



# Ukrainian Genealogy Group

## National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

September 2012

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### **Welcome to our 2012-2013 Season**

We are beginning a new season of meetings and, once again, we are encouraging members to volunteer to make presentations on their own family history research and writing. If possible, members can make short presentations on their own research problems and successes and a meeting can be devoted to several similar presentations.

According to the present schedule, the monthly meetings after the New Year would be a good time for such presentations. As a 'self-help' group in the area of Ukrainian family history, this can be a learning experience for all of us.

### **Schedule of Meetings 2012-13**

Meetings are held in the Church hall on the fourth Tuesday on the month. There are no meetings in December and in June, July and August. More particularly, the meetings will be held on the following days:

September 25, 2012  
October 23, 2012  
November 27, 2012  
January 22, 2013  
February 26, 2013  
March 26, 2013  
April 23, 2013  
May 28, 2013

### **October 23, 2012 Meeting**

According to present plans, the October meeting will be devoted to the photographic history of the Ukrainian community in Ottawa. Photographs will be shown and discussed to determine the identity of the individuals and also

the dates of the photographs. Members are invited to bring their own unidentified photographs from any parts of Canada or Ukraine for possible identification.

### **Membership Dues**

Going forward, membership in the Ukrainian Genealogy Group - National Capital Region will start in September and end the following August. Members are asked to pay their dues or renew their membership in the fall. Donations are also accepted. Membership fees are set every year and are the same for both individual and couples memberships.

If a member makes a presentation during the year, their dues for the following year are exempted. Also, anyone who is not a member but makes a presentation to the UGG automatically becomes a member for a year.

Paid members receive the Newsletters, Annual Report and any additional information and also will be allowed to borrow periodicals, publications and other resource material from the Library.

### **May 2012 Meeting**

*Presentation by Fr. Maksym Lysack on the Carpatho-Rusyns*

Fr. Maksym Lysack began his presentation by introducing himself to the members. He described his own Ukrainian family background, his education and his ordination in 1983 in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church headquartered in New York City. He has visited the Lemko areas of eastern Europe and continues his study of the history, customs and traditions of this region.

He mentioned that most Carpatho-Rusyns trace their origins to the southern areas of the Carpathian Mountains and can be described in four sub-groups: Lemkos from the Polish and Slovak regions; Boikos; Verkhovintsi/Doliniany (traditional self-identification) ; Hutsuls. In some sources, they were known as Ruthenians, Russians, and Bukovynians. In Slovakia, they are also known as Rusnaks.



*Fr. Maksym Lysack speaking with Myron Momryk*

The language is traditionally known as 'Ruska Mova'. The Orthodox Church recognizes the Patriarch of Constantinople and their adherence to the Church has helped to preserve their language and traditions. Some Rusyns lived in the Hungarian Kingdom since the 11th century. With the Union of Uzhorod of 1646, some parishes came under the jurisdiction of Rome as a Greek-Catholic Diocese while other parishes became Slovak Greek Catholic parishes. Other parishes continued their adherence to the Orthodox Church affiliated with Constantinople.

The Carpatho-Rusyns never had a sovereign state and had to confront various efforts by neighboring states to integrate and assimilate them. In the 19th century, there was a national revival in the Presov area and several writers and poets emerged to lead this revival. This history and religious traditions were brought by Carpatho-Rusyn immigrants from this area to the United States from the 1880s and most settled in the coal mining and steel industry areas of Pennsylvania. They maintained their religious and cultural traditions and are listed as a separate group in the census of the United States.

The Carpatho-Rusyns have established and maintained a wide variety of cultural organizations. In 1920-38, the Carpatho-Rusyn part of Czechoslovakia enjoyed some autonomy and after the declaration of Ukrainian independence in 1991, there has been a movement for autonomy in this area. In Canada, there have been a number of Lemko organizations some dating from the 1920s and most recently, organized by Lemko immigrants from Poland who arrived in the 1980s.

For information on the history of the Christ the Savior Orthodox Sobor in Ottawa see [http://www.christthesaviour.ca/our\\_church.html](http://www.christthesaviour.ca/our_church.html)

### **Community Notices**

*Sep 29, Saturday*

September 29, Saturday, 11 am.-1 pm. Book launch of "Picnic at the Iron Curtain: From the Fall of the Berlin Wall to Ukraine's Orange Revolution", by Susan Viets, the first Western journalist to work in Ukraine in 1991. Meet the author. At Books on Beechwood, 35 Beechwood Ave.

*Oct 11, Thurs.*

The Ottawa-Gatineau Branch of UNF in collaboration with the Chair of Ukrainian Studies of the University of Ottawa invites you to a book presentation and signing for Making Bombs for Hitler by Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch.

The event will take place on Thursday, October 11th, at 7.00 PM in The Lounge, New Residence, 90 University Private, on University of Ottawa campus. (The New Residence is "RCR" on the map that can be accessed on this link, <http://www.uottawa.ca/maps/>). The event is free. Light refreshments will be served. The book will be available for sale at the presentation. For more information, contact Halyna Mokrushyna at [halouwins@gmail.com](mailto:halouwins@gmail.com).