

## Breaking Down Barriers to Healthcare



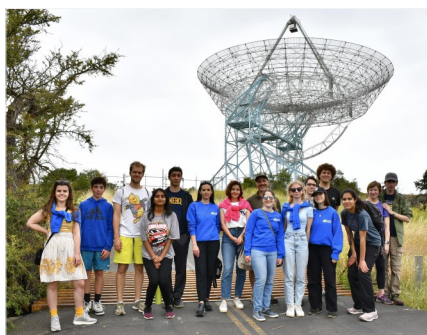
By *UMANA* student member Julia Minkevitch, B.S.

At TeleHelp Ukraine, we believe that medicine should not be restricted by geography, borders, or war. Since April 2022, our nonprofit 501c3 charity has been dedicated to serving Ukrainians affected by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Our goal is to provide free, quality medical and mental health support through telemedicine services. Utilizing a global network of clinicians, interpreters, case managers, and volunteers, we ensure that every patient receives the care they deserve, regardless of their circumstances.

**How We Operate:** Founded by medical and computer science students at Stanford University, TeleHelp Ukraine began by constructing technological workflows to facilitate telemedicine consultations. We focus on care, coordination and patient advocacy, employing a system of case managers, interpreters, and medical document translators to streamline the process.

**Our Services:** We offer a variety of clinical services, from primary care to specialty care and mental health support. With over 100 healthcare providers participating, we've completed over 2,500 consultations to date, addressing concerns such as anxiety disorders, depression, trauma, and more.

**How to Access Care:** Individuals in Ukraine or Poland can register for a free appointment through our booking platform, selecting their desired medical specialty, language preference, and appointment time. Patients can submit previous medical records for review, and we provide interpreters as needed during consultations.



*Telehelp Ukraine leadership at the Stanford Dish in California*

**Our Volunteers:** TeleHelp Ukraine comprises over 100 volunteers from 10 different countries, including many leaders from Ukraine. All volunteers undergo identity verification, and providers complete licensing verification to ensure quality care. Interpretation and translation services are provided by volunteers with medical training, prioritizing patient confidentiality and privacy.

**Join Us in Making a Difference:** TeleHelp Ukraine is actively seeking passionate individuals to join our cause, especially those fluent in Ukrainian or Russian and with a background in medicine. Whether you're a healthcare provider or interested in non-medical roles such as social media or fundraising, your skills are invaluable in providing free medical and mental health support to those affected by conflict. Visit our website to learn more about volunteering or donating and help us break down barriers to healthcare in Ukraine.

[www.telehelpukraine.com](http://www.telehelpukraine.com)

### More Ukrainian Translators Needed!

Desired skills

- Fluency in Ukrainian and English
- Proofreading skills
- Ability to work in Google Workspace
- Knowledge of medical terminology (preferred)
- Experience/training in the medical field (preferred)



**TELEHELP UKRAINE**



**VOLUNTEER NOW!**

[www.telehelpukraine.com](http://www.telehelpukraine.com)

# UMANA CHAPTER NEWS

**MICHIGAN BRANCH** recently presented a Career Day at Ukrainian Saturday School “Ridna Shkola”. Following an intro by resident Dr. Anastazia Novatchynski, students spent time at three stations: **Drs. Grygori Gerasymchuk and Alexander Figacz** spoke about Radiology, **Dr. Bogdan Kindzelski** presented about cardiac surgery and provided an interactive mitral valve sim, and **Drs. Andrew Loginsky and Ivanna Muravytskyy** spoke about resuscitation and demonstrated a cardiac POCUS. The students were engaged and asked many questions. The chapter is hopeful to visit again next year with more volunteers from different specialties.



Michigan Branch members with “Ridna Shkola” students



**Coming soon!**

Keep your eye out for news of  
UMANA’s 75th celebration in 2025!



## 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

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

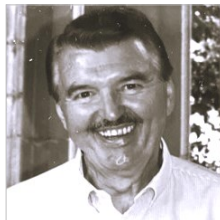
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The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America

## OBITUARIES



**BOYCHUK, Gene, MD**, age 91, *Albert-Ludwigs Universität Freiburg 1961*, member of UMANA Florida Branch, died February 9, 2024.



**BROWAR, Andrew DDS**, age 67, *University of Illinois Chicago 1979*, member of UMANA Illinois Branch, former National Board member 1983-99, and former Illinois Chapter President 1998-99, died April 7, 2024.



**CELEWYCZ, Ivanna “Joan”, MD**, age 99, *Friedrich-Wilhelms Universität Bonn 1950*, longtime member of UMANA Illinois Branch, died March 7, 2024.



**JAKUBOWYCZ, Alexander, MD**, age 87, *Universidad de Salamanca 1962*, member of UMANA Ohio Branch, died March 16, 2024.



**MASNYK, Ihor, PhD**, age 93, *University of Chicago, 1962*, member of UMANA Illinois and Maryland/DC Metro Branches, died March 4, 2024.



**WESTON, Stanley, MD**, age 103, *Uniwersytet Jana Kazimierza (now Lvivskiy Universitet) 1943*, longtime member of UMANA Southern California Branch, died May 17, 2023.



## President's Message

Dorohi,

I hope this message finds you well!

The recent passage of Aid to Ukraine by Congress is a great relief. It was facilitated by countless organizations and members who were tireless in messaging our representatives. Some of the most impactful messages were the ones that hit a personal note. Your calls and meetings were critically important since they countered so many negative calls. Let's continue to build these connections and thank the representatives who voted in favor of Ukraine Aid.

Our chapters and individual members continue with their hard work sending supplies and participating in missions. Every fundraising effort is important since the need for medical supplies and equipment is critical. UMANA is partnering with UCCA and Northwell Hospital Systems to send critically needed ambulances to Ukraine. Thank you for your time and ongoing dedication.

Please encourage your colleagues to join UMANA!

Carpe Diem and Slava Ukraini!

Marta Lopatynsky, MD  
President



Saturday morning, April 27, 2024, UMANA presented a Virtual Scientific Conference on “Challenges and Stages of Combat Medical Care in Plastics, Orthopedics and Microvascular Surgery”. Over 30 UMANA members and guests participated in an almost 2-hour ZOOM conference with the trauma team from Lutsk, Ukraine, led by the Medical Director of Surgery, Dr. Mykola Halejy, and discussion with Dr. Markian Pahuta (Toronto, Canada).

The team discussed several complex cases with the surgeon participants from North America (Canada and US). The non surgeons were exposed to the many challenges of combat medicine.

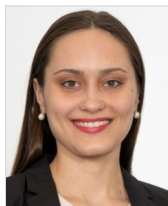
## One of UMANA's Centennials

Could membership in UMANA increase your longevity? Longtime dues paying member **Natalia Hryhorczuk, MD**, recently celebrated 100 productive birthdays in a life full of geographical and historical adventures. Medical practice both private and at the Chicago Board of Health Clinics responsible for Maternal and Child Health kept her faculties sharp and physically active. She may have had a subtle influence in encouraging her son **Dr. Danylo Hryhorczuk** and daughter **Dr. Diana Iwanik** to continue her legacy as physicians and active members of UMANA.

*Многая лима into the next century!*



# UMANA MEMBER NEWS



**Victoria BLAGA, BS** (Ohio Branch), will be graduating from Case Western School of Medicine in May 2024. She will be starting her residency in Ophthalmology at Kresge Eye Institute in Detroit.



**Katherine DOBOSH, MPH** (Pennsylvania Branch), will graduate in May 2024 from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine and will begin her residency in Family Medicine at Maine-Dartmouth in July.



**Nadia HRYNEWYCZ, DO** (Illinois Branch), graduated in 2023 from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in Pittsburgh, and has now matched at Mercy Hospital in Rockford, IL, in Internal Medicine.



**Myron LEWYCKYJ, MD** (Illinois Branch), received Surgical Teacher of the Year Award at Northwestern University Ophthalmology.



**Hanna MARKEWYCZ, BS** (Illinois Branch), will be graduating this May from the University of Illinois College of Medicine and will start her residency in Family Medicine at Loyola-McNeal Hospital in Maywood/Berwyn, Illinois.



**Yuliia OLENSKA, MD** (Illinois Branch), successfully passed the ECFMG certification, and will be doing her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at University of Wisconsin at Madison.



**Areta PODHORODECKI, MD** (New York Metro Branch) has transitioned to employment within Northwell Physician Partners. Northwell Lenox Hill took over the private practice 4 years ago and thus has allowed Areta to cut down to 30 hours per week. Considering her 45<sup>th</sup> medical school anniversary is coming up in 2025, she is enjoying more free time. Her practice is Physiatry with an emphasis on EMG And Medical Botox. She also joined the Sports Medicine Board.



**Andrew RENNER, MD** (Southern California Branch), retired in November 2023 after 49 years of general surgery practice at Providence St. Joseph Medical Center in Burbank, California.



**Vita RYMARUK-VARNER, PharmD, MD** (At-Large Member in North Carolina), is currently a clinical pharmacist and clinical data analyst at Elevance Health. Her primary are of interest is specialty pharmacy with a focus on biologics and monoclonal antibodies.



**Tetyana VASYLYEVA, MD** (At-Large Member in Texas), accepted a new position as Assistant Dean of Research Operation at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at Amarillo campus and President-Elect of Potter-Randall Counties Medical Society.



**Viktoriya VOYTOVICH, MD** (Illinois Branch), matched for residency in Internal Medicine at St. John's Episcopal Hospital in Queens, NY.

## CLARIFICATION from previous issue:

OHIO branch members continue to participate in medical mission trips to Ukraine. Trauma surgeon **Dr. Mychajlo Samotowka**, in partnership with MedGlobal, continues to return to Ukraine on a regular basis to perform surgeries and report on medical needs.

In a separate medical mission trip to Ukraine organized by urologist **Dr. Laura Bukavina**, the Cleveland Maidan Association, Medwish International and University Hospitals of Cleveland, **Laura Bukavina, MD, Andrew Drozd, MD, and Tatyana Gabyak, PA-C** performed corrective surgeries on wounded Ukrainians. **Dr. Jurko Jaskiw** also traveled to Ukraine and connected with our partners and provided information on needs of the wounded.