



UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth

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Junior UOL Convention 2023 - Submitted by Agitha Harendza and Marcia Goodge

The 76th Annual UOL Convention was shorter than normal but it was very productive for the few days that we had! The Juniors had a busy few days discussing elections for the 2023-2024 Jr. NEB board, junior committees, chapter reports, and fundraising.

To kick start the convention the Juniors did ice breakers to get to know each other. Father Philip, the host priest from Scranton, joined the Juniors for one of the ice breakers. After all the fun and games the Juniors began to get to work reviewing the Convention Business Session Protocol and making appointments for Sergeant-At-Arms and Photographer. The group was also placed into chapter challenge teams.

The Juniors discussed this year's convention committees - Member & Chapter Recruitment with hopes to increase the Church and help the children feel more involved with the Church by doing such things as pierogi sales, bake sales, breakfasts/lunches, basket raffles, bingo, sports, and other outings. Some churches discussed that they have food pantries or "blessing boxes" outside their church for those in need. The Juniors also wanted to make a donation to All Saints Camp. While many different options were discussed, the finalized motion for \$1,200 to All Saints Camp was approved. The Juniors had very little time but had an extremely productive few days. Aside from our meetings, we had lots of fun. We played fun games to get to know each other. We also played Chapter Challenge.

We had some guest speakers, one from the Electric City Aquarium, along with Fr. Mark Leisure, a local priest who is the caretaker of the Tender Heart Icon, which streams myrrh. His Eminence Metropolitan Antony came and spoke to the Juniors and spent time answering questions. The juniors enjoyed fun events every evening such as Ukie Bowling and the banquet, where some of the juniors received awards. Every night before our curfew, the juniors liked to spend time together in our rooms. While we got a lot accomplished in this short convention, we also had lots of fun together. We're looking forward to another very productive year and hope to accomplish many of our goals that we set for ourselves at this year's convention!



*St. Vladimir's Senior and Junior UOL
cordially invite you to the
77th 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL



Matushka Laryssa Charest

It has been three months since my husband and I took in 5 foster kids. That makes six kids total (ages 3,4,6,8,8, and 9). They come from very different upbringings. Most of them do not have a relationship with their father and their mothers have or have had serious drug addictions. Some were left at home during the night while the parent would work and some would be taken to parties so mom could do drugs. These children have seen things that I could not even think up in my wildest dreams. Every day is a challenge, for my husband and me, to provide a positive memory to replace a bad one. To them, this does not make any sense, of course. Day after day, they question why we do things for them. The oldest was shocked when I told her she should not be potty training her brother. They do not understand why we want to eat together as a family. They are always surprised when we go out together as well. The first week they were with us, we bought dozens of items of clothing because they came with enough clothes to last 3 full days. 'Why are you buying us toys? Those shoes are for me? Why do you keep leaving us notes in our lunches?' etc. The thing they question the most is how we show our faith. By law, we cannot force any religious beliefs on them. Should they want to worship according to a different rite, we would have to respect that as foster parents. The interesting thing is, without any effort, these children show such a yearning for Christ. It took them a few meals to learn the prayer we say before meals. During evening prayers, they all stand respectfully facing our icon corner and even try to make the sign of the cross as best as they can. Every now and then, we catch the younger ones playing church in the basement. The 4-year-old is my husband, Fr. John, and the 3-year-old is the other 'church man' (whom everyone else knows as Deacon Evan O'Neil). Better yet, amid our busy schedule we receive honest questions about God and our faith: 'Who is Jesus? Can we be baptized? Why can't I have communion?'

At the UOL Convention this past summer, the kids had an opportunity to spend time with the Myrrh streaming icon from St. George's in Taylor, PA. What I would have done to be a fly on the wall. Fr. Mark Leasure, the caretaker of the icon, gave each child an icon card and a piece of cotton with the oil from the Kardiotissa. These icon cards remained bedside until we had to leave. And the very first thing the kids did when they got home, was ask for tape so they can put the icon cards on the wall in their rooms.

At this point, we do not know what waits for these children. We have a court date scheduled in a month. They might get to go home or they might be moved to a family member's home. Time will tell...or the judge will decide. But one thing I am sure of is that a seed has been sown.

That is the essence of the UOL, for me. The UOL takes every project or ministry and sows a seed. The retreats sow spiritual seeds, our mission work sows seeds of comfort, our support of the seminary sows seeds of faith. We may never see these seeds sprout and we may not see how they may bear fruit. But one thing is for sure: they have been sown.

I often reflect on how our foster kids (especially the older ones) yearn to know Christ. And this is happening with little effort on my part. It makes me wonder, what would become of them if my efforts were extraordinary? Then I think about the UOL and I wonder what we could do if our efforts were extraordinary. How about we try?

I remain,
 Yours in Christ,
 Matushka Laryssa Charest

Junior UOL Chapter of the Year Sts. Peter and Paul - Palos Park, IL

The Junior UOL Vice President, Mia Zetick, presented this year's Junior Chapter Achievement Award to Sts. Peter and Paul's Palos Park Chapter. This chapter has approximately 16 active members and always has monthly



happenings. Some of the various activities include collecting Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine, Cookie Walk, Potato Pancake drive through, Souper Bowl Sunday, Christmas caroling, church temple and grounds clean up, monthly pancake flips, Bingo, Family Fun Nights, Lock-ins, proshpora baking, and pierogie making. In addition, many of the members attend church school, Ukrainian school, and Ukrainian folk dancing and are part of the church choir and essay contest. This chapter is also very well represented at UOL Conventions.

The spiritual advisor writes, "Our parish is blessed with a great group of children who grow spiritually together." And the junior advisor writes "I am very proud of the children and their involvement in parish life." Congratulations to Palos Park!



2023-24 Junior National Executive Board

UOL Thanksgiving Project *In memory of those who perished in the Holodomor*

Collect non-perishable food in the month of November and donate to a local food pantry. Or make a cash donation to a local food pantry or soup kitchen.

Label donated food with the following message:
 In 1932, 10 million people perished in an artificial famine in Ukraine. We pray no one ever goes hungry again. See our website for printable labels: uolofusa.org

**Ten reasons to come to Philadelphia
for the 2024 UOL Convention!**

Reason #1 - We have been hoping to have you as our guests since 2020. This Convention was originally planned and delayed twice because of the pandemic. We are so incredibly excited to host you in the City of Brotherly Love. We typically host the convention every 10 years - but this Convention has had some extra special planning.

Reason #2- We have a strong Junior UOL and the Juniors are active in planning. The Juniors have wonderful ideas and they keep us all young - so this Convention will be filled with fun events.

Reason #3 - We are starting our Convention on Wednesday evening so we will have plenty of time to enjoy each other's company and to enjoy the wonderful greater Philadelphia area.

Reason #4 - Thursday evening we are planning a Philly style game night with the goal of everyone getting to know each other better. If you had fun bowling - this will be double the fun. The night will be filled with Philadelphia treats!

Reason #5 - Friday night we will be gathering at Tryzub, a Ukrainian Sports ground. The picnic grounds have an indoor area and beautiful grounds where we will enjoy a night of games and music.

Reason #6 - For the Convention we will be staying at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in King of Prussia

Reason #7- If you haven't attended a Convention in a while, Philadelphia is easily accessible.

Reason #8- Our Banquet and Ball will be at the hotel and we have already reserved the Band. We are excited that Solovey will be our band for the evening.

Reason #9- Divine Liturgy on Sunday will be in our large air-conditioned Cathedral. It is July in Philadelphia so air-conditioning is a plus!

Reason #10- Philadelphia is a lot of fun. If you can't wait until the Convention - join us for Divine Liturgy and Coffee Hour. We love to have guests. We are ready for our guests and our Cathedral is ready for your arrival.

We look forward to everyone joining us for the UOL Convention. Mark your calendar and save the dates for the 2024 Convention!

Come to Philadelphia and take a tour of Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell. Both tours are free and you will be able to see where our founding fathers signed the Declaration of Independence. In Philadelphia you can also tour the Art Museum and run up the Art Museum steps just like Rocky. Philadelphia has wonderful sports teams and quite notorious sports fans - with the Phillies, Eagles, Sixers and Flyers in the city. During the summer you can catch a Phillies game.

Philadelphia is a wonderful place to visit - but perhaps the highlight of any Philadelphia trip is spending time with the parish family. The Convention sessions will be starting on Wednesday evening. On Thursday evening we have a Philly Game Night - so get ready for a wonderful fun evening! Friday we have a fun filled evening scheduled at Tryzub, our Ukrainian American Sports Club. We are planning a "Coney Island" inspired night with a "varenyky/pierogie" eating contest. Start preparing now to be crowned the Varenyky Eating Champion. Also to keep with the theme of the night we will have lots of games and tournaments - including a "Doorak" (Ukrainian card game) tournament. Saturday is the grand banquet and ball. It is a time to dress in your finest and celebrate the UOL and all of our parishes. That evening we are thrilled that the band Solovey will be providing music - so wear comfortable shoes - we will be dancing the night away. Sunday we will join at St. Vladimir's Cathedral for Divine Liturgy and a farewell brunch.

So mark your calendar and prepare to come to the UOL Convention in Philadelphia - July 24-28, 2024.

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



СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ! GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!

The Jr. UOL year has been off to a great start! The board has already been working hard to prepare for the year.

The board has not yet had an official meeting, but every member has already been going above and beyond in their position. Working with this group has been easy and flowing nicely. The fall season presents many great ways to engage local chapters. These ideas include a pumpkin patch for the younger children, a church picnic, arts and crafts projects, and a Thanksgiving food drive. The holidays are coming up, and it is important to keep others in our hearts and minds during this time.

The new board will continue to work together to accomplish all of our goals for this year.

I encourage every chapter and parish to become more active in any way. Continue to reach out to juniors in your parish and in parishes near you. Please feel free to contact me through my email, miazetick@gmail.com, about any questions, ideas, or concerns regarding the Jr. UOL.

In Christ,
Mia Zetick

**Ukrainian Orthodox League Membership
Submitted by Shirley Duffy**

Glory to Jesus Christ!

If you are a member of a UOL chapter, we encourage you to submit your dues to your chapter as soon as possible. If you are a member of a parish that has a chapter and you have not joined, please consider joining. If you do not have a chapter at your parish, please consider forming one. or joining as a member at large.

What are the benefits of joining? You will have the satisfaction of knowing that your membership supports the organization that brought you All Saints Camp, St. Sophia Seminary, programming for youth and adults, and scholarships for seminarians, priests and future lay leaders. If you are a member, you will join a fellowship to advance our motto *Dedicated to Our Church - Devoted to Its Youth*. You will be able to participate in UOL activities and retreats, be seated as a delegate at the convention, be able to run for the National Executive Board and receive the UOL Bulletin. If you are a chapter member, you have the added benefit of being able to share in a camaraderie of purpose to do projects benefitting your parish and the national organization.

Since members-at-large are not attached to a physical location, technology will help you to feel connected to the organization. Please be sure to provide your email address. If you don't have one, try going to your local library to get help for obtaining one. If you don't have a computer, you can check email on a smart phone or even a flip phone. We would like to keep you engaged over the course of the year by sending you emails concerning events, what's happening on the Board and offer well wishes. We may even be able to schedule some Zoom meetings.

Your membership will support the mission of the UOL and its projects. All those great accomplishments mentioned in the second paragraph have ongoing obligations, for which we need your support. I encourage you to reach out with any ideas of how the UOL can support you. If you have any questions about membership, please feel free to contact Shirley Duffy at shirleykduffy@icx.org

**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 and more information will be sent to you. Please sign up by November 20, 2023



LSSK Scholarship 2023 Submitted by Andi Swan

In 1975, at the 28th Annual UOL Convention, The Lynn Sawchuk-Sharon Kuzbyt Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of these two dynamic young women. Their untimely deaths left an indelible mark on their families and the Ukrainian Orthodox League. Both young ladies were active in their parishes and the Jr. UOL, serving as presidents of their local chapters. They were also convention delegates and attended 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 deserving recipients are Isabella Castrillo, Olesya Korotinsky, and Natalie Swan.

Our first recipient is **Isabella Castrillo** of St. Mary's Parish in New Britain, Connecticut. She has been very active in her Jr. UOL where she served as president of her chapter for 4 years. She was the Operation Christmas Child event leader, chaired The Tag Sale, Souper Bowl Sunday, and spearheaded the collection of school supplies for Ukraine, to name a few activities. Isabella has also been a delegate to numerous conventions.

Isabella attended Rocky Hill High School where she achieved four years of both Honors and Athletic Honors. She was also inducted into the Spanish



Honor Society. Isabella also participated in theater, chorus and ensemble from her freshmen to junior year. She participated in varsity swimming and diving throughout her high school career and was named team captain during her senior season. Isabella was also involved with Best Buddies and Sea Cubs which helps individuals with disabilities learn to swim.

Isabella will be attending the University of St. Joseph, where she will be studying Psychology and swimming for the university. She hopes to earn a degree to become a School Psychologist.

Our next recipient is **Olesya Korotinsky** of St. Vladimir's Parish in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She has been very active in her parish where she attended church school and regularly attends liturgy and partakes in the sacraments. Olesya helped with Souper Bowl Sunday, our annual Cookie Walk, assembled and delivered Pascha baskets to shut-ins, went Christmas caroling, helped in collecting school supplies for Ukrainian refugees, and attended Lenten retreats to name a few activities.

Olesya has served in various positions within her local Jr. UOL and has been very instrumental in the organizational efforts for the Aid to Ukraine program. She has participated in ASC camping programs as both a camper and big sister, and has been a delegate to numerous conventions. This past year, Olesya served on the Jr. UOL National Executive Board as Recording and Corresponding Secretary and was a representative to the 2022 Sobor.

Olesya attended Central High School in Philadelphia where she was an honor student, president of The Aid to Ukraine Club, head of event operations of THON, and a member of the voter registration team. She also played Lacrosse all four years while at Central.

She will be attending St. Joseph's University in the Fall and majoring in Pharmaceutical Sciences.

(continued on page 5)

Convention Committee Reports

Strategic Plan Breakout session – Natalie Bilynsky, presenter

Members:

Pani Matka Alice O'Neil – Carnegie	Alice Sivulich – Carnegie
Cindy Haluszczak – Carnegie	Fr. Ivan Tchopko – St. Sophia Seminary
Michael Misko – Northampton	Martha Misko – Northampton
Lisa Ryan – Carnegie	Stephen Nemeth – Philadelphia
Edward Zetick – Philadelphia	Fr. Sviatoslav Hot – Maplewood
Fr. Oleh Kravchenko – Northampton	Zenia Goodge – Youngstown
Joseph Goodge – Youngstown	Robert Prokopchak – Lyndora
Shirley Duffy – Youngstown	Susan Perankovich – Youngstown
Volodya Katolik – Philadelphia	Daniel Gulak – Maplewood
Lynn Gulak – Maplewood	Daria Pishko Komichak-Maplewood

This group brainstormed ideas to revitalize the UOL.

Themes from this discussion:

- We need to review the items that are working, for example the essay contest and Souper Bowl Sunday. Expand on these.
- We need to review regional events that existed previously to see if they are viable, for example the altar server conference.
- Our goal is to build communities and to energize individuals in the UOL.
- Goal is to form a committee to meet and discuss methods of fellowship.

Convention Committee Karen Ferraro - Lead

This committee focused on strategies to increase participation at the UOL Convention.

Some suggestions:

- Make the convention more inclusive, because often MAL do not come.
- Perhaps workshops for example, for choir directors or other roles in the parish.
- Get rid of antiquated business practices. Get rid of statistics. Streamline the agenda.
- Get parishes to share information.
- Encourage more people to come.
- Dream: get 500 people to come to a convention or do a cruise convention.

What is the difference between the New and Old Calendar? What is the difference between the Gregorian and Julian Calendar?

In recent news there has been much discussion about the Julian (the Old) and Gregorian calendar (the New). The two calendars do not have separate days for our feast days – it is simply the translation between the two calendars that results in our celebrating feast days on different days.

The US and almost all of the world currently uses the Gregorian calendar. Many Orthodox churches continue to use the Julian calendar (the Old calendar). So, if using the Julian calendar in the US – we translate Christmas (December 25th) on the Julian calendar (which includes the number of days that the calendars differ) and we have January 7th. It is important to note that the calendars will continue to differ and in 2100 the date will change to January 8th (the translation from Julian to Gregorian will include an additional day).

It is also important to note that the world transitioned to the Gregorian calendar in stages. The Julian Calendar was promulgated by Julius Caesar through an edict that took effect on January 1, 46 BC. The Gregorian calendar was introduced in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII. Since that time some countries have used the Gregorian calendar and some have used the Julian.

For centuries dates would note OS or NS (old style- Julian or new style – Gregorian). Some countries did not change to the Gregorian calendar until the 20th century. Ukraine and Russia as countries used the Julian calendar as their civil calendar until 1918 when the Soviet Union changed the civil calendar to the Gregorian. Greece changed their civil calendar to the Gregorian in 1923.

Many Orthodox churches remained using the Julian calendar which resulted in the celebration of December 25th on January 7th (translations between the two calendars). The Soviets did not change the date Christmas was celebrated, they changed the civil calendar to the Gregorian calendar. The church remained the same with the Julian calendar. It is also important to note that the calendar impacts all feast days.



Photographs by Marianne Carmack

All Saints Camp – A Family Fest 2023 Journal
Submitted by Shirley Duffy

The journey to All Saints Camp begins with a beautiful drive through the rolling hills and green forests of northwestern Pennsylvania to Emlenton, PA. When you arrive, you are greeted by the upbeat Camp Director Josh Oryhon at whose hands you just know you will have a good time. You are immediately impressed with the overall upkeep of the property. The campus is immaculate, and the grounds are well-kept.

If staying in cabins is not your thing, there are several hotels within an easy ride of ASC. You can sleep in air-conditioned comfort at the hotel with all the amenities and go to campus to commune with nature and your friends during the day. Friday evening, we sat with friends on the veranda of the Dining Hall catching up with what’s new at the camp, the news of the day and what’s ahead for the weekend.

Thanks to the camp nurse, Pauline Witkowsky who is a tour guide extraordinaire, I got a tour of the camp on the golf cart on Saturday morning. There is a newly renovated and rebuilt amphitheater that is a real cathedral in the woods. There are tall trees shooting up toward the sky making a beautiful forest canopy for the amphitheater and the ground is covered with lush green ferns. It is a perfect spot for a wedding. The wedding dinner can be catered at the Millennium Building with dancing at the Pavilion. There are accommodations for 40 in air-conditioned comfort on the first floor of the Millennium Building for guests who don’t like rustic cabin camping. And of course, there are plenty of cabins for people who like camping in the woods.

At Family Fest, there is only a schedule for meals and services. Otherwise, you do your own thing. There are trails for hiking and bicycling, a swimming pool, volleyball, basketball and tennis courts and a soccer field, and equipment for playing frisbee. I enjoyed swimming in the afternoon. The camp chef, Carol Novosel does an excellent job on the meals with plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables and snacks are provided in the dining hall. In the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, we are blessed to have priests who are excellent cooks. Father Steve Repa made delicious chicken cacciatore for lunch on Saturday and Father John Haluszczak made pulled pork sandwiches with your choice of five different gourmet sauces for Saturday dinner.

There is ample opportunity for spirituality at the camp. There are Vespers beautifully sung before dinner on Saturday and Divine Liturgy on Sunday.

It’s a good way to unplug from digital devices over the weekend, but if you simply must use your devices there is WIFI in the Dining Hall and Millennium Building. It is a thoroughly relaxing, peaceful and rejuvenating experience being in God’s great creation in the forests of Pennsylvania.

My only regret was not being able to stay until the end of the weekend. I teach in college and need to prep my courses at least for some time over the weekend, so I left after Divine Liturgy and a delicious brunch on Sunday featuring Chicken Kiev created by Chef Carol. But that’s the beauty of Family Fest. Stay at the camp or at a local hotel and commute to camp for meals and activities. Stay for the entire encampment or just a day or so.

You might ask how much all this costs? There is no charge. All that is requested is a free will donation. It’s a beautiful way to end the summer before getting back to the workaday world.

Find out more about ASC at allsaintscamp.org and via social media @allsaintscamp



Very Reverend Volodymyr Bukata Award
to Antony Sendeha
Submitted by Andi Swan



The Junior UOL president, Natalie Swan, presented the Very Reverend Volodymyr Bukata Award to Antony Sendeha, from Sts. Peter and Paul’s Palos Park chapter.

Antony is very involved in church life within his parish. He has initiated, organized, and led many projects such as UOL lock-ins, pancake flips, and family fun nights. Antony has also been very instrumental in helping with humanitarian aid to Ukraine as well as offering assistance to the new Ukrainian refugees within the community.



According to Antony’s spiritual father, Antony expresses an Orthodox Christian attitude while participating in all chapter activities. He is an altar server who helps to teach new altar servers, is a member of the church choir and attends church school. Antony is also an ordained reader and attends every Sunday Divine Service, every vesper service, as well as most of the Holy day services during the week.

According to Antony’s junior advisor, Antony leads by example as president of the chapter and is always involved in all projects from beginning until the very end.

Congratulations Antony!

(LSSK - continued from page 4)

Our third recipient is **Natalie Swan** of St. Vladimir’s Parish in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Natalie has been very active in her parish where she attended church school and regularly attends liturgy and partakes in the sacraments. She helped with Souper Bowl Sunday, our annual Cookie Walk, assembled and delivered Pascha baskets to shut-ins, went Christmas caroling, helped in collecting school supplies for Ukrainian refugees, and attended Lenten retreats to name a few activities. Natalie has participated in ASC camping programs as both a camper and big sister, and has been a delegate to numerous conventions. Natalie served as President of the Jr. UOL National Executive Board this past year and Treasurer the year prior. She was also a representative to the 2022 Sobor.

Natalie attended Plymouth Whitmarsh High School where she was an honor student, and a member of the Spanish Club. When she was not busy studying, she played volleyball all four years for her high school and played five years on a club travel team.

She will be attending West Virginia University in the fall to major in Psychology and minor in Latin American Studies.

Congratulations to all of our LSSK winners!



2022-23 Junior National Executive Board

Meet the Junior National Executive Board

President - Mia Zetcik

My name is Mia Zetcik and I am the president of this year's Junior UOL National Executive Board! I am blessed to be entering my third year serving on this board, and I am very thankful for the experience I have gained throughout the years. This year's board is a group of wonderful individuals that I am very excited to be working with! I live in Philadelphia, PA, and attend St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church. I am an active member in my church; I attend services, participate in our local Junior UOL chapter, and attend church school.



This year I am entering my junior year of high school at Abington Senior High School. I play on my school's volleyball and softball teams, participate in the musical, and sing in the select choir. I also am a part of my school's mini Thon, which raises money to fight childhood cancer. In the future, I hope to go to a college that fills my academic, spiritual, and social needs. This summer, I went to All Saints Camp, attended the convention, went down the shore, and played volleyball.

As I enter this year as President, I am looking forward to working with my fellow board members to expand the Junior UOL and recruit new members. I hope that we can accomplish all of our goals this year and have successful, in person, meetings. I will fulfill my duty as President to my best ability this 2023-2024 year.

Financial Secretary - Marcia Goodge

My name is Marcia Goodge and I am honored to be the financial secretary for the 2023-2024 year. This is my first year on the board and I hope to accomplish a lot.



I live in Pulaski, PA with my twin brother Sam, my mom, and my dad. I am currently a freshman at Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School where I am a dance major. At school I participate in the National Junior Honor Society and I perform in many shows. Every week I go to church at Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Youngstown, OH. At church I am the president of their Jr. UOL, I attend church school, and I volunteer at church functions. Every year I go to All Saints Camp, this year I attended TC for two weeks and I was a "big sister" for Mommy & Me /Daddy & Me. Outside of school and church I dance at Ludovici Dance Academy and I spend lots of time with my friends and family.

Treasurer - Samuel Goodge

My name is Samuel Goodge. I'm excited to have been elected as treasurer for the national junior UOL for the upcoming year. I plan to carry out my duties as treasurer to the best of my abilities and help in anyway I can! I'm a freshmen at Lincoln Park Performing Art school as a music major specializing in percussion. I am an altar server at Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Youngstown, OH. I have 2 goats, 2 turkeys, 2 rabbits and about 40 chickens. In my spare time I like to go fishing and play my drum set. I live at home with my sister Marcia and my parents. I like to listen to 90s punk rock and am a member of



Troop 65 Boy Scouts.

Vice President - Agitha Harendza

My name is Agitha Harendza. I am from Binghamton, NY. I attend St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Scranton, PA. This is my first year on the UOL National Executive Board and I am blessed to be your vice president and looking forward to helping the church grow and help our church become stronger as a whole.



This year I am going into my senior year at Seton Catholic Central. I enjoy cheering and running track for my school as well as going to the other athletic games to support my school. I participate in competition gymnastics outside of school. This past year I competed in Worlds in Orlando, FL, where I took 4th place overall.

During the summer time I enjoy going to All Saints Camp to grow my faith and spend time with my friends. I hope during my time on the board I can help bring others closer to their faith and serve the church.

Recording and Corresponding Secretary - Danylo Kondryshyn

My name is Danylo Kondryshyn, and I am the Recording and Corresponding Secretary of the 2024-2025 Jr. UOL National Executive Board. I am very excited and thankful for the opportunity to be able to serve on the board with my other board members. This will be my first year serving on the Junior UOL Board, and I am excited about what we as a board will accomplish. I am also hoping that the board will be able to work together efficiently as a group, and be able to find ways to support Ukraine, as well as the UOL



I attend the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Holy Ascension in Maplewood, NJ. I was an altar server for 7 years at this church, and I have recently also become a reader. I am entering my sophomore year at Montville Township High School. After school, I am a part of the drama club. When I have free time, I like to play tennis, play chess, read, and hang out with my friends. After high school, I would like to find a career in biochemistry, and pursue religion by becoming a priest.

This summer was a quiet one for me. While normally I would be a part of a local summer musical, the company unfortunately closed down. Instead I picked up playing tennis with my brother as a hobby. I was also able to spend a week in the Dominican Republic with my family. Before this, I attended the 2023 UOL Convention in Scranton, PA. This was a great experience. Despite it being my first year at a UOL convention, I met many people from various chapters around the country, and I spent time at the meetings of the junior UOL.

The board is already starting to very quickly organize itself, and make plans on where to meet. I hope that the board can get more people and chapters to involve themselves with the UOL. I also hope that more juniors can take interest in, and become a part of the Junior UOL.



Oath of Office 2023

**2023 UOL Essay Contest
Submitted by Teresa Linck**

Congratulations to all of our winners!

Pre-K and Kindergarten

- First Place- Emilia Pasakas, St. Andrew, South Bound Brook, NJ
- Second Place- Raphael Bhandari, St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
- Third Place – Samanta Liberis, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
- Honorable Mention
 - Solomia Bokhinska-Palos Park
 - Paul Murin -Palos Park
 - Krystyna Turichik - Palos Park
 - Teodor Kamit-Palos Park
 - Monica Bureiko - Palos Park
 - Danny Mazan – Carteret
 - Simion Sacalos- New Britain
 - Yarislav Rodeneuko-Palos Park
 - Anna Gorodyska-Palos Park
 - Inna Mrechyn-Palos Park
 - Mark Svynchak-Palos Park

Grades 1 and 2

- First Place- Elizabet Val, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
- Second Place – Samantha Saclos, St. Mary, New Britain, CT
- Third Place – Samatha Shtyra, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
- Honorable Mention
 - Mila Graham-Palos Park
 - Sofia Horodyska - Palos Park
 - Marko Boichuk - Palos Park
 - Olga Grat - Palos Park
 - Milana Kachala- Palos Park
 - Anastasia Sobeshkevych
 - Kristiana Youngblood- Sarasota
 - Quinn Marie Schumacher- Johnson City
 - Ava Cardarelli - Johnson City
 - Mila Graham-Johnson City

Grades 3 and 4

- First Place- Melanie Mitchell, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
- Second Place - Michael Youngblood, St. Barbara, Sarasota, FL
- Third Place - Maria Redchuk, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
- Honorable Mention
 - Ella Misko-Northampton
 - Damian Bhandair- JohnsonCity
 - Victoria Machnikowski- Palos Park
 - Robert Fala - Palos Park
 - Olesia Bachynska - Palos Park
 - Karoling Liberis - Palos Park
 - Veronica Kolodnitska -Palos Park
 - Elvira Bren-Palos Park

Grades 5 and 6

- First Place- Melania Holeyko, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
- Second Place Oleksandra Oliferuk, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
- Third Place Kateryna Burdyliak, St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
- Honorable Mention
 - Lily Hatala- Johnson City
 - Lukian Bokhinsky - Palos Park
 - Roman Petroff – Troy
 - Danica Ost – Northampton
 - Sophia Synevskyy - Johnson City

Grades 7 and 8

- First Place- Quinn Hatala, St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY
- Second Place- Maxim Synevskyy, St. John the Baptist, Johnson City, NY-
- Third Place- Samuel Goodge, Sts. Peter & Paul, Youngstown, OH
- Honorable Mention
 - Victoria Machnikowski - Palos Park
 - Marlene Astakhova – Lyndora
 - Marcia Goodge – Youngstown

Grades 9 and 10

- First Place- Thomas Sheptak, St. Vladimir, Pittsburgh, PA
- Second Place - Victor Sklaryk, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
- Third Place - Qorey Carter, St. Demetrius, Carteret, NJ

Grades 11 and 12

- First Place- Antony Sendeha, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
- Second Place - Ryan Supilowski, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
- Third Place - Michael Supilowski, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL

Adult

- First Place- Michael Jogan, St. Vladimir, Parma, OH
- Second Place- Karen Larson, Sts. Peter & Paul, Palos Park, IL
- Third Place- Janeene Catalano, St. Mary, New Britain, CT

There were a record 167 entries this year. This is the age break-down of each entry.

Pre K & Kindergarten	48
Grades 1&2	41
Grades 3&4	21
Grades 5&6	21
Grades 7&8	16
Grades 9&10	10
Grades 11&12	6
Adult	4

Parishes represented:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| St. John the Baptist, Johnson City | St. Demetrius, Carteret |
| Assumption of the Virgin Mary, Northampton | St. Andrew, South Bound Brook |
| Sts. Peter and Paul, Lyndora | Sts. Peter and Paul, Youngstown |
| St. Catherine | St. Vladimir, Pittsburgh |
| St. Vladimir, Philadelphia | St. Vladimir, Parma |
| St. Mary, New Britain | Sts. Peter and Paul, Carnegie |
| Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park | St. Barbara, Sarasota |
| St. Nicholas, Troy | |



UOL Bulletin Pictures



Our UOL Bulletin was in Switzerland this year.

Oleh Bilynsky enjoys the Bulletin on Lake Lucerne and by the Rheinfall in Switzerland.



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

Natalie Swan and Andrea Swan enjoying the UOL Bulletin in Zermatt, Switzerland.



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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.

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

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Donor

In Honor of

Karen Ferraro

In memory of Dr. Steve Sivulich, thinking of him at the UOL Convention and missing his presence.

Alice Sivulich

In honor of Karen Ferraro and her Dedication to the UOL serving as the UOL President during the pandemic and also for chairing the 76th UOL Convention.

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!

Start making your plans to attend the
77th Annual UOL Convention
in
Philadelphia, PA
July 24-28, 2024



Summary of Events

Wednesday Evening, July 24, 2024 - Hospitality
Welcome for delegates and guests at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Thursday Morning, July 25, 2024 -
Following Divine Liturgy, **Brunch** at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Thursday Evening, July 25, 2024 - **Philly style game night - Philly Style Fare** St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Hall

Friday Evening, July 26, 2024 - **Ukrainian fun night - Varenyky/ pierogie Eating Contest, Games including "Doorak"** (Ukrainian card game) **tournament**
Tryzub Ukrainian American Sport Center

Saturday Evening, July 27, 2024 - **Banquet and Ball** at Crowne Plaza Hotel
Entertainment by Solovey Band - Live Ukrainian music

Sunday Morning, July 28, 2024 - **Farewell Luncheon**
Immediately following Divine Liturgy
St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Hall



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.