

HÍRLEVÉL

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2017



Hungarian-American Club of New Mexico

P.O. Box 3454

Albuquerque, NM 87190

www.hacnm.org

2017/18 Events:

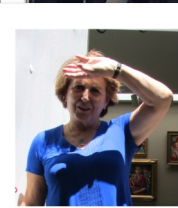
Aug 20
St Stephen's Day

Oct 22
1956/1989 Events

December 3
Holiday Celebration

TBD
March 15 Commem-
oration

TBD
June picnic



Past President's Message

By Steve Borbas

The March 15 Springtime event was quite a treat. The Hungarian Dancers performed their finale for us - they will still practice with each other, but are getting a bit older and preparing for a performance is understandably exhausting. So, we will miss them and we thank them for all their great dances and involvement with Hungarian Dance and the club.

We also had Peter and Jozsef, two Hungarian pilots, in training at Kirtland Air Force Base for a couple of months; who introduced themselves and were amazed to find a Hungarian American Club in New Mexico. Also in attendance were Elizabeth and Donald Vos, who spoke about Magyar Marketing. They left some goodies for our raffle.

Joe Galko talked about the Budapest spas - how they developed and other details, which

were very interesting to all of us. Dia Mosonyi, our Hungarian Rezler student, recited the entire poem from which the National Anthem has its verse.

And we held elections; Eva Nagy-Boross, President; Joe Galko, Vice President; Anna Powless, Secretary; and Lajos Magyari, Treasurer, all assumed their roles, as elected.

Joe Galko made both an impressive and delicious number of cabbage rolls for the club and was met with many compliments. Leftovers were quickly purchased.

This is my last report as president, as I have served over the past number of years. Thank you all for helping out and attending. I am so proud to have a great Hungarian Club in New Mexico!

Election of HACNM Officers

Exiting president and new officers with Deneb Teleki.



From left to right:

Lajos Magyari
Joe Galko
Eva Nagy-Boross
Steve Borbas
Deneb Teleki (in front)

(Not pictured
Anna Powless)

Greetings from the President

By Eva Nagy-Boross

Dear Friends, I hope you all are enjoying this beautiful summer. Yes, it is summer already and it makes me wonder what has happened to the first half of the year. We have just celebrated New Year and got together to remember the 1848-49 revolution in March. It is June now, and our picnic is over as well.

About 40 of us got together at Simone's house to enjoy some good food and great company on the first Sunday of the month. Thank you, Simone for hosting us in your lovely backyard again. The weather was very generous with us this time. We did not have to hold on to the tent and grab various small items so that the wind would not blow them - or us for that matter - away. It also spared us from stray showers so that we did not have to find shelter under the trees or in Simone's studio.

Joe excelled at grilling anew and surprised us with some Hungarian sausages which re-

mined me of flavors familiar from my childhood when my uncle butchered a pig to prepare sausage and hurka from the fresh - and organic - meet. I hope you have found the misplaced recipe, Joe, and you can surprise us next year again.

Thank you to all of you who, one way or another, contributed to the success of the picnic. Hope to see you all in August!



Planning meeting in Steve's living room.

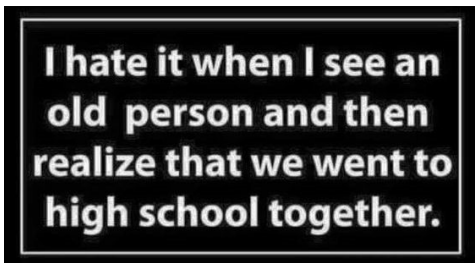
Just for Laughs...

"I've never had major knee surgery on any other part of my body,"

--Winston Bennett, University of Kentucky basketball forward.

"Outside of the killings, Washington has one of the lowest crime rates in the country," --

Mayor Marion Barry, Washington, DC



HATOG Conference 2017

By Anna Powless

This May 19-21 I was lucky enough to be invited to the 10th HATOG (Hungarian Americans Together) Conference. If you are like me you probably never heard of it and may have not been aware of the organizations either that sponsored the event; the *Hungarian American Coalition*, *The Hungary Initiatives Foundation* and the *American Hungarian Heritage House*.

HATOG is generally held annually, in a different U.S. city, and its purpose is to provide a forum for Hungarian organizations that work to maintain Hungarian heritage and culture in their communities. Approximately 70% of the participants were attending their first HATOG conference. There were altogether 60 participants from 16 states and from Hungary. “(The conference) is an opportunity to strengthen regional networks of organizations, provide opportunities for professional development but also to bring everyone together to address community-wide challenges, which oftentimes mimic what we see as challenges in our own organizations”

So what did I learn? First of all I was inspired by the number of enthusiastic, energetic and bright young people in the room who also



happened to be Hungarian and spoke Hungarian!

I learned that most everyone has similar challenges, but the bigger cities have larger memberships including more immigrants and first generation Hungarians. I met Hungarians from Los Angeles to New York. Although the majority who attended were from the east, Arizona, Colorado, and of course New Mexico were there to represent the Southwest. Most everyone had no idea that NM had a club!!

I learned about a very interesting program/scholarship called *Reconnect Hungary* aimed at young people from 18-28 who have any degree of Hungarian heritage. This is a 2 week cultural immersion experience for anyone interested in exploring their heritage. Many of you may have grandchildren who may be seeking this kind of connection but no longer have relatives to make this happen. I have more information if you are interested, I will be happy to connect you with the right information and people for the 2018 event or you can learn more at www.ReConnectHungary.org

There were tips on programming, how we could cooperate to share Hungarian artists, a very good presentation on how to work with social media to promote your group, key pointers on how to run a non-profit organization, learned that our club is actually doing quite well in comparison, the name of an outstanding clothing designer who incorporates folk motifs beautifully into contemporary clothing, and information on which bar to visit in D.C. on the first Friday of each month at Dupont Circle to meet up with fellow Hungarians. :)

News from the Bottle...

By Steve "Pityu" Borbas

We enjoyed a surprise and short visit from Szeles Tamas, the Hungarian Consul General in Los Angeles, and his son Tamas and two gentlemen from a Hungarian video/television station in Debrecen, both to visit Oravec Istvan and a small group of our club veterans to talk about the New Mexico Club. Some of our conversations were recorded and may be shown on Hungarian television. Thank you, Simone, for lending your house for this small gathering.

Consul Szeles noted that he will help those of us interested in acquiring a Hungarian passport or other official documents.

I also would like to mention that Judit Endrodi is almost finished with her book of interviews of our Club from two years ago. Consul Szeles promised to come to our March 15 celebration (on March 11), which will also commemorate our 30th anniversary celebration as a Club. We are honored to have him join us.



Our Club lost one of our dearest members since the last newsletter, Albert Gaspar. Albert worked with us on the newsletter for many years, was so helpful with many chores

at events, but always wanted to stay in the background. We played lots of tennis, had very long and deep conversations about life, our world, the universe, Hungary and the people around us. His favorite Hungarian phrase was, "Erre szoktam mondani," which translates as "my opinion is," when engaged in a particular discussion. He always had something to say about whatever topic. He is forever in our thoughts.

Attendance at our events has been wonderful. We still hope and wish that more people pay the little membership dues we charge, but are nonetheless happy with the participation.

The reprinted Hungarian Cooking booklet will go on sale at the August 20, St. Stephen event. The cost is \$5.

We still receive questions about study of the Hungarian language. If you have any suggestions, or are willing to teach, please let me know (265-7088).

Chemist George Olah, Nobel Prize winner in 1994, died a few months ago at age 89. He was a Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, held other positions at the University of Southern California after teaching in Hungary and immigrating in 1956, first to England, Canada and then the United States. His contribution to the study of hydrocarbons, then the methanol economy, which he suggested can be produced from hydrogen gas using energy from renewable sources of power. He was a firm believer in climate change and planning for the future. His pioneering research redefined the field's landscape.

The Story About Jim's Lighter

partially reprinted from the Corrales Comment

Jim Tritten's surprise birthday present to a distant relative in Slovakia came back to Tritten recently as a photograph, a Christmas present that unites him to his grandfather and grandmother's heritage in Hungary.

It's an offbeat tale about a prized cigarette lighter becoming part of a remarkable collection in the small village of Svatusé, aka Szentes in Hungarian. It's in Slovakia today, but everyone speaks Hungarian, and thinks Hungarian, even though the mayor flies the Slovakian flag, officially.

Always curious about the Hungarian side of his family, in 2015 Jim headed to his ancestral village, where the mayor teasingly told him "the villagers have been interbreeding since the year 1000" so he should assume he is related to everyone in the village. Including a fellow named Bertalan Abahazy, the grandson of a second cousin.



Lingo Bar in Szentes.

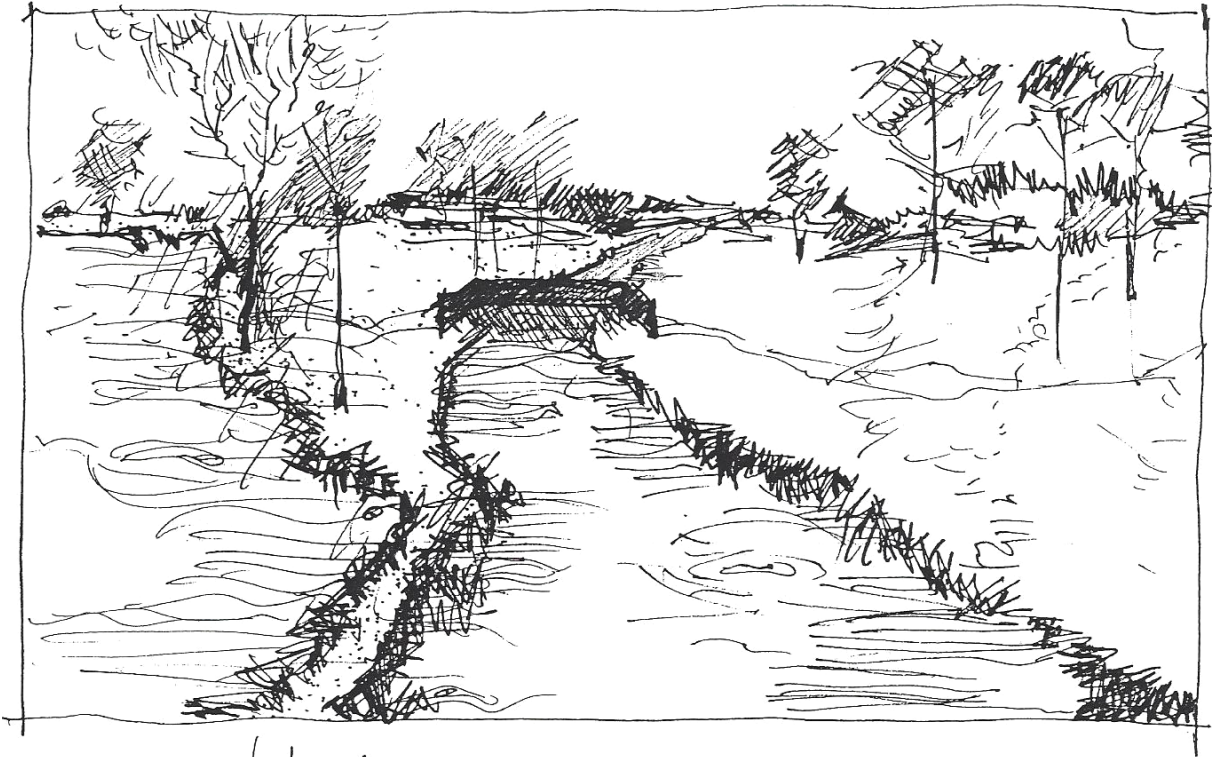
The Zippo Lighter in the above photograph on the left was purchased by James John Tritten, grandson of Julianna Feke and John Szucs two Hungarians originally from Bodrog Szentes.



Jim was trained as a United States Naval Aviator and earned his "Wings of Gold" on April 27, 1967. The photograph on the right is of Jim having his wings pinned on that date. At the time, Jim was a smoker, like most pilots in the Navy. It was common for pilots to purchase a lighter like this, sold in the Base Exchange at the Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi, Texas, where Jim thinks he purchased this one. He then had the lighter engraved with his initials and the date 4-27-67 signifying when he was awarded the wings depicted on the lighter. Jim used it for many years and probably lit a cigar or two for his grandfather John Szucs who survived until July 1969.

As shown above the lighter now has a special place on the wall of the Lingo bar in this small village. Jim hopes that the contribution of this lighter keeps alive the flame of family to the residents of Szentes, some of whom Jim met during his visit on September 30, 2015.





Borbas
Lake and Island

The Newsletter is published three times a year by
The Hungarian-American Club of New Mexico:
P.O. Box 3454 Albuquerque, NM 87190-3454

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Vice president
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Secretary
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Treasurer
Lajos Magyari

The Newsletter staff members are Steve Borbas, Rose Galko, Anna Powless, with guest writers and articles.

HUNGARIAN AMERICAN CLUB of NEW MEXICO

Purpose: To foster Hungarian culture among those residents of new Mexico who are of Hungarian descent, related to people of Hungarian descent, or who may not have Hungarian affiliation, but who are interested in the preservation of ethnic cultures, such as Hungarian, which may become lost without organizational effort.

**IF YOU WISH TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS OR SERVICES IN OUR NEWS LETTER,
PLEASE CONTACT Steve Borbas 265-7088**

If you have news, or you need information, please call Steve Borbas 265-7088 or
Anna Powless 280-6886

*You are cordially invited to join the
St Stephen's Day Celebration*

Sunday, August 20, 1pm
at the German-American Club
4821 Menaul Blvd. NE Albuquerque

We will be serving a surprise Hungarian dish, and dessert.

The program includes introductions, socializing, talks, discussions, laughter,
poem, and raffle.



Meal and entry - \$10.00
Cash bar provided by the German Club

From:

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To: