



UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth

VOL. 69 NO. 2

OCTOBER 2022

75th Annual UOL and 61st Annual Junior UOL Convention

Hosted by Sts. Peter and Paul UOL Chapter in Carnegie, PA



Submitted by Olesya Korotinsky and Mia Zetick

The 75th Annual UOL and 61st Annual Junior UOL Convention was a success! The Juniors discussed important topics including elections for the 2022-2023 Jr. NEB board, junior committees, chapter reports, and fundraising. We made nominations and elected the new executive board.

The Juniors additionally broke off into 2 committees- member/ chapter recruitment, and service outreach. The member/ chapter recruitment committee developed opportunities for parishes to engage and interact with individual juniors as well as surrounding junior chapters.

The service outreach committee presented ways for parishes to give back and support the surrounding communities. This includes food drives for people in need, volunteering in humanitarian aid centers, and making cards/ baskets for parishioners who can not make it to church.

Furthermore, junior chapters such as Palos Park, Philadelphia, Youngstown, Southside, and Scranton all reported on all of the events and fundraisers that they had held. The board was so impressed by these chapters, and we hope to do even more this year!

Finally, the Juniors discussed fundraising for All Saints Camp and The Word from Guatemala. We decided to put the money from a \$100 donation from a senior towards both organizations, and the money from the fee of arriving late to meetings or a phone going off would go to All Saints Camp. Overall, the juniors accomplished everything we had hoped for, and we were very happy with how this convention went!

Other than our meetings and accomplishments, the juniors also had a lot of fun at convention this year!

(Continued on page 4)

COMING SOON!

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE
76TH UOL CONVENTION! 2023!!

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The absolute deadline for each monthly issue is the 1st of the prior month. Photos will not be returned.

Note to Contributors: All articles submitted to the UOL Bulletin must be in 11 point Times New Roman (font), or typed and double spaced in 12 point type. Articles may be submitted via e-mail attachments. (Submit to: nsufler@aol.com). If submitting photos please be sure to obtain consents for photos to be included in the UOL Bulletin.

The editor reserves the right to condense any material submitted. Material cannot be returned.

Are you dressing up for Halloween?
Submitted by Fr. John Charest

It’s that time of year again. That time when we put a pumpkin and cornstalk on our front porch and buy candy for trick-or-treaters. But wait... can we, as Orthodox Christians, participate in Halloween? It seems like that’s one of those things we’re told not to do, but we’re not entirely sure why? Here are the facts:

Halloween has a long and interesting history. It begins more than 2,000 years ago, in ancient Britain and Ireland. Back then, the land belonged to a group of people called the Celts. November 1st was an important holiday for the Celts. It marked the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter. To celebrate, they had a giant festival that began on the night of October 31st. It was called Samhain (Sah-win). During Samhain, the Celts would light bonfires and sacrifice crops and livestock to their gods. They would dress up in animal skins and hides during the festivities. The Celts believed that the ghosts of the dead, along with fairies, goblins, and other supernatural beings, roamed the Earth during Samhain. They believed these beings could cause a lot of trouble, and to keep them at bay, people would leave food offerings for them outside their dwellings.

During the first century, the Romans conquered Britain. Over the next few centuries, two Roman holidays became combined with Samhain. First, there was Feralia, which honored the dead. And then there was the feast of Pomona, which honored the goddess of fruit orchards and the harvest. Pomona's symbol was an apple, which leads some historians to believe that the tradition of bobbing for apples began with her festival. In the fourth and fifth century, Christianity reached the British Isles. (Don’t let that timeframe slip out of understanding; in the fourth and fifth centuries there was no Roman Catholicism or Eastern Orthodox separation yet – this is pre-schism of 1054.) The Celts and the other people of the island all converted to Christianity, but in many places, the old holidays were still celebrated. To get them to stop, Pope Gregory the 3rd, in the 8th century replaced Samhain with Christian holidays. He moved All Saints Day from May 13th to November 1st and November 2nd became All Souls' Day. So October 31st was All Hallows' Eve, which was eventually shortened to Halloween. "Hallows" is Old English for "saints," and "een" means "evening," so Halloween literally means "the evening before All Saints' Day."

Pope Gregory, in his efforts to stop Christians from celebrating a pagan holiday, encouraged Christians to provide food to the poor rather than to the spirits, the term used to describe this was “souling.” Beggars would go from door to door at Halloween time and would promise to pray for the souls of people's dead relatives. In return, they'd receive some food. This is likely from what trick-or-treating evolved.

At the same time, people began dressing up as ghosts and goblins in order to blend in with the supernatural creatures that they believed wandered the Earth on Halloween. Pope Gregory, in his efforts to combat Halloween, encouraged Christians to dress up like saints. At the same time, people began carving scary faces onto turnips, gourds, and potatoes, placing them in windows or near doors to keep these beings away from their homes, similar to how some churches and cathedrals have gargoyles. This is how the tradition of carving jack-o-lanterns got started.

When people from Scotland and Ireland immigrated to America, they brought their traditions with them. The Puritans tried to outlaw Halloween partly because of its association with Catholicism. But Halloween took a strong hold on America after the Irish Catholics immigrated here in the 1840’s after the potato famine. By the late 1800’s, Victorian Women’s magazines began to offer suggestions for celebrating Halloween in wholesome ways with barn dancing and apple bobbing. By the early 20th century Halloween became a holiday for children more than adults. In 1920, Ladies’ Home Journal made the first known reference to children going door to door for candy and by the 1950’s it was a universal practice in this country. By the end of the 20th century 92% of America’s children were trick-or-treating.

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MESSAGE
FROM THE
SENIOR
UOL

Matushka Laryssa Charest



Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

I was recently putting together an ad for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church’s calendar. My mind was leading me in so many directions because the UOL has accomplished a great deal. How can I showcase all of that on one page? I started looking through the website for inspiration and finally, I glanced over the mission statement. In short, it states that the UOL is committed to promoting the Orthodox Faith, supporting the church, developing the potential of our youth, and preserving Ukrainian heritage and culture. I couldn’t help but recall many conversations I’ve had with chapter presidents and members regarding the future of their chapter or the league as a whole. Some of you may have touched upon this recently since chapter election reports were due at the end of September. I’ve even received a few phone calls from individuals recently concerned about the future of their chapter. For some chapters, no one wants to be the President. For others, the reports are too much. I’ve even heard some people say the UOL should fold completely. I am firm in my belief that we need to keep going.

Success lies in our own hands. IF we are not the ones pushing forward then our inactivity is keeping us back. If your parish has difficulty getting people to help, I understand completely. Please know you’re not the only one. Many of our parishes have the same people doing everything. Their involvement stretches from the Parish Council to Sunday School, to pierogi pinching and singing in the choir. Here’s the thing: assuming all of those responsibilities or just some shows YOU TOO support the mission of the UOL. As a pierogi pincher or Ukrainian dance teacher, you’re preserving our heritage. As a council member or choir member, you’re supporting the church. As a Sunday school teacher, you’re promoting our faith and the potential of our youth. In a way, no matter how small or big, your participation in the life of the church parallels the values and mission of the UOL.

I like to think of the UOL functioning as a heart for our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church. A heart pumps blood. Blood carries essential substances to parts of the body to maintain a healthy life. So too, the UOL provides essentials to the many parts of our parishes. All of these parts need to be maintained for us to thrive and no part is inessential. As St. Paul says in his first letter to the Corinthians, “if [one] part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy.”

If any doubt has ever run through your head, I hope this encourages you to keep going. Our chapters may see some difficulty but it allows all to share in joy. Your participation plays an essential role in the growth of the UOL. You’re doing this for your children, your church family, and most importantly: YOU.

When we gather annually for our convention or when we pray the Psalter during Great Lent, that experience strengthens our foundation. These opportunities give you an opportunity to become the best version of yourself. When we help our youth be involved, we are better for doing so. When we attend retreats, we become spiritually renewed and give that much more in our Sunday School classrooms. Our work in this organization matters. You matter. You are part of the joy of the UOL!

I remain,
Yours in Christ,

Matushka Laryssa Charest



LSSK Scholarship

Submitted by Anna Anderson



LSSK recipient Natalie Hrytsay with Metropolitan Antony, her parents, parish priest Fr. Taras Naumenko and LSSK Chairperson Anna Anderson.

In 1975, at the 28th Annual UOL Convention, the Lynn Sawchuk-Sharon Kuzbyt Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of two dynamic young women. Their untimely deaths left an indelible mark on their families and the Orthodox League. Both young ladies were active in their parishes and the Jr. UOL where they served as presidents of their local chapters. They were Convention delegates and participated in the camping programs.

The LSSK scholarship is awarded annually to Jr. UOL members or former members who are enrolled in advanced education and have exhibited dedication to the church and UOL. Applicants should have a strong showing of leadership, community involvement and achieved academic excellence. This year’s very worthy recipients are Natalie Hrytsay and Rebekah Bailly.

Natalie Hrytsay is a member of St. Vladimir UOC in Philadelphia. She is the daughter of Vitaliy and Halyna Hrytsay. Natalie attended St. Basil’s Academy, then Nazareth Academy of Philadelphia from which she graduated. Natalie excelled in her course work taking many honors level courses. She was a member of the National Honor Society, Ukrainian Club, National Science Honor Society, and Mock Trial Team, which are a sample of the organizations in which she participated. She won 2nd place in the American Mathematics Competition.

Natalie has been very active in her parish by singing in the choir, being a church reader, attending liturgy regularly and participating in the sacraments. She served as an officer in her local Jr. UOL and served as president of the Jr. UOL NEB. Natalie participated in ASC camping programs and was a member of the H.S. Mission trip in 2019. She has participated in community outreach through volunteering at the local Ronald McDonald house and the Philadelphia food bank. Natalie is majoring in psychology and hopes to eventually become a Physician’s Assistant.

Our second recipient is Rebekah Bailly of Saint Mary Nativity of the Mother of God UOL in New Britain, CT. She is the daughter of Anne and John Bailly. She is attending Keene State. She is a graduate of Newington High School in Newington, CT. As a student at Newington H.S., Rebekah showed academic excellence in her course work. She was a member of the Music Honor Society, the orchestra, Key Club, and served as the color guard captain. She received the Dance award and the Child Development Scholarship.

At St. Mary’s, Rebekah attends liturgy regularly. When the Jr. UOL was re-established, Rebekah enthusiastically joined and took an officer’s position. She served as an officer for 4 years. Rebekah volunteered in the kitchen and regularly helped in parish clean up days and parish fundraisers. She visited the shut-ins and was an assistant for Sunday School. She participated in the ASC camping programs.

Rebekah was active in the Girl Scouts for 13 years. She exhibited leadership and was involved in the community service projects. As Junior Girl Scout, she was awarded the Bronze award, the highest award for that level, and she was awarded the Silver, the highest award for a Cadette Girl Scout. Rebekah became an advocate for Down Syndrome Awareness. Rebekah is majoring in Early Childhood Education.



2021-22 National Junior UOL Executive Board

MESSAGE

FROM THE

JUNIOR UOL

PRESIDENT

Natalie Swan



СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ! GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!

With the church and school years beginning and the fall season rolling in, the Jr. UOL year is now in session! The beginning of this new year will bring exciting new opportunities for our board members and each chapter.

Although the Jr. NEB has not yet had our first official meeting, that doesn’t mean we haven’t shared our thoughts on how to better engage less active chapters. Some ideas for the fall season include: church picnic, pumpkin patch/arts and crafts for youth, Thanksgiving food drive, charitable Thanksgiving luncheon, and volunteering at a local food bank. With the holidays quickly approaching, it is important to keep Christ in our hearts and remember those less fortunate than us. I also urge you to reach out to any refugees from Ukraine during this time. We are all suffering in our own ways, and we must find comfort in our shared grief.

As the church year goes on, the Board will continue to brainstorm projects for chapters to select and implement locally.

Please continue to reach out to those in your parish, and keep in contact with parishes near yours. I encourage your parish to become more active, whether locally or nationally, if you are not already. Please feel free to contact me (nds122304@gmail.com / 610-772-5355) if you have any questions, ideas, or wish to become more active within the UOL as a whole.



Junior National Executive Board



Junior UOL Delegates at the 61st Annual Junior UOL Convention create cards and sort items to prepare for care packages as part of service project.

(Junior UOL Convention - continued from page 1)

We played icebreaker games to get to know our new members and break the “ice” to get our convention started on a good note.

We also played Chapter Challenge with four different groups at first and when the two finalist teams were chosen, they played in front of the seniors.

The juniors also had a lot of fun at all of the convention events this year such as the Through the Decades Night, Ukrainian Christmas in July, and the Banquet. Juniors also made care packages for kids in Ukraine which brought every junior together for our important outreach project. The juniors also collectively loved going swimming at the pool in the hotel and relaxing in the comfort of our rooms.

This year’s convention was not only productive, but enjoyable as well.

Here’s to next year’s convention being just as great!



Very Rev. Volodymyr Bukata Award Presented to Olesya Korotinsky

The Junior UOL President, Natalie Hrytsay, presented the Very Reverend Volodymyr Bukata Award to Olesya Korotinsky, from St. Vladimir’s Philadelphia Chapter.

According to her spiritual father, during the last two years, Olesya has taken over in a leader’s role in many aspects of the parish family and has been a driving force in many outreach programs, but specifically in the organizing, collecting, packaging and shipping of humanitarian aid to Ukraine.

In addition, according to Olesya’s junior advisor, she makes church functions a priority and is always willing to volunteer and lend a hand. She is a great role model for both the young children of the parish as well as her peers.

Congratulations Olesya!



St. Vladimir Cathedral Parma, UOL Chapter Submitted by Daren Jogan

On a balmy summer day in August members of the Ukrainian Orthodox League Chapter of St. Vladimir Cathedral met at the Ukrainian Museum-Archives, in Cleveland, Ohio. The UMA is located in Tremont, across from Lincoln Park, the area of Cleveland, Ohio where Ukrainian immigrants first lived, worked, shopped, worshipped, and socialized.

The UOL members were pleased to also have in attendance family members, cousins, of Michael Dobronos who are newly arrived from Ukraine. The entire group visited the new UMA building. Mr. Andrew Fedynsky, Director Emeritus and Resident Scholar spoke in two languages so that all could understand, and explained the history of the Museum and described how the documents, pictures, books, and art works were collected by individuals and then given to the Museum because of their historical value. The group was shown how the many books and documents are stored and displayed.

The group then explored the original building to view the artifacts. Of the many rooms one is dedicated to those immigrants who arrived well before World War I and a room dedicated for those who arrived after World War II. Individuals of the group were able to read stories of memories of Ukrainian immigrants, view beautiful pysanky, kilims and other Ukrainian art work.

The building that at one time was the original temple of St. Vladimir Parish is within walking distance of the UMA. It has passed through new owners who have remodeled it into an office building, maintaining its original structure and historical features. It is comforting to see that the building is respected by the community.

Afterwards, the members of the UOL and guests gathered a quarter mile away at The South Side Restaurant to socialize and enjoy a delicious meal. The UOL members are grateful to Olga Carey and Barb Wrubel for organizing this event.



President - Natalie Swan



My name is Natalie Swan and I am blessed to serve as the President of this year’s Jr. National Board! This is my second year on the board and I am so grateful to be working with such a kind and supportive group of people. I live in the Philadelphia area and attend St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church. I am an active participant in my parish; I sing in the choir, serve as president for our chapter, and help fundraise alongside my fellow Orthodox friends.

This year I will be entering my senior year at Plymouth Whitmarsh High School. I enjoy playing on both my school and travel volleyball teams, traveling, and spending time with friends. In the summer my favorite activities include going to the beach, playing volleyball, and attending All Saints Camp. In the future I hope to attend a university which supports my academic goals, spiritual life, and prepares me for my adult life.

As I start this year as President, I hope to serve as a strong leader and role model for my fellow board members, and inspire younger generations to join the UOL. This 2022-2023 year, I will work hard to support the UOL as a whole.

Vice President - Mia Zetick

I am Mia Zetick, the Vice President of the 2022-2023 Jr. UOL National Executive Board. I am extremely blessed and honored to be serving on this board along with my wonderful fellow board members. This is my second year being a member of the national board, and I am very enthusiastic about the work that we plan to do. Additionally, I am hoping that the board is able to have in person meetings as well as further the goals that we had set last year.

I attend St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Philadelphia, PA, and attend church school as well as help with events, as well as attend liturgy. I am entering my sophomore year at Abington Senior High School, where I play volleyball, softball, and participate in numerous clubs and activities. A few of these extracurriculars include the school musical, National Junior Honors Society, and the Mini Thon Hospitality board. If I’m not participating in a school event or church function, I’m either spending time with friends, reading, singing, or playing guitar. In the future, I hope to find a college and career that allows me to help others as well as travel.



This summer, I spent time with friends and family, went down the shore, and began school volleyball pre season. I also spent a week at All Saints Camp, which was one of my favorite summer memories. After camp, I attended the 2022 UOL Convention in Carnegie, PA, which was a great experience as I got to meet juniors from various chapters, and spend time and work with last year's board.

The board as well as myself personally have set numerous goals for this upcoming year. Since I, as the Vice President, work a lot on the Great Lent Giveaway, I am personally hoping to have a successful GLG. The board is also hoping to grow our already active chapters, as well as further involve the inactive or semi active chapters this year. We are also hoping to grow on a national level, by reaching out to more juniors across the country.

Treasurer - Stephen Sheptak

My name is Stephen Sheptak. It is my second year serving on the Jr National Executive Board. This year I will be fulfilling the role of Treasurer. I can’t wait to work with this wonderful group again. I live in Butler, Pa and attend church at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church in South Side, Pittsburgh where I serve on the altar.



I am entering my senior year at Butler Senior High School. While applying for schools and getting ready to go back to school I am a Boy Scout of Troop 6 in Butler, Pa. I am currently working on achieving the rank of eagle by completing my eagle scout project. I hope to get into the schools I want to and I am excited for this school year.

This year I am transitioning from the role of Financial Secretary to the role of Treasurer. As this year progresses I hope to learn new skills working alongside my friends and family on the Board, and every member of the Jr. and Sr. UOL. I will do my best to fulfill my duties to God and to the Church.

Secretary - Olesya Korotinsky

My name is Olesya Korotinsky and I am honored to be serving as the new Secretary of the Jr. UOL Board this year. This will be my first time on the UOL board and I am very excited to work alongside my new board members.

I attend St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Philadelphia, PA. I go to divine liturgy every week and am an active member of my local Jr. UOL chapter. I participate in church school and also help teach church school to the younger kids. I also volunteer at church helping to send packages to Ukrainian soldiers and providing help to refugees who have fled from Ukraine.



This year I am a senior at Central High School where I play varsity lacrosse and am on the board of Central-THON (an organization that fundraises money for kids with cancer at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia). I take multiple AP classes and am an honors student. I am also working toward a career in the medical field. When I am not at church or school, I like to listen to music or take walks and see art.

This summer I went to Teenage Conference at All Saints Camp (which I have been attending for 9 years), went to the beach, and to the lake a few times where I spent time with family and friends. As the Junior Secretary I’m looking forward to taking care of all corresponding and recording duties this year.

Financial Secretary - Thomas Sheptak

My name is Thomas Sheptak and I am blessed to serve as the Financial Secretary of this year's Jr. National Board. This is my first year on the board and I am fortunate to be working with such a kind and supportive group of people. I live in the Pittsburgh area and attend St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church every week. I am an active member in my parish; I am an altar server and I help with coffee hour.



This year I will be entering my sophomore year at Butler High School. I enjoy playing on the school soccer team as well as my club team and also enjoy spending time with friends. I also referee the youth in my community and help teach them about soccer. In the future I hope to find a university that supports my goals.

As I start the year as Financial Secretary, I’m looking forward to learning new things and working with my brother and cousin who are also on the board. This 2022-2023 year I will work hard to fulfill my duties and support the UOL as a whole.

Junior Advisor - Andrea Swan



My name is Andrea Swan and I will be enjoying my second year as Junior Advisor to the National Executive Board. I hail from Philadelphia and am part of the parish family of St. Vladimir. At our parish, I am involved in the church choir, parish council, teaching church school, junior chapter co-advisor and vice president of our Sr. Chapter. Oh and how can I forget, co-chair for our 2024 Philly Convention!

When I am not busy participating in church life, I enjoy watching volleyball and spending time with family and friends! Professionally, I work as an ESL teacher in one of our local school districts.

I am very much looking forward to continuing to work with such a dedicated and devoted group of young teens. They are full of wonderful ideas on how to grow our church in faith and fellowship as we move into the future of the UOL!

Praying our Way Together
Sponsored by UOL Education Commission



Looking for something to heighten your spiritual journey to prepare for the Nativity. Enjoy daily readings in preparation for the Nativity of our Lord. If you would like to participate, please email your name, phone number, parish name, and parish address to Oleh Bilynsky at nsufler@aol.com and more information will be sent to you.

Programs are available for adults and children.
Please sign up by November 20, 2022

2022 UOL Essay Contest Winners

Age Group	First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Honorable Mention
Pre-K and Kindergarten	Marko Boichuk Palos Park Sts. Peter & Paul	Yariy Tymoshenko Palos Park Sts. Peter & Paul	Sviatoslav Kupyk Palos Park Sts. Peter & Paul	Elizabet Val - Palos Park Quinn Schumacher - Johnson City Amelia Sendeha - Palos Park Sophia Yakimishchak-Palos Park Theodor Smit - Palos Park Emilia Deli - Carteret Conor Brown - Johnson City
Grades 1 and 2	Sabina Bhandari Johnson City St. John the Baptist	Claire Brown Johnson City St. John the Baptist	Anastasia Sobeshkevych Palos Park Sts. Peter & Paul	Maksym Oliferuk - Palos Park Elvira Bren - Palos Park Michael Genyk - Palos Park Maria Redchuk - Palos Park
Grades 3 and 4	Viktoria Machnikowski Palos Park Sts. Peter & Paul	Damian Bhandari Johnson City St. John the Baptist	Dominika Val Palos Park Sts. Peter & Paul	Danica Ost - Northampton Katerina Vavruk - Philadelphia Marta Holubowsky - Philadelphia Luka Prokopyshyn - Palos Park Danylo Oliferuk - Palos Park Matviy Boichuk - Palos Park Sophia Syneveskyy - Johnson City
Grades 5 and 6	Ksenia Yakimishchak Palos Park Sts. Peter & Paul	Roman Petroff Troy St. Nicholas	Zoryana Petroff Troy St. Nicholas	Naveen Bhandari - Johnson City Kamila Rudak - Palos Park
Grades 7 and 8	David Sendeha Palos Park Sts. Peter & Paul	Quinn Hatala Johnson City St. John the Baptist	Caden Hassler Lyndora Sts. Peter & Paul	Mykola Bryndzia - Palos Park Daria Moroz - Johnson City Maxim Synevskeyy - Johnson City
Grades 9 and 10	Sofia Moroz Johnson City St. John the Baptist	Mike Supilowski Palos Park Sts. Peter & Paul	Natalia Petroff Troy St. Nicholas	
Grades 11 and 12	Lucian Rosca Romania St. Catherine's	Justin Ost Northampton Assumption of the Virgin Mary	Ryan Supilowski Palos Park Sts. Peter & Paul	
Adult	Michael Jogan Parma St. Vladimir Cathedral	Pani Matka Swindel Arnold Protection of Holy Virgin	Victoria Swindel Arnold Protection of Holy Virgin	

Junior UOL Chapter Achievement Awarded to
St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, PA



The Junior UOL Vice President, Rachel Harendza, presented this year’s Junior Chapter of the Year award to St. Vladimir’s Philadelphia Chapter. Among their achievements were donations to various outreach projects that included collecting school supplies for two local inner city schools, Humanitarian Aid to Ukraine, Souper Bowl Sunday and All Saints Camp.

Their spiritual advisor writes, “The last two years have been challenging for all church-related organizations across all parishes. Although the chapter did decrease its number of members, it has given the opportunity for new leaders to shine. The youth is extremely dedicated in their charitable endeavors, and I am deeply humbled to be working with a much dedicated group of individuals who will become great leaders of our church.”



Meet the Senior UOL Executive Board



Hello everyone, I am Teresa Linck, the Recording Secretary for the Sr. NEB this year. I have been an officer of the NEB in various capacities; besides Recording Secretary I have been 2nd Vice President and Auditor. For the past 5 years I have been the Chairperson for the Annual Essay contest, which I absolutely love. I currently belong to St. Mary’s Parish in New Britain, CT. Here I serve as Recording Secretary for our local UOL chapter. I am also a Trustee on our Parish Board.

Many of you may know me as Teresa, Tizio or Tiz. I am originally from New Jersey and the St. Demetrius Parish in Carteret, where for many years I served on the parish board and as an officer in the UOL chapter. I am a graduate from Temple University with a BS in Medical Technology. I have a Master’s Degree in Science from Fairleigh Dickinson University. My career path has taken me from a Medical Technologist/Supervisor in the laboratory at Christ Hospital in Jersey City to a Technical Support Specialist for Abbott Laboratories in their diagnostics division to a 6th grade math and science teacher to adjunct professor in Microbiology and Immunology at Bucks County College to Retiree.

In 1992 I married Michael Linck and we have two lovely daughters, Janeene and Andrea, both of whom have served on the Junior NEB. Career changes for my husband moved us from New Jersey to Philadelphia to Cheshire, CT where we are currently living. I look forward to having a great year.

I am Joe Goodge and I attend the Sts. Peter and Paul parish in Youngstown, Ohio. I live in Pulaski, PA. I have been married to Zenia (Kovalska) Goodge for 19 years, who immigrated to the US from Ukraine in 1993. We have two children, 13 year old twins, Sam and Marcy. I am a Graduate of Penn State University. I have a BS in Forest Science/Agriculture Education and an MS in Agribusiness/Farm Business Management.



I am an Accountant and Owner of Goodge Accounting and Tax Services Inc. I taught Agriculture/Farm Business Management until starting my accounting business. My hobbies/interests are anything dealing with Agriculture or Historic Preservation. I am the Founder of Lawrence County Partners for Preservation. Currently Zenia and I are restoring an 11,000 sq ft. Victorian Mansion built in 1890. We also have purchased a school and converted it into a community resource center.

(Halloween - continued from page 2)

These days 70% of American households open their doors and offer candy to strangers – most of them children. 50% of Americans will take photographs of family, friends, and pets in costume. And the nation, as a whole, will spend a record \$10.14 billion on Halloween.

So there’s our answer on what Halloween was and is. Now, to the main point of, should we or may we, celebrate Halloween. As Orthodox Christians our All Saints Day is the Sunday after Pentecost and so, in the strictest sense of the law – yes we should be at Vespers on Saturday before All Saints Day – we should celebrate the Eve of the Feast of the All Hallowed. But, in the spirit of the question, should we be dressing up in costumes and collecting candy and opening our doors for strangers to give them treats? Is the way Americans celebrate Halloween anti-Orthodox Christian? I’d like to answer that question the way Christ so often answered questions, with a question. If people don’t go to church on Christmas, or at all, and don’t mention our Lord and Savior’s birth on Christmas, but have a decorated tree in their house and exchange gifts with family and friends, are they *celebrating* Christmas? If a city offers an Easter egg hunt but families who attend didn’t go to church on Easter, or at all, and don’t make any acknowledgement of the resurrection of Christ, are they *celebrating* Easter? What about Atheists who eat Turkey on the fourth Thursday of November? If they don’t believe in God, to whom are they thankful?

To say that we’re **celebrating** Halloween is inaccurate. October 31st is not a day of preparation for All Saints Day anymore. And nowadays nobody goes out, “souling” for food, even the poor. We must also keep in mind that Halloween is not Samhain, they are not synonyms: Halloween was created by Christians to put an end to Samhain. I think that 13 centuries after the introduction of All Hallows’ Eve, that it was effective in discontinuing the rituals of Samhain. What we do on Halloween is not anything pagan. But that doesn’t mean that deems it proper.

Halloween comes down to our use of judgment about whether we participate in it, like our use of judgment about whether we participate in anything. We should always ask ourselves, “Is this befitting of an Orthodox Christian?” If we’re unsure about whether or not the activity does or doesn’t align with the values of our faith, we can always reach out to our priest for further explanation. And if we learn something one way or another, let us not hold that over anyone else, for we are not the judge, but we are to be judged.

UOL Bulletin Pictures



Michael Nakonachny reading the UOL Bulletin while cruising.



Tracy Galla enjoying the UOL Bulletin while waiting in line to ride Rock and Roller Coaster at Hollywood Studios!

Join in the fun!
Take a picture reading your UOL Bulletin!
Submit pictures by sending to
nsufler@aol.com



Stephen, Lynn and Dori Nemeth read the UOL Bulletin at Lake Geneva in Switzerland.



Teresa Linck reading the UOL Bulletin while visiting the Cassidy Hill Vineyard in Connecticut.



UOL

UOL Tribute

A donation to the Tribute Fund is an acknowledgment of a Milestone, Memorial, or Accomplishment, or is a Special Recognition of an individual or group. Your much-appreciated contribution is used to support and further the Mission of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. All donations are published in the UOL Bulletin.

UOL Bulletin
c/o Natalie Bilynsky
703 Pine Ridge Road
Media, PA 19063

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Donor	In Honor of
UOL Senior National Executive Board	In honor of the engagement of Alex Shevchuk to Nicole Wilson. Mnohaya Lita!
Vitaliy and Halyna Hrytsay	In memory of Yaroslava and Yaroslav Hrytsay and Stepan Uniyat. Memory Eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!
Dori and Stephen Nemeth	In memory of Dr. Steve Sivulich, mentor and friend. Memory Eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!

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To submit your Tribute:

Submit a card that includes your Name and Address, the Name of the Person to Receive the Tribute, the occasion of the Tribute (for example In Memory or To Honor), and the Name and Address of the person to whom an acknowledgement card should be sent.

For a contribution of \$20 or more, the name and occasion is printed in the UOL Bulletin.

UOL Tributes should be submitted to:
Natalie Bilynsky
703 Pine Ridge Road
Media, PA 19063

Send your tribute today!

**UOL Thanksgiving Project
Submitted by Anna Anderson**

The UOL National Executive Board decided that our yearly Thanksgiving project would bring awareness to the Holodomor while helping local communities fight hunger in the present.

- Some suggestions for participating in the project include:
- Have a parish drive to collect and donate food items to a local food bank
 - Sponsor a pop up drive-thru to donate Thanksgiving related food items

If possible, label the food items to be donated with the following message:

*In 1932, 10 million people perished in an artificial famine in Ukraine. We pray no one ever goes hungry again.
#Holodomor#UkrainianGenocide#NeverForget.*

The Thanksgiving Project labels are formatted and available for download at uolofusa.org and are easily accessed at the top of the project article. There is also a letter that can be downloaded and copied to distribute.

Please send photos of your project participation to Publicity Commission at uolpr@uolofusa.org.

If your parish cannot support a food drive, please consider a fundraiser for your local food bank. Let's help those in need in our communities.



GIVE \$12

Three years ago, the UOL pledged \$25,000 to All Saints Camp. The pandemic put us a little behind schedule. To help catch us up, we are launching a fundraising campaign during the month of December. It's called the Give \$12 Campaign!

We are asking for pledges in the amount of \$12. The goal of the day just happens to be the date. So, on December 1st we want 1-\$12 pledge, on the 15th of December we want 15-\$12 pledges, on the 31st of December we want 31-\$12 pledges- you get the hang of it! That's a total of 496 pledges. It seems like a lot but they're only \$12!



We are so excited about this campaign that we are going to let you start making your pledges the day after Thanksgiving. If you choose to make a pledge in honor of someone, we will send them an acknowledgment.

Until then, start thinking of the loved ones you want to honor through a pledge and be on the look out for more details!