

Hungarian Christian Society Petőfi Club • Venice, FL.



Hungarian Americans Together HATOG Conference IX

Passing on our Hungarian Heritage

Final Report

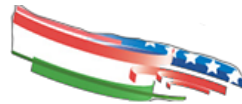
Sponsored and organized by

Hungarian Christian Society/Petőfi Club
Hungarian American Coalition
The Hungary Initiatives Foundation

HATOG IX Organizing Committee

Andrea Lauer Rice, Hungarian American Coalition
Eva Kisvarsanyi, The Kossuth Club
Erika Klatyik, The Global Friendship Foundation
Noemi Szilagyi, The Hungarian Christian Society
Otilia Varga, Napraforgok

May 15-17, 2015
Sarasota/Venice, FL



THE
HUNGARY INITIATIVES
FOUNDATION

Introduction

The ninth Hungarian Americans Together conference (HATOG) was held in Sarasota and Venice, FL, with the goal of building new connections between local, regional and national Hungarian American organizations and working to find a better way to preserve Hungarian heritage and culture in the U.S. The conference also focused on providing professional development sessions to the participants in the areas of messaging and fundraising.

More than 65 leaders from the Hungarian American community attended the weekend session. Participants included local leaders, young community leaders and representatives from the Hungarian American Coalition (HAC), The Hungary Initiatives Foundation (HIF), and organizers from past HATOGs. Hungarian interns from the Coalition's Congressional Internship Program and the Hungarian Human Rights Foundation were also in attendance.

The HATOG conference series began in Washington, D.C. (2008), and traveled to Pennsylvania (Ligonier, 2008), New Jersey (New Brunswick, 2008), Ohio (Cleveland, 2009), Illinois (Chicago, 2010), California (San Francisco, 2013), Georgia (Atlanta, 2013) and Massachusetts (Boston, 2014).

The following report on HATOG IX is divided into four parts: Agenda, List of Participants, Minutes of the Conference and Biographical Information of Presenters.

Agenda

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2015, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

*Location: Hampton Inn & Suites Sarasota/Bradenton Airport, 975 University Parkway
Sarasota, FL 34243*

6:00 – 8:00 PM

WELCOME RECEPTION

Hosted by: The Kossuth Club

Speakers: Eva Kisvarsanyi, Max Teleki, Ambassador Reka Szemerkenyi, Istvan Gergatz, Andrea Lauer Rice

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2015, 9:00- 5:00PM

Location: Magyar Haz, 165 N Jackson Rd Venice, FL 34292

8:30 AM

Pick-up at Hotel, Travel to Magyar Haz

9:30 – 10:00 AM

REGISTRATION & COFFEE

10:00 - 10:05 AM

OPENING PRAYER

Speaker: Attila Kulcsar

10:05 – 11:00 AM

BRIEF INTRODUCTION OF ALL PARTICIPANTS

11:00 – 11:30 AM

WELCOMING REMARKS

Introduction of Hungarian American Coalition &

Hungarian Americans Together Conference (HATOG) Series
Speaker: Max Teleki

Introduction of Hungarian Christian Society/Petofi Club
Speaker: Noemi Szilagyi

Introduction of Hungary Initiatives Foundation
Speaker: Edith K. Lauer on behalf of Tamas Fellegi

11:30 – 11:45 AM

BREAK

11:45 – 12:30 PM

Presentation by Hungarian Ambassador to the U.S. Reka Szemerkenyi

12:30 – 1:30 PM

STATE OF THE COMMUNITY
Overview of the Hungarian American Community
Speaker: Andrea Lauer Rice

1:30 – 2:00 PM

WORKING LUNCH
Andrea Lauer Rice, Memory Project: Hungarian American Visual History Archive

2:00 – 3:00 PM

AROUND THE COMMUNITY IN 60 MINUTES
15-Minute Reports from:

Eszter Herner-Kovács from HHRF (on behalf of Laszlo Hamos) and Zsuzsa Cselényi ReConnect Hungary, Korosi Csoma Sandor Program

Judit Szentkiralyi, Cserkesz Jubitabor

Jozsef Rostas, Hungarian American Advocacy for Minority/Human Rights in Carpathian Basin

3:00 – 5:00 PM

BREAK-OUT SESSIONS TO DISCUSS MAJOR COMMUNITY TOPICS (as identified by participants in the pre-conference survey)

5:00 – 6:00 PM

NETWORKING BREAK / SET-UP FOR EVENING PROGRAM

6:00 - 11:00 PM

EVENING PROGRAM / PARADE OF HUNGARIAN CULTURE
Location: Magyar Haz, 165 N Jackson Rd Venice, FL 34292

Detailed Evening Program

6:00 PM

Himnuszok – Cserkesz csapat (Appetizers provided)

6:15-7:00 PM

Napraforgok Jubiprogram (45 minutes)

7:00 – 8:00 PM

Dinner is Served

8:00 - 8:30 PM

Hungarian Divat Program (30 minutes)

8:30 - 12:00 AM
9:00 & 11:00 PM

(Sponsored by the American Hungarian Heritage
House / Washingtoni Magyar Haz)
Music and Dancing
Buses takes HATOG participants back to Hotel

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2015 9:00 AM - 4:00PM

Location: Hampton Inn & Suites Sarasota/Bradenton Airport, 975 University Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34243

9:00 - 9:30 AM	CHURCH SERVICE By: Attila Kulcsar
9:30 – 2:00 PM	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION - MESSAGING & FUNDRAISING <i>Featuring: David Kurkjian, Master Messaging</i>
1:30 – 2:00 PM	WORKING LUNCH
2:00 – 3:00 PM	WRAP-UP <i>Moderator: Dr. Agnes Virga</i>
3:00 PM	Participants depart

List of Participants

Apathy Laszlo – HCS - KMCSSZ, Sarasota, FL
Emese Asztalos - Putnam Magyar Gyulekezet Hatarok Nelkul, Daytona Beach, FL
Istvan Bathazi - Professional Athlete, SC
Erika Bokor - Hungarian Communion of Friends, Chicago
Julianna Bika – Nyugati Hirlevel, Sarasota, FL
Peter Pal Bodor - Miami Magyar Haz, Miami, FL
Albinka Bodor - Miami Magyar Haz, Miami, FL
Erika Bokor - Hungarian Communion of Friends, Chicago, IL
Julianna Boros - Makvirag Ovoda, Orlando, FL
Viktoria Butala - Makvirag Ovoda, Orlando, FL
Zsuzsa Cajkas - SF Hungarian Kids Club, Miami, FL
Zsuzsa Cselenyi - HHRF / Reconnect Hungary, NY
Reka Cseresznyes - Hungarian Catholic Mission, San Francisco, CA
Andras Evva - American Foundation for Hungarian Youth & Culture, Naples, FL
Phyllis Evva - American Foundation for Hungarian Youth & Culture, Naples, FL
Erika Fedor - Hungarian Heritage House, Washington DC
Stefan Fedor - Hungarian Heritage House, Washington DC
Sylvia Federico Ferenczik - Hungarian Scouts, Las Vegas, NV

Istvan Gergatz - Honorary Consul of Hungary, Sarasota, FL
Faye Gillespie – Boskola, Boston, MA
Aranka Hawaii – HCS, Sarasota, FL
Eszter Kovacs Herner - HHRF / ReConnect Hungary, NY
Eniko Margit Horvath – Hungarian American Coalition, Washington DC
Margit Horvath - Ormond Beach Magyar Muzeum, Ormond Beach, FL
Eva Kish - Minnesota Hungarians, MN
Eva Kisvarsanyi - Kossuth Club, Sarasota, FL
Erika Klatyik - Global Friendship Foundation, Sarasota, FL
Reka Kormendy - Del Floridai Magyarok Szovetseg, Miami, FL
Gyorgy Krajszik - Kossuth Club, Sarasota, FL
Attila Kulcsar - Open Bible Hungarian Church, Sarasota FL
David Kurkjian – MasterMessaging, Atlanta, GA
Edit Lauer - Hungarian American Coalition, Cleveland, OH
Andrea Lauer Rice - Hungarian American Coalition, Atlanta, GA
Gyula Lukacs - Elixir Tea Haz, Sarasota FL
Anett Matko - Hungarian American Coalition, Washington DC
Zsolt Molnar - Bocskai Radio, Cleveland, OH
Julia Nemeth - KMCSSZ, San Diego, CA
Beata Schwindler Onody - Orlandoi Magyar Klub, Orlando, FL
Ildiko Pataki - KMCSSZ, San Francisco, CA
Piroska Pazaurek - Putnam Magyar Gyulekezet Hatarok Nelkul, Daytona Beach, FL
Ildiko Phillips - Magyar Club of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Kinga Revesz - Washingtoni Magyar Klub, Washington, DC
Jozsef Rostas - Hungarian American Coalition, Washington DC
Zsuzsa Salamon – South Florida Hungarian Kids Club, Miami, FL
Spevak Andras – HCS – KMCSSZ, Sarasota, FL
Sara Spevak – HCS - KMCSSZ, Sarasota, FL
Friderika Szatmari - Panorama Magazin, New Jersey
Reka Szemerkenyi - Ambassador of Hungary to the US, Washington DC
Judit Szentkiralyi – HCS - KMCSSZ, Cleveland, OH
Katalin Szilagyi – HCS - KMCSSZ, Sarasota, FL
Noemi Szilagyi – HCS - KMCSSZ, Sarasota, FL
Laszlo Szilagyi – HCS - KMCSSZ, Sarasota, FL
Zsofia Tabori - Hungarian American Coalition, Washington DC
Agnes Takacs - Orlandoi Magyar Klub, Orlando, FL
Maximilian Teleki - Hungarian American Coalition, Washington, DC
Agnes Toth - Hun Guru Klub, Sarasota, FL
Attila Toth - Hun Guru Klub, Sarasota, FL

Gabor Toth - Southeastern School of Ballet, Columbia, SC
Veronika Toth - Hungarian American Coalition, Washington DC
Judit Trunkos - Professional Athlete, Columbia, SC
Ottilia Varga - Napraforgok Tancegyüttes, Sarasota, FL
Gabor Veres – Miami Egyház / Kossuth Kor, Miami, FL
Agnes Virga - Hungarian Society of Massachusetts, Boston, MA
Eva Voisin - Honorary Consulate of SF, San Francisco, CA
Paul Voisin - San Francisco, CA
Liz Vos - Magyar Marketing, NY

Minutes of the Conference

Friday, May 15

The conference began with a welcome reception on Friday evening, co-hosted by The Kossuth Club. Former President, Éva Kisvarsanyi welcomed the 100 plus guests in attendance and shared the rich history of the Club. Hungarian American Coalition President Maximilian Teleki also welcomed the evening participants and provided an overview of the HATOG conference series as well as the history and current work of the Coalition, before introducing Dr. Réka Szemerkenyi, Hungarian Ambassador to the U.S.

Ambassador Szemerkenyi addressed the current status of U.S.-Hungary relations and spoke about how important events like the reception and the HATOG conference are in ensuring that our heritage is preserved. Honorary Consul Istvan Gergatz provided a few highlights about the local community. Andrea Lauer Rice, Coalition Vice President and HATOG organizer, officially opened the conference and echoed the Ambassador's sentiment of the importance of keeping Hungarian heritage and customs alive in our local communities. The evening concluded with traditional Hungarian cuisine and wine.

Saturday, May 16

Introduction

The morning session started with an opening prayer from Attila Kulcsár, Bible Teacher and Pastor of the Open Bible Hungarian Church. Rev. Kulcsár urged participants to listen well to each other, without anger, with open ears and hearts to one another over the course of the weekend. He reminded participants, that “the tongue is the smallest body part but the hardest to control.”

All participants were then asked to introduce themselves and say a few words about their organizations and activities.

Hungarian American Coalition

Maximilian Teleki, President, Hungarian American Coalition

Max Teleki provided an introduction to the mission and activities of the Hungarian American Coalition and outlined the history of the HATOG conference series. While highlighting HAC's Congressional Internship Program, which has provided more than 70 scholarships in 10 years, Teleki spoke of his own experience as the first Coalition White House intern.

In looking at current community projects and challenges, Mr. Teleki highlighted the influence and the benefit of technology in connecting with the community. He also cited the challenges of addressing the generation gap within the community and finding ways to engage young people involved in community life and leadership.

Further information:

www.hacusa.org

Hungarian Christian Society - Venice, FL

Noemi Szilagyi, President, Hungarian Christian Society

Noemia Szilagyi introduced the Hungarian Christian Society and the activities of the Jambor Lajos Scout troop. The Hungarian Christian Society, founded in 1993, is a non-profit organization in the state of Florida, and the owner of a 7,000-sqft building situated on 5 acres finished in 1994 in Venice. This facility offers space to many groups and activities, which focus on the Hungarian Heritage. Various types of religious services are held on a regular basis in Hungarian, and there are also special guest performances by mostly Hungarian artists.

The building offers a home to both the newly formed Jambor Lajos Cserkesz Csapat and to the Matyas Kiraly Magyar Iskola as well. They host events that cater to many generations - from kids' programs, and dance evenings to afternoon socials for their older friends. Their programs and events aim to promote Hungarian language and culture and to make sure they are passed down to the next generations.

Contact information:

<https://www.facebook.com/HCSPetofi?fref=ts>

The Jambor Lajos Cserkeszcsapat started their journey 3 years ago, as Sarasota Venice Cserkeszet es Csaladi Nap. Later as more kids joined, they separated the Cserkeszet from Csaladi Nap. As with most new adventures, they had a rough start and struggled to attract kids. They meet at the Hungarian Christian Society /Petofi Club which allows them to use all facilities free of charge. In exchange, they participate in certain Holiday traditions. Today 54 children consider themselves to be proud scouts of Sarasota. On August 10, 2014, they received their temporary certification and were named as the Jambor Lajos Cserkeszcsapat.

Contact information:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/221914717902949/>
tgift@aol.com

Hungarian Initiatives Foundation

Edith K. Lauer on behalf of Tamás Fellegi

Since HIF President, Dr. Tamás Fellegi, was prevented from attending this HATOG session due to a family emergency, he asked Edith K. Lauer, a Member of HIF's Board of Trustees to provide a short report on the Foundation's accomplishments.

As part of the present Hungarian government's unprecedented outreach to the Hungarian diaspora in the United States, HIF was established in 2013 as an independent U.S.-based 501(c)3 non-profit funded by the Hungarian government. Its mission is to strengthen the Hungarian community in the U.S.; to deepen the ties between Hungarians and Americans by preserving and promoting Hungarian culture, art and science; to raise public awareness in the U.S. of Hungarian history, arts, culture and academic achievements; to facilitate outreach programs for Hungarians living in the U.S.; and to provide internships, scholarships and academic exchange programs in the two countries.

To get specific information about the grants made since 2013 by the Foundation, please consult the list of recipients and the amount of the grants on the organization's website.

HIF's website: www.hungaryinitiativesfoundation.org

The email address: info@hungaryfoundation.org

Mrs. Lauer's presentation can be downloaded from the following link:
[http://www.hacusa.org/userfiles/file/HATOG/HATOG\)/HATOG_IX_HIF.pdf](http://www.hacusa.org/userfiles/file/HATOG/HATOG)/HATOG_IX_HIF.pdf)

Presentation by the Hungarian Ambassador to the U.S. Réka Szemerkenyi

Ambassador Szemerkenyi described the current state of relations between Hungary and the US as moving in the right direction. She believes this is mainly due to a more open dialogue but also to the fact that the two countries share common, western values, democratic beliefs and a market-based economy.

She stressed the importance of the work done by the Hungarian American community and added that conferences like HATOG were vital in connecting the nationwide community and also ensuring we work together to share and preserve our rich heritage. She was very pleased to be invited to participate so soon after she had arrived to the US.

Ambassador Szemerkenyi also provided an overview of policy. She specifically addressed the new Constitution, which she described as being necessary, and her disappointment that Hungary had not been able to diversify energy interests, although they had been trying for some time. She also discussed what she characterized as misrepresentations in the media of policy decisions that the new government has made since 2010, which include energy and security issues on Central and Eastern Europe that are often far more complex than are suggested.

She ended her speech by fielding questions from audience members for approximately 30 minutes.

STATE OF THE COMMUNITY

Overview of the Hungarian American Community

Andrea Lauer Rice, *Vice President, Hungarian American Coalition 2006-present*

Andrea Lauer Rice provided an overview of the Hungarian American community, citing current trends, new projects and recent demographic information. By analyzing the current data about our community and segmenting the community, Lauer Rice concludes that of the estimated 1.6 million Hungarian Americans in the community, the vast majority - 1 million - are not represented in community events, do not speak the language and are not being reached. She has several suggestions as to how to reach these “at-risk” people – mainly identified as 2/3/4 generation Hungarian Americans, American spouses and kids who do not speak the language.

As Founder and CEO of Lauer Learning, a company that creates multimedia educational products to teach children about culture, history and language, Lauer Rice focuses on finding ways to reach the next generation. She showed several of these educational tools including: Hungarian Freedom Fighters of ‘56, an historically-accurate graphic novel, the www.FreedomFighter.com oral history website and her current project, „Magyars in America,” a series of English-language books targeting 2nd generation Hungarians.

She recommended that the community consider a Hungarian American Heritage Month to build on the success of the recent Smithsonian Festival and enable local organizations to work together as a network to find ways to celebrate and share our heritage. She also pointed to the upcoming 60th anniversary of 1956 as a wonderful opportunity to come together.

For further information, Mrs. Lauer Rice’s presentation can be downloaded from the following link:

[http://www.hacusa.org/userfiles/file/HATOG/HATOG\)/HATOG_IX_LauerLearning_Pass_It_On.pdf](http://www.hacusa.org/userfiles/file/HATOG/HATOG)/HATOG_IX_LauerLearning_Pass_It_On.pdf)

ReConnect Hungary/HHRF

Zsuzsa Cselényi

Zsuzsa Cselényi presented on ReConnect Hungary, the Hungarian Birthright Program that encourages young Hungarian Americans to discover their Hungarian roots. The program provides a unique cultural, educational and social immersion experience by providing the opportunity to travel to Hungary for a two-week long trip. The young adult participants rediscover the home, culture, history and traditions of their parents and grandparents. 30 people took part of in the fourth year of the program and the number of applicants is increasing from year to year.

The main objective of this initiative is to spark individual interest in cultivating Hungarian heritage and to get involved in diaspora institutions. The core element of the approach is based on the applicants’ positive personal experience attached to the home country. The aim is to unite globally

dispersed populations by fostering a sense of shared belonging and discover the homeland of the ancestors together with peer travelers who share their ethnic or religious ancestry. The Birthright countries are: Israel, Armenia, Italy, Ireland, Taiwan, China, India, etc.

Further information:

<http://reconnecthungary.org/>

Ms. Cselényi's presentation can be downloaded from the following link:
[http://www.hacusa.org/userfiles/file/HATOG/HATOG\)/HATOG IX ReConnect Hungary Sarasota.pdf](http://www.hacusa.org/userfiles/file/HATOG/HATOG)/HATOG IX ReConnect Hungary Sarasota.pdf)

Hungarian Human Rights Foundation

Eszter Herner-Kovacs, Intern

Eszter Herner-Kovacs, intern at the Hungarian Human Rights Foundation in New York spoke on behalf of HHRF president, Laszlo Hamos. She introduced the mission and the efforts of the HHRF and focused on the ongoing cases of Church Property Restitution in Romania and the false arrest and persecution of Attila Marko in Romania. The sum up the efforts made by HHRF in these cases, they made a follow-up and alerts on failed church property restitution and sent letters to John Kerry Secretary of State (2013, 2014) signed by 21 and 8 Members of Congress. They made is possible for Attila Marko to visit Washington in May, 2015, including the representatives of the Hungarian Caucus, the United States Commission for International Religious Freedom, chaired by Katrina Lantos-Swett, the White House and the State Department. HHRF contibuted also to the RMDSZ/DAHR delegation's visit in Washington, June 2-5.

For the further information about the work of HHRF:

http://www.hhrf.org/hhrf/index_en.php?oldal=498

Ms. Herner Kovács's presentation can be downloaded from the following link:

[http://www.hacusa.org/userfiles/file/HATOG/HATOG\)/HATOG IX Marko and church restituti on efforts HHRF.pdf](http://www.hacusa.org/userfiles/file/HATOG/HATOG)/HATOG IX Marko and church restituti on efforts HHRF.pdf)

Cserkesz Jubi Tabor

Judit Szentkirályi, KCSMSZ Representative, Cleveland, OH

Judit Szentkiralyi presented on the upcoming Jubi Tabor, a special celebration for the Hungarian Scouts in Exeteris. Although summer camp is held every year, every five years around 800 scouts get together from across the world for the special Jubi Tabor. Each camp is based on different themes, the main goal is to feel the historical spirit of the given era while connecting with the nature and maintaining the principles of scouts. This year the topic of the camp will be Ferenc Rákóczi and the Freedom Fight 1703-1711. Scouts are encouraged to wear authentic costumes and there is a reading requirement before the camp. In 2015, the camp will be held in August 6-16 at Sík Sándor Cserkészpark, In Fillmore, NY.

Further information:

<http://www.jubitabor.org/>

Hungarian American Advocacy for Minorities in the Carpathian basin

József Rostás, Intern at the Lantos Institute for Human Rights

Jozsef Rostas presented on Hungarian American advocacy for the minorities in the Carpathian Basin, focusing on the Roma community of Hungary. Rostas highlighted Hungarian American individuals and non-governmental organizations that contributed profoundly to protecting the rights of marginalized communities in the world, such as: Open Society Roma Initiatives Office and European Roma Rights Centre with the Roma Education Fund. By providing grants, fellowship opportunities and training to encourage Roma community participation they also help advocate for human rights through strategic litigation and financial support.

For further information, Mr. Rostás's presentation can be downloaded from the following link: https://prezi.com/o5qdyztrye6y/hungarian-american-advocacy-for-minority-rights-in-hungary/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy

Memory Project

Andrea Lauer Rice, Vice President, Hungarian American Coalition 2006-present

Lauer Rice introduced the new visual history project entitled “Memory Project,” a nationwide initiative to record interviews with as many displaced persons (who escaped after WW2) and Hungarians who participated in the 1956 Revolution. Lauer Rice and award-winning documentary filmmaker, Reka Pigniczky, recently launched this initiative through the Central European Cultural Institute (CECI), funded by the Hungary Initiatives Foundation.

Memory Project's website:

<https://www.facebook.com/hungarianamericanmemoryproject>

Break-out sessions to discuss major community topics (as identified by participants in the pre-conference survey)

Group I - Fundraising for Hungarian Nonprofit Organizations

Participants: Eva Kish (Minnesota), Magdolna Pataki (Sarasota, FL) Ildiko Pataki (San Francisco) Reka Kormendy (Miami, Florida), Sylvia Ferenczik Federico (Las Vegas), Zsuzsa Csajkas (Florida), Gabor Toth (South Carolina), Friderika Szatmari, (NY), Agnes Virga (Boston)

#1 Participants presented the different ways how their organizations were doing fundraising.

a) Participants mentioned the following: auctions, charity balls, Fundraising dinners, raffles, bake sale, International Womens' Club, “ Go Fund Me” Facebook or online, donation box at all events, donation letters sent out, selling sponsorships for events.

b) Membership fees and grants, especially to HIF were other sources or funding. Everyone agreed that membership fees were only covering a portion of the organizational operating expenses and needed to be augmented.

c) Hungarian Festivals were discussed which have become increasingly popular around the country. In large areas, they can draw thousands of participants, including Americans and other non-Hungarian speaking ethnic groups. They require a lot of work, they are complex to organize and often include lots of licenses and other issues around large crowds, but they were profitable and it is possible to get grants for them.

#2 Fundraising ideas by Eva Kish, grant writing specialist were presented and discussed:

- National Council of Nonprofit organizations, Council of Foundations can be great resources – you can get membership by signing up.
- States have their Council of Foundations and they have Private Family and also corporate foundations. It is good to look at their mission statements and see if your organization's mission statement fits with their stated goals.
- Community Foundation Lookup (cof.org can be a great source, we can find the place where we are near to and go to tpci.com)
- Fpnetwork.org e.g is a great philanthropic site
- There are Community Foundation events, "Giving partner" or days in most states e.g "giving day" where lot of nonprofit organizations can register to receive funding .
- Large Corporations (e.g Target, Walmart) etc have grants for charity especially for local organizations. They have a website for that and it is suggested that instead of just applying online it is good to call personally and make a personal contact with the program officer
- Go to other events, it's a good idea to see their sponsors and apply to them too. If a grant application is rejected, go and ask for the reason, you can be present when the panel decides, you can also ask for the "audio" of the meeting.

#3 Grant Writers: It's hard to find good grant writers, they need to be paid (it is not true that they should be paid by percentage, (they do not find it ethical) it is rather a flat fee)
There is a "common grant Application," but not all companies accept it.

#4 There are 2 major types of grants: Specific program or project grant or General operating grant (continuous, over years)

In summary: it is very important to learn more ways of running the nonprofit organization as a business, use all the available resources and new ways of fundraising, including the social media, besides the old fashioned and less effective traditional ways, raffles, bake sales etc,

Important note: It is important to obtain the nonprofit status because most foundations request that for a grant

Group II - On Generational Shift and Leadership Planning in HA Organizations

Participants included: Edith K. Lauer (Cleveland, OH), Erika Bokor (Chicago, IL), Katalin Szilagyi (Sarasota, FL), Laszlo Apathy (Sarasota, FL), Ildiko Philips (Chicago, IL), Agnes Virga (Boston, MA)

The discussion began with the present pattern observed in many organizations of the same people rotating positions of leadership. This discourages new people's participation. Finding the door closed, they form a new organization of their own.

Recommendations :

- Stay open-minded to new members, new suggestions;
- Invite young members through personal contact;
- Offer programs that appeal to new members (Waltz or beach party instead of folk-dancing);
- Give increasing responsibility to young people for projects or events;
- After they prove they are effective, ask them to chair a committee;
- Use by-laws to prescribe terms (i.e., Pres for two 3 yr terms, etc.), as this de-personalizes leadership changes;
- For each leadership position have a back-up who could step into person's place and would be ready for election in the future;
- Pay attention to succession planning.

These recommendations were supported by many personal and organizational examples from this group's participants.

Sunday, May17

The day started with Church service by Attila Kulcsar with impressive words and beautiful songs. He challenged all participants to look around in our organizations and discover each other's gifts. "We all have God-given gifts, there is no useless person. We must have faith and work together to accomplish our dreams"

Professional Development Session: Messaging and Fundraising

David Kurkjian, Master Messaging

The last day of the conference HATOG participants participated in a workshop on marketing and communication. David Kurkjian, an expert in the field and founder of Master Messaging, held the four-hour intensive workshop. Kurkjian emphasized that one of the main challenges faced by nonprofit organizations is cutting through the overwhelming amount of noise and information online. He detailed the importance of marketing to human emotions rather than using logic and reason. Kurkjian provided examples of ineffective marketing techniques practiced by salespeople, and how to implement better techniques of selling goods or services to their target audiences. Participants learned that the key to the success of an organization is staying true to the central "why" or mission statement that they are trying to fulfill.

In addition, Kurkjian introduced the S.U.C.C.E.S.S. model that states that simplicity, unexpectedness, concreteness, contrast, emotion, sight, and stories are what make a marketing campaign or message resonate.

Overall, Kurkjian stressed the importance of creating context, addressing the individual's goals and challenges, and introducing the organization's solutions only after understanding the individual's values and "pain points."

List and introduction of the Presenters (*HATOG Participants*)

American Foundation for Hungarian Youth & Culture - Naples, FL

Evva Andreas, Evva Phyllis

The mission of the American Foundation for Hungarian Youth & Culture is the support of buildings and historic sites in Hungary, as well as records, relics and other items of historical interest in that country. They also promote public knowledge and interest in the culture of Hungary inside and outside the United States.

The Foundation was designated as the US representative of the Hungarian Language Museum of Széphalom, dedicated April 23, 2008. Since 2001, the Foundation has offered financial support to the museum and public school of the Village of Penc, Hungary.

They were responsible for the design, fundraising, placement, and dedication ceremonies of the \$50,000.00 bronze statue at Collier County Government Center in Naples Florida.

They produced the Hungarian/American bi-lingual TRIANON DVD in 2014.

Contact information:

asevva@aol.com

<http://www.patriotsforfreedomfoundation.org/>

Putnam Memorial Presbyterian Church - Daytona Beach, FL

Emese Asztalos, Margit Horvath

Emese Asztalos, Organizing Pastor of the Putnam Memorial Presbyterian Church, is establishing a Hungarian Community by reaching out and gathering Hungarians in Central Florida. This mission was first started 10 years ago by the First Presbyterian Church as its outreach ministry, which this year is becoming a separate church and is continuing this mission.

In addition to the monthly Hungarian worship services and Bible studies they offer Hungarian language classes both to adults and children, as well as English as a Second Language to adults. There are also folk dance and handcraft classes for children. In the summer they will hold their second annual youth camp with an expected attendance of 40 children. The church organizes annual festivals where Hungarians and Americans can enjoy famous Hungarian cuisine, folk music, handcrafts, clothing and jewelry.

There is also a Hungarian folk museum in the area, established by the late Michael Horvath and his wife Margaret, who currently takes care of it, and a library that helps in preserving and teaching the rich Hungarian heritage, culture, history and language. The group is located in Daytona Beach but they serve Hungarians throughout Central Florida and South Georgia

Contact information:

emeseasztalos@yahoo.com

<http://www.hungariancommunitychurch.org/>

Hungarian Sports - SC

Istvan Bathazi, Judit Trunkos

Both Istvan Bathazi and Judit Trunkos are former professional athletes who were top competitors in their respective sports in Hungary before coming to the U.S. Istvan is a European Champion and three time-Olympic swimmer. Judit is a former professional tennis player. They both came to the U.S. as full-scholarship student-athletes who represented the Hungarian culture at their universities. Since graduation, Istvan and Judit have been working hard to bring Hungarian elite athletes to the U.S. to compete in American colleges and to introduce the American culture and life style to them.

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American Hungarian Heritage House - Washington DC

Erika Fedor, Stefan Fedor

The primary purpose of American Hungarian Heritage House - Washingtoni Magyar Haz - is to provide support and a place for cultural, educational, and religious assistance to people with American Hungarian descent. The organization was founded to provide individuals and organizations in the greater Washington D.C. area a place to celebrate and explore American Hungarian culture.

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Makvirag Ovoda - Orlando, FL

Julianna Boros, Viktoria Butala

The Markvirag Ovoda (Puppy-Flower Preschool) was established in 2014 in Orlando, Florida and had its first successful year with 13 children in the 2014-2015 school-year. Classes are held every Saturday afternoon at one of the Seminole County libraries to leave funds for supplies and materials. The volunteer teacher, Viktoria Butala, is also the co-founder and education director of the preschool. While the teacher is present every Saturday, parents take turns volunteering in the classroom in addition to funding the preschool. In the next school year they are looking to expand the preschool by having a lower school and serving more students and families. The goal of the

preschool is culture development and language learning while the lower school in the future, will focus on reading/writing and Hungarian history.

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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/M%C3%A1kvir%C3%A1g-%C3%93voda-Orlando/724076594330835>

Miami Church and Miami Kossuth Club – Miami, FL

Peter Pal Bodor, Gabor Veres, Albinka Bodor

The Magyar Christian Church of Sarasota has an approximately 40-year history, and for the last 21 years, it is officially part of the Calvin Synod, one of the larger Hungarian Reformed Denominations in the USA. The church's mission is to minister to the Hungarian Protestants and Catholics of greater Sarasota. They represent traditional Christian values. The membership is mostly retired people with very diverse backgrounds, including a high percentage of political refugees of 1956 and before and after that era. They hold services the first Sunday of each month. They keep close contact with the Sarasota Kossuth Club and the Venice Petofi Haz.

The "Miami Magyar Haz / Hungarian Center was founded in the late 1940-s to comply with the spiritual and cultural needs of the greater Miami area. They have two main entities.

The First Hungarian United Church of Christ of Miami Inc. attends to the needs of the Hungarian Christians of South Florida. The community is formed by Catholic and Protestant members. They hold interdenominational worship services every Sunday, in Hungarian and English, based on traditional Christian values. The church has an active Women's Guild, Sunday school and Youth Group. Their activities include Hungarian cooking, religious and cultural education and youth activities.

The Kossuth Civic Center of Miami Inc. is a parallel entity with the church, and its goal is to maintain and share the Hungarian heritage to the community and to non-Hungarians of the South Florida region by organizing balls, concerts, musicals, dance parties and dinners.

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Hungarian Communion of Friends, Nationwide organization - Chicago, IL

Erika Bokor

The Hungarian Communion of Friends (Magyar Baráti Közösség or MBK) is a non-profit 501c organization, with several North American chapters, aimed at preserving Hungarian cultural heritage and Hungarian non-denominational religious values. Its goal is to promote the

development of our Hungarian-American identity in the service of a longer-term presence in the region, and to help strengthen overall Hungarian unity and cohesion.

Since MBK was established in 1967, it has regularly published the ITT-OTT Periodical, which later evolved into the ITT-OTT Yearbook. MBK has also organized the annual weeklong ITT-OTT Conference at Lake Hope State Park in Ohio, with the aim of providing an intellectual forum within the context of family vacationing. The Conference's guest speakers from the Carpathian basin as well as from other regions of the Hungarian diaspora often bring their programs to local chapters as well. Additionally, MBK has provided various forms of support, including scholarships and TV antennas to bring Hungarian programs into remote regions in Transylvania, as well as financial support to Transylvanian Reformed diaspora congregations.

The Hungarian Communion of Friends is a founding member of HAC, a member of the Hungarian Diaspora Council and active participant in its programs, including the Kőrösi Csoma Sándor Program. The Hungarian Communion of Friends is a recent recipient of the Hungarian Heritage Award.

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The South Florida Hungarian Kids Club – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Zsuzsanna Csajkas, Zsuzsanna Salamon

The mission of the South Florida Hungarian Kids Club is to promote and foster the Hungarian culture for the next generation. They offer a wide variety of programs where children can learn about Hungarian roots and heritage.

This all-volunteer-based organization was established in 2009 and is continuously growing. They celebrate all major holidays, organize language instruction programs, summer and Farsangi camps, and participate in other events such as dance camps and other social gatherings. All of their current programs offer the Hungarian speaking children and youth opportunities to practice and learn Hungarian language, literature and culture.

They have great ambitions to extend the program offerings and start a folk dance group in the fall of 2015. Music and dance have a magical way to bridge age groups and different language knowledge levels. This opportunity targets children with Hungarian background to expand their knowledge and get closer to their heritage.

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Las Vegas Hungarian Community - Las Vegas

Sylvia Ferenczik-Federico

Sylvia Ferenczik-Federico was born in the US after her parents emigrated from Hungary in the 1970s. She was raised in a very active Hungarian Community in Los Angeles. She is happily married to Michael Federico a local Las Vegas attorney / pro- tem Judge, and they have 5 children. The family is very active in the Las Vegas Hungarian Community.

Ferenczik-Federico actively promotes the Hungarian Culture in Las Vegas. She administers the Facebook page of Vegas-i Magyarok, which promotes local Las Vegas Hungarian events businesses and cultural programs. She is also in the Hungarian Scout Master in Las Vegas as well as the co- director (along with Agnes Guszik) of the Hungarian school in Las Vegas. She serves as the liaison between the local and neighboring Hungarian communities, informing them of any current Las Vegas Hungarian cultural events. In addition, she is actively keeping in contact with the Los Angeles Consulate general, the Hungarian Scouts association, Hungarian Media and other Hungarian social groups of the activities in the Las Vegas metropolitan area.

There are many Hungarian community members and organizations in Las Vegas like Musicians (Bela Duka, Sandor Beke), Gymnasts/ Coaches (Uldi Hajdu, Supola Zoltan), Las Vegas Sup Kayak Club (Zoltan David/ Balazs Kovary), a Soccer Team (Action Vegas), Las Vegas hosts (Arpad Kupa) a Soccer Tournament, Hungarian market, Las Vegas distillery (Racz family), Joe's New York Pizza (Soltesz family), Reporter (Les Krifaton), online publication American Hungarian Journal (Marianna Szoke), the Hungarian Church (Tibor Kardos chief elder) Attorney, Realtors, Chefs, Bakers, Fitness trainers, Casino workers, Photographers, Dancers, Artists and hopefully more coming to Las Vegas. These people and businesses play a part in the Las Vegas Hungarian community. The strong economy in Las Vegas is the main factor for growth in the Hungarian population.

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Honorary Consul of Hungary – Sarasota, FL

Stephen J. Gergatz

Consul Stephen J. Gergatz, M.D. leads the consulate. The jurisdiction covers the territory north of a line connecting Fort Myers and Fort Pierce, FL, including Sarasota, St. Petersburg, Tampa, Orlando, Gainesville, Daytona Beach, Jacksonville, Pensacola and Tallahassee, excluding Fort Myers, Fort Pierce, Naples, Miami and Key West. The supervisory consulate is in Washington, DC.

Stephen Gergatz was appointed honorary Hungarian consul for Florida in September 2012. Prior to that, he was the honorary Hungarian consul in New Orleans for 12 years. He is domiciled in Sarasota, FL. Steve was born in Lovo, Hungary and escaped with his parents after the failed 1956 Hungarian revolution under a hail of gunfire on March 9, 1957 (MEMOIR). The family lived in

various refugee camps in Austria and immigrated to the United States in 1959 to New Brunswick, New Jersey. Stephen became active in the Hungarian community there and attended Rutgers University where he received a degree in Biological Sciences. He continued his studies at Temple University's School of Medicine in Philadelphia, followed by internship at Seattle's Harborview Medical Center, Internal Medicine residency at the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital, a Gastroenterology fellowship at Tulane Medical Center and group practice at Ochsner Clinic all in New Orleans.

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HHRF/ReConnect Hungary – New York City, NY

Zsuzsa Cselenyi, Eszter Kovacs Herner

ReConnect Hungary is a unique cultural, educational and social immersion experience in Hungary for youth aged 18 to 26, who are of Hungarian heritage and born in North America. Launched in 2012 as a collaborative effort between the Hungarian Human Rights Foundation and Gov. George Pataki with his daughter, Allison, the program provides a taste of Hungarian life: exposure to history, culture, current trends and innovations while remaining a fun, hands-on and inspiring experience for participants.

This birthright program is organized by the HHRF, supported by the Hungarian government and sponsorship from individual and organizational benefactors. Due to these efforts, ReConnect has been able to send nearly 40 participants on a journey of a lifetime!

ReConnect is a program of expanding scope and potential, with stress on social media. Upon returning home, alumni volunteer at local Hungarian partner organizations, mentor future participants, and promote the program.

The goal of ReConnect Hungary is to offer all qualified applicants the experience of rediscovering their Hungarian selves. The generosity of sponsors will ensure subsequent trips and increased numbers of participants.

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<http://reconnecthungary.org/>

Minnesota Hungarians – MN

Eva Kish

The Minnesota Hungarians were organized by Hungarian immigrants and their supporters in Minnesota over 100 years ago. They serve to engage in cultural, educational and philanthropic endeavors as a non-profit and charitable association.

The Minnesota Hungarians have sponsored a wide variety of cultural and educational programs and have hosted receptions, meetings and workshops for Hungarian diplomats, dignitaries, writers and artists over the years. Minnesota Hungarians have collaborated with Unity Unitarian Church, Immigration History Research Center, International Institute of Minnesota and with several other local ethnic groups and organizations.

The mission of Minnesota Hungarians is to represent and promote the Hungarian culture and heritage in Minnesota and the U.S.A, furthermore to organize and conduct cultural, educational, artistic and recreational programs, to engage in fundraising activities in order to support humanitarian and charitable endeavors, to sponsor and promote trade and cultural exchanges between Hungary and the United States

According to the 2012 census, there are about 14,000 Minnesota residents of Hungarian heritage. Minnesota Hungarians has 400 registered families (1,500-1,800 individuals) on the mailing list, average 90 paid annual memberships, with 120-150 regular attendees at organized events.

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Kossuth Club – Sarasota, FL

Eva Kisvarsanyi, Gyorgy Krajcsik

The Kossuth Club is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt educational and cultural organization registered in the State of Florida. It was founded in 1984 to serve the cultural needs and interests of Americans of Hungarian descent in southwest Florida.

Their mission is to promote understanding of Hungarian history and culture through lectures, informative programs and concerts.

Their goal is to foster interest and appreciation in Florida for the history, education, and culture of Hungary, including its literature, music, arts, and scientific achievements, to encourage cultural and educational interaction between the people of Florida and Hungary, to protect the human and minority rights and cultural heritage of Hungarians throughout the world, and to support the development of democratic institutions in Hungary.

They hold monthly meetings from September through May. Past programs have featured music, literature, art exhibits, and a fashion show. Topics of lectures by guest speakers included history, medicine, music history, archaeology, mineral exploration, and travel. Furthermore, they hold benefit concerts for the Franz Liszt Academy of Music, Millennial Days, and the Hungarian Christmas Bazaar.

Their Education Fund provides scholarships to college-bound seniors of Hungarian descent in Sarasota and Manatee Counties and to Hungarian minority students in Central Europe.

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Global Friendship Foundation /Sarasotai Magyar Fesztival– Sarasota, FL
Erika Klatyik

The Global Friendship Foundation is an organization dedicated to developing cultural and educational programs. They believe that by connecting different nations they not only advance communities but also help people reach their full potential. Their annual Hungarian Festival in Sarasota helps to bring the amazing Hungarian culture close to many people over a weekend. Being able to stay connected with Hungarian cultural roots is vital for thousands of Hungarians living in the Sun Coast.

They also believe that the Hungarian Festival, which enhances a multicultural experience for many, has profound impact on the entire Sun Coast community as well. Multiculturalism is the essence of the United States of America, as it is what makes this country unique, strong and resourceful. Their festival fosters tolerance, increases cultural awareness, bridges gaps between nations and generations. The Hungarian Festival in Sarasota has earned its good reputation for being family oriented, for serving excellent food and beverages, and for bringing authentic and wonderful cultural programs to the area each year.

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The South Florida Hungarians' Alliance, Broward County
Reka Kormendy

The South Florida Hungarians' Alliance was established with the goal to serve the Tri-County area Hungarian community thru cultural, social, educational and religious programs. The Alliance was established as a non-profit organization in 2014, to serve the community in a centrally located area, Broward County, which is accessible by the residents of the entire Tri-County area of Miami Dade, Broward and West Palm Beach Counties.

They support community outreach, volunteerism and the harmonious work and social engagement of the Hungarian community members with one another. They work in partnership with other Hungarian companies and organizations in the area.

They run the Hungarian Flamingos Sunday School since January (25 students in the first quarter) and organize events (with 100+ participants) to preserve their Hungarian heritage.

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Open Bible Hungarian Church, Venice, FL

Attila Kulcsar

The Nyitott Biblia Gyülekezet/Open Bible Hungarian Church was started in October of 2013 by Pastor and Bible teacher Attila Kulcsar. Upon receiving his Master of Divinity Degree at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY Attila moved to Venice, FL and started a Hungarian Worship Service to minister to the Hungarian Community (approx. 15,000) living in Sarasota County and the surrounding areas.

Open Bible Hungarian Church meets every Sunday at 11:00 AM at the Hungarian Christian Society/Petőfi Klub at 165 N Jackson Rd. Venice, FL 34292, where Attila also serves as the pastor of this organization, holding an Ecumenical worship service once a month, starting also at 11:00 AM.

The vision of Open Bible Hungarian Church is to lead people who are away from God into a living relationship with God, by reading God's Word- the Bible, having a weekly life transforming worship service in the Hungarian language, and living out our faith in such a way that people are transformed into the likeness of Jesus Christ and become the disciples of Jesus. Their goal is to: Love God, Love People, and Serve the Hungarian community in their physical and spiritual needs.

The worship services of Open Bible Hungarian Church are characterized by upbeat and spirit filled singing accompanied by guitar music, simple but life-transforming Gospel centered preaching that also includes a children's sermon. They also organize an annual Vacation Bible School Week for the children, and engage in service various service projects that help with the needs of the Hungarian Community.

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Hungarian American Coalition – Washington D.C.

Edith Lauer, Andrea Lauer Rice, Maximilian Teleki

The Hungarian American Coalition is a nationwide 501©3 non-profit organization founded in 1991 in Washington, DC. Its mission is to mobilize and coordinate the talents and resources of its individual and organizational members to promote the interests of the Hungarian American community.

Since its establishment, the Coalition's many projects have been focused in areas of information, human rights advocacy, education, leadership training, cultural programs and humanitarian assistance. Between 1994-98, the Coalition played a major role in both the U.S and Hungary in promoting NATO expansion to include Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic. For the past 20 years through the sponsorship of dozens of U.S. visits of Hungarian minority leaders, and organizing conferences on human and minority rights in Washington, the Coalition has provided

first-hand information to Washington decision-makers on the continuing challenges faced by historic Hungarian communities in Romania, Slovakia, the former Yugoslavia and Ukraine.

Leadership training and scholarship programs have also been important parts of the Coalition's mission, as well as outreach to the greater Hungarian American community through programs such as the HATOG conferences. Please consult the Coalition's webpage - hacusa.org - for more information on the organization.

Many of the HATOG participants and organizations are members of the Coalition.

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Elixir Tea Haz – Sarasota, FL

Gyula Lukacs, Zsuzsa Lukacs

The Elixir's Tea House, located in Sarasota, has a goal of connecting the community to cherished tea traditions from cultures around the world, ranging from high tea or afternoon tea from Britain, all the way to Japan and their ancient tea ceremonies, which date back to the 9th century.

Their goal is to create a new intellectual environment, where people can come together, socialize and enjoy life. This teahouse is not about the day-to-day rush, it is about melting away the stresses of life over a great cup of tea. They offer many places to sit and enjoy tea while reading a book or enjoying the company of friends and family.

The Tea Haz supports many local Hungarian American activities

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Bocskai Rádío– Cleveland, OH

Zsolt Molnar

The Bocskai Radio at John Carroll University has been serving the Cleveland area Hungarian-speaking community for the past thirty years and presently enjoys the longest weekly airtime of all the Hungarian language radio broadcasts in the United States. It celebrated its 30th anniversary at JCU's 88.7 FM station earlier this year with American and Hungarian dignitaries and community leaders in attendance.

Bonsai Radio strives to preserve and foster Hungarian cultural heritage and nurture ethnic traditions. It is determined to become a cohesive force for uniting the American-Hungarian community and to generate a spirit of cooperation among different community groups and

organizations that serve the American-Hungarian community. The radio program and its staff intend to accomplish this through increased community involvement and sponsorship of events of other non-profit American-Hungarian community organizations and by arranging their own cultural and ethnic events in the listening area.

The Bonsai Radio transmits all program content in the Hungarian language only, sharing and revitalizing the wealth of Hungarian music and literature. Its weekly broadcasts will aim to present true historical accounts of Hungarian people and customs. However, mostly, it will strive to inform its listeners through objective, non-biased reporting of local news and events.

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San Diego Scout Troop; House of Hungary, Balboa Park; Hungarian Reformed Church in San Diego – San Diego
Julia Nemeth

The San Diego Hungarian Scout Troop is now re-forming after a multi-decade hiatus. With the support of the KMCsSz, the San Diego troop has begun holding monthly meetings and programs as a way to ensure that Hungarian youth in San Diego develop lasting ties through scouting with one another and others living outside of Hungary. Julia, and her husband Laszlo, are leading the troop activities, with the help of its Leadership Council led by Livia Nagy, under the guidance of the #17 Konyves Kalman Scout troop in Los Angeles, CA, with the aim of becoming an established troop with its own name & number within the next 2-3 years.

The House of Hungary is a member of the House of Pacific Relations International Cottages and one of the 33 International Houses in Balboa Park, San Diego. House of Hungary organizes various social, cultural and fund-raising events, like the Ethnic Food Fair at the end of May and the International Christmas Festival at the beginning of December. The cottage is open to the public every Sunday from 12-4pm and provides free language classes for adults and children throughout the year. Julia is currently 2nd Vice president on the Board of Directors at the House of Hungary.

The Hungarian Reformed Church in San Diego - as an extension of the Free Magyar Reformed Church of Ontario, a Hungarian reformed church service is held monthly in San Diego. Open to all Hungarians of any faith, the service itself is performed by Pastor & Bishop Sandor Szabo in the traditional reformed style and in the Hungarian Language. Started by Rev. Szabo in 1991, the Word of the Lord has been shared in Hungarian with the San Diego Community for nearly 25 years.

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Magyar Club of Chicago – Chicago, IL

Ildiko Phillips

Independent entrepreneurs, professionals, corporate and government executives founded the Hungarian (Magyar) Club of Chicago in 1922.

The purpose of this club is to unite men and women of Hungarian descent, to recognize distinguished achievements of men and women of Hungarian descent, to promote a knowledge of Hungarian history and culture among its members, to serve as a forum of discussion of questions of current importance and public interest and to foster, through its meetings and its social activities, good fellowship and a continuing appreciation of the heritage of Hungary.

Over the years, the club has contributed both money and time to relief societies, disaster groups, charitable organizations, and the arts and health agencies.

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56 films - Orinda, CA

Reka Pigniczky

56Films is a production company specializing in documentary films as well as television production. Founded by journalist-documentary filmmaker Réka Pigniczky and corporate finance consultant Barnabas Gero in 2005, 56Films strives to tell compelling stories from the personal point of view. They believe that fiction is entertaining, but often real life provides stories that are more dramatic – precisely because they are real.

Their company, 56Films, by the very nature of its name, is interested in the communist era and its legacy. On a broader level, They're interested in how memory works, how identity is defined, and how morality and ethics are shaped under dictatorship. Because Reka was born and raised in the U.S. and Barnabas in Hungary, their films strive to provide a bridge between the two continents as well as between the two sides of the Cold War. They are also interested in stories that take a deeper look at business, and the business environment on the two continents.

56Films has produced a number of award-winning, feature-length documentaries as well as documentary shorts. It has also collaborated with the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation on a documentary short as well as interview series presented globally online. 56Films presents a cohesive group of creative artists supported by a strong production support. The creative team has been together through a number of projects while still working on other independent projects.

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The Hungarian Club of Washington – Washington DC
Kinga Revesz

The Hungarian Club of Washington was established shortly after 1948 when the communist party won the election in Hungary, and the members of the Smallholders Party and others immigrated to America. The founding fathers were among others: Nagy Ferenc, the ex-prime minister of Hungary after the war; Szegedy Maszák Aladár, the Hungarian Ambassador to the USA after the war; Csicsery-Rónay István, a politician; Saláta Kálmán, a lawyer and politician; Hám Tibor, a physician and politician; Bay Zoltán, a physicist; Teleki Géza, a geologist; Lenárd Iván, a reporter at the Voice of America; Hógye Mihály, a protestant minister; Laki Kálmán, a chemist; and many others.

They meet every third Saturday of the month at a member's house. During the meeting, one member or an invited speaker gave a talk. Women were allowed to be present, but could not participate in the discussions. After the meeting, a buffet dinner was provided by the host.

The 1966 amnesty made travelling easier, but The Hungarian Embassy social events remained closed to Hungarian–Americans.

The purpose of the club changed so the main goal was to maintain the Hungarian culture and language. The club could have speakers from Hungary, such as Göncz Árpád, who became the president of Hungary after 1989, and included Hungarians from other countries, such as Pór Péter, a writer, and others.

Hungary and the Hungarian Embassy opened its door to the club, and encouraged renewed interest in the Hungarian culture and language. Although, in a way, the club lost its initial purpose, the members voted for its continuation.

The club's purpose and rules changed again as speakers can be Hungarian, but have the option of speaking in Hungarian or English and about any topics. Americans can speak only about topics that relate to Hungary. Americans, who are a spouse or relative of a Hungarian, can speak about any topic. Embassy officials are invited to the meeting as guests or as speakers. Women not only could be part of the discussion but could also give talks.

In 2006, when Nyirjessy István retired, Lőwy Dániel and Koszorús Ferenc Jr. took over the presidency of The Hungarian Club of Washington. In 2008, Dániel assumed the presidency on his own. In 2009, when Obama started his presidency, Kinga Revesz was elected, the first female president of the Hungarian Club of Washington. Her main goal is to promote friendship and harmony among Hungarians.

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Panorama Magazine, New Jersey

Friederika Szatmari

Friederika Szatmari was born in Budapest in the late 1940s. Along with her family they were relocated from Hungary to the United States in 1987. Since then, she has been active in Hungarian Community Affairs. Since spring 2000 she has been the New Jersey representative for the American Hungarian Panorama Magazine.

Dr. Laszlo Tanka is the founder and the director of the popular quarterly magazine, Panorama, with world-wide distribution to many countries. Their primary goal is to establish international contacts and mutual cooperation beyond the national Hungarian boundaries, to further foster Hungarian culture, values, accomplishments and achievements abroad.

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Hungarian Scouts – Cleveland, OH

Judit Szentkiralyi

The first Hungarian scout troop in the U.S. was formed in Cleveland, Ohio in the spring of 1951. By the fall of that year there were two boys' troops, one on the east side of the city in the Buckeye Road neighborhood and one on the west side in the Ohio City area. They were also registered troops with the Boy Scouts of America. A girls' troop was formed in 1952 and split into two troops in 1957 in the same neighborhoods.

The Hungarian scouts learned all the traditional skills of scouting but were also familiarized with the history, customs and traditions of Hungary. It was/is a prerequisite for all members to speak Hungarian. Most are also able to read and write in Hungarian. All meetings (on Friday nights), outings and camps are held with only the Hungarian language being spoken. Scouts 14 years old and older can join the Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble. These scouts meet every Tuesday night and specialize in learning the dances and songs of Hungary among other crafts and skills. To help with language skills, and to learn the geography, ethnography and history of Hungary, the Hungarian School has classes on Monday nights. Most scouts attend classes for up to 10 to 12 years.

The Cleveland troops are supported by the American Hungarian Friends of Scouting. They hold three large fundraising events a year: an awards banquet in February, a debutante benefit ball in May and a Hungarian Scout Festival on Sunday of Labor Day weekend. They also own the 130 acre Teleki Scout Park named after Pál Teleki, Prime Minister of Hungary 1920-21 and 1939-41 and the first Chief Scout of Hungary. Located in Ashtabula County in Northeast Ohio, the park has a small lake and is ideal for primitive camping.

The AHFS also maintains the 4,200 sq. ft. Hungarian Scout Center located on the property of St. Emeric Hungarian Roman Catholic Church near the West Side Market in downtown Cleveland. The building is used for scout meetings, Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble practices and classrooms for the Hungarian School. The scout patrols in Cleveland participate in a camporee patrol competition every Memorial Day weekend to test their scout skills against other Hungarian scout troops from cities of the eastern U.S. and Canada. The camporee is held at the 100+ acre Sándor

Sík Scout Park owned by the Hungarian Scout Association near the town of Fillmore in western New York State. A ten day leadership training camp is held there every August for patrol leaders, assistant scoutmasters and scoutmasters. This campsite has also become the home of Hungarian scout jamborees, held every five years. On these occasions, 500 to 1,000 Hungarian boy and girl scouts from around the world gather in fellowship to share in their heritage. A two week Hungarian School and Camp also is held there every July.

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Hungarian Club of Orlando

Zsuzsanna Szikora, Agnes Takacs

The Hungarian Club of Orlando was established 26 years ago and the current leadership team took over about 4 years ago. At that time the old leadership grew tired of the lack of participation and was thinking about disassembling the club. They took over with a lot of enthusiasm, plans and hopes, but ultimately faced the same challenges; very low participation besides a few successful events. They have organized various events from dinners to picnics to sport events to try to find something that gets the local Hungarian community excited, but so far did not succeed. There are several thousand Hungarians in the Orlando area and it is sad that they are not able to grow their participation rates. This year they are focusing on their Talpra Magyar Sport Kupa. They would like to hold one every year as their own tradition by inviting more and more teams from all around the state, and hopefully later on from the whole USA.

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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Orlando-Magyar-Klub/205700162957149?fref=ts>

Hungarian Christian Society, Petőfi Club - Venice, FL

Noemi Szilagyi, Laszlo Szilagyi, Laszlo Apathy

The Hungarian Christian Society, founded in 1993, is a non-profit organization in the state of Florida, and the owner of a 7,000-sqft building situated on 5 acres finished in 1994 in Venice, FL. This facility offers space to many groups and activities, which focus on our Hungarian Heritage. Various types of religious services are held on a regular basis in Hungarian, and there are also special guest performances by mostly Hungarian artists.

The building will offer a home to both the newly formed Jambor Lajos Cserkesz Csapat and to the Matyas Kiraly Magyar Iskola as well. They host events that cater to many generations - from kids' programs, and dance evenings to afternoon socials for their older friends. Their programs and events aim to promote Hungarian language and culture and to make sure they are passed down to the next generations. They welcome all religions, nationalities and races, who is interested in the Hungarian Culture.

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Jámbor Lajos Cserkészcsapat - Sarasota, FL

Noemi Szilagyi, László Apáthy, Andras Spevak, Zsuzsa Spevak

They started their journey 3 years ago, as Sarasota Venice Cserkeszet es Csaladi Nap. Later as more kids joined, they separated the Cserkeszet from Csaladi Nap. As with most new adventures, they had a rough start and struggled to attract kids. They are at the Hungarian Christian Society /Petofi Club. Hungarian Christian Society /Petofi Club allows them to use all facilities free of charge. They express their gratitude for this by taking part in certain Holiday traditions and by teaching their Scouts about Hungarian history, heritage, traditions and good citizenship.

On August 10, 2014, they received their temporary certification and were named as the Jamb or Lajos Cserkeszcsapat.

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Southeastern School of Ballet, Columbia, SC

Gabor Toth

The Southeastern School of Ballet was established in 2006 with the intent to offer the highest quality of dance instruction in the various disciplines of ballet while simultaneously promoting diversity in the student body and faculty. Both Gabor Toth and Hillary Krieger were professional dancers at a ballet company before starting their own school. Due to Gabor's Hungarian heritage, he also teaches authentic Hungarian folk dance to the students and promotes the Hungarian culture at various cultural events such as the Columbia International Festival.

The Napraforgok (Sunflowers) Hungarian Folk Dance Ensemble

Ottília Varga

The Napraforgok (Sunflowers) Hungarian Folk Dance Ensemble was founded by Ottília Varga, formerly of the Kurazsi Folk Dance Ensemble (Kecskemet, Hungary) in August 2010, in Sarasota, Florida. The group currently has 30 children, ages 2 and 8, as members.

They perform at cultural events including the Hungarian Festival of Sarasota, the Annual Hungarian Medical Convention of Sarasota and various events of the Hungarian Kossuth Club of Sarasota.

Their mission is to archive and maintain Hungarian Heritage and to preserve Hungarian language through teaching songs, rhymes, games and dance starting at very early ages. They believe that preserving Hungarian national identity will only make them better and more useful members of the society.

Contact information:

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<http://www.napraforgoktabor.org/index.php?lang=en>

Hungarian Society of Massachusetts - Boston, MA

Agnes Virga

The Hungarian Society of Massachusetts, Inc. is a non-profit, cultural organization, which deliberately dissociates itself from partisan politics. Membership is open to individuals of all ideologies, religions and ethnic backgrounds who abide by the Society's by-laws, and who desire to foster the Hungarian language and culture. The Hungarian Society of Massachusetts was founded in 1964, and celebrated its 50th Anniversary in the fall of 2014.

The Hungarian Society of Massachusetts and the Boston Hungarian School (Boskola) are one of the newest Board members of the HAC. They are also one of the founding members of the Hungarian Diaspora Council. Here in Boston they are very proud of their vibrant, active community of all ages and their large Hungarian school teaches 140 students and their Scout Troops active with 80 children. One of their main goals is to focus and to reach out to this talented, bilingual, enthusiastic young group of Hungarian Americans and their families. They have high hopes they will become the next generation of leaders in the Hungarian Diaspora.

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https://www.facebook.com/agnes.virga.79/media_set?set=a.10203528665231880.1073741863.1071866924&type=1

Boskola – Boston, MA

Faye Gillespie, Agnes Virga

The Béla Bartók Hungarian School of Boston — Boskola for short — is an extracurricular school with all-volunteer teaching and administrative staff, whose mission is to enrich the Hungarian language skills and cultural exposure/appreciation of children between the ages of 3 and 18. Classes and Scouts meet on alternate Saturdays at two neighboring churches rented in Lexington, Massachusetts.

Boskola was established in the year 1999 and has grown consistently since then. It currently has over 140 students from 87 families, with the students grouped into classes among twenty teachers according to their age and language skills.

The mission and scope of the school is continuously evolving. In 2003, the Gábor Bodnár Scout troop was added to the school's offerings. In 2007, Boskola started a study group to support Hungarian language learning and practice for adult students as well. The school also provides opportunity for children under the age of 3 for a range of age-appropriate activities that enhance their ability to interact in Hungarian in a group setting.

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Honorary Consul General of Hungary in San Francisco - San Francisco, CA

Éva E. Voisin

Ms. Voisin is the Honorary Consul General of Hungary for Northern California. She opened the first Hungarian Consulate in San Francisco in 1993.

The Honorary Consulate General of Hungary in San Francisco is an official diplomatic post, accredited by the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Budapest and the United State Department of State in Washington DC. It provides services to the Hungarian, American and foreign communities, which include passport and citizenship support, authentication of signatures, notarial services, civil registry, promoting Hungarian cultural, academic, touristic, business and trade activities, organizing events and conferences relating to Hungary, receiving public and private delegations and speaking to professional groups, schools and universities.

Eva E.Voisin, Esq. is the President & CEO of Voisin & Associates; an AV rated International Law Firm, providing legal solutions to foreign entrepreneurs, in establishing a US presence, in the high tech, biotech and clean-tech areas. She is also the VP & Director of Business Development of SOV Interactive Media. She is the founder and president of the Hungarian American Chamber of Commerce, in the US. Inc., since 1990. She serves on several corporate and non-profit boards and is active in numerous professional organizations.

She was educated at the University of California in Los Angeles, Middlebury College and the Sorbonne and holds a JD degree. She speaks Hungarian, French, German and Spanish.

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Magyar Marketing - NY

Liz Vos

Magyar Marketing encourages its readers to discover, celebrate, and share Hungarian heritage through MagyarLiving.com as well as through the Magyar Marketing product line. Through their Magyar Marketing Facebook page they regularly promote Hungarian events throughout the USA in an effort to increase awareness and participation. They intentionally reach out to English speakers, particularly at the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th generation level, as they are the most at risk for become disconnected although they are often quite enthusiastic about learning about their Hungarian heritage.

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