



## Welcome



Dear Friends,

Easter will be especially exciting this year because Christians of all denominations will be celebrating it on the very same day. Easter is the greatest Christian holiday and is so much more than eggs, bunnies, plastic grass and candy.

Easter is a celebration for all humanity because it marks Christ's victory over death and brings salvation. I wish you a wonderful Easter filled with family, faith, and hope. May you experience a renewal of life and may your day be well spent celebrating this divine gift.

For those of you who absolutely refuse to part with the pagan traditions cited in the most recent New Rusyn Times, I wish you good luck with your pysanky, paska and hrutka. Mine seldom turn out the way I'd hoped.

Christos Voskres!

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

## C-RS Membership - Did you know? (Part 2)

This is the second installment of a series of articles addressing the features of C-RS Membership Management System. Our goal is to provide insight and awareness into the "how to" instructions regarding the use of the system's self-service features and to encourage members to take full advantage of them.

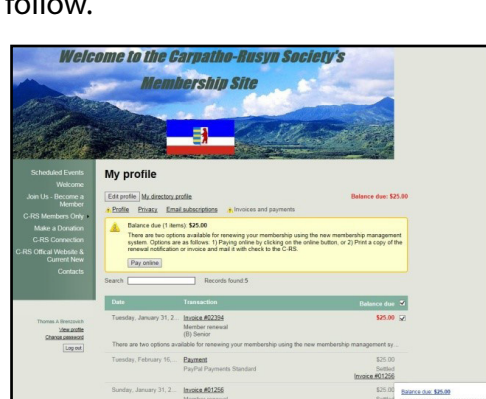
The "C-RS Membership Management System" currently resides on its own website: <https://carpathorusynsociety.wildapricot.org/>. The site is referred to as the "C-RS Membership Site" to distinguish it from the existing C-RS website. When the new system was under development, the plan was to combine the two sites into one integrated site; however due to circumstances beyond our control this goal was not achieved at the time of implementation. However, efforts are forthcoming to make this happen in the near future.

A major benefit of the membership system is the ability to renew memberships online. It's paperless, it's efficient, it's easy and most important it's safe and secure. There are two methods for logging on to renew your membership. The following outlines the easy steps to follow.

**METHOD 1:** Logging on from your renewal notice: Members with an email address, automatically receive a renewal notice and invoice fifteen days prior to the 15th of the month in which your renewal is due.

1. To initiate the online renewal process, all a member has to do is click on the link <https://carpathorusynsociety.wildapricot.org/Sys/Profile> that is embedded in the renewal notice;
2. You will be directed to your "My Profile" page, click on the "Pay online" link;
3. You will be directed to the C-RS PayPal Account page here;
4. You have the option of renewing using your personal PayPal account, if you have one, or use a debit/credit card as a PayPal Guest Checkout, follow the PayPal instructions to complete the transaction;
5. Once the transaction is completed, you will be directed back to your profile page, and automatically receive a payment receipt.

With just a few clicks of your computer's mouse your membership will have been renewed for another year.

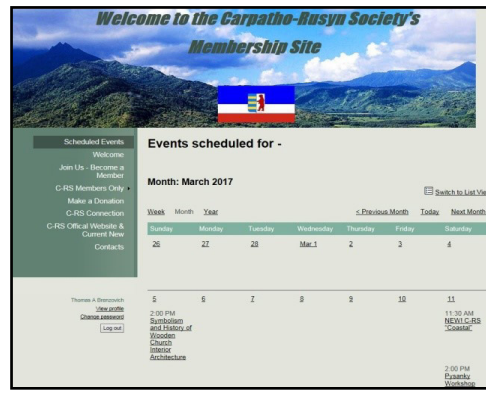


**METHOD 2:** Manually logging into the membership system:

1. Access the membership site using the site address <https://carpathorusynsociety.wildapricot.org/>;
2. You will be directed to the events calendar page, log on with your email address and password;
3. You will be directed to your "My Profile" page, click on the "Pay online" link;
4. You will be directed to the C-RS PayPal Account page, here;
5. You have the option of renewing using your personal PayPal account, if you have one, or use a debit/credit card as a PayPal Guest Checkout, follow the PayPal instructions to complete the transaction;
6. Once the transaction is completed, you will be directed back to your profile page, and automatically receive a payment receipt.

Note: You will see the "Pay online" link only when your membership is due for renewal; otherwise it will not appear on your "My Profile" page. Your renewal due date can be found on your profile page.

If you have not already renewed your membership using the online feature, we strongly encourage to please consider doing so. Not only does this self-service feature benefit you the member, but also serves the good of the C-RS. Questions should be directed to [membership@c-rs.org](mailto:membership@c-rs.org) or call 412-567-3077 and leave a message. We'll get back to you as soon as possible.



Yours in Rusyn Unity,  
Tom Brenzovich

## College Care Packages



The C-RS recently assembled and mailed 20 care packages to college students who were either nominated by current members of the organization or are of Rusyn or Slavic descent. These care packages contain essentials such as pens, pencils, highlighters, a flash drive, stress balls and several snacks, and they should come in handy as final exam time approaches.

The packages also include a form for a free year-long membership to the Carpatho Rusyn Society in order to encourage their participation and help them learn more about our efforts to preserve, promote, educate and inform the public of our ethnicity!

## Save the Dates

### Wednesday, April 19, Parma, OH

C-RS Cleveland invites to you to join the Vatra planning meeting from 6-9 pm at the Parma-Snow Library, 2121 Snow Road, Parma, OH 44134.

Many volunteers are needed to make the Vatra successful and fun. If you would like to volunteer but cannot make it to the meeting call Barb at 440-349-1374 or Marcia at 440-331-3856.



### Saturday, April 22, Cleveland, OH

Join the Cleveland chapter for An Earth Day Spring Clean Up from 1-4 pm at the Rusin Garden, 930 East Blvd, Cleveland, OH University Circle.

Bring your garden tools and wear old clothes to work in the garden. Call Marcia at 440-331-3856 for more information.

### Saturday, April 22, Plano, TX

"Paska to Pysanky: The Traditional Rusyn Easter Basket"

We'll show you all the ingredients Baba proudly included in her basket, and offer plates of homemade Easter foods! Saturday, April 22, 2017 1:30-4:00 pm, Environmental Education Center, 4116 West Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75093. Free admission for presentation, \$5.00 donation for each Easter meal plate (\$3.00 donation children 12 and under). C-RS Dallas invites everyone to keep up with us on our Facebook page: [Carpatho-Rusyns Dallas](https://www.facebook.com/Carpatho-Rusyns-Dallas).



### Friday, May 5, Winter Park, FL

C-RS Florida presents "Slovaks and Rusyns: Differences and Similarities" Friday, May 5, 2017 from 1:30-3:30 pm at The Slovak Gardens, 3110 Howell Branch Road #100, Winter Park, FL 32792. Come and learn some interesting facts about the two cultures that live side by side in Slovakia as friends and neighbors. What do they share and what makes them each a distinct culture?

John Righetti, President Emeritus of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society will enlighten us through a newly released video production. After the presentation, John will be available by Skype to answer questions. Light refreshments will be served.

The event is free and everyone is welcome. For more information, call Bonnie at 440-729-2045 or email at [bb@c-rs.org](mailto:bb@c-rs.org).



### Sunday, May 7, Parma, OH

Join the C-RS Cleveland for an "Introduction to the Cyrillic Alphabet" from 2-4pm at the Parma-Snow Library, 2121 Snow Rd, Parma, OH 44134.

Barb Popovich will give us the basics for learning about this alphabet. FREE. If you have any old documents or letters written in Cyrillic, please contact Barb before the class at 440-349-1374.

### Saturday, June 3, Hillsborough, NJ

St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Hillsborough, New Jersey, is pleased to announce that it is sponsoring a genealogy and entitled conference as a part of its centennial celebration and, "Honoring our Ancestors." The event will take place on Saturday June 3 and registration begins at 8:30 am at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, 1900 Brooks Blvd, Hillsborough NJ 08844.

Come learn how to begin doing your genealogy from the experts and enjoy presentations from knowledgeable guest speakers!

Seating is very limited, so pre-registration is recommended. For more information, contact Kathryn and Tom Peters at 908-253-8147.



### Saturday, June 10, Pittsburgh, PA

C-RS group member, Slavjane Folk Ensemble, will hold their 41st annual concert on Saturday June 10, 2017. This year's concert will be a dinner/theater event held entirely at St. Elias Byzantine Catholic Church banquet hall, located at 4200 Homestead-Duquesne Road, Munhall, PA 15120. Doors open at 5:00 pm, and the concert starts at 6:00 pm. Enjoy an evening with Slavjane as they present music, songs and dances from Slovenia, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Carpatho-Rus'. Delicious ethnic food such as pirohia, halusky, and holubky will be available for purchase as well as various baked goods and a cash bar. Reception music will be provided by the popular Orkestar Zabava. For more information, please contact Dean Poloka at 412-877-9351, or email [dean.poloka@gmail.com](mailto:dean.poloka@gmail.com).



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

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Membership site: <https://carpathorusynsociety.wildapricot.org/>  
Please submit news contributions to [am@c-rs.org](mailto:am@c-rs.org).

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/>