

## Welcome



Dear Friends,

I hope you are enjoying your summer. Summertime gives America our annual permission to do nothing and have it count for something. Except, of course, for the Carpatho-Rusyn Society. We've been busy renovating the Cultural Center. We have installed ten new Pella windows, repaired the roof, replaced and/or fixed rotted gutters, and primed and painted most of the exterior woodwork.

Nat King Cole's famous lyrics:

*Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer  
Those days of soda and pretzels and beer  
Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer  
You'll wish that summer could always be here*

certainly do not apply to us this year. But then, our people are known for their strong work ethic.

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

## C-RS Membership – Did You Know? (Part 4)

Courtesy of Tom Brenzovich

This is the fourth 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.

The Membership Management System can be used to send mass emails, known as "email blasts", to people in the contacts database (members, attendees, donors, etc.). Email blasts are used to broadcast announcements or send out newsletters.

Email blasts:

- can be sent immediately or scheduled to be delivered automatically at a specified date and time
- can be controlled as to who receives email blasts by searching or filtering the membership or contact list, or by selecting a saved contact or member search
- can be professionally designed using email templates provided by the Wild Apricot system software, created from scratch, or use a previously sent email. In either case, text, graphics, and links can be added; to control the layout and appearance of the message. Messages can be personalized by using macros to insert specific information such as the recipient's first name or organization.

Emails created using Wild Apricot's new generation of email templates are responsive, meaning that they will automatically adjust to fit smaller screens, and will appear the same on different email clients, subject to some variations.

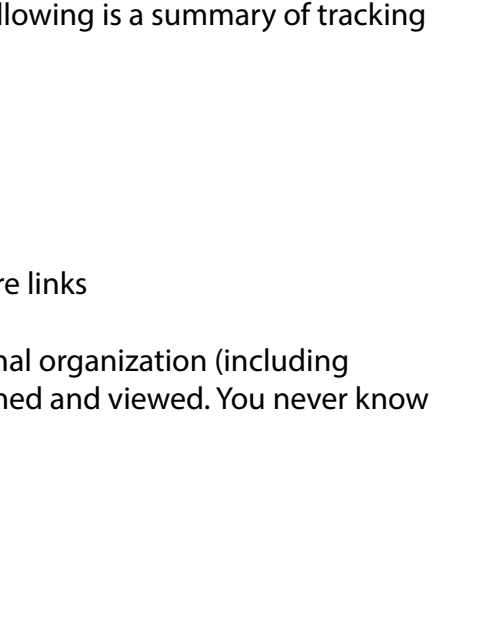
After emails have been sent, they can be tracked to see who opened the email, who clicked on an embedded link or image, and those that were undelivered for various reasons. Undelivered email failures can be reviewed as to what was the cause of the failure. The following is a summary of tracking options:

- number of recipients
- number and percentage of failed messages
- number and percentage of messages delivered
- the number and percentage of messages opened
- the number and percentage of recipients who clicked one or more links

Email blasts serve as a major communications tool between the National organization (including chapters and branches) and its membership. All emails should be opened and viewed. You never know what you may learn.

Yours in Rusyn Unity,

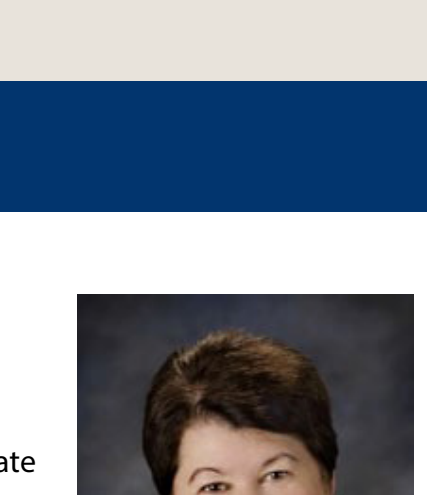
Tom Brenzovich  
C-RS Membership Chairman  
C-RS Membership System Administrator



## History of Rusyn Churches and Communities

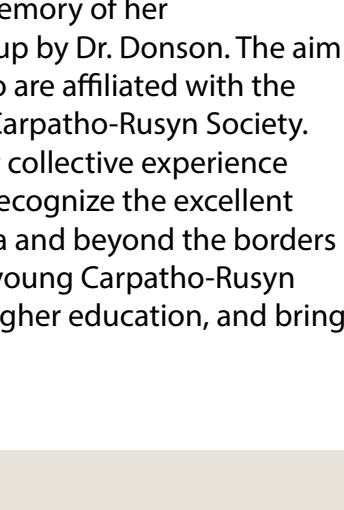
Our trustee, John Schweich, for many years has collected Rusyn church histories. Many of you have attended his presentations. We feel that many of us are in a position to record our home community's histories. The Carpatho-Rusyn Society should play a key role in gathering not only the histories of our own chapters and branches, but also the origins of our Rusyn home communities. Hopefully this could include images, recollections, and insights.

Please send me information and history on Rusyn churches and the communities where our people lived and worked. For further information on this project, please email me at [president@c-rs.org](mailto:president@c-rs.org).



## Anna Donson Memorial Scholarship

For months, the Anna Donson Memorial Scholarship committee has been diligently reviewing applications for this award. In our Rusyn community, we should all be proud of the fine young men and women who are making our world a better place through their actions. The applicants excelled in academia along with making strides in working in their communities to create improved conditions. The committee is happy to announce the scholarship is awarded to **Madalyn Charnego**. Currently, Madalyn is an undergraduate student at Penn State excelling in her studies and advancing her vision to be a doctor. A letter of recommendation from her professor notes, "She strives for and achieves excellence on a regular basis. She very well could discover the cure for cancer or ingenious ways to eliminate genetic defects". Additionally, she is a Lecture Assistant at Penn State in the Biology Department and a Homework Grader for a calculus professor. In her Jersey Shore community, she served on the Jersey Shore Public Library Board. Her Rusyn involvement is through her and her family member's participation in Rusyn events here in the United States and abroad.



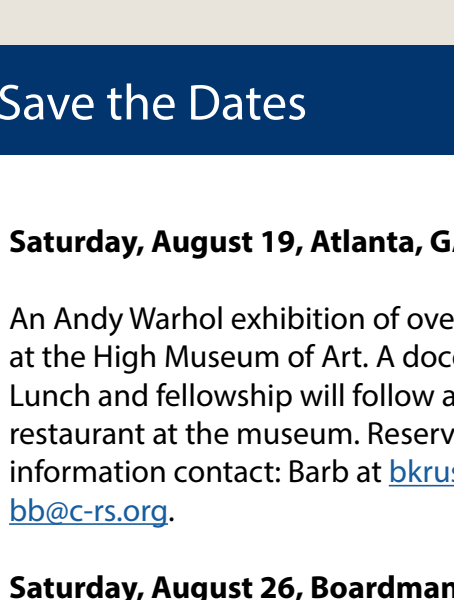
Dr. Paula Donson

The scholarship committee consisted of members Margaret Garmon, Pamela Hemzik, Sarah Latanyshyn, Paul Lohin, Dr. Donson and Sharon Jarow. Each application was given utmost scrutiny. It truly is impressive what our Rusyn young adults are achieving.

The \$1000 award was made possible by the generosity of Dr. Paula Donson in memory of her grandmother. This \$1000 scholarship will continue for the next four years as set up by Dr. Donson. The aim of the scholarship is to assist students from the Carpatho-Rusyn community who are affiliated with the Carpatho-Rusyn Society or who have family members that are members of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society. The Society provides its members with a shared community that is based on our collective experience of immigration from Eastern Europe to the United States. Dr. Donson wishes to recognize the excellent contributions that our people have made to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and beyond the borders of the State. The scholarship also intends to accelerate the advancement of our young Carpatho-Rusyn population, expand the development of our Carpatho-Rusyn citizens through higher education, and bring new levels of learning to our community and to our people.

## C-RS Chapter Highlights

### C-RS Eastern PA



On July 15, 2017, Dr. Michele Parvensky gave a passionate presentation at Penn State Lehigh Valley Campus on Wooden Churches of Eastern Europe. Her ongoing research of over 20 years focused on churches in Slovakia, Lemkovyna, Maramures County (Romania) and Transcarpathia.

The diverse architectural styles were explained as were the various cultural influences of the builders. Lemko and Boyko were of a tripartite design (three rooms) symbolizing the Holy Trinity while Hutzul churches are built in the form of a cross with five connecting rooms.

Parvensky pointed out that the wooden churches were built in areas where trees were plentiful and different species, such as red spruce (best weather resistant), pine, fir, beech, and oak were used. The churches were constructed using wooden pegs. No nails were used because they were associated with the crucifixion. It was not unusual to construct the bell tower years after the church was finished as a separate building from the main structure.

The event was well attended, and everyone walked away having learned something new about these impressive buildings.



### Save the Dates

#### Saturday, August 19, Atlanta, GA

An Andy Warhol exhibition of over 250 prints will be on display at the High Museum of Art. A docent led tour will begin at 10 am. Lunch and fellowship will follow at the Twelve Eighty farm to fork restaurant at the museum. Reservations are necessary. For more information contact: Barb at [bkusing@comcast.net](mailto:bkusing@comcast.net) or Bonnie at [bb@c-rs.org](mailto:bb@c-rs.org).



#### Saturday, August 26, Boardman, OH

The C-RS Youngstown/Warren/Sharon will be hosting a Carpatho-Rusyn Vatra from 12 - 8 pm at Infant of Prague Church grounds, 7754 South Avenue, Boardman, OH, 44512. Admission is free and all are welcome. The day will be filled with food, music, genealogy, sales tables and more. Liturgy will be held at 6pm. Don't miss the best food of its kind on this side of the Atlantic!

#### Saturday, August 26 and Sunday, August 27th, Belle Vernon, PA

A two day Lemko heritage event will take place on Saturday, August 26th and Sunday, August 27th from 12 - 6 pm at the Russian Club Pricedale, 221 Lehigh Street, Belle Vernon, PA, 15012. Saturday consists of a Lemko Genealogy Day. Please bring any genealogical information that you wish to share or research. Light lunch will nourish the genealogists!

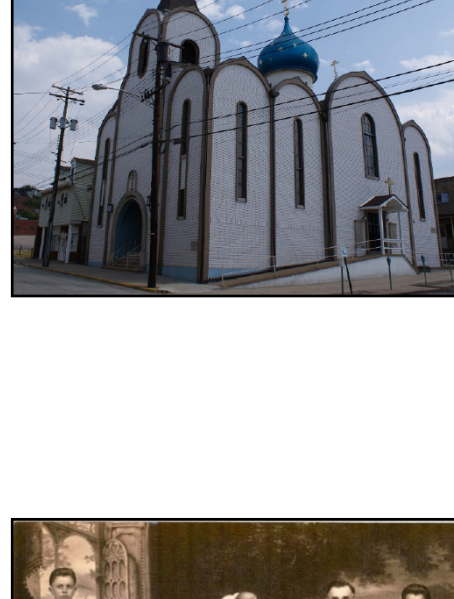


Losie Kermesh will take place on Sunday from 12 - 6, which is an informal picnic/celebration of Lemko descendants representing villages from the northern slope of the Carpathian Mountains in present-day southeastern Poland and formerly (until 1918) the province of Galicia, Austro-Hungarian Empire. All are welcome to bring a covered dish to share!

For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/LosieKermesh/> or contact Rox Vanguard at 412.771.0474 or [rox.vanguard@gmail.com](mailto:rox.vanguard@gmail.com).

#### Sunday, August 27, Cleveland, OH

The C-RS Cleveland chapter will once again participate in One World Day festivities from 11-7 pm at the Cleveland Cultural Gardens, Rusin Garden, 930 East Blvd, Cleveland OH 44108. Come join us in the Parade of Flags and all the ethnic entertainment that takes place throughout the day. A naturalization ceremony will welcome new citizens. Whether you come to help at our table or just come for the entertainment, we can assure a good time and that you will learn something new about other cultures.

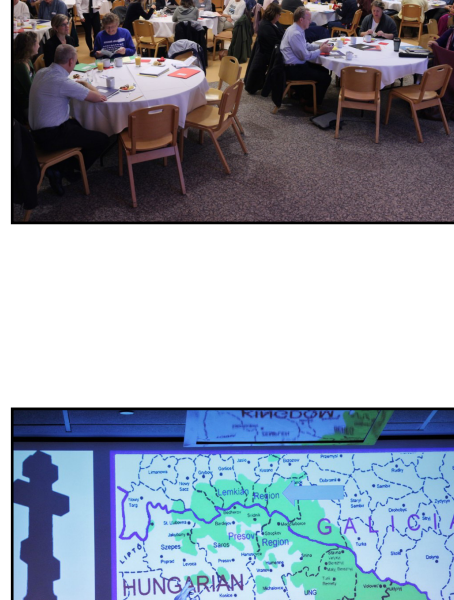


#### Saturday, Sept 2 and Sunday, Sept 3, McKeesport, PA

Take part in the 100th Anniversary of the founding of Holy Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Church, 330 Shaw Avenue, McKeesport, PA. This church is now under the jurisdiction of the Russian Church Outside of Russia, but was originally a Greek Catholic Church and was founded by Rusyns. His Eminence Metropolitan Hilarion and His Grace Bishop Nicholas will concelebrate an All-Night Vigil on Saturday at 5 p.m. and Divine Liturgy Sunday beginning 9 a.m. Fr. Dimitri Ermakov is rector of the church.

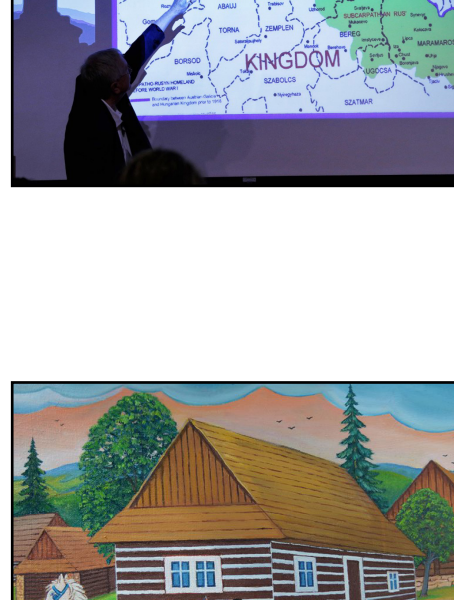


Grand Banquet (cost \$50, under 17, \$25) will begin at 2 p.m. at Stratigos Banquet Center, 131 Colonial Manor Road, North Huntingdon, PA. Entertainment will be provided by St. Nicholas Balalaika Orchestra from Mogadore, Ohio.



#### Saturday, Sept 9, Center Valley, PA

The Eastern PA Chapter of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society is very pleased to announce that Tom & Kathryn Peters, two outstanding professional Genealogists, will present an all-day seminar for beginning and experienced genealogists at the Penn State Lehigh Valley Campus located at 2809 Saucon Valley Road, Center Valley, PA 18034 on September 9th from 9 am to 3 pm. The price includes an assorted breakfast tray, refreshments, and a boxed lunch is \$35.00.

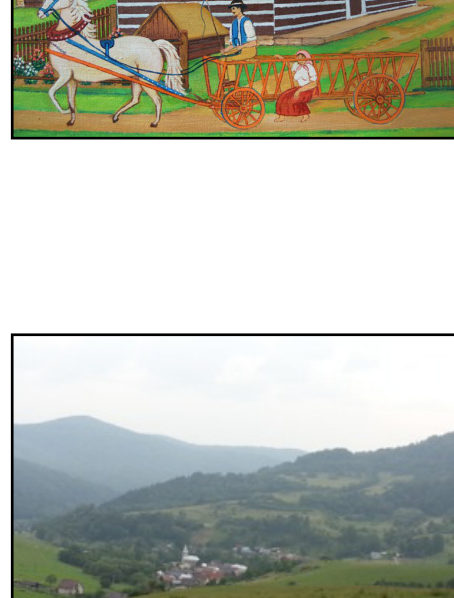


Kathryn's "Beginning Genealogy 101" will be a boot camp for those trying to get started on discovering their heritage. Tom will provide his expertise on researching Eastern European Ancestry including Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine, and Hungary. Both will address the latest genealogy tools and technology, and be available to answer any questions and review documents.

Seating will be limited. Reservations are required. Contact Chuck Schneider at 610.691.2658 or e-mail [fsomni@aol.com](mailto:fsomni@aol.com) no later than September 5th.

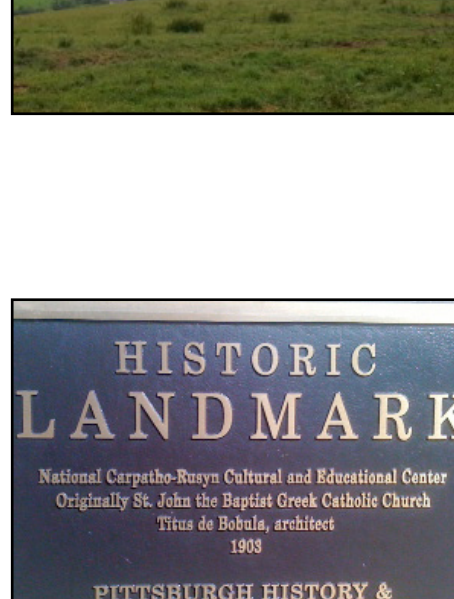
#### Sunday, Sept 17, Parma, OH

Presentation by John Righetti and Maria Silvestri on the Vistula Operation, Parma-Snow Library, 2121 Snow Road, Parma, OH. Free and all are welcome! For more information, call 440.331.3856.



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

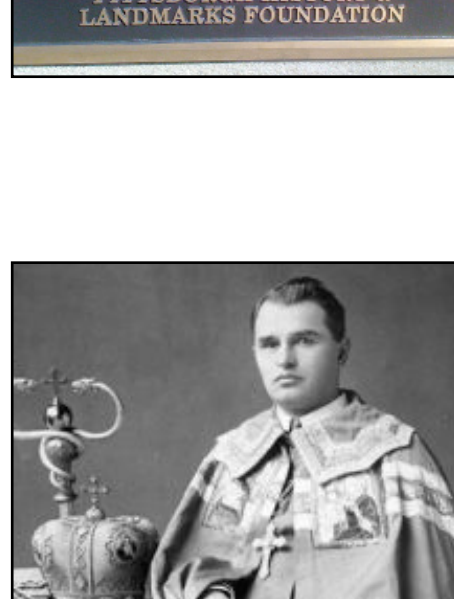
Mark your calendars for the 5th Annual Rusyn Heritage and Heritage Conference sponsored by the Eastern PA Chapter of C-RS. You surely do not want to miss this magnificent conference. Once again held at Kings College, Campus Center, Wilkes-Barre, PA on September 30 from 9 am to 4 pm. A breakfast buffet 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 Mariapoc's 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 Sharon Jarow 610.759.2628 or email [sharpp@rcn.com](mailto:sharpp@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 [crsnewjersey@gmail.com](mailto:crsnewjersey@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).

#### Thursday, October 19 - Saturday, October 21, Pittsburgh, PA

16th Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International Genealogical/Cultural Conference, Hyatt Regency Hotel Pittsburgh International Airport, 1111 Airport Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15231. Several members of the C-RS will make presentations. Registration information is available. For additional information, contact CGSI at [PaulMCzech@comcast.net](mailto:PaulMCzech@comcast.net).

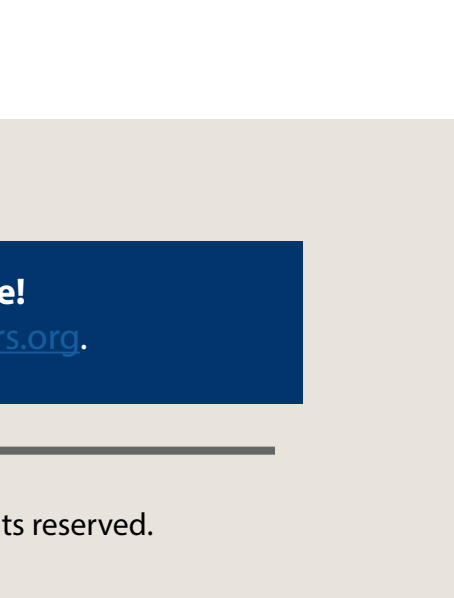
#### Wednesday, October 18, Pittsburgh, PA

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).

#### 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 Mikhalaky Award to C-RS Chief Financial Officer, Rich Laycock, 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).

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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/>.