



## Welcome



Dear Friends,

The annual membership meeting (**scheduled for Sunday, October 29 at 1:00 pm**) is rapidly approaching. In preparation for this meeting, I would like to solicit your input. Please tell us how you believe we might serve you better. We would also be interested in knowing what you think we are doing well and where we need to improve.

Like all non-profit organizations, we heavily rely on volunteers; they are simply invaluable to the C-RS. We would appreciate it if you could give us a few hours of your time each year. Please contact us and tell us what you would be willing to help us with. If you have special skills, we would love to hear what they are!

The Board is very appreciative of your work in making the C-RS an organization that is truly national in scope.

Maryann Sivak, C-RS National President  
[president@c-rs.org](mailto:president@c-rs.org)

## C-RS Membership – Did You Know? (Part 5)

*Courtesy of Tom Brenzovich*

This is the fifth installment of a series of articles addressing the major features of C-RS Membership Management System, providing insight and awareness into the “how to” instructions regarding the use of the system self-service features and encouraging members to take full advantage of them.

Donations to the Carpatho-Rusyn Society can be made online and the process is safe and easy to do. Members and visitors alike can provide financial support to the Carpatho-Rusyn Society by using their credit/debit card or their PayPal account if they have one.

As a reminder, the Carpatho-Rusyn Society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and all donations are tax deductible. There is a general fund account for donations that is used at the discretion of the Board of Directors; it also has several restricted fund accounts where donations are used specifically for those programs. Restricted fund accounts include:

- The Cultural and Educational Center - provided financial assistance in the renovation of the former Cathedral of St. John the Baptist into the cultural center.
- Rusyn Radio Program - provides financial assistance for the weekly radio program.
- Humanitarian Aid Fund - providing humanitarian aid where needed in the Rusyn homeland
- Homeland Fund - helps to provide educational programs in Rusyn villages in Slovakia and Ukraine.

Donations can be made to the membership site <https://carpathorusynsociety.wildapricot.org/> and clicking on the “Make a Donation” link on the menu side bar. You will be directed to a donation form and should proceed as follows:

1. Fill out the donation form by selecting the appropriate fund(s) to receive the donation.
2. Click on the “Pay” button at the bottom of the page.
3. You will be directed to the C-RS PayPal account, where you can select either a credit card or with PayPal payment.
4. Once the transaction is completed, an automatic donation receipt is generated and emailed to you for your tax records. You will then be directed back to the membership site.



Note: Multiple donations can be designated; however, the amount for each designated donation must be entered in the comments. Only a total amount can be specified. This is due to a limitation within the software. A request has been made to the Wild Apricot support team to change this and allow for amounts to be designed for each of the multiple designations. This request is pending.

Yours in Rusyn Unity,

Tom Brenzovich  
C-RS Membership Chairman  
C-RS Membership System Administrator

## Anna Donson Memorial Scholarship

Madalyn Charnego, daughter of John and Lynnnann Charnego of Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania, is the recipient of the 2017 Anna Donson Memorial Scholarship Award. Her Rusyn roots stem from her paternal grandfather's side of the family to the Cernegas of Runina. She is currently studying Biology, with a concentration in Genetics and Human Development, through the Eberly College of Science at The Pennsylvania State University. In the future, Madalyn plans to go to medical school to become a cardiologist and hopes to work in a metropolitan hospital setting. Her interests include spending time with her friends and family, volunteering in the community, snuggling with her puppy Margot, and bleeding blue and white.



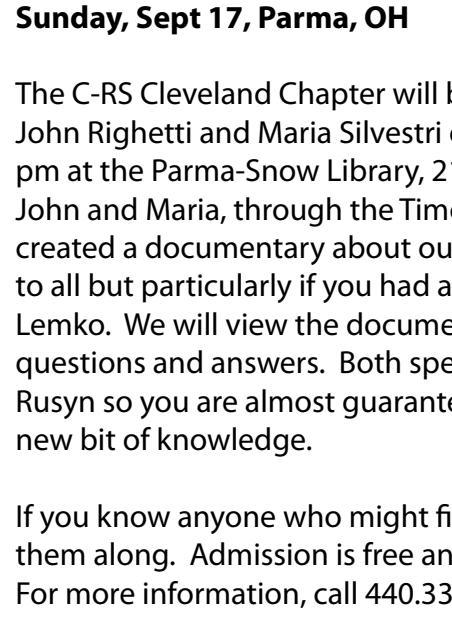
**Madalyn Charnego**

Madalyn graduated third in her class at Jersey Shore Area Senior High School. Her achievements in high school were numerous. They include, but are not limited to, Student of the Year, Business and Professional Women's Club Girl of the Month, and Who's Who in PA FBLA. Now that she is in college, Madalyn has gotten involved in Science FBLA (SLP) and THON as well as working as a Math Homework Grader and a Biology Lecture Assistant. Her time outside of class is spent giving tours to prospective Penn State Students, organizing service opportunities for the members of SLP, and helping THON fundraise in support of the fight to end pediatric cancer. Academic success for Madalyn has also continued since she began her career at PSU. She has made Dean's List and achieved a high cumulative GPA.

Although experiencing college and having fun is important, Madalyn's goal of getting in to medical school is always at the forefront of her mind. She has always believed that both her academic achievements and her well rounded character speak volumes about the person she is and who she aspires to be. With support from her family and friends, she knows that she can accomplish anything she sets her mind to. Madalyn is unbelievably honored to receive this generous gift from The Carpatho-Rusyn Society and hopes that she will not only be a role model for C-RS youth but will also be a strong example of the values and morals that The Anna Donson Memorial Scholarship upholds.

## C-RS Chapter Highlights

### C-RS Eastern PA



Tom and Kathryn Peters shared a day of beginning, advanced and specialized Eastern European genealogy with 80 attendees on September 9, 2017 at Penn State Lehigh Valley Campus in Bethlehem, PA.

Kathryn presented about informative website resources to help overcome roadblocks encountered on personal genealogical journeys. Tom delved into Eastern European ancestry (Slovakia, Poland, Hungary and Ukraine) and delighted the audience with a focus on how important these immigrants were to the shaping of the early 1900's history of Bethlehem and Greater Lehigh Valley.

With their combined experience of over 75 years, Tom and Kathryn surely provided the audience with new and interesting information about their heritage! If you live near Eastern PA and missed this event, be sure to sign up for the 5th Annual Rusyn Genealogy and Heritage Conference on September 30th which is listed below.

## Save the Dates

### Saturday, September 16, Philadelphia, PA

The C-RS Philadelphia/Trenton presents “The Pennsylvania Rusyn Experience” presented by Rich Custer at 1:30 pm at the Philadelphia City Institute, 1905 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 (19th & Locust on W. Rittenhouse Square)

Enjoy a unique Saturday afternoon as Rich Custer will discuss the preparation of a history, in words and in pictures, of the Carpatho-Rusyn immigrant communities in the state of Pennsylvania. Through the collection and research of chain migration data, parish histories, church and civil records, immigrant newspapers, photographs, oral histories, and memoirs, Rich Custer has amassed a collection of source material that he is assembling into the most comprehensive look at the history of Carpatho-Rusyn communities anywhere in the world. He will specially address the history of Carpatho-Rusyns in the Delaware Valley, in places like Philadelphia, Chester, Mont Clare/Phoenixville/ Bridgeport, as well as Trenton, Roeboling, and Camden in New Jersey.

Admission is free and open to the public. Rusyn literature will be available for sale. A social hour is scheduled for 1:00 pm when viewers could enjoy freshly brewed coffee along with cookies or cake. For further information please call 609.882.4872 or email: [jchanda@bergen.edu](mailto:jchanda@bergen.edu).

### Sunday, Sept 17, Parma, OH

The C-RS Cleveland Chapter will be hosting a presentation by John Righetti and Maria Silvestri on the Vistula Operation at 2 pm at the Parma-Snow Library, 2121 Snow Road, Parma, OH. John and Maria, through the Timo Foundation, have once again created a documentary about our history. This will be of interest to all but particularly if you had ancestors who were considered Lemko. We will view the documentary and have a time for questions and answers. Both speakers are well versed in things Rusyn so you are almost guaranteed to come away with some new bit of knowledge.

If you know anyone who might find this of interest, please bring them along. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. For more information, call 440.331.3856.

### Saturday, Sept 30, Wilkes Barre, PA

Mark your calendars for the 5th Annual Rusyn Genealogy and Heritage Conference sponsored by the Eastern PA Chapter of C-RS. You surely do not want to miss this magnificent conference. Once again held at Kings College, Campus Center, Wilkes-Barre, PA on September 30 from 9 am to 4 pm. A breakfast buffet and lunch will be served. More details and pricing to follow.

Prominent speakers include Dr. Paul Magosci, John Righetti, Father Joseph Bertha, and Dr. Paula Donson. Topics include “History of the Rusyns up to Immigration”, “Immigration and the Future”, “The Lachrymose Mariapocis Icon, an American connection?!” and Dr. Paula Donson discussing her book, “This Kind of Courage”. It will be a powerful day with outstanding presentations in addition to the beauty of mingling with fellow Rusyns. Best Western Gus Gennetti has offered a special rate of \$89.00 plus tax for reservations for September 29. When reserving mention the Kings College rate.

Hope to see you at the conference. Bring your friends!! RSVP to Sharon Jarow 610.759.2628 or email [shangp@rcn.com](mailto:shangp@rcn.com) Seating is limited.

### Saturday, Sept 30, Wayne, NJ

The C-RS New Jersey Chapter presents “Even Tears Were Not Enough,” at 1:30 pm at the Wayne Public Library, 461 Valley Road, Wayne, NJ 07470. Refreshments will be served and all are welcome.

“Even Tears Were Not Enough” is the second documentary by John Righetti and Maria Silvestri. It features scholars and survivors telling the story of the forced deportation of Poland's Carpatho-Rusyn population by the Polish Communist government in 1947.

Come watch the documentary and discuss it with the producers! For further information about the program, email [csnewjersey@gmail.com](mailto:csnewjersey@gmail.com) or call Dorothy Bogner at 201.891.4151.

### Saturday, October 14, Seattle, WA

The Pacific Northwest Chapter cordially invites one and all to an illustrated discussion “Carpatho-Rusyns: Traditional Magic in the Village” by Patricia Krafcik, Ph. D., professor of Russian Language and Culture; Slavic Studies; Russian and Slavic Folklore at The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA. The event will take place from 3 - 5:30 pm at Beacon Hill Library Meeting Room, 2821 Beacon Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98144.

Dr. Krafcik will present information about Carpatho-Rusyns in history and will then give examples of traditional magical practices which characterized their lives.

Everyone is welcomed. Admission is free of charge and refreshments will be served. For more information and RSVP please contact Andrea at [ak@c-rs.org](mailto:ak@c-rs.org).

### Sunday, October 15, Parma, OH

The C-RS Cleveland Chapter presents “Iconography,” at 2 pm at the Parma-Snow Library, 2121 Snow Road, Parma, OH. Father Marek Visnovsky will present a program about the history and making of icons. Father Marek has painted over 600 icons and shrouds, which are venerated in churches and homes in Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Ukraine, Poland, Hungary, Germany, Italy, Australia, Canada, Austria, India and the United States. Father Marek attended classes and started painting icons in 2000 during the completion of his studies at the seminary in Presov, Slovakia. In 2001 he studied iconography under the guidance of well-known iconographer Phil Zimmerman of New Florence, PA. He will use the knowledge he has amassed over the years to instruct many during class and presentations to enlighten us about this beautiful art form. The program is open and free to all. Refreshments will be served.

### Tuesday, October 17, Pittsburgh PA

C-RS involvement in the 16th Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International Genealogical /Cultural Conference, 8 am - 11 am at the Hyatt Regency Hotel Pittsburgh International Airport, 1111 Airport Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15231. The conference theme will be “Industry and Our Immigrant Ancestors” and speakers will include international, national and local experts. Conference activities also include lively cultural programs including music, dance, folk art and folk dress as well as guided historic tours, on-site access to genealogical resources, and much more. For more information, contact [PaulMCzech@comcast.net](mailto:PaulMCzech@comcast.net) or visit [www.cgsi.org](http://www.cgsi.org) Registration information is available.

### Wednesday, October 18, Pittsburgh, PA

A Rusyn Historical Bus Tour of Pittsburgh will take place from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm and will depart from and return to the Hyatt Regency Hotel Pittsburgh International Airport. The tour price of \$60 per person includes deluxe motor coach, guide fees, lunch, driver tip and admissions. Tour stops include the childhood home of Rusyn-American artist Andy Warhol, the section of Pittsburgh called “Ruska Dolyna” (Rusyn Valley) including the spectacular St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, where Warhol was baptized and raised, the first Rusyn cathedral in America, the C-RS Cultural Center, and more! For more information, contact Paul Makousky at [PaulMCzech@comcast.net](mailto:PaulMCzech@comcast.net).

### Sunday, October 22, Shelton, CT

The C-RS New England proudly sponsors a lecture “The Trials and Tribulations of Bishop Soter Stephen Ortynsky” by Very Rev. Ivan Kaszczak, PhD at the American Russian Citizens Club, 330 Howe Avenue, Shelton, CT from 3-5 pm.

The first forty years of immigration of the Slavic-Eastern Christians from the western slopes of the Carpathian Mountains were far from stable. Soter Ortynsky was consecrated as Bishop to shepherd these “Ruthenian” Christians. However, this was far from a simple assignment due to jurisdictional and ethnic turmoil.

Admission to the lecture is free and refreshments will be available. For more information, contact Paul Best at 860.345.7997 or [merida@snet.net](mailto:merida@snet.net).

### Saturday, October 28, Plano, TX

The C-RS Dallas presents “Read and Write Rusyn” on Saturday, October 28, 2017 from 1-4 pm at the Environmental Education Center, 4116 Plano Parkway, Plano, TX, 75093. Lee Ann Slavik Erder, President of Carpatho-Rusyn Society: Dallas Chapter, will present the language of the Rusyn people, the Cyrillic alphabet, and basic words/phrases.

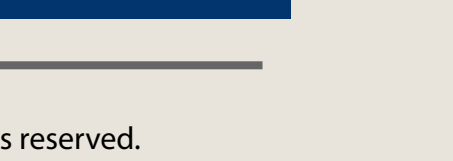
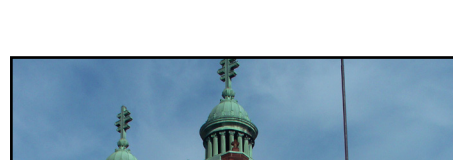
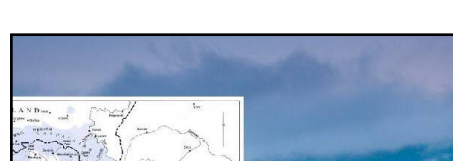
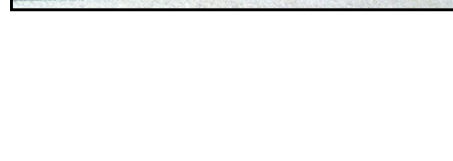
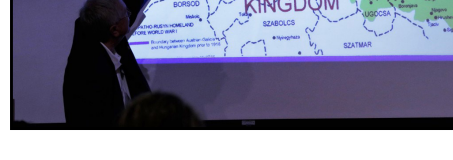
The event also includes an “Alphabet Potluck Lunch.” Please bring a dish to share that begins with the letter of your last name. Free admission - Donations accepted.

### Sunday, October 29, Munhall, PA

**C-RS Annual National Meeting**, 1 pm at the Carpatho-Rusyn Cultural and Educational Center, 915 Dickson St, Munhall, PA 15120. **Please mark your calendars!**

### Sunday, November 5, Little Falls, NJ

The C-RS New Jersey presents their Heritage Celebration Dinner from 12:30 to 5 pm at Russian Hall, 4-6 Woodhull Ave., Little Falls, NJ. The event will include the presentation of the John Mihalasky Award to C-RS Chief Financial Officer, Rich Laychock, ethnic food and entertainment, a historical and genealogical exhibit by Kathryn and Tom Peters and a basket raffle. For more information, contact Jim Huratiak at 267.421.3210.



**News contributions are welcome!**  
Please submit your content to [am@c-rs.org](mailto:am@c-rs.org).