

## Evgen Gladyshevskii (1924-2012)



Evgen Ivanovych Gladyshevskii – a prominent scientist in the field of crystal chemistry, Doctor of Science in Chemistry, Professor, founder of Lviv School of Crystal Chemistry, Honored Scientist of Ukraine, laureate of the Ukrainian State Prize in Science and Technology – would have celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2014.

Evgen Gladyshevskii was born on April 14, 1924 in the village Reklynets, Zhovkivskyy (now Sokal) district, Lviv region, as the son of Frantsishka and Ivan Gladyshevskii. He graduated from the First State Gymnasium in Lviv (1942), and decided to study science, first at the Lviv Polytechnic Institute (1942-1946), and then at the Ivan Franko State University of Lviv (1946-1947).

With time, Evgen Gladyshevskii became a professor of inorganic chemistry. Besides possessing pedagogic skills, he was an excellent researcher and made significant contributions to the development of national and international science in the field of crystal chemistry of inorganic, in particular intermetallic, compounds. He discovered hundreds of new compounds, some of which later became the basis of modern materials science and engineering. His scientific heritage includes more than 550 scientific papers, books, and patents. The publications by Evgen Gladyshevskii are widely appreciated by the scientific community, as attested by the large number of citations of his papers. Evgen Gladyshevskii was the founder, and for many years the head of Lviv School of Crystal Chemistry. He taught and guided several generations of scientists

at the University of Lviv, among whom 31 PhD students and 4 professor candidates, whose thesis works he personally supervised.

At the age of 43, Evgen Gladyshevskii was elected Dean of the Faculty of Chemistry at the Ivan Franko State University of Lviv. From 1968 to 1989 he was Director of the Department of Inorganic Chemistry, and then continued to work as Professor at the Department for another 10 years. In 1971 he was appointed Vice-Rector of the University and occupied this position for 20 years. During this period he made restless efforts to improve the scientific work at the University, and managed to increase the budget for research and the number of teachers with academic degrees. He encouraged all the teachers to take part in scientific research in parallel with their pedagogic activities and, even when the conditions were much less favourable than today, he actively promoted collaboration with scientific institutes in other cities and countries.

Evgen Gladyshevskii was able to scotch his audience not only when talking about science; he was erudite and had multifaceted talents. One of his greatest passions in his young days was mountain climbing. He was a member of the mountaineering and tourism sections of the association “Science”. He obtained a Second Grade and the title of Junior Instructor in Mountaineering, which authorized him to supervise fourth-category complexity climbing, and he personally made 11 winter expeditions to the highest peak of the Carpathian Mountains, Hoverla. He also worked as a safety engineer for an alpine expedition to Pamir, where he made, on foot and on horseback, several excursions to the Alai and Zailiy chains.

In his early youth, Evgen Gladyshevskii was a witness and participant in the events of the interwar period in Transcarpathia. His memories were used as basis for the documentary film “Silver Lands – The Chronicles of Carpatho-Ukraine 1919-1939” by Taras Khymych, the premiere of which he attended in 2011.

Trustworthiness, intelligence and kindness characterized the actions of his everyday life. Evgen Gladyshevskii is greatly missed by those who had the privilege to know him and the editorial board of Chemistry of Metal and Alloys decided to dedicate a special issue of the journal to the memory of this great scientist, on the occasion of the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth.