New York Metro Hosts UMANA Board Meeting

By George Hrycelak, MD

The New York Metro branch of UMANA hosted the Board of Directors Spring meeting at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey in Whippany on April 12, 2008.

Board members regularly travel to branch cities at their own expense to maintain contact with branches. Non-traveling directors participate through the marvel of teleconferencing. The Board enjoyed visiting New York Metro as UMANA’s original chapter, founded in 1950. This branch has consistently adopted a leading role in activity and member participation, numbering over 100 active members.

Deliberations were attended by Drs. Ariadna Holynsky, president, Borys Buniak, secretary, Roman Prawak, treasurer, Wayne Tymchak, president-elect, George Hrycelak, executive director, Maria Hrycelak, UMANA Foundation president, Alexandra Kushnir, membership director, Roxolana Horbowyj, WFUMA liaison, Borys Mychalczak, NY Metro Chapter president, and Luba Komar, Toronto Chapter president.

After a long search, a new editorial board was appointed to oversee the continued publication of the Ukrainian-language medical professional journal Likarskyj Visnyk (JUMANA). This journal unites medical colleagues in the diaspora. As one of UMANA’s publications, it serves as a professional portal to the world. The new editorial board, chaired by Dr. Roxolana Horbowyj, consists of experienced and qualified volunteers Drs. Vassyl Lonchyna, Pavlo Pundy, Volodymyr Pyatokha, and George Truchly. Preparation for the next issue of JUMANA is their immediate goal.

The Board confirmed President-Elect Dr. Wayne Tymchak’s proposal to hold UMANA’s next Scientific Conference and Assembly of Delegates in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, July 1 through July 5, 2009. The conference committee will begin work in preparation for the 2009 meeting shortly.

Following the Board meeting, the New York Metro Chapter held a regular meeting chaired by branch President Dr. Borys Mychalczak, with President-Elect Dr. Viktor Gribenko, Secretary Lyudmila Lachac, and branch member Dr. Adrian Baranetsky joined by the national Board members.

At the conclusion of the meetings, members enjoyed a memorable and first U.S. performance of the musical play “Natalka Poltavka,” staged by Kyiv’s famed Ivan Franko Theater, before an energetic and receptive audience that packed the theater to capacity. After the play, the audience had an opportunity to mingle with the cast over delicious hors d’oeuvres and enjoy an international repartee well into the warm Spring evening. For further information about UMANA, call (773) 278-6262, or visit our website, www.umana.org.
Umansana Chapter News

Toronto Chapter
By popular request, the Toronto branch’s May 8th meeting highlighted the work of our member, Dr. Peter Kujtan, a family MD and part-time investigating coroner for the city of Mississauga. Dr. Kujtan presented a brief history of the origins of “coroners,” the Coroners Act, and specifics of Coroner’s Inquests. The nearly 25 attendees enjoyed a delicious pizza break, which preceded the most interesting part of the evening… real cases - gory pictures included.

Among those cases discussed were a German tourist found dead in her hotel bed and left behind by her tour group; a suspicious death in a car garage of a marijuana grower; a recent immigrant, who had probably had no health care in Canada, found dead in his rooming house; and a horrendous collision of an SUV that had been clipped by a driver under the influence and that then spun out, flipped over the median and onto its roof, directly into the path of two on-coming transport trailers. Presciently, even deaths on trains and their ensuing complications were discussed – the next morning a train in Northern Ontario was quarantined due to an on-board death among 10 sick passengers.

Obituary

John Kyzyk, DMD; age 89; New York University, New York, 1956; UMANA New England Chapter past Executive Board member, died February 21, 2007.

Get Ready for 2009!

UMANA XI Scientific Convention
XXXIII Assembly of Delegates
Vancouver, BC, Canada
July 1 – July 5, 2009

A – Ethics
B – Safety & Risk Management
C – Emergency Preparedness & Disaster Management

Submit abstracts by December 1, 2008 to: Dr. Luba Komar at lkomar@sympatico.ca

Just For Fun

World’s biggest hopak? Check out this website, courtesy Dr. Ihor Zachary:
http://www.youtube.com:80/watch?v=MQiZ2zZ3QHU&feature=related
President’s Message

Greetings!

I would like to thank Drs. Maria Hrycelak, George Hrycelak, Borys Buniak, Borys Mychalczak, Adrian Baranetsky, Victor Gribenko, Wayne Tymchak, Roxolana Horbowyj, Luba Komar, Alexandra Kushner, Roman Prawak, and Ms. Lyudmila Lachac for participating in the Board of Directors meeting held at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey in Whippany, NJ on April 12, 2008. It was not only a very productive meeting but also gave the Board an opportunity to tour the cultural center. Dr. Wayne Tymchak, our president-elect, enthusiastically shared his findings for the 2009 40th Scientific Convention and 33rd Assembly of Delegates to be held in Vancouver, B.C. the first weekend in July. We look forward to sharing more details and hope to see you there!

I am pleased to announce that the search for a JUMANA editorial board is a success! Many thanks to Drs. Roxolana Horbowyj (chairperson), Paul Pundy, George Truchly, Vasyl Lonchyna, and Volodymyr Pyatokha for graciously volunteering to join the JUMANA board. Anyone interested in assisting the committee by editing articles related to their specialty, please let the JUMANA committee know. Following our Board meeting on April 12, 2008, many of us had the pleasure of attending a presentation of “Natalka Poltavka,” performed by Ukraine’s Ivan Franko Theater. Congratulations to UMANA members and family: Dr. Marta Lopatynska, Nadia Matkiwsky, Valerie Burachinsky, Zenia Olesnicky, Christine Kryzaniwsky, and Christine Demidowich, the organizing committee, for all of their efforts in bringing these performers to the U.S. and especially to the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey.

As many of you may have read in the article by Dr. Hrycelak in The Ukrainian Weekly, UMANA branch activity is on the increase. I am very happy to see such an increase in member involvement! Many thanks to the Toronto, Illinois, New York/ New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Michigan chapters for their enthusiasm. We look forward to hearing of future meetings and events!

Sincerely,
Ariadna Holynskyj, MD

Ukrainian-American MDs Ranked Among ‘Best Doctors’ in New Jersey, Chicago

By George Hrycelak, MD

Five Ukrainian-American physicians were ranked as top doctors by their peers in compilations published in the November 2007 issue of New Jersey Monthly and the January 2008 issue of Chicago Magazine.

In its annual survey of New Jersey practicing physicians, the New Jersey Monthly cover story lists 573 physicians from throughout the state ranked by their colleagues as “Best Doctors.” They represent 1.7% of all physicians practicing with a New Jersey license. Included in the respected listing are four physicians with a Ukrainian-American background. These physicians are not only at the top of their game, but are active in their communities and maintain contact with their roots.

Ihor Sawczuk, MD specializes in robotic prostate surgery, and kidney and bladder cancer surgery at the Hackensack University Medical Center. Dr. Sawczuk is an active member of UMANA who spoke on “Prostate Cancer Screening” at the UMANA Scientific Convention in June 2007.

Marta Lopatynsky, MD practices ophthalmology at Morristown Memorial Hospital. Dr. Lopatynsky is a long-time member of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA).

Daria Klachko, MD practices obstetrics and gynecology in West Orange, New Jersey. She is a member of the medical advisory committee of the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund.

Nicholas Baranetsky, MD is a practicing endocrinologist at St. Michael’s Medical Center, Newark; Clara Maass Medical Center, Belleville; Columbus Hospital, Newark; and St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston, New Jersey. The January 2008 issue of Chicago Magazine also named the top 355 physicians in the Chicago metropolitan area, selected by their peers. Included in this list is one Ukrainian-American physician.

Peter Liber, MD practices pediatrics in Wheaton, Illinois and is affiliated with Central Dupage Hospital. He is the current vice-president of the Illinois Branch of UMANA.

UMANA congratulates these physicians on their accomplishment and wishes them continued success in their careers and profession.

If you are an UMANA member who has distinguished him or herself by being selected for the Best Doctors list (bestdoctors.com), please let us know. Provide UMANA News with a brief description of your medical specialty and the publication in which the list appeared. We would also like to hear from members who hold faculty positions or have published or presented research in their area of expertise. These members are role models for young Ukrainian-Americans in all professions, showing what can be achieved through hard work, dedication, and perseverance.
Facts From The Archives:

Art and UMANA

By Maria Hrycelak, MD, UMANA Archivist

Did you know that UMANA’s history encompasses not only the art of medicine but also the history of art?


Consider UMANA’s logo. Where did it come from? The modern logo and covers of Likars’kyj Visnyk 1968-1971 were designed by Ukrainian humorist and artist Edvard Kozak (1902-1975), widely known as Eko.