

DECEMBER 2009

William Penn Life

Merry Christmas

Boldog Karácsonyi
Ünnepket



The Wonder of Christmas

by Rt. Rev. Koloman K. Ludwig
Bishop, Calvin Synod



The wonderful season of Christmas is upon us. The tempo of our lives seems to increase and we become involved in the bustle of this beautiful season. Decorations appearing in our neighborhoods and the sound of Christmas carols on the radio and in stores remind us at every turn that this is a special time of the year. We begin to feel the excitement as we approach the special day. Let's remember what that special day is all about.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John 1:1,14)

Our celebration is, in fact, the appearance of God in everyday history. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke tell us the story of how it happened. Mary and Joseph arrive in Bethlehem, and find that there is no room available for them. So they find lodging in a humble stable, and it is there that Mary gives birth to her son, whom they name Jesus.

His arrival would be insignificant except that two very interesting things happen. First, Jesus' birth is announced by heavenly hosts to shepherds working out in the country. Overcoming their astonishment, they hurry to Bethlehem and are privileged to be the first to greet this new-born baby. Secondly, there were learned men – oriental scientists – who had noticed a change in the heavens. They followed the signs these celestial bodies pointed to, until they arrived in Bethlehem in the presence of the baby Jesus. Recognizing the tremendous importance of this baby, they brought with them gifts fitting for royalty, for a ruler.

The announcement of Jesus' birth was made to some of the wealthiest, most learned persons in the world, and at the same time to humble working people. God chose to invite the wealthy and the poor, learned men and everyday people, to celebrate His coming into the world, to be with those He loved. He came both to the shepherds to invite the nation of Israel to meet Him and to the Wise Men to invite all the world to know Him and His love for them. This is the reason for the celebration.

We only know of this event in history because the life of Jesus was so remarkable that those who had been touched by His power, love and grace could not forget it, and not only did they tell others about it, they wrote down all that they could remember about Him. The story of Jesus, the story of Christmas, was so compelling, they could not, they would not, let it go unrecorded.

Since that time, generation after generation has experienced God's presence in their lives. The active presence of God in everyday life has altered the way men relate to each other. History was altered that fateful day, and has never been the same; God touched His creation, and has never left us ever since. This is the wonder we celebrate at Christmas. This is what touched us as little children, when we marveled at the coming of Jesus as a little baby, when we prayed and sang Silent Night on Christmas Eve. It was this age-old story that brought us joy as we celebrated in front of the Christmas Tree with our family, remembering that just as the Baby Jesus received gifts, so we too were loved and received gifts from those who loved us. And again this very same wonder will touch our lives when we join in worship on Christmas Eve, read of the birth of Jesus, and hear how it was announced as "good news of a great joy... to all the people" – to you and I.

May your Christmas celebration be one in which Jesus the Christ is the honored guest, bringing joy and wonder both now and in the coming year!

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Cover photo (C) Images.com/Corbis

Official publication of the William Penn Association. Published monthly.
Office of publication: 709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233 Phone: (412) 231-2979.
Third Class U.S. Postage Paid. Indiana, PA Permit No. 12

Unsolicited articles, letters, pictures and other material submitted to the William Penn Life are forwarded at the owner's risk, and the William Penn Life expressly denies any responsibility for their safekeeping or return. The William Penn Life reserves the right to edit, revise or reject any article submitted for publication.

POSTMASTER: If undelivered, please send form 3579 to: William Penn Association, 709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233

Tapped for national service

WPA National Director Charles S. Johns of Branch 336 Harrisburg, Pa., recently served as a featured speaker at the 123rd Annual Meeting of the National Fraternal Congress of America held this September in San Antonio, Texas.

Mr. Johns spoke on how the efforts of fraternal societies can have a positive effect on lawmakers when making decisions affecting the fraternal benefit system. He also highlighted the activities of the William Penn Association.

In addition, WPA National Vice President-Secretary Richard W. Toth was appointed by the NFCA to serve on its Membership Benefits Committee.

Our thanks go to both of these gentleman for continuing the WPA's tradition of serving our nation's fraternalists.



Charles S. Johns and Richard W. Toth

2009 Schedule of WPA Branch Family Christmas Parties

Branch	City/State	Date	Time	Location
0008.....	Johnstown, PA.....	Nov. 29....	1:00.....	Oratory Hall, corner of Chestnut St. & 8th Ave., Cambria City
0010.....	Barton, OH.....	Dec. 13....	2:00.....	St. Clair Bowling Lanes, Rt. 40E National Road, St. Clairsville
0013.....	Trenton, NJ.....	Dec. 6.....	2:00.....	Hung. Reformed Church Audi., Grand & Beatty Sts., Trenton
0014.....	Cleveland, OH.....	Dec. 12....	1:00.....	1st Hung. Reformed Church, 14530 Alexander Rd., Walton Hills
0015.....	Chicago, IL.....	Dec. 20....	12:00...	St. Stephen King of Hungary Church, 2013 W. Augusta Blvd.
0016.....	Perth Amboy, NJ.....	Dec. 6.....	12:00...	ZPA Hall, 281 Grace St., Perth Amboy
0018.....	Lincoln Park, MI.....	Nov. 29....	1:00.....	American Hung. Reformed Church, 9901 Allen Road, Allen Park
0019.....	New Brunswick, NJ....	Dec. 13....	11:45...	Bayard St. Presbyterian Church Hall, 221 N. Joyce Kilmer Ave.
0026.....	Sharon, PA.....	Dec. 13....	3:00.....	Comfort Inn, 118 Garrett Dr., Grove City
0027.....	Toledo, OH.....	Dec. 5.....	12:00...	Timbers Bowling Lanes, 1246 Conant St., Maumee
0028.....	Youngstown, OH.....	Dec. 5.....	12:30...	Our Lady of Hungary Church, 545 N. Belle Vista, Youngstown
0040.....	Martins Ferry, OH.....	Dec. 13....	2:00.....	St. Clair Bowling Lanes, Rt. 40E National Road, St. Clairsville
0044.....	Akron, OH.....	Dec. 5.....	9:00.....	Golden Corral, 2819 S. Arlington Rd., Akron (Exit 120 off I-77)
0048.....	New York, NY.....	Dec. 12....	2:00.....	Ruppert Houses Community Room, 222 E. 93rd St., New York
0051.....	Passaic, NJ.....	Dec. 6.....	2:00.....	American Hung. Citizens League, 21 New Schley St., Garfield
0088.....	Rural Valley, PA.....	Dec. 13....	2:00.....	William Penn Social Hall, 132 Main St., Rural Valley
0089.....	Homestead, PA.....	Dec. 5.....	1:00.....	Homeville Fire Hall, Greensburg Avenue, West Mifflin
0090.....	Allentown, PA.....	Dec. 6.....	1:00.....	McDonald's Restaurant, Emmaus
0098.....	Bethlehem, PA.....	Dec. 6.....	1:00.....	McDonald's Restaurant, Emmaus
0129.....	Columbus, OH.....	Dec. 6.....	1:00.....	Grove City Elks Lodge #37, 2140 Sonaro Drive, Grove City
0132.....	South Bend, IN.....	Dec. 5.....	1:00.....	Saylor's Pizza, 1725 S. Michigan Street, South Bend
0159.....	Phoenixville, PA.....	Dec. 5.....	1:00.....	Burger King, 1031 N. Schuylkill Road, Phoenixville
0189.....	Alliance, OH.....	Dec. 20....	1:00.....	William Penn Association, 1361 S. Webb, Alliance
0216.....	Northampton, PA.....	Dec. 6.....	1:00.....	McDonald's Restaurant, Emmaus
0226.....	McKeesport, PA.....	Dec. 6.....	1:00.....	Hungarian Reformed Church, 101 University Dr., McKeesport
0248.....	Monaville, WV.....	Dec. 13....	2:00.....	St. Clair Bowling Lanes, Rt. 40E National Road, St. Clairsville
0249.....	Dayton, OH.....	Dec. 20....	1:30.....	St. Stephen Church, 1114 Troy St., Dayton
0296.....	Springdale, PA.....	Dec. 5.....	12:00...	Springdale Veterans Assn., 1151 Pittsburgh St., Springdale
0349.....	Weirton, WV.....	Dec. 13....	2:00.....	St. Clair Bowling Lanes, Rt. 40E National Road, St. Clairsville
0525.....	Los Angeles, CA.....	Dec. 6.....	2:00.....	So. Cal. Amer.Hung. Club, 992 W. San Bernardino Ave., Rialto
0590.....	Cape Coral, FL.....	Dec. 19....	1:00.....	Golden Corral Restaurant, 1451 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda
0800.....	Altoona, PA.....	Dec. 6.....	6:00.....	Holiday Inn Express, 3306 Pleasant Valley Blvd., Altoona
8114.....	Clarion, PA.....	Dec. 15....	6:00.....	Immaculate Conception School Cafeteria, 720 Liberty St., Clarion
8121.....	St. Marys, PA.....	Dec. 2.....	5:00.....	Green Lite Restaurant, 1221 Brussels St., St. Marys
8164.....	Steubenville, OH.....	Dec. 13....	2:00.....	St. Clair Bowling Lanes, Rt. 40E National Road, St. Clairsville

"I am truly proud and fortunate to be part of such a wonderful group of loving, caring and dedicated fraternalists."

The Keystone of Fraternalism

The Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress continued its mission of service during 2009

by Richard W. Toth, FLMI, FIC

As I reflect upon my past year as president of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress, I would be remiss if I did not thank my fellow Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress officers and directors, the William Penn Association and my fraternal friends for all of their help, support and kind words.

Most of all, I wish to thank my wife Nancy and family for their love and support during my term as president. It was a great honor and privilege to represent and serve the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress as its leader, to preside over our board meetings and to help coordinate the fraternal events.

In May, we held a very successful legislative luncheon at our State Capitol in Harrisburg, Pa. Approximately 150 legislators and fraternal leaders attended this fraternal luncheon. We stressed to our legislators the importance of the Fraternal Benefit System and our tax exempt status.

Our 98th Annual Meeting was held on Oct. 25 to 27, 2009, at the beautiful Nemaquin Woodlands Resort in Farmington, Pa. I wish to thank all the

sponsors who helped financially with this memorable event and the outstanding speakers for their informative insurance-related presentations. We were honored to have Dave DelBiondo, director of the Bureau of Financial Examinations of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department, and Joseph Annotti, president and CEO of the National Fraternal Congress, speak to us on important state, national and fraternal topics.

Many thanks to the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh, the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress Umbrella Groups and the NFCA for their assistance and support. I am truly proud and fortunate to be part of such a wonderful group of loving, caring and dedicated fraternalists who tirelessly give so much of their time for the betterment of the Fraternal Benefit System and their communities.

I wish the best of luck and success to the incoming president, officers and directors of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress as they continue to uphold our mission: to promote, foster and protect the rights and interests of the Fraternal Benefit System.



Officers and directors of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress (l-r): Linda Strom, Irene Jugan, Robert Lawrence, Charles Johns, Roger Mervine, Eryna Korchynsky, Theresa Kluchinski, Richard Toth, George Matta Sr., Berny Golubiewski, Sara Bender and George Lopata.

Past, present, future

As the WPA approaches another milestone, we can take pride in our accomplishments but must look beyond the familiar if we are to continue our fraternal work

by Endre Csoman

In 2011 our organization, the William Penn Association, will celebrate its 125th anniversary.

The beginning of our Association on Feb. 21, 1886, can be traced to the desire of a group of 28 Hungarian coal miners in Hazleton, Pa.

The role of the Verhovay Aid Association, founded by these Hungarians, has evolved from its origin as a sick benefit society, which provided benefits to those miners who became ill or disabled. The Verhovay grew to become the largest Hungarian-based fraternal organization in the Western world.

Today, the William Penn Association strives to preserve our Hungarian culture and language and to provide aid not only to our members but also to other Hungarian organizations, our local communities and even Hungary itself.

The historical context of our Association--"Hungarian in origin; American in spirit"--has

been the driving force behind our Association's charitable activities, which have enjoyed tremendous success.

However, ethnic organizations, like the William Penn Association, face steadily declining membership as older generations of members pass away and the younger generations become increasingly less active.

Today, we welcome into our membership people of all nationalities. Thus, you--as agent, branch officer or member--must look beyond the familiar and our own ethnic community to find new members.

Let us all get behind our Association. Only through cooperation and mutual support can we hope to succeed in the next 125 years.

Please accept as my sincere hope that you and your family will receive the full blessings of the Christmas season and enjoy a happy and healthy new year. WPL

Schedule of WPA events for 2010

Mark your calendars now for these WPA fraternal events, scheduled for the spring and summer of 2010:

Join Hands Day May 1, 2010

This day of service lets members make a difference in their communities through helpful projects that connect youths and adults.

William Penn Association 27th Annual Golf Tournament July 16 and 17, 2010

The Tom's Run Golf Course at the Chestnut Ridge Golf Resort and Conference Center in Blairsville, Pa., will play host to the WPA's annual golf outing.

Hungarian Heritage Experience August 1 to 7, 2010

The Experience will return to Penn Scenic View in Rockwood, Pa. Students will receive 25 hours of instruction, focusing on practical usage of the Hungarian language.

William Penn Association Trip to Hungary September 2010

The WPA will offer its members and friends another chance to explore the Land of the Magyars. Based on reports from our recent tours, this trip should be an unforgettable experience.

10th Annual WPA Picnic-A Great Fraternal-Fest September 11, 2010

After a record-setting crowd at this year's picnic, the WPA is eager to begin planning for next year's picnic on the lovely grounds of Penn Scenic View in Rockwood, Pa.

More information on these fraternal events, as well as information about events being held throughout the Hungarian-American Community, will appear in future issues of this publication. Or, you can learn more by calling Endre Csoman at 1-800-848-7366, ext. 136.

Letters express appreciation for WPA's fraternal efforts, support

Donations, use of Penn Scenic View appreciated

On behalf of the officers of the Calvin Synod, please accept this check in the amount of \$250 as a token of our heartfelt appreciation to you and the William Penn Association for allowing us to hold our recent Calvin Synod Conference Council Meeting in November. It was very unfortunate that we didn't have the turnout we expected and had to cancel this event.

The Calvin Synod appreciates the generosity continuously shown to us by the William Penn, whether it be donations, allowing us to hold our quarterly meeting at Scenic View or hosting the delegates at our Annual meeting. Words do not express how grateful the Calvin Synod is to the William Penn.

God bless you, the William Penn Association and its Board of Directors this holiday season.

Sincerely,
Lisa Susan Toth-Maskarinec
Treasurer
Calvin Synod

Thank you for a fantastic 'Experience'

My name is Pamela Gott, and I attended the Hungarian Heritage Experience this year. And let me tell you, it was fantastic!

I not only learned the language but learned how to make palacsinta and chicken paprikas and lots of other Hungarian foods.

I met a lot of friends. I learned some of the songs and the dances. It was the best week I had all year. I can't wait till next year. My son

and daughter want to go next year also. This was my first time.

Emory Marcus was a fantastic teacher. We all learned a lot from him.

Endre and Arelene [Csoman] were fantastic hosts. They went out of their way to show us a good time. The cook really outdid herself. I enjoyed meeting everyone.

Nancy and Bob showed me how to play bocce, and that was a lot of fun.

I really want to thank you so much, because without this class I would not have learned everything that I did. You see, my mom never taught us any of the language.

We also got to learn some of the heritage. We performed for some of the officials of the William Penn Association. I got to dance and sing with my sister and daughter.

I had a wonderful time.

Thank you, again. I can't wait till next year. I still keep in touch with the friends I met there.

Sincerely yours,
Pamela Gott

WPA grant aids students studying at Colloquium

We want to thank you for your gracious grant award to help support five USA university students to attend the American Hungarian Colloquium this coming summer.

We know these students will benefit greatly from their participation. Your support is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Dr. Gabor Tarjan, Director
Dr. Judit Kerekes, President
American Hungarian Colloquium



Are your
beneficiaries
up to
date

THAT'S A QUESTION YOU MAY not have asked yourself very often, if ever. But, it's one you should ask yourself at least once a year.

We can't stress enough the importance of regularly checking the beneficiaries listed on your life insurance certificates. It is the only way to ensure that the people you want to receive the benefits of your life insurance are the ones who will receive it.

Think about the changes that have occurred in your life since you purchased your life insurance. Getting married, having children, losing a loved one, getting divorced, getting remarried--all these life changes affect your responsibilities. Do the beneficiaries currently listed on your life insurance certificates reflect such changes?

If you think you need to update the beneficiaries listed on your certificates--either primary or secondary beneficiaries--contact your WPA representative. Or, call our Home Office toll-free at **1-800-848-7366**.

Reflections on Hungary

Member recalls his favorite moments from this summer's WPA tour to Hungary

by Richard Sarosi

I have finally added the last picture from the 2009 WPA trip to Hungary to my photo album. I enjoyed going through the photos and remembering the places we visited and the little incidents that happened along the way that made the trip a lot of fun. So, now I want to share some thoughts about this trip.

I really enjoyed our group who traveled to Hungary. It was a manageable size at 15 people. I got to meet some fellow Clevelanders (Hank, Fran, Kathy and Floyd) who traveled with us to Hungary and who traveled to the WPA Picnic on the Branch 14 bus in September.

It was a pleasure to travel with my sister, Caroline Lanzara, who was on her first trip to Hungary. By the end of the trip, she was a seasoned Hungarian who was able to use her knowledge of the language to speak with merchants and restaurant staff. She was able to get us what we wanted without offending anyone. The ice made it in our drinks every time. I was glad she was able to experience Hungary with me.

Caroline also provided some entertaining moments for us, such as when she wore her money belt--with her passport and her U.S. currency safely stored inside--into the thermal pool at the Hotel Orchidea. It took a couple of hours to dry it all out. When we got back to Detroit, the customs official had a hard time trying to scan her passport...maybe it was the mineral water.

Caroline also wanted to know when she should begin using her Hungarian currency....This question came after we had been in Hungary for several days.

We both enjoyed so many aspects of the trip...the boat ride on Fertod Lake...seeing where the Iron Curtain fell (and learning this was the area where a young Endre Csoman crossed the border when he left Hungary)...Lake Balaton (WOW! What a treat)...the dinner above Lake Balaton with the gypsy orchestra and our phone call home so that our parents could enjoy the music that was being played...the Herend factory and



Richard Sarosi (left), his sister Caroline Lanzara and Albert Frate enjoy a meal during the WPA tour to Hungary.

showroom...crossing Lake Balaton on the ferry with Caroline running to catch it...Eddie dressing up in the traditional Hungarian folk dress...the wild boar lunch...Caroline and I eating our first goose dinner...the palaces...the dinner with the pigs knuckles and delicious syrupy crust...the desserts...Vienna...Bratislava...the Museum of Terror...the Budapest synagogue...and Budapest, which I am enjoying more with each visit.

Caroline, Albert Frate (also on his first trip to Hungary) and I enjoyed exploring Budapest and walking more than eight miles with our shopping bags. We walked down the Vaci Utca, enjoyed a *fank* from McDonald's, then crossed the Chain Bridge and went up the incline to Buda Hill where we visited the World War II Memorial Building/Revolution Building and the observation wall. Then it was back down the incline, across the Chain Bridge, up Andrassy Utca and back to our hotel. We had sore feet, but no one complained.

We had a problem with our global phone, and Albert was able to share his phone with us until we got the problem solved. This little matter took about two hours of long distance calls to the U.S. to correct...or, it could have been corrected when Caroline threw our phone out of frustration and got it to work on her own. The look on Albert's face was a "Kodak moment."

My favorite picture from the trip was of a license plate frame of a car dealer located on Sarosi Ut in Szeged. If I am able to return there, I *have* to find *my* street.

Caroline, Albert and I are proud to have had the opportunity to visit the homeland of our grandparents and other family members. We now have a greater interest in locating the villages and towns where our families lived and possibly finding relatives that might still be living there.

I want to thank Endre Csoman for all the work he did to make this trip a success. I hope that the 2010 trip will be just as exciting. My niece Lynn has expressed interest in going to Hungary, and I hope she will be able to go.

Köszönöm Szepen! **[WPL]**



The author's favorite photo from his trip to Hungary: a license plate holder bearing his last name, Sarosi.

Puzzle Contest

Number 54

The 12 Days of Christmas

Hidden in the word search puzzle below are all the gifts listed in that classic Christmas carol, "The 12 Days of Christmas." Find them all and you could win \$50 in our **Puzzle Contest #54**.

Puzzle Contest #51 WINNERS

The winners of our Puzzle Contest #51 were drawn November 3, 2009, at the Home Office. Congratulations to:

Arthur H. Bauer, Br. 336 Harrisburg, PA

Ann Conner, Br. 34 Pittsburgh, PA

Janice L. Grahl, Br. 18 Lincoln Park, MI

Sherwin Vine, Br. 18 Lincoln Park, MI

Each won \$50 for their correct entry.
WAY TO GO!!

RULES

1. ALL WPA Life Benefit Members are eligible to enter.
2. Complete the word search puzzle correctly.
3. Mail your completed puzzle, along with your name, address, phone number and WPA Certificate Number, to: **WPA PUZZLE #54**, 709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233.
4. Entries must be received at the Home Office by **January 29, 2010**.
5. Four (4) winners will be drawn from all correct entries on February 1, 2010, at the Home Office. Each winner will receive \$50.
6. GOOD LUCK!!

12 Days of Christmas Word List

Partridge	Swans
Turtle Doves	Maids
French Hens	Ladies
Calling Birds	Lords
Golden Rings	Pipers
Geese	Drummers

S	R	W	R	A	T	P	S	N	A	W	S	D	C	E
N	G	A	E	M	H	A	O	O	S	E	O	A	A	G
E	D	N	D	G	A	S	V	I	V	D	L	A	D	N
H	S	S	I	O	D	T	E	O	E	L	I	N	R	I
H	Y	B	A	R	L	I	D	A	I	U	S	A	U	S
C	H	R	O	L	N	E	R	N	S	M	R	W	M	E
N	K	L	M	E	L	E	G	T	S	M	E	C	M	S
E	L	A	N	T	M	B	D	U	R	E	P	T	E	E
R	S	P	R	H	I	M	O	L	U	A	I	U	R	E
F	A	U	E	R	B	M	P	G	O	R	P	H	S	G
G	T	B	D	E	E	E	E	E	L	G	T	N	W	R
N	M	S	S	E	I	D	A	L	A	D	I	E	A	L

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

WPA Life Certificate No.: _____



Tibor's Take

My Hungarian 'See and Do' List

With Christmas nearly upon us, my pen has shifted to New Year resolutions. This time, I decided to go long-term and think about the things I would like to experience over the long haul. The influences cast upon me by loved ones led me to creating a 5-point resolution list, Hungarian Style (set in reversed order):

5. Visit as many Hungarian restaurants outside of Hungary as possible. Not only do I want to sample the specialties each host holds acclaim to, but to communicate with the owner. I would like to learn what was the spark of an idea that led them to open a Magyar restaurant.

4. To meet captains of industry and finance who are of Hungarian descent and learn their story. Would it not be interesting to listen to a first-hand narrative of how being of Hungarian descent either helped or hindered their success? I would probably begin my search right here in Northeast Ohio. A Hungarian-American entrepreneur, such as Jim Balogh of Mar Bal Incorporated, would be a great person to start with.

3. Interview the remaining soldiers of World War II and Freedom Fighters of 1956. Their personal stories and struggles are inspirations to us all. If I had the resources, I would record their every comment for posterity's sake.

2. Attend as many American-Hungarian events as possible. Such proceedings are dwindling in number as our older generation fades away. My dad videotaped a *Bogo Temeto* at St. Margaret of Hungary Church in Cleveland back in the early 1980's. It is amazing how so many of the attendees are no longer with us. With the imminent closing of St. Margaret, the possibility of having another Hungarian Mock Wedding at this beloved church is in jeopardy. Events like this are unique to our American-Hungarian culture. If we do not patronize these gatherings, they will soon be distant memories.

1. VOLUNTEER. As many do on Join Hands Day, I give up some of my spare time during the year to help out at a local Hungarian church, club or fraternal organization. As I mentioned in an earlier Tibor's Take, my family--with the help of a few dear friends--brings to the Youngstown and the Tri-State area the "Souvenirs of Hungary" radio show. We do not get paid for our services. We do it for the love of our culture, music and Hungarian-American brothers and sisters. We get the satisfaction that our broadcasts give our listeners the opportunity to listen to and hear OUR music, news and

celebrations. Nothing gives me more satisfaction then to announce the birthday of a 90-year-old or the 50th wedding anniversary of a lovely dancing couple.

Many of our listeners witnessed my siblings and me growing up. Our listeners would hear us on our show on Saturday, and then they would see us at an advertised event the next day. These same listeners remember me holding my *Nagymama's* hand as we rode a horse-drawn wagon at the *Falusi Lakadolum* sponsored by the Northeast Ohio Hungarian Cultural Center in Hiram, Ohio (formerly the Geauga Magyar Cultural Center).

Because we broadcast on a non-profit radio station, we advertise for no charge. As long as the event benefits a non-profit organization, we can publicize it.

I spend some of my spare time playing video games, but you have to know when to stop as well. That is when I go and help out with Hungarian events. Most of these celebrations are labor intensive. Most of the workers are older. There is a need for young, strong bodies to do hard labor. My mom, sister and I recently helped Irene Nemeth and Dee Gran with the Youngstown Hungarian Heritage Day. We lugged roasters of stuffed cabbage, kolbasz and other Hungarian delights from the kitchen to the selling area. We washed dishes and pans. We put away chairs and tables.

You may ask, "Why work so hard and for what?" The rewards are not monetary, but I obtain the satisfaction of knowing I am helping to keep these Hungarian-American organizations going; the satisfaction of meeting and learning something about our treasured culture and history; the satisfaction of knowing my ancestors (living or deceased) see me getting involved in the very activities they enjoyed. It is called a legacy.

Boldog újévet!
Eljen a Magyar,
Tibor

Tibor Check Jr. is a member of Branch 28 Youngstown, Ohio, and a freshman at Cleveland State University. He also serves as host of the "Souvenirs of Hungary" weekly radio show broadcast on WKTL-90.7 FM in Struthers, Ohio.

'Torn from the Flag' released on DVD in North America

The multi-award winning documentary, "Torn from the Flag," will be released in a home-use DVD format in early December, just in time for Christmas and holiday gift giving.

The film is a socio-political documentary thriller about the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and the international decline of Communism.

This initial DVD release will be an English-language, home-use version and will be available only in North America. For group showings, the public-use DVD continues to be available for rental in North America.

In announcing the DVD release, Klaudia Kovacs, the film's producer, director and writer, said she is

hoping the Hungarian-version of the DVD will be released in 2010. "Our goal is that eventually everyone worldwide will be able to own 'Torn from the Flag,'" she said.

The DVD will cost \$24.95 plus shipping and handling. Details about where and how to place orders were not available at press time, but ordering information was to be posted on the film's Facebook and Twitter pages, which can be found at www.facebook.com/pages/Torn-from-the-Flag/120424687857 and twitter.com/TornFromTheFlag.

For more information about the film itself, you can log onto www.klaudiainc.com and click on "Current Project."

Hungary declares flu epidemic as critics slam government response

from Hungary Around The Clock

The H1N1 flu has officially reached epidemic proportions in Hungary, as the number reporting symptoms of the virus in one week has risen above 20,000, national chief medical officer Ferenc Falus announced Nov. 18.

Some 22,000 residents reported symptoms to doctors in the past week, a 32 percent increase, and an estimated 30,000 people have the H1N1 virus. Falus recommended that employers not hold Miklosnap festivities around Dec. 6, lest they help spread the illness.

The greatest number of cases were reported in Pest, Győr, Heves and Szabolcs counties. There are sufficient supplies of vaccines in pharmacies, and supplies have also been delivered to hospitals.

Seven people have died with the virus to date in Hungary, and 170 are being treated in hospitals. An estimated 11 percent of Hungarians have been vaccinated.

The inoculation of the population is not proceeding at a proper pace,

Fidesz health specialist Imre Pesti alleged in mid-November. He said the "extra profit" made by the Health Stocks Management Institute for storing and delivering vaccines and the 1,930-forint price per dose keeps some people from having themselves inoculated.

The vaccines are free to pregnant women, children under 18, those over 60, those with chronic illnesses and healthcare workers.

Fidesz leader Viktor Orban told county newspaper *Kisalföld* that he will have himself inoculated against the H1N1 virus next week. Once the country is over the epidemic, Orban continued, it will have to be seen why the cabinet has ordered vaccines from "an offshore company." The government has ordered the vaccine from Hungarian concern Omninvest, which produces vaccines in Hungary, but its ownership remains opaque.

Hungary's first inoculation center opened in Pecs on Nov. 18.

N.J. museum brightens holidays with 21st Annual Festival of Trees

NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ -- Get into the holiday spirit and enjoy the cultural traditions of America, Belarus, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Latin America, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden and Ukraine at the 21st Annual Festival of Trees, Dec. 6 through Jan. 31 at the Museum of the American Hungarian Foundation.

Thirteen trees, all decorated by volunteers from different ethnic groups, will be trimmed with handmade ornaments, cookies and treats. Along with the trees, there is a unique Menorah to celebrate the Jewish festival of Hanukkah.

The Festival opens with a public reception on Sunday, Dec. 6, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Individuals representing the decorating groups will be present in folk dress, entertaining with holiday music and verse. Many will also be serving their special holiday treats.

Also featured in the AHF's Harsanyi room and library is the exhibit "Hungarian Halas Lace." This exhibit features framed examples of beautiful pictorial lace pieces from the Halas Lace Workshop, a Hungarian cottage industry that's more than 100 years old.

Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sunday 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. The suggested donation is \$5.

The museum is located at 300 Somerset St., New Brunswick. For more information, call 732-846-5777, or visit the museum's website at www.ahfoundation.org.



The Hungarian Kitchen™

with Főszakács Béla

Pumpkins & Gourds, Part 2

FÁRADJON BE A MAGYAR KONYHÁBA.

Thanksgiving was fantastic, and I had the pleasure of baking some rolls, biscotti, pies, breads and cookies for my group.

When you're in the food business, there is no such thing as "let me run to the store to buy it." You make as much as you can for all to enjoy.

There was a time when I never got any invitations to dinner because those doing the inviting thought I would critique the food. When they figured out I was not coming to cause problems but enjoy their hospitality, the wheels started turning and they had me bring something.

I'm sure you've all heard it: "Well, you don't have to bring anything, BUT if you want to, we could use a few pies or a cake or about 150 cookies!" I'm joking about the cookies but you know what I mean.

Don't forget to support your local branch and get involved

wherever you can. Here's your trivia question for the month: *What is the oldest squash known in America?*

Last month we learned about pumpkins and gourds. This month I'll share a few trivial facts and then give you more recipes you can enjoy with your family and friends.

The Narragansett Native Americans called squash "askuta-squash" which when translated means raw or uncooked. When the hard squash or gourds were hollowed out, they became utensils and drinking vessels.

Early settlers cooked squash and preserved the product in syrups like a conserve. Although the colonists didn't really care for the taste of squash, it did help them survive the winter months as a staple in their diets.

Most New Englanders are very familiar with squash and have consumed many tons over the years. The Hubbard squash was planted for the first time in

Marblehead, Mass., by a Mrs. Hubbard, hence the name. It became so popular the seeds were dried and sold to others throughout the country so all may enjoy this tasty food.

Enjoy these recipes and have a wonderful Christmas with your family or friends or whomever you share this holiday. Chef Vilmos and I wish you the best.

Trivia Answer: The Boston Marrow or Autumnal squash is the oldest known to America. Originating in upstate New York, seeds made their way to Salem, Mass., where they grew into the red/orange thick skinned pumpkin which makes for the best pies. A Mr. J. M. Ives made this squash popular growing it year after year after year.

Have a great month!

*Jó étvágyat
Főszakács Béla*

*"The Hungarian Kitchen"
is a trademark of William S. Vasvary.*

The *NEW* WPA Cookbook

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For a copy, make your check payable to "WPFA Scholarship Foundation" and mail to: WPA Cookbook, William Penn Association, 709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233

All proceeds benefit the William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc.



Butternut French Toast

1 small butternut squash, cleaned, cooked and mashed
1 cup sugar
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
1½ cups all-purpose flour
1½ cups whole milk
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg
One finger pinch of cayenne pepper
Warm maple syrup
Butter for frying

In a mixing bowl add the flour, spices, sugar and vanilla, blending very well. Add the milk and squash, stirring until the batter thickens. In a skillet melt some butter for frying. Dip thick slices of bread into the batter, coating well. Cook the bread on one side until golden brown then turn and cook another three minutes until golden brown. Keep warm until all the bread is cooked, then serve with warm maple syrup and powdered sugar.

Stuffed Acorn Squash

1 large Acorn squash
1 tablespoon canola oil
½ cup celery, diced small
1 cup sweet onion, diced small
½ cup carrot, diced small
1 cup fresh cider
1/3 cup light brown sugar
1 cup Braeburn apple, cored and diced medium
¾ cup fresh cranberries
2 cups stale bread cubes
½ teaspoon cinnamon
¼ teaspoon allspice
¼ teaspoon ground clove
Salt & white pepper to taste
2 pats of salted butter

Preheat oven to 350. Slice the squash in half lengthwise, scoop out the seeds and place in a baking dish with the open side down. Add ½ cup of water and bake for 10 minutes until the squash softens. Remove the squash and wipe out the dish. Place the squash open side up in the baking dish. In a skillet add the oil and sauté all the vegetables. Add the cider and brown sugar, bringing to a boil, then simmer for

RECIPES

another three minutes. In a large mixing bowl combine the apples, cranberries and bread cubes. Pour in the veggie mixture and stir well. Adjust taste with salt and pepper. Spoon this mixture into the squash halves and top each half with a pat of butter. Bake for 25 minutes until the filling sets and is golden brown. Serve hot to your guests.

Patty Pan Squash with Onion Apple Sauce

1 tablespoon canola oil
1 teaspoon butter
½ cup sweet onions, diced small
½ cup chopped walnuts
1 cup Braeburn apple cored, peeled diced small
1 tablespoon dark brown sugar
½ teaspoon fresh sage, minced
¼ teaspoon fresh thyme, minced
½ teaspoon parsley, minced
½ cup cream sherry
Salt & white pepper to taste

In a skillet heat the oil and sauté the onions until soft, then add the apples and fresh herbs. Add the walnuts and cook until mixture starts to brown. Add the cream sherry, turn down the heat and let simmer until it starts to thicken a bit. Adjust taste with salt and pepper, then spoon over Patty Pan squash that has been steamed or halved and boiled until just soft. Makes an excellent side dish with a pork tenderloin.

Cider Roaster Squash

4 cups butternut squash, peeled and cubed
1 medium sweet onion, sliced into wedges
¼ cup apple cider
1 tablespoon canola oil
2 teaspoons brown sugar
½ teaspoon sweet paprika
One finger pinch of ground nutmeg
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon white pepper

In a baking dish layer the squash and the onion wedges, covering the bottom. Mix the remaining ingredients together and pour over the top of the squash. Cover the dish and bake at 400 degrees in a pre-heated oven for 30 minutes until soft. Stir dish every 10 minutes to insure even cooking. Serve hot to your guests.

Sautéed Squash

2 medium yellow summer squash
2 medium zucchini
1 small sweet onion
1 tablespoon canola oil
1 teaspoon hot paprika
2 minced garlic cloves
Salt & white pepper to taste

Cut the squash into ¼-inch rounds. Mince the garlic and set aside. Slice the onion and set aside. In a skillet heat the oil and paprika, then sauté the onion slices until soft, then add the squash and cook until they are soft. Add the garlic and cook another minute. Season with the salt and pepper, then serve hot with your entree.

If there's a topic you would like to see covered in *The Hungarian Kitchen*, or if you have any comments, questions or other suggestions for Chef Béla, then please write to the chef at:

William Vasvary
190 Fern Avenue
Rye, NH 03870

Visit the Chef's website: www.hungariankitchen.com

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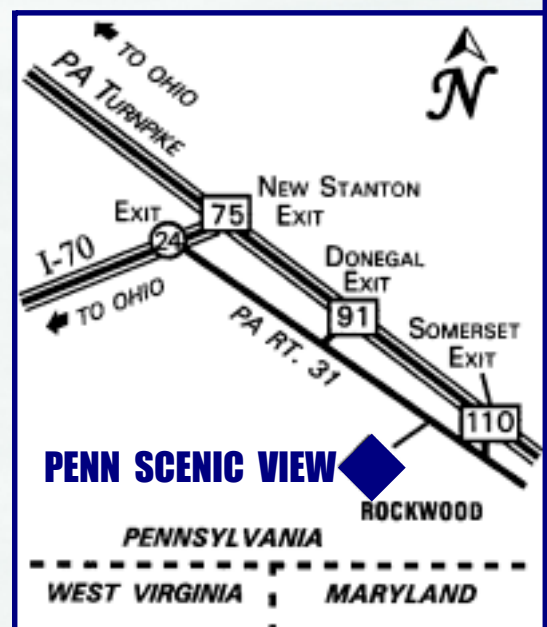
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WINTER IN THE LAUREL HIGHLANDS

Scenic View



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Hungarian Room Committee Summer Scholars

Each year, the Hungarian Room Committee of the University of Pittsburgh awards financial assistance to students enrolled at the university to help defray their expenses for their summertime studies in Hungary. This year, the committee awarded grants to two students: Deborah Rogers was awarded the Dr. Samuel C. Gomory Memorial Scholarship, and Izabel Galliera received a special Hungarian Room Committee Grant. What follows are accounts of their experiences while studying in Hungary this summer.

Digging Deeper

*Discovering the depth of Hungarian food, culture and life
on a return visit to Budapest*

by Deborah Rogers

The Hungarian Nationality Room generously granted me the opportunity to complete research for my master's degree in East Central European History. My thesis seeks to understand the connections between food and nationalism in 19th Century Hungary. I study a variety of sources, including cookbooks, recipes, newspapers, popular literature and even travel logs. Each source offers a glimpse into the history of Hungarian food, which served as an expression of nationalism, and became an avenue to construct a national identity.

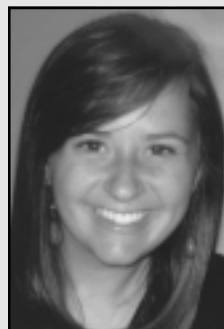
While in Budapest, I conducted research in the National Széchényi Library, the Museum of Hungarian Agriculture and the Central European University Library. The archivists and librarians at each institution were extremely helpful, and with two months dedicated to research, I found the sources I needed to complete my thesis. My time in Budapest was integral to the success of my research project, and I am grateful to the Hungarian Room Committee for the opportunity to research abroad without financial worries.

My time in Budapest not only afforded me opportunities for growth in my academic career but also allowed me to experience Budapest in new ways. I was lucky enough to live in Budapest as an undergraduate student several years ago, and I thought those six months had provided a well-rounded experience in Hungary. So, I boarded the plane this past summer reminiscing on my favorite things about Hungary, excited to go back and experience them again. But, this summer I was pleasantly surprised to discover new things about the city, the rich cultural history, and the Hungarian people.

The food was still delicious, and the city still buzzed with life. The parks were still beautiful. But, there were parts of the city that were new to me as an older,

perhaps more mature, graduate student. My interests had changed. When I studied abroad as an undergraduate, I chose Hungary because of my father's ancestry and because it was a more unusual destination than France or Spain, where most of my friends were studying abroad. I was looking for adventure, and I found it. But, this time, I was returning to Hungary looking for a deeper understanding of the history and cultural life of Hungarians. I was looking for a different kind of adventure--less time in a dance club and more time in conversation with Hungarians. I was interested in learning the language, not just for basic survival skills, but in order to communicate with and learn from Hungarian friends.

I found myself in a new niche of Budapest, which offered me a much richer understanding of Hungary and its multifaceted cultural identity. Budapest surprised me in its ability to grow and change with my interests, never leaving me disappointed. When I sought a deeper cultural understanding of the city and its people, I was rewarded with the opportunity to meet excellent friends, learn from people in passing conversations on the street, and see Hungary in a different light. I am eager to return and continue to unearth the beauty of Budapest.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Deborah Rogers is in her second year of graduate studies at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Arts and Sciences. She earned her bachelor's degree in history from Rhodes College. She intends to teach at either the high school or college level.

Urban Portraits

*Exploring the relationship between art
and the urban communities from which it arises*

by Izabel Galliera

With the financial assistance I received this summer from the Hungarian Room Committee Grant, I was able to spend 10 weeks in Budapest conducting research for my dissertation while being immersed in the multi-faceted local culture. I had the opportunity to visit art museums and galleries and explore various cultural venues in the city, such as the Hungarian State Opera House, a neo-Renaissance style structure built in the late 19th century under the Austria-Hungary Empire.

My Hungarian friends working in the local contemporary art field introduced me to smaller, alternative gallery spaces with diverse exhibition programs and innovative artistic initiatives by both local and international artists. During the weekends, we went on day trips to nearby cities and sculpture parks. I was intrigued to discover Dunaújváros (absent from any tourist guide books), an entire city built 60 years ago under the communist regime's directives on the banks of the Danube to house the workers employed in the then newly founded steel factory. Going on a walking tour of the city, I was fascinated by the multi-textured architectural juxtapositions; for instance, a few early modern-style buildings dating to the early 1950s stood next to socialist classical-style residential and public structures, like the large steel factory with colorful friezes depicting scenes of various workers' activities. Most importantly, through the city tour, I was introduced to Tamas Kaszás, whose critical art practice I intend to further examine. A contemporary Hungarian artist who grew up (and still lives in the city), Kaszás conceives and leads urban walking tours of Dunaújváros to tourists as part of his artistic work.

Furthermore, the Hungarian Room Committee grant allowed me to conduct research for my dissertation at the Artpool Archive, Ludwig Museum of Contemporary Art Archive and Mucsarnok Archive. Artpool is one of the most comprehensive archives on alternative and non-official art practices of the 1960s and 1970s in Hungary. It also holds significant material on contemporary art in Hungary and other Eastern and Central European nations. In my dissertation, I will focus on contemporary art practices engaging particular communities and intervening within the urban fabric of the city in post-1989 Central and East Europe. As a result of my summer research in the various archives, I became aware of relevant local events and exhibitions of such artistic practices

throughout the 1990s and early 2000s happening in both Hungary and neighboring countries, such as Romania. I look forward to closely exploring this material and articulating the complexities of this particular exhibition art discourse.

Most importantly, my nearly three-month stay in Budapest allowed me to meet for the first time the Hungarian contemporary artist Miklós Erhardt, whose work I will investigate in my dissertation. Our meetings helped me better understand his work and also to familiarize myself with some of his newer projects. For instance, in one of his works, Erhardt proposes an alternative urban geography of the city of Turin as reimagined through the views of recent immigrants in the city. In another project, he reveals one of Budapest's occluded urban layers through the eyes of socially and politically marginalized homeless individuals. In multiple ways, contemporary artists such as Erhardt collaborate with specific communities to create projects that often take the form of interventions and fluid physical interactions. These projects activate particular spatial dimensions ultimately to give visibility to the socio-political and economic exclusions deeply etched beneath and within the everyday fabric of the city.

The Hungarian Room Committee Grant has not only provided me with the opportunity to conduct my dissertation work, it also exposed me to artistic practices relevant for my research. Additionally, it enabled me to immerse myself within the local context and directly encounter some of the socio-urban sites at the core of these artistic projects.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Izabel Galliera is pursuing her doctorate in the history of art and architecture at the University of Pittsburgh. She earned her master's degree in art history from Troy University. She hopes to be a curator for a contemporary art institution.

Branch News

Branch 10
Barton, OH
Branch 40
Martins Ferry, OH
Branch 248
Monaville, WV
Branch 349
Weirton, WV
Branch 8164
Steubenville, OH

by Joyce Nicholson

Happy holidays from the WPA branches from Barton, Martins Ferry, Weirton, Steubenville and Monaville!

Everyone is busy and so much is going on this time of year, but we hope everyone takes a moment to reflect on the true reason for the season.

Branch members met on Oct. 25 to discuss this year's children's Christmas party. It was decided the party will be held on Sunday, Dec. 13, at the St. Clair Lanes in St. Clairsville, Ohio. All juvenile members up to age 15 and their parents are invited. Invitations will be sent with additional information and directions enclosed.

Our branches will be participating in the WPA Holiday Basket program. The baskets will be delivered by branch volunteers around Dec. 18, 19 and 20.

To all members with all WPA branches, their families and everyone in the William Penn Association Home Office, we extend our sincere wishes for a blessed Christmas and a happy new year.

For information about Branch 10 Barton, Ohio, Branch 40 Martins Ferry, Ohio, Branch 248 Monaville, W.Va., Branch 349 Weirton, W.Va., or Branch 8164 Steubenville, Ohio, and their activities, or to learn more about the WPA, it's activities and life insurance and annuity plans, please call Joyce Nicholson at 740-264-6238.

Branch 18 **Lincoln Park, MI**

by Barbara A. House

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you and your loved ones. I know we all hope that 2010 will be a much better year for all. You are all special people, and we at Branch 18 wish you all the best.

I will be in Florida by the middle of December, but I can always be reached on my cell phone at 313-418-5572. Our Florida land line is 321-752-0375. I always enjoy hearing from our wonderful members.

The Cincinnati Reds baseball team has announced the induction of former Reds third baseman Chris Sabo into the team's hall of fame. He will be formally inducted during on-field ceremonies in 2010. He is related to Branch 18 member Julius Sabo. Congratulations!

Congratulations also go out to Emma Poliska, who was honored by Catholic Social Services of Wayne County (Mich.) for her 20 years of volunteer service. Emma can always be counted on to help whenever we call on her.

Welcome new members Olivia Grace Momtsios (thanks Kay), Andrew Jacob Polakowski (thanks Amy), Haylee and Hunter Critchfield and Gloria Long. Looking forward to seeing you at our Christmas party. Thank you also to Anita Kosaski and Al and Olga Wansa for thinking of the WPA and me for your financial needs. We promise to take good care of you.

Happy birthday to Grace Balaythy, Steve Varga, Marge Boso, Dennis Chobody, Nick Kotik, Bob Ivancso, Bob Kantor and, last but not least, Gabby House. May you all have many more.

WPA Branch 18 Trip to **Soaring Eagle & Kewadin** **June 21-24, 2010**

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- One-night stay at Soaring Eagle, with \$30 for play and \$20 for food.
- Two-night stay at Kewadin, with \$50 in quarters, \$25 in gold coins, \$10 for food and 2 full breakfast buffets.
- A visit to Bay Mills, with \$5 for food, \$5 cash and free drinks while playing.
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Branch News



Members and friends of Branch 28 Youngstown gather to commemorate the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. (Photo by Frank Schauer)

Special prayers and blessing to Katelynne Sears, who recently finished her basic training. Our prayers go with you.

Get well wishes go out to Carol Truesdell, Glenn Wolfe, Steve Nagy, Eleanor Kender, Elsie Kantor, Emma Poliska, Rocky Borsa and Ernie Mayoros. We hope you have better days very soon.

Thank you, Gerry Langan. We had a ball.

Thank you to John and Emily Solosy for the prettiest raffle tickets we have ever had. We appreciate your kindness.

Many Branch 18 members went to the Sureti Bal at the Hungarian American Cultural Center. A great time was had by all. Many of us went before Judge Louis Krajcz because we got caught stealing grapes. It was all great fun.

Congratulations to National Vice President-Secretary Richard W. Toth for completing a successful year as president of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress. I know it is a lot of hard work.

Congratulations to Jack Kelly for winning a car by scoring a hole-in-one at the Chartiers Country Club. It couldn't have happened to a nicer person. Wish I could have been there.

Remember, we are always collecting food for people and animals at all Branch 18 events. That includes meetings, parties and our many trips. Please remember the less fortunate.

We are now taking reservations

for our annual June trip up north. Please see the ad on the previous page and send it back to me as soon as possible.

Our branch meetings are done for the year. We will resume meetings on April 21, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the American Hungarian Reformed Church in Allen Park. Don't forget your food for the needy.

Holy Cross Hungarian Catholic Church is hosting a Christmas dinner on Sunday, Dec. 20, after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Christmas Eve services start at 10:00 p.m. with a Christmas concert. Mass is at 10:30 p.m. I am so happy it will begin earlier than midnight. I hope the attendance is stupendous.

Have a wonderful and holy holiday season. Stay healthy and think spring.

Branch 28 Youngstown, OH

by Kathy Novak

Wishing a most blessed Christmas season to all our members and their families.

Branch 28's annual family Christmas party will be held Saturday, Dec. 5, at 1:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Hungary Church, 545 N. Belle Vista, Youngstown. The branch officers thank the Home Office for its generous financial support as well as the great gift items for the children. Details of this event will appear in the next issue of the *William Penn Life*

along with the winners of the holiday scholarship raffle held in conjunction with the event.

Following the party, the election of branch officers for 2010 will be held. Those results will also appear in the next issue.

Our branch, with the support of the Home Office, presented Holiday Baskets to several local charitable organizations.

We wish the best of luck to all WPA scholarship recipients featured in last month's issue.

As you can see by the photo above, provided by Frank Schauer, a truly beautiful day was had to commemorate the 1956 Hungarian Revolution.

Frank Schauer also provided the photo of our October 50-year member appreciation dinner, which appears on the next page. Thanks go out to our branch photographer.

With all the preparations and festivities taking place, let's not forget to send best wishes to all celebrating either a birthday or anniversary.

Especially at this time of the year, please remember with special thoughts those who have recently lost a loved one.

For your life insurance and annuity needs, please call Kathy Novak at 330-746-7704 or Alan Szabo at 330-482-9994.

May the love and peace of this holy season be shared by all our family and friends.

Branch News

Branch 189 Alliance, OH

by Sherry Moore

Hello from Alliance! It's been a long time since everyone heard from us. We are doing really well. A lot has been going on at our branch.

Earlier this year, our Join Hands Day event was led by Branch Vice President Carol McIlvain. It was a great success. We had a very nice turnout of volunteers who helped us clean up areas of our community.

Our steak and fish fries have started up again. Everyone who's attended them in the past say they are really good.

We held our "Appreciation Day" in September and enjoyed another nice turnout for that event. Everyone brought food, and everything was thoroughly enjoyed.

Our Halloween party was another huge success. The Ladies Auxiliary provided a bounce house for the children, and the food was plentiful and delicious. We had a contest for the best costume in three age categories. Everyone had a lot of fun, even the adults. All went home with treat bags containing lots of candy.

Our hall has seen many improvements this past year. We installed a new ceiling and fans. The ladies' bathroom was remodeled from top to bottom. We also installed new windows, and the kitchen received a new ceiling and an ice machine. The club received a new big screen television along the back wall, just in time for football season.

The WPA-sponsored Hot Stove baseball team enjoyed another winning season. The team won first place in their division. One of their players, Anthony Nickolson, passed away a couple of months ago in a car accident. He will be missed by all. Our prayers go out to his family and friends.

Best wishes to all our members who celebrated birthdays and anniversaries over the past several months.

Our election of branch officers will take place on Sunday, Dec. 6.

For all your life insurance and



Members of Branch 28 Youngstown show their appreciation for the branch's 50-year members during a special dinner honoring those members pictured in the front row.

(Photo by Frank Schauer)

annuity needs, please contact Margie Antonasanti at 330-821-5824

We hope to have someone submit our branch news on a more regular basis. Until then, we hope everyone has a nice holiday season.

Branch 249 Dayton, OH

by Michele Daley-LaFlame

The elections for Branch 249 officers was held on Sunday Nov. 8. Congratulations to President Pro Tem Anna Kertesz, President Michele LaFlame, Vice-President Steve LaFlame, Secretary-Treasurer Anne Marie Schmidt and Auditors Mary Ann Kabel and Mark Schmidt. We are all looking forward to a fun and prosperous year for our local branch. We hope that you members will give us some good ideas to reach out and expand our fraternalism. We are always looking for new ideas and fun things to do.

We have a new date for the Christmas party. It will be held on Sunday, Dec. 20, at 1:30 p.m. in the St Stephen Church Undercroft, at 1114 Troy St., Dayton. We hope that many of you will attend. Please RSVP to Michele LaFlame at 937-278-5970 or lasnjr@earthlinnk.net.

We will have our usual delicious meal, Christmas music, kids crafts and, of course, Santa Claus. Can't wait to see you all!

St. Stephen Church is making delicious Hungarian sausage. It will

be ready for pick-up on Friday, Dec. 4, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. while the church is having their Christmas Bazaar. The cost is \$3.50 per pound. To place your order, please call Michele LaFlame at 937-278-5970.

We hope that everyone has a joyous Christmas season. May God bless you and your family. So from us to you, Merry Christmas!

For your life insurance and annuity needs, call Michele or Steve LaFlame at 937-278-5970.

Branch 590 Cape Coral, FL

by Joan Mauerman

Branch 590 held a picnic on Oct. 15 at Gilchrist Park in Punta Gorda, Fla. We had a very nice turnout, and the weather was beautiful. As usual, our szalonna was a big hit. Everyone ignores their diet on picnic day. Thanks to Ilona Schmidt who made the best potato salad I've ever tasted.

We had a memorial service in honor of the Freedom Fighters. Kalman Nagy recited the Sandor Petofi's poem "Talpra Magyar" in Hungarian, and Mike Tomcsak recited it in English.

Our branch Christmas party will be held Saturday, Dec. 19, at 1:00 p.m. at the Golden Corral in Punta Gorda. We will hold election of branch officers prior to the party. Invitations are in the mail.

We are going to my son Danny's house in Crawford, Texas, for

Branch News



A Hot Stove league baseball team sponsored by Br. 189 Alliance won its 2009 division championship and this trophy.

Thanksgiving. Danny and his wife have two daughters and one granddaughter. Jamie will graduate in December from Baylor University, and Joanie is a sophomore at Texas A & M. Granddaughter Lexie is in kindergarten and is a ballerina. It will be great to see them. All of them are WPA members.

We attended dinner at the Plant City Club on Nov. 8. They served and sold hurka and sausage made by club members. Their dinners are held the second Sunday of each month. Reservations are required.

They say you learn something new every day, and that is true. I was talking to a man who recently moved here from Chicago. He told me that when he was 19, he left Hungary and traveled to Germany and then to Italy. In Italy he joined the U.S. Army for five years and was issued his citizenship papers. He became an engineer and settled in Chicago. He said a lot of young men took advantage of that opportunity. He is now 72 and retired. He still has a sister and other relatives in Hungary. I think this was a great opportunity for these young men.

Mike has been busy writing up annuities and new life policies. So we are kept busy promoting the WPA.

Thank you to those who recently invested in the WPA. They asked that their names not be published, so we will honor their privacy. Mike is doing a wonderful job.

Get well wishes to Al Vargo and Anthony Di Guilio. Hope you both are feeling better soon.

We extend our condolences to Roger Nagy and family on the death of his mother and to Donna Nagy on the death of her mother. Our prayers go

out to you both.

Also, condolences to the Lou Kubus family. Lou was a faithful worker for the WPA. We had many fun times with him.

Special "hello" to Helen Rosner, Marge Menner and Andy Girard.

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and a safe and happy new year.

For all your life insurance and annuity needs, please call Mike Tomcsak at 863-858-8071. If you have news you would like to share, please contact us at the same number.

Branch 800 Altoona, PA

by Vincent Frank

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all members and their families from the officers of Branch 800. Remember our men and women in the armed forces this holiday season.

Special Christmas wishes go out to all our members throughout the country who are ill. We hope you are reading the *William Penn Life* each month. This is your branch's way of keeping you informed and to say that your branch, with its 597 members, is very much alive and doing quite well.

During the Christmas season your branch will take part, as it has in the past, in the WPA's Holiday Basket program. This is one way we can help those in need to have a little brighter Christmas.

Birthday wishes go out to three of our branch members celebrating their 90th birthday in December. Isn't it wonderful for Irvin Maser, Angela Ventresca and Myron Yeager? May God bless each of you. Thank you for staying with us for all these years.

If you are purchasing life insurance or annuities, please look to see what the WPA can offer you. Call Bob Jones in Altoona at 814-942-2661.

Now, let's get ready to close out the old year in style. It won't be long now till we open the doors wide and welcome in the year 2010.

Happy New Year.

Branch 8114 Clarion, PA

by Noreen Fritz, FIC, LUTCF (in Pittsburgh)
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all William Penn Association members, directors, officers, Home Office staff and agents.

The Branch 8114 Christmas party will be held Tuesday, Dec. 15, at the Immaculate Conception school cafeteria located at 720 Liberty Avenue, Clarion, PA. Invitations have been mailed out. If you did not receive yours, please contact Bob Donahue at 814-226-6966.

We are happy to welcome several new young members to our branch and the WPA. The first two are David M. Atlas and Hayden L. Medford, the great-grandchildren of Donald F. and Louise Schmader. Many thanks to you for keeping our branch growing so rapidly with your family members. The other new little member is the grandchild of Monica and James Callihan. Her name is Brigid M. Callihan. It is interesting to have a new little member that lives in Hong Kong. Welcome to our fraternal family!

Happy belated birthday to Branch 8114 members Francis Bauer, Emily Gates, Ralph Judy, Richard Keenen,

Continued on Page 20

NEXT DEADLINE DECEMBER 14

In Memoriam

We ask you to pray for the eternal rest of all our recently departed members listed below:

OCTOBER 2009

0001 BRIDGEPORT, CT
Irving Braunstein
Laura Skurjo
0013 TRENTON, NJ
Rose B. Volcskai
0014 CLEVELAND, OH
William B. Haydn
John Frank Tykodi
0015 CHICAGO, IL
Steve Kiss
0025 BECKLEY, WV
John Kabai, Jr.
0027 TOLEDO, OH
Francis E. Szollosi

0028 YOUNGSTOWN, OH
Richard A. Lightner
0034 PITTSBURGH, PA
Louis J. Kubus
0076 PHILADELPHIA, PA
Mary Gubicza
0089 HOMESTEAD, PA
Anthony Cinciripini
0090 ALLENTOWN, PA
Louis Kovacs, Jr.
0098 BETHLEHEM, PA
Irene Baziuk
Martin F. Csencsits
0129 COLUMBUS, OH
Donald F. Butts
Stephen Keszeg
0132 SOUTH BEND, IN
Rudolph J. Hadary
Irene Horvath
John Lochiviski
Arthur J. Veres

0159 PHOENIXVILLE, PA
Joyce A. Nagy
0174 SCRANTON, PA
Rev. Joseph F. Fox
0226 MCKEESPORT, PA
Julia A. Buhaly
Agnes Toth Carter
Rose Y. Jackson
0249 DAYTON, OH
Irene Setser
0278 OMAHA, NE
Marcia E. Thomas
0336 HARRISBURG, PA
Lewis H. Gingerich
0352 CORAOPOLIS, PA
Margaret T. Beres
William L. Vogler
Joseph L. Wachter
0590 CAPE CORAL, FL
Theresa Tajnai

0723 WORCESTER, MA
Yolande Raymond
Eleanor L. Sawicki
Jean T. Zukas
0725 SPRINGFIELD, MA
E. Irene Audet
Richard F. Downey
L. Clara Dupras
Isabelle M. Lyons
0800 ALTOONA, PA
Edward Dzielski
Nettie C. Lengyel
8014 PITTSBURGH, PA
Elizabeth Aschenbrenner
8036 SCOTTDAL, PA
Martha D. Czilli
Rose M. DeCarlo

Branch News

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Harry Lambing, George Niederriter, Brian Seitz, Stephen Zacherl, Bernard Gatesman, Dylan Jones, Matthew Hurst, David Ragley, Brian Fague, Ruby Summerville, James Distler, William Reinsel and Pauline Hargenrader.

Happy December birthday wishes to members Donald Schmader, Ann Cherico, Natalie Rice, Monica Callihan, Shirley Carroll, Erhart Olson, Loreno Pierucci, Karlie Bauer, Cynthia Gates, Angelene McCloskey, John Aaron Jr., John Quinn II, Susanne Amato, George Kossman, Duane Reinsel, Thomas Ragley and Leo Curran.

Wishing all of you the happiest birthday ever!

I am available to help you by reviewing any life insurance policy or annuity you may have, free of charge. You may end up with a lower premium or no premium. If you have branch news to share or questions on IRA transfers, 401-K direct rollovers, any

pension plan or just need a change of beneficiary, please keep in mind that there is no sales charge, and I work in most areas. I can be reached at 412-821-1837 or P.O. Box 15060, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-0060, or email me at noreenbunny.fritz@verizon.net.

Branch 8121 St. Marys, PA

by Mary Lou Schutz
During our November meeting, we made plans for our branch Christmas party to be held Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 5:00 p.m. at the Green Lite Restaurant, 1221 Brussels St., St. Marys.

We made a donation to the local Christian food bank as part of the WPA Holiday Basket program. We also made a donation to the local Toys for Tots program, which purchase new toys and distributes them at Christmas to underprivileged children.

We wish everyone a happy holiday.

Recent Donations

WPFA Scholarship Foundation

OCTOBER 2009

Branch - Donor - Amount

14 - Margaret G. Kerosky - \$5.00
14 - Katherine E. Bentley - \$5.00
14 - Jon W. Wimer - \$5.00
15 - Lucille Staken - \$5.00
19 - Edward Proniewski - \$2.60
28 - Chris S. Paul - \$10.00
28 - Michael J. Janovick - \$8.00
34 - Sylvia G. Jordan - \$10.00
59 - Linda Lou Toki - \$20.00
59 - Carter J. Vitez - \$10.00
88 - James E. Emery - \$5.00
89 - Michelle A. Pillar - \$10.00
89 - Edith A. Williams - \$5.00
98 - Barbara Lang Yates - \$100.00
129 - Deborah L. Vecchiarelli - \$10.00
189 - Brooke A. Schneider - \$10.00
189 - Brandi A. Schneider - \$10.00
226 - Timothy R. Holtzman - \$1.40
226 - Carol S. Burlikowski - \$5.00
226 - Dennis S. Burlikowski - \$5.00
226 - Robert W. Serena - \$5.00
226 - David A. Kaszycki - \$5.14
296 - Irene B. Charles - \$25.00
336 - Richard E. Schneck - \$25.00
349 - Kayla M. McNemar - \$1.00
352 - Helen Malone - \$50.00
352 - John P. McKinsey Jr. - \$1.32
352 - Dora S. McKinsey - \$1.02
352 - Ashley M. Grimm - \$0.70
723 - Marguerite S. Morin - \$5.00
8019 - Mary F. Clarke - \$2.00

8020 - Robert M. Dansak - \$1.00
TOTAL for Month = \$365.50

OCTOBER 2009

Donor - Amount

H. Thomas Foley, MD - \$50.00
William J. Bero - \$47.34
Cookbook Sales - \$1,005.00

TOTAL for Month = \$1,102.34

Donations received from 2009 WPFASF Meeting OCTOBER 2009

Donor - Amount

M/M Charles S. Johns - \$100.00
(In Memory of Deceased Family Members)
Br. 8340 Baltimore, MD - \$50.00
Br. 336 Harrisburg, PA - \$100.00
TOTAL for Month = \$250.00

IN MEMORY OF OCTOBER 2009

Donor - Amount

(In Memory of)
M/M Jeffrey J. Ward - \$50.00
(Emma Balla & Jack Burkett)
Emma J. Oris - \$25.00
(Emma Balla)
William Penn Association - \$100.00
(Louis J. Kubus)
Br. 18 Lincoln Park, MI - \$125.00
(Mary Halo, Olga J. Chovanec, Mary Forgo, Adele Nowland, Helen Dandron)
TOTAL for Month = \$300.00

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	Smoker	\$100.00	\$90.00

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