



Welcome



Dear Friends,

The board has approved the following strategic plan for 2019-20. As you can see, these undertakings will require more effort than the board alone can manage. We will be grateful for any assistance that you, the members of C-RS can provide.

CARPATHO RUSYN SOCIETY Mission Statement

The Carpatho-Rusyn Society (C-RS) sustains and promotes the culture and heritage of the Rusyn people, benefiting its members and other interested individuals through its communications, programming and Cultural Center in Munhall, PA

GOALS AND TACTICS – 2018-20

The goals and tactics were developed following an 18-month planning process that included input from its members, chapters and branches, CRS Board and the Strategic Planning Committee.

1. Improve Board Performance

The C-RS Board of Trustees will:

- Evaluate our current board selection process
- Create a board development program to identify potential highly qualified board members
- Construct a new board member orientation program
- Create board classes so that only a third of the board will be up for election each year thus improving continuity

2. Enhance internal and external communications

The C-RS Board of Trustees will:

- Develop a series of educational webinars
- Organize traveling exhibits for use by its chapters and branches and for display at appropriate national and regional events
- Create a Speaker's Bureau to assist its chapters and branches
- Participate in appropriate Slavic and ethnic events such as genealogy and educational forums, conventions and ethnic festivals

3. Develop an aggressive membership growth plan

The C-RS Board of Trustees will:

- Create a Membership Outreach and Growth Committee
- Target relationships with colleges and universities that would view CRS as an important resource for cultural programs, Rusyn archives and educational presentations
- Rotate the annual meeting location yearly

4. Improve fund raising efforts

The C-RS Board of Trustees will:

- Create a budget management process to insure that our resources are allocated in a manner that is consistent with our strategic plan
- Increase by 25% the amount of givers to the annual campaign
- Establish a major gifts program for the C-RS and our Cultural Center

Again, please feel free to reach out with your input to help assure our organization is fruitful for many years to come.

Take care,

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

Save the Dates

Friday, February 22, Ocala, FL

Join the Florida branch as they present "Our Flag Still Waves" in commemoration of raising the American Flag at Iwo Jima on February 23, 1945. The event will take place from 2-4pm at Freedom Branch Library, 5870 SW 95th St. Ocala, FL.

The film features Michael Strank, a marine who was one of the six men who raised the flag on Mt. Suribachi, Japan. He died in battle six days later. Michael was a Carpatho-Rusyn whose family emigrated from Jarabina, Slovakia and settled in Johnstown, PA. The documentary includes interviews with his sister, friends and veterans and is narrated by Tom Ridge, Governor of PA, Secretary of Homeland Security and a Rusyn.

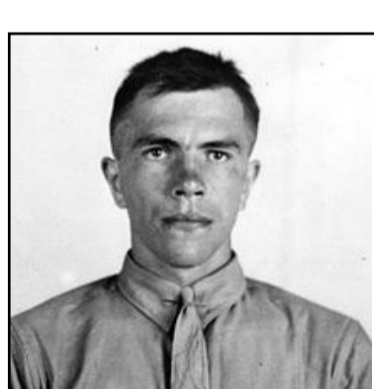


All are welcome. No admission.

Please register at c-rs.org/events. For more information, contact Bonnie at 440 729-2045 or email at bb@c-rs.org

Saturday, February 23, Seffner, FL

The Florida branch presents a second showing of "Our Flag Still Waves" in commemoration of raising the American Flag at Iwo Jima on February 23, 1945. **This event will also take place from 2-4 pm but will be at the Seffner-Mango Branch Library, 410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL.** Event details can be found above.



Saturday, March 2, Plano, TX

The Dallas chapter is holding "Uncommon Valor: Soldiers of Iwo Jima" honoring Sgt. Michael Strank, and featuring Don Graves, a local WWII Iwo Jima veteran who knew Sgt. Strank and the other men in the famous flag-raising photo on Mt. Suribachi. The event will take place from 2-4:30 pm at the Environmental Education Center, 4116 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75093. Admission is free and all are welcome. For more information, visit <https://uncommonvalor.eventbrite.com/>.

Sunday, March 10, Charlotte, NC

C-RS Greater Charlotte Branch invites you to "The Soul of the Carpathians" DVD followed by a Pysanky Demonstration (drop-pull style) from 2-4pm at Beatties Ford Road Regional Library, 2412 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, NC.



The DVD is a short history of Carpatho-Rusyns presented in Rusyn with English subtitles. Our very own Maryann did the translation, and it is a unique and interesting DVD.

The DVD was produced by the Association of Rusyn Inteligencia in Slovakia. This work was made possible with the financial support of the Slovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the European Union's Slovakian Department through a subsidy program "Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Freedom (2013)".

Production of this DVD was made possible with the financial support of the Government of the Slovak Republic through a program "Culture of National Minorities (2015)".

Register at c-rs.org under events.

Sunday, March 10, Parma, OH

The C-RS Cleveland chapter presents "Beyond Ancestry, Legacy and My Heritage" from 2-4 pm at the Parma Snow Library, 1212 Snow Road, Parma, OH.



We will explore sources for finding clues to your family's heritage that will hopefully help you find those elusive relatives in Europe. We bring questions and records to see if we can assist with your research. You never know what bit of information will help you break down that "brick wall."

The event is free. Come and bring a friend. Questions or to register for the program call Marcia at 440-331-3856, mhenko@prodigy.net, or on our national website at carpatho-rusynsociety.org/wildapricot (Events).

Sunday, April 7, Parma, OH

The C-RS Cleveland chapter will be hosting "Who Was Irena Nevicka?" from 2-4 pm at the Parma Snow Library, 1212 Snow Road, Parma, OH.



Alexander Duchnovich sparked the nationalist movement amongst the Rusyns, but there were others who carried on his passion for cultural recognition. Irena Nevicka (1886-1965), a teacher, writer, nationalist and organizer of Rusyn women, was one of those who made significant contributions to further the cause of Rusyn identity and national independence. As a woman she challenged the norm. Remarkably, she has ties to Cleveland. Curious? Come on April 7th to learn more.

Questions or to register for the program call Marcia at 440-331-3856, mhenko@prodigy.net, or on our national website at carpatho-rusynsociety.org/wildapricot (Events)



Friday May 17-Sunday May 19, Munhall, PA

Save the Dates for our 25th anniversary weekend! We are planning a wonderful program including a dinner dance. Friday May 17-Sunday May 19th, Munhall, PA

News contributions are welcome!
Please submit your content to am@c-rs.org.

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<http://www.c-rs.org>
Membership site: <http://carpathorusynsociety.wildapricot.org/>
Please submit news contributions to 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/>