



## Newsletter volume II. SPRING 2010

### Beginners luck or hard work?

To those who attended our first two events, “Early Romanian Emigration” and Castles of Transylvania” on 12/4/2009 and “Romanian Spring Customs” followed by “The Romanian Folk dance and its influences” on 3/13/2010 we want to extend our warmest thank you for your presence and gratitude for all the encouragements and gifts lavished on us.

We hope that the experience you had enticed you to continue to honor us with your presence at next events and follow up on our progress.

We had good feedback both times as we continue to learn, and, hopefully, improve by listening to you, our audience, who are the motivation and the drive of our enterprise. Our event in March on Romanian Spring Customs, brought together lay and religious customs such as DRAGOBETELE, BABELE, MARTISOR (ladies received a Martisor each – token of love and friendship) and PAINTED EASTER EGGS, and MUCENICI, a baker’s delight and the participants had a chance to sample them during intermission.



After the break, the Romanian Folkdance Ensemble IZVORASUL, lead by the amazing and buoyant John Omorean, delighted the audience with fast paced dance and pertinent information. The public was invited to join in the dance and some members of the audience enjoyed the offer.

### **GROWING PAINS**

Now that the first pangs of enthusiasm made way to tenuous organizing work, we started to discover the sweet difficulties of being an efficiently functioning organization with limited resources.



### GOALS FOR 2010

Our goal in 2010 is to involve more talent and skill than the initial body of founders has to offer. One of our main focuses is to build and Advisory Board that will help with the need to raise funds, advertize, publish and connect with like minded organizations. We hope to be able to involve more volunteers, especially students from the University of Minnesota and to start our Oral History Collection.

Below, scenes from the March event:

Pasa Bortnova, presenting the "Martisor", and Painted Easter Eggs from a Romanian collection.



## CONCERT !!!

Our next event is a classical concert presenting Romanian composers and showcasing young artists with Minnesota ties.

The event will take place at the Augsburg College – the Chapel – on 5/22/2010.

Two pianists, Irina Nedelcu Erickson and Raluca Boac will play George Enescu and Paul Constantinescu and Codrut Barsan, opera singer and composer will play several of the songs he wrote on verses from celebrated Romanian poets.

The poetry will be translated in English and handed to the audience together with bios of the artists and of the composers. Hope to see you there.