

ОБІЖНИК - NEWSLETTER

ТОВАРИСТВО УКРАЇНСЬКИХ ІНЖЕНЕРІВ АМЕРИКИ – НЬЮ ЙОРК
UKRAINIAN ENGINEERS' SOCIETY OF AMERICA – NEW YORK BRANCH



National Chapter:
2 East 79th Street
New York, New York 10021
www.uesa.org

New York Chapter:
116-15 25th Drive
Bayside, New York 11358
E-mail: nyc@uesa.org



Volume 2, Issue 2

March/April 2002

From the President's Desk

This is the spring issue of the New York City's chapter newsletter, and as such it is time to perform a little bit of spring cleaning on our membership lists. Included in this issue of the newsletter is a form for updating each member's personal and professional information. If you should happen to be retired, then please note the company that you worked for prior to retirement. Please fill out these forms and return them by **May 1, 2002**

Further, as noted in previous newsletters, the percentage of members that have paid their dues is roughly 30%. Although the remaining people on our mailing list are receiving UESA mailings, this will not continue indefinitely. For those people who have decided to suspend their membership in the Society, we would request returning the enclosed survey with your name and the comment "INACTIVE" written in.

Other significant news has to do with the 2002 Summit of Ukrainian-American Organizations which took place at Soyuzivka in Kerhanson, New York during the weekend of March 16th. The event, which was designed to address the question of re-engaging the youth in Ukrainian-American organizations, was a complete success. Every major Ukrainian-American organization was represented. It is also important to note that the Summit attracted all age groups from people in their twenties to people in their seventies. We're still in the process of sorting thru the notes and videos which were taken during that weekend, so a detailed report of the Summit will appear in the next newsletter. The information, however, may be published on the UESA web site before then. I would also keep an eye out for reports in Kontakt, Voice of America, the Ukrainian Weekly, and Svoboda. All of these media outlets attended the event.

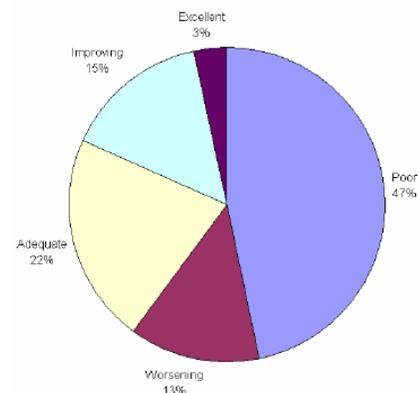
Until next time.....

Марко Шмерьковский

2001 UESA Membership Survey

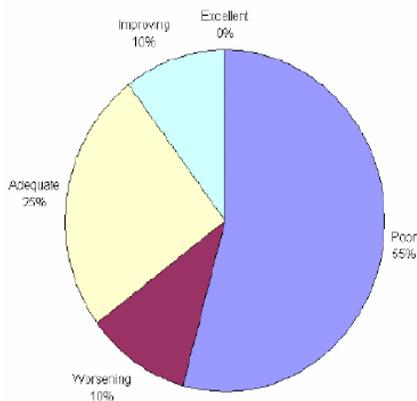
During the past few months the Board of Directors initiated an organization wide membership survey. The survey was intended to accomplish two broad objectives. First, the survey was to aid in updating member personal and professional information so the Society can successfully contact its members, and second it would allow for the Board of Directors to structure initiatives and events which directly served the needs and interests of the membership. Out of approximately 700 Survey which were mailed, roughly 10% were returned.

Among the items presented on the survey where five questions where the respondent was asked to choose a rating on a 5 point scale ranging from "poor" to "excellent." The first question presented in Graph 1 asks members to rate the quality of the communication between members and the various Chapters. 60% of respondents gave a negative rating with 47% choosing the lowest rating of "poor" and 13% selecting worsening. In the coming year, this rating should become more favorable as the web site continues to expand and various chapters such as New York and New Jersey continue their newsletter publishing efforts.



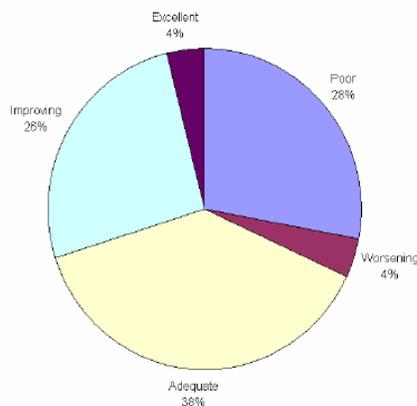
Graph 1: Quality of Communication

The next question, presented graphically in Graph 2, asked members to rate the quality of member benefits. A total of 65% of respondents choose a rating of "poor" or "worsening" while 25% selected "adequate" and 10% choose "improving." The survey also attempted to identify the type of benefits which members would find attractive. Of the options presented, the most popular was a request for car rental discounts. The next most popular request was for the offering of CEU's or continuing education units. Since many professionals are required to obtain CEU's in order to keep their professional licenses in various states. The Board of Directors is currently examining ways to offer some of these benefits.



Graph 2: Quality of Member Benefits

The third rating question, shown in Graph 3, asked members about the quality of UESA events. For this question 30% of respondents gave positive ratings of "improving" or "excellent" and 36% gave a rating of "adequate."

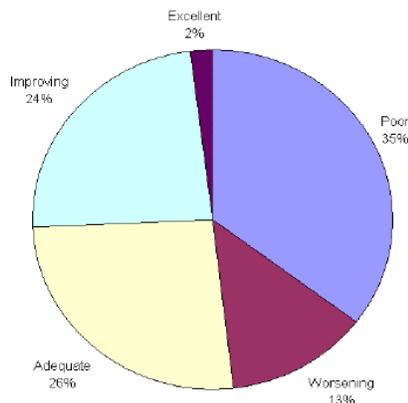


Graph 3: Quality of UESA Events

The overall positive response to this question is most likely due to the success of the yearly debutante balls, such as the Philadelphia Engineers Ball, the yearly Christmas

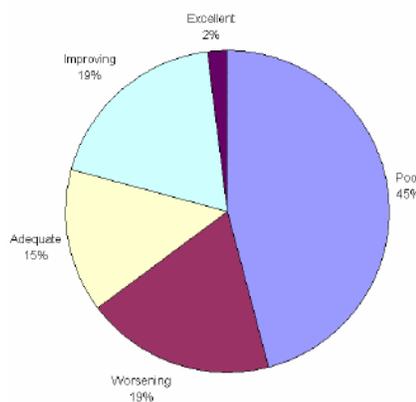
Parties and Yalynkas, such as those held in Detroit and New York, and recent technical lectures such as those held in New Jersey. Various chapters are currently in the process of planning additional social and technical events for the benefit of the Ukrainian-American community. The recent "Fall Zabava in New York City" is an example of such an event.

The next question focused on the overall value of UESA Membership. The results, as presented in Graph 4, show that nearly half of all respondents gave the value of membership a negative rating (35% poor and 13% worsening). Roughly a quarter of respondents felt that the value of membership was "adequate" and an equal number felt the value was improving.



Graph 4: Overall Value of UESA Membership

The final rating question (Graph 5) asked members about the quality of member awareness and networking opportunities. 45% of respondents selected a rating of "poor" and 19% selected a rating of "worsening."

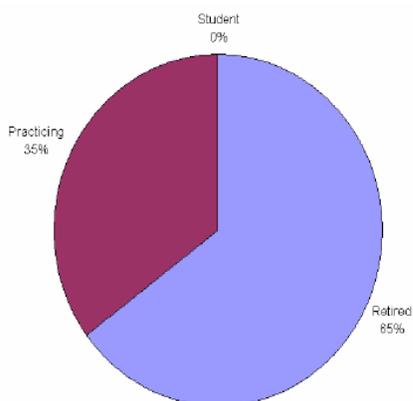


Graph 5: Quality of Networking Opportunities

The rating of "adequate" was chosen by 15% of respondents. Nearly a quarter of respondents selected a rating of "improving" or "excellent." The current Board of

Directors is attempting to address the issue of Member Awareness by working on the new UESA Media Initiative, by working towards the goal of starting a National Newsletter, by coordinating and encouraging local newsletters, and by striving to develop professional networking events in cooperation with other Ukrainian organizations such as UMANA.

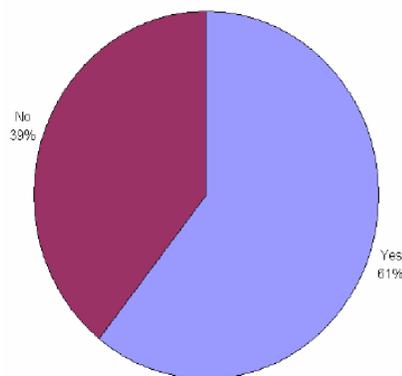
The next graph depicts the results of the respondents' work status. 65% of the respondents classified themselves as retired and the remainder declared themselves to be practicing professionals. Although "student" was an option, none of the respondents selected it. These statistics seem to indicate that UESA, as an organization, is in need of revitalizing its membership. It needs to attract students and younger professionals. Among the suggestions at this year's General Meeting was the official creation of two new member grades to include "student members" and "associate members." The associate members would not need to have technical degrees but would need to work in "related fields."



Graph 6: Member Work Status

The next question asked "what is your preferred language for correspondence?" 42% of respondents selected Ukrainian, 21% selected English and 37% of respondents wrote-in "either." To a certain extent, these numbers reflect a generational gap with older members preferring Ukrainian. It should be noted that the UESA by-laws state that the "official languages" are both Ukrainian and English. Further, some members and potential members have cited the reliance on Ukrainian as an obstacle to membership. These people would prefer to see correspondence in a "dual-language" format or in English.

The next two questions examined the inter-related issues of Internet Access and Preferred Method of Notification. Interestingly, although 61% of members stated that they had access to the Internet, only 34% wanted to be notified of events by e-mail. The remaining 66% wished to be notified by the traditional method of U.S. Mail.



Graph 7: Internet Access

The survey also attempted to identify how members receive information about upcoming events. According to survey returns, advertising in the Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda and Direct Mailing reach the most members. A positive sign was that a number of responses indicated that the "e-mail list" was a source of information about events.

The last two questions asked what topics and events members would like to see. Not surprisingly, the most requested "topic" for UESA lectures was a "profession specific." The one problem with such a request is that the Society's membership is extremely diverse. However, since there is interest, the Society will attempt to organize events that are equally interesting to experts in a given field as well as the rest of the membership. The survey revealed that there is also interest in various computer topics. Finally, the question about events produced the expected results. Members want social and technical events.

News Items

- UESA has established a new e-mail list titled *uesa-event@yahogroups.com*. All members of the main uesa mailing list have already been subscribed. This is a moderated list which will only post information about UESA sponsored and cosponsored events. All other e-discussions should be directed to *uesa@yahogroups.com*.
- The New York City chapter of UESA has created an e-mail list for NYC chapter members only. This will be used for communication of items which are of interest only to the NYC membership. To subscribe, send a blank e-mail to *uesa-nyc-subscribe@yahogroups.com*
- Congratulations are extended to Mr. Matthew Rakowsky, new president of the UESA New Jersey Chapter.

BOARD MEMBERS NEW YORK:

<i>President:</i>	Marco Shmerykowsky
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Tymish Hankevych
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Myrosia Dragan



Keep Us Informed!!!

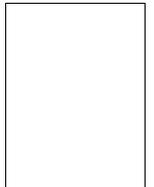
Please send news items, articles, information about our members and other interesting information to the following address:

Marco J. Shmerykowsky
166-15 25th Drive
Bayside, New York 11358

Or via e-mail: nyc@uesa.org

**Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America
New York Branch**

c/o Marco J. Shmerykowsky
166-15 25th Drive
Bayside, NY 11358



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED