Dear Adventist Peacemakers,

Greetings. This is the first Adventist Peace Fellowship email in quite some time. We plan to send a monthly email highlighting stories and events of relevance to APF members. Be sure to let us know about newsworthy items in your area.

Grace and peace,
APF

WHAT'S NEW

Union College to Honor Veterans at Homecoming
In April of this year, Union College will honor alumni veterans at the annual homecoming. Of special note are members of the Medical Cadet Corps. MORE

Anti-Defamation League Honors John Weidner Posthumously
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Union College Graduate Involved in Ukrainian Protests

Adventist Heritage Center
Protest
Serhiy Horokhovskyy, who studied religion at Union College, is currently involved in the political protests in Kiev, Ukraine, according to the Lincoln Journal Star. More

International Symposium: The Impact of World War I on Seventh-day Adventism
The Institute of Adventist Studies at Friedensau University will host an international symposium entitled "The Impact of World War I on Seventh-day Adventism" (Germany, May 12-15, 2014). More
Union College to Honor Veterans at Homecoming

February 06, 2014

by APF

Union College will honor alumni veterans this year during the school's annual homecoming weekend (April 3-6). Of special note are members of the Medical Cadet Corps.

In the school's mailer, Alumni Association President Ardis Dick Stenbakken writes:

> You may be aware of the important place Union College and the Medical Cadet Corps have had for our church and the young people who served our country in the military after taking that training, as well as others who have given military service. This year is our time to honor and remember the influence of these individuals. If you served in the military, please make sure that Union College has your information.... We want to remember and honor you at this year's celebration.

This announcement made me wonder if any Adventist military veterans are members of Veterans for Peace. If you are all three--Adventist, veteran, and member of Veterans for Peace--we invite you to get in contact with APF leadership. We would like to hear your stories and possibly connect you with other like-minded Adventists.
Anti-Defamation League Honors John Weidner Posthumously

The Anti-Defamation League recently honored John Weidner posthumously. During WWII Weidner formed the Dutch-Paris, an underground network responsible for smuggling more than 1,000 Jews and others out of the reach of Nazi forces.

*Spectrum* reported on the story in late January ([First-ever posthumous award from the Anti-Defamation League to an Adventist, 31 Jan 2014](http://www.adventistpeace.org/blog/anti-defamation-league-honors-john-weidner-posthumously)), and the award was given in early February. Excerpt from the *Spectrum* article:

> At its annual meeting in February, the Anti-Defamation League will present the Jan Karski “Courage to Care” award to a man credited for saving over 1,000 Jewish men, women, and children, Allied pilots, and political opponents of the Nazis during the Second World War.

The coveted award will go Johan Hendrick (John Henry) Weidner who, at the age of 29, founded Dutch-Paris which became the largest and most successful underground network rescuing people being persecuted for their faith or race. In its heyday, some 300 people participated in the underground which escorted refugees over the Alps to safety in neutral Switzerland or Spain. For his efforts, Weidner became one of the most sought of the underground leaders of France, and for whom the Gestapo offered five million francs for his arrest.

On February 7, 2014, The Anti-Defamation League posted three stories about the award:

Additional resources about John Weidner and the Dutch-Paris:

- **Way to Freedom** (YouTube, 1967)
Serhiy Horokhovskyy, who studied religion at Union College, is currently involved in the political protests in Kiev, Ukraine, according to the *Lincoln Journal Star* ("Union College grad at the center of Ukrainian riots," Chris Dunker, 19 Feb 2014; the included picture is copied from Dunker's article as well).

Excerpt:

> Carrying heavy logs alongside priests and other Ukrainians, he spent Tuesday night stoking the fires preventing riot police from storming the protester camp in Kiev's Independence Square.

> Talking by video chat late Wednesday morning, Horokhovskyy said he planned to return to the barricades Wednesday night to keep the fires going, carry out the wounded and keep standing for what he believes is the right future for his country.

> But he realizes the circumstances have changed drastically after 25 people -- including nine police officers -- were killed and more than 1,000 wounded in Tuesday night riots, prompting President Viktor Yanukovych to promise a swift crackdown on “extremist groups” who began as peaceful protesters in November.

The complete article can be accessed on the *Lincoln Journal Star* website.
Union College grad at the center of Ukrainian riots

By CHRIS DUNKER / Lincoln Journal Star

Serhiy Horokhovskyy’s eyes tell the story.

Standing in a kitchen away from the fires, the rubber bullets, petrol bombs and the promise of more violence in Kiev, his eyelids hang heavy over dark bags.

“I haven’t slept all night,” said the 2008 graduate of Union College who studied religion in Lincoln. “But it’s hard to stand aside.”

Carrying heavy logs alongside priests and other Ukrainians, he spent Tuesday night stoking the fires preventing riot police from storming the protester camp in Kiev’s Independence Square.

Talking by video chat late Wednesday morning, Horokhovskyy said he planned to return to the barricades Wednesday night to keep the fires going, carry out the wounded and keep standing for what he believes is the right future for his country.

But he realizes the circumstances have changed drastically after 25 people -- including nine police officers -- were killed and more than 1,000 wounded in Tuesday night riots, prompting President Viktor Yanukovych to promise a swift crackdown on “extremist groups” who began as peaceful protesters in November.

“The government has declared all of the protesters terrorists,” he said. “If you are declared a terrorist, you can be put in prison. Our cells are not as nice as Guantanamo.”

* * *

Horokhovskyy came to Lincoln in August 2005, not long after Ukraine’s last series of protests, following Yanukovych’s election as president in late 2004.

Fraught with allegations of election fraud, the Russian-backed Yanukovych was replaced by Ukrainian opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko following a run-off election.

Yanukovych remained influential in Ukrainian politics, however, serving as prime minister on two separate occasions before he was elected to the presidency in 2010, the year Horokhovskyy returned to his home country.

There was new hope among young Ukrainians as the country’s leaders seemed poised to move closer to joining the European Union, a step Horokhovskyy said many Ukrainians believed would create greater freedom and a stronger democracy in the former Soviet state.

But older Ukrainians, those whose ties with Russia are as old as they are extensive, fear an economic collapse if Ukraine joins the EU. They fear the move would drive wages up and could relocate factories in the eastern regions of the country.

Yanukovych refused to sign the treaty with the EU last November and instead signed a similar agreement with Russia after President Vladimir Putin offered Ukraine $15 billion in aid.

The agreement, seen as an extension of the corruption and kleptocracy plaguing Ukraine since the fall of the Soviet Union, was enough to send Ukrainians to Independence Square in central Kiev in a sign of peaceful protest.

Soon, protesters began camping in the square -- known to Ukrainians as the Maidan -- to keep the protests alive 24 hours a day until their voices were heard.

In reaction, Yanukovych and the Ukrainian parliament made it illegal to protest against the government in late January, sparking attacks by police against protesters near Independence Square on Jan. 19.

Horokhovskyy watched it on TV with his wife, Olya.

“I said, ‘Now it’s time for me to go there,’” he said. “As a Ukrainian, it is my patriotic obligation.”
Since January, Horokhovskyy has been a regular part of the Maidan, even though he has been shot with rubber bullets and branded an extremist.

The English teacher with unkempt hair said the protesters do not have political aspirations, and the attempts by Yunakovych supporters -- including Russian President Putin -- to paint the Maidan as an attempt at a coup are patently false.

The first person to come to Horokhovskyy's aid when he was shot was a man from Ukraine's eastern regions, which are heavily influenced by Russia.

"It was the last person I expected," he said, and it illustrated how widespread the movement has grown.

On the barricades Tuesday night, protesters clashed with the Berkut, Ukraine’s elite police force, and the street gangs and drug addicts hired as mercenaries to provoke violence.

When protesters retaliate in self-defense, sometimes with firearms, the police beat and arrest them, taking them into the Ukrainian wilderness to freeze, he said.

To separate themselves from the police and mercenary gangs, the Maidan erected large barricades using logs, tents, mattresses and other items from the camps and set fire to them, insulating the protesters from police.

Horokhovskyy spent Tuesday night feeding the fire with whatever he could find. He planned to do the same Wednesday night.

“As soon as the fire is put out, they can walk towards us,” he said. “There’s more police than protestors right now, so if the fire goes out, we are done.”

Yunokovych called for a truce late Wednesday to end the bloodshed, The Associated Press reported, but there was no response from the protesters and the police had not stopped trying to flush the Maidan from Independence Square.

Horokhovskyy said Yunakovych’s declaration that the protesters are from extremist groups emboldened those standing against the president.

“People have started taking off their face masks to show their real faces,” he said. “In the beginning, people were scared of having their picture taken or of police knowing their identities, now they do the opposite.

“They are showing they are not terrorists; they are citizens of this country doing what they are supposed to do because they live according to their conscience.”

Reach Chris Dunker at 402-473-7120 or cdunker@journalstar.com. Follow him on Twitter @ChrisDunkerLJS.
International Symposium: The Impact of World War I on Seventh-day Adventism

The Institute of Adventist Studies at Friedensau University will host an international symposium entitled "The Impact of World War I on Seventh-day Adventism" (Germany, May 12–15, 2014).

One hundred years ago, the so-called “Great War” broke out, which not only shaped the history of the 20th century in Europe and beyond, but also had lasting repercussions on the Seventh-day Adventist Church. For this reason, the Institute of Adventist Studies is organizing an academic symposium in Friedensau, Germany.

Scholars and interested individuals are invited to participate in this conference and hear/discuss the findings of 16 internationally known researchers. The symposium deals mainly with the following issues: prophetic interpretation (“The sick man at the Bosporus”), Adventists and military service, and the so-called “Reform Movement”, the largest offshoot in the history of the denomination. The conference language is English.

The 16 presenters are: George Knight, Bert Haloviak, Ronald Lawson, Douglas Morgan, Gilbert Valentine (all USA); Daniel Reynaud (Australia), Michael Pearson (Great Britain), Reinder Bruinsma (Netherlands), Richard Müller (Denmark), Hjorleifur Stefánsson (Iceland), Eugene Zaitsev (Russia); Denis Kaiser, Johannes Hartlapp, Daniel Heinz, Stefan Höschele und Rolf Pöhler (Germany).

Event Details

Registration: gaestehaus@thh-friedensau.de; Phone ++49-3921-916-160 (office) and ++49-175-5742677 (mobile)

Location: Friedensau Adventist University, D-39291 Möckern-Friedensau, Saxony-Anhalt, Germany

Learn more on the symposium website.