UMANA Activity Flourishes

By Dr. George Hrycelak, UMANA Executive Director

You are receiving the latest UMANA newsletter with your annual dues statement. We’d like you to read it and reflect on the accomplishments of your colleagues throughout North America. When you are done, pass it on to someone who might be interested in becoming a member. Remember to share your personal accomplishments as well as branch activities with UMANA – send us a brief note with your photo, perhaps some snapshots of your event, and we will do our best to publish it.

The blazing colors of fall have ignited a burst of activity throughout UMANA’s local branches. Members have participated in activities ranging from end-of-summer picnics to formal lectures with CME credits. Participant turnout at these events has been respectable, giving veteran members and new applicants alike a venue to meet, network, and exchange ideas relevant to our profession.

Inside this issue, you will find highlights of recent events in Chicago, New York, Toronto, and Washington, DC. Plans are underway in many branches to hold annual Yalynkas as well as traditional winter and New Year zabavas. The central office is feverishly working to make the 2009 Scientific Convention in Vancouver, BC, a memorable success.

Our premier Ukrainian language medical journal Likarskyj Visnyk (JUMANA) is now under the capable leadership of Dr. Roxolana Horbowyj, assisted by Editorial Board members Drs. Vassyl Lonchyna, Volodymyr Pyatokha, and Pavlo Pundy. This talented team is now working quietly in the background preparing the next edition of the journal – look for it in print and electronic format early in 2009.

If your branch is one of the active ones, watch for notification of upcoming events. If your branch is not meeting often enough for your satisfaction, contact your officers and urge them to become active. (You can learn their names on your web site www.umana.org.)

If you are located in an area where there is no local branch, all is not lost. You can keep up with your colleagues by reading this newsletter, checking UMANA’s website, participating in the next Scientific Conference and Assembly of Delegates in Vancouver, BC, Canada in July 2009, and communicating with the national office in Chicago.

UMANA CHAPTER NEWS

Illinois Chapter
The UMANA Illinois Chapter and the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory of Batavia, Illinois, jointly sponsored a presentation by radiation oncologist Borys Mychalczak, MD, of the Memorial Sloan Kettering Institute of New York. Held in Wilson Hall on Fermilab’s dramatically expansive prairie-like campus, branch president Dr. Roman Saldan introduced Dr. Mychalczak, who brought the audience up-to-date on “The Death of Alexander Litvinenko – Understanding the Health Effects of Polonium 210 Exposure”. Physicians earned one hour of CME I credit for participating.

Over 70 UMANA Illinois members, as well as staff of Fermilab, listened intently

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WFUMA Congress Convenes in Ukraine

By Roxolana Horbowyj, MD

The 12th Clinical Congress of the World Federation of Ukrainian Medical Associations (WFUMA) was held September 25–28, 2008 in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine. Over 750 physicians and delegates attended, representing 13 countries: Ukraine, U.S.A., Brazil, Finland, Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Poland, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Moldova, Russia, and Finland. Academic highlights and specialty meetings included a day-long session dedicated to physician self-governance. Two web symposia were held: eZustrich Likariv 12 (Type 2 Diabetes in Children, with speakers from Cymy, Ukraine, Chicago, IL, and Liverpool, England) and eZustrich Likariv 13 (Tele-Medicine in 2008, with speakers from Lehi, UT, Donetsk, Kyiv, and Lviv, Ukraine).


The current Executive Board was re-elected, and a new Board of Directors was chosen. The 13th WFUMA Clinical Congress in 2010 is scheduled to take place in Lviv, honoring the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Ukrainian Medical Society in Lviv, Ukraine. Laskavo Prosymo!

WFUMA Vice President Dr. Roxolana Horbowyj speaks to attendees in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine.

OBITUARIES

Erast Burachynskyj, MD, age 88: Lviv Medical School, Ukraine 1944; UMANA Illinois Chapter member and past-president, died September 10, 2008. 
President’s Message

Greetings!

I am happy to share with our members a few of the many exciting events planned through UMANA and its local Chapters.

UMANA’s next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 14, 2009 in Chicago, Illinois at UMANA headquarters. Later that evening the UMANA Foundation will hold its annual Debutante Ball. This is always a festive event and promises to be even more so this year, as there will be a touch of romance added to an already elegant night. Speaking of the UMANA Foundation, please do not forget that our organization now offers medical students the opportunity to apply for scholarships. Applications and additional information are available through the UMANA website.

Thanks to the efforts of our President Elect, Dr. Wayne Tymchak, and his organizing committee, Dr. Luba Komar, Dr. George Hrycelak, and Dr. Maria Hrycelak, plans for the 40th Scientific Convention and 33rd Assembly of Delegates to be held in Vancouver, BC, Canada, July 1-5, 2009 are well on their way! Please join us for what promises to be a unique and memorable gathering.

The NY Metro Chapter will host its annual Yalynka in conjunction with Ukrainian Engineers Society of America (UESA) and the Ukrainian Institute of America (UIA) on December 13th at the Ukrainian American Institute in New York City. This is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with colleagues as well as experience the magic of the Big Apple during the holidays!

As I mentioned previously, these are just a few of the wonderful events that UMANA has planned. I encourage UMANA local chapter presidents to utilize this newsletter and share with your colleagues plans for future meetings, social gatherings, and member news.

On that note, I will end this issue’s message with news of my own. My husband, Oleh, daughters, Alexa and Sophia, and I are proud to welcome two new members to our family! Julian and Markian, were born on September 20, 2008.

Wishing you all the best!
Ariadna Holynskyj, MD

NOTES ON PEOPLE

Jaroslaw Barwinsky, MD, (Winnipeg Branch) professor emeritus, continues to give lectures on surgical anatomy and medical ethics to surgical residents at the University of Manitoba, as requested by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

Bohdan Charkewycz, MD (Illinois Branch) was promoted to vice chairman of the Anesthesia Department of Westlake Hospital in Melrose Park and Holy Family Hospital and Medical Center in Des Plaines, both in Illinois.

Roman Bilynsky, MD (New York Metro Branch) was appointed commander of Patterson Army Health Clinic, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, in June 2007. He previously served as Deputy Commander of Clinical Services (Chief of Medical Staff) 2005-2007.

Maria Hrycelak, MD (Illinois Branch) celebrated with family and friends the 25th anniversary of her pediatric practice with Park Ridge Pediatrics, Illinois on August 3, 2008.

Michael J. Hrycelak, MD (New York Metro Branch) completed his fellowship in neuro-anesthesiology at the Yale University School of Medicine. He accepted a position with the Anesthesia Association of Southern Connecticut, practicing at Norwalk Hospital in Norwalk, Connecticut.

Vsevolod Kohutiak, MD (Pennsylvania Branch) announced his retirement from practice on May 31, 2008 and assumed emeritus status.

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Maryland-DC Metro Chapter

UMANA Maryland-DC members met on September 14, 2008 to enjoy the nice weather and picnic atmosphere during the world-famous Washington Ukrainian Festival, sponsored by the St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Silver Springs, Maryland. The verdant surroundings were conducive to a productive as well as relaxing meeting of the area’s Ukrainian membership and community.

New York Metro Chapter

The UMANA New York Metro Chapter co-sponsored “Welcome to Ukrainian New York” on September 27, 2008 at the Ukrainian Institute of America. The event showcased our Tovarystvo to the other organizations as well as our Hromada.

The gathering facilitated social interaction and “bridge-building” among the Ukrainian Institute, other Ukrainian organizations in the metro New York region, and the broader local community.

Toronto Chapter

UMANA Toronto Branch President Luba Komar, MD attended the launch of the Ukrainian Chapter of the Canadian Diabetes Association on September 13, 2008, at the Ukrainian Festival in Toronto. She had the opportunity to meet with the Parade Marshal Randy Bachman, formerly of Bachman Turner Overdrive and The Guess Who, whose maternal grandparents were from the Ternopil region of Ukraine.

On October 9, 2008, The UMANA Toronto Chapter held its regular meeting at the West Park Health Centre in Toronto. The night’s theme was disaster management, with the “Moscow Terrorist Hostage Taking” serving as the disaster game focus. Dr. Laurie Mazurik of the Sunnybrook Health Science Centre was the moderator. Members reported high satisfaction, learning from realistic simulations of disasters and from collaboration with other community services.

The next Toronto Branch meeting is the day of the Ukrainian election, Sunday, Dec 7. Also, it will be our Yalynka.

NOTES ON PEOPLE

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Diana Traska, OD (New York Metro Branch) and husband Yarema are proud to announce the arrival of twin girls Claudia and Sophia on June 21, 2008.