin upon burial.

Presidential Memorial Certificates - Family and loved ones may request these personalized certificates.

DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION (DIC)

DIC is a monthly benefit paid to unmarried surviving spouses and dependent children of Servicemembers who die during active military service, or Veterans who:

- die after military service because of a service connected disability, or
- were receiving or entitled to receive VA compensation for a service-connected disability that was rated as totally disabling:
 - a. for 10 years immediately preceding death, or
 - b. since the veteran's release from active duty and for five years immediately preceding death
 - c. or for one year immediately preceding death if the veteran was a former prisoner of war

*See Restoration of Entitlement

PARENTS' DIC

This benefit is paid to parents of Veterans who die in service or as a result of a service-connected disability. There are qualifying income limits, and the amount payable varies based on the parents' other income.

DEATH PENSION

Death pension is a monthly benefit paid to unmarried surviving spouses and dependent children of wartime Veterans whose death is not due to a service-connected disability. There are qualifying income limits, and the amount payable varies based on the amount of other income.

AID AND ATTENDANCE/HOUSEBOUND

Aid and attendance is -paid to DIC and pension recipients who require regular assistance in eating, bathing, dressing, or taking care of the needs of nature. Individuals who are blind, a patient in a nursing home, or receiving care in an assisted living facility are included.

Housebound is paid to DIC and pension recipients who are permanently housebound (or confined to a ward or clinical area) because of disability.

EDUCATION PROGRAM REFUND

Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) - If the Veteran died while on active duty, or within one year of separation or discharge due to a service-connected disability, the beneficiary of the Veteran's SGLI or VGLI policy is eligible for a refund of the Veteran's MGIB military pay reductions which were not paid to the Veteran in benefits.

Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) - A Veteran's designated survivor is eligible to be refunded the Veteran's VEAP contributions that were not paid to the Veteran in benefits.

RELATED BENEFITS CIVIL SERVICE PREFERENCE

The unmarried surviving spouse of certain deceased Veterans (for example, wartime Veterans) may qualify for hiring preference within the Federal government. The mother of a Veteran who died during military service is also eligible, VA provides an eligibility certification upon request.

COMMISSARY AND EXCHANGE PRIVILEGES

The Armed Forces provide commissary and exchange privileges to the unmarried surviving spouses of

- servicemembers who die on active duty
- military retirees
- Veterans whose service-connected disability was rated 100-percent or totally disabling at time of death, VA provides an eligibility certification upon request.

CONTACT VA

Toll-Free Telephone Assistance

For more information about specific benefits, visit the nearest VA regional office or call

(800) 827-1000

Other VA Toll-Free Numbers

CHAMPVA	(800) 733-8387
Education & Training	(888) 442-4551
Home Loan Eligibility - VA Life Insurance	(888) 244-6711
Office of Servicemembers'	(800) 669-8477
Group Life Insurance (SGLINGLI) - Direct Deposit	(800) 419-1473
Headstones/Markers - (status of claims only)	(877) 838-2778
Telecommunications	(800) 697-6947
Device for the Deaf (TOO)	(800) 829-4833

INTERNET

Information about the wide range of VA benefits and services, including benefit rates, is available at

www.va.gov

Survivors. For information specific to survivors, select "Benefits," then "Survivors' Benefits,"

Inquiries. A "Contact VA" link is available for e-mail inquiries.

This information about “VA Benefits for Survivors” was presented to the Delegates of the 72nd National UAV Convention. It is a synopsis of some of the benefits available to veterans. For more information please call one of the above listed telephone numbers or contact your Post Adjutant.



UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS, INC.

UAV NATIONAL REGISTRY

PO Box 172

Holmdel, NJ 07733-0172

uav.registration@verizon.net

www.uavets.org Official



OFFICIAL UAV NATIONAL REGISTRY 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: _____

Birthdate: / / / / Place of Birth _____ If Deceased / / / /
month day year 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? [] myself [] ancestor (indicate year)

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 USCG WWII-USMM WWII-AAF

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

From: _____ to _____

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 in uniform to the above address. Thank you.

You do not have to be a member of the Ukrainian American Veterans to register (revised 2019)

QUARTERMASTER STORE



National Quartermaster Stephen Kostecki

All UAV memorabilia is available through our National Quartermaster Stephen Kostecki. To get a shipping quote or to order an item please contact:

Stephen Kostecki at 508-245-1890
Or email: skostecki108@comcast.net

The Cover and flag patch are uniform requirements and the remaining items are great as gifts for friends or family. Please add Shipping and Handling to each order unless specified.



UAV Post Cover—\$48.00
 Include size when ordering



Solid Blue UAV Necktie
 \$7.00 each



American flag and UAV arm Patch for Summer wear. Sold as a set - \$14.00



2 Flags Pin
 \$3.00 each



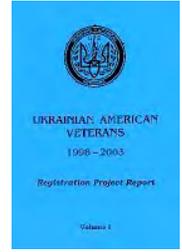
UAV Monument Coin \$10.00



UAV Monument Coin in case - \$30.00



UAV Registry Project 1998-2003 \$3.00



UAV Baseball Cap with the UAV emblem
 \$16.00 (One size fits all)



UAV Pocket Notebook With the UAV emblem
 \$3.00 each

Desktop replica of our Ukrainian American Veterans National Monument



Navy blue UAV Golf Shirt with the UAV emblem - \$35.00
 Include size when ordering



Jacket Emblem to be worn on the breast pocket - \$22.00



Tie or Jacket Pin \$5.00

LARGE: 11 1/4" x 7 1/4" for \$45.00
SMALL: 7 1/2" x 5 1/2" for \$35.00



UAV Tribune



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**WE WANT YOU
FOR THE UAV**

Merry Christmas - Happy New Year



З РІЗДВОМ ХРИСТОВИМ - З НОВИМ РОКОМ

Support our Brothers and Sisters who defend Ukraine!

СЛАВА УКРАЇНІ!

ГЕРОЯМ СЛАВА!