UMANA’S Holiday Gatherings

NEW YORK METRO BRANCH held their traditional Christmas Yalynka on December 16, 2023, at the Ukrainian Institute of America. New officers were elected during a short meeting before the festivities: President — Ariadne Bach, MD, Vice-president — Artur Hryhorowycz, MD, Treasurer — Daniel Kuncio, DDS, Members at Large: Ruta Cholhan, MD, Peter Lenchur, MD, Alexandra Kushnir, MD. Members and families gathered for a night of caroling and socializing.

MICHIGAN BRANCH hosted its annual Christmas luncheon at Meadowbrook Hall in December 2023. The festive event was followed by a tour of the historic mansion. Members were grateful to have the opportunity to celebrate the Christmas season together.

ILLINOIS BRANCH gathered at their yearly Yalynka on January 28, 2024, at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Chicago. Illinois President Dr. Olena Gordon gave a report of the chapter’s activities in 2023 and medical student Julia Minkovitch shared information about a telemedicine service TeleHelp and invited others to get involved. A nice time was had by members and their families as all enjoyed a delicious lunch.
OHIO BRANCH members continue their partnering with MedGlobal on medical mission trips. Dr. Mychailo Samotowka returns to Ukraine on a regular basis to assist in surgeries and report on needs at hospitals and among casualties. Andrew Drozd, MD, and Tatyana Gabyak PA-C participated in surgeries on wounded Ukrainian soldiers in Ukraine during a trip in October organized by Dr. Laura Bukavina. Dr. Jurko Jaskiw also traveled to Ukraine and connected with partners and provided information on needs of the wounded. The Chapter continues to collect money for internal and external fixators to repair fractured bones and provide IFAKs with life-saving tourniquets to those on the front.

Andrij BARAN, MD, FACC (New York Metro Branch) received an award for establishing cardiology services 40 years ago in Saratoga Springs, NY, at the Saratoga Hospital in 1983. The services have grown from one cardiologist to 12. For the last 20 years Dr. Baran has been president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America NY Capital District, which raised one million dollars for Ukraine in the last year.

Colonel Andrew CAP, MD, PhD, FACP (At-Large Member in Texas) retired from the U.S. Army in November 2023. He last served as Director of Research for the US Army Institute of Surgical Research. He has worked extensively with the Armed Services Blood Program, Special Operations Command and Joint Trauma System on a variety of blood and combat casualty care challenges. He served as Co-Chairman of the NATO Blood Panel and as a contributor to the NATO Prehospital Care Improvement Initiative. Now in civilian life he was recently appointed Chief Military Liaison Office at Velico Medical, Inc., where he will develop existing and new relationships and military projects in the field of spray-dried plasma production and novel blood technologies.

Andrij BARAN, MD, FACC

Colonel Andrew CAP, MD, PhD, FACP

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OBITUARIES

ILCHYSHYN DDS, Nicholas, age 75, University of Maryland 1979, member of UMANA Maryland/DC Metro Branch, died July 17, 2023.
**President’s Message**

Greetings!

I’d like to congratulate our chapters and members for all their incredible work since February 24, 2022. **Dr. Marika Hrycelak** has been an invaluable supporter and resource for many UMANA projects recently – thank you for all your inspiring efforts. As we approach the two year mark of the Russian invasion it becomes even more important to stay active and engaged.

A major rally is being organized in Washington DC on Saturday February 24, 2024 and many communities are holding events locally. Let’s support these events and use this time to encourage more donations and support for Ukraine. UMANA Foundation continues to gather funds which support important projects from butterfly ultrasounds to surgical missions to hygiene/shower mobile units.

**On to Victory!**

Слава Україні!
Героям Слава!

Marta Lopatynsky, MD
Д-р Марта Лопатинська

**UMANA MEMBER NEWS**

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**Adriana FARIAN, DMD** (Ohio Branch) graduated from Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine in 2023 and began her first-year residency at Summa Health in Akron, Ohio.

**Maria GBUR, MD** (New York Metro Branch) joined the Sun River Health Federally Qualified Health Center in New Rochelle and White Plains, NY, in August 2023. She provides primary care in a full spectrum family practice model, and she is able to see Ukrainian refugee families.

**Bogdan GRABOVIY, DMD** (At-Large Member in Kentucky) recently opened his new business DentNet in partnership with his son Aleksey Graboviy, CPA, JD, and continues his dental practice Parkside Family Dental in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Ihor HRYB, MD** (New England Branch), passed the ECFMG certification, and recently started his residency at Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

**Maria HRYCELAK, MD** (Illinois Branch) received with the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America Illinois Branch Community Award on January 21, 2024, during the Ukrainian Unity Day celebration. Dr. Hrycelak’s longtime community work in UMANA and the UMANA Foundation was acknowledged.

**Anastasia HRYHORCZUK, MD** (Michigan Branch) has been appointed Pediatric Radiology Associate Chair within the Radiology Department, University of Michigan Medical School, and Radiologist-in-Chief at Mott Children’s Hospital.

**Michael KAROL, DDS** (New York Metro Branch) celebrated his 10-year anniversary as a dental practice broker. Currently he is working at US Dental Practices assisting dentists in selling their practices and providing consultation services.

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Adrianna Kowblansky, BS (Maryland/DC Metro Branch) is a first-year medical student at George Washington University in DC. She follows in the medical footsteps of her father, Alexander Kowblansky, MD, uncle George Charuk, DO, and grandfather Peter Charuk, MD (deceased), and her mother Annette Kowblansky, RPh.

Christine Lenchur, DO (New York Metro Branch) graduated from Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine and began residency at ICAHN School of Medicine Mt. Sinai Health System in New York City.

Oksana Maliar, MD (At-Large in Arkansas) was ECFMG certified and is now a resident at Mercy Hospital in Fort Smith, Arkansas.


Andrew Myktysey, MD (Illinois Branch) is Aspirus Heart Cone Electrophysiology Medical Director at Aspirus Wausau in Wisconsin.

Sergiy Nesterenko, MD (At-Large Member in Texas) practices orthopedic spine surgery in Lubbock, Texas. As a member of American Ukrainian Medical Foundation (AUMF) he serves as a project manager for tccc.org.ua, an educational project on tactical medicine in Ukraine. He received the 2023 Scott Frame Service Award from NAEMT during the 2023 World Trauma Symposium in New Orleans for this project.

Oleksandr Orak, MD, MBA (At-Large Member in Louisiana), after graduating, began his residency at Tulane Medical Center in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Vitaly Pilukko, MD (At-Large Member in New Mexico) became a Medical Director of Cardiac Surgery at Memorial Medical Center in Los Cruces, New Mexico.

Alexandra Popadiuk, RN, BSN (Ohio Branch) graduated from Xavier University in Cincinnati and is now working as an RN at Cleveland Clinic Main Campus delivering care to pediatric hematology/oncology patients.

Victoria Shust, OD (Pennsylvania Branch) was the lead author of the article “Intracranial Hypertension and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus” published in the Journal of Medical Optometry in November 2023.

Irene Stasula, RN, BSN (Illinois Branch) has retired after a career as Associate Director of Occupational Medicine at the University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System.

Adrianna Uhlar, MD (Maryland/DC Metro Branch) graduated from Case Western Reserve College of Medicine and is now PGY 1 resident at Bon Secours Mercy Health – St. Francis Family Medical Center in Midlothian, Virginia.