

## UMANA Rocks Nashville 2023

The UMANA XLVI Scientific Conference and the XL Assembly of Delegates concluded its first live post-pandemic convention in Nashville, Tennessee. An energetic crowd of health professionals met to hear an informative series of lectures on varied topics related to technological advancement and its impact on medicine.

Cutting edge topics discussed included AI, 3D printing in joint replacement, PFAs in our surroundings, automation and artificial intelligence in radiation oncology, AI in medical imaging, current therapies in rheumatology, gastrointestinal microbiome, new cancer therapeutics, current complex cardiology procedures, and the latest gadolinium chelates.

Topics relating to Ukraine comprised the use of mobile apps for peer-to-peer consultations, AI in radiation therapy for malignancies, and the current statistics on general immunization rate among the Ukrainian population.

Other topics of interest included the Ukrainian Catholic University's addressing the physical and mental health needs of Ukraine's vulnerable populations, along with a summary of RAZOM's advocacy activity with government representatives.

Keynote speaker Michelle Hladunewich, MD, BSc, MSc, FRCP, from Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto, described the Canada Ukraine Foundation (CUF) Health Advisory Team's implementation of seven surgical missions to Ukraine.

An UMANA first included a Young Investigators Program. Four medical students presented abstracts on various topics of research in their respective specialties.

On the social side, members were able to visit Nashville's Honky-Tonk Highway, hear the twang of country music throughout the town, and participate in line-dancing after eating hot fried chicken. Members enjoyed three group evenings of camaraderie and networking, while partaking of Southern cuisine.

At Saturday's traditional Awards Dinner, incoming president **Marta Lopatynsky, MD**, presented outgoing president **Leo Wolansky, MD**, a plaque recognizing his two years work during a difficult and critical time in the history of UMANA and Ukraine.

Conferees departed Sunday with plans to re-unite in two years to catch up, renew connections, and share knowledge.



# UMANA CHAPTER NEWS

**ILLINOIS BRANCH** continues to support injured Ukrainians on the front lines. Since May they have sent a second container and 45 blue bags with medical supplies. The Chapter was able to purchase 2 defibrillators and 2 ventilators that have been delivered to the front line hospitals and doctors with whom they have worked closely since the invasion. These Zoll medical military grade portable defibrillators and ventilators are designed to operate in an EMS environment.

Thank you to all the donors and volunteers who contributed to the Ventilator Project but especially to the Chicago Bandura Ensemble for its two fundraisers, and the generous donations from St. Mary & Elizabeth Hospital, Dr. and Mrs. Bohdan Iwanetz and the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art.



*Ventilators and defibrillators delivered to Ukraine.*

**NEW YORK METRO BRANCH** continues to collect and send medical supplies to Ukraine. A few members attended an event at the Ukrainian Institute of America on May 4, 2023, to welcome Deputy Speaker of the Polish Parliament M. Gosiewska, who is a vocal advocate for continued support of Ukraine. Also in attendance were

wounded Ukrainian soldiers here in the U.S. receiving prosthetic assistance.

The Chapter was well represented at the UMANA Scientific Conference in Nashville. Three of our youngest members, medical students, presented scientific papers: **Christine Lenchur, Peter D. Lenchur, and Ivan Wolansky.**



*Peter D. Lenchur, Dr. Christine Lenchur, Roksolana Sudyk, and Ivan Wolansky*

*Dr. Ruta Cholhan-Lenchur with wounded Ukrainian soldiers at UIA.*



## 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 the 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, view, and opinions expressed in UMANA News is not necessarily endorsed by UMANA.

Distributed to members and friends of UMANA

**UMANA News Acting Editor:** George Hrycelak, MD, Elmwood Park, IL  
**Copy Editing and Layout:** Nadia Zajac, Chicago, IL

**Electronic Version:** [www.umana.org/newsletter.shtml](http://www.umana.org/newsletter.shtml)

**Send your articles, letters, and comments to:**  
UMANA News

2247 West Chicago Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60622-8957  
Email: [umana@umana.org](mailto:umana@umana.org)

The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America

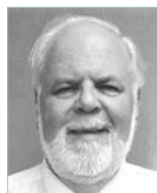


## SAVE THE DATES - BRANCH PICNICS

**ILLINOIS – Sunday, August 20, 2023, 1:30 pm at UYCO/Plast Campground “Оселя” in Round Lake Park.**

**OHIO – Sunday, September 10, 2023, 2:00 pm, at St. Pokrova Ukrainian Catholic Parish Pavilion in Parma.**

## OBITUARIES



**LITEPLO, Ronald MD**, age 75, *New York University 1972*, member of UMANA New York Metro Branch, died February 12, 2023.



**SALAK, Wasył MD**, age 94, *Ludwig-Maximillan Universität München 1955*, member and longtime President of UMANA Pennsylvania Branch, died May 9, 2023.





## President's Message

“Lost time is never found again.” – Benjamin Franklin.  
“Time is the most valuable resource.” – Volodymyr Zelensky

Franklin's and Zelensky's wise words remind us of the fleeting nature of time and the importance of seizing every precious second.

Our time together has begun and I look forward to working with all of you over the next two years. Since February 24, 2022 our network of medical professionals have been spending their precious time supporting Ukraine at unprecedented levels. Your non-Ukrainian friends and colleagues are donating money and supplies as the need continues. This support is partly a result of their goodness but also to a large extent due to the time each of you spend building relationships, your outstanding reputations and time invested in your local circles.

Our recent inspirational scientific meeting in Nashville, TN, included many new UMANA members and speakers – we were so happy that you found time to enrich our meeting and our minds. We learned about projects like: 1. “Radiation therapy during the war in Ukraine and how to help” presented by Dr. Kovalchuk 2. “Reconstructing Casualties of War” by Dr Hladunewich – (she had everyone in tears and ready to volunteer for the next mission!) 3. “HealUA – peer to peer consultation during the war in Ukraine” by Dr. Melnitchouk. We'll continue to present various projects to our members and support them! In addition to CME credits, we have an opportunity to build our relationships and opportunities to work together! I enthusiastically encourage everyone to mark their calendars and join us for the June 2025 conference.

Embracing the significance of time means understanding the importance of balance. It involves knowing when to work and when to rest, when to seize opportunities and when to wait patiently. Our actions today shape the outcomes of tomorrow, and each decision we make echoes into the future. UMANA's members and friends have initiated incredible projects to aid Ukraine and every action matters – congratulations to all! Let's continue to use our time to achieve even more:

1. Expand UMANA membership
2. Coordinate efforts to make better use of our time and funds
3. Participate or help organize activities in your areas – fundraise, network, mentor

It is up to us to make every second count, to strengthen our bonds, and to strengthen UMANA's purpose and goals. The clock is ticking, and our journey together continues to unfold!

*“All of our tomorrows, and the tomorrows of our children and grandchildren, depend on each of our todays”* – Zelensky

Carpe Diem! Слава Україні!

Marta Lopatynsky, MD  
Д-р Марта Лопатинська



### *We welcome the new UMANA Executive Board Members for 2023-2025*

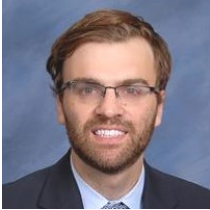
**Drs. Leo Murskyj, Roman Kozyckyj, Marta Lopatynsky — President,  
George Hrycelak, and Catherine Krycyclak.**

(not pictured: **Drs. Olena Gordon and Inia Tunstall**)

# UMANA MEMBER NEWS



**Khrystyna DEKA, MD** (Illinois Branch) matched at Danbury Hospital and will be doing her Internal Medicine residency in Danbury, Connecticut.



**Stephen DZUL, MD, PhD** (Michigan Branch), completed his residency in radiation oncology at Detroit Medical Center. He has accepted a staff position at Beaumont Hospital in Dearborn.



**Anastasia Hryhorczuk, MD** (Michigan Branch) has been promoted to Clinical Associate Professor of Radiology by the University of Michigan Medical School.

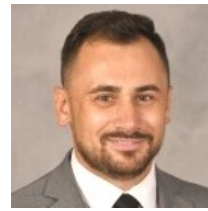


**Ulyana KHABA, MD** (Illinois Branch) matched at the University of Rochester Internal Medicine Residency Program.

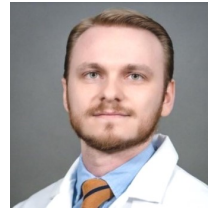


**Yevhen PAVELKO, MD** (Illinois Branch) finished his Minimally Invasive and Robotic Surgery Fellowship in 2022, and completed a Bariatric Surgery Fellowship in 2023 at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He is

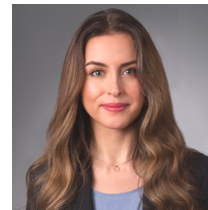
now practicing as Upper GI and Bariatric Surgeon at OSF St. Anthony Medical Center in Rockford and Little Company of Mary Hospital in Chicago.



**Vasyl PRYSHLIAK, MD** (Illinois Branch) matched into the Pathology Residency program at SUNY in Syracuse, NY.



**Andriian SEREDA, MD** (At-Large Member in Washington), has become an Internal Medicine Resident physician and will be continuing his career at Skagit Valley Hospital in Mount Vernon, Washington.



**Sofia SOBKIV, MD** (Illinois Branch), graduate of Poznan University, Poland, will begin her residency at PRISMA Health/University of South Carolina Greenville in Neurology.



**Maria TONKOPIY, MD** (Florida Branch), graduated from San Juan Bautista School of Medicine, Puerto Rico (Baylor College of Medicine) and started a transitional year residency with HCA Healthcare East Florida.

In May 2023 a team of medical volunteers traveled with MedGlobal to Ukraine to teach point-of-care ultrasound to Ukrainian frontline physicians. Two UMANA emergency physicians, **Drs. Tanya BUCIERKA** and **Andrew LITEPLO**, traveled with MedGlobal to provide the training. Dr. Bucierka, originally from Rochester, NY, is an emergency physician in Eugene, Oregon. Incredibly, this was her fifth trip with MedGlobal to Ukraine to teach ultrasound since the war began. Dr. Bucierka is MedGlobal's Director of Ultrasound for the country of Ukraine. Dr. Andrew Liteplo, originally from New York, is the Chief of Associate Professor at Harvard Medical School. His academic career focuses on teaching and researching point-of-care ultrasound.



*Drs. Andrew Liteplo, Vicki Noble, Kevin Sze, and Tanya Bucierka in Rivne, Ukraine.*

(More information about their trip will be published in the next *Journal of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America—JUMANA*)