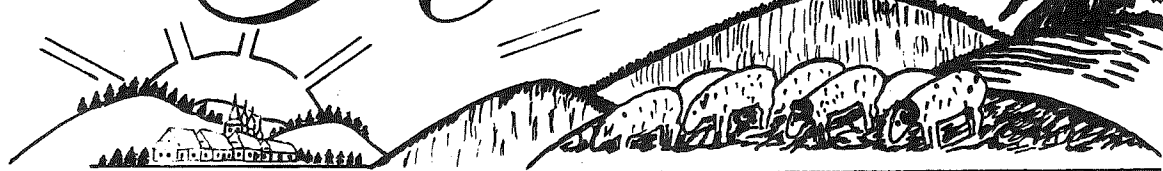


# Carpatho-Rus'

## Karpatska Rus'



SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT YONKERS, NEW YORK AND OTHER MAILING ADDRESSES

NO. 15 CARPATHO--RUS, YONKERS, N.Y., JULY 19, 1996 VOL. LXIV

*A break in the sequence from the book, the following continues from Issue #24, 12/9/94. Actually, the sequences in the book sometimes do not follow chronologically by years.*

Continued from Issue #12, 6/7/96

### THE HISTORY of LEMKOVINA

Part 25

#### Lemkovina Today [prior to 1969]

(No?) Thanks to banditry occurring in the Carpathian Mountains at the end of the Second World War, perpetrated by Polish and Ukrainian nationalists; in May of 1947, the Polish government forcibly evicted, with less than 24 hours notice, and resettled the Lemkos from the Carpathian Mountains to western Poland, (former German lands). They were outlawed from their homes and, subsequently, from their seigniorial fatherland; they lost their homes, their husbandry and all their accumulated capital, which many generations patiently built. The Polish government then proceeded to resettle the Lemko land with settlers recruited from the midst of Polish landless Mazurs, who not only had little understanding of the mountain economy, but were also unaccustomed to hard labor. These people, to a large extent, were fooled at the expense and injustice perpetrated on another people, without any ethical and moral right to this land and homes. Lemkos, leaving their mountains, left behind their sown and planted fields. The settlers found everything ready for them to benefit from the Lemko land. In the Fall, they gathered in the crops. In the wintertime they ate, drank and frolicked, and when Spring arrived nobody had anything left to plant and sow the fields. The soil that once produced grains, potatoes, vegetables, etc. was now covered with weeds and high grass. The settlers, confronted with hunger, applied for relief to Presidiums of the

village and county Radas or Councils. The settlers argued: "Help us, give us bread or we shall starve to death, the Lemko soil is unproductive, etc." The government responded with large sacks of aid, and established state collectives to manage the land, exerting their best efforts to get the rural economy moving, but all of this, was unsuccessful, because these people, unlike the Lemkos, did not know how to manage the mountain land. Like a kaleidoscope, the deserting settlers were replaced by others, but the rural economy did not improve, despite the government's allocation of millions in funds for this purpose. Lemko soil resisted the newcomers and was reluctant to produce for them.

The new settlers continued to plunder their settlements. The inventory abandoned by the Lemkos, including equipment and machinery was sold, and when it was all gone, they tore down or burned many of the remaining structures, cut down the orchards, destroyed fences, etc. Within 10 years of this management, the settlers had transformed parts of Lemkovina into an African jungle, and over 50% of the best houses and other structures disappeared, and in many villages only a few homes remained standing, and these were in bad condition. One is saddened by the sight of Lemkovina today. Large areas of the country are empty, without people, burned villages with ruins overgrown by weeds. The formerly plowed land is covered with brush and trees. Many roads are ruined and hardly used. Visiting Lemkovina today [1969], one must take along an axe to clear a path, indeed, some of the once happy Lemko villages were transformed into a jungle. Once the fields and the forests echoed with harmonious singing of Lemko songs and whistling melodies. Even the sun seems not as bright as it once did, and the mountains of Latskova, Magura, Kichera, and others are shrouded with a mist to conceal from sight the injustice that occurred on this land.

The government bureaucrats are now

Continued on Page 2, Column 1

*An interesting in-depth analysis of the climatic events that began in 1985 in the former Soviet Union up to the present day. This is the sixth installment of the story from Moscow News.*

#### The Crash and Rise of an Empire

A Colloquial Chronicle, Russia, 1985-. Part 6.

#### The Workings of Charisma

What Gorbachev said at that memorable meeting in the Smolny was important enough, but probably just as significant, in terms of social psychology, was the way he said it--in an obviously impromptu, lively speech, without referring to notes. An ordinary enough picture for Western eyes, but ever since Khrushchev's endless, illiterate and sometimes drunken orations, the populace had not seen anything like it for decades, and had grown accustomed to hearing the country's leaders mumble their speeches from Politburo-approved typewritten texts barely looking up from them. As always, the people's wits had a derisive comment up their sleeves at this sort of official idiocy, as in this anecdote: A knock at the door. Leonid Brezhnev sticks on his bushy eyebrows, puts on his spectacles, pulls a piece of paper from a pocket and reads slowly: "Kto tam?" (Who's there?).

The people mostly reacted to Gorbachev's speech positively at an emotional level, although he was obviously talking through his hat on quite a few points. Thus he said that "everybody should 'restructure themselves' in their place"--the minister at his ministerial workplace, the worker at the machine. This was an obvious formula for keeping everything as it was. Any thinking individual could see that the whole system of "workplaces" was malfunctioning, not just the individuals in those places. Gorbachev himself seemed oblivious to this contradiction, wanting change and calling for

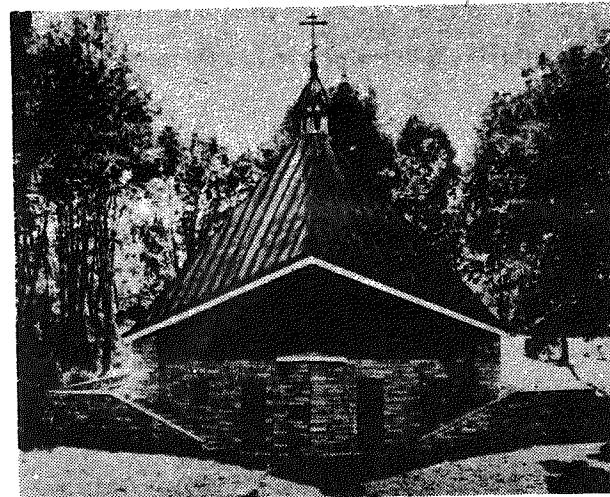
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### REMINDER -- READERS -- TALERHOF DAY

By August 11, 1914 the major industrial powers became embroiled in the First World War, a war that eventually killed 10 million people with many millions left as cripples. With the commencement of war the Austrian military immediately imprisoned thousands of our Carpatho-Russian people, although they were Austria-Hungarian citizens, in concentration camps, the most infamous of which was TALERHOF in the Vienna area. In these camps thousands of our people were killed or died of starvation and disease due to the inhumane conditions. To honor their memory:

**MEMORIAL SERVICES will be held at LEMKO RESORT on AUGUST 4, 1996.**

**PANIHIDA will be offered beginning at 12:30 PM in our CHAPEL in LEMKO RESORT by VERY REV. FATHER JOHN NEHREBECKY. We urge all those interested in our people, heritage and culture -- please attend. Snacks will be available in our dining room after the services.**



Continued from Page 1, Column 2

seriously considering plans to revive the rural economy of Lemkovina. Various commissions consisting of agriculturists, geologists, engineers, scientists knowledgeable in mountain husbandry have been appointed. They are of an opinion that the rural economy in Lemkovina can be rebuilt by the Lemkos, who for ages made a living from this soil, who know its needs, and who from years and generations of experience, know how to cope with it. This was also the conclusion of the Gentry (the Polish Academy of Science), and of the Committee on Water and Soil. Polish academicians headed by director Bodnar, Prof. Kshysik, Dr. Kubits, Dr. Novak, Engineer Dombek, Dr. Shmagala, etc., were of the opinion that only Lemkos or some other mountain people know how to manage profitably the rural economy. Their plan in 1960 called for the construction of approximately 4,000 habitations near the existing 500, and to increase their number annually. The concerned bureaucrats, in their press releases, urged and encouraged the Poles to settle on the Lemko lands in the Beskid region, promising them very convenient terms and monetary aid. Volunteers applied unenthusiastically, meanwhile, steps taken to return the Lemkos to their ancestral homes were being paralyzed by chauvinistic Polish circles.

Presidiums of the county people's Radas of the Riashkov-waywodship advertised in the Polish press: "The county needs workers. You can buy up to 15,000 hectares of plow land from the State Land Fund. Payments may be extended for 20 years. Down payment at the time of purchase is 10% of the value. For those wishing to settle on the land, the government extends credit for the construction of homes and other structures. Credit is limited to 50,000 zlotys. You can also buy land in the neighboring counties on similar terms. The land awaits the people. Today. Now!"

Minister Yarosinski as Chairman of the Government Party in his speech to the Lemkos on July 16, 1956, said: "Our government and Party appeals to the Ukrainian (Lemko) people not to return to their former homesteads, because there is no agreement for them to settle there. The fact is, that according to our laws concerning the Eastern and Retrieved Terrain, (taken away from Germans--the old historic Polish Territory), the settlers are the rightful owners of the farm lands they now occupy. It is the duty of the District authorities to inform the interested parties concerning this case, and at the same time to forewarn them that the District authority cannot, and will not allocate any material aid to those people, who contrary to our instructions, return to their old homesteads. They do so at their own risk and we urge them to remain where they are."

Continuing his speech, the Minister added: "There is no justification for the methods and forms under which resettlement was carried out. There is no way to justify the wrongs committed against these innocent people. It aroused great pity and sympathy for the harm done to them. It created a growth of national discord not only among the resettled, but also in Polish circles. The gravity of the indifference on the part of the District was the complete lack of protection afforded the resettled people. Individual links of the local authorities, in many instances, did not respond to the needs of the resettlers, and worst of all, they tolerated and, in certain cases, encouraged discrimination. The cultural and civil national needs of the Ukrainian (Lemko) people were neglected. The situation was such that no attempt was made to consolidate the Polish and Ukrainian Society in the spirit of internationalism, cooperation and friendship. There were instances in which the people were resettled on farm lands unfit for human habitation--in barracks, barns, tents; aspersions were cast on their language, traditions, culture and workers were dismissed from their jobs.

To be continued

### A Summer Afternoon at Lemko Hall

On Sunday, July 14, Lemko Hall in Yonkers, NY held its annual picnic on the grounds and, despite the recent setbacks Lemko Hall has seen, the picnic was a great success.

New manager, Peter Fila, his wife Kim and their family deserve much of the credit for the abundant food and good order of things. (Not to mention the home-baked cakes that Kim and the senior Mrs. Fila treated us to!). When complimented on a job well done, Peter was quick to say that there would have been no picnic without the encouragement and extensive labors of Dymitr Felenczak, John Felenczak, Peter Symochko, George Wislocki and Michael Dydik.

Burgers and hot dogs were on the grill with a "side" (?) of kielbasy z capustom and delicious pirogi. (Thanks to the talented Mrs. Krajniczyn for the last two!). Watermelon and cold drinks "hit the spot" as the afternoon heated up and the humidity increased. At one point, there was thunder and a sprinkle of rain....but everyone continued to eat, drink and enjoy!

Many little ones would have been bored and cranky had it not been for Donna Molenda who set up games....(and Diane Piwinski also-Ed.) with the perfect prizes: water guns! Grown ups even got into the act for Musical Chairs! (There was a prize for that too!). A candy-filled pinata made a grand finale! Good thinking Donna!

It's always easy to say: "Lemko Hall SHOULD have a picnic". Thank you to all those who not only SAID "should".... but PITCHED IN to make it happen. Your efforts produced a very good event.

Diane Piwinski

here were originally recorded in 1910 on 78 rpm discs.

#### Item #3: East European Folk Festival;

Each year, the Lemko Association of the U.S. and Canada sponsors a festival of East European dancing and singing. This video offers highlights of the 25th festival which was held in 1993. It includes excerpts of an Orthodox Catholic prayer service and concert of Karpati-Rus;, Ukrainian, Russian and Slovak folk songs and dancing.

#### Item #4: Canonization of Father Maksym Sandovich;

This video includes a biography of Saint Maksym, the first Orthodox Catholic saint of the Karpati-Rus;. The major sites and events of his glorification which occurred in Gorlice, Poland in September, 1994 are uniquely recorded.

#### Item #5: Video Recording of the Akafist Male Chamber Choir of Moscow and the Slavic Male Chorus of Washington, D.C.;

Recorded at St. Luke's Serbian Orthodox Church in McLean, Virginia on March 12, 1992, this video includes 17 classic liturgical songs and shows the interior and exterior of all slavic Orthodox Catholic churches in the Washington, D.C. area.

#### Item #6: Canonization of Father Alexis Toth;

St Alexis' biography and canonization ceremony are preserved on this video which was filmed at St. Tikhon's Monastery.

#### Item #7: Folk Songs from the Uzhorod Region: "Muse Zakarpatskaia through 12 folk songs that were recorded in Soviet days in 1955.

#### PRICES:

- Item #1.....\$12.
- Item #2.....\$12.
- Item #3.....\$25.
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- Item #5.....\$30.
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- Item #7.....\$12.

All prices include shipping costs. Send check or money order to:

Lemko Association  
555 Provinceline Road  
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### AUDIO and VIDEO Tapes

#### Item #1 Karpati-Rus' Folk Songs;

Eighteen folk songs from the Carpathian Mountains! Transcribed from 78 rpm discs recorded in 1910, this audio cassette tape presents wedding, christening and Christmas songs....the way our ancestors did them.

#### Item #2: Russian Balalaika and Polkas, Chardashes and Gypsy Eclectic;

This audio cassette tape contains Russian polka and balalaika selections, Slavic chardashes and gypsy melodies. Several folk songs provided

## Celebrating 28 Years of

## Lemko Festival

## Tradition

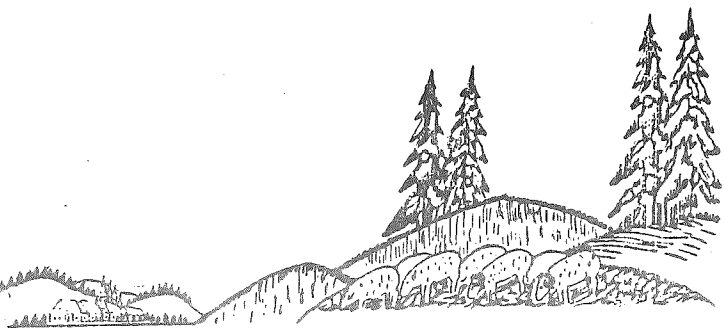
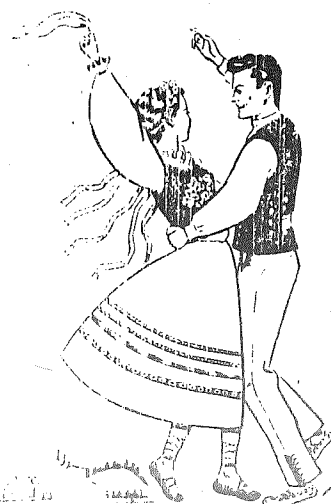
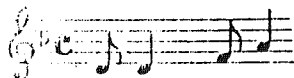
On Sunday, August 25, 1996

at LEMKO RESORT, ROUTE 208, MONROE, N.Y.

OUR FESTIVAL begins at 1:00 PM

Entertainment and music details will be

announced in the following issues.



Continued from Page 1, Column 3

adjustments yet being quite hazy in his mind as to what those adjustments must be.

In part, this sort of lack of direction may have been due to external pressures, the need to kowtow to the long-established, as yet untouchable ideological icons. On May 8, in a speech to honor the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II, he referred to the "gigantic work" of the Communist Party under Stalin in the war years--and no one can say, not even Gorbachev himself, perhaps, whether he was sincere in his praise of Stalin or just pulling the wool over the Party hardliners' eyes. That was the charitable explanation, at any rate, that Gorbachev's intellectual sympathizers hastily embraced as they read the ugly passage in their Pravda--a procedure they would have to resort to time and time again in the years to come, when Gorbachev showed one of his nastier faces to the public at home, those that the adulatory crowds abroad rarely, of ever, glimpsed.

#### The Vodka Mess and What Came Out of It

May 1985 saw yet another abysmal blunder of Gorbachev and his associates on the Politburo: a campaign against drunkenness, alcoholism and the home brewing of moonshine was initiated.

No doubt in the 1970s and 1980s alcoholism in Russia had increased to dangerous, not just alarming levels. While the world level of alcohol consumption amounted on average to five liters a year per person, in the Soviet Union it was as high as 170020 liters, rising in some regions, like Central Russia, the Urals, Siberia, the North and the Far East, to 25--31 liters. Alcoholism naturally entailed all manner of social ills: a rise in men's mortality, divorce rates, debility in children conceived by alcoholic parents, declining birth rates, growing accident rates at workplaces, mass absenteeism of hangover workers, etc. etc.

*Something obviously had to be done.* I remember the typewritten text of a lecture allegedly delivered by some temperance-minded professor in Novosibirsk being passed from hand to hand as clandestinely as Solzhenitsyn's appeals. It was full of horrifying facts and statistics, but there was one passage in it that pointed to the KGB as its possible source: a reference to some supersecret conference at the CIA at which it was decided to undermine the Soviet Union's might through steeping its population in alcohol. There were economists in the country, however, who, if asked, would have explained the real causes of alcoholic nightmare: vodka, along with oil, was the backbone of the nation's budget. Virtually all types of consumer goods were in short supply in the shops, but there was hardly ever a shortage of vodka, and people bought vodka not only because they were thirsty but because there was little else to buy. Where supplies of vodka ran dry, all economic life came to a halt: the budget had no money to pay the workers' wages with. Some economists pointed out that the Marxian "commodity--money--commodity" formula degenerated into the "vodka--money--vodka" form especially suited to the Soviet way of life.

Taking vodka away without giving the people anything in return was bad policy doomed to failure with 100 percent certainty, but it would take someone not hamstrung by the Party mindset to realize that. Gorbachev, Ligachev and an army of their Party underlings, still believed, like true Stalinists, that "there are no fortresses that Bolsheviks cannot take by storm!" (J.V. Stalin). All they had to do was give the necessary orders and, perhaps, indulge in a bit of "agitprop". And these were the people who called themselves Marxist materialists! To anyone interested in these things this is yet another proof that Soviet communists went about the task of building a "bright future" as savages believing that a few incantations was all that was needed to achieve their goals. If it didn't work, there was always violence. Take away the violence, and you have nothing but incantations, which are pleasant to hear but seldom effective. They had worked when the Party had millions of slaves in the Gulag to put them into reality. Now

the Gulag was gone, and Gorbachev & Co. were still going through the same old rituals. One shudders to think that it was this kind of men that fate chose to start reforms of mind-boggling complexity. Looked at in this light, the piteous results of perestroika seem inevitable and even amazing.

Back to the anti-alcohol campaign, though. In the course of it, production of vodka, wine and beer was slashed by half and more. Result: in the three years of "prohibition," the treasury sustained a shortfall of 67 billion (old, heavyweight) rubles. Sugar, second only to bread as a foodstuff, disappeared from the shops, sucked into home distilleries. So sugar and vodka were rationed, then practically everything else was. For the people in the long, long thirsty queues, that meant the end of their enthusiasm for perestroika. On the economic side, there were the frantic attempts to ward off economic collapse against the background of falling oil revenues (oil came second after vodka as a source of money), as inflation threatened to rocket into hyperinflation. The Ryzhkov government resigned, but it was too late--the Soviet Union was doomed, and fell apart after the August 1991 coup.

Another consequence of the campaign, not so obvious at the time but entirely natural, was the same as in the Prohibition years in the United States: amassing of vast fortunes by bootleggers from underground syndicates that were in the business of siphoning off alcohol from state-owned plants, selling it for rubles and turning them into dollars salted away in Russian and foreign banks.

I've run far ahead of the story, but it seems logical to look at the more remote results of human folly, to show an apparently intelligent and likable individual hard at work digging his own political grave. Yet Gorbachev proved strikingly obtuse to the fact that he was doing much more harm to himself (not to mention the country) than just earning new nicknames--Lemonade Joe and Mineral (for General) Secretary. Curiously, he insisted, even ten years on, that the policy was right--it was only the people who had to execute it that were wrong for the job (a neat imitation of Stalin's favorite trick of finding culprits for anything he did or didn't do). It is useless to ask him, of course, whether he knew the kind of people that would have to put the policy into practice. If he did, why did he initiate the policy at all? And if he didn't, the question is again--why didn't he? What was he doing running the country? Apportioning blame is not an area, though, in which you can hold a rational conversation with Gorbachev--or any other "practical politician," for that matter.

Sergei ROY, Moscow News  
To be continued

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#### 1996 Schedule of Events

##### Passaic Branch #5--16

October 20 Fall Banquet, 2:00 PM \$15.

##### Birthday Meetings

September 15 "

December 8 "

All functions are held at the Lodge, corner of Ann Street and Lanza Avenue, Garfield, NJ.

#### IN APPRECIATION

We extend our thanks for help in producing this week's issue of Carpatho-Rus to Svetlana Ledenieva and Diane Piwinski.

#### Letters to the Editor Press Fund Contributions

Martha Bienert, in memory of my husband, Herbert Paul Bienert	\$50.
Ann Kononchuk, in memory of my husband, Zachary Kononchuk	\$50.
	<hr/> \$100.

#### The Cooking Corner

##### Poultry Kotletki [Kuriniye Kotletki]

1 1/2	lbs	chicken or fowl fillets
1	cup	torn, soaked in milk and squeezed out, white bread
1	tbls	butter
1	tsp	salt
1		egg
1/2	cup	bread crumbs
3	tbls	butter for frying

Skin and remove all sinews from the fillets. Put fillets through the meat grinder 3 times. Add the squeezed-out bread, 1 tablespoon butter and salt. Mix all together thoroughly, form into oblong Kotletki about 3 1/2 inches long and 1/2 inch thick. Dip in beaten egg, roll in bread crumbs and fry in butter. Serve with buttered carrots, green peas and fried potatoes. 3 servings.

#### CARPATHO--RUS

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YONKERS, NEW YORK 10704

#### Notice

Pilgrimage Tour '96 is being planned for mid-September to Slovakia, Ukraine and Poland. Focus is on the Carpathian area. For info write: P.O. Box 9, Hunlock Creek, PA 18621 or call (717) 256-7232. Orthodox Herald