

including a collection of lyric poetry, *Piesni. Rus'. Trembita* (1921), and the play *Talergof* (1933). Many of Vavrik's works were published by Carpatho-Rusyn organizations abroad, especially the \*Lemko Association/Lemko-Soiuz of the USA and Canada, and they had a profound impact in promoting the Russophile orientation among Rusyn immigrants.

**Bibliography:** Roman D. Mirovich, "Predislovie," in V.R. Vavrik, *Krestiane-poety* (Louven, 1973), pp. 7-9.

BOGDAN HORBAL

**Vegesh, Mykola** (b. November 28, 1962, Mizhhir'ia (Soviet Union), Ukraine) — pedagogue and historian of Ukrainian national orientation in Subcarpathian Rus'. After completing his university studies at the historical and pedagogical faculty of the Pedagogical Institute in Ivano-Frankiv'sk (1979-1984), Vegesh taught secondary school in Synevyr while doing post-graduate work in history part-time at the University of Uzhhorod (*kandidat nauk*, 1994; doctor of historical science, 1998). Since 1993 he has taught history at the University of Uzhhorod (professor, 2000), where he is also director (1999- ) of the Institute of Carpathian Studies/Instytut karpatoznavstva.

Vegesh is a prolific writer who has concentrated on the history of \*Subcarpathian Rus' during the first half of the twentieth century. Aside from co-authoring a biography (1994) and bibliography (1994) of the Ukrainophile cultural and political leader Avhustyn \*Voloshyn, Vegesh has published several works on the half-year of autonomy in Subcarpathian Rus'/\*Carpatho-Ukraine, including *Karpats'ka Ukraïna, 1938-1939: sotsial'no-ekonomichnyi i politychnyi rozvytok* (1993) and the two-volume *Karpats'ka Ukraïna u zahal'noevropeïskomu istorychnomu konteksti* (1997). In all these works he presents the classic \*Ukrainophile view that the very existence of Carpatho-Ukraine ostensibly proved that the local Rusyn population had been transformed into conscious Ukrainians.

**Bibliography:** Volodymyr Fedynyshynets', *Mykola Mykolaiovych Vegesh: bibliografichnyi pokazhchyk* (Uzhhorod, 1997).

PAUL ROBERT MAGOCSI

**Venelin, Iurii/Venelin-Gutsa, Iurii Ivanovich** (b. Ivan Hutsa, April 22, 1802, Velyka Tybava [Hungarian Kingdom], Ukraine; d. March 26/April 7, 1839, Moscow [Russian Empire], Russia) — Slavist, historian, and ethnographer of Carpatho-Rusyn origin in the Russian Empire. After completing his study of Slavistics at Lviv University (1822-1823) Venelin moved (1823) with his cousin Ivan Mol'nar to the province of Bessarabia in the Russian Empire, where he worked for two years in the city of Chişinău/Kishinev as a teacher and studied the life and culture of the Bulgarians. In 1825 he went to Moscow and, at the suggestion of a fellow

Carpatho-Rusyn, Ivan \*Orlai, entered the medical school of Moscow University, from which he graduated in 1829. At the same time he continued his study of Slavistics and became one of the founders of Bulgarian studies in Russia and of folklore studies in Bulgaria.

Venelin was the author of one of the first studies of Bulgarian history, literature, and folklore, *Drevnie i nynieshnie bolgary v politicheskom, narodopisnom, istoricheskom i religioznom ikh otnoshenii k rossiianam* (1829), which was followed by separate studies of Bulgarian literature (1838), folksongs (1835), and the early history of the Bulgars from their arrival in the Balkan peninsula to the late tenth century (1849). He also carried out research on the early history, the church, and folklore among the Rusyns of Subcarpathian Rus' in three manuscripts published by Ilarion \*Svietsits'kyi in 1906: "Nieskol'ko slov o Rossiianakh Vengerskikh, i takzhe odno slovtso istoricheskoe o Pravoslavnoi Greko-vostochnoi tserkvi v Vengrii" (1822), "O piesnoliubii slavian zakarpatskikh," and "Karpato-rosskii poslovitsy." Despite insufficient research, inaccuracies, and questionable views, Venelin's works had a great influence on Slavic studies in general and on Bulgarian studies in particular. In recognition of his contributions, grateful Bulgarians from Odessa erected a monument at his gravesite in Moscow (1842) and subsequently statues of him were dedicated in Bulgaria's capital Sofia and near his native village in the Subcarpathian town of Svaliava (1991).

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IVAN POP

**Venhrynovych, Stepan** (b. 1897; Chyrzyna [Austrian Galicia], Poland; d. June 19, 1954, Dzhonka [Soviet Union], Russia) — priest and cultural activist of Ukrainian national orientation in the Lemko Region. After graduating from the Theological Seminary in Lviv Venhrynovych was ordained a Greek Catholic priest and began teaching catechism classes in *gymnasia* in Drohobych (1921-1927) and later Sanok (1928-1939). He was also one of the co-founders of the \*Museum of the Lemko Region (1930) in Sanok. During World War II he was appointed inspector for Ukrainian schools in the Sanok district, that is, in the eastern part of the Lemko Region which