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BOLDOG ANYÁK NAPJÁT KÍVÁNUNK MINDEN ÉDESANYÁNAK! HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY!

In honor of Mothers' Day, we offer this sensitive tribute by Áprily Lajos to his mother. He recalls the simple kalács she used to make for Sundays. It might last another day, but she would save some just for him so he could have kalács even on Tuesday. In his memory it has grown into something sacred, consolation from his mother who has long since gone.

Kalács, keddi kalács Áprily Lajos

Már szombat este megsütötte
anyám. És reggel már adott.
Az aranya besugározta
a harangos vasárnapot.

Vasárnap estig nem fogyott el,
fénye áthullt az ünnepen.
Még hétfőn is jutott belőle.
És kedden is. De csak nekem.

Ma sem tudom, hol rejtegette,
melyik fiókból jött elő,
de olyan áldott volt az íze,
olyan hétköznap szentelő.

Az asztalkendőből kibukkant
Szép sárga fényel: Itt vagyok.
Nagy árnyékok, fekete gondok,
még várjatok, maradjatok.

Igénytelen polgár-kalács volt,
olyan egyszerű, mint falum.
És mégis úgy megnőtt azóta,
mint úrvacsora-szimbólum.

Száguldó évek távolából
megérezem néha jószagát:
a tűzhely tájáról elindul
s betölt szívet, betölt szobát.

Lelki kenyér ínség-időkben,
verőfényes vigasztalás...
Pedig tudom: a keze föld már.
És nincsen több keddi kalács.

Áprily Lajos (1887-1967) was born in Transylvania. The poetry of Ady made a great impression on him, so much so that he followed Ady to Paris. But due to his innate shyness, he turned back from Ady's front door, and never met him. He soon went back to Transylvania on account of his aging parents. At first, he taught at Nagyenyed and later became Editor of Erdélyi Helikon, a literary magazine. In order to be able to support his family, he resettled in Hungary, but always had pangs of conscience, consid-

ering that he had "betrayed" his native land by leaving. Most of his poems deal with Nature.

Joseph Balogh 95 Years Young

Members of the MNO Editorial Board greeted Joseph Balogh, Editor Emeritus (as well as Founder and Editor of MNO's predecessor, the print Magyar News) on his 95th birthday.

Isten éltesse még soká!



American Hungarian Federation Gala Dinner

EPF

To celebrate the 110th anniversary of its founding, members of the American Hungarian Federation of the Tri-State area held a gala dinner on April 22nd.

To celebrate the 110th anniversary of its founding, members of the American Hungarian Federation of the Tri-State area held a gala dinner at the facilities of the Garfield (NJ) American Hungarian Citizens' League (Garfieldi polgári líga) on April 22nd. A hundred people attended the festivities, including Consul Szakács Imre of New York, who is also Counselor of National Cohesion. He spoke about the importance of all Hungarians, no matter where they may be in the diaspora.

Rev. Csete Iván gave the opening invocation, followed by greetings offered by National President Nagy Ákos and encouraging words by Vass Ildikó, National Secretary. Honorary President Beke Imre gave a brief summary of the Federation's founding by Kohányi Tivadar in Cleveland as an umbrella organization representing over 500 Hungarian societies and churches.

Highlighting some major accomplishments of the Federation, Beke mentioned the erection of the statue of George Washington in Budapest in 1906 (see Magyar News Online, February 2012); the buying and sending of a

dozen ambulances to Hungary during World War I; help provided to Hungarians who – without moving from their native place – found themselves living in another country after Trianon; organization of the two "nemzetgyűlés" ("national assemblies") in 1929 and 1999; and the cooperation of the Federation with the Hungarian government in the joint laying of a wreath at the 1956 memorial in Passaic, NJ.

The delicious dinner was followed by dancing to the music of the Horváth Duo and a raffle of many prizes. The Reverend Ötvös Zsolt of the Reformed Church of New Brunswick gave a closing prayer. Fr. Juhász Imre (also of New Brunswick) asked the Lord's blessing that all might get home safely.



Consul Szakács Imre; dancers; Fr. Csete Iván; National President Nagy Ákos

Book Review: Hungary and the Defense of European Civilization

by Sergio Fernández Riquelme
Reviewed by Miklós Cseszneky

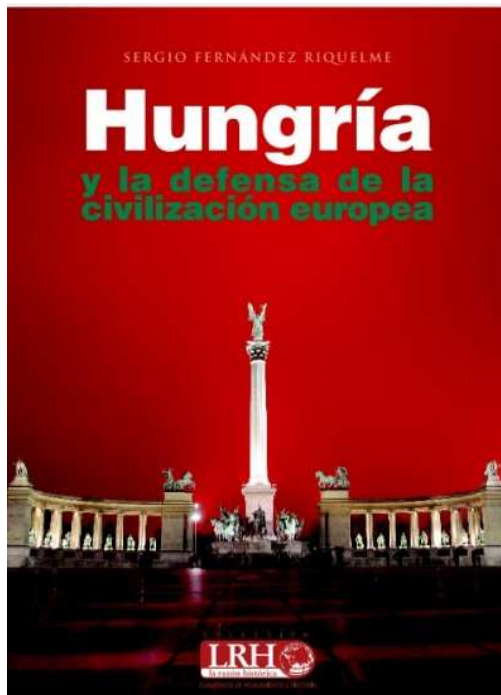
Sergio Fernández Riquelme, a historian and professor of sociology at the University of Murcia in Spain, has written a Spanish-language book entitled "Hungria y la defensa de la civilización europea" (Hungary and the Defense of European Civilization) examining the conservative and identitarian policies of the government of Viktor Orbán and its open defiance of the European political status quo.

In his work, published as part of the series "La Razón Histórica," Professor Fernández Riquelme presents a historical synthesis of this linguistically and ethnically unique central European country, which in recent years has often hit the headlines in the European press due to the Orbán government's vehement opposition to the phenomenon of large-scale migration, staunchly opposed not only by Hungary but other Central European nations as well.

The volume also addresses identity issues within the European Union in the face of the socio-cultural homogenization that accompanies the era of globalization.

(Fernández Riquelme, Sergio: *Hungria y la defensa de la civilización europea*, Murcia, 2016, "La Razón Histórica")

Miklós Cseszneky comes from the nobility (he is Gróf – Count – milványi Cseszneky Miklós) and studied Law in Szeged. Between 2003 and 2005, he was President of the Young Democratic Forum of Csongrád County. He is an International Relations Expert living in England.



Chicken and Fresh Green Peas Salad

Here is a refreshing yet hearty spring meal.

Half a boneless chicken breast

- 1 cup fresh peas
- ½ cup sliced ham
- 1 small purple onion
- 1 cup sour cream
- 2 tsp mustard
- 2 tsp powdered sugar
- 2 Tbsp olive oil

Salt

Black pepper

1 cup salad greens

For a tangier salad add lemon juice to dressing.

1. Mix sour cream, sugar, mustard, olive oil, salt and black pepper. Set aside.
2. Cut up chicken breast into small cubes and cook in a small amount of oil. Sprinkle salt and pepper over chicken and mix and cool.
3. Cook peas, cool, set aside.
4. Cut purple onion into strips.
5. When chicken and peas are cold, add ham, onion, and mix with prepared dressing.

Spread salad greens on serving plate. Top with chicken and peas salad.

Did You Know ...

by Zsuzsa Lengyel

--that this time we have accomplishments in many fields ... tourism, beer, cars and a long distance swimmer aiming for a world aquatic triumph?

.... that the Aria Hotel in Budapest, which opened in 2015, is considered the number 1 hotel in the world, according to TripAdvisor's ranking?

It is an impressive neoclassical building, a former bank located in the heart of the city. The special character-

istic of the building is that as soon as you enter you are surrounded by beautiful melodies. In the lobby there is a long black-and-white keyboard carpet which ends by a space-age piano designed by Bogányi Gergely. The building is split into four wings, each representing a different musical genre, and all the bedrooms are dedicated to a different artist.

A High Note SkyBar on top of the building gives you a beautiful view of the cupola of the Basilica and of the whole city.

.... that Székesfehérvári püspöki sörök (Bishop's beers of Székesfehérvár) received several prizes in the 2017 Barcelona Beer Challenge? The Prépost porter earned a silver medal in the English Porter category, and Szt. Imre wheat beer earned a bronze medal in the Weissbier (white beer) category. Monyo Brewing Co., which manufactures Bishop's beers, also received a silver medal for their historical Anubis beer.

25 countries participated in the Barcelona Beer Challenge and more than 800 beers were entered from 203 breweries.

Spányi Antal, the diocesan bishop, said that when naming these beers after Hungarian saints, his consideration was more pastoral than business-oriented, and he had in mind the *Prépost* (provost) who was guarding the Hungarian Crown in Székesfehérvár.

...that an electric car developed in Hungary can go about 200 km (about 125 mi), and the trip costs only 45 forints (about \$.15)? It is smaller than an average car, the length is similar to the Smart car, but it is lower and narrower.

It was designed by a SZEnergy Team formed in 2005 at Széchenyi István University in Győr to work on an environment-friendly and energy saving vehicle. The team consists of 22 university students and is supported by 6-8 mentors.

For the last 8 years, they have participated in the Shell Ecomarathon, which is the largest competition of energy saving vehicles. The goal is for participating vehicles to go large distances with the least amount of energy use. Right now, these SZE-lectricity vehicles are only used in competition in the small town car category, but it is very possible that in the future their production will start with some adjustments and will be used on the streets.

...that Mányoki Attila, a 43 year old Hungarian long distance swimmer, successfully swam one of the world's most dangerous straits, the Cook Strait in New Zealand? This was the fifth stop of the Ocean's Seven series.

He had to wait several weeks, until the weather cleared enough to try. The Strait is 26 km wide, and he made it in 6 hours and 55 minutes in the 14° C water. He started out from the the Perano Head Rocks of the Southern Island. The first few hundred meters were hard, because

the waves were pushing him back towards the rocks, and there were a lot of medusas (jellyfish). Luckily they were about a meter below him. After that he managed a good average speed. There were many dolphins all around, for long periods, sometimes he even touched them, they were so close. Nearing the other side, it became harder again against the waves, and the cold was starting to get to him. Near the shore the water became very murky and he had a hard time locating the rock which was under water so that he could raise his hand to show the boatmen he had made it.

Mányoki has already swum La Manche (2013); the Tsugaru Channel between Honshu and Hokkaido in Japan (2014), considered the most difficult aquatic obstacle in the world; the Molokai Channel and the Catalina Channel in 2015. Of the Ocean's Seven series, only the North Channel (between Ireland and Scotland) and the Strait of Gibraltar remain for him. So far, only six people have completed all seven swims.



Aria Hotel, Budapest; The Smart car and the SZEnergy Team; Mányoki Attila

720th Anniversary of Pozsony Church

EPF

Apart from the Mátyás temple in Budapest, there are not many active churches in Central Europe that can boast of as long a history as the Church of the Annunciation in Pozsony. Over the centuries, it had witnessed many historic events. An unusual one was the creation of Knights of the Golden Spur following the coronation ceremony.

The oldest still functioning church in the Old City of Pozsony, that of the Annunciation, was consecrated in March of 1297 by the archbishop of Esztergom, with five other bishops and King András III also in attendance. The 720th anniversary was celebrated on March 24th this year with Mass in Hungarian and another Mass celebrated by the archbishop in Slovak. Other programs followed.

Some time later, in the 14th century, a Franciscan monastery was built next to the church, becoming the center of the oldest Franciscan province in Hungary. Over time, additional chapels and other buildings in varying architectural styles were added to the church complex. Earthquakes in the late 16th century caused enough damage to have the church rebuilt in Renaissance style. With rebuilding, expansion and redesign, Gothic and Baroque styles mingle within and without the church.

A relief depicting the Annunciation which had adorned the front of the church above the entrance unfortunately was destroyed over the years by wars and fires. The Gothic façade was rebuilt in Baroque style in 1745, with a statue of Mary flanked by two angels.

The church played an important



Franciscan church; Front of Franciscan church in Pozsony

part in the history of the city and of the country. This is where the mayors of Pozsony were elected, for over two centuries. But more importantly (between 1563 and 1830), it was also the site where immediately following the crowning ceremony, the newly crowned kings, in their first official act, knighted members of the nobility who were deemed worthy to become Knights of the Golden Spur.

These Hungarian Knights of the Golden Spur are not to be confused

with the papal order of the same name. In Hungary, they were not an official order of knights; they had no special privileges nor duties, nor even organization nor regulations. Those having been dubbed knights with the sword of St. Stephen were merely entitled to put on a golden spur to add to the pomp of the coronation ceremonies.

References to this as part of the coronation ceremony have been found in ancient documents as early as the time of the kings of the house of Árpád (10th to the 14th centuries).

At first, there were no set standards for who could be dubbed a knight. At his coronation in 1563, King Maximilian of the House of Habsburg so honored some of those who had distinguished themselves in the fight against the Turks. But many people not worthy of this honor crowded in for the ceremony so that it had to be suspended.

Over time, not only members of the nobility were admitted to this chosen group, but members of all social strata were accepted.

By the 19th century, the prime minister submitted suggestions of who should be made a Knight of the Golden Spur.

King Charles IV, the last Hungarian king, dubbed a number of knights at his coronation in 1916, and donated a badge to each.

Probably due to Hungarian influence, the dubbing of knights at the coronation ceremony was also customary in Poland (from the 14th century on), and among the Czechs (since the 15th century).

Since the 1920 Treaty of Trianon, Pozsony is part of Slovakia and is now known as Bratislava.

Pozsony, City of Coronations and Parliamentary Sessions

Erika Papp Faber

In 1536, Pozsony was made the capital of Hungary, and between 1563 and 1830, 11 kings and 8 queens were crowned there. Let us look at this city that played such an important role in Hungarian history. Since 1920, it belongs to Slovakia

Pozsony first entered Hungarian history with the victory won here by the Hungarians against the Margrave of Bavaria and the King of East Francia in 907 (see the July-August 2015 issue of Magyar News Online), a victory so skillfully carried out that it is taught to this day at West Point. In the 1050s, another Hungarian victory was achieved here when the diver Búvár Kund drilled holes in the ships of the besieging Germans so that they sank, and the Germans were forced to withdraw.

The fortress of Pozsony overlooking the city offered serious defense. In the 13th century, the Mongolians did not take Pozsony, and when the Turks were on their way to Vienna in the 17th century, they too left it alone.

After the Battle of Mohács, the Turks burned Buda, although they did not yet capture it. Nevertheless, Pozsony was made the capital in 1536. Between 1552 and 1784, the Holy Crown of Hungary was kept here. Referring to this, the spire of the Church of St. Martin is topped with a replica of the Holy Crown, weighing 150 kilograms. (It was from this church that the coronation procession wound its way to the Franciscan church.)

Between 1563 and 1830, 11 Habsburg kings and 8 queens were crowned in this city. Coronations always provided a grandiose spectacle, a celebration for which many members of the nobility assembled and stayed for a protracted period of time.

They built magnificent palaces which



Old City Hall

still adorn the streets and squares. Among them was the Graskovich family, whose palace is now the residence of the Slovak president. Some other families of the nobility whose residences can still be seen are the Zichys, the Csákys, the Esterházys and the Apponyis.

The archbishop's palace was where the Peace of Vienna was signed in 1805, after Napoleon's victory at Austerlitz. It was also the locale where Austrian General Haynau signed the death sentences for the 13 generals of the Freedom Fight of 1848-49.

It was here in Pozsony that the diet or parliament (*országgyűlés*) held its sessions. Two in particular had major historic implications. During the diet of 1687, the nobility renounced their right to elect the king, and accepted the Habsburg's rule of male succession. Perhaps even more important was their surrender of their right to organize resistance against the king (known as *ius resistendi*, guaranteed them by the Golden Bull – the Aranybulla – of 1222) if the king ever became disloyal to the people. Thus it may be said that the nobility thereby sealed Habsburg domination over Hungary.

Another historic Pozsony diet was the last one, that of 1847-1848, at which Kossuth demanded a constitution for all the provinces of the Habsburg empire, freeing the serfs, establishing a *representative* parliament, and an independent responsible ministry. (These became part of the 12 demands of the Revolution of 1848 – see March 2017 issue of MNO.)

Three colleges were also founded in Pozsony:

- 1) the Academia Istropolitana, founded by King Mátyás in 1465-67, but closed after his death. (It was the third Hungarian university, after Pécs, 1367, and Buda, 1395)
- 2) Jesuit university founded here by Pázmány Péter c.1630, but it was established in Nagyszombat
- 3) the Emericanum, founded in 1642, as the seminary of the Esztergom diocese. It functioned as such until 1919.

Pozsony was also a center for music. Mozart and Haydn premiered some of their compositions here, and this is where Liszt at age 9 performed his third public concert. Bartók Béla was sent here to study music.

While much of the city's Hungarian history can be traced through its buildings, it was one of the casualties of the Treaty of Trianon. Today, it is known as Bratislava and is the capital of Slovakia where Hungarian is rarely heard.



*Top: Building where parliament met; Grassalkovich palace in Pozsony,
Center: Archbishop's palace; fortress.
Bottom: City view. St. Martin's Church has a copy of the Holy Crown on top of the steeple.*

IRINYI JÁNOS – THE HUNGARIAN PROMETHEUS

Olga Vállay Szokolay

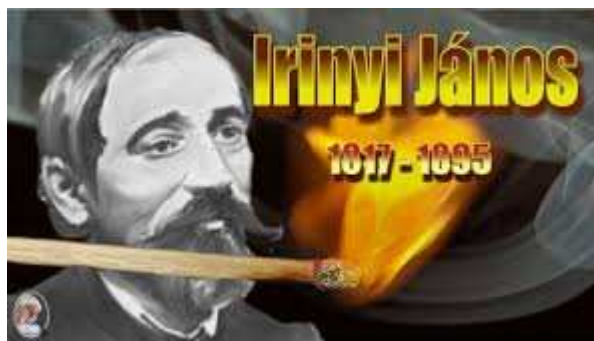
This May we are celebrating another Hungarian bicentennial. Lesser known, perhaps, than our beloved and match-less Arany János, this Titan made our daily life safer and more convenient. He was Irinyi János, the inventor of silent and non-explosive matches, to name just one of his contributions to improving the quality of our daily life.

Matches, as we now know them, are relatively noiseless and, unless handled irresponsibly, safe. They were not always that way. But let's deal with this in proper sequence.

Irinyi János was born at Nagyléta, Bihar County on May 17, 1817. Some argue the location and even the date but then we Hungarians like to challenge facts from different viewpoints, don't we... He came from an old Calvinist noble family, the son of Jánossy Róza and Irinyi János, manager of the estate of the Baron Mandel at Nagyléta.

Young János attended schools at Nagyvárad and Debrecen, then studied chemistry at the Technical University in Vienna and in Berlin. In 1836, during a lecture of one of his professors, renowned Paul Meissner from Transylvania, he witnessed a research attempt that went awry. The professor rubbed sulfur with lead dioxide, promising the audience that the sulfur would ignite. It did not happen. Instead of making fun of the glitch, Irinyi later commented that had the professor used phosphorus instead of sulfur, it would have promptly ignited.

This sudden idea gave birth to the invention of *noiseless matches*, by replacing potassium chlorate with lead dioxide. The greatest problem of phosphoric matches containing potassium chlorate was that they ignited with an explosion, spewing some of the chemical mix around, evoking constant complaints. Some cities even prohibited their sale.



Still technically a teenager, in need of money, János sold the idea to Hungarian-born Viennese chemist István Rómer, for 60 forints.

In Berlin, in 1838, Irinyi wrote his first scientific treatise dealing with the theoretic questions of chemistry, especially those of acids. He pointed out that while some acids contain no oxygen, some alkali do. This study drew significant attention from German chemists, opening him doors to scientific circles.

After his short stay in Berlin, Irinyi went to Hohenheim to attend the famous academy of Economics. As a 22-year-old, having grown up on an estate, he realized how backward Hungary's agriculture was. He decided to utilize the fruits of his studies to benefit his homeland.

In 1839, he returned to Hungary and dove into the local scientific life. He wrote scores of treatises. One of those, dealing with chemical affinity, analyzed sodic soils (soils containing excess salts which impede availability of water and ultimately plant growth) – a widespread problem in that country – and studied remedies of the problem.

In the same year, as he realized that he could not get a teaching position, Irinyi founded a match factory in Budapest. He filed his application to the City on April 8, 1840, to get permission for the manufacture of

"such little wooden ignition sticks that do not clamor (sic!) at ignition and can be produced without sulfur, thus not producing any odor" (oly gyújtófácskák készítésére, amelyek fellobbanásukkor nem zajonganak s kén nélkül is készíthetők, miáltal semmi szagot nem csinálnak.)

The factory flourished, producing half a million matches daily. Yet his competitors, Rómer included, did everything in their power to ruin the prosperous plant and Irinyi – the very inventor of noiseless phosphoric matches – was forced to sell the factory, due to senseless bureaucratic intervention.

In 1844, he co-authored a book summarizing the development of the professional Hungarian chemical language.

By 1847, he had published several books and managed his 100-acre estate at Vértes. Utilizing his western experiences, he introduced plowing, sowing and harrowing with machinery. He also fertilized the soil with potash and lime. In the same year, the first volume of his study titled "The Elements of Chemistry", an overview of chemical science's basics including elements and compounds, was published. The second volume had to be cancelled

due to the events of the 1848 Revolution.

During the Revolutionary War, the Kossuth government appointed Irinyi, in 1849, to oversee the gunpowder and cannon manufacturing plant at Nagyvárad. As a very patriotic Hungarian nobleman, he had already been involved with the revolutionary movements. Legend has it that with his younger brother, József, a journalist and politician, they wrote the famous 12-point petition.

Upon the defeat of the Revolution, both brothers were imprisoned at Pest. After their release in 1850, János returned to his Vértes estate, to wait for a better era of Hungary's science when such talent and education as his would not be wasted but be utilized for the common good. Unfortunately, he waited in vain.

The new methods of cultivation introduced at his estate cost a lot of money and caused indebtedness that he could never resolve.

He decided to look for employment. A newly formed insurance company hired him as financial counselor. Later, in 1863, he worked for a steam mill in the same capacity.

Irinyi married late: at age 51 he wed Baranyi Hermin. Both their son, Lajos and daughter, Janka died in infancy.

Irinyi János was one of the most talented Magyar chemists. He became the full master of the new chemistry based on A.L. Lavoisier's teachings. It was a brave stance since the scientific community of both Vienna and Pest subscribed to the outdated theory of Jakab Winterl who contradicted Lavoisier's findings with a passion. He found a more liberated scientific atmosphere in Berlin.

However, his dream of having a laboratory never materialized. The scientific community was so limited that the labors, sacrifices and achievements of one human life could only be honored but not rewarded.

Like so many other activists, Irinyi became crushed by the failure of the Freedom Fight and never published anything anymore. He retired to his Vértes estate at age 65, where he lived until his death. He was one of the victims of the era's politics, and thus could never bring his talents to full fruition.

He died at Vértes, on December 17, 1895, at age 78.

Irinyi has been credited as the inventor of the noiseless phosphoric matches, yet his life's opus involved so much more in the propagation of new theories in the field of fresh views of chemistry. As he himself stated: "Had I not been able to utilize the theory of chemistry beyond this foolishness, I would wring my own neck today."

Our Titan, our Hungarian Prometheus, gave us the fire and was punished for it. Yet, our fire has never, ever been extinguished...

Special thanks to my son-in-law, B.C., for his professional assistance.

Olga Vállay Szokolay is an architect and Professor Emerita of Norwalk Community College, CT after three decades of teaching. She is a member of the Editorial Board of Magyar News Online.



***Tündérkert* Movement**

– Saving Fruit Tree Genes

EPF

While "tündér" is usually translated as "fairy", the magical mythological female nevertheless has a unique Magyar character. So "tündérkert" is more than just a "fairy garden".

Thanks to the years-long effort of forest ranger Kovács Gyula, founder of the *Tündérkert* Movement, over 2,000 indigenous apple, pear, plum, apricot and peach tree saplings can now be found on his property in Göcsej. When in the 1980's, he saw ancient strains of fruit trees destroyed, he determined to try to save the remaining cultural riches of indigenous pomology (i.e., fruit culture). He set up the first *Tündérkert* together with actor Szarvas József and writer Ambrus Lajos, to preserve local strains of fruit trees, graft them, and return them to their native region.

In the past 20 years alone, in the Göcsej area, the number of fruit tree strains has decreased by 50! Kovács says it is therefore imperative to act now to save the remaining kinds before they too disappear forever.

By now, there are approximately 100 other *tündérkert* in the Carpathian Basin, including locations in Transylvania, Upper Hungary (Felvidék) and in the Mura region. The Csángós of Moldva and the Székelys of Bukovina have also begun to collect their indigenous fruit trees. All of them have sent saplings to the fruit tree gene bank set up at Nova, County Zala, near the Austrian border, to preserve and propagate local strains. This year alone, 1,140 vines have been sent to Kovács Gyula for grafting, including strains unknown to the pomologists themselves.

Szarvas József, in his *tündérkert* at Viszák, has 83 indigenous fruit



trees. Branches snipped from the trees are grafted onto stock (*vadalany*), and until their roots grow strong, they are cared for and watered by "parents" who will eventually be able to eat the fruit. Each year since 2009, when he established his *tündérkert*, as many indigenous trees are added as there were children born in the village the previous year. Thus each child in the village has one tree to care for.

The Ministry for Rural Development has given high priority to the preservation of genetic sources and is very supportive of the *Tündérkert* Movement.

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Trough-Scooping Gypsies

This piece dealing with a specific group of gypsies in the Gemenc National Park area was published in Hungarian on the webpage of Familia Családkutatás és Helytörténet of Lajosmizse, which describes its mission as follows:

"Our aim is to preserve the past, and for this reason we are collecting the history of settlements, the origins of its families, the search of family trees and family histories. We regularly collect and preserve verbal conversations and various other material relating to local histories, conduct searches in libraries, do field studies, hold local informative tours (helyismereti túrák) relating to local history."

The following is such a conversation with a local resident. It was translated by Eva Wajda, and is used here by permission.

Before we quote the story, it will be helpful to say a few words about the locality.

Gemenc National Park is a protected, mostly wooded floodplain alongside the Danube in the southern part of Hungary between Szekszárd and Baja. The area is regularly flooded which is unique not only in Hungary but Europe as well. Willow and poplar forests close to the waters are typical. Large oak, ash and elm forests with thick undergrowth harbor a variety of animals, among them herds of deer, wild boar and stag, famous worldwide for their impressive, huge antlers. Protected birds, many varieties of fish in the lake, butterflies, stag beetles, and many other animals live in the Gemenc forest and waters.

Now for the gypsies of our title, as described by a local:

"A large lake is located in the middle of the forest of Gemenc. When the lake floods, it covers the surrounding area.

*"Gypsies happened to be in the area, and the forest ranger needed a boat. They went looking for a suitable tree (poplar/*topolyafa*) to cut down, using hatchets that they also used to carve out the boat. These hatchets were similar to the ones used in beheadings, and these were made by gypsies.*

"They went looking among the huge poplar trees that don't soak up water and began cutting one down using the small-bladed, razor sharp hatchets that could even be used for shaving. Two men pounded and shaped with such precision as those practicing kung-fu with swords, who can split an apple on one's head or hand.

*"This is how the gypsies carved out a boat from a poplar tree that was about 8 meters (26 feet) long. Their aim with the hatchets was accurate to a hair's width, and their hatchets (of the two men working) never touched. They didn't learn this craftsmanship from anyone, not even from the Hungarians. They brought this knowledge with them, from wherever they came from. They had tools, like the "karaszoló, kabirc" by name, which they used to hollow out the boat. Its tip was bent, and with this they achieved a mirror-like finish. They were *teknővályó cigányok* – trough-scooper gypsies. And they lived in the outskirts of Hajós and Havas. It was a pleasure to watch them work.*

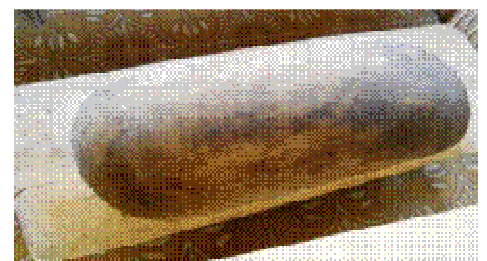
"Nowadays an educated person would not be able to copy their expertise. Not even by chance. But those gypsies who could not read or write, they completed it (the boat) beautifully, oars and all, and turned it over to the ranger, in the middle of the forest.

"The sap of a certain kind of tree was tapped, and smeared on the boat and the oars. The poplar tree is such that it will soak up only a little bit of water, and will not soak up more even if it stands in water a meter high, but will expel any excess. This is why these trees have a long life-span, even if their center is missing, and as long

as the bark is there, they can survive. These are the trees the gypsies make use of.

"They use the twigs of the willow tree to make baskets and ornaments.

"There is not one thing in the world God created, that a gypsy could not make. And why were they able to make it? Because they were not common people. They were able to solve anything, with their special knowledge. They have wandered all over the world. Their expertise was accepted everywhere. They could do anything."



Kicsi a világ!

László Oroszlány

Nowdays, in the twenty-first century, it's a lot easier to meet fellow Hungarians in different parts of the world. A lot of people from all over the world travel all over the world. It was not quite so only fifty years ago.

But it still happened.

In the sixties, New York City had a population of about eight million and of them about forty thousand were Hungarians. Those are high numbers. But if you break it down, about one in two hundred may have been Hungarian.

Walking on the street, not in the Hungarian section, it was not likely that you'd bump into one. It still happened.

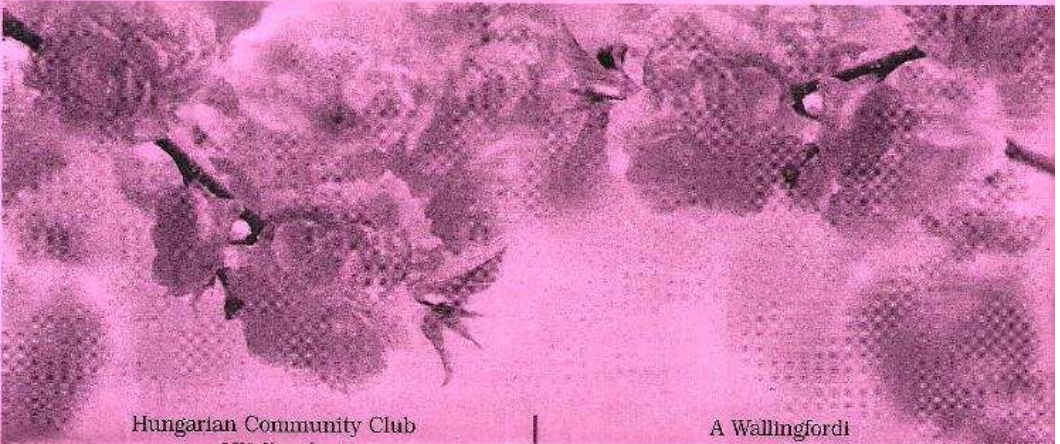
On a nice spring day in 1964, as I was walking through a park in Queens, I saw a young mother trying to make her 3-4 year old son listen to and obey her mom, but he just wouldn't. As I was coming closer, I heard her tell the little rascal in perfect Hungarian, „Vigyázz, viselkedj rendesen, mert elvisz a bácsi!” (Be careful, behave, otherwise this man will take you away!) They both were surprised when the „bácsi” (myself) told him in

perfect Hungarian: „Halgass anyukádra, mert elvisz a bácsi!” (Listen to your nother, else this man will take you away!)

It worked. As I walked on, there was quiet behind me...-because – all together now! – It's a small world!

László Oroszlány was born in Hungary and left the country in

1956. He came to the United States in 1959 and established a firm producing precision parts as a manufacturing subcontractor for the aerospace industry. He retired from there after 42 years. He had been president of the Lay Committee of St. Stephen of Hungary Church in New York.



Hungarian Community Club
of Wallingford
cordially invites everybody to its

Festive May Ball

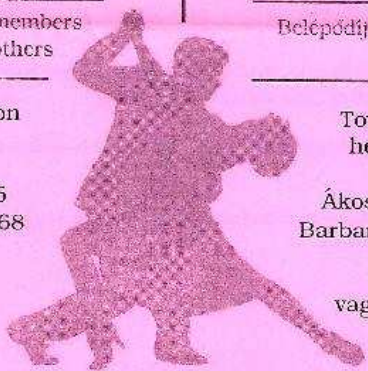
Saturday, May 20th, 2017 at 7P.M.
at the Hungarian Community Hall
147 Ward Street, Wallingford, CT

Music by the popular
"Rhythm Band"

A delicious chicken dinner
will be featured

Admission: \$45.00 for members
\$50.00 for others

For further information
and reservations,
please call
Akos: 860-836-0485
Barbara: 203-269-9768
(after 6:30pm)
or purchase your
tickets on line.



Email: HCCofWallingford@gmail.com

A Wallingfordi
Magyar Klub szeretettel
hív mindenkit

Nagyszabású Májusi Báljára

**Szombaton, 2017 május 20-án,
este 7 órai kezdettel**
a Wallingfordi Magyar Házban
147 Ward Street, Wallingford, CT.

Zenét a népszerű
"Rhythm Band" szolgáltatják

Izletes csirkés vacsorát
szolgáltatunk fel

Belépődíj: Tagoknak 45 dollár
egyébként 50 dollár

További információ és
helyfoglalás ügyében
hívja
Akost a 860-836-0485-ös
Barbarát a 203-269-9768-es
(6:30pm után)
telefonszámokon,
vagy rendeljen jegyeket
a honlapunkon.

Website: hungarianclubofwallingford.org