

## EuroMaidan Victim in Detroit

Story and Photo by Nadia Juzych

February 18<sup>th</sup> started out like any other day on the Kyiv EuroMaidan - protesters gathering in the streets, construction of barricades on-going, and many activities resembling the general hustle and bustle of a small city - when Dmytro met friends from his university around 11 a.m. in front of the Parliament building. The students then traveled to the Government Quarter to Mariinsky Park near the Party of Regions building. Seeing the police special forces, the Berkut, lining up near the barricades, Dmytro tried to engage the militiamen. "They put their masks down and said, 'We're not allowed to talk to you,'" he recalled.

Later he saw a number of Berkut enter a building across from the Maidan who made their way to the rooftop and began shooting with rubber bullets and throwing gas and smoke grenades wrapped with nails and small rocks onto the protesters below. The protesters threw rocks and bricks dug up from the streets in retaliation. Dmytro, who sustained a grenade hit to his shoulder, joined with about six other protesters, ran to the building, up several flights of stairs, and broke a door to get roof access to speak with the Berkut. Armed with fireworks and using the door as a shield, the group convinced the militiamen to leave the building. During the exchange, Dmytro was hit by rubber bullets on the side of his abdomen and his leg and also injured a finger. After leaving the building, he made his way to a medical tent to receive treatment.

While his finger was being bandaged, he saw a group of protesters suddenly running in the direction of the medical tent. He was told Berkut were forcing them back and beating protesters, but he was emboldened by their previous successful stand down with the militiamen and encouraged the group to turn back. "It was very



*Dr. Mark Juzych, UMANA Michigan Branch member, examines the injured eye of a Maidan protester.*

emotional, but I was very proud that we had pushed them back and I thought we could do it again," he said. The Berkut forces split up and crossed over the barricades of the Maidan while continuing to beat protesters. Dmytro was handed a bullet-proof vest for protection.

He made his way toward the front of the crowd to reach a vantage point where he could see what was happening and stood behind a tree to shield himself. Suddenly, Dmytro heard a loud scream and turned to look in the direction of the sound. Just then two rubber bullets pierced his eye. Covered in blood and soot, he ran back to the medical tent, where he was quickly bandaged and then carried to a car and taken to a makeshift hospital. He received initial treatment and the first two of three surgeries in Kyiv, but at the urging of his brother Volodymyr, who feared for his younger brother's safety,

Dmytro was transferred to a hospital in Lviv.

Doctors in Lviv performed an additional surgery to remove plastic casing from one of the rubber bullets that had lodged in his nasal passage. Dmytro indicated that initially it was hard to accept that he'd lost vision in his eye and he was depressed for a few days. But he realized that he was fortunate to have not sustained greater injuries - "I was alive," he recalled thinking. He's accepted the loss and has moved on. The treating physicians felt that specialized oculoplastic procedures would be best available outside of Ukraine.

Working in coordination with the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, **Dr. Zenya Chernyk**, an UMANA member from Philadelphia, coordinated travel and arranged for flights to be paid by the Ukrainian Foundation of America to bring Dmytro and his brother, acting as the youth's guardian, to the United States.

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# UMANA CHAPTER NEWS

## Illinois Branch

The UMANA-Illinois Spring Scientific lecture took place Sunday, March 30, 2014, at Café Ba-Ba-Reeba in Chicago's north Halsted Street corridor. Guest speaker was Mark B. Mycyk, MD,



Photo by Dr. Maria Hrycelak

*Diana Iwanik, MD welcomes Mark Mycyk, MD to the speaker's rostrum at Café Ba-Ba-Reeba.*

FACMT, FACEP, research director in the Division of Toxicology at Cook County Hospital, and Associate Professor at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. Dr. Mycyk spoke on *Chasing*

*the Dragon and Hunting Krokodil: A Global Health Perspective on Opiate Abuse in the U.S. and Ukraine*, informing the rapt audience of the dangers and complications associated with opiate abuse in our communities at large.

Illinois Branch President **Diana Iwanik, MD** briefed the members with a summary of activities from the many local area initiatives undertaken to help the developing situation in Ukraine, with emphasis on medical, humanitarian, and relief aid to those injured in the recent Maidan activities in Kyiv.

American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Network of Diaspora in Engineering and Science (NODES),

*Drs. Marek Rudnicki (right) and George Hrycelak attend the Science and Engineering Diaspora Engagement luncheon at the AAAS meeting in Chicago.*



in partnership with the Embassy of the Republic of Poland and the Foundation for Polish Science, held the second annual Science and Engineering Diaspora Engagement luncheon in Chicago on February 13, 2014. Through the kind invitation of Dr. Marek Rudnicki, a Polish-American general surgeon in Chicago, UMANA's Executive Director

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## UMANA News

The Newsletter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America is published quarterly by UMANA with the objective to promote good fellowship and to uphold and enhance the best interests of UMANA. The newsletter serves as an impartial forum for information for its members. UMANA cannot guarantee the accuracy of all information contained herein. Some information has been obtained from third party published and oral sources and may not have been independently verified. The treatment of articles, views, and opinions expressed in UMANA News is not necessarily endorsed by UMANA.

Distributed to members and friends of UMANA

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The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America



## OBITUARIES



**KURYLAK, MD, Lydia**, age 94, *Medizinische Fakultät, Karl-Franzens Universität, Graz, Austria* 1951, Member UMANA Illinois Branch, died April 10, 2014.

**UMANA Branch Officers**  
Please let us know of activity  
in your local branch.

E-mail news and photos  
to [umana@umana.org](mailto:umana@umana.org)

**We will make every effort to include reports of your events in an upcoming issue of UMANA News!**



## President's Message

Fortunately, the winter months have passed, and we've made it to the Spring newsletter. This winter was a nasty one for our doctors here in the northeast, weeks and weeks of icy, snowy roads, early morning snow shoveling, bitter near-zero temperatures. It has warmed up a bit, but the roads we commute over are all pot-holed and dirty. So did UMANA survive the winter? Yes it did. Perhaps a better question, will Ukraine survive? We've all been following Ukraine's news on international websites. What will happen to Odessa, Luhansk, Donetsk, and Kharkiv? But is anyone surprised that our WFUMA friend, Dr. Oleh Musiy is now Ukraine's Minister of Health? He is a truly outstanding individual.

The events in Ukraine will affect us all. Just recently two young men, one of whom wearing a facial bandage, appeared at Detroit's Kresge Eye Institute asking for Dr. Juzych. The bandaged man was a survivor of the Maidan battle in Kyiv and had been shot in the face. **Dr. Mark Juzych**, an UMANA member and head of the Kresge Eye Institute, had been approached by the U.S. government and had agreed to consult on a Maidan patient. So, unexpectedly, here that patient was at the clinic's front door. I hope you'll hear more of this as the story and the treatments progress.

The American Ukrainian Medical Foundation, **Dr. Paul Dzul's** medical textbook publishing enterprise, has just released *Dorland's Ukrainian Medical Dictionary* (the 2-volume orange dictionary) as an eBook. It is available on the AUMF website through the link, <http://aumf.net/ebook/>. It only costs \$19.99, a nice reference to have on your computer. **Dr. George Hrycelak** has updated our website: [www.umana.org](http://www.umana.org), so that members' dues can conveniently be paid through the website; simply click the button "pay dues" at the upper right.

This autumn the biennial Congress of the World Federation of Ukrainian Medical Associations will take place October 16-18 in Chernivtsi, Bukovyna. We all hope for peace and a successful Congress. I plan to attend and encourage all of you to join me. The next UMANA Scientific meeting will take place in the summer of 2015. Our Uprava has not made a final decision, but Mt. Tremblant in Quebec is high on our list.

Best Wishes to you all, and thank you for supporting UMANA!

Sincerely,  
Andrew Dzul

## UMANA CHAPTER NEWS

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**George Hrycelak, MD** was able to participate in a wide ranging and informative panel discussion exploring ways that a diaspora's common languages and experience can build partnerships and promote scientific cooperation across countries and spur economic growth and innovation in both their country of origin and new homeland.

### Ohio Branch

The Ohio Chapter of UMANA has been working with the Ukrainian Federation of America (UFA) in Philadelphia coordinating medical/surgical treatment for victims traumatized during the uprisings in Ukraine. Many surviving victims were initially treated in Ukraine, neighboring European countries, and Israel. The needs of these patients have exceeded the available resources in Ukraine and Europe, as many victims started to surface from hiding some time after the conclusion of the protests in Maidan. These patients were suffering from their initial injuries as well as complications from delays in seeking medical treatment. A most tragic

outcome recently included the disappearance of two victims in Ukraine awaiting transfer to the United States after they had been assigned and accepted for care in Cleveland.

**Dr. Maria Strus**, treasurer of the Ohio Chapter of UMANA, identified hospitals in Cleveland willing to provide *pro bono* care to trauma victims: MetroHealth Medical Center, the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, and St. Vincent Charity Hospital. She has also been working with the Ukrainian community identifying volunteer host families who will provide room and board to patients when they are not hospitalized. Other volunteers will assist in tasks such as providing patient transportation to outpatient appointments. **Dr. Zenia Chernyk**, head of the UFA, is directly working with the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv to identify patients and appropriate funds from UFA to cover the cost of medical visas and transportation via commercial flights from Europe to the United States. The Cleveland area Ukrainian community is feverishly preparing to host these selfless victims and support them in their recovery.

To date, numerous patients have been placed for *pro bono* care in various cities in the United States, including Philadelphia, Detroit, and Cleveland. The process of arranging these treatments has been problematic: discussions with hospitals/providers face repeated delays of various etiologies. Some transfers were met with confusion about arrivals, community host arrangements, and financial obligations of organizing bodies.

The needs of patients are extensive and varied, from gunshot wounds, burns, and amputations to psychological trauma. Many will require expensive prosthetic devices and others are suffering severe post-traumatic stress disorder from enduring torture. The list of patients in need of care is extensive, and further involvement by institutions and the Ukrainian community in the United States is welcomed by UMANA, Dr. Chernyk, the U.S. Embassy, and our selfless Ukrainian brethren.

Contacts for the Ohio Chapter of UMANA are: [UMANAOhio@gmail.com](mailto:UMANAOhio@gmail.com) and UMANA OhioChapter on Facebook.

## UMANA MEMBER NEWS



**Andrew Cap, MD, PhD, FACP**, U.S. Army, (Member-at-large) was appointed Associate Professor of Medicine at Uniformed Services University. He directs the Blood Research Program at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.



**Joseph Huryn, DDS** (NYMetro Branch) was elected vice-president of the American Prosthodontic Society in Chicago, Illinois.



**Wira Slobodianiuk-Trigos, MD** (Pennsylvania Branch) is enjoying her retirement in the company of her grandchildren. She continues to be involved with her long-time passion for painting and still exhibits her creations from time-to-time.



**Christina Duzyj-Buniak, MD** (NYMetro Branch) has been named Assistant Professor of Obstetrics/Gynecology in the Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School of Rutgers University in New Jersey.



Bronx, New York.

**Mark Koziacky, MD** (NYMetro Branch) has been invited to serve in the 4<sup>th</sup> year as Chief Medical Resident at Jacobi Hospital and Medical Center in the



Development at

**Diane Spokus, PhD, MEd, MCHES** (Pennsylvania Branch) is an instructor in the Department of Health Policy and Administration in the College of Health and Human



Massachusetts. More information at [www.comprehensivedentalsolutionsboston.com](http://www.comprehensivedentalsolutionsboston.com).

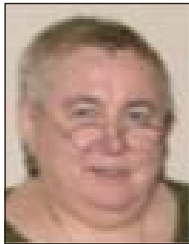
**George Maryniuk, DDS, MPH** (New England Branch) specializes in prosthodontic dentistry, including restorative and cosmetic dentistry, in Brookline,

University.



could lead to better treatments for Friedreich's Ataxia.

**Stephen Dzul** (Michigan Branch), an MD, PhD student at Wayne State University School of Medicine, is using a fellowship from the American Heart Association to study a protein complex that



a display of over 800 individual decorated pysanky.

**Luba Petrusha, MD** (Michigan Branch) exhibited her mastery of writing pysanky at the Detroit Historical Museum as part of an exhibition on the Ukrainian Diaspora with



journal is available for all at [www.ijpem.com](http://www.ijpem.com).

**Tetyana Vasylyeva, MD, PhD, DMSc** (Member-at-large) is the founder and managing editor of a new online journal, the *International Journal of Integrative Pediatrics and Environmental*

## EuroMaidan Victim...

*Continued from front*

The young men arrived in the United States at the end of March, under the specialty care of Mark Juzych, MD, director of the Kresge Eye Institute and chair of the Department of Ophthalmology at Wayne State University School of Medicine and member of the UMANA Michigan branch. Dr. Juzych indicated that Dmytro will undergo at least three additional surgeries to repair his injuries: "The procedures will include a right lower eyelid reconstruction and skin graft. After the lower eyelid is repaired, we will use

a graft to add volume to the eye socket to provide adequate support for an ocular prosthesis." Dr. Juzych added that Dmytro will also require "nasal-lacrimal system reconstruction."

The physicians are providing their care *pro bono*, as they do for other international and local patients when necessary. "As physicians, our first concern is to provide necessary care for our patients, regardless of their ability to pay," said Juzych.

Dmytro and Volodymyr are being hosted by the Juzych family, who are active

in the Detroit Ukrainian community. Dr. Nadia Juzych serves as the facilitator and translator for the young men and has welcomed them into the family home. The Juzychs have four children, making for a bustling household. The Juzychs have introduced the young men to many Ukrainians in the area. "They have become celebrities here," Nadia said. "They are heroes - all who have sacrificed while peacefully protesting against corruption and for a democratic Ukraine are considered heroes in our Ukrainian community."