

ОБІЖНИК - NEWSLETTER

ТОВАРИСТВО УКРАЇНСЬКИХ ІНЖЕНЕРІВ АМЕРИКИ – НЬО 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



Volume 1, Issue 2

© 2001 Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America

November/December 2001

From the President's Desk

I'm happy to issue the second installment of our newsletter. Hopefully, all enjoyed the previous installment issued at the start of October. This issue will cover chapter news events rather than technical issues.

Among the administrative items which I'd like to bring everyone's attention to center on the mailing of "Ukrainian Engineering News," the payment of member dues, and the status of member mailing information.

Many members have asked about the status of the publication of the "Ukrainian Engineering News" or "Visti." The last issue, which covers the time from January 1997 to December 2000, has indeed been published. However, in accordance with a decision reached at the 2000 Plenary Meeting, the "Visti" have only been mailed to members that have completely paid their membership dues.

I am sad to say that of the nearly 100 members who are listed as belonging to the New York Chapter, less than two dozen people have actually brought their dues payments up to date. I suppose that this can be attributed to things such as outdated mailing addresses, but I hope that all members will take this newsletter as a sign that UESA is alive and well and needs to be supported by its membership.

On a positive note, I'm sure many people have noticed the new column which has been added to the November 18, 2001 issue of the *Ukrainian Weekly* titled "Sci-Tech Briefing – An occasional series on science & technology." The "premier" article was a reprint of the piece on the collapse of the Twin Towers which was published in the last issue of the UESA-NY newsletter.

The introduction of the column provided by the *Ukrainian Weekly* indicates that this is an "initiative" of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America. In more

*Товариство бажає всім
Веселих Свят
і
Щастливого Нового Року*

*We would like to wish all of our members
a Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year*

detailed terms, the column is a major part of the Society's "media initiative" which is intended to establish UESA as the main reference source for the Ukrainian-American media on contemporary technical and scientific issues. When a major event such as the Trade Center Attack or the recent crash of the American Airlines flight in Queens, New York occurs, the society should be ready to inform the public about what happened. Simplistically, this is "free" advertising for the Society and for the author of each piece. More importantly however, it shows the general public that the Society is alive and keeping pace with the modern world. Ideally, this presence will serve as another "reason" why college students and young professionals should join the Society since it will publicly demonstrate that the valuable "connections" which one needs to function in the modern business world are available within our own Ukrainian-American community.

With this in mind, I invite our "experts" to submit articles on contemporary issues. Currently, articles on aeronautical engineering which would aid in explaining the crash of the American Airlines flight are of prime interest as are computer and telecommunications issues.

Please submit these articles either to me or to the National Chapter so that we may continue our initiative.

Finally, I can't stress enough the importance of having current mailing information, phone numbers, e-mail addresses and professional information. The chapter can not communicate with its membership unless we have this info. Also, please realize that professional information such as your company name is important even if you're retired. You may be able to provide value connections and information to young professionals just entering the same field and you can serve as an "expert" for our media initiative.

Until next time.....

Marco Shmerykowsky

2001 General Membership Meeting

The general membership meeting was held in New York City on Saturday, October 27, 2001 at the Ukrainian Institute of America.



Pictured above are Dr. Lev Dobrjanskyj, the immediate past president of the National Organization, Mr. Andriy Wowk, the new president of the National Organization, and Board of Directors members Mr. Marco Shmerykowsky, PE and Mr. Wasyl Kinach, PE.

In addition to the election of Mr. Andriy Wowk as the new president of the national organization, the following members were selected for the Board of Directors:

- Mr. Bohdan Gerulak, AIA
- Mr. Andriy Hankewycz
- Mr. Tymish Hankewycz
- Mr. Oleh Holynskyj
- Mr. Wasyl Kinach, PE
- Mr. Jaroslav Olach
- Mr. Marco Shmerykowsky, PE

The following members were elected to the Supervisory Committee:

- Dr. Lev Dobrjanskyj
- Mr. Petro Hrycak
- Mr. John Shmerykowsky, PE

The following members were elected to the Judiciary Committee:

- Mr. Wolodymyr Hnatkowsky
- Mr. Leonid Pachaluk
- Mr. Wolodymyr Magun

The meeting was opened by UESA President Dr. Lev Dobrjanskyj. After a Meeting Presidium was chosen, one minute of silence was observed for the victims of the September 11th terrorist attacks in New York City.

Next, Dr. Lev Dobrjanskyj presented the "Presidents' Report" for the past term. The report included the following items:

- Computerization and verification of membership information has continued to take place during the past term. Currently, approximately 20 percent of membership information still needs to be verified.
- The Jubilee (50th Anniversary) edition of the UESA's Ukrainian Engineering News (UEN) was published, thanks to the efforts of UEN editor Bohdan Gerulak, AIA. Electronic publishing of future issues of the UEN was proposed as a possibility.
- Efforts have been made to improve the communication with the individual UESA chapters: Personal contacts with individual chapter members have been especially successful.
- The following tasks were carried out with respect to "cooperation efforts with Ukraine"
 - 1) UESA financially supported the Lviv-based *Technical News* journal during the past term. To date, however, the Society has not received an accounting of how the donated funds were actually spent. Furthermore, it appears that some political articles have appeared in this journal. Resolution of this issue was not received from either Kyiv or Lviv.
 - 2) UESA financially supported the technical journal *Zalizobeton* with a donation of \$450.
 - 3) A meeting was held with professors from

Kharkiv. The discussions included the possibility of sending U.S. students to study in Kharkiv, and also students from Kharkiv to study in the U.S.

- 4) One issue which has arisen is accreditation of Ukrainian specialists. It was proposed that a meeting with National Science Foundation (NSF) representatives may be helpful.
 - 5) UESA members took part in the general meeting of the Ukrainian Diaspora. Meetings were also held with graduates of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy, and with representatives of the Verkhovna Rada.
 - 6) Washington, D.C. 'Synergy' conference in 1999, sponsored by The Washington Group - The UESA did not lose funds as a result of participating in this conference. Cooperation with future TWG conferences may be beneficial to the UESA.
- There has been general approval and satisfaction with the work done to date with the UESA web site (www.uesa.org).
 - During the last term, the refurbishment of the UESA domivka (i.e. headquarters office) was performed. The domivka is located at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York City. The refurbishment consisted of painting and floor refinishing.

Next, the Financial Report was presented by the previous term's treasurer, Mr. Andrij Wowk.

- The UESA consolidated budget statement for 12/10/99-10/13/01 was presented. This statement indicates a balance of \$12,827.07 as of 10/13/01, with a deficit of \$2,543.93 during the reporting period.
- The major causes for the current deficit were the expenses of refurbishing the UESA domivka (\$2,431.28), and the publishing of the UESA News (\$3,911.30, not including postage costs).
- The largest source of income was dues payments by UESA members (\$4,918.00). Unfortunately, some branches are still failing to provide the required 60% of dues payments they collect to the UESA Executive Treasurer.

Next, a brief report was presented on the UESA Web Page by Mr. Marco Shmerykowsky, PE. The report reviewed the current organization of the web site and noted that the amount of data has been gradually increasing since the site's launch. Plans for future work center on expanding

the "News" section with updated information from the various national chapters.

Next, Mr. Bohdan Gerulak, AIA presented a report on the status of the *Ukrainian Engineering News (UEN)*. He noted that there are problems related to the lack of appropriate materials and content for the UEN. Another issue is that the UEN is generally published in Ukrainian, but for many members Ukrainian is not their primary language. Finally, Mr. Gerulak suggested that copies of the UEN should be distributed among libraries in Ukraine. This was generally supported by the members present.

Following Mr. Gerulak's presentation, reports on Chapter Activities for the term 1999 to 2001 were presented by the Chapter president's in attendance.

- 1) The report for the New Jersey Chapter was presented by Chapter President Mr. Andrij Wowk. Activities for the past term included a technical seminar on 'Communication in the Digital Age' which was held on November 4, 2000, a meeting with members of the Rutgers University Ukrainian Students Club at a banquet on December 5, 2000; the acceptance of three new members; the publishing of a chapter newsletter; and a meeting in Lviv with engineering students from the Lviv Polytechnic Institute on September 11, 2001.
- 2) The report for the New York City Chapter was presented by Chapter President Mr. Marco Shmerykowsky, PE. [Note: Mr. Shmerykowsky assumed the presidency as of 2001]. The publishing of a bi-monthly chapter newsletter has begun and three new members have been added. Planning is going on with UMANA for the holding of technical seminars and a possible joint conference in 2002, covering medical and engineering issues. Efforts at updating NY member information and dues collection are ongoing. A joint zabava with the UESA NJ branch, UMANA NYC Metro, and UIA is planned for November 10, 2001. Finally, the annual NYC Yalyinka will be held on Saturday, December 15, 2001.

Next, a report on the UESA Commemorative Book was presented by Mr. Volodymyr Hnatkowsky. He noted that the materials for the book have been assembled. The material, however, still requires editing before the book will be ready for publication. Members agreed that a review of this project by the new executive board will be needed.

Next, a report was presented by the Supervisory Committee. The report was presented by Mr. Volodymyr Rudakewycz.

A protocol journal (collection of meeting minutes) was not provided by the Executive Board. This issue should be

addressed as soon as possible, since meeting protocols are a historical document of UESA activities.

- It was recommended that major domivka expenses (such as refurbishing costs) should be shared by both the Executive Board and the NY Chapter, which has a right to use this space for chapter activities.
- The commission applauds such efforts at electronic communication as the UESA Web page, but feels that these methods cannot totally replace other forms of communication, such as newsletters, bulletins, press advertisements, etc.
- Additional positive efforts have been the mailing of the UESA membership survey, and the centralization of dues collection notifications to members.

Next, a general discussion was held which addressed the following points:

- Dr. Lev Dobrjanskyj assured the members that the issue of the missing meeting protocols, and collection of outstanding dues from UESA chapters, will be resolved as soon as possible.
- It was proposed that completing the Commemorative Book should be done as soon as possible, and that an outside editor may need to be hired to finish this project.

Finally, a motion was made to discharge the outgoing UESA Executive Board. The motion was unanimously approved.

Once the election of the new Board of Directors was approved, the new president of the National Organization, Mr. Andrij Wowk, presented his *Plan of Action* for the 2001-2003 term. The *Plan of Action* included the following items:

- 1) The Board would continue its efforts to update membership data and improve communication with branches and individual members.
- 2) The Board will work to increase membership through branch initiatives such as:
 - Technical presentations
 - Social events
 - Joint events with other professional groups
 - Media advertisements and articles.
- 3) The Board will attempt to create and support student branches on the University level.
- 4) The Board will investigate establishing new benefits,

such as car rental discounts, for UESA members.

- 5) The Board will continue further development of the UESA Web page.
- 6) The Society will try to provide informational assistance to Ukrainian engineering students in Lviv, Ukraine.
- 7) The Society will try to provide assistance to students and young/newly arrived Ukrainian professionals in the United States.
- 8) The Board will continue efforts to publish the UESA commemorative book and new copies of the *Ukrainian Engineering News*.

It was proposed during the ensuing discussion that the UESA also make contact with the Ukrainian physicists' organization (Washington, D.C. branch) for possible joint events.

The proposed UESA budget for 2001-2003 is currently under development, and will be released to the membership as soon as it is completed.

Next, the election of a new Nominating Committee was undertaken. The following members were elected for this committee:

Mr. John Shmerykowsky PE – Committee Head
Mr. George Bazylevskij – Member
Mr. Jaroslav Kryshchalskyj - Member

The last items to be discussed were various member initiated proposals. These proposals included the following topics:

- It was proposed that the merging of the New York City and New Jersey chapters should be explored.
- It was proposed that additional membership levels be introduced. These new membership levels would include “associate members” and “student members.” Associate members would be professionals who work in affiliated fields but do not possess technical degrees. It was noted that most professional organizations maintain such a membership level.
- It was proposed that the issue of centralizing all dues collections through the Executive Treasurer, rather than through the chapters, be revisited.
- It was suggested that the by-laws be modified so that mailed ballots contained a clause which would state that a lack of response to a ballot would be interpreted

as a vote in-favor of a ballot item.

- The above proposals would require amendments to the UESA charter. Consequently, mailing ballots to all current members to approve such amendments may be required, as specified in the charter.

Finally, a motion to close the general meeting was made, and unanimously approved by those present.

[The minutes of the General Meeting were recorded on October 27, 2001 by Mr. Oleh Petrenko and Mr. Andrij Wowk]

2000 Plenary Meeting

(Reprinted from the UESA Web Site – Sept. 30, 2000)

The meeting included Executive Committee Reports from the UESA Chairman, Treasurer, Ukrainian Engineering News Editor, the Web Page Chairman, and the UESA Anniversary Book Committee.

The members in attendance also discussed planned objectives for the coming year including a review of the membership lists, organizational objectives, publishing objectives with respect to the Engineering News, the UESA Bulletin, and the UESA Anniversary book. The members also discussed whether or not to become members in the *Ukrainian Institute of America*.

The discussions, which were lively, addressed some of the following issues:

1. The Treasury will attempt to reorganize the flow of membership dues while maintaining compliance with the UESA by-laws. The new sequence will send a listing of Chapter members to each Chapter and a letter regarding dues owed to each UESA member. The members will pay both their national and chapter dues to their local chapter. The local chapter will then retain 40% of the funds and send the remaining 60% to the National Chapter. It is hoped that this circular route will provide an adequate means of checks and balances to ensure that all members are up to date.
2. The membership feels there is a need to take a more aggressive stance on the development of new membership. Currently the membership can be divided into three categories: 1) members from the generation that first formed the organization in the 1940s 2) young professionals that have been raised in the States and are either in school or in professional practice and 3) newly arrived professionals from Ukraine. It was pointed out that there are large numbers of both American born young professionals and newly arrived professionals which are eligible to join the

organization.

3. The membership discussed the needs of newly arrived professionals. It was pointed out that many professionals from Ukraine need assistance in learning how the "American Employment System" works. Guidance on items such as how to structure and compose a resume or on how to conduct an interview were mentioned as being beneficial. The possibility of having a seminar on such issues was raised. Finally, the UESA web site will attempt to address these needs in a new "job hunting" section.
4. The effectiveness of this web site in relation to print media was discussed. It was felt that in addition to Internet based news, it is necessary to provide a paper based newsletter on the basis that not everyone may find the web site convenient or has internet access.
5. It was pointed out that the UESA web site has been redesigned to attempt to serve as a "value added" service to the membership. Participation by outside Chapters, however, has been limited. It was again stated that the Chapters are encouraged to submit news items to the web site and to participate in the UESA mailing list.
6. Distribution of the "Engineering News" in relation to membership dues was discussed. It was decided that members who have been inactive for more than 3 years will not receive the publication unless their dues are brought up to date.
7. It was noted that only the New York, New Jersey, Washington, and Buffalo Chapters responded to the request for information on Chapter activities and membership list updating.
8. There was also a discussion regarding the extent to which the organization would help Ukraine. It was decided that the organization should provide assistance from a professional and advisory point of view and not a financial one.

News Items

- The annual "*New York City Yalyinka*" is scheduled to be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York City at 2 East 79th Street on Saturday, December 15, 2001. The festivities will begin at 7:00pm. Admission will be \$30 for Adults and \$20 for Students and Seniors. A short program, hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided.

BOARD MEMBERS NEW YORK:

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



Keep Us Informed!!!

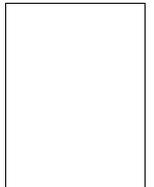
Please send news items, articles, information about our members and other interesting information to the following address:

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



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED