UMANA Board of Directors Meets in St. Petersburg, FL

By George Hrycelak, MD

The Board of Directors of UMANA held its regular quarterly meeting on October 13th at the Sirata Beach Resort and Conference Center in St. Petersburg Beach, Florida. Responding to an invitation extended by the Florida Branch President Dr. Taras Kochno, UMANA National President Dr. Ariadna Holynskyj cheerfully convened the board to meet in the state hosting the newest of UMANA’s 18 chapters.

The meeting opened on Saturday morning with greetings by Drs. Holynskyj and Kochno, followed by a routine session of association business. Board members present were Dr. Holynskyj, president; Dr. Andrew Melnyk, vice-president (by teleconference); Dr. Wayne Tymchak, president elect (by teleconference); Dr. Borys Buniak, secretary; Dr. Roman Pravak, treasurer; Dr. Taras Kochno, Florida branch president; Dr. Ihor Fedoriw, Pennsylvania branch president; Dr. Roxolana Horbowyj, Maryland-DC Metro president; Dr. Luba Komar, Toronto branch president (by teleconference); Dr. Maria Hrycelak, UMANA Foundation president, and Dr. George Hrycelak, executive director. Florida branch members attending were Dr. and Mrs. Korol, Dr. Nataliya Rakowsky, Dr. Askold Mosijczuk, Dr. Eugene Steckiw, and Dr. Lyda Tymiak. The growth of the largest Ukrainian-American professional association continues, with 2007 membership poised to eclipse last year’s total of 496 active members.

A significant portion of the meeting was spent discussing the issue of finding a replacement editor-in-chief of the Journal of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (JUMANA). The board felt that it would be beneficial to extend a search to all members on record, suggesting that they might form an editorial board to lessen the workload, and spread the responsibilities among themselves according to relevant skills and interests. At its recent convention this June, the Assembly of Delegates of UMANA voted to continue publication of JUMANA with specific changes regarding the editorial content and scope of the journal. The board is intent in complying with the wishes of the Assembly and proceeding with the intention and goals spelled out by the delegates.

Saturday afternoon was devoted to meeting with the Florida branch members. Dr. Kochno reported on the status of the chapter, summarizing the recent branch activity and exploring planning options for the upcoming year. Members eagerly volunteered for needed positions and encouraged Dr. Kochno to definitely proceed with plans for a Florida Branch meeting in the near future.

At the conclusion of the formal portion of the meeting, the board joined friends and relatives for a dinner cruise on the Starlight Princess, enjoying a pleasant meal to live music. Some UMANA members were so energized by the meeting that they felt the need to work off their excess energy on the small marine dance floor.

The next meeting of the UMANA board of directors is scheduled for February 2, 2008, in Chicago. This event coincides with the annual meeting of the UMANA Foundation as well as the UMANA Illinois Branch’s Traditional Debutante Ball. Dr. Holynskyj and her officers look forward to a fruitful and well-attended meeting.

UMANA Members at the joint meeting in St. Petersburg, FL: (sitting from left) Dr. W. Korol, Mrs. H. Korol, Dr. E. Steckiw; (standing from left) Drs. G. Hrycelak, A. Holynskyj, B. Buniak, T. Kochno, L. Tymiak, R. Pravak, M. Hrycelak, and I. Fedoriw.


NOTES ON PEOPLE

Dr. Ulana R. Bodnar, UMANA Illinois Branch member, has been promoted to a Captain in the United States Public Health Service. A promotion ceremony and luncheon took place at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Chicago in October 2007.

Dr. Daniel Hryhorczuk, MD, MPH, UMANA Illinois Branch member, professor of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences at the University of Illinois, Chicago, was elected as Foreign Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences in Ukraine in July 2007.

Dr. Bohdan A. Iwanetz, MD, a Chicago Medical Society (CMS) member since 1981 and past president of UMANA (2003-2005), has been elected a Trustee of District 8 of the CMS. He completed his surgical residency at Cook County Hospital and is certified by the American Board of Surgery. Dr. Iwanetz has served in various branch and district leadership positions of the CMS.

Basil Marchuk, MD, UMANA Illinois Branch member, past president of UMANA (1987-89), celebrated his 85th birthday in August.

Pavlo Pundy, MD, UMANA Illinois Branch member, author, past UMANA archivist and chronicler of events, celebrated his 85th birthday in April 2007.

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President’s Message

Greetings!

We have just returned from our UMANA Board meeting in St. Petersburg, Florida. It was a pleasure to meet with the Florida Chapter President, Dr. Taras Kochno, and local members: Drs. Eugene Steckiw, Wolodymyr Korol, Lyda Tymiak, Roman Prawak, Askold Mosijczuk, Nataliya Rakowsky, and Teofil Kulyk. I would like to thank Drs. Maria Hrycelak, George Hrycelak, Roxolana Horbowyj, Ihor Fedoriw, Borys Buniak, Andrew Melnyk, Wayne Tymchak, and Luba Komar for taking time out of their busy schedules and participating in our meeting, either in person or via teleconference. An important topic addressed at this meeting was JUMANA, specifically, candidates for an Editorial Board as well as the position of Editor. Everyone will soon be getting a mailing describing the duties a position on the Editorial Board would require. In order for our journal to exist, we need a few enthusiastic members to join this committee. This is your opportunity to work with your UMANA colleagues to create something we can be proud of that represents our organization.

It was wonderful to hear of the many events our chapters in Toronto, Edmonton, NY/NJ, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Florida are planning for 2007-2008. I encourage everyone to attend these events and support your local chapters. Also, a reminder for our Chapter Presidents to please share events and activities with all of us by updating our Calendar of Events on the website and in UMANA News.

We encourage all UMANA members to join us at the 2008 Traditional UMANA Banquet and Charity Ball, which will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2008, at the Grand Ballroom of the Palmer House Hilton Hotel in Chicago, Illinois.

Thank you for making UMANA a growing and active organization. As always, please feel free to contact me with any comments and/or questions via email: chudovaali@aol.com or telephone at 973-397-9651.

Ariadna Holynskyj

Editor’s Note

UMANA News is all about you and your community. We’ve committed to publishing UMANA News quarterly. For practical purposes a 4-page issue, like this one, is the smallest issue we can produce.

Many of you may not be aware that the U.S. Postal Service has greatly reduced the period in which it will forward mail. As a result, we use UMANA News to keep track of our membership. If you have moved and not had a chance to let us know, the newsletter, sent every 3 months, will keep us current on your address. To save on postage, we are striving to send all correspondence other than UMANA News to you via email. We greatly appreciate that you make sure we have your current email address.

You will notice in this issue we elected to include coverage of an event we thought would be of interest to our members, though not directly sponsored by UMANA. Our first choice always is to publish news from individual members and chapters. You are encouraged to send photos and articles covering activities of upcoming and recent chapter events and any other events you think will be of interest to our membership. Articles should be in Word and accompanying photos scanned at 300 dpi or greater. Send your article suggestions and contributions to UMANA Executive Director George Hrycelak, MD at uma@umana.org. Your articles, by far, take precedence in prioritizing stories for UMANA News.

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Ukrainian World Golf Challenge 5

By Bohdan Kushnir

The next Ukrainian Golf Challenge will be staged in Vancouver in the summer of 2008. As before, this will include Ukrainian competitors (and non-competitors) from Australia, the U.S., Great Britain, Germany, Canada, and this time there also will be a large contingent of native-born Ukrainian golfers from Kyiv. This is the first time Canada has had the honor to host this week-long event. Previous Challenges, held roughly every 2½ years, were in Australia, Hawaii, Spain, and Florida. All together we’re expecting over 180 people, including 120 golfers.

Five rounds of golf are to be played at a variety of prestigious courses, a different one each day, including a full-day trip to the famous Whistler resort. The golf, hotel, many meals, bus transportation, and many other things are included in the cost.

Join in our 5th International Challenge for men and women of ALL golfing abilities. Meet new friends and promote camaraderie between countries and Ukrainian communities. Test your game against other Ukrainians and compete for your country in a true tournament environment.

Although registration opened January 14, 2007, there are people interested in the event who are just recently hearing about it. For this reason, we’re issuing a broader notification that there are still openings available for the event.

For full details see the Ukrainian Golf Association of Canada website at www.ugolf.ca. It contains information about the Challenge, past tournaments and history, the UGAC itself, and provides links to our parallel Ukrainian golf associations around the world. For further information email directly to ugac@sympatico.ca. This is truly a unique and wonderful Ukrainian community experience.