

# 2013 Spring Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 1

*Happy New Year everyone! Have you broken your new year resolution yet? I haven't. Because when I can no longer diet, I simply dye it—and end up with something beautiful to show for it. I love pysanky!*

## You say tomato . . . .

### How to say the word “pysanka”

It seems that everyone's on the internet pysanka bandwagon these days. But listeners beware. The word is often mispronounced. There is also confusion with the singular and the plural use of the word.

It's not like tomatoe-tomato / potatoe-potato. There is definitely a right way and a wrong way to say this Ukrainian word and you will hear both ways, and everything in between.

The word for a single decorated egg is “pysanka” and it is pronounced:

PIH-sahn-kah

(with the emphasis on the first syllable “PIH”). Similarly, the plural for many decorated eggs is the word “pysanky” and it is pronounced

PIH-sahn-kih

And as for spelling the word correctly, let's not go there just yet as it's a subject best left for another time.



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## Mind your own beeswax!

Wondering which beeswax to buy?

Although those clever busy bees produce a heavenly scented creation, the light honey colour of their wax is difficult to see on an egg. Add some pigment to the beeswax and voila, you can see your lines! You should only use pure beeswax for pysanky, as paraffin wax tends to crack and allow unwanted dye to seep through to the shell. Your beeswax will not adhere to a wet surface, so make sure your egg is totally dry before writing on it. Eggs that are cold often make it difficult for the wax to stick, so make sure your eggs are at room temperature.

As long as it's pure beeswax that you're using, it's form is not important. For example, blocks of colored beeswax are the most economical. One small piece goes a long way. Some people like the honey-combed sheets that are also available. The beeswax sheets are softer and more pliable. And finally, there are spaghetti-type strips of beeswax that are great to use with an electric kistka, but can also be used with a traditional kistka.

Best of all, you'll love the scent of the melted beeswax as you write pysanky!

## When is Easter?

Easter is early this year! Good Friday is on **March 29, 2013**. Easter Sunday is on **March 31, 2013**. Don't run out of time!



"Pysanka Party", an illustration in watercolour and felt by Marcia Moroz, 2012.

## Just in time for Easter

### New Book from Baba's Beeswax

Author Joan Brander can't talk enough about how fun it is to write pysanky! And who wouldn't want a fun birthday party idea?

Have you considered a pysanka party? Your friends' eyes will sparkle when they discover the magic of making pysanky at your birthday party or any time of year.

This book is full of ideas and resources

to make your pysanka-themed party a smashing (no pun intended) success.

It includes invitations, decorations, games, cake, snacks, favors, planner and more.

Joan's creative ideas and tips for success are all wrapped up in a new book called **Pysanka Power! Birthday Party Ideas & Planner**.

Order yours today from Baba's Beeswax.

## Sharing one of the great traditions of all time!



### About Joan Brander

Pysanky expert and best-selling author Joan Brander shares information, knowledge, hints and money-saving tips in a variety of ways.

- publishing books, pamphlets and articles

- giving workshops, demonstrations and exhibits

- online at [www.iluvpysanky.blogspot.com](http://www.iluvpysanky.blogspot.com)

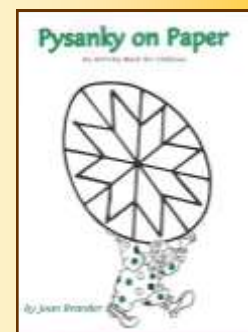
- on facebook  
Discover the Magic of Pysanky

Learn more about Joan Brander and featured pysanky products or contact her at [www.babasbeeswax.com](http://www.babasbeeswax.com). She would love to hear from you!

### Birthday Party Ideas



### Children's Activity Book



### Unique Bibliography



Everything you need to make beautiful pysanky the traditional way!