



# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## Helping you be in the know

Dear Readers:

Organized as a fraternal benefits society and united by the bond of our common Ukrainian heritage, for more than a century the Ukrainian National Association has been offering members the opportunity to protect themselves and their families from the stresses of financial uncertainty.

Financial stability and security are key to a life of satisfaction; the UNA offers financial products and services that help provide for your well-being, such as term and permanent life insurance, annuities for retirement planning, Coverdell Educational Savings Accounts for the education of children and grandchildren, and endowments for a variety of purposes.

So that members and non-members alike can become more familiar with our products and understand how the UNA can better fit into your personal financial planning, our colleague Irene Jarosewich is developing a series of articles that will be published in *The Ukrainian Weekly* beginning in September to kick off National Life Insurance Awareness Month at the UNA. Managing personal finances is becoming more complex in today's world and we sincerely hope that you find these articles to be helpful.

We encourage everyone to contact the UNA to get more information about how we can help you with your financial planning. The toll-free number for general inquiries at the UNA Home Office is 800-253-9862, and the direct toll-free number to our sales staff is 888-538-2833. Our staff at the UNA Home Office will be happy to assist you in locating a UNA branch secretary in your area, as well. Or, to locate contact information for a UNA branch secretary online, and to become more familiar with UNA services and products, please visit the UNA website at [www.ukrainiannationalassociation.org](http://www.ukrainiannationalassociation.org).

With a more than a century of service as a fraternal benefit society, the UNA continues to live by its motto: "UNA and the Community: Partners for Life."

Sincerely,

**Christine E. Kozak**  
National Secretary  
Ukrainian National Association

## Insurance MATTERS...

by Irene Jarosewich

### *From Hammurabi to the UNA...*

Far from being a product of modern times, insurance can be traced to ancient Babylon, to King Hammurabi and his 282 laws. Known as the Code of Hammurabi, these laws included provisions to protect traders from losses suffered when caravans filled with goods, traveling from destination to destination, were pillaged or stolen along the way.

The need to protect the goods of trade and the transport that carried them continued with the Greeks and the Phoenicians who, besides caravans, also insured their seafaring vessels. In recent centuries, wealthy European merchants who financed ships sailing for the New World could buy insurance to protect their investment against bad weather and shipwrecks. However, to get protection against piracy, those merchants had to pay extra. (For a fee, today's insurance provides a benefit the Old World merchants could not have dreamed of – "experts skilled in negotiating with pirates.")

While the fundamental idea of insurance – a guarantee of protection against the risk of monetary loss – has been with us since the 17th century BC, zipping about 35 centuries ahead to the present, the idea has expanded dramatically from one that simply protects the process of commerce and trade. Globally, insurance is now a protection against a variety of risk and has become a mainstay in all aspects of business, as

well as personal financial planning and security.

An element critical to the sense of personal financial security is life insurance that protects loved ones from the financial burden brought about by a loss of income.

For more than 118 years, the Ukrainian National Association has been offering its members in the United States and Canada the knowledge that their UNA life insurance policy will help protect their families from the financial hardship often brought about with the passing of a parent or spouse. Since 1894, this promise of security has been at the core of the UNA, guiding the development of this fraternal organization.

Through those 118 years, the original "burial benefit" policies needed by Ukrainian immigrants to pay for a proper funeral for those who worked in the harsh conditions of the Pennsylvania coal mines began to be replaced as new and additional needs for protection and planning arose. The UNA now offers a variety of term and permanent life insurance policies, as well as other financial products, including endowments and Coverdell ESA accounts for a child or a grandchild's educational expenses, as well as products to help with retirement planning.

Although insurance experts will say that the purpose of insurance is protection against the risk of monetary loss – those words are a bit too dry to explain the real reason to buy insurance, which is comfort and security for you and the ones you love.

Simply put, the purpose of insurance is peace of mind.

To ensure your peace of mind and to learn more about how the various cost-effective products offered by the UNA can help you directly with your financial planning needs, contact your local UNA branch secretary, or the UNA Home Office through the toll-free number 800-253-9862. For information about the UNA and its products visit the website [www.ukrainiannationalassociation.org](http://www.ukrainiannationalassociation.org).