

## *Dr. Berta Chernomorskaya's visit to the Memorial*

**This is just one of many personal stories of one person born in Kamenny Brod:**

**Dr. Berta Solomonovna Chernomorskaya visited the Kamenny Brod memorial with her son Grigory. Several relatives have their names are inscribed on the memorial.**

**Berta's father was Solomon Chernomorsky and her mother was Sara Zinovyevna Oksengorn. Her maternal grandfather was Zindel Shmulivich Oksengorn who died in 1916 in Kamenny Brod.**

**Berta was born in Kamenny Brod 21 June 1921 and died 4 August 2010 in Pollonne, Ukraine, where she lived after WW II and served as a surgeon in the local hospital until her retirement.**

**After graduating from medical school, Berta was inducted into the Russian army in WW II, and served as a surgeon in an army field hospital.**

**Kamenny Brod has unsettling memories for Berta as three relative were killed in the 1919 pogrom and 6 family members were shot by the German army in 1941. They are buried in a mass grave where the memorial now stands. This was Berta's last trip before her death in 2010.**

### **Berta with son Grigory viewing the memorial**

To view a slideshow of the dedication, please visit

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2U3Lovni8ug>



## Berta next to the elementary school of Kamenny Brod

Site of the memorial next to a serene and calm water site Berta reading the names of those murdered



**Looking for the names of six family members killed and buried at the memorial site by German soldiers in 1941 Berta, Allan Dolgow, Elisaveta Kurina [2008]**



**Top Row: Rimma Aizikovna, Berta Chernomorskaya, Polina Labunsky Bottom Row: Solomon [Berta's father]. Grigory [Berta's son], Sara Zinovyevna Oksengorn [Berta's mother]**



**Berta in the Russian Army during WW II**

**Berta after WW II**



**A letter from Dr. Berta Solomon Chernomrskaya:**

Polonnoye, September 21, 2008

My dear Allan and Sharon!

Thank you very much for the letter that I have received with the positive remarks about the trip around Ukraine and in particular about becoming acquainted with me and my grandchildren, and also my niece, Natalia, the granddaughter of my Uncle Solomon. I want (you) to believe that this was a ((nerve-wracking)) time for all of us, but a very pleasant event in our life, only it is too bad that this meeting occurred so late in my life and not significantly earlier.

I don't want to think about the bad things and I will dream about our meeting in the future.

On the threshold of the 5769th new year, I want to wish all of you fine health, luck and much happiness from my children and grandchildren and all ((1 illegible)) in the new year. May you live to be 120! ((Note 1))

Every day ((4 words illegible)) those prior days where there were so many positive emotions and it was very pleasant for all of us to write much ((new)) about ourselves, since you saw how I live. I receive a decent pension, and there is enough for my life. Sometimes I can give my children and grandchildren gifts.

After the end of medical ((school)), I also was drafted into the army and sent to the ((Third)) Ukrainian front, where I worked in a front-line hospital.

After the end of the war, I worked for 45 years in the Polonnoye ((hospital)) ((Note 2)) as a surgeon and physician. Life ((2 illegible)) me, I labored day and night. My children repeatedly have invited me to move in with them. They have their own apartment, but I am not able to do it since I have lived in Polonnoye for 62 years. ((2 illegible)) to live with people, everyone knows me here and I know everyone and I don't want to go ((2 illegible)).

I regret very much that I was unable to go with you to Kamenny Brod to worship ((2 illegible)), since I already ((am an invalid)). There is a ((1 illegible)) memorial to those who died. ((2-3 illegible)) where the name of my brother Grisha ((Note 3)) is written. Let them ((2 illegible)) the earth.

I am very pleased that you had a favorable impression about your trip around Ukraine and of all of us.

My heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all your relatives who want to know me.

With regards,

Berta Solomonovna

===== Words within (single parentheses) are assumed, but not written Words within ((double parentheses)) are possible or are notes

Note 1 - Literally, "health for you to120." Note 2 - Possibly abbreviated, there appear to be only 3 letters, beginning with a possible B, then a dash, then perhaps TsE (which could be "Bol'nitse," "Hospital.")

Note 3 – Grigoriy

**The grave of Dr. Berta Solomonovna Chernomorskaya.**

