



Soul-O-Union

Cross-Cultural Vision Quest

Carpathian Mountains Western Ukraine

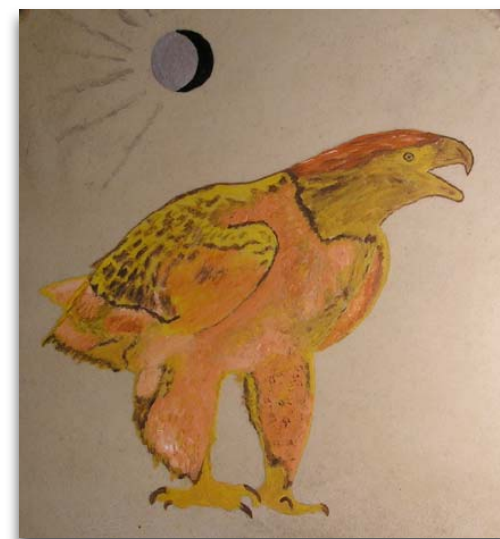
June 28 – July 7, 2007

Guides:

Keith Howchi Kilburn, MFT

~and~

Georgi Kushnir,
Ukrainian Psychiatrist



Top left – White birch
 Bottom left – Howchi in a banya after the quest
 Top center – talking creek near base camp
 Bottom center – Looking west from base camp
 Right – Standing Eagle in moonlight – an original painting by Keith Howchi Kilburn
 Bottom right, page 2 – Katya, Georgi and Keith in the meadow
 Bottom left, page 2 – Keith and Georgi on the bridge between cultures

Cross-Cultural Vision Quest Carpathian Mountains Western Ukraine

In June and July of 2005 my Ukrainian friends, Georgi and Katya, and I had the immense and awesome pleasure of guiding a group of Ukrainians on a Vision Quest in the Carpathian Mountains near the western border of the Ukraine. We went to the same location in June of 2006 with a group including 6 Ukrainians and 2 Russians. See our website, www.howchi.net, to read about the 2006 journey. These ventures have been so amazingly rich and culturally exciting that I would like to share this cross-cultural experience with other Americans and Western Europeans. This year's journey will take place during the weeks encompassing June 28th through



July 7th, time enough to fly to Kiev and back and in between spend about nine days in the Carpathian Mountains.

During the sojourn in the mountains each participant will be prepared by the guides to spend four days and nights alone fasting and praying for a vision. During the alone time the guides will be available for any extraordinary needs, physical, psychological, or spiritual, that may arise for those who are questing. Upon return to base camp each quester will have the opportunity to tell a story of their experiences during the quest. Most importantly the guides will then retell or mirror their stories back to them. To know that one's vision has been heard and understood by the elders of the community is a healing and a source of guidance from that time forward. Preparation and story-telling will be bilingual, Russian and English.

The Ukraine is a large fertile country with broad river valleys and mountains resembling those in the northeastern U.S. The people are cordial, warm and full of good humor. Their interest in Western Europe and America creates a lovely interaction between them and us, which once experienced is unforgettable. My initial contacts and travels were in connection

with the Cherkasy Women's Center, *Yazhinka*, which is supported in part by the Ukrainian American Women's Action Project based in Santa Rosa, California.

Participants will be met at the Kiev airport. Travel, lodging, and food in Ukraine will be arranged. Additional days with a Ukrainian host in Kiev can be arranged at the front or back end of the journey for \$50 per day.

If you have any interest in taking part in this extraordinary cross-cultural experience, please contact Keith Howchi Kilburn via email: howchi@howchi.net or by phone at (707) 303-3238 or (707) 536-6117.

Cost: \$1000 plus airfare.

Guides: Keith Howchi Kilburn, MFT and Georgi Kushnir, Ukrainian Psychiatrist.

