



# GAZETA

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**FALL/WINTER 2005**

Volume XIII - Issue #1

## REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

*By Alan Brown, CUP President*

As the President of the Cincinnati-Ukraine Partnership, I'd like to welcome you to our organization and to our semi-annual publication, Gazeta. Many of you are familiar with our organization under the name "the Cincinnati-Kharkiv Sister City Project."

Over time, we have found that our boundaries have extended beyond just Kharkiv, Ukraine, one of Cincinnati's seven sister cities. We now help facilitate cultural, political, and business exchange programs for groups throughout all of Ukraine. Our most recent program, sponsored by the Open World Program, a government-sponsored organization, hosted four Ukrainian journalists and one facilitator. The Open World Program enables Ukrainians to learn more about how individuals and business in the United States of America operate.

With the Open World Program, CUP provided host families for our visitors and arranged meetings with local businesses in the delegation's specific areas of interest. CUP arranged for transportation for our visitors and planned and implemented social experiences in addition to the business visits.

Please join us in our efforts towards peaceful coexistence with Ukraine. ❖



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## CKSCP IN INTERNATIONAL HALL OF FAME

By Jan Sherbin

CKSCP has been inducted into the International Hall of Fame introduced last fall by the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce's Regional Leadership Forum. The Forum is a leadership-development program, and it created the International Hall of Fame as its group project.

The purpose of the International Hall of Fame is to "highlight individuals, organizations, and companies that foster a spirit of internationalism, promote a positive image of the region, and demonstrate a sincere commitment to enhancing

the quality of life for our community. This initiative will enhance public awareness about our community's global connection and convey the message that 'the Cincinnati region is more international than you think.'"

The centerpiece of the International Hall of Fame is an exhibit capturing the essence of each inductee. The exhibit has been traveling to sites in 16 counties.

CKSCP is one of three organizations featured in the Non-Profit category. ❖

## FIRST-HAND CONNECTION TO THE ORANGE REVOLUTION

By Jan Sherbin

In November and December 2004, we had a unique peek into Ukraine's Orange Revolution, hearing about it directly from Kharkiv and Donetsk alumni of our Community Connections journalists program. During the historic and exciting Orange Revolution, the journalists experienced volcanic changes in their industry and in their own minds. In their world, there was both an Orange Revolution and a Journalists' Revolution!

During these weeks, I solicited commentary from our journalist friends, and **Sasha Etlin** translated it. Thus, CKSCP had a direct connection to a presidential election making world headlines. We shared this connection with the Cincinnati metropolitan area via articles in the Cincinnati Enquirer and the Community Press, both of which had been visited by the Community Connections journalists.

At the outset of the Orange Revolution, e-mail messages from the journalists tended toward the dark and sarcastic side: "I do not conceal



*We are not swine,  
We are not goats.  
We are Ukraine's  
daughters and sons.  
No, to falsification!  
No, to manipulation!  
No, no, no to lies!  
Together we are many.  
We cannot be overcome!*

Rap song popular in tent cities on Kyiv's Maidan and in Kharkiv's Freedom Square

("Orange Revolution" continued on pg. 3)



*(“Orange Revolution” continued from pg. 2)*

the fact that I support the democratic candidate [Yushchenko]. And I keep losing friends,” **Valentyna Postnova** wrote. “Some people, when they find out I did not vote for Yanukovich, flee, as if I were a leper. I suspect that, deep in their souls, they share my beliefs but cannot express their choice, afraid to lose their jobs.”

**Oleg Peregon** reported that “it became quite impossible to watch the news. With every passing day, the number of references to Yanukovich was growing. Once, I was flabbergasted by information provided by one of our national channels about some church opening. The story ran, quote: ‘Ukraine’s Prime Minister Viktor F. Yanukovich wanted to attend the opening but was not able to.’ They inserted the PM’s name into news regardless of whether he had attended the event or not!”

Postnova criticized reporters who campaigned for Yanukovich through their reportage, “violating all written and unwritten laws on elections, and the most important thing, in my opinion, is that they broke the rules of journalism ethics. Of morality.”

Our Community Connections friends experienced the Orange Revolution both as journalists and as private citizens. On his own time, Peregon and friends “asked some campaigners for orange flags. We became part of living proof that the vote had been rigged. That we were not outlaws from the monolithic unanimity. Just the opposite, there was a tremendous number of Yushchenko supporters, a force not to be ignored.”

**Dima Lukyanenko** said the election fraud became the last straw that made people realize, “Enough of putting up with government’s criminal activities! We should fight for our rights, for democracy.”

A lively, orange tent city bloomed in Kharkiv’s Freedom Square, but not in Donetsk, home of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich.

Shortly thereafter, Freedom Square got partitioned by police into the “orange” half, for



**Zhenya Taran distributes newspapers reporting on the Orange Revolution.**

Yushchenko, and the “blue and white” half, for Yanukovich. Peregon laughed at the math used to calculate the number of demonstrators; he said the crowd estimate for the “orange” side was about half the actual number, while estimates for the “blue and white” side were inflated.

With tent cities flourishing in Kharkiv’s Freedom Square and on Kyiv’s Maidan, messages from our journalist friends became brighter, full of hope and reflecting confidence in Ukraine’s future.

Lukyanenko wrote, “The authorities consider the Orange Revolution as Ukraine’s disgrace in front of the whole world. I think that this is not a disgrace but rather a positive example, and one of the most historic events positively characterizing Ukrainians.”

“The most important thing,” said **Irina Gorbacheva**, “is that we realized ‘people’ equals ‘strength.’ And if our next government

*(“Orange Revolution” continued on pg. 4)*



("Orange Revolution" continued from pg. 3)



Zhenya Taran, wearing an orange scarf, distributed pro-Yushchenko newspapers in Kyiv.

continues serving themselves and not the nation, we will not remain silent. There are very many Ukrainians who are not indifferent to the destiny of our country. And if necessary, we will fight for our rights again."

"Properly speaking, we are not voting for Yushchenko's victory," says **Dima Ternovoy**. "We are voting for our personal freedoms and opportunities. If he wins, pre-conditions will be created for accelerated development of our country. Real civil liberties should flourish after being consistently trampled for many years. Among other things, freedom of enterprise should emerge. It will provide for a gigantic qualitative leap in the nation's economic development."

Clearly, their time in America helped the journalists understand democracy and citizen involvement, to visualize a free press and a free country. Ternovoy celebrates the changes in journalism fashioned by the Orange Revolution. "With the tremendous civic upheaval, the national TV stations had to reconsider their attitude to news. Today, most of them operate more or less freely. At any rate, they present balanced news and comply with the journalistic standards of covering several viewpoints on an event."

**Zhenya Taran** kept her Community Connections experience in mind throughout the

## Time Line

### Oct. 31, 2004

Original election, to narrow the field of 24 candidates. A runoff was expected.

### Nov. 21, 2004

Runoff between Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and challenger Viktor Yushchenko.

### Dec. 26, 2004

New election with candidates Yanukovich and Yushchenko. Yushchenko wins.

(The fairness of both the Oct. 31 election and the Nov. 21 runoff was highly questionable. Anger started steaming before the Nov. 21 runoff and was made worse by the official announcement that Yanukovich had won it. That decision got reversed by Ukraine's highest court, and a new election was set for Dec. 26.)

Orange Revolution. "When we were in America, we saw and felt what it means to live and work in a free country, to express one's thoughts openly and to stand up for one's viewpoint. I am very grateful to you because my trip to America inspired me with faith in my own strength and in the future of Ukrainian journalism."

Irina Gorbacheva felt the presence of us Cincinnatians as well: "Thank you for being with us. For rooting for us. For being concerned." ❖

## A New Web Site for CUP

Our current Web site, at [www.cincy-ukraine.org](http://www.cincy-ukraine.org), has been completely redesigned and reorganized. This effort is a continuation of the rebranding and revitalization of our organization that began with a name change and new logo last year.

We believe the new site, with its updated look and friendly useability better represents the Cincinnati-Ukraine Partnership to the community, promoting interest, understanding and support for our efforts.

Special thanks to Alan Brown and Photonics Graphics for their work on CUP's branding and the design of the Web site. ❖



## “UNDER FIRE” PREVIEW A MOVING EXPERIENCE

By Jan Sherbin, “Under Fire” Preview Chair

We packed the Cincinnati Art Museum’s Fath Auditorium last November for the Veterans Day preview of our “Under Fire” documentary. “Under Fire” tells the stories of women who served in combat in the Soviet army during World War II. Most Americans don’t know that large numbers of Soviet women went into combat.

The centerpiece of this powerful event was the showing of the documentary, which received a standing ovation.

“Under Fire” took several years to complete. Producer Noel Julnes-Dehner steered it through the planning stages, through fund-raising, through interviews in Kharkiv, through many hours of editing. We held the preview Nov. 7. “Under Fire” aired on WCET, Channel 48, on Nov. 9. A Russian-dubbed version was shown this spring in Kharkiv by our counterpart sister city organization there, as part of observances of the 60th anniversary of victory.

Honored guests at our Nov. 7 preview were veterans of World War II, both Soviet and



A touching moment was the joining of the Mariemont High School Choir and the singing babushkas for “God Bless America.” Photo: Guennadi Maslov



World War II veterans Anna Keller (left) and Lynn Ashley speak no common language yet bonded instantly at the preview. Photo: Guennadi Maslov

American. A number of Soviet vets attended with chests full of military decorations. Dr. Lynn Ashley, who served at a bombardier training base in Arizona during the war, set up an informative exhibit in the lobby covering the role of American women in the military.

The Mariemont High School Choir opened the evening with a stunning rendition of the “Star Spangled Banner,” in four-part harmony. The “singing babushkas” from the F.R.E.E. (Friends of Refugees from Eastern Europe) Russian Center in Roselawn followed. They performed war songs they remember from their childhoods during the war. The Mariemont students and the “singing babushkas” joined voices for “God Bless America.” The audience spontaneously joined in.

People have responded to “Under Fire” with awe and empathy. “I had no idea Soviet women served in combat. It’s incredible what they did,” is a typical American comment. A typical comment from people who grew up in the Soviet Union is, “We’re glad that Americans

*(“Under Fire” continued on pg. 6)*



(“Under Fire” continued from pg. 5)

are interested in learning what happened to us during the war.” They performed war songs they remember from their childhoods during the war. English speakers in the audience followed along via a translation in the program.

The Mariemont students and the “singing

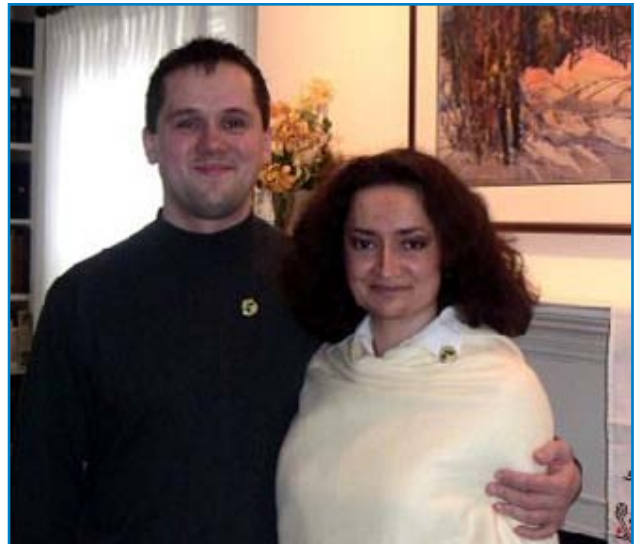
babushkas” joined voices for “God Bless America,” a moving close to the evening. The audience spontaneously joined in. If you would like to arrange a showing at a venue such as a school, library or civic organization, contact the Cinema Guild, 212-685-6242, [www.cinemaguild.com](http://www.cinemaguild.com). ❖

## GRANT PROGRAM ALUMNI VISIT CINCINNATI

By Marilyn Braun

In March 2005, alumni from two different Cincinnati-Kharkiv programs traveled to Cincinnati to see friends and revive memories of their visit to our city.

Slava Shkvarko and Tetiana Kuzmenko drove from Toronto to spend the weekend with Steve and Nancy Frank. Steve was Slava’s professional host at Prudential Securities and the two have stayed in touch since Slava’s internship in February 1999. Tanya, also a member of the same Cincinnati-Kharkiv’s Community Connections Business Program, continued her business education following her Cincinnati program and is now working toward a PhD in Toronto. The two first met in Kharkiv as they prepared for their 4-week Community Connections program in Cincinnati. Art and Maryan Tebbutt, Slava’s



Slava Shkvarko and Tetiana Kuzmenko visit Cincinnati, March 2005



L to R: Sasha Etlin, Luda Andrievska, Marilyn Braun, Jan and Gerald Checco

host family, and Ward and Dottie Garrabrant, Tatiana’s host family were on hand to welcome the couple back to Cincinnati.

Two weeks later, Liudmyla (“Luda”) Andrievska, facilitator from Kyiv, for Open World’s December 2003 program: “Media and Elections,” came to Cincinnati, by way of Lexington, KY where she was a house guest. She brought two friends with her, and a good amount of food for a Ukrainian meal. All three joined Luda’s host family, Jan and Gerald Checco, interpreter Sasha Etlin and others who had been actively involved in the Open World Program for a very large meal. ❖



## KHARKIV, UKRAINE 2005 AND THE MAYOR'S CUP

By Doreen Beatrice

*Ballroom dancers, Rodie and Pam Radermacher, from Cincinnati, competed in the 2nd Mayor's Cup Dance Competition in April. Doreen Beatrice accompanied them and was invited to judge.*

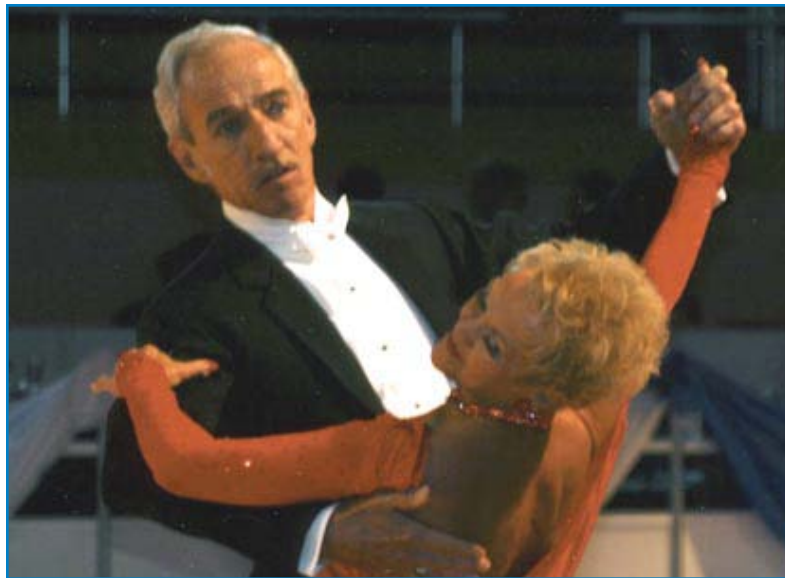


Photo: Guennadi Maslov

When I was approached by **Guennadi Maslov** about the 1st Mayor's Cup Dance competition in Kharkiv one year ago, there was no time to prepare for. When I learned that there would be another competition in April 2005, I knew it was time for us to participate.

In Europe, ballroom dancers start when they are young. Most Americans start to enjoy Ballroom Dancing later in life. Our students are adults and we informed Kharkiv that any participants from the Cincinnati area would be in the over 35 category. They immediately established the category in the styles of International Latin and Standard Senior Division. I invited four couples to attend but only one couple, **Rodie and Pam Radermacher**, committed to going. I was pleased to have the chance to accompany Rodie and Pam and was also be invited to judge on an international panel and had the privilege of representing Cincinnati and the United States.

I kept in contact with the representatives of the city in Kharkiv as well as Guennadi and **Dave**

**Brokaw**. We also made sure to find an efficient and knowledgeable travel agent, **Marilyn Zeh** from Calson-Wagonlit. We did not realize how much was involved in obtaining visas for Ukraine and Russia. We also decided to visit Moscow after the competition.

We arrived in Kharkiv on April 20th. We were greeted by our driver Mykola and our guide/translator/overall lifesaver, Olena (representing the city of Kharkiv). We could not have asked for someone more organized, conscientious or friendly. Her assistant, Nastia was right there for us as well when Olena became unavailable.. Our agenda for excursions, meals and the competition were all precisely scheduled.

We met with the organizer of the dance competition so that we were informed of the two days and scheduling of the event. Rodie and Pam would compete in their category on Sunday afternoon. The organizer, Sergiy Francen also invited Rodie and Pam to dance a showcase performance for the show on Saturday evening. They accepted and decided to perform a Foxtrot.

*("Mayor's Cup" continued on pg. 8)*



(“Mayor’s Cup” continued from pg. 7)



Pam Radermacher thanks the crowd after performing at the Mayor’s Competition

Photo: Guennadi Maslov

The youth competition was held all day on Saturday. And in the evening, Rodie and Pam joined in the parade of dancers walking proudly behind the flag of the United States.

The crowd loved their one dance presentation. They even had people come up to them asking for their autograph. Rodie and Pam would place 4th out of 6 couples in their competition on Sunday. They danced well and were by far the crowd favorites. As we were ready to leave the grand dance palace, Sergiy asked them to take a “promenade” around the ballroom as Pam

was presented with flowers. They both spoke to the crowd about their experience and expressed gratitude for such an opportunity. It was quite emotional.

I judged all of the amateur categories on both days. The skill level of the teenagers and young adults is absolutely tremendous. I was treated like a celebrity with an interview for a Kharkiv TV. News channel. I am so grateful to have had such a great chance to represent our city and country.

After the competition on Saturday, we were invited to the banquet for the judges and special guests including Rodie and Pam. There was food everywhere with bottles of wine, juice and vodka on each table. We had no idea that it was only the appetizers until we saw some main meat dishes being served about an hour later. There were toasts after toasts celebrating everything from the success of the competition to politics to beautiful women.

We sat at the international table with the judges from England, Austria, and France. We were impressed with our Ukrainian translators from the city office. There was a fluent speaker for each language.

It was a magical trip for us. We had so many personal experiences during our few short days in Ukraine. We know that there are so many people who made this all possible. On behalf of Rodie and Pam, I would like to extend our gratitude to everyone. ❖

## LT. KURT BYRD: TRANSPARENCY & OPENNESS GRANT PROGRAM

By Marilyn Braun

Lt. Kurt Byrd of the Cincinnati Police Department is a familiar face on local TV as spokesperson for the Police. When asked if he would like to represent the Cincinnati Police Department in Kharkiv, Ukraine and speak on the role of police in a democratic society, he enthusiastically signed on. That was early fall, 2004.

Lt. Byrd’s trip was funded by a grant from Standard & Poors and Sister Cities International. His Kharkiv schedule was arranged by the City of Kharkiv, working with their police, CUP and his own suggestions as a result of his diverse background in law enforcement. He prepared well for his seminars,

(“Lt. Kurt Byrd” continued on pg. 9)





(“Lt. Kurt Byrd” continued from pg. 8)

workshops and the many people he would be meeting.

As it happened, Lt. Byrd arrived in Kharkiv on Election Day. It was the run-off election and the “Orange Revolution” was in full swing. The Kharkiv police were, of course, busy protecting 30,000-50,000 people protesting in the streets.

Despite some changes to his schedule, Lt. Byrd was able to carry out most of his scheduled program. He met with Kharkiv law enforcement and government people, talked to a class of police cadets, as well as a group of university administrators, about the importance police place on transparency and openness with the public they serve. He was interviewed on TV and at a Press Conference where he was told that except for the Orange Revolution taking place,

he was the next most newsworthy event in the city at the time.

Lt. Byrd’s hotel room overlooked the main square of Kharkiv and he was able to observe how the Kharkiv police controlled the crowds. “Just the same as we would do it in Cincinnati,” he said.

Lt. Kurt Byrd’s final report on his trip says: “I observed firsthand Kharkivites standing strong in their beliefs without obvious reprisals. I observed a police department working within the boundaries of law and allowing people to freely express their opinions. I observed very proud hospitable people who welcome outsiders into their lives and homes, and I have made friends that I will consider so for life.” ❖

## TB CLINIC VISIT

*By Ed Marks*

A visit to Dr. Vitaliy Mankovsky’s TB clinic is always emotional. (Many in Cincinnati will remember Dr. Mankovsky, who was part of a Community Connections Local Government program in 1997.) Up to fifty children – some of them virtually abandoned by their families – reside at this small clinic across from the former American Center, as they recover from tuberculosis. CUP/CKSCP members often have taken gifts to these children; it’s amazing how bright their faces become by a special party consisting of fresh fruit, candy or little toys.

Last summer, Yuliya captured the hearts of CUP’s delegates to the 350th anniversary celebration. This year – as one can plainly see – Yuliya is six years old!! ❖





# FRIENDS OF CUP/CKSCP

*Thanks to the following individuals and organizations that have contributed over the past year. Every effort has been made to assemble a comprehensive list. We regret any omissions.*

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## Members 2004-2005

### Individual (\$25)

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and Howard Kaplan]

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Maslov, Guennadi  
Mills, Juanita  
Mingua, Sandra  
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Running, Robert and Elena  
Sears, Pamela J.  
Seidel, F. Peter  
Shalay, Christian M.  
Slutz, Leonard D. and Elizabeth  
Wagner, Mary V.S.  
Yates, Tyrone K.  
Young, Joanne S., in honor of Noel Julnes  
Dehner, producer of Under Fire  
Zozulya, Antonina

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Hirschberg, Steven L.  
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Perlman, Burton and Alice,  
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Pfau, Dan and Susan L.  
Roll, William and Mary Frances

Sato, Kazuya and Elizabeth S.  
Springs East Monessori School  
Stith, John S. and Carolyn L.  
Stitt, Thomas A. and Almeda M.  
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in honor of Ed Marks  
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We share ideas and experiences with our friends in Ukraine in areas of mutual interest and opportunity.

If you would like to join us, please call 513-241-8833 or send in the coupon below.

Please indicate your areas of interest:

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Your financial support is vital to making our highly successful people-to-people contact happen. This support brings rich communication, interaction and education opportunities to the people of Ukraine and Cincinnati.

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**Gazeta**

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