April
2018

C-RS Connection

Designed and Compiled by Alexis McCormick

Welcome

Dear Friends,

Spring may be off to a slow start, but not us! I know we are all looking forward to August when we should be able to put away our snow blowers.

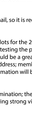
In the meantime, we are excited to present a collective exhibition of four artists, each with unique styles and use of artistic media. Their subjects are varied but draw upon the vitality of life and exhibit the beauty of rendering the visible and the imaginative in drawn and painted forms. Given its location, the exhibit is entitled "Four Artists Walk into a Church."

Please join us on Friday, April 20th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for the opening reception at our Carpatho-Ruysn Cultural Center, 915 Dickson Street, Munhall, PA 15120. If you can't attend the opening, the exhibit will run from April 21 through May 19, from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

As a non-profit organization we take pride in giving back to the community. Artists whose work will be on display include:

Michael Walter - Mr. Walter's drawings are inspired by geology, time, and current events. An emphasis on masks and totem poles has been a more recent development in his images that constitute a personal natural history museum. Texture and varied media are important aesthetic concerns of his, the chemistry of art being alchemical in the image making processes, and parallel to his idea of transformation of the individual. Mr. Walter studied at The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, in Italy and throughout Pittsburgh. His work is in private collections in Pennsylvania, New York, Illinois, and California.

Jana Hnuskova - Ms. Hnuskova creates realistic art, specializing in drawing and painting portraits of people and animals, as well as historical landmarks and romantic old towns and streets. She does it with a delicate sense of observation and magical moment of the scene. Her media are colored pencils, graphite, oil and watercolors. Choosing themes that evoke positive emotions and bring smiles and peace to people's minds is the goal of her imagery.



Janet Carlisle- Ms. Carlisle's collage work is a transformative process by which she cuts, tears, pastes, and sews painted images and textures, often extracted from her own drawings, paintings and photographs into a unified whole. As she composes and builds these fragments into a new beginning, she is reminded that what is broken in life is often where people find a place to start again.

Jon Coulter - Trained at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Mr. Coulter has illustrated over thirty books of surgery and hundreds of journal articles. An American Realist, he is truly excited when he has the opportunity to depict the outsides of his subjects.

Take care,

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

2018 National Board Election Update

The Nominations Committee has published the official call for nominations for the upcoming 2018 election of board members for the 2019-2021 term. Now is the time to consider potential candidates and submit their names as nominees. It is important to the Carpatho-Ruysn Society (C-RS) to continue to have strong, skilled leadership to carry us into the next 25 years of preserving and perpetuating the distinct culture, history, language, and heritage of the Carpatho-Ruysn people. Details regarding the nomination process are contained in the Spring issue of the New Ruysn Times. As a reminder, the following is provided:

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 11:59PM, 8 SEPTEMBER 2018.

THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

Nominations may be submitted to the Nominations Committee by email at membership@c-rs.org (preferred), or postal mail to Carpatho-Ruysn Society, Attn: Nominations Committee, 915 Dickson Street, Munhall PA 15120-1929.

Please account for delivery time when submitting through postal mail, so it is received by the deadline. For email submissions, please use BOD Nomination in the subject line.

The Elections Committee is anticipating using electronic (email) ballots for the 2018 elections. The committee is in the process of evaluating this approach and will be testing the proposed balloting prior to making a final decision. Initial analysis looks very promising and would be a great cost saving benefit to the C-RS. An email ballot would be sent to all members with an email address; members who do not have email will receive a paper ballot as done in past elections. Additional information will be forthcoming regarding the balloting process as it shapes up.

In closing, please don't wait until the last minute to submit your nomination; the deadline will be here before you know it. All nominees will be vetted with the goal of having strong viable candidates on the ballot this fall.

Yours in Ruysn Unity,
The Election Committee

C-RS Chapter Event Highlights

The Pacific Northwest Branch Hosts Pysanky Workshop

The Pacific Northwest Branch held a Pysanky Workshop in West Seattle on the cold, bright afternoon of March 24, 2018. More than thirty people of all ages and backgrounds came to learn about the art of pysanky and participate in an ancient Carpatho-Ruysn tradition.

Co-leaders Leslie Lazar Thorn and Andrea Kaufman were joined by planning team member Donna Pacanovsky in planning and producing the event.

An enthusiastic and artistic crowd showed up for this workshop and the group had a lot of fun! Every person, no matter how small – um, not sure about the baby – made one or more eggs.

As you can see from the photos, people were really into what we were doing. Very focused. People made amazing eggs! Everyone, kids and adults, had reason to be proud.

We made many new friends and look forward to good times ahead!

Girl Scout Troop Highlights Carpatho-Rusyns

by Bethany Sromovsky, Age 14

On March 28, 2018, Girl Scouts across the United States participated in the annual World Thinking Day event in which each troop chooses a country on which to educate other troops. Troop 30218 from West Pittston, PA chose Slovakia and featured different minority groups in the country, including Carpatho-Rusyns. Two possible unknowing Rusyns were informed about the Carpatho-Ruysn culture and heritage.

Photos, books and assorted items about Slovakia were on display and available for attendees to view to learn more.

Save the Dates

Friday, April 20, Munhall, PA

On April 20th, 2018 at 7:00 the C-RS is pleased to present, in an inaugural art exhibition, the work of four local artists who have diverse styles and use of artistic media. Their subjects are varied but draw upon the vitality of life and exhibit the beauty of rendering the visible and the imaginative in drawn and painted forms. See the President's message above for more info!

Saturday, April 28, Plano, TX

Have you always been fascinated by pop artist Andy Warhol? Andy took the art world by storm in the 1960's, and has influenced countless artists of all mediums. The Carpatho-Ruysn Society Dallas Chapter cordially invites you to join us as we celebrate Warhol's 90th birthday at "Painting Warhol." This workshop will take place Saturday, April 28, 2018, from 2:00 to 4:30 PM at the Plano Environmental Education Center, 4116 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75093.

You will learn about Andy's Ruysn ethnicity while painting one of his works. Dallas artist Jemel Sustaita will lead attendees through the creative process, culminating in your own finished product to take home. Art supplies will be provided by Mr. Sustaita, complimentary snacks will be served, and a ticketed wine bar will be available. We will also celebrate the third anniversary of the founding of the Dallas chapter. Participation is $25, minimum age 10, and includes art supplies. (Tickets at the door will be $30.) Wine bar tickets are $5 per glass, available in advance online and at the door.

Sunday, April 29, Parma, OH

Join C-RS Cleveland for "Tips and Tricks For Using FamilySearch.org for Your Eastern European Genealogy" from 2-4 pm at the Parma Snow Library, 2121 Snow Road, Parma, OH, 44134.

Dorothy Titera from the Westlake Family History Center will help us discover how to get the most from familysearch.org as we work on our Ruysn genealogy. Based on what we learned from our last meeting, where Ancestry, My Heritage, Findmypast and FamilySearch were compared, it seemed FamilySearch had far more information available online from areas in Eastern Europe and was the biggest bargain coming in at "free" and available from your home computer 24/7. The site has changed somewhat over the past few months so come and see if there might be info to help you with your search.

Sunday, April 29, Youngstown, OH

The C-RS Youngstown/Warren/Sharon is hosting "Wooden Churches of Ruysn Areas in Eastern Europe" presented by Dr. Michele Parvensky at 1:30 pm at the Butler Institute of American Art, 524 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH 44505.

Dr. Parvensky is a retired chemistry teacher who became interested in Ruysn wooden churches from reading an article in an old Greek Catholic Union Magazine. She won a summer faculty fellowship to photograph wooden churches from the Pingry School where she taught. She was born in Pottstown, PA and a Ruysn. Since 2001, she has traveled extensively throughout the Ruysn areas photographing the churches. She has been where few American Ruysns and for that matter, where European Ruysns have trekked. There are probably close to 200 churches plus many new ones in Transcarpathia. Dr. Michele has been able to document how the churches have changed over a period of 20 years and what needs to be done to preserve them and prevent their decay.

Admission and parking are free Donations at door accepted to support C-RS. Call Jim Basista / 330 544-0107 or Robert Demsko / 330 719-4418 for more info.

Saturday, April 29, Oak Lawn, IL

Join the Lake Michigan Chapter for "Even Tears were not Enough" a documentary presented by its producers John Righetti and Maria Silvestri. It will be shown at 2 pm at Oak Lawn Public Library, 9427 Raymond Ave, Oak Lawn, IL, 60453.

In 1947, the new Polish communist government forcibly resettled its Carpatho-Ruysn population from their ancestral homeland in Southern Poland to depopulated western and northern Poland. This planned military action was called the Vistula Operation.

Saturday, May 12, Coraopolis, PA

Mark your calendars for the 42nd annual Slavjane Folk Ensemble concert on Saturday May 12th. This year's concert will be held at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart H.S. Auditorium, 1504 Woodcrest Avenue, Coraopolis, PA 15108 Concert begins at 2:00 pm.

Slavjane consists of 29 students ranging from ages 4 to 18 from the Pittsburgh area. Featured on this year's concert are songs, dances, and musical selections from Croatia, Dalmatia, and Carpathian Rus'. Featured this year are Roma selections from Eastern Slovakia. Special guest performers are the Pittsburgh Area Slovak (PAS) Ensemble.

Immediately after the concert, join us for the reception at Holy Trinity Social Hall, 5720 Steubenville Pike, McKees Rocks, PA 15136, where the dancing and singing continues. Delicious homemade ethnic food and pastries will be available for purchase along with a sprawling Ruysn (Chinese) Auction. Entertainment will be provided by the popular Orkestar Zabava. Tickets can be bought in advance and will also be available at the door. Concert tickets are $10, student tickets are $5. Reception only tickets are $5. Please contact Dean Poliska at 412-877-9351 to order your tickets or for further information. Slavjane looks forward to seeing you at their concert.

Saturday, October 13, Wilkes Barre, PA

Mark your calendars for the upcoming 6th Annual Genealogy and Heritage Conference presented by the Carpatho-Ruysn Society Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter at King's College, 133 North River St, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Watch for details. Questions? Contact Sharon Jarrow at shangpidron.com or 610-759-2628.

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

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http://www.c-rs.org
Membership site: https://carpathoruysnsociety.wildapricot.org/
Please submit news contributions to amp@c-rs.org.

The Carpatho-Ruysn 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 maintaining Carpatho-Ruysn culture in the United States and supporting Ruysn 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://carpathoruysnsociety.wildapricot.org/