

C-RS Connection

January 2020



WELCOME



Happy New Year to all our members and supporters! 2020 promises to be an exciting year and we are looking forward to working with you all – as individuals and organizations.

In the first quarter of 2020, we will be focusing on:

- Developing a series of educational webinars. An ad hoc committee will be created to speed up this process.
- Creating speakers' bureau data to assist our chapters and branches in programming lectures, presentation, and events. Please contact Sharon Jarrow if you know of knowledgeable speakers or performers. Her email is: sj@c-rs.org.
- Organizing traveling exhibits for use by our chapters and branches to display at appropriate national and regional events.

Every year we send care packages to incoming freshmen at accredited colleges, universities or trade schools. If you know of such students, please contact our vice-president Bettianne Diles at vp@c-rs.org.

We continue indexing the John Schweich Collection. We are grateful to our dedicated volunteer who has already indexed about 1/3 of John's collection of mostly Rusyn church histories. This immense and unique collection contains photographic and historical details of about 600 Carpatho-Rusyn churches, many of which are now closed, leaving their records and rich histories lost. A list of the indexed collection will be published in our spring issue of the *New Rusyn Times*.

As with any organization, we are in need of volunteers. Please consider volunteering for the C-RS. Currently we are looking for clerical help with filing and organizing our files. We also need your input and your ideas! Please email me at pres@c-rs.org or call me at 412-251-3083.

Take care,

Maryann Sivak, C-RS National President
president@c-rs.org

WELCOME NEWEST C-RS MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest C-RS members. The following list of names reflects new members who have joined since December 15, 2019. Please review the list - you just might find someone you know.

- Bart Blaner, Shelburne, VT
- Brett Bowan, Copley, OH
- Dottie Grecula-Thelen, Rochester, MN
- Des Hanlon, Huntingdon, PA
- Chris Houser, Georgetown, PA
- Oleg Karpynets, San Francisco, CA
- Janie Koken-Miller, Cleveland Heights, OH
- Deborah Liptak, Fort Worth, TX
- Theodora Maestre, Oakland, CA
- Joseph Morrison Jr, Allison Park, PA
- Cindy Rost, Charleroi, PA
- John Russio, Clifton, NY
- Nelya Shymon-Moskva, Berwick, PA
- Robert Smith, Reno, NV
- Lisa Stolarski, Highland Park, MI
- Carolyn Swart, Bethlehem, PA
- Joyce Wozniak, Harlingen, TX

Again, we welcome these new members and look forward to a lasting relationship. We hope they become involved by bringing their talents and skills to the C-RS.

CHAPTER EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

C-RS New Jersey Chapter Celebrates Annual Heritage Dinner

On Sunday, November 3rd at 12:30, the New Jersey Chapter of C-RS celebrated their Annual Heritage Dinner at the Russian Hall in Little Falls, NJ. Kontaky, a musical duo, entertained with music for listening and dancing pleasure. Guests dined on an ethnic meal of mushroom soup, kielbasa and sauerkraut, stuffed cabbage, pork chops and vegetables with cake and coffee for dessert. Tom and Kathryn Peters provided a historical and genealogical display and assisted attendees seeking knowledge about their ancestors. The basket raffle and 50/50 were well-received as always!

The highlight of the celebration was the awarding of the John Milhalasky Award to Luba Czerhoniak Fedash who was born in a Lemko village in the Carpathian Mountains in Poland. As a child, she experienced the horrors of the Nazi occupation of her homeland, followed by the forced resettlement of Operation Vistula. She has authored two books, *Blossoms on a Rooftop* and *Those Fleeting Years*. Luba enhanced the dinner guests' enjoyment and knowledge by sharing the story of her extraordinary journey through life.



WHO ARE THE RUSYNS DVD

The *Who are the Rusyns* DVD was released in 2019 for the 25th Anniversary of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society.

It is professionally presented by John Righetti explaining the complicated history of the Rusyn people. This “hard copy” should be in every Rusyn home simply because it will be referred to often and hopefully shared with others. One realizes how close the Rusyns were to becoming extinct and gives great hope for the future as we are now recognized as an ethnic minority by many countries.

The DVD can be purchased for \$25, which includes postage and handling. Please include the name and address of the recipient and mail your check made payable to Carpatho-Rusyn Society to Bonnie Burke, 1101 Tanner Crossing Lane, Indian Land, SC 29707.

Orders will be processed immediately upon receipt.



WELCOME - REAGAN HARPER



Reagan Harper is a recent graduate from the University of Pittsburgh who studied architecture, anthropology, and museum studies. She is Pittsburgh-based and has worked with many museums in the past including The Maritime Museum, Carnegie Science Center, and The Nationality Rooms. She will be working within the C-RS to help with the archives, design and arrange the quarterly newsletter, and assist wherever help is needed.

Please join us in welcoming Reagan to the C-RS family!

SAVE THE DATES

Saturday, January 18, Parma, OH

The Cleveland chapter will have an informational table at the Cuyahoga County library's event called "The World in Your Backyard". The mission is to promote cultural competency and increase understanding of diversity in the city of Parma. The event will be held on Saturday, January 18, 2020 at the Parma-Snow library located on 2121 Snow Road, Parma, Ohio from 11 am to 1pm. The event is free and open to all ages. For more information, go to <http://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/3173941>



Saturday, February 29, Plano, TX

The Dallas Chapter will present "The Carpatho-Rusyns of Eastern Europe" seminar with special guests John Righetti, Carpatho-Rusyn Society President Emeritus, and Maria Silvestri, President of the Timo Foundation. The event will feature the Dallas Premiere of the Timo Foundation's documentary film *Resurrection of a Nation*.

4116 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, TX. 75093
10:00 am to 4:00 pm
\$5.00 admission - Open to the public

After January 20th, please see our Facebook page "Carpatho-Rusyns Dallas" for complete information and ticketing options. For more info, contact Lee Ann Slavik Erder at CRSDallas@verizon.net)

ВОСКРЕСЕНІЄ НАРОДА

Sunday, March 29, West Seattle, WA

Save the date for the C-RS/Pacific Northwest Branch's Third Annual Pysanky Workshop!

Sunday, March 29, 2020, 1:00-4:00 pm. West Seattle.



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The Carpatho-Rusyn Society (C-RS) is a national 501(C)(3) organization founded in Pittsburgh, PA in 1994. As stated in our mission statement, the C-RS is dedicated to manifesting Carpatho-Rusyn culture in the United States and supporting Rusyn culture in the homeland in east central Europe. Information about joining C-RS and a membership application may be obtained on the C-RS membership website at <https://carpathorusynsociety.wildapricot.org>.