



# UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

*Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth*

VOL. 70 NO. 1

SEPTEMBER 2023

## 76th Annual UOL Convention - St. Michael's Scranton, PA



The 76th Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention was truly a celebration of the UOL family and an example of the Convention Theme – “with God all things are possible.” For 76 years UOL members have gathered together for the Annual UOL Convention and this year for the first time the hosting parish was not a parish with a chapter. St. Michael’s parish in Scranton, under the caring direction of Fr. Philip and Pani Beth Harendza, embraced the UOL delegation with the warmest of welcomes. A true family in Christ, the Ukrainian Orthodox League is a unique organization with families both young and old gathering together as one family united in the Church. It was a wonderful time for delegates and guests from chapters and parishes throughout the



In addition to the business sessions, the UOL Convention served as a time to rekindle friendships and to make new ones.

On Thursday, July 28, both the Senior and Junior delegates and guests gathered. It was a pleasant surprise that rooms were not ready for members when we arrived. So we had the opportunity to connect early in the hotel lobby. It was such a nice way to start the Convention with everyone in comfy couches



country to gather, enjoy each other and also discuss issues of critical importance to our Church.

Fr. Philip and Pani Matka Beth were wonderful hosts and showed that a small group can do great things. The Convention Chairperson and the Immediate Past President, Karen Ferraro, did a fantastic job of coordinating a group of individuals to plan the convention. Kudos to Karen and her team!

UOL delegates and guests gathered in Wilkes Barre, PA at the hotel to review the accomplishments of the past year and to make plans for the upcoming year.



(Continued on page 4)



*St. Vladimir's Senior and Junior UOL  
cordially invite you to the  
77<sup>th</sup> Annual UOL Convention  
Philadelphia PA  
July 24-28, 2024*



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UOL Bulletin - Published six times annually - September, October, December/January, March, April /May and June.

**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.

### 76th UOL Discussion Breakout Session Summary

During the Business Sessions, the 76<sup>th</sup> UOL Convention Delegates had several breakout sessions. The delegates provided recommendations for the UOL NEB for the upcoming years. Representatives presented information to the convention body for discussion. Here are the reports presented at the Convention.

#### Awards Breakout Session Report– Tracey Sally presenter

Members: Brittany Brettell, Carnegie; Anne Bailly, New Britain; Oleh Bilynsky, Philadelphia; Pat Sally, Carnegie; Pauline Witkowsky, Youngstown

Goal is to reevaluate the two Sr. UOL awards, how we select a candidate and how we vote.

#### Sr. Chapter Achievement Award

Objective: Suspend this award for 3 years or longer. Possibly indefinitely if needed.

Reason: Due to the decline in the number of Chapters and chapter members.

#### Fr. Stephen Hallick Senior Recognition Award

Objective:

1. To expand the nominations of those that can receive this award.
2. Open up this award to include Chapters.
3. You can nominate anyone who is a Sr. UOL member in good standing (this will be accomplished by speaking with the Priest as part of the application). This means that they don't have to belong to your chapter and can include members-at-large.

Reason: To make it possible for more fairness to those who currently cannot receive nominations.

Determination of winner and what the awards will look like:

Award chairperson on the Sr. UOL Board will select a committee of five people to vote for all nominations. These individuals should not be members of the National UOL Board but Sr. Chapter members. If at all possible, these five people should be from different chapters or members-at-large. This will give different UOL members the opportunity to bring their insight and background into the selection process.

Instead of giving a plaque it is proposed that an icon is given with what it is for on the back.

#### Education Breakout Session Report

Besides the two Lenten Retreats (Eastern PA and Western PA), we need to have more webinars.

Consider reprinting some of the UOL's previously printed pamphlets on various educational themes.

Collect educational/Sunday school materials from all parishes of the Church or as many as possible. Create an online repository of all the materials for all parishes to access. This will also help us with our strategic plan of showing the benefit of the UOL to non-chapter parishes.

Give essay contest topics earlier, perhaps in September, to give the participants more time.

Make more educational/Sunday school materials available in the Ukrainian Language, as we have more and more immigrants coming to our churches.  
(Continued on page 4)

**Interested in joining a group that reviews the Strategic Plan of the UOL and strategies to encourage Fellowship between UOC parishes. Join the Strategic planning committee. Our first meeting will be 9/18/23 via zoom. Contact nsufler@aol.com to participate.**

# MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL

Matushka Laryssa Charest



Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

Once again, we find ourselves flying high from a wonderful UOL Convention. This convention was unique because it was hosted by a parish that does not have a chapter...yet. Fr. Philip and Pani Beth Harendza were approached about hosting and they extended their hospitality to the entire UOL family. A lot of hard work went into planning it, and it showed. My thanks goes to the Convention Committee spearheaded by Karen Ferraro. Job well done!

I am excited to serve in the capacity of President for another term. I am humbled to have your support and encouragement. I look forward to another great year of big changes and big accomplishments. This year will bring our usual points of pride including the Praying Your Way and our enriching Lenten Retreats. But we are adding a Food Drive for the Commemoration of the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Holodomor, a list of great webinars, reprinted UOL publications, and more.

All these ambitious projects are due to the hard work of a board of volunteers. Here's a look at the list of the 2023-2024 Commission Chairs:

**Christian Caregiving & Missions- Tracey Sally**  
**Education- Oleh Bilynsky**  
**Public Relations- Lisa Ryan**  
**Vocations & Clergy Support- Joe Goodge and Fr. Philip Harendza**  
**Youth- Brittany Brettell**  
**Ways & Means- Teresa Linck**

We have a busy year ahead of us. Please keep the Executive Board in your prayers. I can't wait to report on all of our successes at the Philadelphia Convention next year. Put it into your calendars if it is not there already. And while your calendar is out put Florida down for UOL Convention 2025!

We will be keeping you up to date on all events and important information through our social media accounts and our website. So, stay tuned, spread the word, and invite a friend to join the UOL. Until then...

I remain,  
Yours in Christ,  
Matushka Laryssa Charest

**HOLODOMOR  
FOOD  
DRIVE**  
Sponsored by the UOL

**November 2023**

**HELP US  
TO REACH THE GOAL**

Join the UOL throughout the month of November in remembrance of the 90th anniversary of Holodomor as we continue our commitment to ending hunger and genocide by collecting donations for our local food pantries.

Additional details to follow.

**Very Rev. Protopresbyter Stephen Hallick-Holutiak  
Senior UOL Recognition Award  
Presented to Pani Matka Alice O'Neil  
Submitted by Lisa Ryan**

The recipient of this year's Very Rev. Protopresbyter Stephen Hallick-Holutiak Senior UOL award was Pani Matka Alice O'Neil of Sts. Peter & Paul in Carnegie, PA. In her youth Pani Matka Alice participated in the Jr. UOL and has continued as a Sr. UOL member. She has chaired many a bake sale throughout her years as a Sr. UOL member. During the pandemic she helped deliver meals for Thanksgiving and with her husband, Deacon Evan, organized "Pack Up My Pickup" with donated everyday items needed at the seminary every Christmas.



She has been the "Sunshine" chair for Sts. Peter & Paul Sr. UOL for many years, sending out both happy wishes and condolences when needed. She was a co-chair for the 75<sup>th</sup> UOL convention and a delegate for Sobor.

Pani Matka Alice is always happy and willing to help whenever needed. She dedicates her time and energy again and again with an open heart.

If you see her, please take a moment to congratulate her for receiving this award!

**Senior Chapter Achievement Award 2023  
St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, PA  
Submitted by Lisa Ryan**



Congratulations to this year's Sr. UOL Chapter of the year, St. Vladimir of Philadelphia, PA. Their Sr. Chapter is very active within their parish from choir members to Parish Council officers. Over the past year, many of their projects were dedicated to supporting the parish's "Hope Fund," through which they sent humanitarian aid and medical supplies to Ukraine.

They have donated this year's caroling proceeds to All Saints Camp. A few of their activities include Thanksgiving dinner, a Flyers hockey game, regional snow tubing, pysanky/art projects, Baba's attic, and coffee hours.

They also will be hosting next year's 77<sup>th</sup> UOL convention. If you see someone from the St. Vladimir Sr. Chapter please make sure to congratulate them for everything they do.

Be sure to come to Philadelphia in 2024!

**Metropolitan John Scholarship Awards  
Submitted by Joe Godge**

Each year at the UOL National Convention we present scholarships and continuing education grants to seminarians and clergy of our Church. The National Executive Board organized the commission for vocations and clergy support in 1964 in remembrance of Metropolitan John Theodorovich, the first Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and the first scholarships were awarded at the national convention in 1966. I learned at the convention this year that His Eminence Metropolitan Antony was one of the first scholarship recipients.

The funds used to support the MJSF Scholarships come from the membership and friends of the UOL as part of our Annual UOL Drive. We realize that all donations made to this fund are a sacrifice made to our Church by our members and are greatly appreciated. Without your generous donations we would not be able to continue our efforts of supporting our seminarians and clergy by reducing the financial burden of their education.

In order to receive the MJSF scholarship, all recipients must meet the criteria for the scholarship and receive the approval of our Hierarchs. This year we have 8 full-time and two part-time seminarians that met the criteria and were given the blessing of the Hierarchs. According to our handbook, we were able to award a total of \$5,850.

**MESSAGE  
FROM THE  
JUNIOR UOL  
PRESIDENT  
Mia Zetick**



Glory to Jesus Christ! Слава Ісусу Христу!

Speaking for myself, the Jr. National Executive Board, and all of the youth that attended the 76th UOL Convention, I want to thank everyone involved in making this convention a success. First, I want to extend gratitude to the convention chairs, Mrs. Karen Ferraro and Pani Matka BethAnne Harendza for the energy and time that they committed to this amazing convention. I would also like to acknowledge and thank our spiritual advisor, Fr. John Charest, as well as our Jr. UOL advisor, Mrs. Andrea Swan. We could not have done it without the support and love that was granted unto us. The Junior board is so lucky to have been able to work with them, and we are grateful for the time we had with Mrs. Swan. Luckily, Pani Matka BethAnne Harendza will be joining us as our new board advisor, and we are looking forward to working closely with her! Finally, thank you to His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and His Eminence Archbishop Daniel for the continuous support and love shown to the Juniors, and for being such an important role in our lives!

I next want to thank the outgoing members of the board: Natalie Swan, Olesya Korotinsky, Stephen Sheptak, and Thomas Sheptak. I truly enjoyed working with each and every one of you. I hope that you will stay involved within the church and the UOL. I know you will all do great things and I wish you the best of luck!

Congratulations to the newly elected National Executive Board of the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League! I am so excited to work with this brand new board, and I am eager to see what we will accomplish. The 2023-2024 Jr National Executive Board is comprised of the following individuals:

- President: Mia Zetick - Philadelphia, PA
- Vice President: Agitha Harendza- Scranton, PA
- Secretary: Danylo Kondryshyn - Maplewood, NJ
- Financial Secretary: Marcia Goodge - Youngstown, OH
- Treasurer- Samuel Goodge - Youngstown, OH
- Advisor: Pani Matka BethAnne Harendza - Scranton, PA
- Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Charest - Carnegie, PA

This year, the national board's main goal is to kickstart new chapters and bring more juniors into previous chapters. I hope that more juniors will take part in their chapters on a regional and national level, and will attend the convention in Philly! I pray that we will be blessed with as many meetings and ideas as we had last year.

If there are any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League throughout this year, please reach out to me, Mia Zetick, at [miazetick@gmail.com](mailto:miazetick@gmail.com).

Yours in Christ,  
Mia Zetick



Each full-time seminarian received \$650 and part-time seminarians received \$325. This year's recipients are Deacon Pavlo Vysotskyi, Subdeacon Nicholas Worobey, Subdeacon Roman Marchyshak, Subdeacon Andrii Vatrych, Subdeacon Maksym Zhuravshyk, SubdeaconAndrii Akulenko, Subdeacon Mykola Stefanyk, Subdeacon Yurii Izhyk, Brian Delp and Dmytro Chepysko. Congratulations to each one of you. We look forward to working with you as the priests of our parishes in the near future!

Congratulations to all the recipients. We wish you all the best!

**(Convention from page 1)**

sharing stories about their travels to the Convention and connecting with each other. The two National Executive Boards held their pre-convention meetings. Registration was opened and coordinated by Fredrika Sedlock. Throughout the Convention the Registration desk was wonderfully helpful



with directions, suggestions, great conversation and always welcoming.

This year the Convention started on Wednesday evening when President Matushka Laryssa Charest called the 76th Annual Convention to order. The opening prayer and National Anthem were followed by a moment of silence in honor of UOL members of Blessed Memory. The Convention started with opening remarks from President Matushka Laryssa Charest, Junior UOL President Natalie Swan, Convention Chairwoman Karen Ferraro and Spiritual Advisor Fr. Phil Harendza. As part of the first business, the convention body approved the agenda, 75th Annual UOL Convention Minutes, and reviewed the Annual Report, Audit Report, and Financial Reports.

The convention committee also chaired a fantastic basket raffle with over twenty beautiful baskets. The basket raffle has become a lovely way for chapters to assist with convention fundraising. This year Martha Misko was the chairperson for the basket raffle and it was a huge success. We also had a silent auction for an amazing ostrich egg created by Tracey Sally, pysanka master.

The central area of the hotel with a large dining room served as the space for our hospitality night. With a combination of multiple tables it was easy to move from table to table and catch up with friends and meet new ones. It was a joy to catch up with fellow UOL members and to enjoy each other's company. It was a time to catch up with old friends and rekindle UOL bonds.

Friday morning everyone gathered at the chapel for Divine Liturgy. His Eminence Metropolitan Antony celebrated Divine Liturgy along with clergy from local parishes. The responses for Divine Liturgy were sung by our seminarians. Following Divine Liturgy, all members joined for a full brunch. We all enjoyed a delicious brunch in the spacious restaurant in the center of the hotel.



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**Praying our Way Together**  
Sponsored by UOL Education Commission

Looking for something to heighten your spiritual journey to prepare for the Nativity.

Planning a group prayer for Advent.  
If you would like to journey with us, please email your name, phone number, parish name, and parish address to Oleh Bilynsky at [nsufler@aol.com](mailto:nsufler@aol.com) and more information will be sent to you. Please sign up by November 20, 2023

**(Convention reports - from page 2)****Youth Breakout Session Presenter Brittany Bretell**

Participants: Pauline Witkowsky, Joe Goodge, Anne Bailly, Fr. Oleg Kravchenko

During our discussions, we concluded that the core issues to address regarding the youth of the church are: treating the youth with respect, appreciating the youth, and working with the youth.

One key point made during the discussions was that support from the clergy for both the youth and their parents is paramount. Letting families know when there are activities that the youth can participate in seems like such a simple thing, but something like a nudge in the right direction can have a large impact. Families who may not keep up to date with activities being held may very well be interested if they are just made aware. (Important for clergy to encourage and start UOL chapters at parishes.)

We also discussed regional activities to foster and strengthen fellowship amongst children and their families. For example, Northampton and Allentown took part in a kayaking event and also went to Sight & Sound Theater to watch faith-based productions. Activities such as those and others, whether it be movies or plays or otherwise, open not only the door to strengthen bonds both within and out of the church, but also provide the opening for discussion of faith.

We also discussed simple, fun nights such as bowling - like we all enjoyed last night. So many of us spent the night laughing and cheering each other on and building one another up. Encouragement and fun like what we all experienced can only serve for the betterment of not just the youth, but everyone.

Another important topic discussed revolved around parent participation and volunteering with activities that involve the youth. To involve the youth is to involve the parents - more parents volunteering for conferences, to teach in programs, etc. And coupled with this, was the topic of camp and retreats. Currently, there are a wide range of things at camp that there is something for everyone and while there may be a majority that may be able to make it to camp with no issue, are we doing anything for those who don't have the means to be transported to camp? We discussed that some parishes provide transportation for those unable to be transported by their own means, but do we all have the capacity to provide the same? Are we providing the same? If not, how do we go about assisting to get the youth to camp? In the same vein, we discussed retreats, specifically bringing the youth to retreats and offering things for them to do at retreats. (Important to note that camp was started and run by the UOL.)

What do we do for those who graduate and leave for college? Through our talks, we learned that multiple parishes do reach out with birthday cards, postcards with heartfelt messages celebrating milestones and to let them know that we're thinking of them. Seemingly small gestures such as this can go a long way for a kid who's away from home and missing the community they've left behind.

Finally, I'd like to turn back to a key point noted at the start of this, and that is respecting our youth. It's easy to treat those younger than us like they don't know much, if anything. After all, they're still learning and growing just as we all were once. Please give them some grace. When you hear the sounds of children in church, celebrate the sound. Allow them to hold candles during gospel readings, teach them to read the epistle, get them engaged in helping with something as easy as set up or clean up of coffee hour. The more that we encourage them and the less we silence them, I think we'll see that they can flourish with our care and support.

**Ways and Means Breakout session – Teresa Linck, presenter**

Members: Deacon Evan O'Neil, Carnegie; Pani Matka Alice O'Neil, Carnegie; Shirley Duffy, Youngstown; Susan Perankovich, Youngstown; Pat Sally, Carnegie; Tracey Sally, Carnegie; Cindy Haluszczak, Carnegie; Pam Scannell, Johnson City; Daniel Gulak, Maplewood; Lynn Gulak, Maplewood; Jack Roditski, Maplewood; Karen Ferraro, Philadelphia; Daria Pishko Komichak, Maplewood

Main Goal: Is to have the UOL make more money and not rely on the income from conventions to fund all the projects of the UOL.

How do we fund the specific items for which we have commitments, such as encampments, the Seminary and Orthodox Christian Fellowship? These we pay even if we need to take it out of savings.

Ideas:

- Set a camp goal and have a fund raiser for that goal. If we need \$5,000.00 for our camp commitments, have a specific fund raiser in a month that all proceeds will go to offsetting the money that would need to be taken out of savings. We could have different ones each month or every other month, but we need to be specific.
- Sponsor workshops either regionally or at Convention that participants will be charged a small fee.
- Look into raffling off a trip to the Holy Land with the Archbishop. We would need to see how much we need to collect to break even and if it would be doable.
- How can we get non-members to participate?
- Thinking outside the box, look for grant money from the government and private foundations.
- Our dream is to have a convention attended by 500 people.

**Our next issue of the UOL Bulletin will feature the additional Convention Reports.**

(Convention - continued from page 4)



After brunch the sessions resumed. As the first agenda item, Natalie Bilynsky presented an overview of UOL Membership for the last two decades and discussion of the struggle that many parishes have had in adopting the chapter structure. There was a recommendation from the NEB to develop a committee to present a model/strategic plan that would encourage Fellowship between UOC parishes. The UOL is a unique organization within the UOC of USA that creates bridges between parishes. Given the history of the UOL in building community, the UOL can be used to build networks between parishes, so that they can share best practices and lessons learned, also ways to encourage fellowship between parishes and helping them to understand how the UOL can benefit their parish. One of the committees for the Convention discussed ideas related to this strategic plan/fellowship ideas for the continued development of the UOL as we work to support the UOC of USA.

Mid-afternoon we were blessed that Fr. Mark Leasure of the St. George Carpatho-Russyn Orthodox church came with the Kardiotissa myrrh streaming icon. St. George's parish is located in Taylor, Pa not far from Scranton. This icon has been streaming myrrh since 2011. The icon of the Theotokos with Christ is named the Tender Heart Icon.



The Juniors and Seniors gathered in the lobby of the hotel to greet Fr. Mark and the icon. We processed from the lobby to the hotel chapel. His Eminence Metropolitan Antony spoke about how he first learned about the weeping icon. Fr. Mark shared the multiple healings that are attributed to the Kardiotissa.

Later that afternoon the major work of the Convention sessions was completed. There were continued committee meetings where the bulk of the Convention work takes place. During committee meetings ideas for projects for the National Executive Board, as well as ideas for individual chapters, are discussed.



The Senior National UOL Board presented the UOL Essay Contest Awards. Teresa Linck, Essay Contest Chairperson, reported that this year there were 167 entries from 15 parishes for the UOL Essay Contest. Congratulations to the parish of Sts. Peter and Paul in Palos Park for having the most entries. A full list of all of the winners will be published in the next issue of the UOL Bulletin.

Unfortunately Josh Oryhon was not able to join the Convention in person, however, with the help of technology he was able to greet the Convention participants. He also encouraged all members to support

(continued on page 6)

(Convention - Continued from page 5)

fundraising for All Saints Camp and specifically to donate to cover the expenses related to the installation of the new well and water system. President Matushka Laryssa also announced the donation of \$5000 toward the UOL pledge to All Saints Camp.



Friday evening was a lot of fun! All members of the UOL Convention gathered at Chacko's Family Bowling alley. Everyone was attired in Ukrainian colors, t-shirts or embroidered shirts. The UOL Convention took over half of the bowling alley and players got to bowl multiple games. For dinner everyone had pizza, soft pretzels and cake.



For those who did not want to or could not bowl there were tables directly behind the bowlers where friends could cheer and watch the game. There was also a game where everyone got to know each other better.



Our UOL was also part of a flash-mob where our seminarians started the song – Oy u loozhi chervona kalyna. We had words for everyone to join in the singing. The singing was amazing and inspiring. Other bowlers asked us about the meaning of the song and commented about how wonderful the singing was. If you get a chance take a look at the singing on Facebook. There were multiple people who videotaped the singing.

At eight o'clock the bowling became Glow Ball with flashing lights, glowing balls and fun dancing music. Ukie-Bowl 2023 was a great success and everyone enjoyed the evening.

Saturday morning began with the Akathist Service. Saturday sessions started with review of the UOL Budget for the coming year. Junior Committees also presented their reports to the Convention body.

After the individual committees met and discussed appropriate topics, each submitted a report to the convention body for final ratification. During the business session, President Matushka Laryssa presented a check in the amount of \$11,803 for St. Andrew's Society for soup kitchens in Ukraine to His Eminence Metropolitan Antony. These funds were raised as part of the UOL's Souper Bowl Sunday fund-raising project. President Matushka Laryssa reported that this amount was a significant increase and the pattern has been that more parishes have been participating in the Souper Bowl Sunday.

A highlight of the Convention is always Chapter Challenge and this year our Chapter Challenge was quite exciting. His Eminence Metropolitan Antony read the questions and the competition was close. The Chapter Challenge was a nail-biter with the Junior UOL National Executive Board winning.

Elections for both Senior and Junior UOL Boards occurred on Saturday.

Senior National Executive Board UOL Officers:

President – Matushka Laryssa Charest of Sts. Peter and Paul, Carnegie, PA;  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Natalie Bilynsky of St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, PA;  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Teresa Linck of St. Mary, New Britain, CT;  
Corres. Secretary – Brittany Brettell of Sts. Peter and Paul, Carnegie, PA;  
Recording Secretary – Shirley Duffy of Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH;  
Financial Secretary – Oleh Bilynsky of St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, PA;  
Treasurer – Joseph Goodge of Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH;  
Auditor – Tracey Sally of Sts. Peter and Paul, Carnegie, PA;

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony announced that Fr. Mykola Zomchak of Youngstown, OH will serve as Spiritual Advisor to the Senior UOL and Fr. John Charest of Carnegie, PA will serve as Spiritual Advisor to the Junior UOL.

Junior UOL:

President: Mia Zetick - St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, PA  
Vice President: Agitha Harendza, St. Michael, Scranton, PA  
Secretary: Danylo Kondryshyn, Holy Ascension, Maplewood, NJ  
Financial Secretary: Marcy Goodge, Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH  
Treasurer: Sam Goodge, Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown, OH

During the final session of the UOL Convention, the St. Vladimir UOL Chapter in Philadelphia presented information about the 77<sup>th</sup> UOL Convention in 2024. Rebecca Druash presented a slide show that outlined the fun-filled events planned for 2024. President Matushka Laryssa Charest also reported that the Dover parish in Florida put in a bid for the 78<sup>th</sup> UOL Convention in 2025. The Convention body unanimously accepted the bid for the Convention.

President Matushka Charest adjourned the 76th UOL Convention and Juniors and Seniors ended the convention with a closing prayer and singing of the Ukrainian National Anthem. Following the close of sessions, the group gathered for the annual picture.

Saturday evening featured Pani Matka Beth Harendza as the mistress of ceremonies and she guided the evening very gracefully. Awards were presented including Chapter of the Year to Philadelphia, PA, and P.M. Alice O'Neil received the Fr. Hallick-Holutiak award. (Descriptions of the Senior UOL Award winners can be found in this issue.) Joe Goodge presented 3 scholarships- Natalie Swan, Olesya Korotinsky, and Isabella Castrillo.



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(Convention - continued from page 6)



Junior UOL President Natalie Swan presented Junior UOL awards including the Fr. Bukata Award to Antony Sendeha and the Junior UOL Chapter of the Year to Palos Park, PA. (Details about Junior UOL winners and Scholarship recipients will be in the October issue of the UOL Bulletin). Additionally, Joe Gooode announced the MJSF scholarship recipients.

Once the banquet was complete the band entertained and dancing continued through the night. Everyone enjoyed the music and dancing.

The 76th Annual UOL Convention came to a formal conclusion on Sunday, July 31, 2022, as the delegates gathered at St. Michael in Scranton for Divine Liturgy celebrated by His Eminence Metropolitan Antony. The parish President along with the Senior UOL President Matushka Laryssa Charest and outgoing Junior UOL President Natalie Swan greeted our Hierarch. It is always a joy to celebrate Divine Liturgy with our UOL members.

At the conclusion of the service, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony called upon the newly elected executive boards of the Senior and Junior UOL for a formal induction into their service in the life of the organization and the Church. Holding candles in their hands, the officers of the organization made a solemn promise to work for the Glory of God and the fulfillment of the mission of the organization: *"Dedicated to our Church; Devoted to its Youth!"*

Following Divine Liturgy, everyone was invited to participate in a wonderful lunch at the parish hall. A full lunch was enjoyed by everyone. With full stomachs and hearts filled with love our UOL family said goodbyes. The 76th Annual UOL Convention, now a memory, but what a wonderful memory. The Convention Committee is to be commended for a fantastic Convention. Special thanks to Convention Chairperson Karen Ferraro and Spiritual Advisor Fr. Philip Harendza and Pani Matka Beth Harendza for all of their hard work in planning this Convention. Their labor of love, in planning this convention, truly serves as an inspiration.



# UOL Bulletin Pictures



Michael Nakonachny reading the UOL Bulletin in San Antonio, Texas.

Join in the fun!  
 Take a picture reading your UOL Bulletin!  
 Submit pictures by sending to [nsufler@aol.com](mailto:nsufler@aol.com)



The 2022-23 Junior National Executive Board reading the Bulletin in Scranton, PA.



2023-24 Senior UOL National Executive Board

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**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.*

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| Peter and Karen Konchak | In memory of Anatolij Sufler who lived an exemplary life of kindness, humility and generosity. |
| Teresa Linck            | In honor of Andrea Linck and her promotion.  |
| Lisa Ryan               | In honor of Fr. Steve Repa on the Anniversary of his ordination.                               |
| Alice Sivulich          | In memory of Anatolij Sufler. Memory Eternal!  |
| Teresa Linck            | In loving memory of my dear cousin Joseph Tizio.   |
| Peter and Karen Konchak | In recognition of Natalie and Oleh Bilynsky for their devotion and service to the UOL.         |

**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!

*Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Annual Fund Drive and supported the UOL!*

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