

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:
166-15 25th Drive
Bayside, New York 11358
E-mail: nyc@uesa.org



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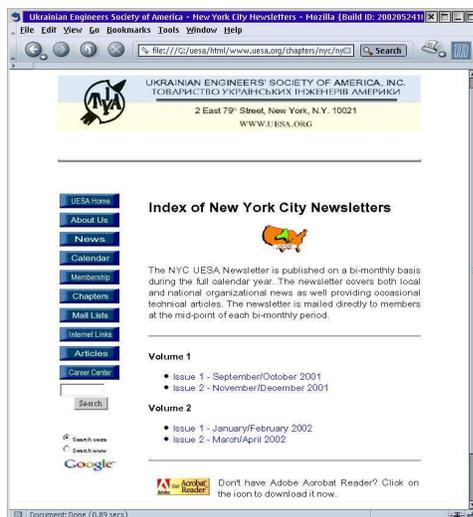
May/June 2002

From the President's Desk

This marks the fifth installment of the New York City chapter newsletter. As promised, we've been publishing it on a standard bi-monthly schedule. The question, however, is whether our membership realizes that the publication process has been moving forward so smoothly.

It appears that the Postal Service is having some difficulties getting the newsletters to the intended recipients. Although some members have received all four of the previously published newsletters, other members have only received one, two or three issues.

If you have not received previous issues of the newsletters, then there are two ways to obtain the back issues. First, you can go to the web site of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America (www.uesa.org). Under the "Chapters" page look for the New York City Chapter and click on "Chapter Newsletters." The previously published newsletters are available for download in Adobe Acrobat PDF format.



If computer downloads are not to your taste, you can write to me at the address listed above on the letter head. We'll mail out fresh copies immediately.

With this newsletter, we've implemented a slight change in the mailing process. This issue was mailed in a standard envelope. Hopefully, this will protect the newsletter from the gremlins in the Postal sorting machines. It's also possible that using a heavier paper will provide adequate protection. We'll investigate to see if the Chapter's budget will allow for this change.

I'll also take a moment to note that the UESA web site is continuing to progress and grow. In addition to the regular updates of the News sections, a search capability, courtesy of Google, and a job posting section have been added. Also, in the future, the downloadable applications will be supplemented with online versions which can be filled out and submitted without the need of involving a printer and a trip to the Post Office

In this issue of the newsletter, we review the main topics of discussion from the recent NYC Chapter Meeting. One recurring theme, not surprisingly, has been "membership." We need to encourage new people to become members, we need members to help plan and present events, we need members to provide financial support, we need members to communicate with one another and the local Board.

I would also like to take this opportunity to suggest that the Chapter begin a self motivated membership drive. Everyone has siblings, children, grandchildren or other family relations who are potential members. We all have professional colleagues that are eligible for membership. I'd like to ask that every active member make an effort to recruit a single new member. If this was accomplished, we could in theory swell our roles to over 200 people! That would be impressive.

Prospective members seem to always focus on two questions.

1. **“Do you have to be an engineer to join UESA?”**

The answer is NO. Eligibility is extended to the broad technical and scientific community. Thus, in addition to engineers, UESA also accepts architects, mathematicians, economists, computer professionals, scientists and other professionals with university degrees in technical and scientific fields. Membership can also be extended to students in these fields and to professionals that work in “complimentary” fields such as the contracting trades.

2. **“Why should I become a member of UESA?”**

Admittedly, this is a more difficult question to answer. In addition to the traditional answers we typically use for joining Ukrainian-American organizations, I would suggest stressing professional Networking and Mentoring opportunities. I would also suggest being honest in describing UESA’s current state. It’s not as strong as it was in its glory years, but incredible potential is still there. Thru the participation of members, whether they actively organize events or simply remain in contact with the chapter, UESA can revitalize and thrive.

Also, as is noted in the report on the May 31st Meeting, Dr. Lew Dobrjansky and Mr. Jaroslaw Kryshchalsky have volunteered to call all the members that are listed on the New York City roles but haven’t been heard from within the past year or so. We want to make sure we have your support and your correct contact information. If you fall into this group of members, you can expect a UESA phone call.

Finally, I would like to stress the importance of member communication and activity. Please make use of the Internet mailing lists to keep other members informed of various professional activities. Consider writing an article on a current technical topic for the “Sci-Tech Briefing” column in the *Ukrainian Weekly*, or for the Tech-Net Section of the UESA web site or for this very newsletter.

Further, the communication does not have to be limited to current “technical” or “economic” issues. An interesting topic to address in future issues of the newsletter, for example, would center on the history of the New York City Chapter. What kind of events were held in the past? What worked and why? Can and should these events be resurrected? Valuable lessons can be learned from history and it’s good to

mix these lessons with new ideas.

Keep us informed about promotions, company moves, family milestones and other important events.

With respect to “activity,” I would like our membership to view this term by its broadest definition. Activity can take many forms and does not have to be limited to time consuming tasks such as organizing an event. Mentioning the work of UESA to a colleague or family member is activity. Mailing a short note about something for the newsletter is activity. Paying your membership dues is activity. Anything which moves UESA forward and encourages the membership in its work, no matter how big or small, is “activity” and helps.

I look forward to hearing from everyone.

Until next time.....

Marco Shmerykowsky

Марко Шмериковський

Meeting of the New York City Chapter

NEW YORK - May 31, 2002

The New York City Chapter of the Ukrainian Engineers’ Society of America recently held a meeting and light wine & cheese reception to discuss plans for the coming year and to review some administrative items.

The evening was hosted by Chapter president Marco Shmerykowsky, PE and Chapter vice-president Tymish Hankevych. It was held at the Society’s newly refurbished headquarters located on the fourth floor of the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York City. Additionally, Wasyl Kinach, PE from the National Board of Directors was in attendance.



The Ukrainian Institute of America in New York City

After brief introductions, the meeting immediately focused on the topic of verifying the local member contact information. In order for both the local and national boards to effectively communicate with the membership, it is vital that the address and phone numbers of the members are up to date. It was noted that approximately 50% of the data is considered "verified" because the Chapter has either received a dues payment, the national survey, or the recent member information update form from these people.

Dr. Lew Dobrjansky and Mr. Jaroslaw Kryshtalsky volunteered to take the list of "unverified" members and to contact them directly via telephone to ascertain their status.

The next topic on the agenda was the development of monthly chapter meeting starting in September 2002. It was decided that each meeting would have a similar format. Meetings will be held on Thursdays (the exact week of the of the month is still to be determined) and will begin at 7:30PM. Each meeting will have a short 20 minute presentation on either a cultural or technical topic followed by a review of chapter business. To get the ball rolling, attendee Vitaliy Kuchynsky volunteered to prepare a presentation on the Crimean Peninsula in Ukraine.

During the discussion about chapter meetings, it was agreed that the local New York City chapter would hold formal elections at the September meeting. It was noted that both a new Nominating Committee and Verification Committee needed to be created. It was agreed that Mr. Kryshtalsky and Dr. Dobrjansky would ask for volunteers to fill the positions of the Nominating Committee while calling the members to verify their status.

A review of the number of returned "member information update forms", which were distributed in the last newsletter, revealed that many copies of the newsletter are apparently not being properly delivered by the Post Office. The chapter has issued four (4) newsletters to date and is following a regular bi-monthly publication schedule. Some members have only received a single issue of the newsletter.

It was noted that the Post Office is not returning the newsletters as "undeliverable" and that the disappearance of issues is similar to what has happened with copies of publications such as the *Ukrainian Weekly*. It was suggested that the next issue of the newsletter be packaged differently to eliminate the possibility that copies are being excessively damaged by postal machines. It was also suggested to use a different Post Office Branch and to include definite "bad addresses" in the mailing as a

means of checking the return service.

The last major topic on the evening's agenda was a review of planned chapter events. It was noted that the Chapter will hold its annual Fall Zabava in NYC in mid-October and that the annual Yalynka will take place in early December. The new York Chapter will also hold a joint conference on Bio-Terrorism with the New York City Metro Chapter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America. These events are already posted on the UESA web site's "Calendar of Events" and will be noted in coming issues of the NYC newsletter.

The discussion of events also covered the possibility of re-establishing the New York City Engineers and Doctors Debutante Ball and/or a Malanka event. Preliminary inquiries with various demographic groups seems to indicate that such an event may not be ideal due to competition from other Malanka and Debutante Balls in the area.

It was suggested that an alternative would be to hold a Spring Ball directly after the conclusion of Easter. Although there would be no direct "event competition" to such an event, it was noted that a "device" which could give the event a "purpose" would need to be developed. Furthermore, additional thought would need to be placed on the type of crowd which could be attracted to the event. Ideally, organizers would want a large Kalyna sized crowd covering all age groups. The final conclusion was to refine the concept some more before moving forward with actual planning.

The concluding remarks included the idea that each member should undertake the effort of bringing another member to the next meeting. Such an effort will help to increase attendance and communication between members.

2002 Summit of Ukrainian-American Organizations

(Reprinted from UESA Web Site – March 16, 2002)

This past weekend the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America (UESA), the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA), and the Ukrainian National Association (UNA) held a Summit of Ukrainian-American Organizations at the UNA estate Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, New York. This three day summit was intended to address the question of "re-engaging 'youth' in Ukrainian-American Organizations" by creating a brainstorming session for raising new ideas and challenging current assumptions.



Attendees of Summit 2002

The organizing committee (pictured below - left to right) for this year's summit consisted of Andrij Wowk (UESA), Marco Shmerykowsky, PE (UESA), Ariadna Nychka, MD (UMANA), Oleh Holynskyy (UESA), and Wasyl Kinach, PE (UESA).



Summit Organizing Committee

The weekend began with an informal cocktail party on Friday, March 15th where early arrivals could relax and talk with friends. Even at the late evening hours, some of the attendees were already engaging in spirited discussions on what needs to be done to re-engage not only the youth but the entire Ukrainian diaspora community in the various Ukrainian-American organizations.

The morning panel on Saturday was structured to address the topic of *"Our Ukrainian Organizations Today."* The panel was moderated by Roma Hadzewycz, the editor-in-chief of the *Ukrainian Weekly*. The morning session's included panelists Dr. Roman Andrushkiw, first vice-president of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, Mr. Paul Farniga, president of the Rutgers University Ukrainian Students Club, Mr. Marianna Zajac, president of the central New York Regional Council of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Mr. Stephen Kaczaraj, treasurer of the Ukrainian National Association, Mr. Marco Shmerykowsky, PE, vice president of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America, Bohdan Vitvitsky, vice president of the

Ukrainian-American Professionals and Business Person's Association of New York and New Jersey, and Dr. Ihor Voyevodka, president of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America.



Marco Shmerykowsky, PE addresses the panel

After lunch, the panel discussion turned to the topic of *"Our Organizations Tomorrow."* The panel was moderated by Irene Jarosewich, the editor-in-chief of *Svoboda*. The afternoon panel included Ms. Christina Baranetsky, president of the Columbia University Ukrainian Students Club, Mr. Yuri Blarovich of the Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation, Mr. Jaroslav Kryshtalsky of the Ukrainian Institute of America, Mr. Alexander Kuzma, executive director of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, Dr. Andrew Liteplo of Plast, Ms. Lida Mykytyn, vice president of the Ukrainian American Youth Association, Reverend Ivan Mazuryk of the Stamford Eparchy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and Mr. Michael Sawkiw, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.



Mr. Jaroslav Kryshtalsky – UESA New York City Chapter Member

Once the formal panels were concluded, the summit shifted gears to a more informal group discussion with the participants seated in a large circle. The

Saturday afternoon panel was moderated by Bohdan Vitvitsky and Andrij Wowk. This session was noteworthy due to the fact that an open and intelligent discussion was initiated between both younger student participants and older professionals. All parties treated each other respectfully. The net result was the "brainstorming" session that the organizers had hoped for.

Saturday evening, the summit attendees were treated to an informal cocktail party and were entertained by the piano playing of Mr. Andrij Stasiw.

On Sunday, the attendees participated in another informal "wrap-up" session where some of the various points which were raised during the previous day's discussions were examined more closely. Among the more important points which were raised was the fact that our "youth" has a great desire to participate in our organizations. They want to feel as if they are wanted and consequently, they want to be respectfully approached about participating in our organizations. Several times the concept of "mentoring" and belonging to a "Ukrainian" organization were mentioned as being highly valued.



Mr. Andrij Wowk leads the Sunday Wrap-up Session

Another interesting observation was made by Mr. Andriy Masiuk who noted that Ukrainian-American community has characteristics of a virtual community. Although our "Ukrainian Community" still exists in physical neighborhoods in large cities such as Detroit, Chicago, and New York, to a large extent we have taken advantage of the wide open spaces of the United States. We are no longer exclusively concentrated in small geographic areas and consequently, we must develop new methods for both communicating and becoming involved in our

Ukrainian-American organizations over long distances.

In general, the first Summit of Ukrainian-American Organizations generated a tremendous amount of energy and enthusiasm. Long standing issues such as the unattractive and stale stereotypes of what Ukrainian-American organizations are like, the competition for personal time from non-Ukrainian organizations, and the loss of purpose after the attainment of Ukrainian independence were brought out into the open and rationally discussed by everyone in attendance without any political or organizational bias.

The energy generated during this summit has set the ground work for future Summits as well as "mini-summits" in various cities.

News Items

- We would like to extend congratulations to Walter & Deanna Hanchuk on the birth of their daughter Natalia Maria.
- New York City Chapter and Board member Myrosia Dragan, PE of TAMS Consultants, Inc. will present a paper titled "The Emergency Reconstruction of Goose Creek Bridge" at the International Bridge Conference which is being held in Pittsburgh from June 10 to June 12th. The paper will be presented on Wednesday between 8:00 and 12:30 during the *Construction Session*,

Additional information is available on the web at <http://www.eswp.com/bridge.html>

Upcoming Events

- October 19th – UESA/UMANA/UIA 2nd Annual "**Fall Zabava in New York City**" to be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America
- November 16th – Technical Seminar on BioTerrorism to be held jointly by the New York Chapters of UESA and UMANA
- December 14th – Traditional New York City Yalyinka to be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America

BOARD MEMBERS NEW YORK:

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



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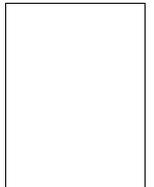
Please send news items, articles, information about our members and other interesting information to the following address:

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



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