

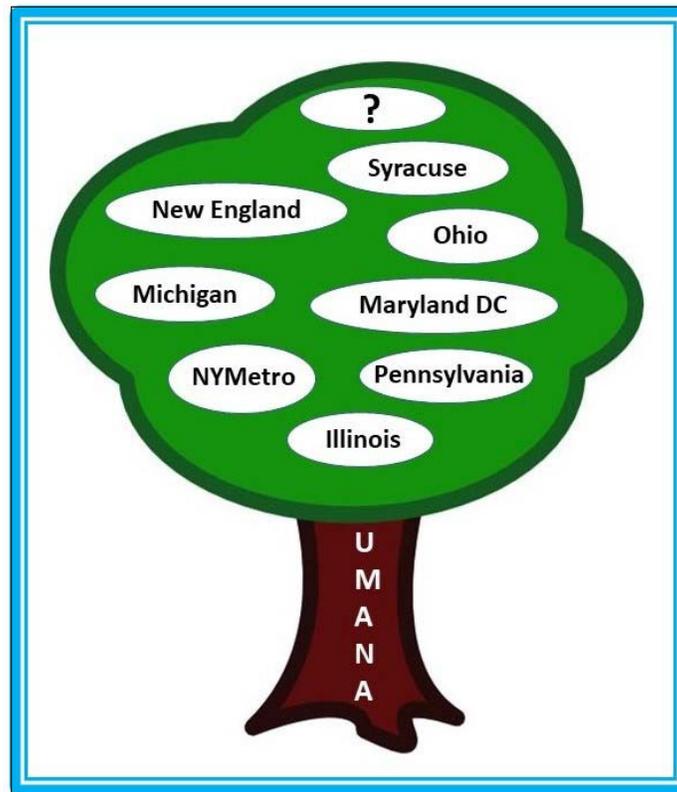
The Return of the Branches

Have you ever seen a tree without branches? It would be hard to imagine, no? In fact, you could say that a tree without branches wouldn't deserve to be called a tree at all. The trunk could be doing a valiant job of trying to make that impression, but it still wouldn't fool even a casual observer.

To go one step further, the branches are critical to supporting the living structure of the tree. They hold the leaves, which supply the elements needed to keep the tree alive. Without branches, the trunk will stand for a while but will eventually wither.

We have good news! The main trunk of UMANA is currently experiencing a recurrent growth of its branches, some of which have been dormant for many years. The return of the branches brings refoliation; old members regrow and new members start the process of budding. Eventually, the tree begins to flourish with a thick canopy of interested, active, and productive members.

Take a moment to see for yourself. **This issue of UMANA news contains the most news about UMANA branch activities in its history!** Somnolent chapters have reawakened. Active chapters are sharing news of their meetings and projects.



To those of you who ask, “What does UMANA do?” please peruse the following pages. You might see something of interest, maybe pick up an idea, or find a catalyst to energize your own chapter.

Enjoy learning about the variety of activities each chapter is involved in – the local community chooses events, projects, and venues that are of interest to their membership. Different branches prefer different areas of enthusiasm; each contributes in its own way. Together, these endeavors allow UMANA to flourish as a healthy and productive professional society.

UMANA needs active chapters. They, and you, are the lifeblood of this organization. Each chapter in its own way contributes to the health of the tree. Our branches extend from the UMANA tree as follows. There are 18 branches of UMANA, 13 in the U.S. and 5 in

Canada. There is one additional “At-large” branch. There are currently 8 active branches in the U.S. with elected officers and regular activity.

In case you find this analogy trite or naïve, please consider: This year, UMANA’s strong roots will go back 70 years. The trunk stands vigorously firm. The branches are returning with gusto. Let’s keep the momentum going!



BREAKING NEWS

THIS JUST IN: UMANA’s National office has been notified that **MONTREAL** Branch Members are reconstituting their chapter! More details in the next issue.

UMANA CHAPTER NEWS

Illinois Branch

On August 17, 2019, the Illinois branch held its Annual Chapter Picnic at the UYCO/Plast Campground in Round Lake, IL. Beautiful weather greeted the nearly 50 members and guests at this



Illinois Branch potato sack races

venerable and classic location. Delicious grilled food was available buffet style, overseen by branch VP **Olena Gordon, MD** and Secretary/Treasurer **Oliha Maihutiak M4**, with a scrumptious dessert prepared by the Ukrainian Cultural Center. In a coincidental surprise, the group feted branch President **Igor Prus, MD** with a birthday cake on this special day. Multiple generations of members, family, and friends enjoyed the relaxed gathering, with plans being made for next year's event.



Illinois Branch enjoying a picnic

NY Metro Branch

In September 2019, UMANA NY Metro branch meeting was graciously hosted at the home of **Dr. Ariadne Bach** and Mark Bach. Nearly 40 participants worked diligently to bring in new members and reintroduce UMANA to current but inactive members. Since most of our local board attended the recent conference in Park City, UT, we were better able to describe current activities and goals. We found that telephone calls were far more effective in expanding our reach.

New York's very own Veselka and Bachynsky's catered delicious refreshments. After a festive hour of socializing, we heard a fabulous presentation by **Dr. Leo Wolansky**. He led us all on an

Continued on page 3



UMANA News

The Newsletter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America is published quarterly by UMANA with the objective to promote good fellowship and to uphold and enhance the best interests of UMANA. The newsletter serves as an impartial forum for information for its members. UMANA cannot guarantee the accuracy of all information contained herein. Some information has been obtained from third party published and oral sources and may not have been independently verified. The treatment of articles, views, and opinions expressed in UMANA News is not necessarily endorsed by UMANA.

Distributed to members and friends of UMANA

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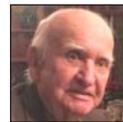
The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America



OBITUARIES



DUBAS-WOJTYNA DDS, Daria, age 74, *St. Louis School of Dentistry 1969*, member UMANA Ohio branch, died October 12, 2016.



DYKYJ DDS, MD, Roman Sr., age 95, *Medizinische Fakultät, Ludwig Maximilians Universität, Munich, Germany, DDS 1949, MD 1958*, member UMANA Philadelphia branch, died October 4, 2018.



KUCAN MD, John, age 72, *Loyola-Stritch School of Medicine, Maywood, IL 1972*, member UMANA Illinois branch, died September 20, 2019.



RODANSKY MD, Basil, age 88, *Medizinische Fakultät, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität, Mainz, Germany 1960*, member UMANA Michigan branch, died January 26, 2019.



RYZIJ MD, Orest, age 91, *Rheinische Freidrich-Wilhelms Universität, Bonn, Germany 1951*, member UMANA Ohio branch, died August 20, 2017.



President's Message

In this day and age, websites and web pages reflect the viability of an organization. Therefore, our website is the face of our Ukrainian Medical Association of North America as well. During our recent XXXVIII Assembly of Delegates in Park City, UT, many of you voiced a desire to improve our website. I have had a chance to critically evaluate our website with an IT professional to give us an independent evaluation and recommendations. The following recommendations were made:

- To make our website be compatible with mobile devices (mobile friendly), since currently 90-95% of the population navigates using smartphones and tablets.
- Registration form and registration process should be simplified.
- Review of the website revealed that many active members are not registered despite being active in chapters and organization. Will work on improving this process. Meanwhile, I am

asking all of you to take time from your busy schedules and go to www.UMANA.org and register under the tag "returning member" in order to receive your temporary password.

- Our website groups our members by states, cities, and medical specialties but not by chapters. This should be added to promote chapter activities and interactions between chapter members.
- Better incorporate links to social media sites.

These and other recommendations will be sent to our webmaster to improve and modernize our website. If you have any ideas or recommendations, please feel free to forward them to us as well.

Finally, on September 24, 2019, as president of UMANA I had the opportunity to attend President Volodymyr Zelensky's meeting with representatives of the Ukrainian-American community at the Ukrainian Institute of America in NYC. The President thanked the Ukrainian community in the United States for supporting Ukraine: "You are our best diplomats, you are our lobbyists, you protect our sovereignty, territorial integrity here in the U.S. and around the world. We are very grateful to you." I am hopeful that President Zelensky will continue to support healthcare reform in Ukraine, which was started by our UMANA member and former acting minister of health Dr. Ulana Suprun. Let us all work together and participate in helping Ukraine reach a modern and Western standard of medicine.

Warm regards,
Petro Lenchur, MD



UMANA CHAPTER NEWS

Continued from page 2

incredible touching journey, from the "Battle of Kruty" to his family's resolve to never forget this heroic event, to how he has developed programs to give back to Ukraine. His many years of participating and organizing radiology meetings in Ukraine provided for many interesting stories.



Dr. Leo Wolansky

Dr. Petro Lenchur, UMANA (National) President



NY Metro Branch meeting

welcomed the group and briefly discussed his goals for UMANA. He challenged each of us to bring in three new members this year. UMANA NY Metro is well on its way to achieve this! The socializing continued well beyond the formal meeting. Our chapter looks forward to our next gathering and invites all UMANA members to the annual Yalynka at the Ukrainian Institute in New York.

Marta Lopatynsky, MD – President
Ruta Cholhan-Lenchur, MD – President Elect
Ariadna Bach, MD – Vice President
Danylo Kuncio, DDS – Treasurer
Luke Tomycz, MD - Secretary

Ohio Branch

On September 29, 2019, the Ohio chapter of UMANA sponsored its Traditional Fall Picnic for healthcare professionals of Ukrainian descent residing in the northeastern Ohio region. Over 50 current UMANA members and future members gathered for a relaxing and enjoyable picnic on a golden Sunday afternoon, at the Pokrova Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Parma, OH. **Dr. Bohdan Pichurko**, our Ohio chapter treasurer, presented

Continued on back

UMANA CHAPTER NEWS

Continued from page 3

several surgical texts translated into Ukrainian to the attendees.

On March 2, 2019, the Ohio Chapter



Ohio Branch enjoys a picnic.

and the Cleveland community held the 12th medical supplies packing event. **Drs. Michael Samotowka** and **Ihor Zachary**, along with our collaborating brothers from Buffalo including **Yurij Hryshchynshyn** and **Yuriy Darmohray**, organized the event, packing a total of 37 boxes, for over 1500 lbs. of supplies for soldiers fighting for freedom in Ukraine.



Ohio Branch packing event

On September 27, 2019, members of the Ohio chapter attended a gala at MedWish International MedWish Gala. We enjoyed great food, company, discussion with our colleagues, and a program presented by MedWish International.

Maryland-DC Branch

On September 13 -15, 2019, the Maryland-DC Metro branch participated in their local Ukrainian Festival. Annually, Saint Andrew 's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral (Silver Spring, MD) draws about 10,000 visitors to its culturally-rich Ukrainian Festival. For its 2019 community outreach project, UMANA-DC promulgated UMANA activities at this festival. **Dr. Chrystia Kuzmowych** was asked to lead: contacted stakeholders, organized UMANAware, and oversaw staff; **Dr. Inia Tunstall** created an

informative poster; **Drs. Askold Mosijczuk, Yaromyr Oryshkevych**, and **Andriy Vasylenko** joined to greet visitors. Seventeen attendees (MD, VA, DC, PA, and CO) were interested in information and membership - primarily to help improve medical care in Ukraine. Festivals are an excellent opportunity for UMANA chapter community outreach and member development.



Maryland-DC Branch members at festival table



UMANA display at festival table

Michigan Branch

UMANA Michigan chapter participated in the Ukrainian Independence Day concert and banquet at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren, MI. **Dr. Zenon Kossak** passed the presidential baton to **Dr. Maria Baltarowich** following an election meeting.

Starting on July 1, 2019, for a one-year term, the new officers of UMANA's Michigan Branch will be: **President Dr. Maria Baltarowich**, Secretary **Dr. Zenon Kossak**, Treasurer **Dr. Andriy Dzul**, Members at Large **Drs. Anya Butry-Bluj, Christina Zachar**, and

Lydia Baltarowich. For any questions please contact any of the officers.

– **Zenon John Kossak, DDS, (313) 590-4350.**



Michigan Chapter banquet 2019 (from bottom left) Viktor Krajnc, Dr. Zenon Kossak, G. Kossak, Dr. Boris Leheta, S. Leheta; (from top left) Drs. Lydia Baltarowich, Luda Gerasymchuk, Greg Gerasymchuk, Oleg Doubrovski, and Maria Baltarowich

Pennsylvania Branch

UMANA Pennsylvania Chapter, under the leadership of current president **Dr. Ihor Fedoriw**, completed its Third Joint Project of sending military sunglasses to the graduating officers of the Military Academy in Lviv. The most recent shipment contained 730 pairs of sunglasses. This project was co-sponsored by United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, **Dr. Larissa Kyj**, President, with Reverend **Stepan Sus**, Head of The Military Chaplaincy in Lviv.



Dr. Larissa Kyj and Rev. Stepan Sus