



Tidewater Ukrainian Cultural Association

Newsletter No. XLV, August 8, 2010

<http://tuca.us>

A Word from Our President:

Dear TUCAnS:

I hope you are enjoying, or at least surviving, the unrelenting heat that we've been blessed with this summer! With Labor Day and the end of summer just around the corner, it's time of course for our annual Ukrainian Independence Day Summer Picnic on August 29. (The actual Independence Day of Ukraine is celebrated on August 24.) We expect a really great picnic this year, which will be held at historic Fort Monroe in Hampton. Myron Bilyj has done an excellent job in setting up the event; having worked at the fort in his earlier days in the service, he knows the place well and has much information to share with us about this famous landmark in the accompanying announcement.

Looking further ahead to our Christmas meeting, we will be having elections to the TUCA Board of Directors at that time. We will be electing a new President, Treasurer, and Secretary, as well as filling our other Director positions. As always, we welcome hearing from members who have interest in joining the board, or from anyone who has ideas or suggestions for things the organization can do, or do better. TUCA is here for its members, so don't hesitate to contact me or anyone else on the board -- at the picnic would be a good place!

Look forward to seeing you at Fort Monroe!

Submitted by Wolodymyr (Wally) Melnitchouk.

TUCA PICNIC

Sunday, August 29, 2010 from 1PM TO 5PM

At

Fort Monroe, Virginia – Picnic Area 4

Our annual picnic will be held at historic Fort Monroe this year. As you may be aware, Fort Monroe will be closed as a military installation in 2011. The TUCA Board wanted to provide our membership an opportunity to visit this historic location before that closure occurs. Fort Monroe was named in honor of President James Monroe and is the largest stone fort built in the United States. Since our picnic is held in association with the anniversary of Ukrainian independence, having the celebration at the place known as "Freedom's Fortress" seemed appropriate.

Fort Monroe is an active military installation that controls all traffic that comes on the base.

If you are associated with the military (CAC Card, Active Duty ID or Retired ID) and your vehicle has a current DOD sticker: all people in the vehicle over 18 years old must have a government issued picture ID (such as a driver's license).

If your vehicle does not have a current DOD sticker: you must get a vehicle pass at the entry check point that will require both the current valid vehicle registration and proof of vehicle insurance (both required by Virginia law to be in the vehicle) and all people in the vehicle over 18 years old must have a government issued picture ID (such as a driver's license).

Very important – they will not allow you on the post without a valid picture ID, so please double check before you set out for the picnic. Good idea to double check your vehicle documents also.

Directions: The exit to take from Route 64 is Exit 268. For people driving from Williamsburg, this is the last exit before the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel. For people coming from Virginia Beach, this is the first exit after you have driven through the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel.

- Take Exit **268** for **Mallory St** toward **VA-169 E/Ft Monroe** 0.2 mi
- Turn **left** at **S Mallory St** drive 0.4 mi
- Turn **right** at **E Mellen St** drive 0.7 mi

Stop at Guard Control Point = Large White Canopy = the road now is named **McNair Drive**. After passing through the Guard Control Point, drive straight ahead on **McNair Drive** toward the Chamberlin Hotel. Water will always be on your right side in the drive to the picnic area. The road will make a left turn just before the Chamberlin Hotel, from this point it is 2 miles straight ahead to Picnic Area 4 (you will pass the Fort Monroe Officer's Club before arriving at the picnic area). You will be on **Fenwick Road** during this 2 mile drive.

If lost, ask for directions to Dog Beach because in order to get there, you will drive past the picnic area.

TUCA will be providing the standard of hot dogs and hamburgers (plus plates, forks, etc). We ask that you bring your own beverages. If you wish to bring some additional side dishes, these items would be appreciated.

We will hold any necessary business and membership meeting at approximately 2 PM.

Things to Do: Within the picnic area, there is children's play ground equipment. The area is near water front and sand dunes for just pleasant walking.

There are beach areas with lifeguards within one mile of the picnic area.

The **Casemate Museum** is open from 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM and is FREE. We encourage the membership to visit this wonderful place. Do it before the TUCA Picnic and you will probably discover other great places to visit.

The **Chamberlin Hotel** is available for a walk through of the lobby and spectacular views of the Hampton Roads Waterways.

Just drive around and view the historical buildings. We will have pamphlets from the Casemate Museum that highlight some of the significant things to see as part of a 90 minute walking tour.

Special Instructions: Do not speed on the installation. There is a military police detachment on the installation that does not have much (if any) crime to investigate. Apprehending speeders is an exciting event. Please obey the posted speed limits to the posted limit.

Submitted by Myron Bilyj.

The Tidewater Art Scene:

A sampling of the 70,000 pieces of art from the Kyivan Monastery of the Caves (Pecherska Lavra) is scheduled to be in Washington, D.C. in early October.

“The Glory of Ukraine”, “created not by known artists, but by a culture animated by genuine religious feeling and beloved traditions” was very favorably reviewed by Ken Johnson in The New York Times. Icons, metalwork, embroidery, paintings, silver chalices, crosses, vestments are included in the exhibit along with some selections from the Lviv National Museum.

Currently, the treasures from Ukraine are on exhibit at the Museum of Biblical Art in NYC until September 12.

We will keep TUCA members posted before the exhibit arrives in DC. Perhaps we can organize a group trip to Washington (see website: U.S. Ukraine Business Council).

Two paintings by Zina Grynewytsch’s father, Mykola Chulaewsky, were donated by Elaine Hampton to the Peninsula Fine Arts Center for their fundraising auction in July.

Both paintings were sold, and the proceeds were divided between the PFAC and TUCA. A check for \$125.00 was presented to TUCA by Elaine at the Board Meeting, to be donated in Zina’s memory to our “For the Children” fund. The money will hopefully be used either for the Kremenchuk Baby House orphanage, or the Halfway House managed by Natalia’s organization.

Elaine Hampton, our cultural director, cordially invites everyone to view another one of her “Madonna”s at the Charles Taylor Art Center in Hampton. The modern icon, composed solely with computer detritus (fancy word for unwanted parts) was juried into the current exhibit, “Virginia Artists 2010”. The exhibit is free and open until August 29. Hours at the gallery , at 4205 Victoria Boulevard, are Tues-Friday 10am -6pm, Sat&Sun 1-5pm.

Submitted by Elaine Hampton.

Dues:

The year is 3/4 over, but many of you have not bothered to pay your 2010 dues. It would be nice if you took care of this during the picnic. (Please!)

Submitted by Andy Grynewytsch.

TUCA People in the News:

This spring TUCA had two special events to celebrate, one was expected and the other was long-awaited.

After a whirlwind courtship (12 years) and an extended engagement (11 years), Lucy Halunko and Ihor Taran were united in marriage on March 25th at the historic Old Hanover County Court House amid an intimate circle of family and friends. Lucy (she will remain Halunko) and Ihor are both founding members of TUCA, serving and supporting our association for many years in multiple capacities. We raise a glass of champagne to toast them and wish them many more years of happiness. Mnohaja Lita! Many Years!

On May 18th, big sister Olivia, mom Emily and dad Wally, welcomed 8 lbs of blue-eyed joy, as Lilyana Violetta, smiling and healthy, joined the Melnitchouk family. Our President, Wally, is now surrounded by women, who will make sure he is brought up right. Congratulations, Wally, and TUCA's best wishes to your lovely family.

On the sports scene, congratulation to Myron Bilyj on placing 87th, out of over 1000 teams in the bowling tournament held recently in Las Vegas. Way to go, Myron, what a demon with a rolling ball!

Submitted by Olena Boyko.

Bust of Stalin Unveiled in Bedford, VA.

Despite protests from the Board of Supervisors, local congressman, veterans and survivors of multiple eastern European nations enslaved by Communism, the D-DAY Memorial Foundation has seen fit to include a bust of Stalin to join the sculptures of Franklin Roosevelt, Charles De Gaulle and Winston Churchill in the National D-Day Memorial Park in Bedford, Va.

This event has sparked outrage and is a slap in the face to the memory of the millions who perished by torture, execution, starvation or deportation under the direct orders of Stalin. While statues of Stalin are being destroyed even in his birth city in Georgia, the D-DAY Foundation, on June 6th, has bestowed this honor on one of the greatest murderers of his own people in history. They claim it serves an "educational mission" and being a private foundation, they have no intention of removing it.

Thanks to articles and editorials in the Washington Post, Richmond Dispatch, Fox News and many other media outlets, this travesty has been widely disseminated and petitions of protests to have it removed have proliferated.

Stalin and the Red Army were not only not involved in D-DAY operations, but were allied with Germany at the start of WW II. To most Americans, his presence is not educational but offensive.

To voice your protest, go to the petition site, www.stalinstatue.com. Opposition is growing and the only way to remove the statue now is by public pressure.

There is hope that the National Parks Service will take over the memorial in the future and eliminate this obscenity from the Virginian landscape.

Submitted by Olena Boyko.

Baseball Champions of Europe:

For the first time ever, Ukraine, as European champions, will play in the finals of the Junior World Baseball Championship on August 15-21 in Taylor, Michigan. The 13-14 year old boys, hailing from Rivne and Kirovohrad, defeated Moldova (13-3), South Africa (8-2), Germany and USA (6-1) and Italy in the finals (5-4) to earn a spot among the 10 teams competing for the championship.

Since 1995, Basil Tarasko of New York has single-handedly introduced, promoted and nurtured Little League baseball in Ukraine, which has expanded to 15 Leagues with over a hundred teams. Ukraine will face Canada on the 15th, Taipei on the 16th, Mexico on the 17th and Latin America on the 18th, and with our cheering, hopefully into the finals. The success of the team may be followed at the website www.ukrainebaseball.org.

Submitted by Olena Boyko.