

May - June 2003 Newsletter from AUMP

Greetings from American Ukrainian Medical Project in Seattle! We are happy to tell you more good news about:

Action Plan Proposal
Equipment Donations
Rotary Club and Sister Cities Partnership
Website News – IHC World Link
Special ‘Anti-Spam’ Note for Hotmail.com Users
Subscriptions

Circulation: 451! Welcome to our ever-growing Circle!

Action Plan Proposal for AUMP in Ukraine in 2003-2004

Our newsletter has been “held up” a bit for some very pressing activities here in Seattle. On May 9 we submitted our “Action Plan Proposal” which describes our Project’s plans for working in Ukraine for the coming year. The proposal ran to over 30 pages describing what our Project intends to offer, how training and equipment distributions will be conducted, a budget (which will require fundraising), and schedules for follow up visits and training symposia. With data from Kherson Oblast Oncodispensary and our other participating hospitals we believe we built a very credible case for the need for AUMP to receive State Department assistance in getting our supplies and equipment to Ukraine. We expect to hear back from the aid contractor any day.

An additional item which has kept us very busy locally has been a busier-than-expected summer season with the Kent – Kherson Sister City Committee. We are hopeful that the time and effort which we have all been putting into these plans and activities will result in an even stronger Sister City relationship and committee. All of the signs we see and discussions we have tell us this will be the case. There is more on Sister Cities below. Due to the increasing demands upon our time AUMP is scaling back its newsletters from the original ten per year to six. As the weeks fly by we realize that may be quite a challenge to continue, too!

Equipment Donations

Most of our donated equipment has been checked out and verified to work properly. Some of it is cleaned and ready for shipping as soon as we are approved. We have obtained technical manuals for nearly all of it and have assigned most of them to be translated. Our goal is to have the manuals translated by mid-summer so this equipment can be shipped no later than Fall 2003.

This equipment does no good here in America and cannot move on to Ukraine without translated technical manuals. Please help – if you or someone you know can help us

translate or edit these manuals please contact us at Volunteers@aump.org After the translations are ready we will begin the process of crating and packing everything up in anticipation of our first AUMP-only container for Ukraine.

Rotary and Sister City Partnerships Moving Forward

At the end of March we received word from the Kherson City Administration that all of the parties in Kherson (City, Rotary and Oncology Hospital) were interested in collaborating with our state-side partnership of the Kent – Kherson Sister City Committee, Kent Rotary and, of course, American Ukrainian Medical Project. As many of us know, communication is not always so easy or quick between America and Ukraine and language is just one of many challenges we face as we seek ways to collaborate and work together. The oncology and pathology staffs in Kherson are working with us to develop a program which will best fit their local needs. The rest of 2003 will continue to become even more interesting as our equipment donations are prepared for shipment (see related items above).

At the recent Spring Meeting of Washington Sister Cities we had the pleasure of hearing from Mr. Tim Honey, Executive Director of Sister Cities International. Among the many initiatives and programs underway across America and around the world, Mr. Honey discussed several cities which are advancing medical projects similar to the Kent – Kherson Committee. Among them are the Corvallis – Uzhorod Sister City Committee in nearby Oregon state. In addition to our e-newsletter, we have had some very interesting telephone conversations with some of their members. We may yet build a network of American Sister City Committees to share information and work together both in America and Ukraine. It is a natural fit. Anyone who is interested in learning more about this citizen diplomacy effort is invited to write to: info@aump.org

Website News & Volunteer Update

As promised, we now have a section of Russian-language histology special stains available under “Downloads”. We will add a table of contents to this section as soon as the final editing is completed. It is a major step forward for us and the science as it is the only Russian language version of this information we are aware of. These stains will also be used in our ongoing instruction efforts. Another important addition is our link to the IHC World website, a very comprehensive and free immunohistochemistry database, including antibody protocols and a world discussion forum. We urge everyone to check it out through our “Links” page or at <http://www.histosearch.com/homepages/IHCWorld.html>

Our onsite and virtual volunteer ranks have grown to 40 in America, Ukraine and now Wales, United Kingdom. Welcome to all, and thank you for stepping forward to help! You can check out our current roster under “Volunteer Profiles”.

Special Note for Hotmail, Yahoo and Other Subscribers with Spam Filters

Here at AUMP we are bothered by spam as much as anyone, and we appreciate how difficult it is to control. If you use a web-based e-mail client such as Hotmail, Yahoo, Compuserve, or AOL, your spam filter might screen out e-mail from AUMP. If you receive no message from AUMP, check your 'junk mail' folder. If the newsletter is within, mark it as 'non-spam'. Or, you may want to list our addresses as "allowed". To send our newsletter we use these addresses: AUMedicalProject@aol.com, News@aump.org, and AUMP_News@hotmail.com Thank you!

Subscriptions to our Newsletter

Our newsletter is delivered to you in English free of charge. Ukrainian and Russian versions are available from "Downloads" on our website. To continue your subscription you need do nothing to stay on our mailing list. If you wish to cancel your subscription, though, press "Reply" and enter "Unsubscribe" in the message box. Anytime you wish to resubscribe contact us through www.aump.org If you know anyone else who may be interested in helping to advance international healthcare technology, please contact us. Our mailing address is:

American Ukrainian Medical Project
302 - 156th Avenue NE
Bellevue, WA 98007

Telephone: 1-425-643-1798