# HÍRLEVÉL

# NEWSLETTER

Summer



# Hungarian-American Club of New Mexico P.O. Box 3454 Albuquerque, NM 87190 www.hacnm.org

#### 2013 Events:

St. Stephen's Day August 25

1956 October Revolution October 27

End-of-Year Holidays December 1

2014 Events:

1848 Revolution March 9

Magyar Picnic to be announced

St. Stephen's Day

August 24

1956 October

**Revolution** October 19

End-of-Year Holidays

December 7

# King Stephen borbas pityu

As we celebrate King Stephen's from the sale of agricultural prodholiday on August 20th. we read ucts and other area resources. In about his many contributions to the Pecsvarad, the monks wrote legal development of a nation. His fa- briefs, including punishments for ther's and his realization that look- crimes, based on the social status of ing west was the way of the future the crooks, and was punished by a included treaties, marriages, travel, sliding scale of money (tino is the religion, visits from the west and name given but cannot find this as a learning from the west. One of the reference to money)) owed to the most important of these lessons state. Royalty/highest class =50 came from the church, and Stephen tino, middle and up = 10 tino, the decided to invite priests, friars, general populace = 5 tino. other clergy to educate some of the Laws about the formation of counpopulace. In particular, the Bene- ties, administration, of tribal propdictine monks were the teachers erties, morality, behavior, and so on and converters, were also crafted in the monaster-Monasteries were established, ies. Cistercian and Pauline monks Christianity became the belief, were brought in to work as teachevery 10th village built a church, ers. One hundred years later, there and written stories, history, tradi- were 343 monasteries in Hungary. tions were started. Pannonhalma became the first monastery in 996 Stephen is a fairly popular name all (and today continues as a monas- over the world in Christian countery and schools, and is a major tries. It means crown and garland. tourist attraction), and Pecsvarad on Istvan-Hungary, Stephanus-Greece, 1015 came next (which has been Stefan-Germany/Scandanavia/ reconstructed and includes tours Slavs, Steffan-Wales, Estebanand a hotel). Four others across Spain, Etienne-France, Stefano-Hungary were built, at Tihany on Italy, Steven-Australia/UK/Canada, the Balaton, Bakonybel, Domolk Steba-possibly short for Esteban. and Zalavar. Schools across the

country were also constructed and a curriculum was established by the Benedictine monks. Support came

### NEWS FROM THE BOTTLE by Steve Borbas

Andras Janosi will speak and play at our St Stephen celebration. He was a student of Lajos Toth, our longtime member. Now he is the fiddle teacher of the folk music department of the Budapest Liszt Academy, and a founder of the dance-house movement. He has performed over 35 years with the Janosi Ensemble. Bartok and Kodaly has greatly influenced his mu-S c Lajos Magyari has informed me about the story of a friar in Coronado's army in 1541. He was a Hungarian, Gergely Hollosi. In the search for the Cities of Gold, Hollosi wanted to form a friendly relationship with the Indians, while the soldiers had other ideas. So the friar was chased away and found himself among the Zuni, in today's western NM. Over a long period, he formed a great friendship with the Zuni, and his soft touch, his faith, his beliefs influenced the tribe. In their mountains

### **The Annual Hungarian Club Picnic** By Joan Shaw

Saturday morning, the day before the annual club picnic, the troops gathered at our house to prepare for the anticipated crowd on Sunday. They did not have uniforms, or arms, or dog tags, but they had the group of spirit of a team which makes things work. Nature, on the other hand, was not cooperating. The winds had been howling all week in the foothills. The air was hot and dry. The few pitiful flowers we planted were not blooming. It was supposed to rain, but the moisture never reached to ground. We worried it wouldn't rain. Then we worried it would. In short, the weather was totally unpredictable. Nevertheless, we all went ahead with setting up tables, chairs, and, of course,

at the end of a long winding path, there is a cross where he is buried, with the words "Hol vagy Istvan kiraly" (Where are you King Stephen). And in July every few years, a select group of the tribe make the trek and sing the Hungarian words. (is it not interesting that there is the naming of the church at the Acoma's Sky City, named St Stephen, why our first king has a presence with 2 Indian tribes in our state?). More about the Hollosi story later. Welcome to all the summer travelers in our Club, either returning (Panni, Lajos, Terri, myself, etc) or leaving soon (Albert, Bea, Joan, Jack, etc). Need to tell our travel i 0 r e S 2 Hungarian students will be coming to the University late August to study mediation as Rezler Scholars. Hope to have them at the Club gathering in the fall. If you have any news, good, bad or just news, please contact me, steve borbas, at 265-7088.

the barbecue. It was decided that we would set up tents and shade areas on Sunday.

Saturday night and Sunday the wind howled. Then, suddenly, at 10am. the sun came out, the wind stopped an it became a beautiful day for a picnic. Even the pink primroses made a decent showing on the patio. The troops finished preparations. Tablecloths, ice tea, the trimmings for the barbecue, all appeared in colorful order. The people began arriving, setting their pot lock contributions on the tables under the big tent. There were many, delicious dishes to chose from: palacsinta with multiple feelings, salads, fresh fruits, and enough homemade desserts to fill up the whole serving tables. The burgers, brats, hotdogs, and homemade sausages disappeared as quickly as they

best: We talked, ate, and had fun! The kids ran Galko, Eva Gyongyosi, Panni Powless, Lajos around and had fun too.. We had about forty Magyari, Albert Gaspar, and Joe Galko. people attendance and a good time was had by Jack I enjoyed ourselves immensely. We hope all.

were made. We Magyars did what we love Big hugs and thanks to THE TROOPS: Rose to see you all at the St. Istvan event in August.

# Miskolc, History.

times - archaeological findings date back to the <u>Paleolithic</u>, proving human presence for cording to the first nationally held census over 70,000 years. Its first known dwellers were the Cotini, one of the Celt tribes. The 2,414 houses. area has been occupied by Hungarians since the "Conquest" in the late 9th century. It was named after the Miskólc clan and was first mentioned by this name around 1210 AD. The Miskólc clan lost their place when King Charles I centralized his rule by curbing the power of the oligarchs.

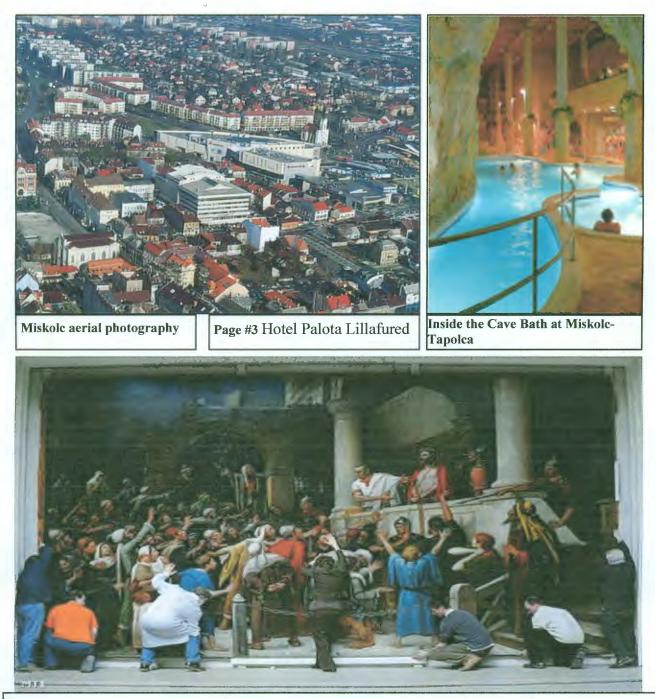
(market town) in 1365 by King Louis I. He also had the castle of the nearby town Diósgyőr (now a district of Miskolc) transformed into a Gothic fortress. The city developed in a dynamic way, but during the Ottoman occupation of most of Hungary the development of World War II established Miskolc as the na-Miskolc was brought to a standstill. The Turks tional center of heavy industry, a position the burnt Miskolc in 1544 and the city had to pay city maintained until the 1990s. By absorbing heavy taxes until 1687. It was also ruled by the surrounding villages, it became the second-Ottomans after the Battle of Mezőkeresztes in largest city of Hungary with more than 1596 for almost a hundred years. It was during 200,000 inhabitants. In 1949 the University of these years that Miskolc became an important Miskolc Hotel Palace on the shore of Lake center of wine-growing, and 13 guilds had Hámori, the Szinva waterfall (the highest wabeen founded.

During the war of independence against the Habsburg rule in the early 18th century, Prince Francis II Rákóczi, the leader of the Hungarians put his headquarters in Miskolc. The imperial forces sacked and burnt the city in 1707. Four years later, half of the population died from the cholera epidemic. Miskolc recovered quickly, and another age of prosperity began again. In 1724, Miskolc was chosen where the County hall of Borsod would be built. Many other significant buildings were done in the

18th and 19th centuries, including the City Hall, schools, churches, the synagogue, and The area has been inhabited since ancient the theatre. The theatre is commonly regarded as the first stone-built theater in Hungary. Ac-(1786) the city had a population of 14,719, and

These years brought prosperity, but the cholera epidemic of 1873 and the flood of 1878 took many lives. Several buildings were destroyed but bigger and more beautiful ones were built in their places. World War I did not affect the city directly, but many people died, and was occupied by Czechoslovak troops between Miskolc was elevated to the rank of oppidum 1918 and 1919. After the Treaty of Trianon, Hungary lost Kassa (today Košice, Slovakia) and Miskolc became the sole regional center of northern Hungary. This was one of the reasons for the enormous growth of the city during the 1930s and 1940s. The preparation for terfall in the country), the Anna Cave and the Istvan Cave.





The monumental 36 square meter Et Ecce Homo is one of Munkacsy's most famous paintings. (Under restoration)



# Munkacsy pictures from left:

1, A Tender Chord

2. Large Flower piece 1841

3. Dusty Road 1874



## Hungarian Artist: Munkácsy Mihály 1844-1900 Betty Townsend

garian artist I knew but two artists whose work I could of peasants and poor people. He spares no details immediately recall: Laszlo Moholy-Nagy and Viktor of their plight. These deeply emotional works in-Vasarhély. Then in my bookshelf I discovered TWO CENTURIES OF HUNGARIAN PAINTERS (1820-1970): A Catalogue of Nicolas Salgó Collection, representing 100+ Hungarian artists and their art. I was immediately attracted to Munkácsy's versatility and style.

"Hungary his native land and France his artistic home."

Mihály Munkácsy was born Michael von Lied to German parents in Munkács. (now TransCarpathian region of Ukraine) 1844. He dropped his surname in 1868 and adopted Munkácsy. He is considered a significant painter of the 19th Century.

In 1854 he began and completed an apprenticeship for the joinery trade. In 1860 during recovery from a serious illness (probably from poor nutrition) Munkácsy drew. His obvious artistic talent was recognized and he was soon a student of an itinerant painter who taught him drawing and painting as well as history and literature.

In 1865 he received a state grant to study abroad and he enrolled at the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts. In1866 he continued his studies at the Munich Academy of Fine Arts and in 1868 he studied at the Dusseldorf Kunstakademie.

He first visited Paris in 1867 where he saw modern French paintings. He returned in 1871 and set up a studio. Having exhibited at the prestigious Salon of Paris Munkácsy was already recognized and accepted as a painter in Paris.

and painted on commission for wealthy patrons bringing him additional fame and prosperity.

(Note) When asked if I would write an article on a Hun- Munkácsy's early paintings depict the daily lives clude portraits and candid situations painted in dark colors as the atmospheric background with figures in restrained light accents.

> After his studies in Dusseldorf he continued to paint landscapes now richly colored. He expanded his palette in paintings of figures in interior settings as well as in his still lifes. His work became more colorful.

> Munkácsy continued to work on portraits and landscapes throughout his life for his own pleasure. His painting style continued to evolve. The interior scenes representing his wealthy patrons included a multitude of figures more brightly colored with the backgrounds slightly darker. Color and light emphasize the figures (somewhat reminiscent of the Dutch masters). The onlooker can be overwhelmed by the use of complimentary colors particularly red/green and blue orange in the landscapes and floral paintings.

> Probably his most ambitious work was a trilogy of the life of Christ. In preparation for these he did numerous sketches and pencil studies from live models. These works brought Munkácsy more honors at the end of his brief life. Among his last works is the epic, CONQUEST (Arpad taking possession of the Magyars and Hungary). He died at 56.

> For more information Munkácsy Foundation includes an extensive detailed biography and a picture gallery of 200 images...about one-third of Munkácsy's known works.

In 1874 he married the widow of his French patron

#### A couple of old Jokes.

- Michael watched, fascinated, as his mother smoothed cold cream on her face. 'Why do you do that, mommy?' . he asked. 'To make myself beautiful,' said his mother, who then began removing the cream with a tissue. 'What's the matter, asked Michael 'Giving up?'
- Michael's kindergarten class was on a field trip to their local police station where they saw pictures tacked to a . bulletin board of the 10 most wanted criminals. One of the youngsters pointed to a picture and asked if it really was the photo of a wanted person. 'Yes,' said the policeman. 'The detectives want very badly to capture him.' Michael asked, "Why didn't you keep him when you took his picture?"

# MORE from the BOTTLE

One of the well-known Hungarians in the US is George Soros, a billionaire investor, broker and contributor to many causes. But the "invisible Soros" was his older brother Paul, who died recently. He became (just) a millionaire through engineering and designing bulk ports for large cargo ships around the world, but paled in comparison to his brother's wealth. Living in Budapest through the war, the family dodged the Nazis and the Communists, although he was arrested by the Soviets and managed to escape to Austria. He skied for Hungary before the war, and became the #2 tennis player in Austria. In the late 40s, he came to America on a student visa and stayed. A hard worker and inventor, he eventually started his own company operating cargo ships. Throughout the world, many ports had poor facilities for loading/unloading, so he developed new facilities in over 90 countries. He said that " I was lucky to survive..the rest relatively easy". was Last month's New Yorker magazine had a re-

BOTTLE view of a book by Tamas Dobozy "Siege 13". It is a collection of individual stories of people's lives through the more than 100 days of the siege of Budapest by the Red Army near the end of World War 2. Each story confronts its characters with impossible choices, often forcing them to weigh physical security against moral preservation in a desire to find ways out when there was none. My own travels this summer included teaching in Lugano, Switzerland, traveling to Italy, Germany and France as well with the students. Then onto Amsterdam for a week and London. The place most curious and different was Amsterdam and its culture of bicycles. Traffic signs for bikes (essentially for tourist riders not the locals), bigger lanes than for people and cars. One way traffic on each side of larger streets. Tow trucks for bikes. A parking structure by the railway station for over 100,000 bikes - yikes how to find my bike. Dating with bikes. Having arguments on bikes. Transporting large loads. And I heard that most European large cities are promoting bike use.

### Asparagus in Butter Sauce (Vajas Spargafozelek)

1.5 lb asparagus	1/2 tsp sugar
1 tsp salt	1.5 tbsp flour
1/4 pint sour cream	2 oz butter

Trim asparagus by breaking off ends. Cut each piece in three. Scald, then cook in salted water with sugar added. Just enough water to cover. When cooked, only a few minutes or longer, mix flour and most of sour cream. Add to the asparagus, then allow to simmer for 10 minutes. Pull

## A COUPLE OF ONE LINER

"He is a self-made man and worships his creator." - John Bright

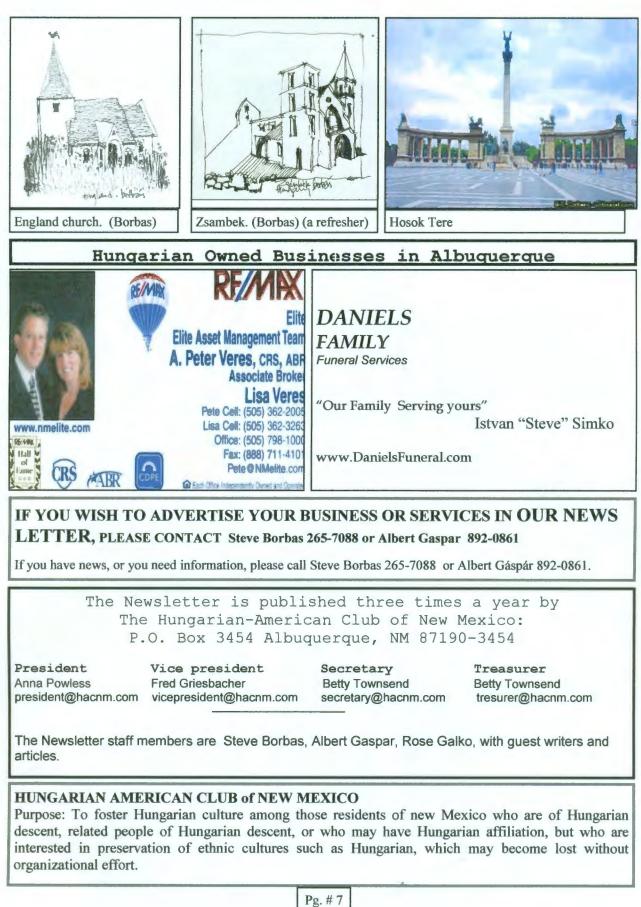
"He loves nature in spite of what it did to him." - Forrest Tucker

"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork." - Mae West

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go." - Oscar Wilde

"He has Van Gogh's ear for music." - Billy Wilder

"He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary." - William Faulkner (about Ernest Hemingway).



From: The Hungarian-American Club of NM P.O. Box 3454 Albuquerque NM 87190-3454



