

The Orphan Heroes of '56

WILLIAM PENN



LIFE

October 2017



Photos from the 2017
WPA PICNIC

Tree of Knowledge



Helping our young members meet the challenges of modern educational economics requires great effort by all our members and friends. Towards this end, the WPFA Scholarship Foundation has created the **Tree of Knowledge**. The Tree is mounted in the second floor foyer of the WPA Home Office. Those making donations through this program will be recognized with individual "leaves" on the tree, which can be used to honor and remember loved ones. Donations are being accepted at three levels: Gold (\$1,000), Silver (\$500) and Bronze (\$250). Those wishing to purchase a leaf may use the form below. Please help our tree "grow" and allow us to continue to assist young members reach their educational and professional dreams.

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Editor-in-Chief

George S. Charles, Jr.

Associate Editors

Jerry A. Hauser
Diane M. Torma

Managing Editor

Graphic Designer
John E. Lovasz

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William Penn Life
William Penn Association
709 Brighton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15233

Phone: 1-800-848-7366

E-mail: jlovasz@wplife.org

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On Tour in Hungary

As we went to press, the WPA Tour 2017 was preparing to return to the United States after two wonderful weeks in the Land of the Magyars. We'll share more photos from the tour in next month's issue. For now, we'd like to share this photo of our 2017 tour group as they gathered in front of the Great Reformed Church in Debrecen.

Vets Association grateful for donation from WPA

ON BEHALF OF the 80 members of the Jefferson County Veterans Association, I wish to express our gratitude for the pecuniary contribution for desserts, light beverages, plates and utensils from William Penn Association supporting our annual military veterans picnic. This year we honored Vietnam War Veterans at Friendship Military Park, located in Friendship Park, Smithfield, Ohio, on Saturday July 15, 2017.

It is encouraging to know that patriots such as you exist to honor and recognize our active and veteran military, who unselfishly serve to protect our great nation. Your cooperation strengthens relationships among veterans and communities.

Thank you for recognizing our organization and supporting our endeavors.

Sincerely,

Frank Santa
Commander, JCVA

Barry Bardone
USAF '65 - '69
Adjutant, JCVA

Member Spotlight

Joan Altmayer: A model member

For Joan Altmayer of Branch 14 Cleveland, it all started in 2002 when she was 61 years old. "I had always had an urge to get into modeling," she says. "It just seemed like a fun adventure, plus I could hopefully make some extra money."

She attended Barbizon Modeling and Acting School, which has connections to the agency (Pro Model & Talent in Akron) with which she now has a contract. "Since I had never had any modeling experience, the school gave me tips and confidence which I needed then," Joan says.

Over the years, she has been accepted for roles in many commercials on television and for much print work, mainly brochures. Joan gets fewer assignments -- about three or four a year -- because the market's need for older models is much smaller than the demand for younger models. But, Joan doesn't seem to mind. "Modeling assures one of a higher-than-normal pay rate," she says.

For her last assignment, Joan played the role of homeowner. She met the marketing team at a home in Medina, Ohio. Davey Tree, the subject company, photographed her in several scenes in which the company's service technicians demonstrated several of their services, including the proper way to care for her small tree which was just planted and how to eliminate bugs around the bushes of a home. The photos taken will appear on their website soon.

"My recommendation to anyone of any age who has an urge to try something they have always wanted to do—go for it! You just never know how fulfilling and maybe profitable it could turn out to be," Joan says.

Now almost 76 years old and still modeling, she says she is "glad I can say that my modeling experience proved to be rewarding to me in many ways."



A sample of Joan Altmayer's work.



Focus on Fraternalism *with Barbara A. House*

A wonderful, fraternal August

At this writing, I am getting ready for our trip to Europe. National Director Richard Sarosi will take some great pictures, and we will tell you all about it when we get back. We have already begun making plans for next year's trip, during which we will revisit Croatia and end up in Hungary.

This year's Hungarian Heritage Experience was the best one ever. Everyone who attended had great things to say. The weather was great with temps in the low 70s. We actually got down to 48 degrees one night. The food was super as were the instructors, Tamás Markovits and Emery Marcus. Thank you also to National Directors David Kozak and Jim Robertson: we could not do it without you. Linda Enyedy and Nancy Martinsen kept us busy with Hungarian crafts in the evenings. Vicky Loesch and Magyar Marketing brought us some wonderful things to purchase. Thank you to David Valentine who taught us how to make *palacsinta* and *csiga*. He also made all the *kolbász*, *hurka* and *gulyás*. As I always say, it takes a village. Sequanota meets all our needs. Everyone loves their room and the fact we are all under one roof. I have already reserved the camp

for next year's Experience.

Szent István Nap (St. Stephen's Day) in Toledo was another success. The food and entertainment were wonderful. The only drawback was the heat. Sure wish St. Stephen had been canonized in the fall. Thank you to all who manned the WPA booth: Chair of the Board Andy McNelis and his wife Marguerite, Vice Chair Kathy Novak, National Sales Director Bob Bisceglia, Sandor Tollas, Paula Bodnar, Alan Szabo and Tom House. You were all wonderful, heat and all.

That was followed by our wonderful WPA Picnic in Hiram, Ohio. There are way too many people to thank, so I won't even try. All our volunteers were marvelous--Home Office employees, National Officers, Board members and Hiram members. We could not do it without you. We even ran out of some food items. The attendance was higher than we anticipated, so we will cook more and longer next year. Thank you to all who attended. One of the highlights of the day for me was meeting some of those traveling with us to Hungary.

A big WPA welcome to Sales Coordinator Barbi Tew. □



Aging Well *with Cathy Graham*

Step up to better health

OUR BODIES ARE DESIGNED to move regularly. More people are exercising and trying to get an hour of exercise in three times a week. The problem is that many think 30 minutes or even an hour of cardiovascular exercise can outweigh nine to 10 hours of sitting each day, and it can't.

Being "actively sedentary" describes people who are fit for one hour a day, then sit the rest of the day. Sitting itself isn't bad for you--it's the amount of time you sit consistently that causes damage to your health. Long periods of sitting every day can shorten your life. When you sit, blood flows slower and muscles burn less fat, which makes it easier for fatty acids to clog your heart.

Your body's ability to respond to insulin is affected by just one day of excessive sitting, which leads to a higher insulin production, a pathway to diabetes. Excessive sitting increases the risk of several cancers, including breast, colon and endometrial. Sitting after a meal makes it harder for your food to digest and is related directly to posture problems. Others experience back pain and weakness, hip problems and muscle degeneration.

In my work as a wellness specialist and exercise instructor, I see the down side of extended sitting daily. It starts with poor balance and posture, and the problems escalate from there.

So, when is the pivotal point? When I work with people who say they have trouble getting out of a chair, my internal alarm goes off. If you have difficulty getting up from a chair, ***you need to keep getting up from the chair until it is easy!*** We call them "get-ups." You may need help at first,



Photo © Can Stock Photo Inc./iStockphoto

or perhaps you can only do it twice. Rest assured, if you have trouble getting out of a chair, and you don't increase your muscle strength to correct it, you will soon never get out a chair.

Walk, walk...and walk some more. March through the house, sashay, hop, dance, stride--get on your toes and do it again and again and again.

The more you sit, the more you will sit. Aim for 7,000 to 10,000 steps per day, every day. Get up and move every two hours. Do 25 get-ups four times a day.

If you want to keep moving through the years, then you will have to move frequently throughout each day.

Cathy Graham is director of the Graceful Aging Wellness Center at Bethlen Communities in Ligonier, Pa.



More Social Security myths

... and planning for health care needs in retirement

IT'S HARD FOR ME TO BELIEVE that it's October. Fall, already? It seems like just yesterday we were saying Happy Easter, and this month we'll be saying Happy Halloween, and soon Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas! (I know, don't rush it!) After a busy summer, we're ready for a fantastic fourth quarter in the Sales Department.

After my article about Social Security myths and facts was published in our August issue, I was surprised by the number of calls I received regarding the article. Many asked when I would be running part 2. Never being one to disappoint our membership and readers, I decided to accelerate the article and get it into this issue.

In August, I discussed six common myths surrounding Social Security; in this edition, I'd like to expand on another large myth, and discuss a few issues that retirees and pre-retirees will face in retirement.

Myth #7: Getting Social Security means you don't have to worry about spending a lot of money on health care since you'll be getting Medicare, too.

Well, let's talk about this one. Acknowledging that health care planning and expenses are quite complex, the bottom line is that expenses are going up, that's for sure. For example, Medicare Part B premiums increase every year. While Social Security payments are adjusted for inflation (in most years), those increases are typically eaten up by the increase in Medicare premiums.

Retiree health care costs depend on a variety of factors, including whether or not someone has a chronic condition such as diabetes, COPD, high blood pressure, etc. The current cap on out-of-pocket expenses with Medicare Advantage plans ranges between \$3,400 and \$6,700 per year. People that don't take care of themselves and suffer from a variety of health problems are likely to pay more out of pocket for health care costs. At the same time, those who do take care of themselves can expect to live longer, and should plan accordingly.

According to a recent study by the Nationwide Retirement Institute, four out of five pre-retired people cannot accurately estimate how much they expect to pay for health care in retirement, even though health care costs will be one of their largest expenses. Many people do not understand the risk these costs can pose to their retirement plans, and they simply aren't planning for them.

Every conversation I have ever had with a client considering early retirement (before age 65) starts this way:

Let's begin by talking about your health care. What plans have you made for this? Will your current employer allow you to stay on their plan? If you can convert under COBRA, do you

know what your cost will be? Have you priced health insurance in the marketplace, and budgeted for this expense?

These questions and others can be very eye opening. I've seen a few clients who, after answering these questions honestly, decided that they could not afford to retire early like they wanted and decided to keep working until alternative plans for health care could be found (or afforded).

While Medicare and retiree health insurance benefits may cover a portion of your expenses in retirement, many people will still pay a significant amount of their health care costs out of their own pocket. Add to this challenge the rising cost of health care and the likelihood of needing long term medical care, and it becomes clear that planning for health care expenses is a vital part of overall retirement planning.

The Nationwide study also uncovered a few other alarming statistics. According to the study, a retired couple at age 65 should plan for total out-of-pocket health care expenses of between \$260,000 and \$395,000 over their anticipated life span (or roughly \$13,000 to \$20,000 per year over 20 years). Included in these expenses are premium payments for Medicare Parts B and D, out-of-pocket drug expenses, deductibles, copays and a variety of miscellaneous medical expenses, such as dental and vision



Kirk Harrington
Loup City, NE
308-745-0523
kirk@rainebraska.com



Kirk grew up on a farm north of Loup City, Neb., and graduated from college in 1984 with a degree in business/physical education teaching. Kirk taught school and coached for 14 years until entering the insurance and investment business in 1998. Kirk has been a WPA sales representative since March 2004.

Kirk is married to Lisa Harrington who is a third grade teacher at Loup City Public Schools. Lisa and Kirk have three children,

Jeff, Megan, and Sydney. Jeff is married to Nichelle Harrington, and they are expecting their first child in December.

Loup City is a rural town in the center of Nebraska. Kirk has served on many boards in Loup City and the surrounding area, including the Sherman County Foundation, his church's board, the village board, the Loup City Housing Authority Board, the Loup City Chamber of Commerce and the Loup City Golf Club Board.

WPA is one of Kirk's favorite insurers because of the great customer service its members and agents receive, which is second to none. □

care and supplemental insurance. As you can see, that is a very large number!

Health care is the big ticket expense for most retirees, especially given the ever-rising costs and the likelihood of needing long-term (nursing home or home health) care. If you're not prepared for these expenses, they can put extreme pressure on other aspects of your retirement plan, as well as limit the choices you can make later in life.

Today's Medicare

Many people are surprised to learn that there are costs involved with the Medicare program. Even if you have paid into the program your entire life, you'll face additional costs associated with the Medicare Insurance program. Statistically, Medicare only covers around 62% of retirees' total health care expenses, leaving many individuals responsible for the rest of the costs. Only 32% of your health-care related expenses will be paid to Medicare, the balance of expenses (45% for Medicare copays and deductibles and 23% on average for prescription drug, dental and eye care expenses) will need to be paid out of pocket.

Even though Medicare covers many services and medical expenses, there are costs that will fall into the coverage gaps--and will need to be paid out of your pocket. To cover this gap, many retirees turn to supplemental insurance programs or choose to continue coverage offered

through their previous employer, if available. Signing up for Medicare is one of the first major decisions you face in retirement. Eligibility begins the month you turn 65, and there are penalties if you don't sign up when eligible, and don't have creditable coverage.

Starting to plan.

The first step in planning for a comfortable retirement and planning for your potential future health care costs is knowing what to expect. The good news is that, according to the survey, 75% of baby boomers who have discussed retirement planning with their advisor or agent have also indicated that they are making plans for the potential impact of future health care related expenses.

This is where your William Penn Association agent or broker can help. While we can't give legal or tax advice, many of our agents are educated in the area of senior health care planning, Medicare and the variety of options that are available to you today. Why not call on your William Penn Association agent today? They can help you plan for a comfortable retirement, including strategies to help reduce the impact of taxation and the increasing costs of health care. Don't have an agent or don't know who to call? Give us a call at the Home Office. We'll be glad to assign a local agent or point you in the right direction.

That's it for now. Happy Halloween! □



The orphan heroes of '56

THERE ARE MANY undocumented stories of heroism that took place during the short lived Hungarian Revolution of 1956, perhaps more than those stories that have been preserved for posterity. Many acts of gallantry were buried with the people who performed them, many of whom never lived past the few brief days Hungary was once again free. Thousands were brutally killed by Soviet-backed troops, the AVO (the secret police), or were secretly imprisoned in Siberia and never returned to the homeland.

Of the 200,000-plus Hungarians who fled Hungary during the final 10 weeks of 1956, about one-in-10 were children under 18 years of age. It is estimated that about 15% of those children were undocumented as they did not accompany a parent or guardian.

Within the confines of Budapest, Győr, Pécs and Vác were a series of orphanages and industrial training camps that housed thousands of children left parentless by the ravages of WWII. The communist regime saw these orphans as a liability to the collective goals of communism. Many of these young people were abused in ways that can only be imagined. Girls were often treated worse than the boys, as many became personal attendants to government officials.

Many of these orphans escaped from these schools/orphanages to become street urchins relying upon their wits to survive. Sadistic AVO agents and police officers would find and punish the vagabond youth. Of those caught, most were beaten and assaulted, some killed and a few were returned to their orphanages where abuse continued. Some of the fugitive students became petty thieves in order to survive.

As a result, an underclass of potential Freedom Fighters was simmering in the bogrács of rebellion. These maligned youth were ready and willing to give back what they had received from the communists and were willing to do the most daring of jobs. Many of these young soldiers for freedom were recruited to deliver messages to other hotspots of insurgency, since the streets of Budapest had become their home, giving them intimate knowledge of the neighborhoods.

Many of the stories of these orphan heroes of '56 and their acts of bravery have fallen through the cracks of history. Through research and interviews, I have compiled enough information to present four composites representative of these orphan heroes of '56: a 17-year-old girl; a young man who came from a family of considerable wealth; and two brothers just 16 and 15 years of age.

Éva came from a family of Jewish textile merchants, tailors and seamstresses. Five generations earlier, her ancestors were hired by the Eszterhazy family as garment makers. As time passed, her family not only supplied the women of the royal enclave with exquisite wardrobes but also branched out into the retail end of the



business. WWI, Trianon and the extermination of the Jewish population by the Nazis left Éva as the lone survivor of the family.

Born in 1939, Éva was placed in the care of a family friend when her parents and older siblings were transported to a concentration camp, but eventually she was placed in an orphan home with hundreds of other girls. There, somewhat ironically, Éva was trained to sew and began working in a factory making suits for men. She was repeatedly assaulted by the shop foreman who was a staunch Communist Party member.

Early in 1956, Éva became pregnant and was ordered out of the factory. For weeks, she wandered the streets and eventually had a miscarriage. She became friends with a young lady who cleaned apartments in the area around Andrásy Utca, which was a stone's throw away from the AVO headquarters. Her new friend allowed her to stay in her apartment in exchange for Éva making alterations to and repairing the clothes of the people who lived in the apartments she cleaned.

Over the impending months, Éva, then 17, saw and heard first hand the midnight beatings and interrogations that were part of the everyday ritual at the "House of Terror," watching from the window of her temporary residence located less than 100 yards away.

One day on her way home from purchasing a few notions for her sewing duties, Éva encountered the very man who had assaulted her a few months earlier at the suit factory. "I thought you were dead," he said to her. He then had two of his lackeys escort Éva to the AVO for extensive interrogation. A few days later, Éva was released, beaten and assaulted, only to find that the friend who gave her a small space to live was no longer living in the apartment.

As Éva wandered about District VI of Budapest, she was invited to stay at a *kávéház* (coffee house) by a student who worked there. For a few days, she helped, washing dishes and serving coffee. There, she heard patrons' tales of living in fear and degradation.

On the day the revolution began, many of the coffee house patrons asked Éva if she would like to come along and demonstrate. With nothing to lose, she tagged along. Within hours, she was making Molotov Cocktails and shooting at the Russians. When the Communists left the city, Éva felt for the very first time that her life was turning around.

While Éva was filling a bottle with gasoline, a Russian tank fired a shell that brought down the roof of the building she was in. A fire created by the exploding shell caused her makeshift bomb to explode. Éva suffered burns over much of her upper torso and face. She survived only a few hours in the rubble.

Árpád was a third-generation pastry chef-in-training at Gerbeaud at Vörösmarty Tér, eager to follow in the occupational footsteps of his father and grandfather. Over the years, the family had acquired two shops. The first was a few blocks away from the famous New York Cafe and the other on Régi Posta just a short stroll from Váci Utca. They enjoyed a reputation throughout the Pest side of the city for baking high quality pastries.

In 1949, the Communists closed the first shop and confiscated the contents, telling Árpád's father that rich cakes and *rétes* were excesses not to be tolerated. Within a year, the Régi Posta shop faced the same demise.

Árpád's grandfather died while being interrogated after the first store was shuttered. Árpád's father was sent each day by bus to a cooperative dairy farm near Fót, where he was told: "Now you can see where the cream comes from to make your cakes." Árpád Sr. worked at that farm for four years. When the revolt began, he and his wife immediately fled Hungary with little more than the clothes they wore.

Meanwhile, young Árpád had been forced to attend a facility where he was trained to be a certified mechanic. He was given housing by the government and worked at the Nyugati Railway Station. The modest apartment on Síp Utca where his family had lived had been confiscated by the government. The family met only on holidays and agreed that if the opportunity to flee Hungary ever arose, they would reunite in a new and free country.

Árpád saw that window of opportunity open a few days into the revolution. But before departing west, he realized there was a quick way to wreck havoc on the retreating communist troops. He knew that the trains they would use for their escape would need to stop for refueling about 20 miles outside of Budapest. So, he hung burlap bags filled with sand hidden high up inside the fuel compartment of the locomotives.

Once in Austria, Árpád was soon sent to Germany. There, he requested the authorities to search the refugees' register to see if his parents had made it out of Hungary as well. Early in the summer of 1957, the family was reunited. Árpád and his family were among the approximately 80,000 Hungarians who made it to America. Even-

tually, Árpád's family reestablished the family tradition of making and selling exquisite Hungarian pastries.

Géza and András were brothers a year apart in age. They were raised in the area of Pécs and were destined to work in the mines outside of town. After their parents and sister were killed by bombs dropped from planes, their grandfather became their legal guardian until his passing in 1953. The boys worked at the laundry of the mine, cleaning equipment and scrubbing work clothes by hand.

In 1954, with no family member to take care of them, the brothers decided to attend a new industrial school that was about to open in Vác. From day one, the boys were treated harshly. For two years, teachers continuously indoctrinated them with anti-religion and pro-communist theories. As the grandsons of a Hussar in the Austrian-Hungarian army and the nephews of a priest, Géza and András were taught to respect others, be virtuous and practice their religion. Many of their fellow students came from similar, wholesome family backgrounds. They all quickly developed a disdain for communist authority.

When the revolt began on Oct. 23, the school was immediately shut down. Although there was no school, the majority of the boys had to stay at the education complex because the dormitories were located on site. Students were allowed to travel into town as long as they returned by nightfall. Each dormitory room housed about 100.

The town of Vác is relatively close to Budapest, so news about the insurrection reached them quickly. When they heard it, the brothers and several hundred of their school mates decided to become Freedom Fighters.

Many of the students were either killed or injured. Géza and András became snipers because they knew how to shoot and handle firearms, a skill taught to them by their grandfather. András was one of the first to toss a grenade into the AVO office.

When the Russians retreated, the boys decided to leave Hungary because they had violated the curfew rules of the school and knew they would be expelled.

Both boys traveled about Europe for a few years. András joined the French Foreign Legion because doing so automatically made him a French citizen. Géza wanted to visit America and learned that if he joined the U.S. Army in Germany they would transport him to America for boot camp. Upon passing that requirement, special citizenship classes would be available for new soldiers. Eventually, Géza fought in Algeria, and András was an infantryman in the Vietnam War. Both passed away in 2004.

The stories of the real orphan heroes of '56 need to be added to the chronicles of history, before it is too late.

Éljen a Amerikai-Magyar,
Tibor

If you have any questions or comments, please email me at: silverking1937@gmail.com.



Reports from our National Directors on the people and activities they encounter during WPA's fraternal and charitable outreach.

Toledo celebrates its ethnic roots

by Kathy Novak

TOLEDO, OH -- Toledo enjoyed perfect weather for its 43rd Annual Birmingham Ethnic Festival, Aug. 19 and 20.

Throughout the two-day festival, WPA representatives welcomed many guests to our Association's booth and shared information about our fraternal programs and life insurance and annuity plans. Guests at our booth were given red WPA backpacks, which by the end of the weekend could be seen up and down the streets.

Those spreading the word about WPA's fraternal mission were Chair of the Board Andy McNelis and his wife Marguerite, Vice Chair of the Board Kathy Novak, Fraternal Director Barbara House and her husband Tom, National Sales Director Bob Bisceglia and Branch 28 member Sandor Tollas. Sales Agent Alan Szabo also stopped by to spend some time with us.

On Saturday evening, some of us went to the area by the Calvin United Church of Christ to listen to Hungarian music and watch the dancers perform. While watching the performance, Marguerite McNelis was asked to join the dancers, and she did a wonderful job keeping up with them.

The Birmingham Ethnic Festival is one of Toledo's oldest and most popular ethnic festivals. Each year, it celebrates the strength and diversity of the community, its success in preventing the splitting of the neighborhood by a proposed road widening project, and the continuing fight for the preservation and recognition of the neighborhood.

The festival featured popular Hungarian foods including chicken paprikás, roasted bacon sandwiches, stuffed cabbage, homemade *kolbász* sandwiches, *gulyás*, *palacsinta*,



Photo by Tom House

and cabbage and noodles, pastries and a fantastic array of other ethnic foods.

Performers included the Borozda Ensemble, the Kodály Ensemble, the Csipke Ensemble and the Életfa Ensemble, along with performances by Irish, Bavarian, Polish and Mexican musicians and dancers. Popular bands performed a great variety of music both days in the evening on three stages.

Food and craft vendors sold their colorful and creative wares on the Consaul Street mall. There were also games and rides for the children.

The weekend's unofficial opening occurred Friday night when the 22nd Annual Waiters' Race was held. The race features relay teams of four carrying trays with a full pitcher and two glasses of beer.

On Sunday, a Recognition Ceremony was held at noon on the steps of St. Stephen's Church, beginning with a flag raising ceremony.

Bethlen Communities host golf outing & picnic

by Richard E. Sarosi

LIGONIER, PA -- The Bethlen Communities Memorial Golf Outing took place on July 29 at Champion Lakes Golf Course. The weather was perfect.

A delicious dinner was served following the golf with radio personality Jimmy Krenn serving as guest speaker and entertainer. A 50/50 raffle and Chinese auction were held, and many golfers received awards and prizes.

The staff of Bethlen Communities did an outstanding job in preparing for this

successful event.

The next day, the Communities hosted their annual Hungarian picnic. The beautiful weather helped draw a large number of the community's residents and other guests. It was great to see many friends in attendance.

An extensive lunch menu included burgers, hot dogs, sausage, ribs, chicken, salads, desserts, beverages and much more. The day also featured raffles, a Chinese auction, and chimney cakes. The George Bányi Ensemble provided

wonderful Hungarian music for all to enjoy. The WPA Magyar Folk Dancers, with Judit Ganchuk as coordinator, did a beautiful job.

Those joining me in representing WPA were Vice Chair of the Board Kathy Novak, National Director Joyce Nicholson and her husband Harry and my parents, Ernest and Violet Sarosi. We all had a great time in Ligonier.

Once again, a big thank you to the staff of Bethlen Communities for making this weekend a great success.

Student choir from Pécs visits Cleveland area



Photo by Richard E. Sarosi

by Richard E. Sarosi

Cleveland, OH -- One of the highlights of this past summer in the American Hungarian community was the North American tour of the Reformed High School Choir of Pécs, Hungary, and their performance Aug. 18 at The First Hungarian Reformed Church in Walton Hills, Ohio.

The students, ranging in age from 14 to 18, all had marvelous voices and sang *a cappella*. The richness of their voices and the ability to harmonize was a great musical feat.

The final song of the performance found the members of the choir standing in the side aisles around the church so that their voices could be heard from front to back and from side to side. They sang a unique arrangement in English of "Viva La Vida," a song by the band Coldplay, which won the 2009 Grammy Award for Song of the Year. It was a truly remarkable performance.

Following the performance, a reception was held in Bethlen Hall where audience members were given the opportunity to meet and speak with the students. The students said they were very excited about their first trip to North America.

While in the Cleveland area, the choir members visited the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and the Natural Science Museum.

They also visited the Hungarian Cultural Garden of Cleveland and



Photo by Richard E. Sarosi

ABOVE: The Reformed High School Choir of Pécs, Hungary, performs at The First Hungarian Reformed Church in Walton Hills, Ohio. RIGHT: Members of the choir had fun playing with the light sticks provided by WPA.

performed three songs on the terrace area of the garden. Their voices blended beautifully, and it sounded as if they were in an amphitheater. What a treat to have been at the garden to hear them.

William Penn Association was pleased to be a patron of the choir's performance and also provided the students with many items to take home. They especially enjoyed the backpacks, the sunglasses and the light sticks.

Thank you to the WPA Board, National Officers and staff for their help in making the choir's trip most memorable.



Photo by Richard E. Sarosi

Members of the Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble perform a traditional dance during the 62nd Annual Hungarian Scout Festival Sept. 3 in Parma, Ohio

Hungarian Scouts hold 62nd festival

by Richard E. Sarosi

PARMA, OH -- Near the end of a busy summer, the American Hungarian Friends of Scouting held its 62nd Annual Hungarian Scout Festival on Sept. 3 at German Central Park in Parma, Ohio.

It was a great day to be outside and enjoy the picnic weather. There were traditional Hungarian dishes and desserts served, performances by three live musical groups, and vendor tents.

The Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble performed wearing new costumes and dancing to new music, both of which they brought back with them after traveling to Hungary and Romania in 2016.

It was quite an impressive sight when the Hungarian Scouts assembled and the various troops took part in the festival's opening ceremony.

William Penn Association distributed promotional items from an information booth set up on the festival grounds, and the items were a hit with the Scouts.

The Scouts thank William Penn Association for its support.



The lessons of Memorial Park

by Kathy Megyeri

With the current controversy over the placement of some statues throughout the U.S., there are lessons to be learned from one of the most popular tourist destinations in Budapest: Memorial Park.

Located a short distance from center city, Memorial Park (also known as Memento Park) contains a collection of gigantic and imposing statuary and iconography of the Soviet era. Locals call it a theme park reminder of the overthrow of a dictatorship. It is a powerful open-air art gallery featuring 42 pieces of statuary constructed between 1945 and 1989. These reminders of socialism were removed from the city's streets because they offer a final glimpse behind the Iron Curtain. Some call the park "hundreds of tons of communism all in one place" because the original intent of these statues was to constantly remind people of how great and powerful the Soviet system was.

The statues depict infamous Communist leaders, including Lenin, Marx, Engels and Béla Kun. There is even a Liberation Army soldier holding a hammer and sickle flag with a cartridge-disc machine pistol hanging from his neck. Many of these statues once stood on top of Gellért Hill in Budapest.

Probably the most photographed in the collection is Stalin's boots. On Oct. 23, 1956, an angry crowd tried to pull Stalin's statue off its pedestal located in Central Budapest where Communist leaders would stand while waving to the crowds.

My husband László, a 15-year-old Freedom Fighter at that time, vividly remembers that event at Heroes' Square:

The angry crowd tried pulling it down with ropes, but they were unsuccessful. So the welders came and cut it off from the top of Stalin's boots. They dragged it to downtown where they spit on it, sprayed it with graffiti and chipped off pieces to take as souvenirs. I stood and watched as I could not get close enough to desecrate it myself. It symbolized everything the Hungarians hated about communism,

especially May Day parades where dignitaries stood in front of it and waved to the crowds. That day's action was the beginning of the movement to pull down the rest of the statues. Even communist bookstores were burned. The Hungarian tri-colored flags were lowered to cut out the center sickle and hammer. Sadly, 2,500 Hungarians were killed in '56.

Memorial Park marks not only the '56 Revolution but also the collapse of the Soviet system in 1989-90. In 1991, the Hungarian General Assembly held a competition to design the park and Hungarian architect Ákos Eleőd won. Of his work, Eleőd said:

This park is about dictatorship. And at the same time, because it can be talked about, described, and built, this park is about democracy. After all, only democracy is able to give the opportunity to let us think fully about dictatorship. This park is not about statues or sculptors but a critique of the ideology that used these statues as symbols of authority.

The park's grand opening in 1993 coincided with the second anniversary of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungarian territory.

In addition to viewing Stalin's boots and Red Army soldiers' statues, there are other reasons to visit. The museum and exhibition space, housed in a single-story wooden structure that looks like an internment camp building, shows a documentary that explains the political secret service. Entitled "Life of an Agent," the film shows recruitment methods, secret surveillance techniques and instructions on how to effectively plant a bug.

At the Red Star Store, a gift shop where capitalism thrives in the midst of the remains of the Soviet regime, visitors can buy badges, posters, t-shirts, flasks with hammer and sickle symbols, communist marching music on CD's, postcards, candles in the shape of Lenin, and best of all, a small tin can that holds the "last breath of Communism." One can even pick up the phone and place a call to Lenin, Stalin and Mao on the Communist Hot Line.

However, I found the real irony of this entire complex expressed on a plaque inside the museum that read:

These statues are a part of the history of Hungary. Dictatorships chip away at and plaster over their past in order to get rid of all memories of previous ages. Democracy is the only regime that is prepared to accept that our past with all the dead ends is still ours; we should get to know it, analyze it, and think about it.

That is the real souvenir from Memorial Park I wanted to take home. □

Marx and Engel
Memorial Park, Budapest

Photo © Jan Kacar/Dreamstime.com





St. Emeric's remembers St. Stephen

A St. Stephen's Day Festival was held at St. Emeric's Roman Catholic Church in Cleveland on Aug. 19. This festival had wonderful Hungarian food, vendors, the Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble and the music of Harmonia. ABOVE, LEFT: Dancers discuss their upcoming performance. ABOVE RIGHT: Rev. Peter Toth of the First Hungarian Church of Lorain, Ohio (left), the Rev. András Mezei of St. Emeric Catholic Hungarian Church and Rev. Éva Tamásy of the West Side Hungarian Lutheran Church in Cleveland. LEFT: Scouts and dancers lead the parade. (Photos by Richard E. Sarosi)



Hungarians share heritage during annual Canfield Fair

by Kathy Novak

CANFIELD, OH -- Over Labor Day weekend, many Youngstown area residents flocked to the 171st Annual Canfield Fair. The six-day event features exhibits of farm animals and farming equipment, live entertainment, carnival rides and plenty of food vendors.

One of the fair's exhibit areas is the International Pavillion where items from many ethnic cultures are on display. Hungary has been part of this fair for more than 50 years.

Each country also presents performances of their traditional music and dance. This year, a Hungarian dance group was among those performing. It is always nice to see another generation taking time to carry on our ethnic traditions.



Young Hungarian dancers get set to perform at the annual Canfield Fair.

The First Hungarian Reformed Church of Homestead
and William Penn Association Branch 89 invite you to enjoy their

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**Orders due
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Pick up Saturday, Oct. 28th
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All proceeds benefit
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1517 ~ 2017

The Protestant Reformation in Hungary

This October, Protestants around the world, including many WPA members and members of the American Hungarian community, will mark the 500th anniversary of the founding moment of their faith. According to History.com: "The Protestant Reformation was the 16th-century religious, political, intellectual and cultural upheaval that splintered Catholic Europe, setting in place the structures and beliefs that would define the continent in the modern era."

In recognition of this historic event and the impact it had on Hungary and on Hungarians both at home and abroad, we publish the following brief history of the Reformation in Hungary, originally published by Magyar News Online.

by Charles Bálintitt Jr. *Magyar News Online*

The Protestant Reformation officially began on Oct. 31, 1517, when Martin Luther nailed his 95 *Theses* ("Disputation on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences") to the door of the Castle Church of Wittenberg, Germany (then part of Saxony in the Holy Roman Empire). Martin Luther may have done this merely to announce a discussion on the topic of indulgences at the university, but soon news and copies of the 95 *Theses* swept across large areas of Europe. Eventually, the official name of Wittenberg became Lutherstadt Wittenberg.

The Reformation spread to Switzerland, beginning with the sermons of Ulrich Zwingli in 1519. Although very similar to Luther's 95 *Theses*, Zwingli's 67 *Conclusions* were apparently formulated independently. The two eventually met in 1529 at the castle of Philip of Hesse. This meeting, later called "The Colloquy of Marburg," did not go well. The main disagreement was over the sacrament of the Eucharist. While the Catholic Church believed (and still believes) in transubstantiation (that the bread and wine are transformed into the body and blood of Jesus Christ during the Mass), Martin Luther preached consubstantiation (that Christ was present at the sacrament, but the bread and wine were not transformed). Zwingli, on the other hand, looked at the Eucharist as just a memorial, where Christ was not present.

The first signs of Lutheranism appeared around 1520 in the northern parts of Hungary among the

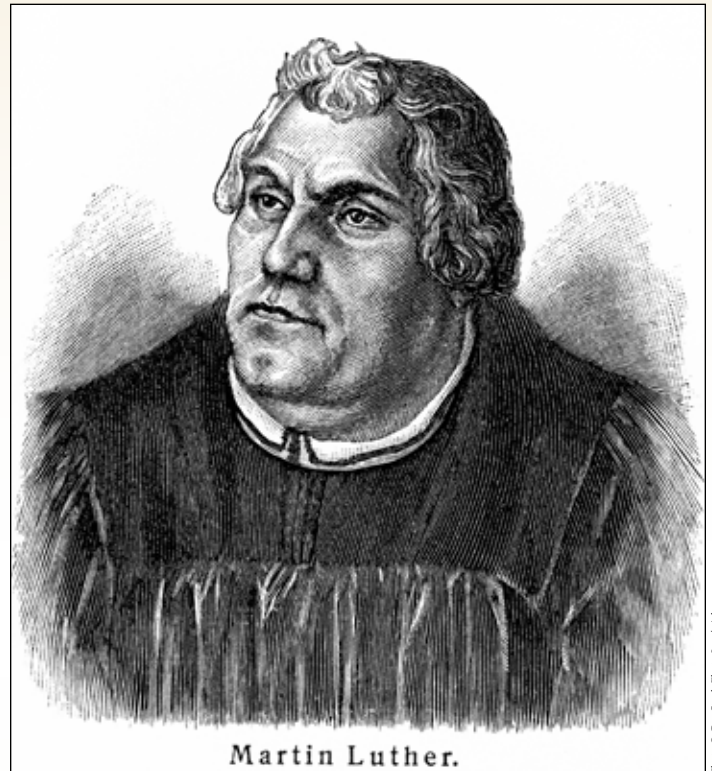


Photo © Can Stock Photo Inc./nicku

German population of what is present-day Slovakia and in some larger urban areas. But the main thrust of the Protestant Reformation came to Hungary during the next generation, mainly emanating from the teachings of a Frenchman born in Noyon, Picardy, France on July 10, 1509, who later moved to Switzerland. John Calvin published his *Institutes of the Christian Religion* in 1536 and became prominent in Geneva after 1541. His main variance from Martin Luther was his belief in predestination, that God has already chosen those who will enter into Heaven and no amount of good deeds will change that. It is possible that those who perform good deeds throughout their lives do so because they are among the ones already chosen.

More than anything else, the major historical event that advanced Protestantism in Hungary was the Battle of Mohács in 1526. This greatest of Hungarian military defeats had a number of consequences. First, the young king and a large number of the leaders of the Catholic Church were killed in the battle.

Secondly, the country was divided into three parts: the northwest was controlled by the Habsburgs; the central portion was ruled by the Turks; and Transylvania to the east paid tribute to the Turks to remain semi-independent. Thirdly, unlike the Catholic Habsburgs, the Turks did not force anyone to adopt their Muslim religion.

Although a synod at Erdőd accepted the Lutheran Augsburg Confession in 1545, a later synod in Debrecen in 1567 embraced the Reformed Heidelberg Catechism along with the Second Helvetic Confession, which more closely followed the teachings of John Calvin as opposed to Martin Luther. The dominant Protestant Church in Hungary and Transylvania became the Calvinist "Reformed Church." The early leaders of this movement were Sztárai Mihály, Szegedi Kis István, Dévai Bíró Mátyás and the bishop of Debrecen, Méliusz Juhász Péter in Hungary, and Apáczai Csere János and Dávid Ferenc in Transylvania.

Unlike the others who were Calvinists, Dávid Ferenc was Unitarian and founder of the Transylvanian Unitarian Church. Contrary to the Catholic Church and the two major Protestant denominations of the time, the Unitarians did not believe in the Holy Trinity because they considered it anti-biblical. The major figure who was converted by Dávid Ferenc was the Prince of Transylvania, Szapolyai János Zsigmond (he was also the infant King of Hungary at the time of the first Siege of Buda in 1541). Their collaboration resulted in the first proclamation of religious freedom in Europe, the Edict of Torda in 1568. This basically gave freedom to the Catholic, Lutheran, Reformed and Unitarian religions to practice their beliefs as they wished, but tolerated others as well.

Although there were many problems in the Catholic Church at the time, which made it possible for the Protestant Reformation to take hold and become popular among many people in Europe, there were many battles within the ranks of the Protestants as well. For example, one of the founders of the Unitarian Church, Michael Servetus (a theologian, physician, cartographer and mathematician among other things; born in Spain as Miguel Serveto), was burned at the stake atop a mound of his own books near the city of Geneva. Both Martin Luther and Philip Melancthon denounced his teachings. And one of the main persons who submitted evidence against him at his trial, although not in person due to health reasons, was John Calvin, who asked that he be beheaded instead of burned at the stake. So, even those who were against the harsh authority of the Catholic Church did not always behave much like Christians them-

Continued on Page 30



**Orbán Viktor miniszterelnök köszöntő levele
a William Penn Life magazin olvasóinak a refor-
máció 500. évfordulója alkalmából**

„A reformáció ötszázadik évfordulóját ünnepelve nekünk, magyaroknak ma gyakran juthatnak eszünkbe Illyés Gyula sorai: 'Hiszed, hogy volna olyan-ilyen magyarság, ha nincs – Kálvin? Nem hiszem.' Wittenberg és Genf szellemisége a mi számunkra öt évszázada jelenti a megmaradás ösvényét, ahogy ott van velünk most is minden egyes templomban, bárhol is legyen a világon, ahol a Szentírást magyarul olvassák, és Istent magyarul dicsérik. Éppen ezért meggyőződése, hogy a reformátorok és a protestáns prédikátorok öröksége ma is megtartó erőt jelent a világ református magyarságának. Annak a hitnek, elszántságnak és tenni akarásnak a hamisítatlan mását, amely öt évszázaddal ezelőtt egyszerre építette fel az Újvilágot és elevénítette meg a régit, s amely most is kész arra, hogy a semper reformanda jegyében új lélekkel töltsen meg korunkat. Mindezek fényében, kérem, engedjék meg, hogy e jeles évfordulón áldott és szép ünneplést kívánjak minden magyar református testvéremnek! Soli Deo gloria!” - Orbán Viktor

**Letter of Prime Minister Viktor Orbán
to the readers of William Penn Life
on the 500th anniversary of the Reformation
(Non-official, courtesy translation)**

“For Hungarians celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, the words of Gyula Illyés often come to mind: ‘Do you believe that Hungarians would exist as such if not for – Calvin? I don’t think so.’ The spirit of Wittenberg and Geneva has meant the path to survival for us for five centuries, just as it remains with us in every single church around the world, where scripture is read in Hungarian and God is praised in Hungarian. That is why I am convinced that the legacy of the reformers and Protestant preachers still represents a source of strength for Reformed Hungarians around the world. It represents an unmistakable version of that faith, that determination and that willpower, which simultaneously built the New World and revitalized the old one five centuries ago, and which is still ready to breathe new spirit into our age in the spirit of semper reformanda. In light of all this, please allow me to wish all of my Reformed Hungarian brethren a blessed and beautiful celebration on this important anniversary! Soli Deo gloria!” - Viktor Orbán



JUST 4 KIDZ

This month, we observe **Fire Prevention Week** Oct. 8 to 15. Although this week lasts seven days, the feeling of being safe and secure should last throughout the year. This month, **Just 4 Kidz** can help you and your family make a plan to stay safe. First, here's a quick quiz to test your knowledge about fire prevention:

What is the leading cause of home fires?

- A. Smoking materials
- B. Heating
- C. Unattended cooking
- D. Electrical problems

If there's a fire in your home or school, the first thing you should do is:

- A. Get outside and stay outside
- B. Find out what happened
- C. Wait for someone to come get you
- D. Go get your book bag

About 2 out of every 5 home fires start where?

- A. Living room
- B. Kitchen
- C. Bedroom
- D. Chimney



Here are some tips from the National Fire Protection Association:

- Draw a map of your home. Mark 2 exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
- Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
- Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

Answers to the quiz: 1C, 2A, 3B



Fire Prevention Number Maze 1 - 100

The fireman is trying to reach the fire. Help him find his way by drawing a path, starting at 1 and counting up to 100.

1	2	24	4	22	6	20	19	18	17
26	25	3	23	5	21	7	14	15	16
27	28	29	30	31	34	33	8	13	12
61	60	59	58	57	32	35	36	9	11
62	63	68	69	70	56	37	39	40	10
64	67	90	89	71	72	55	38	41	42
66	65	91	88	73	74	54	53	43	44
94	93	92	86	87	75	76	52	45	46
95	96	97	85	82	80	77	51	47	48
100	99	98	84	83	81	79	78	50	49



www.KindergartenTeacherResources.com

WPA 2017



We thank the 700-plus members, guests and volunteers—especially our friends and co-hosts from the Hungarian Cultural Center of Northeastern Ohio – who helped make our 2017 WPA Picnic on Aug. 26 another fun-filled fraternal event. Your smiles, laughter and enthusiasm make us even more determined to continue this celebration of our Hungarian heritage and do everything we can to make it



PICNIC

even better and more enjoyable next year. Because of your generosity and participation in the picnic's various sales, auctions and raffles, we raised \$5,829 for the benefit of the WPFA Scholarship Foundation. On behalf of the young members who will receive much needed assistance with their educational expenses, we say to you: *Köszönöm Szépen!* We hope to see you all again next year.



Szeretettel mindig vissza várunk ~





Branch 1 Bridgeport, CT

We wish a happy belated birthday to branch member Margaret Kaminski, who turned 92 on Aug. 10. Marge celebrated her special day with a family get-together at the home of her grandson and fellow WPA member Michael Smeraglino.

Among those attending the celebration were: Marge's two daughters, Marge Smeraglino and Irene Vilag, along with Irene's husband Harvey Aronson; Michael's wife Lauren; and great-grandchildren Dominic, Juliana and Gabriella, all three of whom are WPA members.

One of the more pleasant surprises of the day was provided by great-grandson Dominic, who baked cupcakes and arranged them to spell out "92."

Happy birthday, Marge!

Branch 14 Cleveland, OH

by Richard E. Sarosi

Since our last issue, many events and activities have taken place in the Hungarian community.

The Bethlen Communities held its Memorial Golf Outing July 29 at Champion Lakes Golf Course in Bolivar, Pa. The next day, the Bethlen Communities hosted a Hungarian picnic on their grounds in Ligonier, Pa. WPA was well represented at these events. (*For more, see "In the Community" on Page 8.*)

My family also attended the WPA Hungarian Heritage Experience graduation dinner on Aug. 11 at the Sequanota Lutheran Conference Center and Camp in Boswell, Pa. It was great meeting the students and some former classmates and seeing what they learned about the language, culture, music and heritage of Hungary. If you have a week to give, this Hungarian camp will immerse you in the Hungarian culture and language. Watch for information about next year's Experience and send in your application as soon as possible as space is limited.

On Aug. 12, I was a guest on the Hungarian radio program hosted by Bob Kita on WCSB-89.3 FM, Cleve-



Branch 14 members Violet and Ernest Sarosi welcome visitors to the WPA information booth at the American Hungarian Friends of Scouting annual festival Sept. 3 in Parma, Ohio.

land State University. We talked about the WPA Picnic in Hiram, Ohio on Aug. 26. Bob is a great friend of the Hungarian community and gives churches and groups in the area the opportunity to promote their Hungarian activities. Thank you, Bob.

On Aug. 16, members and friends of Branch 14 attended a performance of "Motown: The Musical" at Cleveland's Playhouse Square. It was a great night of music featuring acts from Berry Gordy's Motown Record Company, such as Stevie Wonder, The Supremes, The Jackson Five, The Temptations, The Four Tops, Smokey Robinson and more. The hits kept on coming -- "Dancing in the Streets," "I Can't Get Next to You," "Shop Around," "My Girl," "My Guy," "Ball of Confusion" and many more. It was a great night recalling great memories.

Another highlight of the summer was a performance by the Reformed High School Choir of Pécs, at The First Hungarian Reformed Church in Walton Hills, Ohio, on Aug. 18. WPA was a patron for this event and provided gifts for the choir members. (*For more, see "In the Community" on Page 9.*)

A St. Stephen's Day Festival was held at St. Emeric's Roman Catholic Church on Aug. 19. This festival had wonderful Hungarian food, vendors, the Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble and the music of Harmonia. It was good to see our friends

from the Hungarian Community. (*For pictures from this event, see "Magyar Matters" on page 11.*)

A week after that, WPA held its annual picnic at the Hungarian Cultural Center of Northeastern Ohio in Hiram, Ohio. It was the first picnic this summer at the Cultural Center which is nearing the end of a major remodeling and renovation of the main building, including new restrooms, kitchen, prep area, plumbing, wiring, walkways and other items that are not seen. It will take several more months to complete the work and make sure it meets local building codes and regulations. By next year--and with the support of members, friends and divine intervention--the grounds will look great. (*For more on the WPA Picnic, see page 14.*)

Thank you to the Home Office staff, the National Officers and the Board of Directors for the hard work that went into making this picnic a success.

On Sept. 2, I had another opportunity to discuss events taking place in the Hungarian community of Greater Cleveland, this time on Hungarian Hour with Andrea and Andrew (Andy) Lazar on WCPN-90.3 FM. We have great friends who spread the word for our organizations and activities.

Near the end of a busy summer, the American Hungarian Friends of Scouting held its 62nd Annual Hungarian Scout Festival on Sept. 3

at German Central Park in Parma, Ohio. WPA sponsored an information booth at this event, spreading the word about WPA and handing out promotional items. (For more, see "In the Community" on page 9.)

We at Branch 14 were saddened to learn of the passing of Rev. Imre A. Bertalan, Executive Director of the Bethlen Communities, who died Aug. 29 at the age of 67 after a brief illness. His passing is a great loss. Please keep Rev. Bertalan and his family in your prayers. Please include the staff and residents of Bethlen Communities in your prayers, too. God has called a faithful servant home. May he rest in peace.

The officers of Branch 14 also extend our sympathy to those Branch 14 and WPA members who have recently lost a loved one. May they rest in peace.

The Hungarian Cultural Garden of Cleveland will host an Organ Concert on Sunday, Oct. 8. This is a unique opportunity to hear an organ with over 7,500 pipes, found in a private residence in the USA. Also, The Cultural Garden is planning to celebrate its 80th anniversary next year. Additional information on this event to come.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Branch 14 events:

- Branch 14 meetings will be held on the following Wednesdays: Oct. 4, Nov. 1 and Dec. 6. All meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. at the Bethlen Hall of The First Hungarian Reformed Church, 14530 Alexander Road, Walton Hills.

- Breakfast with Santa will be held Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. More information to come.

Get well wishes are sent to all our members and friends who might be feeling under the weather, including Branch 14 members Jenny Varga, Cindy Smith (recovering from surgery) and Frank Dobos. Please keep them and all of our members in your prayers.

Happy birthday and anniversary wishes are sent out to all our members and Home Office staff celebrating a birthday or anniversary. May you be blessed with many more.

Remember, Branch 14 Members having news to share about themselves or family members can reach

me at RichSaro@att.net or at 440-248-9012.

As always, please remember to keep in touch with someone you haven't seen or talked with in a long time. Don't let the opportunity pass you by. Pick up the phone and/or plan a visit.

Branch 18 Lincoln Park, MI

by Barbara A. House

Happy Fall! This is my favorite time of the year. Our gardens are all bloomed out, and we are enjoying great peppers and tomatoes. I brought some peppers back from Hungary last year, and I save the seeds which I planted this spring. We got some peppers that were not as big but tasted just great. The best part was that we knew they were from Hungary. I'll try again next year.

Welcome new members Skyler Olechowski and Theresa Nagy. Special thank you to Dan Nagy for his annuity. What a wonderful family you have. WPA and I thank you!

Branch 18 has changed the date for our October meeting to Wednesday, Oct. 11, at 6:00 p.m. at the Hungarian American Cultural Center in Taylor. That is the week before our trip to Firekeepers on Oct. 17. Helen Sryniawski and Ursula Markovits will be calling about this trip. The cost is still \$30 per person. You will get \$25 back to spend. Please let us know if you are interested. We will leave from the Cultural Center at 9:30 a.m. and return about 6:30 p.m.

Happy October birthday greetings to WPA National President

George S. Charles Jr., Branch 18 Treasurer Carol Truesdell, *William Penn Life* Managing Editor John E. Lovasz and all our special members. May you all have many more.

Congratulations to newlyweds Katelyn and Brian Horger. Katelyn is the granddaughter of Carol and Doug Truesdell. We wish them many happy years together.

Get well wishes go to George and Doris Schvarckopf, Eleanor Kender, Beata Csaszar, Joe Csereklye and all who are under the weather. We send you lots of love and prayers.

Please remember in your prayers the families of all our departed members, especially the families of Cheryl Hesselink and John Yonish. May they rest in peace.

Please support all the wonderful Szüreti (Harvest) Balls in your area. I can't wait until they start. I hope we can attend some in Hungary.

Enjoy this beautiful season.

May you always have enough happiness to keep you sweet, enough trials to keep you strong, enough success to keep you eager, enough faith to give you courage and enough determination to make each day the best possible. (Thank you, Father Barnabas.)

Branch 19 New Brunswick, NJ

by Evelyn Bodnar

We were very busy this summer helping the food program at the Bayard Street Presbyterian Church. The program is offered the last Saturday of each month at noon. In July, we assisted about 200 people. Rev. Bodnar gave each adult \$5 in thanksgiving for all the good things that are happening at the church and



Next Deadline

All submissions for the November issue of *William Penn Life* are due in our office by October 10. If you have any questions, please contact John E. Lovasz toll-free at 1-800-848-7366, ext. 135.

in our lives.

For the August food program, the children received book bags filled with school supplies. This was our branch's Join Hands Day project. We gave out 80 book bags. The children were so excited and thankful.

We thank Dora McKinsey at the Home Office for sending money for the food program. So many people from different avenues of life want to help. In the city, we have many homeless and poor.

On Sept. 23, we hosted a free dinner for those in our community and were grateful for all the help we received from so many people.

If anyone has any questions about WPA life insurance, please call Evelyn Bodnar at 732-873-1158.

Branch 27 Toledo, OH

by Paula Bodnar

I sure hope this finds all of our members and their extended families safe from last month's hurricanes.

I would like to extend our condolences to the Bertalan and Ujvagi families on the loss of Rev. Imre Bertalan. He was the former minister of Calvary Hungarian Reformed Church in the Birmingham neighborhood in Toledo.

I also ask you to pray for David Bodnar who has been diagnosed with stage 4 Renal Cancer and is receiving radiation treatments.

On a happier note, I would like to extend birthday wishes to the following members: Jacqueline Alex, Alan Arnold, Charissa Beres, Braylynn Bodnar, Carl Brooker, Irene Brzuchalski, Theresa Danisovszky, John Evancho, William Gruber, Lee Hinkle, Joseph E. Hornyak IV, Harold Hornyak, Gary Humbarger, Stephen J. Ivancso Jr., Mary Suzanne King, Emily Kinsey, Isabella G. Kinsey, Margaret E. Klorer, Steven Klorer, Heather McPeck, Shirley Miller, Helen Orshoski, Zachary T. Ovens, Katherine Parker, Dominic Rodriguez, Susan M. Roper, Rondal L. Stiltner and Ryan Vanko.

Thank you, Barbara House, for the opportunity to pass out backpacks at the Birmingham Ethnic Festival Aug. 19. Of course, the weather had been pleasant all summer until



Branch 19 members and volunteers at the Bayard Street Presbyterian Church prepare backpacks filled with school supplies for local children during the branch's Join Hands Day project.

that afternoon when it got nice and hot.

Our next branch meeting will be held Nov. 11 at 1:00 p.m. at American Table on Wheeling Street in Oregon. Don't forget that ALL members are more than welcome to attend. We are still having a drawing every three months for members who attend.

If anybody has any questions about branch activities, you can contact me (Paula Bodnar) at 419-460-7214 or Amalia Horvath at 419-726-1109.

If you have any questions about WPA life insurance or annuities, please call Alan Szabo at 1-800-428-8452 or 330-565-7592.

Branch 28 Youngstown, OH

by Kathy Novak

We send special thoughts and prayers to everyone affected by the terrible storms that hit Texas and Florida last month.

It makes us especially thankful for the fine weather we had for many of the summertime events hosted by WPA and gatherings held in the Hungarian community.

What a wonderful WPA Picnic we had. The food, music, Chinese auction, raffles and fraternalism were great. Thanks to everyone who donated pastries or made monetary

contributions for the bake sale. We had a wide selection of treats which we sold for the benefit of the WPFA Scholarship Foundation. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard before, during and after this event. Fraternal Director Barbara House, the National Directors, the National Officers and the members of the Home Office staff all provided a great day for all who attended.

The First Hungarian Reformed Church of Walton Hills, Ohio, hosted a concert by the 40 members of the youth choir from the Reformed High School of Pécs, Hungary. These talented children presented a wonderful evening of songs in Hungarian and English.

The Birmingham Ethnic Festival in Toledo enjoyed perfect weather for their two-day festival. (*For more on the festival, see "In the Community" on page 9.*)

I also had the pleasure of attending the American Hungarian Friend of Scouting's 62nd Annual Hungarian Scout Festival held Sept. 3 in Parma, Ohio. A wonderful crowd enjoyed food, music and entertainment. (*For more, see "In the Community" on page 9.*)

That same weekend, members in our area attended the annual Canfield Fair. Hungarians have participated in this event for over 50 years. (*To read more about the fair, see the*



WPA Sales Agent Alan Szabo (center) joins members of Branches 40 and 349 at a picnic Aug. 27 hosted by the branches and the Ohio Valley Hungarian-American Cultural Society.

"Magyar Matters" section on page 11.)

We hope all our WPA travelers had a safe and adventurous trip to Hungary. We're looking forward to hearing all about their experiences.

What a great idea John Dankovich had to publish the story of his father's adventure to settle in America. So many of these stories are not documented for families to treasure and share.

It was nice to read about the Arpadhon museum opening in Louisiana. I have a personal connection to that area as my grandfather worked on the strawberry farms there for several years.

It was also nice to see Frank and Liz Schauer in the area, visiting over a long weekend. Also enjoying extended vacation time in our area were members of the Bacho and Horvath families who couldn't return to their homes in Texas due to the weather conditions.

Congratulations to Home Office employee Suzi Robison on her recent marriage.

Congratulations also to Vice Chair of the Board Anne Marie Schmidt and her husband Mark on the birth of their first grandchild, Lucas Gregory.

Best of luck to all our scholarship recipients this school year.

We wish happy days of celebrating to all those having a birthday or anniversary this month. We hoped Tom and Barbara House enjoyed their special anniversary.

Healing thoughts are extended to all those not feeling up to par, especially Sue Breznai, Nancy Brez-

nai, Nancy Gunyula, Tom Kutty and Alice Nagy.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to all who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the family of Rev. Imre Bertalan. His dedication to the Hungarian community and the Bethlen Communities was appreciated by so many. His passing will leave a great void.

Sympathy is also extended to those who knew Friar Louis Pintye. He served for 27 years in the New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Ohio areas.

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

Enjoy the fall colors of Mother Nature.

Branch 34 Pittsburgh, PA

by Marguerite McNelis

Welcome fall! Please take a moment and pray for all our service men and women, especially those in harm's way.

The Hungarian Heritage Experience had a great turnout again this year. It certainly is a great fraternal activity. You learn or brush up on Hungarian at a pretty location, meet new people and are fed great food. What more can you ask for?

Andy and I were again able to attend the Birmingham Ethnic Festival and help in the WPA booth. Everyone that stopped at the booth enjoyed receiving a backpack and

getting their insurance questions answered. Quite a few people told us that they were coming to the WPA Picnic, and they came!

The picnic at the Hungarian Cultural Center in Hiram, Ohio again had perfect weather and a great turnout. It is very rewarding to see so many people enjoying themselves. The food, music, Chinese Auction, raffles and seeing people you haven't seen in a while makes everything worthwhile. Many thanks to everyone who helped. *Köszönöm szépen!*

Congratulations *nagymama* Anne Marie and *nagyapa* Mark on the birth of their grandson, Lucas Gregory.

Our sympathy goes out to Janet and Dan Primm and family. Janet's sister, Elaine M. (Stefan) Mate of New Market, Md., passed away tragically while on vacation with her family in Nassau, Bahamas, on Aug. 1. She was the daughter of the late Michael and Margaret Stefan. She was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. The devastation is unbelievable. Our branch made a donation to our charity of the month, the American Red Cross, to help out.

Happy and healthy birthday wishes go out to everyone celebrating their birthdays in October, especially our dear friend Maria Bistey.

If you have any news you would like to share, please contact Marguerite McNelis at 412-421-6031.

Branch 40 Martins Ferry, OH Branch 349 Weirton, WV

by Joyce Nicholson

Hello from the WPA branches in Martins Ferry and Weirton.

What a wonderful time at the WPA Picnic in Hiram, Ohio, again this year! Lots of people showed up to enjoy the beautiful weather, music, food, conversation and, of course, the auction and vendor booths. A big thanks to all who made the picnic a fun event: the Hungarian Cultural Center of North-

eastern Ohio, the WPA National Officers, Fraternal Director, Home Office staff, Board of Directors, and volunteers. It takes a lot of work and planning to put it all together, especially when you don't know what the weather will be and you have to 'guesstimate' the attendance. It was a lovely day and raised a lot of scholarship money for our WPA young adults.

Our branch picnic--held jointly with the Ohio Valley Hungarian-American Cultural Society--was the following day on Aug. 27. It was good to see Irene Rozsa out enjoying the good weather and delicious food with her daughter.

On July 30, my husband and I made the short trek to Ligonier, Pa., to attend the Bethlen Communities annual Hungarian picnic. The weather was warm, and the crowd was good. The picnic's location on top of a mountain offered a nice breeze and a scenic view from which you could see for miles and miles.

Founded by the Hungarian Reformed Federation of America, Bethlen Communities is rooted in Hungarian history, traditions and festivities. Delicious, Hungarian ethnic food was served, and the William Penn Association Magyar Folk Dancers, directed by Judit Ganchuk, performed beautifully. George Batyi's band played music all afternoon. It was good to see Violet and Ernie Sarosi there with their son, Richard Sarosi, WPA National Director and Bethlen Communities board member. Vice Chair of the Board Kathy Novak was also there enjoying the picnic and lively music.

Our combined branch Christmas party is slated this year for Saturday, Dec. 16. We are having "Breakfast with Santa" from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. this year. Save the date for more fun! The location is new this year: Murray's Restaurant, 498 Cadiz Road, Wintersville, Ohio. You'll be able to come visit with Santa and enjoy breakfast throughout the morning with your fellow WPA members and children. All of our branch members are welcome to attend. So, stop by while you're out Christmas shopping, say hello, have some fun and maybe win prizes! All branch children will get a treat bag.

Halloween is just around the cor-



Enjoying the Branch 89 golf outing Aug. 13 at Butler's Golf Course in Elizabeth, Pa., were (l-r) : Tom Kalupanov, Peg and Steve Meyers and Branch President John S. Toth Jr.

ner. Be aware of little ones out and about in their costumes looking for treats. If you're superstitious, don't walk under ladders or in front of black cats on Friday, Oct. 13.

Happy birthdays in October: National President George S. Charles Jr. and Publications Editor John E. Lovasz.

Also, a shout out to Ken and Deb Toth who, again, visited Novak's Hungarian Restaurant in Albany, Ore., to enjoy deliciously authentic Hungarian foods while vacationing in September.

For additional information about branch activities, please call Joyce Nicholson at 740-264-6238.

You can call on Alan Szabo for all your insurance needs at 330-482-9994.

Branch 89 Homestead, PA

by Lisa S. Toth-Maskariniec

We had our annual golf outing on Aug. 13 at Butler's Golf course in Elizabeth, Pa., and once again, it was a rousing success. We had over 110 golfers and diners. Early returns show this likely will be yet another record-breaking year for income. I can tell you this much--the Chinese auction and the 50/50 raffle were both bigger than last year. We had a beautiful day for golf: high sun, few clouds, lots of smiling faces.

The highlight was the hula hoop challenge. Thank you, Butler's, for donating the \$300 Callaway golf bag! Can you believe that? What golf course donates a golf bag of that

value? The answer is Butler's.

The banquet was also first rate, and we had a tremendous Chinese auction. Some of the prizes this year were a parade of meats from Omaha Steaks; a drone; the best beer basket ever, courtesy of Fuhrer Distributing, Rock Bottom Brewery and Z&L Beverage; and \$25 gift certificates for our skill shot winners from our friends at Dorothy 6 Restaurant. We also had our usual assortment of sports and golf memorabilia, wine baskets, lottery baskets and last, but certainly not least, our Hungarian gourmet food basket courtesy of Branch President "Chef János."

We thank all our sponsors and donors for helping us this year.

Aside from those already mentioned, we'd like to thank Uno's, Ulta, Macy's and Buffalo Wild Wings (who donated 300 wings).

We would also be remiss if we did not thank Butler's for their effort. We have never been a part of such a well-organized outing. They were there with whatever we needed and stayed till the end.

We'd also like to thank WPA for its participation. Your donations are the keystone of our efforts.

And one last plug for our new friends at Dorothy 6, the Hungarian restaurant in Homestead. They were kind enough to be both donors and sponsors.

We have already scheduled our date for next year: Sunday, Aug. 12, with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start on the Woodside Course. Price will be a mere \$95. Our motto will be "Golf, Eat, Win, Have Fun!"

On a more somber note, Branch



Branch Vice President Mark S. Maskarinec, Branch Coordinator and Auditor Lisa S. Toth-Maskarinec and Jeffrey W. Jenkins were among those playing in the Branch 89 golf outing Aug. 13.

89 was saddened to hear of the death of our dear friend, Rev. Imre A. Bertalan. Rev. Bertalan was a huge supporter of our branch and church, but, most importantly, he was our "brother."

He was always there, day or night, whenever a need arose. Rev. Bertalan was the reason for one of the additional *gulyás*-making projects our branch had. He was there to offer advice and a keen perspective to whatever situation was happening.

Probably the last text message Rev. Bertalan received from our branch was a 4:00 a.m. text message from our branch coordinator when she was in the hospital showing a red, white and green hospital bracelet with a "Where am I now?" caption. We ask God to be with Baba and the entire Bertalan family during this difficult time. Your suffering is over Rev. Bertalan. Go with the angels.

On a happier note, Branch 89, in conjunction with the First Hungarian Reformed Church of Homestead, will be making authentic Hungarian *gulyás* on Oct. 27 and 28. Place your order by calling Branch Vice Presi-

dent Mark Maskarinec at 412-872-5022 or 412-398-2078 or emailing Mark at tothmaskarinecsl@upmc.edu. Price will be \$6 per quart and may be picked up at the church on Saturday, Oct. 28, between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

We're making plans for our branch Christmas party to be held on Saturday, Dec. 2. We will once again have a "Cosmic Bowling" party, complete with pizza, at Bruns-

wick Playmor Bowling Lanes on Buttermilk Hollow Road, Pittsburgh.

Other branch functions will be a dinner at Dorothy 6, and baking for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

We were very pleased with the number of people who stepped up and helped with the golf outing. The interest is there for events, and we at Branch 89 are trying to accommodate everyone's request.

Get well wishes go to branch member Janet J. Phillips as she continues to recuperate from spinal surgery. We hope she's up and about soon.

Make every day count. Do something nice for someone and see how good you will feel. It's all about fraternalism. Let's make it count.

Branch 129 Columbus, OH

by Debbie Lewis

Fall has arrived. This is my favorite time of the year with the cooler weather and the leaves changing colors. It's a great time to just get in your vehicle and take a drive to see the beautiful colors of fall.

We welcome our newest branch members, Jane and Jeremy Nguyen.

We also congratulate the students from our branch who are first-time recipients of WPFA Scholarship Foundation grants this year: McKenzie Kraft and Natalie Noble. Good luck with your continuing education.

WPA needs your continuing support for the WPFA Scholarship Foundation to help provide financial

assistance for all eligible WPA students members. If you or your child was a recipient of a WPA scholarship, please remember to donate so others can enjoy the same great benefit.

The WPA Picnic was a success again this year. The food was great, and the music and dancing was fantastic. I enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting new ones. That's what this is all about - Fraternalism. Hope to see everyone again next year!

The holidays for October are Columbus Day on the 9th and Halloween on the 31st. We hope the weather will be good for all the kids going out trick-or-treating this year. Please be careful if you are out driving during this time as the kids are very excited and don't always look both ways before crossing the street.

The Hungarian Cultural Association of Columbus will hold a commemorative program honoring the anniversary of the October 1956 Hungarian Fight for Freedom. This will take place on Sunday, Oct. 22, following the 10:00 a.m. service at the Hungarian Reformed Church, 365 Woodrow Ave., Columbus. After the program, there will be a dinner of breaded pork cutlet, parsley potatoes, green beans, cucumber salad, homemade desserts, coffee and lemonade. Call Erzsi by Sunday, Oct. 15, at 614-738-4415 to make your dinner reservations.

Please mark your calendars for our branch Christmas party on Saturday, Dec. 2. Information will be mailed out in November.

We congratulate all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this month. Congratulations to all who have new additions to their families.

Get well wishes to those who have been ill or hospitalized. We extend sympathy to all who have recently lost a loved one, especially the family of member Velma Nadalin. Please remember them in your prayers.

For all your life insurance and annuity needs, or if you have any news you would like to share about yourself or family members, please contact Branch Coordinator Debbie Lewis at 614-875-9968 or e-mail DAL9968@aol.com.

NEXT
DEADLINE
OCTOBER 10

Branch 132 South Bend, IN

by John E. Burus

Fall is now here, and I'm sad to see summer go. The garden has done very well, but now it is time to can some Hungarian *lecsó* for the winter months. Baseball is winding down, and we're hoping to see the Chicago Cubs do well again. Football season is here, so let the fun begin.

The next Branch 132 meeting will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 5, at 5:00 p.m. at the Martin's Supermarket Deli (first floor) on Ireland Road. We will begin planning for the upcoming year.

The Branch 132 Christmas party has been planned for Sunday, Dec. 10, at 3:00 p.m. at South Bend Barnaby's Pizza. More details to follow in our next branch report.

Branch 189 Alliance, OH

by Teresa Phillips

Greetings from Branch 189. I hope everyone enjoyed their summer. It's time for hoodies, pumpkins and cold weather.

Branch President Mike Vargovic, club manager Gloria Vargovic and branch member Daryl Taschwer attended the WPA Picnic in Hiram, Ohio. They enjoyed lots of great food, dancing and awesome people.

The club resumed its monthly steak and fish fries on Sept. 15. They are held the third Friday of every month from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

We are starting a food drive. All non-perishable items will be greatly appreciated. All donations will go to our local food pantry.

September birthday wishes go to members and friends Dave Schmid, Angie Nutter, Rhonda Jackson, Rick Ringen, Mark Stephenson, Tammy Whaley, Sheila Lalli, Lori Furry, Rob Knaggs, Vic Vickers, Shawna Nagle, Kate Rhome, Randy Blake, Mary Anderson and Teresa Boyd.

Remember to keep everyone affected by the hurricanes in your thoughts and prayers.

Happy fall to everyone!



Enjoying the WPA Picnic were Branch 189 member Daryl Taschwer (left), WPA Sales Agent Alan Szabo, Branch 189 President Mike Vargovic and club manager Gloria Vargovic.

Branch 226 McKeesport, PA

by Judit Ganchuk

Happy birthday wishes to all our members celebrating their special day this month, especially to my own dear father. Happy anniversary to all those loving couples celebrating this month.

We extend our sympathies to WPA members and their families who have lost a family member or friend. It is never easy to lose a loved one. We're sending prayers for the husband, family and friends of branch member Violet Jones. May Violet rest in peace.

We also send our deepest sympathies and prayers to the family of Rev. Imre Bertalan, who lost his fight against cancer. Our prayers go out to his wife, five children, family and friends in this difficult time of loss. Rev. Bertalan was a fixture in the Hungarian Reformed churches in the greater Pittsburgh region. He preached in the Free Hungarian Reformed Church of McKeesport on more than one occasion.

To all those who have lost a loved one recently, we wish you comfort and peace.

We send get well wishes to Margaret "Manci" Kiraly and our other branch members who are coping with illnesses.

Sending lots of smiles to Sally Petras, former branch auditor.

A small but mighty group of the William Penn Association Magyar Folk Dancers performed at this year's WPA Picnic. The dance group

is always looking for those in the Pittsburgh area who are young or young at heart to join us as singers and dancers. Our group strengthens your roots as an American-Hungarian, and together we can show the younger generation the Hungarian language and culture through dancing and singing. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact us.

The Free Hungarian Reformed Church of McKeesport will again host its annual fall bingo luncheon in October, but the date has not been set as of this printing. Call the church at 412-672-7298 for more info.

Take a moment this month and reflect on the 61st anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution of 1956 against the Soviet Communists. This is one chapter in the history books that should not be forgotten.

Our meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Branch members are invited to attend our next meeting on Oct. 19 at Branch President Malvene Heyz's home. Please call 412-751-1898 for directions.

Have some good news you'd like to share with us? Please call 412-751-1898 to spread some cheer!

Branch 249 Dayton, OH

by Mark Schmidt

Fall is officially here. Leaves are turning, temperatures are dipping and football is king again. Festivals are in full swing, and soon we will be carving pumpkins for Halloween.



Welcoming Lucas Gregory Heitman into Branch 249's fraternal family are (l-r) dad Greg, mom Cassie, grandpa Mark Schmidt and grandma Anne Marie Schmidt.



Elected as officers of Branch 249 during a special meeting Aug. 19 were (l-r): Bruce Miller, auditor; Mark Schmidt, president; Mary Ann Kabel, vice president; Karen Kuritar, auditor; and Anne Marie Schmidt, secretary-treasurer.

But, all that is in the future. Our country had a rough September: multiple hurricanes and fires; many homes damaged or destroyed; many people left homeless or wondering how to rebuild their lives. Please make any donation you can to one of the many relief agencies. Just a couple of dollars can make a big difference when we all give.

We held a branch meeting on Aug. 19 during which we conducted a special election to fill vacancies in some branch offices. I am happy to report that Mark Schmidt is the new president; Mary Ann Kabel, vice-president; and Karen Kuritar and Bruce Miller, auditors. Thank you all for your support.

We do ask two things from you. First, we would like to update our branch member contact records. Please send an e-mail to amschmidt318@msn.com. A simple note including your name, address and email address is all we need. If you do not have an email account, please call me at 937-667-1211 and share your phone number with us.

That brings us to the second item: ideas. Send me any ideas you have for branch events. They will be discussed at the next meeting.

I hope I saw you at the WPA Picnic in Hiram Aug. 26. Hundreds of members and friends came to celebrate their heritage and enjoy a beautiful day listening to Hungarian music, eating delicious Hungarian food and trying their luck with the many Chinese auction baskets. Hundreds of pastries and cookies were

sold, raising money for the WPFA Scholarship Foundation. I am proud to say that Branch 249, along with the Dayton Magyar Club, supplied over 60 dozen pastries and nut rolls. Thank you everyone who helped bake or contribute to this effort. Many young adults will receive help to meet the expense of their education this coming year because you care.

Congratulations to local member Stephen Buckey on being chosen as a recipient of a WPA scholarship grant this year. Stephen is a fine young adult and is often at branch activities.

Labor Day was truly that for our daughter Cassie and son-in-law Greg Heitman. Cassie gave birth that day to a baby boy and the newest member of WPA and Branch 249, Lucas Gregory. Lucas made Anne Marie and me grandparents just in time to celebrate our first Grandparents Day on Sept. 10. We love you all and know you will be great parents.

Many local and national events were held on Sept. 11, Patriots Day. How could we ever forget that tragic day? Our thoughts and prayers go to those who survived or lost family members in those heinous attacks.

I hope all went well with the WPA Tour to Hungary and all WPA travelers had a grand time overseas. Can't wait to hear their stories.

The Magyar Club of Dayton held a bacon fry Sept. 10. A wonderful time was had by all with a beautiful fall day as a backdrop. The local pigs were squealing in protest as

many slabs of jowl bacon were roasted, many old friendships were brought up-to-date and many new friendships were made.

Branch 249 and the Dayton Magyar Club are sponsoring their annual Gulyás Fest on Oct. 21 from 4:00 p.m. until the pots run dry at the American Czechoslovakian Club, 922 Valley St., Dayton. Adults are \$15; children ages 6 to 13, \$6. Price includes authentic *gulyás*, cabbage and noodles, salad, a dessert and a beverage. Branch 249 will be selling raffle tickets for cash prizes to be given out at the Branch 249 children's Christmas party in December. Hope to see you there.

Get well wishes to those sick or in the hospital. We are sending our prayers for a speedy recovery.

We also extend our thoughts and prayers to those who have recently lost a loved one. May many good memories ease your pain.

That's all for now. Coming up next is Thanksgiving to be followed by--where did the year go?--Christmas!

Branch 296 Springdale, PA

by Mary Ann Kelly-Lovasz

Autumn, we cordially welcome your beautiful colors and all that your season has to offer.

WPA, so far, has had another great year, and Branch 296 anticipates the last quarter of 2017 with one more gathering.

This is a nice segue for me to

remind you to save the date for our Branch 296 family Christmas party on Sunday, Nov. 26, at noon, at Springdale's VFW Hall on Pittsburgh Street. Of course, Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there once again, bringing with them their special Christmas cheer. We're planning a nice lunch and afternoon for our members. Please join us for the great food, fellowship and surprises. Children--and those who are young at heart--will enjoy themselves. For reservations, call Diane Torma at 724-882-3802 or email dtorma@wpa.life.org by Nov. 17. Party guests are encouraged to bring non-perishable items which our branch will donate to one of our local food pantry ministries.

Branch 296 held its annual bacon roast on Sept. 17, and since I'm writing this before the event actually occurred, I'll report on it in November's report. Our roast has again become an enjoyable branch tradition, drawing members and friends from near and far.

Cheerful birthday wishes to each of our members who have October as their birth month, including my husband John and Dorothy Dinzeo. And happy anniversary wishes to those united in marriage this month, as well.

We send get well wishes to John Torma, Mary Ann Slaninka, Helen Slaninka and all branch members who are recovering from recent surgeries and illnesses. Please rest and give yourselves the time to recuperate.

We offer our condolences to the families and friends of our recently departed Branch 296 members. Losing someone is never easy, and we remember them in our hearts and prayers.

Our next two branch meetings will be held on Thursday, Oct. 12, and Thursday, Nov. 9. Both meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. at King's Family Restaurant in New Kensington. Our informal meetings are held in the back meeting room of the restaurant, and we encourage you to join us. Afterwards, please stay for dessert and some lively conversation.

If you have any personal milestones that you would like for me

to share with your fellow members in future branch reports, please feel free to contact me at 724-274-5318.

We're fortunate to have our WPA sales agent, Noreen Fritz, FIC, LUTCF, attend our branch meetings. Noreen is so helpful to our branch in numerous ways, and she always makes herself available to answer your questions about life insurance and annuities. Contact Noreen at 412-821-1837 or by email at noreenbunny.fritz@verizon.net, or come see her in person at a meeting.

October is my favorite month, and it could be yours, too. This is the time of year to get lost in cornstalk mazes, look at the fall colors, jump into piles of leaves, take a haunted hay ride, watch football games and those great halftime shows, sip apple cider (I really enjoy the hard apple cider), go trick-or-treating and-- my goodness!--do loads of stuff. Enjoy!

Branch 352 Coraopolis, PA

by Dora S. McKinsey

It's hard to believe that it's time for Halloween already. Make sure all the little ones have bright costumes that can be seen at night. William Penn Association will again be sending out a safety gift for all of the juvenile members to be used on Halloween. If you have recently moved and have a young one who will be receiving a Halloween gift, please let the Home Office know of your new address as soon as possible so that your child will be assured of receiving the gift.

We congratulate the members of Branch 352 who received a William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc. grant for the 2017-2018 school year. They are: Rachael A. Bowers, Angelina M. Buechler, Hanna R. Csoman, Alexa M. DeSantes, Rachel V. DeSantes, Jared N. Leins, Anthony V. Palumbo



Branch 352 member Steve Evans (left) is sworn in as sergeant-at-arms of American Legion Post #446 in Mt. Pleasant, Pa.

and Kayla N. Veith. We wish all of you much success as you continue your education. Remember to "pay it forward" and donate to the scholarship foundation after you graduate. Do your part to help make William Penn scholarships available to other students in the future. We congratulate all of the students who received a scholarship grant this year.

Branch member Steve Evans was recently elected as sergeant-at-arms of the American Legion Riders Post #446 in Mt. Pleasant, Pa. Steve comes from a military family and loves to ride his Harley. Congratulations, Steve! It is an honor well deserved. Thank you to all those who have served--and to those currently serving--in our armed forces for your service and sacrifice for our great country.

Look in the November issue of *William Penn Life* for details about the children's Christmas party our branch holds each year in November.

Happy Birthday wishes to all those who have a birthday this month. May you have many more, and may all of them be healthy.

Our prayers and condolences to all those who have lost a loved one recently. May memories hold your loved one close in your heart.

We welcome all new members of Branch 352. Remember, if you have any news to share or need help with any insurance questions, please contact me at 412-932-3170 or by email at dmckinsey@hotmail.com.



Members and friends of Branch 8114 gathered recently for the branch's annual steak fry.

Branch 800 Altoona, PA

by Joan Ballash

Now that we are officially into autumn, we hope everyone is enjoying beautiful weather and nature's most colorful scenery. October has always been my favorite month.

Branch 800 has settled back into our schedule of meetings, which are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Education Center in Altoona. Branch President Dan Greiner and Vice President Dennis Greiner welcome all members.

The end of this month will bring numerous Halloween parades and trick-or-treat night. Remember to accompany your little ones to these events and check all items the children receive.

May God bless all those celebrating a special occasion this month, including those with birthdays, anniversaries or weddings in the coming days. We send special wishes to those successfully completing cancer

treatments or recovering from illness. Let us all be thankful for the time we share.

Our sincere condolences go to those who have recently lost a loved one. Whether it comes suddenly or is anticipated, such a loss is never easy. We hope you will accept the kindness of friends in your sorrow and changed life.

When was the last time you checked the beneficiaries listed on your life insurance certificate? Will the benefits from your certificate go to those you desire? Now is the time to review and, if necessary, update your insurance documents. Call Bob Jones for assistance at 814-942-2661.

Branch 8114 Clarion, PA

by Noreen Fritz, FIC, LUTCF in Pittsburgh
Branch 8114 recently had its annual steak fry at the Knight of Columbus pavilion 4.6 miles north of Marianne, Pa. on Route 66. We were pleased with the large turnout of members, who paused their busy daily lives

to enjoy the friendship of their neighbors and friends. The weather was mild and supplied a relaxing atmosphere for a memorable day of fraternal togetherness. Outside, the air was filled with charcoal smoke as the hot, juicy steaks cooked. Meanwhile in the kitchen, a delicious salad with a sweet dressing and walnuts, Texas-size baked potatoes, yeast rolls and cake were prepared.

Members and friends who attended the steak fry included: Art and Nola Aaron, Kevin Slike, Julie Schill, Brian Seitz, Christie Clark, Harry and Millie Lambing, Jerry and Donna Judy, Jim and Mary Lou Delaney, Bob Donahue, Dottie and Gordon Rice, Larry and Peg Gatesman, Jack and Jean Gatesman, Monica Callihan, Larry and Theresa Pierucci and Edna Smith. We were so happy that members Craig Ochs, wife Marnie and children Alexandra and Megan, were able to attend this year for the first time.

Many thanks to Kevin Slike, Bob Donahue, and Art and Nola Aaron for organizing our wonderful fraternal events. You are our heroes for all the work that you do for the branch.

Joan Donahue, you were really missed at the steak fry. I think this is the first steak fry that you ever missed. To Bob and Joan Donahue: I wish I was a magician who could return you both to good health with just a wave of a wand.

If you would like to know an inexpensive way to leave a large inheritance to your family, the secret is life insurance. If you have any questions concerning life insurance or annuities, please call me at my direct business line 412-821-1837 or e-mail me at noreenbunny.fritz@verizon.net.

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The Official WPA Cookbook

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



The Reformation in Hungary

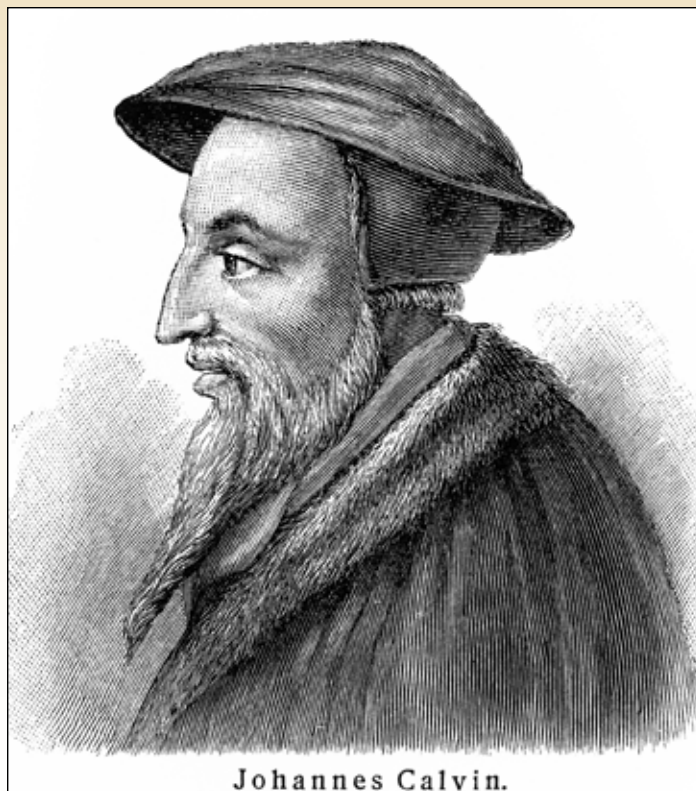
Continued from Page 13

selves. Michael Servetus' last words were reportedly: "Jesus, Son of the Eternal God, have mercy on me."

During the first century of the Protestant Reformation, the large majority of Hungarians became Protestants, with the largest group joining the Reformed Church. It has even been said that becoming Protestant was considered patriotic because it was a form of protest against the Catholic Habsburgs.

Beginning in the middle of the 17th century, a strong Counter-Reformation push against Hungary came from the Catholic Habsburgs. This was very strong in the beginning, with the Austrian Emperor Leopold I even sending Protestant ministers to the galleys, but it diminished somewhat over time. Although it was difficult for Protestants in Hungary for quite a long period, it was much less so in Transylvania. It seems that there the different religious factions somehow got along much better. In fact, my father's four grandparents, all born in Transylvania in the mid-19th century, belonged to four different Churches: Catholic, Lutheran, Reformed and Unitarian.

Today in Hungary, the population is approximately 37.1% Roman Catholic, 1.8% Greek Catholic, 11.6% Reformed, 2.2% Lutheran, 1.9% other, 18.2% no religion and 27.1% not wishing to divulge their beliefs (although some sources list a majority of this group as Catholics). Among the Hungarian population in Transylvania, about 47% belong to the Reformed Church, 41% to the Roman Catholic Church and 4.5%



Johannes Calvin.

Photo © Can Stock Photo Inc./iStock

to the Unitarian Church. The much larger percentage of Protestants in Transylvania may very well have something to do with Transylvania's semi-autonomy for a few centuries and less Habsburg dominance, compared to the rest of Hungary.

Charles Bálint Jr. is a working Customs Broker in Lawrence, NY and a member of the Magyar News Online Editorial Board.

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Those who helped in '56

By the mid-1950's, citizens of eastern Europe were sick and tired of living under the harsh and stifling government imposed upon them by the Communists. Hungarians were the most outspoken critics of their Soviet-backed rulers. Without much warning, the 1956 Hungarian Revolution began on October 23rd. Thousands either died or vanished when the revolt was squashed by thousands of Soviet tanks and troops, brought in from the east to quell the insurgents just 12 days following the rebellion's inception.

More than 200,000 Magyars escaped the tyranny of communism. Most of the refugees were either skilled labor or academics whose talents would bring an economic boost to each nation that accepted them.

Austria initially took in the brunt of the Hungarians who poured over the border to escape. Each refugee was placed into safe accommodations with plenty of food, clothing and comfort. Being that the Austro-Hungarian alliance was dissolved less than 50 years previously, the leadership in Vienna still felt obligated to aid their cousins to the east as much as possible.

Ultimately, America became the leader in offering aid to the Hungarian escapees in terms of asylum and monetary support. It was fortunate that there were several waves of Magyars that immigrated to the USA in previous decades. Those earlier immigrants were industrious, hardworking people who proved to be a valuable asset for an economically growing U.S. in need of labor. The new group of "56ers" continued that tradition of excellence.

Canada, Germany and Great Britain were also major contributors in offering help and permanent residence to the Hungarians who fled their homeland, and dozens of other governments also offered their own version of assistance.

In recognition of the 61st Anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, the October 2017 wordsearch consists of 15 clues. Each nation mentioned proved to be a major contributor in aiding the refugees in 1956 and the years that followed.

Good Luck, and see you in November.

Éljen a Magyar,
Lizzy Cseh-Hadzinsky, Branch 28

Puzzle Contest #145 WINNERS

The winners of our Puzzle Contest #145 were drawn Sept. 5, 2017, at the Home Office. Congratulations to:

Joan E. Altmayer, Br. 14 Cleveland, OH
Joseph N. Ishley, Br. 174 Scranton, PA
Janice Marion, Br. 48 New York, NY
Monica Williams, Br. 19 New Brunswick, NJ

Each won \$50 for their correct entry.

WPA PUZZLE CONTEST #148 OFFICIAL ENTRY

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

"Those who helped in '56" Word List

Argentina	Canada	New Zealand
Australia	France	Portugal
Austria	Great Britain	Turkey
Belgium	Italy	United States
Brazil	Netherlands	West Germany

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

WPA Certificate No.: _____

RULES

1. ALL WPA members are eligible to enter.
2. Complete the word search puzzle correctly.
3. Mail your completed puzzle, along with your name, address, phone number, email address, and WPA Certificate Number, to:

WPA PUZZLE #148
709 Brighton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15233

4. Entries must be received at the Home Office by Nov. 30, 2017.
5. Four winners will be drawn from all correct entries on or about Dec. 6, 2017, at the Home Office. Each winner will receive \$50.

In Memoriam

**REVEREND
IMRE A. BERTALAN**
LIGONIER, PA -- Members of Branch 8 Johnstown, Pa., and throughout the Association were saddened by the recent death of Rev. Imre A. Bertalan, executive director of Bethlen Communities. Rev. Bertalan, 67, passed away Aug. 29, 2017, in Excelsa Health Latrobe



(Pa.) as a result of complications from cancer.

A statement on Bethlen Communities' Facebook page called Rev. Bertalan, "a true visionary" who "was instrumental in growing the company and its services."

"Those who knew and loved Rev. Bertalan have lost a wonderful individual who was kind and caring and was able to see the good in all. Rev. Bertalan, a true humanitarian, will be forever remembered for fully embracing the spirit of living in his daily life."

He was born Oct. 4, 1949, in New Brunswick, N.J., son of the late Imre G. and Margaret Kosa Bertalan. He graduated

from Rutgers University in New Brunswick and from the Princeton Seminary in New Jersey. He was an ordained clergyman for both the Hungarian Reformed Church of America and the Calvin Synod of the United Church of Christ.

After graduating from seminary in 1977, he worked as a community organizer in Toledo.

He would go on to serve as a minister in a Toledo church and later in a church in Allen Park, Mich.

In 1999, Rev. Bertalan moved to the Ligonier area to assume his duties at Bethlen Communities.

He was active in the Ligonier Valley, serving as a former president of the Rotary Club of Ligonier. He was a member of the Ligonier Valley Association of Churches and the Ligonier Valley Ministerial Association.

He was married to Magdalene Ujvagi, who immigrated to the U.S. in December 1956, a month after the end of the Hungarian uprising against the Soviet Union.

In addition to his wife of 37 years, he is survived by four daughters, Julia of Toledo, Ohio, Sara Davis of Toledo, Magda Bertalan of Madison, Wis., and Margit Bertalan of Fayetteville, N.C.; a son, Imre E. Bertalan of Toledo; and five grandchildren.

A celebration of his life service will be held at a later date.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made in Rev. Bertalan's memory to the Bethlen Communities, 125 Kalasay Drive, Ligonier, PA 15658.

We ask you to pray for Rev. Bertalan and all our recently departed members listed here:

AUGUST 2017

- 0008 JOHNSTOWN, PA
Michael Kusinko
- 0009 HAZLETON, PA
Joseph Wargo
- 0014 CLEVELAND, OH
Elizabeth Bauserman
- 0016 PERTH AMBOY, NJ
Marie Virag
- 0018 LINCOLN PARK, MI
Cheryl R. Hesselink
John Yonish
- 0019 NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ
Barbara Ann Heebner
- 0024 CHICAGO, IL
Irene Bancsi
- 0025 BECKLEY, WV
Catherine Carney
- 0026 SHARON, PA
Margaret Tarcy
- 0028 YOUNGSTOWN, OH
Kathleen L. Marko
Edward Sakely
- 0034 PITTSBURGH, PA
Veronica M. Bujdos
Leroy R. Christner
Elizabeth Tramontana
Michael J. Wenke
- 0040 MARTINS FERRY, OH
Albert Cellini
John F. Zimnox
- 0076 PHILADELPHIA, PA
Margaret Karolyi
Clarice Pickney
Lillian B. Trump
- 0089 HOMESTEAD, PA
Frances C. Brannigan
Joseph E. Vargo, Jr.
- 0132 SOUTH BEND, IN
Joseph Horvath
Dennis K. Schlegel
- 0159 PHOENIXVILLE, PA
Rose I. Tanay
Mathew R. Yancik
- 0174 SCRANTON, PA
Sun Kwi Kondratik
Leroy J. Phillips
Joseph J. Spalluto
- 0189 ALLIANCE, OH
Josephine M. Murdocco
Jewel B. Piekarski
Marshall H. Scaia
- 0226 MCKEESPORT, PA
Violet Goldie Jones
- 0296 SPRINGDALE, PA
Sandra M. Adams
- 0336 HARRISBURG, PA
Dominic Deorio
Murray W. Sperling, Jr.
- 0383 BUFFALO, NY
Kathy Asbach
Ulysses M. Betances
Judith Clay
- 0590 CAPE CORAL, FL
Helen M. Hellett
- 0705 MAYVILLE, WI
Joyce Steinway
- 0725 SPRINGFIELD, MA
Eva M. Murach
- 8114 CLARION, PA
Carl H. Beckwith
Joseph W. Fescenmyer
- 8340 BALTIMORE, MD
Robert A. Barbato

Recent Donations

WPFA Scholarship Foundation

Donations Through
Premium Payments
AUGUST 2017

Branch - Donor - Amount

- 8 - Clarence H. Showalter - \$5.00
- 8 - James W. Kopco - \$10.00
- 8 - Janos I. B. Wilson - \$10.00
- 8 - Alma F. B. Wilson - \$10.00

- 14 - Elaine R. Valentine - \$20.00
- 18 - Anita P. Kosaski - \$1.74
- 26 - Marie S. Logue - \$1.00
- 26 - Joan M. Gualtieri - \$1.00
- 28 - Maria E. Schauer - \$1.00
- 129 - Stephanie L. Shepard - \$11.50
- 159 - William Scherfel IV - \$1.71
- 226 - Timothy R. Holtzman - \$1.40
- 226 - Carol S. Burlikowski - \$5.00
- 226 - Letitia Hrehocik - \$20.00
- 296 - Richard F. Borneman - \$50.00
- 336 - Charles S. Johns - \$4.21
- 352 - Brooke E. Veith - \$5.00
- 352 - Dora S. McKinsey - \$2.00
- 705 - Richard F. Orbon - \$1.88

- 720 - Virginia A. Kavanaugh - \$20.00
- 725 - Adeline P. Scagliarini - \$10.00
- 725 - Alane C. Renaud - \$10.00
- 8036 - Zachary J. Kaider - \$4.00
- 8286 - Mildred Deshields - \$50.00

TOTAL for Month = \$256.44

Additional Donations AUGUST 2017

Donor - Amount

- Sandor Tollas - \$100.00
- WPA Cookbook Sales - \$190.00
- WPA Employees - \$41.00
- WPA Hungarian Heritage Experience
50/50 Raffle - \$105.00

WPA Hungarian Heritage Experience
Prize Raffle - \$198.00

TOTAL for Month = \$634.00

Donations In Memoriam AUGUST 2017

Donor - Amount (In Memory of)

- Debra A. Lewis - \$50.00
(Albert Frate)
- Br. 18 Lincoln Park, MI - \$100.00
(Deceased Members)

TOTAL for Month = \$150.00

Impact the future

The rewards that come with a higher education are priceless. But, that education comes at an ever-higher price. Studies conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics show that 85 percent of all first-time, full-time undergraduate students at 4-year degree-granting institutions receive financial aid. In short, our college-bound children need help.

That's why since 1972, William Penn Association has awarded over \$2.64 million in scholarship grants to its young members attending accredited institutions of higher learning. Last year alone, the William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation awarded grants to 175 students totaling \$87,500.

It is only through the generosity of our members, branches and friends that WPA can continue to


offer this financial support to our children seeking to improve their lives through education.

By donating to the WPFA Scholarship Foundation, you are saying that you believe in the potential of our children and in the power of education. Because of your help, our children will transform the world and our communities. Your donation impacts the future.

So, why not make an impact today? It's easy to do. Simply send your tax-deductible donation to:

WPFA Scholarship Foundation
709 Brighton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15233-1821

Thank you for playing such an important role in their lives...and our future.



Thank you for supporting
the WPFA Scholarship Foundation

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More Social Security myths & planning for health care needs in retirement...**PAGE 4.**

The orphan heroes of '56...**PAGE 6.**

Marking the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation...**PAGE 12.**

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WPA Recommender Program

Earn cash rewards when you refer new members to WPA. We will pay adult members age 16 and older **\$20** for each first-time applicant they recommend who is issued any WPA permanent or term life insurance plan. You can also earn rewards for recommending new life insurance plans to current members. WPA will pay you **\$12** for each current member you recommend who is issued a new permanent life insurance plan. You can also earn **\$10** for each current member you recommend who is issued a WPA term life plan. To claim your Recommender reward, send us the names and addresses of everyone you know who would enjoy the many fraternal benefits that come with membership in WPA.

**Family of sales agents living at the same address as the agent do not qualify for a Recommender Award.*

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