



*Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány*  
*Americans for Hungarians Foundation*  
*started in 2009, incorporated in March 2010*

**Activity Report September 2018**

The Beginning  
Responding to Disasters  
Giving Back to Our Homeland  
Charitable Activities  
Improving USA-Hungary Relations  
Building the Image of Both Countries  
Bringing Innovations to Market  
Improving the Hungarian Economy  
Restoring Cooperatives  
Supporting Hungarian Culture  
Helping Hungarian Youth  
Helping Hungarian Farmers  
Student and Professional Exchange programs

## *Partners*

**American Hungarian Federation (501 3c non profit) USA**

**Oldest and largest American-Hungarian umbrella organization**



**Friends of Hungary Foundation - (Hungarian non-profit)**



**Hungarian Innovation Center, Inc. USA**



**Americans for Hungarians (NJ non-profit) USA**



**American Hungarian Chamber of Commerce in New York, Inc.**

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## Introduction

The **Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány** (American for Hungarians Foundation) was established as a **non-profit foundation** in Hungary in April 2010 by a number of Americans and Hungarian Americans for the purpose of improving the ties between the USA and Hungary. The activities that have been undertaken to achieve this mission include charitable works, cultural events, exchange programs, improving the economic condition of Hungary and bilateral trade, and bringing Hungarian innovations to market. The leaders of the Alapítvány have extensive business and social experience at the highest levels in both the USA and Hungary.

This report summarizes our flood and disaster relief activities as well as the work and the sacrifices of many persons *who worked **many thousands of hours without pay*** to help Hungary in this effort. The large scope and success of the relief activities would not have been possible to achieve without this **multi-year volunteer effort**. Special thanks go to **Dreisziger-Stricz Zsuzsanna**, who worked for nine years without pay and without whom we would not have achieved this extraordinary success for Hungary, **Mr. Imre Hoefle of Florida** who contributed the most funds outside of the **Balogh family, the many individual contributors**, and the **American Hungarian Federation** with whom we partnered. The **nine years of work** took the volunteers of the Foundation to over 70 villages, numerous inventors and businesses to ascertain needs, while traveling thousands of kilometers in the process. This gave the volunteers insight into every facet of Hungarian life.

## The Beginning

November 23, 2009 : The Amerikai Magyar Klub (predecessor of the Alapítvány) inaugural celebration was wonderfully successful and attended by 250 enthusiastic persons at the Magyar Kulúra Alapítvány on Castle Hill in Budapest. 15 Hungarian and American organizations displayed their wares. The theme of the evening was President John F. Kennedy's message to Americans a few decades ago:

**"Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country". In Hungarian: "Ne azt kérdezd, mit tesz érted az ország, hanem hogy Te mit tehetsz az országért!"**



**In Service to Hungary and American Hungarian Relations**

## Inaugural on Castle Hill attended by 250 persons



**Dr. Lukács László atya, Dr.Koncz Gábor, Dreisziger Zsuzsanna, Csapó Harold Gábor**

**Thank you to many for helping with this extraordinary event:** Acapella Cukrászda Szeged, Agrar Marketing Centrum, American Embassy, Andezit Hotel, Maczó László, Bába és Társai Nyomda - Szeged, Balázs Béla, Bánki Donát Főiskola, Bázakerettye, Béres Zrt., Bodó Sándor, Csepku Ádám, Czitkovics Adám, Díszruha Szalon, Garai János, Hadtörténeti Intézet, Hangya, -Mórakert Szövetkezet (zöldségek), -Virágpaletta Szövetkezet (virág), - Aranyhegyi Pincészövetkezet-borok, Üllőparti Szövetkezet (biokenyér), Csabai Raktárszövetkezet -Tordas, Heinemann Testvérek, Helmlé Mónika, HIR TV, Horvath Katalin, Imlauer Anita, Jekl Béla Pincészet, Kalocsai Porcelán Manufactura, Kenderes, Kudela József, Magyar Feltalálók Egyesület, Magyar Kálmán, Magyar Kultúra Alapítvány, Meszáros International Center for Entrepreneurship, Mezei Mária, MOL Museum, Panyolai Szilvórium, Proactive Management Consulting, Szeged-Toledo Baráti Kör Egyesület, Szerencsi Bonbon Kft., Szilágyi Attila Dr., Szőke Krisztina, Tóth Judit, VEL Nyomda, Vigh Károlyné Éva, Vinum Primatis Zrt., Zambo László, Zsanna Manna ---partial list.

## Flood and Disaster Relief

The **floods and disasters** that occurred in Hungary in 2010-2013 damaged many homes and farms, and threatened the livelihoods of many people. Our non-profit Hungarian Alapítvány (Foundation) joined forces with the American Hungarian Federation (AHF) to solicit charitable donations in Hungary and the USA to reconstruct the affected areas.

The Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány (Americans for Hungarians Foundation) and the American Hungarian Federation recognized that to make the most effective use of the donated funds we needed to undertake projects that had a lasting effect. Therefore in addition to helping individual families, we and American Hungarian Federation decided to modify the original plan and also help rebuild community centers as well as concentrate the relief on the farmers- all of which had multiyear effects and saved jobs in the stricken areas.

## Summer Camp for Children

The first project we undertook was to help the children of the victims of the flood. We joined forces with the **American Hungarian Federation**, who provided part of the funds. We solicited contributions from many people and organizations, the Takarékbank ZRT, the Országos Takarékszövetkezeti Szövetség, Boldvai Takarékszövetség, Hungária Érték Papír, K.H.K Korona Kft., Kincsem Szövetkezet, Mepet Kft, Somogy Megyei Gyermekek Tábor, and Hoffman Ödön. **Interim financing for the camp was provided by the personal funds of foundation President Balogh.** We decided to treat the



children of the victims of the flood to a week's summer camp in Hungary on Lake Balaton. The camp was organized and directed by the Foundation's Co-President, Dreisziger -Zsuzsanna, with assistance from Balogh Gyula, the Foundation's President and a few parents, all of whom worked gratis.

The camp was held in the [Somogy Megyei Gyermekek Tábor](#) in [Fonyódliget](#), a town on the shores of [Lake Balaton](#), Central Europe's largest lake. The Alapítvány President and Co-President visited the camp facilities in the beginning of July to review the camp, lodging facilities, and meal plans and to negotiate preferential rates.



**One hundred and three children**, aged 7 to 14, were selected from three villages that were affected by the flood: [Boldva](#), [Borsodszirák](#), and [Edelény](#), which are about 360 kilometers from the camp. The selection process was coordinated by the head of the [Boldva Takarékszövetkezet](#) (a type of credit union cooperative), and recommendations were made by the local mayoral offices, such as Molnár Oszkár, the mayor of Edelény. Two buses picked up the children in the three villages and began the long ride through Budapest and on to the camp in [Fonyódliget](#). Most of the children had never been to the capital city and were wowed by the architecture. The trip covered a total of over 350 kilometers, and lasted over 6 hours. The children

were very excited, restless, and hungry by the time they arrived at 2:30 PM on the shores of Lake Balaton. They were treated to a very late lunch, quickly piled their belongings into three huge cabins and headed straight for the water.

After a few hours of warm sun, splashing and swimming, they unpacked and then were treated to a late dinner. After dinner, five volunteer teams of 6 each were selected to play charades in front of the entire group. It proved to be a lot of fun. Then it was back to the cabins for bedtime at 10PM. However many of the young children were so excited that they were not able to get to sleep until about 2 am.

The next day the weather was perfect for swimming and water activities. Five bicycle water boats with slides were rented and the children had great fun jumping and sliding from the boats. In the late afternoon, a water relay race was organized and four teams of 10 participated while the rest watched. The older boys and girls wanted to compete against each other, so there were four teams, an older boys and older girls group, a middle group, and a very young group. The relays included: a swimming sprint to and from a marker in the lake, pushing a boat and beach ball around markers, and racing on a float. The older girls team almost beat the older boys in the relays. There was lots of cheering and lots of fun, and a relaxing time for the tired adults. In the evening the children were treated to a Disco, which was held every second day for two hours.



The following days were also packed with activities. There was a seven kilometer trip on

a miniature train to a breathtaking overlook of Lake Balaton and the Fonyodi Museum which contained a collection of ancient Hungarian maps, as well as a history of Lake Balaton with reproductions of its wildlife. (see picture of child from our camp on the left)

There were multiple

soccer tournaments with the various village teams in friendly competition. Athletic relays were organized which featured forward and backward running races, wheelbarrow type races, and piggyback races. The older boys and girls as well as some of the camp leaders ran a 200 meter race. Prizes were given in all of the team and individual competitions.

There was a boat trip from the Fonyod side of beautiful Lake Balaton to Badacsony. In Badacsony the 100 children were packed into a dozen jeeps for a thrilling bumpy and scenic ride. Ice cream treats for all were provided throughout the trips. One of the favorite treats of the children was the huge Hungarian watermelons which were purchased from an "östermelő. There were also video games, and pool and miniature soccer tables. In the evening, some of the youngest children were read stories. Many friendships were formed.



Sunday was a spiritual day that provided a wonderful message about the strength of faith in God and faith in yourself and was meant to uplift the spirits of the victims of the flood. Thanks to the generosity of Hoffmann Ödon, a Hungarian businessman who brought toys and gifts, a half dozen children performed beautiful religious songs, two seven year olds played the flute, and a moving American film called Facing the Giants was shown to the children who listened in rapt attention. This was a story about an American High School Football team that lost all its games and how faith in God and faith in their own ability to overcome adversity through hard work allowed them to become a winning team.

## Collection and delivery of 7 tons of donations

The foundation undertook a large effort to collect new and used articles for the families that were affected by the flood. Our foundation's co-president, Dreisziger-Stricz Zsuzsanna, personally approached dozens of persons and organizations in Hungary and was able to collect 7 tons of goods. The supplies included a few tons of canned goods from the Szatmári Konzerv Gyár, more than 90 bags of new and used clothing, blankets and comforters, washing machines, refrigerators, irons, kitchen supplies, TV's, and furniture. Warehouse space was provided by KHK Korona KFT in Csepel, transportation by the Kincsem Szövetkezet, and funding was provided by AHF, the Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány, and private donors.



When all the goods were collected we contacted the Kincsem Szövetkezet, whose President Merczel Sándor personally picked up the goods in their truck and together with the foundation's President and Co-president drove 260 kilometers to deliver the goods. Dreisziger Zsuzsanna went despite the death of her brother the day before. All worked for free and contributed their expenses.



## Rebuilding of community centers and towns

With the goal of providing a lasting effect of the volunteer effort and the donated funds, the foundation restored two community centers, one in the village of Edelény and the second in Satoraljaújhely. We also supported the village of Vizsoly. We met with the mayors of the three towns to decide how to help.

**Edelény** was toured to visit the damaged public activity center which had an auditorium, library, museum, tv studio, various meeting places. The water damaged the entire heating system as well as the studio equipment.



Heating system flood damage



Surveying damage





Edeleny Auditorium update



Community center staff with Mr. Balogh

The sports complex in **Satoraljaújhely** was damaged by the flood waters. Repairs were made to the floor of the auditorium and the swimming pool, and various automated auditorium and pool cleaning equipment were replaced.



Picture of damage to equipment



Meeting with the mayor and his deputy

## 2018 Friends of Hungary Foundation Conference



President Balogh Gyula and Co-President Dreisziger Zsuzsanna attended the three day conference at the Budapest Vigadó and the Magyar Tudományos Akadémia. The annual conference is hosted by the Foundation Chair **Dr. Szilveszter Vizi**, and had participants from over 30 countries.

Highlights of the evening included an extraordinary concert by the **Pannon Children's Choir from Pécs** with songs by Bartok, Kodaly, folk and patriotic songs. They were invited as a result of **Co-President Zsuzsanna Dreisziger** recommending them to the Foundation. PM Viktor Orbán and President János Áder gave moving welcome speeches and updates on the future of Hungary.



Dr. Áder János, President of Hungary, sharing a pleasant moment with Ms. Dreisziger and Mr. Balogh



Orbán Viktor, Prime Minister of Hungary



Magyarország Barátai Alapítvány President Dr. Vizi Szilveszter

## Our Foundation Supported the Balatonfüred Radnóti Middle School 2018 Charity Ball & Initiates USA Teacher Exchange Program

This wonderful charity ball was organized by **Dr. Anett Tamás**, who invited Foundation President Balogh and Co-President Dreisziger. **Dr. Judit Kerekes**, our generous kuratorium member, initiated this exchange program by inviting the Radnóti Middle School Principal, Dr. István Steierlein, to participate in the City University of New York, College of Staten Island XII Annual Mathematics Connections Conference in New York that she manages.



Dr. Steierlein, Mr. Balogh

Presenting the Invitation

Foundation logo among supporters



Zsuzsanna Dreisziger and Dr. Anett Tamás (on right)

## 110th Anniversary of the American Hungarian Federation

Our Foundation honors those who gave selflessly to help Hungarians



**Zsuzsanna Dreisziger, Master of Ceremonies**

The Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány (Americans for Hungarians Foundation) supports and congratulates the American Hungarian Federation (AHF) on its 110th Anniversary of its incorporation, and especially those who in the past gave significant service to Hungarians. The event was held at the beautiful grounds of the Embassy of Hungary in Washington. **Zsuzsanna Dreisziger**, and **(Jules) Gyula Balogh** worked tirelessly (pro bono) for months in both the USA and Hungary to make this sister organization's Anniversary a success. Kuratorium members **Elek Mata** and **Dr. Judit Kerekes**, and the staff of the Embassy provided extensive help.



AHF Co-President Gyula E. Balogh introduced **His Excellency Hungarian Ambassador to the US, Dr. László Szabó** our principal patron, who gave an outstanding review about the long and excellent relationships between the US and Hungary.

The Gala Celebration Program was designed and MC'd by AHF Board member Zsuzsanna Dreisziger. She gave a moving speech about hard work, perseverance, the will and faith needed to succeed, and the need to assist

those who are in dire need that was embodied by the founders of AHF. She introduced **His Excellency Dr. Péter Szilágyi, Deputy State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad, Prime Minister's Office**, who gave a wonderful speech about the connection between the American and Hungarian communities. He presented an honorary citation for service to Hungarians from **Deputy Prime Minister Zsolt Semjén** and **State Secretary Árpád János Potápi**. Other dignitaries were also introduced including **Dr. Szilveszter Vizi** who received the AHF Award for Service to Hungary; and many American Hungarians who contributed to Hungarian causes (see [www.amkl.org](http://www.amkl.org)).

**Akos L. Nagy, President of AHF**, gave his welcome speech, citing the mission of AHF. Highlights of the evening were the lighting of 110 candles in remembrance of 40 persons who in the past gave significant contributions to AHF, a moving Coming to America Musical which portrayed and described Hungarian immigration to the US which caused tears among those present who immigrated, the Service Awards to 12 persons who gave significant contributions to Hungary and AHF, and a presentation on the future of American Hungarian Youth.



Music and patriotic American and Hungarian songs for the event were **provided pro bono** by the exceptionally talented group composed of **László Hajdu Németh, Kálmán Magyar Jr, Zsuzsa Seres, Olga Major, Ákos Székely, and George Petran.**

A big thank you to the Bethlen Gábor Alapkezelő Zrt for their support of this event and to Bocskai Radio.





**AHF President Akos Nagy and Deputy State Secretary Péter Szilágyi**



**110 candles, Ms. Dreisziger & Dr. Nemeth reading remembrances, scouts**



**Dr. István Horvath reading an immigrant's moving letter**



**AHF Counsel Paul Kamenar welcoming immigrants to the USA**



**Dr. Judit Kerekes speaking about the future belongs to our youth**



**Ambassador László Szabó, and guests**





**AHF Treasurer Atilla Kocsis, wife Sara, and guests**



**Board Member Ádám Grósz, Mózés Kovács and guests**



**Ambassador(R), wife Ivonn and VIP guests**



**Dr. Zsolt Hetesy, Dr. Miklós Toth and Elena Toth**



**Magdolna and Imre Beke, Barbara Bollock**



**Dr. Szilveszter Vizi, wife Veronika and guests**



**Mária Stumpf, Mária Mezei, Olga Major**



## Hosting new US Ambassador Colleen Bell

When Her Excellency Colleen Bell arrived in Hungary, the Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány wanted to give her an understanding of various segments of society.

We invited 60 business owners, entrepreneurs, philanthropists, physicians, scientists, academicians, and persons from the arts and crafts and hosted them at the Hungarian State Opera to view a wonderful performance of one of Hungary's most famous operas Bánk Bán .



The family of Ambassador Bell and Mr. Balogh



Ambassador Bell accepting our hand carved award



The Ambassador's family and guests at the Opera



Prof. Vizi Szilveszter, wife Veronika and the Ambassador



Ambassador and guests

## Thanksgiving and Forum to Improve US Hungary Relations



### **The Budapest FORUM to improve US-Hungary relations 11/26/2014.**

The FORUM was co-sponsored by the American Hungarian Federation, and held under the auspices of the Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány ([www.AMKL.org](http://www.AMKL.org)).

The Forum was the first of a series to be held to restore the excellent relations that the USA had with Hungary for many years, which had been deteriorating since the leftist government which the US had supported was ousted in 2010. This first of a kind FORUM brought together parties that have been on opposite sides of the political arguments, to exchange ideas and come to an understanding of each others' perspectives.

The participants included the US Charge d' Affaires André Goodfriend and ifj. Dr Lomnici Zoltán the spokesperson of the Civil Összefogás Forum ( CÖF) which had a lawsuit filed against the Charge d' Affaires, American Hungarian Federation President Frank Koszorus Jr., Mr. Héjj Tibor President of Proactive Management Consulting, and Mr. (Jules) Gyula Balogh President of the Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány. All of the participants had experience working or being educated in the USA.





**The FORUM followed a very moving Thanksgiving celebration where Americans, Hungarians and American Hungarians gave thanks for what they had received over the past year and told what wonderful feelings they had for America.**

The FORUM started with observations by the participants of what was good about America and Hungary, as viewed on both sides. America was noted for its acceptance of foreigners and the

rule of law by the Hungarians, and Hungary was noted for its friendliness to foreigners and its fights for freedom and democracy. Ifj. Dr. Lomnici described his wonderful 6 years of experience in the USA at the NIH where he had a grant to study issues relating to tobacco. Mr. Héjj Tibor described his obtaining his MBA in the USA where he went with his family and 4 children. He experienced the hospitality of the people and friendships with professors, the educational system, the honesty of the students, even the wonderful nursery for his children. He also talked about how friendly and accepting the students were to a youth who was disabled. Mr. Koszorus spoke about the opportunity provided to all in the USA to succeed, and the tremendous benefits citizenship provides. Mr. Balogh spoke about coming to the USA at age 7 and how his mother said that you must always keep your Hungarian heart, but you are now an American. He mentioned the good things about the USA are the friendliness of the people and the willingness to help other people, and the entrepreneurial spirit of the past. He also said that Hungary is a magical land, like Disneyworld, charming with wonderful people and beautiful countryside. Mr. Goodfriend said that the US and Hungary had many good things in common. The USA has accepted people from diverse lands and that acceptance is one of the great strengths of America. Hungary in the past has also been very accepting of other peoples.

The FORUM then moved to a discussion of the issues that Hungarians and American Hungarians had with the US government approach, and the issues the US government had with Hungary. American Hungarian Federation President Koszorus read a moving letter from an apolitical professor of Hungarian origin in the USA who reiterated the perception that the USA was demeaning and humiliating Hungary with its overwhelming criticism, much of which lacked proof. Ifj. Dr. Lomnici Zoltán said he did not want to ruin the wonderful Thanksgiving atmosphere, so he politely described some of the problems in the USA about discrimination against blacks, and other problems that the USA has such as corruption, by which he implied that the US may not have much standing to criticize others. He also mentioned that the USA did not help Hungary in 1956 and that was a sore point among Hungarians. Mr. Héjj Tibor among other things mentioned that Hungary has been historically surrounded by conflict from other countries and that Hungarians have had to fend for themselves most of the time such as in 1956, and therefore they are very sensitive about their sovereignty. He said the Americans need to understand this when they involve themselves in the internal workings of Hungary. Mr. Balogh put forth the question of why the USA only criticizes conservative governments. Mr. Goodfriend had many good things to say about Hungary, such as that the people are friendly and that it is a democracy, but he also indicated that he had an issue with the formulation of the latter question, since he felt that the USA approach was not criticism of one party but a dialogue about what they observed in Hungary.

The final question asked how to solve the issues between the two countries. There was agreement that enhanced exchange programs highlighting both cultures, student exchange programs, cooperation in research, improved trade, taking sensitive discussions behind closed doors, and both governments being proactive on improving relations would go a long way to removing the strain between the USA and Hungary.



**HUNGARY**  
**today**

## **“Give Back Something To Our Homeland”**

Hungary Today interviewed Mr. Gyula Elemér Balogh, the President of the Americans for Hungarians Foundation (*Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány*) and the Co-President of the American Hungarian Federation.

**Mr. Balogh discussed the activities and achievements of the aforementioned organizations, as well as his role in organizing Hungarian Balls in New York.**

### **How did the American Hungarian Club begin? Where did the idea come from?**

My father, Dr. Elemér Balogh, worked for 40 years to help Hungary from the US and from Austria. In 2005 the Hungarian Conference of Catholic Bishops presented him with their highest award for his extensive work [the Pro Ecclesia Hungariae Award]. Before my father died, he asked one thing of me, which was to use my extensive business experience on behalf of Hungary. This was the thought, the task that he passed on to me.

In 2009 we founded the American Hungarian Club, in the spirit of “giving back” to Hungary. After all, this is our home, our ‘old’ home, and we would like to give back to our homeland something of what we ourselves received from our parents. Following an inaugural celebration held in the Budapest castle district in 2009, which was attended by 250 Hungarians and Americans, artists, and inventors, and the US Embassy, the American Hungarian Club began its work.



*Mr. Gyula Elemér Balogh, the President of Americans for Hungarians non-profit Foundation*

## How did the Club's first initiatives go?

In 2010 the Club was transformed into a foundation. We registered the Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány (Americans for Hungarians Foundation) as a non-profit here in Hungary, so that we could help those in need and support the work of young inventors. We helped those affected by the [2010] flooding, we ran children's camps at Lake Balaton, and organized charity balls.



*100 children impacted by Hungary's floods, at the Foundation's summer camp on Lake Balaton*



In addition, we worked to support young inventors and scholars to bring their products to market, and to find financing in America for their research and inventions. We organized 'business bourses,' where Hungarian and American business people can meet and exchange views. I feel that business and tourism is very important, because if we want to help Hungary than we need to support its commerce and its economy. When US Ambassador Colleen Bell arrived in Hungary we hosted her and her family, and 60 persons at the Hungarian State Opera at the Bánk-Bán performance, so they could get a feeling for Hungarian culture and meet persons from various segments of Hungarian Society.

For me, though, the thing that interests me most about the Foundation's work is the idea of innovation. I have taken to saying that **"Hungary is a land of inventors."**



### **What sorts of innovations do you have in mind?**

I like to support those innovations and inventions that help society as a whole, particularly in the realms of healthcare, environmental protection, and energy.

### **The Foundation's main tasks are running social programs and finding financial support [for innovations] then?**

Our other main goal is to work to improve American-Hungarian relations; we work to build bridges with exchange programs, conferences, and forums.



*5 year anniversary and Forum on improving American Hungarian Relations, November 26, 2014*

### **To what extent are young people active in the life of the foundation?**

Younger people prefer to do things in their own way. The older Hungarian-Americans came from a different, much more difficult background. It is slightly difficult to find volunteers, because our management is older and can work pro-bono. But one of our young Kuratorium members, Csapó Harold Gábor, is leading the effort to include the younger generation. It is important for someone to take this work over, because otherwise the foundation will cease to exist...many Hungarian organizations in America have disappeared due to a lack of fresh blood.

### **What is the relationship between your Foundation and the American Hungarian Federation?**

The Federation is a separate organization, of which I am the Co-President (Ákos L. Nagy is President). The two organizations have different roles.

The Federation is a non-profit registered in America (chartered in 1907), while the Foundation is a non-profit registered in Hungary, but as a bridge of sorts the two work very well together. For example, when we were raising money on behalf of those impacted by the [2010] floods, the Federation also raised money and donated it to the Foundation, and in Hungary we made sure that those donations made their way to those in need (we currently have an all volunteer organization).

## **Overall, what are the chief differences between the two organizations?**

The American Hungarian Federation is oldest Hungarian umbrella organization in the US, and has a charter to help Hungarian immigrants in the US, as well as “defend the good name of Hungary against attacks and defamations”. Currently it works more on the latter, in the realm of education about country politics, particularly on issues facing Hungarian minorities [in countries neighboring Hungary]. By the way, the American Hungarian Federation is celebrating its 110<sup>th</sup> birthday this year.

The Foundation’s work is much wider and more hands-on. Besides charitable works, our goal is to provide concrete support to Hungarians, especially for inventors; we will provide not only business and financial contacts, but marketing classes as well, and we also help build relationships between inventors and experts in their given fields. We work with the **Hungarian Innovation Center, Inc. in the US** ([www.HUNINC.com](http://www.HUNINC.com)) which has leading Hungarian and American professors, scholars, and business persons on their team. The world class advisors include, for example, Dr. E. Szilveszter Vizi [chairman of the board of the Friends of Hungary Foundation and former president of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences], Professor Don Sexton [world renowned Professor of Marketing at the Columbia University Business School, taught at leading B-Schools worldwide, and consultant at over 90 multinational and startup firms], Dr. András Pellionisz (Silicon Valley), Dr. Ernő Sajó (University of Massachusetts), Dr. Zoltán Mari (Johns Hopkins University), Dr. Stephen Csorna (Vanderbilt University) and others.

## **Are the balls that your Foundation organizes in Hungary or in New York?**

We organized two charity Rajkó Balls in Hungary, and this past November members of our Foundation helped to organize the elegant Piarist Charity Ball in New York. I was a student at a Piarist school in the United States as well, by the way. For 55 years this ball was the third most-prestigious ball in New York City, and in the past was a very famous ball. Eight years ago, the elegant lady who ran this ball passed away, and so we had to revive the ball; this is when they asked me to serve as President of the Piarist Alumni Association. We formed a ball committee, with Dr. Thomas Hilberth as Chair, and were successful in reviving the ball. We succeeded in securing many guests of honor from Hungary and America, such as Dr. E. Szilveszter Vizi, Dr. Réka Szemerényi [Hungarian Ambassador to United States] and Ferenc Kumin [Consul General of Hungary], and Tamás Péterffy [CEO of Interactive Brokers, and one of the most successful Hungarian immigrants to the US], Dr. Peter Forgach who was honored for his charity work, and Adam de Nagy grandson of the Piarist ball founder. We held the ball in one of New York’s most elite clubs, the University Club. We are planning on hosting the ball there this year as well, on November 10.

## **What happens at one of these balls?**

We introduce our guests to Hungarian art, music, and dance, and of course the Piarist legacy. This is important, since more than half the guests at this year’s ball were Americans.

As President of the Association, I invited Donald Trump as well (his home is in New York City), prior to the election. He responded to my invitation, but was unable to attend since the Ball was two days after his election.

I would describe the Piarist Ball as a huge success, since we received lots of positive feedback, and succeeded in raising tens of thousands of dollars for the Piarists. This ball is primarily a fund raising event since standard tickets were \$450, but is also a place where high society can meet and enjoy a wonderful Hungarian experience.



*2016 Piarist Ball at the University Club -Zsuzsanna Dreisziger, Mr. Balogh, Dr. Veronika Ádám, Dr. Szilveszter Vizi, Dr. Réka Szemerkényi Hungarian Ambassador To the USA, and her husband, Szabolcs Ferencz*

**What sort of relationship does your organization have with other Hungarian organizations in the New York area?**

We are quite well acquainted with each other, and know of each other. We are close to the Hungarian House [Magyar Ház] which my father was instrumental in founding in 1966, and to the Hungarian Scouts. Our new kuratorium member, Dr. Judit Kerekes, runs the American Hungarian Schools Meetings (AMIT-NY.org) in NY as well as nationwide. We are also close to the New York Hungarian Scientific Society; this is also partially due to the fact that our clubs' technical goals align. We work with the American Hungarian Chamber of Commerce of NY (especially Tamás Barát and Kálmán Magyar). There used to be more organizations in New York, but many have since moved to New Jersey or to the suburbs. Nowadays the largest concentration of Hungarian-Americans in the region is in New Brunswick, New Jersey. They organize a Hungarian festival in June of every year that attracts thousands of visitors. They have a 300 person capacity Hungarian American Athletic Club which hosts many events and a Hungarian Museum.

**Your Foundation's website features political opinions that are more open than what one would find on the sites of many Hungarian American and civil-society organizations. To what extent is your Foundation involved in politics?**

What we feature on our site is not so much opinions as it is information and analysis about what is happening in America. We do not take part in Hungarian politics. We provide information about America, because it is important for us that Hungarians know that what they hear in the press is not always reflective of the truth. Americans are a friendly people, and are open to foreigners and to other cultures. It is only in American politics that this idea comes across that Americans "don't like foreigners" or that they think negatively of Hungary.

In any case, this is a Hungarian foundation, and we are discussing American-Hungarian relations. This is why we find analysis of current events to be important, because we work to inform and spread the word about what is happening in the world with regards to relations between the US and Hungary.

**The American Hungarian Federation's site does not include much in the way of political writing.**

Because we are a Hungarian Foundation, compared to the US based Federation, we are able to express our views about American politics more openly. Hungary has received much criticism in the past by politicians, but constant criticism does not help build relationships. In any case, it is certainly true that with the Foundation we can express ourselves differently. Our goal is not to criticize, but to analyze in a more open way the relationship between Hungary and America, and make suggestions for building improvements.

Reporting by Tom Szigeti and Róbert Velkey

## Background and Contacts

The leaders of the Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány (AMKA) have an extensive network of contacts and partners that are helpful in achieving its objectives of good relations between the USA and Hungary, as well as bringing Hungarian innovations and products to market in the USA and elsewhere. These contacts were built up over a 40 years span and encompass over 100 US and foreign firms.

**Mr. Balogh, the AMKA President** alone has worked or consulted at over 25 small, medium and multinational firms as well as startups. His early work included developing part of IBM's first time sharing software, creating software for missile recognition systems and computer based manufacturing at Boeing Aerospace, and computer reading machines for the blind at Haskins Labs (affiliated with Yale University).

At Citicorp as he was part of the team that increased cardholders by over 30 million, responsible for acquisitions of card firms such as Diners Club, and private labels such as Shell. He created the credit card scoring models for 35 overseas subsidiaries. He moved to the corporate level as VP of Strategy for New Product Development, where he developed the construction blocks to create the \$1.4 trillion health care financing and information business products, as well as new information models for analyzing stocks.

He has taught Business courses at Citicorp to the top 200 executives, at the 30,000 employee Habib Bank to the top 300 executives, and at the Columbia University Executive Programs. He has an MBA in Finance from the Columbia University Business School, an M.Sc. in Engineering from New York University, and a B.Sc. in Physics from the University of Notre Dame. He is Co President of the American Hungarian Federation (incorporated in 1907), past President of the Hungarian Reformed Federation (owner of the Kossuth House), and Past President of the Piarist Alumni Association.

**Ms. Dreisziger, the AMKA Co-President**, has an extensive business and social background. For nearly 20 years, she was one of Hungary's largest jewelry wholesalers, owner of Gold & Invest Kft. She is currently Co-President of the Americans for the Hungarians Foundation and the Hungarian Innovation Center. During her 9 years of operational management of the Foundation, she worked extensive for the long-term strengthening of American-Hungarian relations.

She has extensive organizational experience, she managed the opening ceremony of the American Hungarian Club that was attended by 250 people on Castle Hill, she organized the New Hangya movement in the Upper House of the Hungarian Parliament that was attended by over 500 persons from every county in Hungary, she managed 5 International formal balls and 2 Rajko Balls in Hungary, as well as the Business Börzé attended by over 150 persons from Hungary and the USA. In 2015, in honor of the American ambassador of Colleen Bell, she hosted a reception at the Hungarian State Opera House with 60 VIP guests where the Ambassador and guests watched the famous Bánk Bán Opera.

Most recently she managed the wonderful 110th anniversary celebration of the American Hungarian Federation in Washington DC at the Hungarian Embassy, which was attended by a full house of 110 persons, including the guest of honor, his Excellency Ambassador of Hungary, Dr. Laszló Szabó. She also arranged to have it broadcast over the internet which was seen live by over 3000 persons. Currently she is planning the Hungarian Village and Business Showroom in the USA.

**Elek Mata** is a member of the Kuratorium and was one of the founders of the Magyar Vállalkozók és Munkaadók Párt (business and job creation political party). He is currently Vice President. He has an extensive background and knowledge of Hungarian businesses. Owner and operator of vineyards in Tokai.

**Dr. Kerekes Judit** is from New Jersey USA, and Associate Professor, The College of Staten Island/CUNY, Department of Education. She is an expert in Mathematics Education and has over 100 articles published in major journals on mathematics and Hungarian language teaching. She has received numerous American and Hungarian awards for her work. She is President of AMIT - Amerikai Magyar Iskolák Találkozója (American Hungarian Schools Meetings) which has over 50 American Hungarian organizational members in the USA. She has an Ed. D. and MA in Education from Eotvos University in Budapest and an MA in Math and Physics from Jozsef A. University, Szeged.

**Csapó Háróld Gábor** is from California and a dual citizen of Hungary and the USA. He owns a public relations and video firm with Hungarian business and government clients. He also covers major events in Hungary. Mr. Csapó produced the wonderful video about Hungarians in the US and visit by PM Orbán Viktor to the US that was shown at the inauguration of the Amerikai Magyar Klub. He currently serves as an advisor to the Hungarian Innovation Ministry.

### **Partner Organizations - The Hungarian Innovation Center**

The AMKA partner organization, the Hungarian Innovation Center, has business advisors such as **Professor Don Sexton of the Columbia Business School** that have consulted at over 90 firms and taught at major Business Schools worldwide including Columbia University, the University of California-Berkeley, the Indian School of Business, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Skolkovo (Moscow School of Management), Beijing Management Institute, Australian Graduate School of Management, University of Hawaii, University of Tehran, Jagiellonian University (Krakow), and the U.S. Business School in Prague.

The Hungarian Innovation Center also has world renowned researchers in a number of fields on its advisory Board. For example:

**Steven E. Csorna.** Associate Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Vanderbilt University. Ph.D. Columbia, MA Columbia, B.S. New York University.

**Zoltán Mari, MD.** Past Director, Johns Hopkins Parkinsons and Movement Disorder Center.

**András Pellionisz.** Domain expert in Genome Informatics, a cross-disciplinary scientist and technologist. Ph.D.'s in Computer Engineering, Biology and Physics.

**Ernő Sajó.** Director of the Medical Physics at the University of Massachusetts Lowell, professor of physics and applied physics.

**Dr. Vizi E. Szilveszter,** Professor Emeritus Semmelweis University. MD medicine University of Pecs and Budapest, Ph.D. medicine University of Budapest, D.Sci. pharmacology, Semmelweis University, Budapest Past President Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Széchenyi- Grand Prize.

These wide ranging experiences and contacts, most of which are not available to the Hungarians, are invaluable in helping to improve business, trade and cultural relations with the USA.

## Previous Activities

### Town of Abászalok - Childrens' Sports Days

For the past three years the foundation has supported the Tisza Tavi Családi Napok in Abászalok (in the flood zone). Here families and children from the surrounding towns come to enjoy a weekend of festivities.



Childrens' Sports Days in Abászalok



### Mátészalka Hungarian-English School

We visited the Hungarian English School in Matészalka near the Szamos River (a flood zone) to see how we could be of help. We met with the headmaster as well as the local officials. The result of this meeting was the creation of the “**Gyermekeink Jövőjéért Alapítvány**” (*The Foundation for the Future of our Children*) which we partly sponsored. The purpose of this foundation is to support effective teaching methods for English material, for giving hope and inspiration to disadvantaged students, providing talent management, love of country and its environment, and model family development.



Hungarian-English School Lineup



Teachers, headmaster, Co-President Dreisziger



President Balogh describes the Foundation and the USA



Class listens to the visitors

## USA-Hungary Sister City Program

Our foundation hosted the students of New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA who were visiting Hungary as part of the New Brunswick – Debrecen sister city program. They were treated to a tour of the beautiful Hungarian parliament, as well as shown Budapest, the West End Shopping Center, and were treated to restaurants on two occasions.





## USA Quinnipiac University Business School Student Visit

Every year **Professor Christopher Ball**, Dean of the Istvan Szechenyi International Economics Department brings his students to Hungary to learn business in another culture. Kálmán Magyar, President of AMCO Kft. and founder of our foundation, together with foundation President Balogh explained the Hungarian business laws, extensive taxation rules, and the state of the economy from a small business perspective.



## Zalabér-Sarasota, Florida McIntosh Middle School Exchange Program

The history is almost story like. Since the nineties there is a special talented educational program in Zalabér, Hungary. The **Fedor family** from Florida were interested in creating an exchange program with the gifted children in The McIntosh Middle School and a Hungarian School. Since they were familiar with our foundation, they asked us to find a suitable school. We happened upon this exceptional school in Zalabér and that was the start of a wonderful relationship. The **American Hungarian Federation** also offered to help, and presented the school with a number of laptops.



Erika Fedor, exchange program leader



Gyula Balogh, Erika Fedor, guest, Kiss Albert



Dreisziger Zsuzsanna with talented students



Delivery of computers donated by AHF

## Zalabér Middle School and Talented Program Conferences

The foundation revisited the Zalabér Middle School for talented children, with which the Foundation and the **American Hungarian Federation** had created an exchange program with the Sarasota McIntosh Middle School.



The new educational programs instituted in Hungary centralized many of the management, funding and curricula and our discussions centered on how we could help to save the talented programs. In 2013 President Balogh was invited to Budapest to give a talk on the exchange programs at the annual conference, which he named "Gifted Market in Education from an American Perspective".



### **Kutató Gyerekek Tudományos Konferenciája - Országos Tehetségnap június 18-án**

**2013. június 18. 09:30 - 15:00**

„A tudományos alkotó munkába való bevezetés már 10 éves kortól lehetséges” címmel Tehetségnapot tart a Kutató Gyerekek Tudományos Konferenciájának (KGYTK) Tehetségsegítő Tanácsa és a Rózsakerti Demjén István Református Általános Iskola június 18-án, kedden, Budapesten.

# The market for gifted people presentation

Budapest 2013 conference

**Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Közhasznú Alapítvány**  
(Americans for Hungarians Societal Foundation)  
[www.AMKL.org](http://www.AMKL.org)




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**Tehetségpiac az oktatásban  
amerikai szemmel**  
(illetve egy vázlat)

**Balogh Gyula (Elemér), elnök**  
*B.Sc. Fizika, M.Sc. Üzemszervezés, MBA Pénzügytan*  
*Univ. of Notre Dame, New York University, Columbia University*

Tehetség Piac az oktatásban-amerikai szemmel

**Mi kell a tehetségpiac építéshez?**



- Tehetséges tanárok és az oktatásuk
- Tehetséges gyerekeknek mentorok, speciális iskolák és klubok kialakítása
- Csereprogramok
- Konferenciák szervezése tudáscserére és befektetőknek kijárlás
- Privát kezdeményezések
- Tehetség értékesítése

*Tehetség Piac az Oktatásban- amerikai szemmel \* [www.amkl.org](http://www.amkl.org)*

## Helping Student Innovators

In 2013 we were introduced to a young student, Papp Gergely, from the Gábor Dénes School in Szeged, a city on the Tisza River in southern Hungary (in the flood zone). He had already won a competition in Slovakia, having been sponsored by the Magyar Innovációs Szövetség (the Hungarian Innovation Federation). He was being nominated to go to the USA for the Intel Competition, but had no funds to develop his invention, and according to this young student, this Federation hamstrung him by having him sign a paper that gave them 51% of the invention as well as having the exclusive rights to sell his product.

We were shocked by this alleged impropriety, and decided to help. Mr. Balogh personally went to test his invention, which was a state of the art speaker that could be produced at low cost, and agreed it had a very high quality sound. Our foundation gave him the funds so he could further develop his invention and he proved our faith by receiving the 3rd prize in his group at the Arizona Intel Competition. We also went to the US, available to help if he needed, to protect against other unscrupulous investors.



**From:** Gergely Papp <gery93.hun@gmail.com>

**To:** jgbalogh <jgbalogh@aol.com>

**Subject:** Verseny

**Date:** Thu, May 30, 2013 4:53 pm

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Üdvözlöm Gyula Bácsi!

Érdeklődni szeretnék önök felől, mert régen találkoztunk, illetve arról szeretnék kérdezni, hogy a további teendőink hogyan történjenek.

Mert ugye bár ez a magyar céges dolog se áll a helyzet magaslatán, de viszont szeretném ezt a dolog komoly alapokra helyezni, vagy mint külföldi cég, vagy értékesíteni a tervet.

Önöktől is kaptam rengeteg segítséget, ösztönzést, és pénzügyi támogatást ( 200.000Ft ), meg még a cégre kapott 40.000Ft-ot is beleöltem a Világbajnokságba, de hála az égnek nem hiába. Sikerült a 3. díj !

Szeretnék önöktől kérni tanácsot, hogy önöknek mi lenne a céljuk velem kapcsolatban. Terveznek-e még velem valamit a jövőben, mert nagyon megszakadt a kapcsolat köztünk. :(

Üdvözlettel, Papp Gergely

## Vizsoly- Planting of 1000 trees of hope.

Our Foundation joined with the Civil Forum organizers Molnár Gergely and Rev. Kovács Zsolt Levente to give hope to the disadvantaged citizens of Vizsoly, a town rich in biblical history, often ravaged by the flooding of the nearby Hernad River. They organized a three day event to plant 1000 trees of hope.

Young and old alike, including local gypsy farmers- planted chestnuts, willows, fruit trees and saplings throughout the village and along the access roads. The program was joined by local churches, educational institutions, and the local government in addition to the towns of Novajidrány, Boldogkőváralja, and Hernádcéce. The Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány was represented by President Balogh, a US citizen, as well as Dreisziger Zsuzsanna Co-President who planted dozens of trees, as well as Lörinc Kálmán and his wife of the Hála Hazát Alapítvány, also US citizens. We also discussed the forming of cooperatives with the business leaders in Vizsoly and Gönc, which have famous honey and apricot farms, as well as the renowned Gönc Pálinka.



Co-President Dreisziger and Lörincz Kálmán



Mrs. Lörincz and President Balogh planting trees



Tree planting dedication ceremony



Local children helping out

## Projects to help farmers and restoring cooperatives

As part of our agreement with AHF we allocated grant funds toward the creation of cooperatives, similarly we allocated funds to create markets for the products that the stricken areas produced.

We therefore supported the building of the NEW HANGYA cooperative movement to revive the small and medium sized farms, businesses and marketplaces in Hungary. Various studies in the US have shown that many small and medium size firms are more efficient and have a greater societal benefit than huge corporate style farms, contrary to the economy of scale argument propounded by various interest groups. Before describing the NEW HANGYA plan, and to place it in context, we need to understand the business and societal environment that existed in Hungary at the start of our project in 2010.

Hungary's economy in the last twenty years had deteriorated from one of the best in Eastern Europe to one of the worst in 2010. It was in dire straits thanks to a combination of internal and external factors. The internal factors that contributed to its decline include: rampant corruption by those with governmental authority, lack of attention to economic policy and development, a tax and regulatory system which is anti-business and anti-growth, a usurious financing system, a huge country debt that grew from 53% of GDP in January 2002 to 80% of GDP in 2010 under the rule of the socialists, and a wasteful record keeping and paper bureaucracy at all governmental levels. In addition, many years of communist rule prior to 1989 have served to destroy individual initiative.

The external factors include an unfavorable European Union partnership, foreign firms dumping products on the Hungarian market thereby destroying various Hungarian industry sectors, foreign firms taking profits out of the country instead of reinvesting it, and usurious lending with a unilateral ability to modify contracts.

The total damage caused by floods, inland water and extreme weather in Hungarian agriculture might be up to 100 billion HUF. The size of land covered by inland water has been around 180-200 thousand HA and other 150 thousand HA has been damaged by surplus water. The totally perished crop might be 80-90 thousand HA (mainly winter wheat, sunflower, maize, pasture etc.)\*. The total land in which seeding could not be done exceeds 110 thousand HA. Wood damage in the forests can reach 10% of the total timber processed per year. This will surely have a negative effect on the income and profit level of farm businesses of all types.

The first step in helping farmers was to research what their needs were after the floods. We found that many farmers relied on the prior year's profits in order to buy seeds, fertilizer and gasoline for their tractors. Not only that, but we found that many lenders would not advance funds because they did not have a successful season and worried about their future ability to repay their loans.

At the suggestion of local mayors we selected farmers in 5 villages who would probably go under if we did not help. Our Co-president negotiated with an Agyip gasoline supplier and received a substantial discount. Similarly we found farmers with connections to fertilizer and seed suppliers and negotiated on behalf of multiple farmers. Up until then the farmers did not band together and ask for a volume discount.

The method that we used is similar to cooperatives in the USA, where the cooperative with many members can get a discount on goods. Similarly we began to think about creating markets for these Farmers, similar to the USA where the cooperatives buy up the goods and are able to sell them in multiple markets.

**The following page has the invitation to restart the HANGYA cooperatives in the Balogh Elemér Szövetkezeti Mintafalu in Tordas which movement saved Hungary's economy once before (the Új Hangya). This was attended by the Mayor of Tordas, as well as about 50 persons from Hungary and Erdély.**



## Meghívó

### ÚJ HANGYA 2010

#### Egy családi hagyomány- Egy országé

A HANGYA közösségi eredményéből, a HANGYA gyökerekből és tanulságos múltjából merítve, jelenének célorientált társadalmi érdekközösséget erősítő ÚJ HANGYÁT hoz létre Balogh Gyula honfitársaival Tordason.

**2010.március 26. péntek 10 óra**

Mezőgazdasági Szakigazgatási Hivatal  
Növényfajta-kísérleti Állomás  
**2463 Tordas Szabadság út 2**



Program

#### **HANGYA gyökerek – magyar jövő**

#### **Balogh Elemér Szövetkezeti Mintafalu**

*Koszorúzás*

- Balogh Gyula E. – Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány Elnöke  
*Balogh Elemér HANGYA alapító unokája*
- Dreisziger Zsuzsanna – Amerikai Magyar Klub Társelnöke
- Toman Illona – helytörténet kutató – Tordas
- Dr. Túri Kovács Béla – országgyűlési képviselő
- Szerelmey Béla - HANGYA Együttműködés Elnöke
- Janzsó Tamás – Magyar Önkormányzatok Európai Szövetség Elnöke
- Varga István – Adófizetők Szövetségének Elnöke

*Szünet*

- Gazda Fórum - Derecskey János
- Egyház szerepe
- Oktatás, továbbképezés – Prof. Dr. Nagy János
- Határon túliak üzenete
- Közösségépítés - Dr. Szabó Zoltán
- Zárszó - Balogh Gyula E.



## Creation of cooperatives and markets

Our next step was to create the HANGYA Közhasznú Alapítvány (non profit societal foundation) with a charter to help organize new agricultural and other cooperatives, as well as teach agricultural best practices. Because this was a non-profit and coincides with the Hungarian governments policy of helping the village farming industry, we felt we could obtain federal and EU funding in the disaster affected areas as well as elsewhere. We hope to obtain funding in 2014.

In partnership with the Leader Association we organized a **kickoff** event for the Új (New) Hangya® in the **Hungarian Parliament, with the Master of Ceremonies Dr. János Horváth**, the doyen of the Hungarian Parliament, a Truman Reagan award winner, as well as a past HANGYA leader in Cece. This was attended by over 500 guests as well as mayors from all 19 counties in Hungary.



Horváth János, Doyen of Parliament, gives the Hangya flag to the rightful successor, Balogh Gyula, the grandson of the Hangya Cooperative builder and leader



The grandson of Almási Balogh Elemér gives his speech in the upper chamber of parliament, with Horvath János and Dreisziger-Stricz Zsuzsanna Hangya Co-President



After multiple attempts at forging partnerships with various existing organizations such as the Hangya Együttműködés, members of the Megújuló Hangya, and societal cooperatives we created the **Új Hangya Integrációs Szövetkezet** (New Hangya Integration Cooperative) with 9 members, whose charter was to serve as a central cooperative of cooperatives, similar to what existed successfully before in Hungary. We felt that starting anew would be more manageable and more transparent than the policies which the existing organizations followed.





## Regional Cooperatives and Markets

While the forming of a national integration cooperative in 19 counties was on hold due to lack of government funding or a large charitable investment, we changed strategy and concentrated on building a few regional cooperatives that could help the regions affected by the flood as well as develop markets where the regional farmers could sell their products. While this is not as efficient as a nationwide system of cooperatives would be, the local efforts are a start.

In the process of reviewing how and where to start new cooperatives and markets we visited over 70 villages along the various flood areas, as well as researched markets for the products in areas outside the flood and water damage zones, such as Budapest.

Through our newly formed Új Hangya<sup>®</sup> whose name we trademarked to differentiate ourselves from other Hangya type of initiatives, we supported the creation of **regional cooperatives** such as the **Új Hangya Nyírség és Környéke** and the **Új Hangya Székesfehérvár és Környéke Cooperatives**. We also had extensive discussions in various towns, which discussions are still ongoing, to form cooperatives and/or create marketplaces for their products, including in Erdély in the country of Romania. Many farmers in Erdély remembered the successful Hangya cooperatives of the past, where over 1000 cooperatives existed.

### Új Hangya Székesfehérvár és Környéke

Our first regional cooperative was formed through a meeting advertised in the Fejér Megyei Hírlap, a local paper in Székesfehérvár.

6 • FEJÉR MEGYEI HÍRLAP

#### RÖVIDEN

#### Új Hangyát indítanak el

**Székesfehérvár (kl)** – Május 26-án, azaz csütörtökön 14 órai kezdettel tartja alakuló ülését az Új Hangya Székesfehérvár és Környéke Szövetkezet. A Móri út 116. szám alatt összehívott rendezvényen felszólal Balogh Gyula, az Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Közhasznú Alapítvány elnöke – tájékoztatott Vincz József kertészmérnök, lapunk állandó szakértője.



Organizing members discussing strategy and creating the charter of the cooperative with a lawyer at the home office of one of the members.



The result of the cooperative formation was the creation of the first farmers market near the town of Velence.



The mayor of Velence, Oláhné Surányi Ágnes inaugurating the market with Mr, Balogh and Vincz József, cooperative President.



The market and members of the cooperative

### ÚJ Hangya Jancsárkert Producer and Bio Market

The Jancsárkert partnered with the Új Hangya Székesfehérvár és Környéke Szövetkezet (Cooperative) that we sponsored and to whom we licensed the name to create a wonderful 6000 square foot indoor market, and a large outdoor space with room for hundreds of cars.



The members of the Új Hangya plan the **ÚJ Hangya Jancsárkert Producer and Bio Market**

After many months of planning the Új Hangya Jancsárkert Producer and Bio Market opened in March 2013.

A very large crowd visited the new market every day of the opening. The market had a variety of hams , fresh bakery and dairy products, sárgálló honey, carefully preserved pickles and chemical-free vegetables, crochet, Easter baskets and eggs , artisan carved masterpieces , health care products , brandy , sausages and bacon, and many beautiful flowers.



The owner of the land, who donated the space (on the right)



Some of the founders



The cooperative flag with the new logo





Old Hangya Member Book that shows assets contributed



Organic foods



Handicrafts made in Hungary

## Many web sites noted the new market, jointly held with the Új Hangya

BIOVONAL

[BIOENERGIA](#) | [TECHNOLÓGIA](#) | [BIOTÁPALKOZÁS](#) | [KÖRNYEZETUDATOS ÖTLETEK](#) | [Ő HOGY CSINÁLJA](#) | [PÁLYAZATOK](#)



### TERMELŐI ÉS BIOPIAC NYÍLT A FEHÉRVÁRI JANCSÁRKERTBEN

2013-03-26 13:30:00 | [Biotáplálkozás](#)

**Ez a folyamat segítheti a helyi és környékbeli termelők munkáját is, akik szombattól újabb teretpelt kaptak Szekestehérváron termékeik értékesítéséhez.**

Hatalmas lakossági érdeklődés mellett szombat délelőtti megnyitotta kapuit a Jancsárkert, ahol ezentűl minden hétfégen termelői és öko piac várja a fehérváriakat. A finom ? már húsvétra készűlt ? sonkák, a friss pékárúk és tejtermékek mellett gyönyörűen sárguló mézek, gondosan etett savanyúságok és vegyszermentes zöldségek várják a látogatókat. Horgott húsvéti kosárok és tojások, faragott kőmőves remékek, egészségmegőrző termékek, pálinka, kolbász és szalonna, no meg sok szép virág is szerepel a Jancsárkert kínálatában.

Több hónapos előkészítű munkával sikerűt elérniük a szervezőknek, hogy hetente jó minőségű, olcsó, friss élelmiszereket kínáljanak a fehérváriaknak. A kezdeményezés célja, hogy közvetlenül a termelők árúlják portékáikat, amely az árakon és a minőségén is megútszik majd.

Az egészséges, biztonságos élelmiszerek megvásárlására, egy újabb közösségi létrehozására törekedtek a szervezők, akik nevében a létesítmény tulajdonosa, a mári Hétkűt Ökofarm vezetője beszélt a szombat délelőtti megnyitón. Peretsényi György köszönetet mondott a résztvevőknek azért, hogy eljöttek megismerni őket. Emellett beszámolt arról, hogy ő maga is több éve foglalkozik vegyszermentes zöldségtermesztéssel, így ismeri ezt a rendkívűl nehéz, de jövőbenutató gazdasági- kereskedelmi-innovatív tevékenységet. Eppen ezért őni a Jancsárkert megnyitásának, ahol a fehérváriakhoz is közel hozhatják termékeiket és szemléletűket a termelők.

A Barátöni út 10. szám alatt található 650 négyzetméteres fedett csarnokban ? és az előtte található nyitott területen - működik majd a termelői és öko piac, amelynek kiemelt együttműködő partnere az Új Hangya Szövetkezet Szekestehérvár és környéke csoportja.

A Jancsárkert működtetőinek több lenűk is van. A piac szervezése mellett szerebnek megismertetni az érdeklődőket egy-egy termelő tevékenységével úgy, hogy kirándulást szerveznek annak portájára. Emellett számos kulturális és egyéb rendezvény öfete is felmerűt, amelynek első megnyitűvűlása Töltsay Béla megnyitón adott másora volt. (forrás: [okifelhatar.hu](#))

OK

**TOVÁBBI FRISS HÍREK**

**Fentes lehet a tengeri energia az alternatív energiatforrások között**  
Bioenergia TOVÁBBI >

**Az angolok inkább napelende fektetnek, mint nyugdíjba**  
Környezetudatos ötletek TOVÁBBI >

**A napenergiában is csúcsra tor az olajnagyhatalom**  
Bioenergia TOVÁBBI >

Töltsd ki kvizűnket, és NYERJ

hírek

[SZÓRANKOZÁS](#)



### Termelői és biopiac nyílt a Jancsárkertben

Fehérvár | 2013.03.26. 00:40 | Frissítű: 2013.03.26. 00:40

**Ezentűl hetente jó minőségű, olcsó, friss élelmiszereket kínálnak a fehérváriaknak-közvetlenül a termelőktől.**

A tapasztalatok azt mutatják, hogy az emberek egyre jobban megértik, mi vásárolnak. Az ár mellett most már a származási hely ismerete és az élelmiszer egészséges volta is egyre meghatározó. Ez a folyamat segítheti a helyi és környékbeli termelők munkáját is, akik szombattól újabb teretpelt kaptak termékeik értékesítéséhez. Nagy lakossági érdeklődés mellett szombat délelőtti megnyitotta kapuit a Jancsárkert, ahol ezentűl minden hétfégen termelői és öko piac várja a fehérváriakat.

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(090)

**Az életűnk, a gyökérűnk**



European Commission

**Toplisták**

KOMMENT    LÁK

News about Új Hangya. Below is an article about the Érdélyi Egyesület working with our newly created Új Hangya and the Hangya Alapítvány, as well as one on the next page from Félvidék.ma.



**FELVIDÉK.ma**  
az első szlovákiai magyar hírportál

## Újra életre kel a Hangya szövetkezet

2011. szeptember 05.  
Részriport

A Hangya szövetkezeti mozgalom, amely fénykorában 700 ezer tag összefogásával teremtette meg a magyar termékek termelési, értékesítési és fogyasztási láncolatát. Az egykori alapító unokája édesapja kérésére jött haza Amerikából, s állt az újrakezdés élére.

A II. Világháború előtti időszakban Magyarország valamennyi településén jelen voltak a HANGYA szövetkezeti; székházzal, kereskedelmi átvevő-hellyel, hitelszövetkezeti partnerséggel, és azzal a szellemiséggel, hogy az összefogás, a szövetkezés az egyetlen út arra, hogy a termelők megfelelő pozíciót érjenek el a piacon, hogy a gazdátársadalom piaci érdekei érvényesüljenek.

Gróf Károlyi Sándor munkájának, valamint az akkori mezőgazdasági miniszternek köszönhetően 1888. évben az országgyűlés napirendjén már szerepelt a szövetkezetek témája, majd az 1896-os agrárprogram tartalmazta a szövetkezetek támogatását, a szövetkezeti eszme fejlesztését is. Ezt követően emelkedett törvényerőre 1898-ban az Országos Központi Hitelszövetkezetről szóló törvény-tervezet, majd ugyanebben az évben létrejött a termelő-értékesítő és fogyasztási szövetkezetek HANGYA központja is.

A mozgalmat 1898-ban alapító Almási Balogh Elemér unokája, Balogh Gyula az Egyesült Államokból tért haza, s édesapja kívánságát teljesítve, az Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítványon keresztül szervezi újjá az egykor virágzó szövetkezeti birodalmat.

A HANGYA stratégiai alapelve a bajok orvoslására az volt, hogy lerövidítve az áru és szolgáltatás útját az értékeket és a pénzt is minél nagyobb hányadban a rendszerén belül tartva megteremtse az egyén és a vidék boldogulásának anyagi és társadalmi feltételeit.



## Other Új Hangya activities



Zalabér Új Hangya local office



Hangya discussion with the Gönc honey makers

### Village of Gyula in eastern Hungary

In 2013 there was nationwide concern in Hungary with regard to the declining and bankrupt state of the meat industry. The government stepped in and provided funding for saving the Gyulai meat industry, famous for its **Gyulai Kolbász**.

The deputy mayor of Gyula contacted us through the Új Hangya cooperative which we sponsored to form a partnership to help his village and the Gyulai Hangya Szociális Szövetkezet (social cooperative) which he founded with others. We met with him multiple times to discuss how we could help and created a cooperation agreement. We also visited various distributors in the USA to see how we could help them to import their products. Below are articles from the Gyulai Hangya Szociális Szövetkezet (Social Cooperative) and from the village paper called the Gyulai Hírlap.

## Gyulai Hírlap

### GYULÁN JÁRTAK AZ ÚJ HANGYA INTEGRÁCIÓS SZÖVETKEZET KÉPVISELŐI

A gyulai szövetkezet nemrégiben megválasztott elnöke, Alt Norbert alpolgármester fogadta a vendégeket

GYULAI HÍRLAP • H. É. • HÍREK • 2013. január 23. 15:00



Alt Norbert fogadta a Új Hangya Integrációs Szövetkezet vezetőségét. Fotó: Gyulai Hírlap - H. É.

Városunkba látogatott az Új Hangya Integrációs Szövetkezet vezetősége, akik az Amerikaiak a Magyarokért elnevezésű alapítványt is képviselték ittletük során. Látogatásuk célja a kölcsönös kapcsolatfelvétel, a lehetséges hosszú távú együttműködések megfogalmazása volt. A találkozón személyesen vett részt a New Jersey-ben élő Balogh Gyula, aki az egykori Hangya Szövetkezeti Mozgalom elindítójának és legfőbb szervezőjének Almási Balogh Elemérnek az unokája.

A Balogh Gyula által képviselt Új Hangya Integrációs Szövetkezetet azért alapították, hogy abban a szellemiségben kezdje meg és folytassa működését, amelynek szellemében egykoron a századfordulón elindított hangya szövetkezetek szerveződtek. Az elmúlt években városunkban is elindult egy hasonló „Hangya” szellemben megfogalmazott kezdeményezés, amelynek eredményeképpen 2011-ben megalakult a Gyulai Hangya Szociális Szövetkezet.

A találkozón a gyulai szövetkezet nemrégiben megválasztott elnöke, Alt Norbert alpolgármester fogadta a vendégeket, egyben ismertette az eddigiekben elvégzett szövetkezeti munkát.

Alt Norbert a találkozón elmondta, hogy a szövetkezetük által mentorált Háztáji Gazdálkodó Hálózat eddig mintegy négyszáz családon segített talpra állni a háztáji gazdálkodásban, majd ismertette a jövőbeli elképzeléseket is.

Szóba kerültek a helyi kezdeményezések, a helyi gazdaságpolitikai elképzelések, a gyulai húsipar újjászervezésére tett kormányzati és önkormányzati lépések. Balogh Gyula, aki egyben az Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány kuratóriumi elnöke is, a lehetséges együttműködések, térségi mintaprogramok kidolgozását emelte ki, amelyekhez a pályázati lehetőségek feltárásán túl az amerikai magyarok támogatását is meg lehetne nyerni.

A felek megegyeztek abban, hogy a találkozónak vélhetően februárban lesz folytatása, amikor is ünnepélyesen kibocsájtják a Gyulai Hangya szövetkezeti részjegyeket. Alt Norbertalpolgármester, szövetkezeti elnök elmondása szerint a szövetkezeti taggá váláshoz szükséges részjegyeket eddig több mint száz gyulai család jegyzett elő.

**Gyulai Hangya**  
Gyulai Hangya Szociális Szövetkezet

Vendégek jártak Gyulán

Egyéb

**Balogh Gyula, a "Hangya" alapító unokája és csapata**

Városunkba látogatott az Új Hangya Integrációs Szövetkezet vezetősége, akik az Amerikaiak a Magyarokért elnevezésű alapítványt is képviselték ittléuk során. Látogatásuk célja a kölcsönös kapcsolatfelvétel, a lehetséges hosszú távú együttműködések megfogalmazása volt. A találkozón személyesen vett részt a New Jersey-ben élő **Balogh Gyula**, aki az egykori Hangya Szövetkezeti Mozgalom elindítójának és legfőbb szervezőjének **Almási Balogh Elemérnek** az unokája.

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**CÍMKÉK**

**KATEGÓRIÁK**

- Egyéb (26)
- Elérhetőségek (1)

**BEJEGYZÉSEK**

- Vetőburgonyaszítás
- Gyümölcsfaosztás
- Kellemes Húsvéti Ünnepeket!
- Tajfalga vetőmag igénylés!
- Egyéb információ!

**ARCHIVUM**

- 2013. június (1)
- 2013. április (1)
- 2013. március (5)
- 2013. február (2)
- 2013. január (2)
- 2012. december (3)
- 2012. november (1)
- 2012. május (1)
- 2012. április (3)
- 2012. március (8)

**HOZZÁSZÓLÁSOK**

- Kiss Teréz - Tagfelvételi
- Horváth Zoltán - Vendégek jártak Gyulán
- anycim - Karácsony előtti fenyőfa osztás

## Új Hangya Nyírség Szövetkezet (Cooperative)

We helped to launch this cooperative in Vaja in an Eastern Hungary disadvantaged region in 2013. These communities produce vegetables fruits, and other products that are then either sold or collected and stored in cooling houses.

We helped to create this cooperative so that they could bring products to market, and concentrate on what they do best which is to grow products and raise livestock. They are also planning to develop a marketplace and food processing industries which will provide more profits.



### Additional cooperatives efforts

In 2013 we met with the mayor of **Fábiánháza** to discuss building the local cooperative to help jumpstart the local economy. We also discussed ways that we could help with the local nursery school. We met with the mayor of **Nagyecsed** to analyze the Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg county of Hungary to analyze agricultural needs. On the Village Day in **Tiszaórs**, we celebrated the picnic and cultural events with the mayor, and discussed helping and joining the Social Cooperative they were building.

We spent months negotiating with the Obuda government for a 2000 square meter space, as well as researching laws for establishing farmers markets in Budapest, as well as looking at private real estate.

**In Abádszalók** we continued our longstanding relationship and prepared for a new cooperative we would help build in Abádszalók as well as Karcag in 2014, and to help resurrect the local economies.

## Helping Farmers together with the Reformed Church Social Service

We started to plan joint aid with the Reformed Church in Hungary in 2012 and visited many villages with them. In 2013 we contributed to three farmers so that the lands that were flooded by the Danube River could be restored.



## Support of Tiszafüred on the Tisza River

We have been the main sponsor of the Annual Independence Day celebration at the Kékessy György Estate in Tiszafüred for the past four years, for a number of reasons, not the least of which is that we are supporting a region next to the Tisza tó and Tisza River which floods often. This event is an excellent opportunity to improve American-Hungarian relations, as we invited many local people, people visiting from the USA and other countries, dignitaries such as the Minister of Economy Varga Mihály and the Minister of Rural Development Fazekas Sándor, as well as other government officials and people from neighboring towns.





MC Dreisziger Zsuzsanna



President Balogh's remarks



Tent with dignitaries and participants



Woven handicrafts



All wood hand made Car



2 USA Air Force Colonels and host Kékessy



## Tiszafüred Hangya Cooperative Conference

We held a one day conference as part of the July 4th celebration, where various local and regional farmers and wine growers gave us their views on the agricultural situation and how we could help through a cooperative system.



*Hangya Conference in Tiszafüred-continued*



After the Hangya Conference:



Founder Kálmán Magyar and wife Judit( on left)



The Kéessy family



Children ready to cite pledge of allegiance



Abel prize winner Szemerédi Endre honors us

## Buyers Clubs



We also started a joint venture to create a **Buyers Club**, with a **discount agricultural card** that could be used to obtain discounts in various stores. A buyers club and supporting computer systems for the farmers and the families in the flood region were created as part of a joint venture to help the agricultural economy. This buyers club gives discounts to the families as well as allows the purchase of food by the stores and markets directly from Hungarian farmers through a web store. As part of our contribution to this project free discount cards will be distributed to 100 families of the flood.

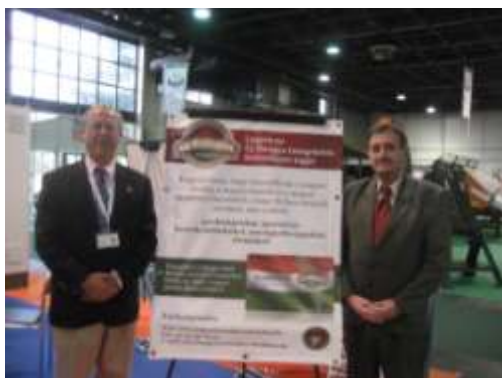
The projected Új Hangya® Card Versions

- The Új Hangya® Club Card with the EDC logo would have discounts at 800 stores
- The Új Hangya® Purchasing Card to be used for discounts at Új Hangya stores
- The Új Hangya Municipal Card to be given to socially disadvantaged

## OMEK – National Agricultural and Food Exhibition

### Országos Mezőgazdasági Élelmiszeripari Kiállítás

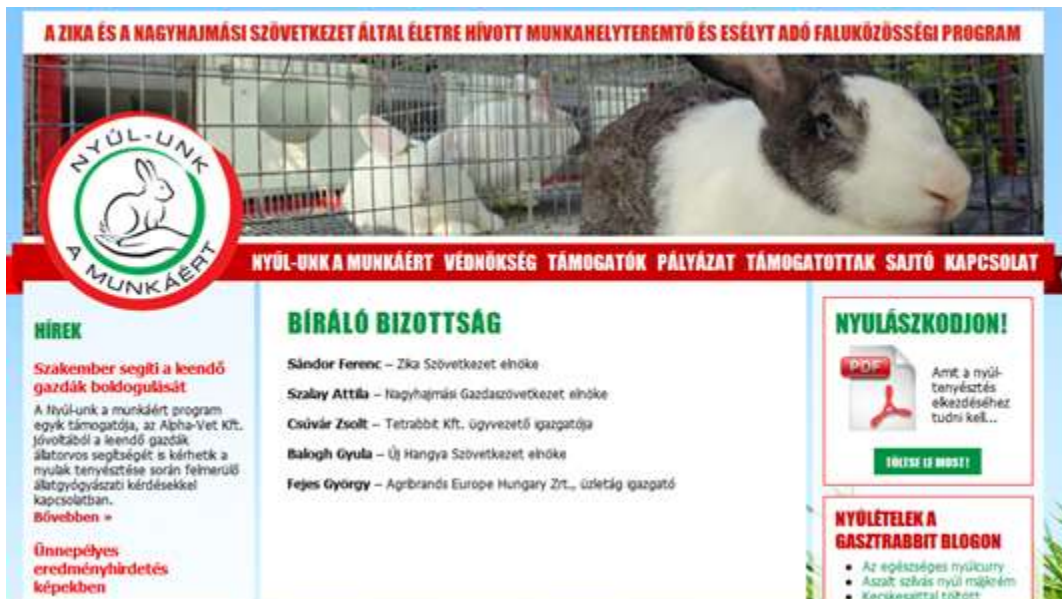
OMÉK is known as the largest and most visited agricultural and food exhibition in Hungary, where most of the major players show their wares. The Új Hangya Integrációs Szövetkezet set up a display at the Exhibition with space donated by a member of the cooperative.





## Nyúl-unk a Munkáért Program (Rabbits for work program)

We supported a unique nationwide work project sponsored by two cooperatives, as well as the Hungarian Agricultural Ministry, the Hungarian subsidiary of Purina and a veterinary group. The project's purpose is to teach families in distressed areas how to support themselves by raising rabbits for their own food and livelihood. 238 villages applied for the funding. Our funds will support rabbits, cages, feed, and animal training for 20 families in the flood region.



President Balogh was on the jury to decide winners of program to raise rabbits

## Kováts Mihály Emlénapok - Karcag

Every year we visit Karcag to celebrate the Kováts Mihály remembrance day, as representatives of both the Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány and the American Hungarian Federation whose role model was Colonel Kováts Mihály, Hungarian Hussar and whose motto AHF adopted: "**Fidelissimus ad Mortem**" "**Faithful unto Death**". We presented a hand carved plaque on behalf of the **American Hungarian Federation**, inscribed with name of the Kováts Mihály Middle School. **We gave scholarships to the 3 children of the Kováts Mihály Middle School** who completed the most worthy charitable activities.



Hand carved plaque given to Kovács Mihály School



Kékesy György, Balogh Gyula, Fazekas Sándor  
Minister of Rural Development



Hussar honor guard on horseback



US Ambassador Kounalakis with wreath



Balogh Gyula and Dreisziger Zsuzsa hanging wreath

## Business Börze Program in the Polgárok Háza

This was a program to improve business between Hungary and the USA. Participants came from Hungary and from the USA with host Evva Andás of Naples, Florida. Participants included Szatmáry Kristóf of the National Economic Ministry, Cene Attila of the Sports Ministry, Csorba Katalin of the Hungarian Embassy in Washington, Jurenka Csaba head of the small business loans at MFB, and guest Jenő Megyesy counselor to Prime Minister Orbán Viktor.



### *Business Borze program*

#### **Balogh Gyula**

Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Közhasznú Alapítvány elnöke  
A 105 éves Amerikai Magyar Szövetség társelnöke  
*Amerikai-magyarok ösztönzése a magyar gazdaságfejlesztésében*  
*Dr. Balogh Elemér sikeres business szeminárium folytatása*

#### **Dreisziger Zsuzsanna**

*háziasszony köszöntése*

#### **Szatmáry Kristóf**

Nemzetgazdasági Minisztérium Belgazdaságért Felelős Államtitkár  
*A külföldi tőke befektetésének ösztönzése, az export és turizmus fejlesztése*

#### **Czene Attila**

Nemzeti Erőforrás Minisztérium Sportért Felelős Államtitkár  
*Sikeres amerikai és magyar sportszellem*

#### **B. Csorba Katalin**

Kijelölt washingtoni vezető, külgazdasági diplomata  
*A kereskedelmi kapcsolatok fejlesztése*

#### **Jurenka Csaba,**

Magyar Fejlesztés Bank, a Kis és Középvállalati Hitelezési és Termekfejlesztési Igazgatóság igazgatója  
*KKV finanszírozása*

#### **Evva András**

Amerikai Alapítvány a Magyar Fiatalokért és Kultúráért, elnök, Florida  
*Működés a Szabad Piacgazdaságban*

#### **Kékessy György, California**

#### **Kiss Albert**

Zalabéri Általános Iskola és Alapfokú Művészetoktatási Intézmény igazgató

## Business Börze Program in the Polgárok Háza



Standing for 2 National Anthems



Államtitkár Szatmáry Kristóf



Florida Guests-including Sándor Murray from AHF



Jurenka Csaba of Magyar Fejlesztési Bank



Megyesy Jenő, Consultant to the Prime Minister  
VIP guests and speakers



Evva András –comparing USA and Hungary  
business culture

## Letter from the Hungarian Foreign Minister

MAGYAR KÖZTÁRSASÁG  
KÜLÜGYMINISZTERE

Balogh Gyula úr  
Elnök

Ikt.szám: KÜM/13535/2011/Adm

### AMERIKAIK A MAGYAROKÉRT KÖZHASZNÚ ALAPÍTVÁNY

Budapest

Tisztelt Elnök Úr!

Köszönettel megkaptam tájékoztatását az Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Közhasznú Alapítvány tevékenységéről, céljairól és a szeptember 16.-i Amerikai Magyar Klub eseményről.

Az Amerikai Egyesült Államok hazánk érték- és érdekközösségen alapuló szövetségese, a tengerentúli országok közül kiemelt gazdasági, stratégiai partnere. Ezért is szolgál nagy örömmre, hogy Alapítványuk tevékenységének középpontjában a magyar-amerikai kapcsolatok erősítése, a Magyarság támogatása, az amerikai tudományos, technológiai és üzleti eredmények magyarországi megismertetése áll. Ezúton is szeretném munkájukat, az Önök által szervezett szakmai kiállításokat, konferenciákat erkölcsi támogatásunkról biztosítani, hiszen a transzatlanti, azon belül a magyar-amerikai kapcsolatok szorosabbra fűzése a magyar külpolitika egyik kiemelt célkitűzése.

Sajnálattal tájékoztatom ugyanakkor Önöket, hogy meghívásukat az Amerikai Magyar Klub rendezvényére ezúttal nem áll módomban elfogadni, egyéb hivatalos elfoglaltságaim miatt. A Külügyminisztérium Amerikai Főosztálya képviseletében azonban részt vesznek az eseményen a washingtoni és Los Angeles-i kijelölt külgazdasági szakdiplomata munkatársaim, akik ismereteikkel, tapasztalataikkal készséggel állnak az Önök és a Klub résztvevői rendelkezésére.

Munkájukhoz további sok sikert kívánok!

Budapest, 2011. szeptember „ 24. ”

Üdvözlettel:



Mátyási János

## Drug Prevention Program



The Listen Drug Prevention Program, whose Director is Rev. Csapo Tamás from California, celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2012. Our Alapítvány joined with Reverend Csapó to apply for a grant to tailor this program to Hungary in 2011. The Emberi Erőforrás Ministerium was so kind as to support this program with a start-up grant. It was subsequently supported by a grant from the Adventist Church in the USA, as well as our Alapítvány.

In 2103 a film was prepared to advertise the danger of drugs.

8 EGÉSZSÉGÜGY – SZOCIÁLIS 2012/22. szám

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**Listen prevenciós program**

## Drogmegelőzés újfajta megközelítésben

**Rendhagyó osztályfőnöki órára gyűltek össze a hetedikesekek november 9-én az Árpád Gimnázium előadótermébe. A szakasostól eltérő drogprevenciós program nyitánya zajlott az iskola falai között.**

A középiskolások korosztálya a legveszélyeztetettebb drogozás szempontjából. Ezért tehát őket, a 14-18 éveseket célozza meg a megelőzési program is, amely Listen néven az Amerikai Egyesült Államokban már 40 éve sikeresen működik. Jelenleg 440 iskolában alkalmazzák. Pszichológusok, toxikológusok, lelkesek járnak az iskolákat és filmek, filmek segítségével világosítják fel a fiatalokat a drogok káros hatásairól.

A program kidolgozója és terjesztője **Thomas Csapó (képiükön)** pszichológusként, pedagógusként és lelkesként elhivatottan küzd azért, hogy megóvja a gyerekeket a rájuk leselkedő veszélyektől, és megmutassa nekik, hol vannak az élet igazi értékei, amelyek nem mérhetők össze a drogok vagy az alkohol által kínált pillanatnyi örömökkal. A Listen-program magyarországi bevezetését személyesen irányítja, és az első előadást is ő tartotta a hetedikesekeknek. Többek között elmondta, hogy a marihuána nehezebben ürül ki a szervezetből, mint a do-

Foto: AMTAL ISTVÁN

találkozhatnak az iskola tanulói a program kínálta lehetőségekkel, a későbbiek folyamán leginkább a biológia és a kémia órák bizonyulhatnak a legjobb helyszínek az ismeretek bővítésére.

A programot a tervek szerint kiterjesztik más iskolákra és más városokra is, és hamarosan országosá is kívánja tenni magát. A megvalósítást támogatja az Emberi Erőforrások Minisztériuma, valamint az Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Közhasznú Alapítvány. A program rendelkezésükre bocsátásáért köszönetét fejezte ki Csapó úrnak **Semjén Zolt** miniszterelnök-helyettes is.

**Domi Zsuzsa**

**Thomas Csapó, Menczer Erzsébet és Csapó Harold Gábor az eseményen**

hány. A kutatások kimutatták, hogy rákkeltő anyagokat tartalmaz a kábítószernek minősülő növény. Felhívta a fiatalok figyelmét arra, hogy minden döntésüknek következménye van, így nagyon átgondoltan kell határozniuk minden kérdésben. Mindig van választásuk, hogy kipróbálják-e a kábítószerrel vagy sem, de tisztában kell lenniük azzal, hogy a döntésük kihatással lesz egész életükre.

A program magyarországi védnöke **Menczer Erzsébet**, országgyűlési és önkormányzati képviselő, aki azt reméli, az Árpád Gimnázium hetedikesei tanulói büszkének lesznek arra, hogy elsőként vehetnek részt a programban. Elárulta azt is, hogy minden előadáson más-más hírességgel találkozhatnak -

sportolók, zenészek, színészek -, akik saját életükkel bizonyítják, hogy lehet drogok nélkül élni, sőt, csak úgy lehet tartalmas, hasznos életet élni. - A Listen prevenciós program sikerét mi sem bizonyítja jobban, mint hogy **Csapó Harold Gábor** önkormányzati képviselő (Thomas Csapó fia) is ezen a programon vett részt Amerikában és egészséges - közölte a képviselőasszony, aki hisz egy drogmentes fiatal generáció eljövételében.

A drogmegelőzés újfajta megközelítésében látja a siker zálogát **Gyimesi Róbert**, az Árpád Gimnázium igazgatója. Mint fogalmazott, az amerikai mentalitás hozhat olyan újításokat, amelyek felkeltik a gyerekek érdeklődését és magukkal ragadhatják őket. Büszke arra, hogy intéz-

ményüket kérték fel a program első színhelyének. S bár először rendhagyó osztályfőnöki órákon

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**Delhusa szeretet-adomány koncertje**

A békásmegyeri mozgássérültek szervezete december 17-én 16 órai kezdettel tartja karácsonyi ünnepségét. A rendezvény nyitányaként a diákok ünnepi műsora lépnek fel. **Delhusa Gjon** szeretet-adomány koncerttel örvendeztetni meg a résztvevőket 17 órától - tudtuk meg **Favin Mária** lbolyától, a szervezet békásmegyeri vezetőjétől. (Bővebb információ a 240-6267-es telefonszámon.)

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**Adj vért és ments meg három életet!**

A Magyar Vöröskereszt Budapest Fővárosi Szervezete novemberben és decemberben a következő időpontokban és helyszíneken szervez véradást.

**November 28-án 11-től 19 óráig:** a Békásmegyeri Községi Házban (Csobánka tér 5.) \* **December 6-án 14-től 17.30 óráig:** a Dr. Szent-Györgyi Albert Általános Iskolában (Szerűskert utca 40.).

Ha ön egészséges, elmúlt már 18 éves, de még nem töltötte be a 60. életévét (rendszeres véradónál 65. életév), és úgy érzi, hogy segíteni tud a rászoruló betegeken, jöjjön el a véradásra! **Személyi igazolvány (lakcímkártya) és taj-kártya szükséges.**

www.amkl.org

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**Deputy Prime Minister's letter** commending the Listen program.



PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

DR. ZSOLT SEMJÉN  
Deputy Prime Minister

**Thomas Csapó**  
educator-drug prevention specialist

**Tisztelt Csapó Úr!**

Köszönjük múltkori megtisztelő látogatását és tájékoztatását az Evangéliumot hirdető és jó ügyeket szolgáló küldetéséről. Nagyra értékeljük a drog, alkohol, és dohányzás ellenes misszióját, melyben az ifjúság és a családok védelmét karolja fel.

Valóban az Isten üzenetén, a Szentíráson alapuló elkötelezettség mellett, a világban beteljesített keresztény küldetés az, ami segítheti, hogy a fiatalok ne céltalanul éljék mindennapjaikat és ne tévedhessenek a függőséget okozó, személyiséget romboló szenvedélybetegségekhez vezető útra.

Köszönjük, hogy példaképeket állít a következő generáció elé, mindez hitelesebbé, az ifjúság számára jobban érthetővé és elfogadhatóbbá teszi, hogy életüket biztos alapokra helyezték.

Kérésének megfelelően, értékvédő munkáját, küldetésében való fáradozását messzemenően erkölcsi támogatásomról biztosítom.

Budapest, 2011. október 18.

Nagyrabecsüléssel:

Semjén Zsolt

H-1055 Budapest, Kossuth Lajos tér 1-3. Phone: (+36 1) 795 6975 Fax: (+36 1) 795 0385

## The Alapítvány sponsored two Rajkó Charity Balls



The Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány and the Amerikai Magyar Klub sponsored two Rajkó charity balls attended by hundreds of patrons.



The American Hungarian Federation co-sponsored the First Rajkó Ball with the Amerikai Magyar Klub held on February 20, 2010 and attended by 180 persons at the Magyar Kultúra Alapítvány on Castle Hill in Budapest. This charity event honored the world famous Rajkó Orchestra and Talentum Arts School. They served as worldwide ambassadors for Hungarian and Gypsy music, dance, culture, and classical music in over 100 countries. Recently they

performed in Rome for Pope Benedict and 80,000 people in St. Peter's Square. A number of extraordinary Hungarian national award winning artists performed at the ball. The guest of honor was **Tarlós István Mayor of Budapest.**



Tarlós István, Dreisziger Zsuzsa, Gerendás István  
Balogh Gyula



Madarász Katalin és a világhírű Rajkó



The second ball was held at the Marriott Hotel on the Danube and had as guests of honor the **Korean Ambassador to Hungary** as well as the **chargé d'affaires of the United States**.

Az Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány egyik kiemelkedő feladatának tekinti a jótékonyági célok megvalósítását. Ennek érdekében minden igyekezetével segíti, támogatja a Rajkó zenekart, valamint a Rajkó Művészeti Iskolát, hiszen a Rajkó egyedülálló zenei értékét csakis összefogással tudjuk fenntartani.



**A Rajkó Zenekar tagjai évszázados tudást őriznek.**

Játékukban olyan erő és sodrás van, ami feltölti a lelket, fölpezsdíti a vért bárhol a világon. Ez a tudás az ő örökségük! A zenéjük összekapcsol minden embert, aki együtt hallgatja, nézi és élvezzi a zenekar előadását, bármilyen nemzethez tartozik is.



**A kulturális események támogatására adományokat köszönettel vesszük.**

**Please contribute to our Foundation so we can support more cultural events (see last page)**

Other recent events

Trip to Kisvárda in Eastern Hungary to study foundation support for trade, tourism, educational and cultural exchanges with the USA, 2016.



Trip to Füzesgyarmat to study foundation support for trade, tourism and cultural exchanges with the USA. 2016





Unveiling of the statue titled “Lads of Budapest” Commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and Freedom Fight at the new Hungarian Embassy in Washington, DC. **US Ambassador Colleen Bell** gave a solemn remembrance. Seven American Hungarian Federation Board members Ákos Nagy AHF President, Zsuzsanna Dreisziger, Paul Kamenár, Ferenc Koszorus Jr, Imre Nemeth, Zoltán Bagdy and Gyula E. Balogh as a sign of Hungarian unity laid flowers at the statue. Americans for Hungary Foundation (Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány) leaders Mr. Balogh and Ms Dreisziger honor 1956 freedom fighters in above picture.



Mr. Gyula Balogh and Ms. Dreisziger-Stricz Zsuzsanna representing the American Hungarian Federation and the Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány attended the Hungarian Embassy Gala Dinner in honor of the heroes of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution against communist tyranny. Nine members of the American Hungarian Federation were present at this extraordinary remembrance attended by over 400 persons at the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium. Ambassador Bell also graced the gala with her presence.

## Amerikai Magyar Klub Inaugural Celebration in Detail

November 23, 2009 : The Amerikai Magyar Klub inaugural celebration was wonderfully successful and attended by 250 enthusiastic persons at the Magyar Kulúra Alapítvány on Castle Hill in Budapest. 15 Hungarian and American organizations displayed their wares. The theme of the evening was President John F. Kennedy's message to Americans a few decades ago:

**"Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country" . In Hungarian:  
"Ne azt kérdezd, mit tesz érted az ország, hanem hogy Te mit tehetsz az országért!"**

The evening commenced with a **special film**, created just for the inauguration by **Csapó Harold Gabor**, depicting Americans of Hungarian origin and their cultural events in the US. This included the various events organized by the **William Penn Association**, the oldest (founded in 1886) and largest American organization with Hungarian roots, by the **American Hungarian Federation** (founded in 1906), as well as by the **Hungarian Reformed Federation of America**, and the **Hungarian Scouts in Exteris** (USA branch).

**Kata Csongrádi**, famous Hungarian artist, was the Master of Ceremonies and sang a number of wonderful songs throughout the evening and introduced the various speakers.

The **Reverend Lukács László**, Piarist Father, said the opening invocation and gave a moving tribute in memory of Dr. Elemér Balogh, his old friend, and in honor of whom this Klub is being formed.

**Mr. Paul O'Friel**, Commercial Counselor, US Embassy, gave a very uplifting talk about the wonderful historical relations between America and Hungary and wished the "Klub" well. The Founders of the Amerikai Magyar Klub thank Mr. O'Friel for his kind remarks. The Embassy had lots of information about America, and many Hungarians who visited the booth expressed their interest in further education in the US.

**Mr. Koncz Gábor**, Director, and his assistant, **Bába Szilvia**, gave the greeting on behalf of the Magyar Kultura Alapítvány, which provided the venue for this event. The Founders thank you. Mr. Jules Gyula Balogh, President of the Amerikai Magyar Klub, followed by reading congratulatory letters from **Bishop Archabbot Várszegi Asztrik of Pannonhalma**, and from the **Chairman of the William Penn Association, Stephen J. Varga**.

**Zsuzsanna Dreisziger**, Co-Founder of the Klub, followed by giving the Klub welcome speech in extraordinarily beautiful Hungarian, the theme of which was: be proud Magyar, everything is possible if you work hard. (available later in Hungarian).

**Mr. Balogh** then followed with his opening remarks, touching on what made America great (its Constitution, freedom and justice, a religious and friendly people, entrepreneurial approach and opportunity for all, honesty and straight talk). He described his view of reconstructing Hungary, lessons from the financial crisis for Hungary, and the Klub plans for 2010.

**Hejj Tibor**, a successful business person and graduate of the Balogh-Webster seminars given by Dr. Elemér Balogh, gave an excellent presentation on moral business practices.

The world famous **Rajkó Zenekar** (gypsy orchestra), under the direction of **Gerendási István**, gave extraordinary performances of the Ave Maria, sung by **Vincze Lilla**, the Second Hungarian Rhapsody, the Pacsirta, and an American song, Strangers in the Night. Previously, on November 4, they played at the personal invitation of the Pope in front of 80,000 people in Rome. They performed gratis for this event, recognizing the potential for the advancement of Hungary. The Founders thank you.

**Csapó Harold Gábor** gave a moving speech to celebrate Thanksgiving.

HIR-TV covered the event and had a live interview with Mr. Balogh and Ms. Dreizsiger on HIR-TV the day after the inauguration.



Rajkó Orchestra-Primás Gypsy Violinists, Paul O'Friel- US Economic Counselor, Koncz Gábor, Szilvia Bába



Dr. Vedres András, MC Kata Csongrádi, Héjj Tibor



Dreisziger Zsuzsanna, Balogh Gyula



Csapó Harold Gábor



Guests





## Thank You to Our Supporters

Amerikai Magyar Klub- Inaugural Day Supporters  
 Bishop Archabbot of Pannonhalma, Dr. Várszegi Asztrik

Stephen J. Varga, Chairman of the William Penn Association USA

### Organizational Contributors-Exhibitors

*Please Patronize Them*

Acapella Cukrászda Szeged	Evening's Pogacsa, Sweets
Agrar Marketing Centrum	Exhibit and Food Tasting
American Embassy	Exhibit and Congratulatory Speech
Andezit Hotel, Bér, Maczó László	Radio Free Europe, Oldies American Music, Pálinka Tasting

Bába és Társai Nyomda - Szeged	Toledo Sister City Display
Balázs Béla	Party Organizer
Bánki Donát Főiskola	Model T Ford and Exhibit, Speech
Bázakerettye	Exhibit, Evening's Bakery Goods
Béres Zrt.	Display
Bodó Sándor	American Paintings
Csepku Ádám	Welcome
Czitkovics Adám	Artist, Welcome
Díszruha Szalon	Exhibit of Rare Hungarian Costumes
Garai János	Photographer
Hadtörténeti Intézet	American, Hungarian Flags
Hangya	
-Mórakert Szövetkezet (zöldségek)	
-Virágpaletta Szövetkezet (virág)	
-Aranyhegyi Pincészövetkezet-borok	
Üllőparti Szövetkezet (biokenyér)	
-Csabai Raktárszövetkezet	
Heinemann Testvérek	Wine tasting
Helmle Mónika	Event Organizer
HIR TV	TV Coverage
Horvath Katalin	Welcome
Imlauer Anita	Welcome
Jekl Béla Pincészet	Wine for the Evening
Kalocsai Porcelán Manufactura	Exhibit of Kalocsai Hungaricums
Kenderes	Welcome Sweets
Kudela József	Networking
Magyar Feltalálók Egyesület	Exhibit of Hungarian Innovations
Magyar Kálmán	Networking
Magyar Kultúra Alapítvány	Use of the Facilities
Meszáros International Center for Entrepreneurship	Exhibit
Mezei Mária	Welcome
MOL Museum	Exhibit, Speech
Panyolai Szilvórium	Panyolai Pálinka Tasting
Proactive Management Consulting	Honest Business Practices
Szeged-Toledo Baráti Kör Egyesület	Books, Sister City Display
Szerencsi Bonbon Kft.	Sweets
Szilágyi Attila Dr.	Attorney
Szőke Krisztina	Welcome
Tóth Judit	Translator
VEL Nyomda	Amerikai Magyar Klub Brochure and Program Booklet
Vigh Károlyné Éva	Sweets
Vinum Primatis Zrt.	Wine Tasting
Zambo László	
Zsanna Manna	Sweets



**A Call To Arms**  
**Recent political attacks on Hungary**  
**Must not be allowed to stand**



## **PETÍCIÓ**

az Európai Parlament képviselőihez  
a Magyarország elleni méltatlan támadásért.

**Tisztelt Barátaim, honfitársaim!**  
**Az Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány nevében**

**felhívást teszünk közzé**  
**Magyarorszáért,**  
**a magyarokért.**

Tisztelettel megszólítom mindazon amerikai-magyar származású és szívű honfitársaimat, valamint azokat az amerikaiakat, akik kötődésük által maradandót szeretnének tenni a magyar hazáért, a magyar nép becsületéért, a felemelkedéséért.

Magyarország népszavazáson döntött 2004-ben arról, hogy az Európai Unió tagja legyen. Döntött az önálló nemzeti szuverenitásunk kérdésében is.

A történelem ismétli önmagát. Elég volt, hogy évszázadokon keresztül mások döntsenek sorsunkról, hogy mások határozzák meg az identitásunkat. A jelenünk és a jövőnk a tét! Az önrendelkezés jogát nem vehetik el tőlünk! Legyen végre hazánkban az igazságtalanság helyett, igazságos béke!

A nemzeti összetartozás erejével kérek minden szabadságszerető honfitársamat, álljunk ki a függetlenségünkért, az elveinkért, a családjainkért. A nemzeti összefogás átütő erejével a közös érdekek egy irányba állításával legyünk képesek bebizonyítani ország-világ számára,

**Haza csak egy van, a haza nem eladó, a haza nem átruházható!**

## Mi a legfontosabb teendők?

A magyar haza védelme, az anyaország iránti elkötelezettség és hogy végre békében éljünk önmagunkkal, minden emberrel, otthon és a határon túl egyaránt.



*"Egyedül a legnagyobb erő sem tehet meg mindent.  
Mondhatnám nem sokat!  
De az egyesített erőknek,  
a lehetetlennek látszó is, gyakran lehetséges!  
Mit ér egy csepp víz? Nem sokat!  
De a milliomonként egyesült cseppek,  
megdöbbentő erőt fejtenek ki."*

*Kölcsey Ferenc*

## Üzenet haza

"Üzenem az otthoni hegyeknek:  
a csillagok járása változó.  
És törvényei vannak a szeleknek,  
esőnek, hónak, fellegeknek  
és nincsen ború, örökkévaló.  
A víz szalad, a kő marad,  
a kő marad.

És üzenem mindenkinek,  
testvérnek, rokonnak, idegennek,  
gonosznak, jónak, hűségeseknek és alávalónak,  
annak, akit a fájás úz és annak,  
kinek kezéhez vércseppek tapadnak:  
vigyázzatok és imádkozzatok!  
Valahol fönt a magos ég alatt  
mozdulnak már lassan a csillagok  
s a víz szalad és csak a kő marad,  
a kő marad."

Wass Albert

Balogh Gyula E.  
Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány  
elnök

## Contacts and Contributions

### Contributions-adományok:

#### In Hungary-Forint

Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány

UniCredit Bank Hungary Zrt.

10918001-00000075-06800015

#### From abroad-: Forint

Swift Code BACXHUHB

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