

AHF Speaks Out for Human Rights and Democracy in Hungary. AHF urged democratic solutions while publicly condemning the excessive use of force on a peaceful commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the 1956 Revolution. In October 2006, the police, supported by the Socialist government, shot rubber bullets, used illegal weapons, and maimed numerous persons including members of parliament, clergy, and women and children.



AHF Activated its 3rd Hungarian Relief Program
The American Hungarian Federation, working with its sister organization in Hungary, the Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány (www.amkl.org), activated its 3rd American Hungarian Relief Program and raised \$225,000 to help families and farms affected by devastating flooding and Toxic Sludge disasters of 2010 and 2013. The effort was managed by Zsuzsanna Dreisziger working with other volunteers and local non-profit organizations. They collected and delivered 10,000 pounds of Relief Supplies, including seed to help small farms re-plant and survive the disaster. The effort also included a free summer camp at Lake Balaton for 100 children impacted by the flood.



Smithsonian Folklife Festival "Hungarian Heritage - Roots to Revival". This the largest and most important event of this kind in the world, reaching 40 million people in the U.S. The American Hungarian Federation supported the effort, committing \$10,000 in seed money for the Hungarian Pavilion.



Special Memorial Day Event. AHF obtained special permission to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington, VA and honored US military heroes of Hungarian heritage.



Selected Recent AHF Events

AHF sponsored the FORUM on US-Hungarian Relations held by its sister organization the Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Alapítvány (amkl.org) in Budapest and attended by over 240 persons.



Honoring the 100 Million Victims of Communism.

AHF has been a strong supporter of the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation. It worked for many years to insure the creation of this memorial in DC. In 2018 AHF and the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation hosted a Congressional reception commemorating the Hungarian National Day and the 1848 Hungarian War of Independence. AHF sponsored and Co-President Balogh, Vice President Dr. Imre Nemeth, Board member Zsuzsanna Dreisziger and General Counsel Paul Kamenar attended the 2018 Memorial foundation's annual fund raising gala.



AHF Receives Award. In 2017 AHF received the Friends of Hungary Foundation's highest award for over a hundred years of service to Hungarians.



AHF Celebrated 110 Years of its Incorporation and Service to the community at the Hungarian Embassy in Washington with a wonderful performance of the musical production entitled "Coming to America" which brought tears to many of those who remembered the sacrifice and travails of leaving their homeland and coming to the United States. Additional highlights of the evening were the lighting of 110 candles which were brought in by 2 Hungarian Scouts during remembrances of 40 persons who made significant contributions to the Federation and the 12 Awards for Service given to those who worked tirelessly for the Federation or who helped the Hungarian nation.



*Over 110 Years of Service
to Americans and Hungarians*

"We, America's 1 million Hungarians, do not just demand, but will work to ensure that the people of Hungary may partake in the same freedom, the same justice, the same prosperity as we, citizens of America, partake."

**Kohanyi Tivadar,
AHF President, 1907**



www.AmericanHungarianFederation.org

The American Hungarian Federation
National Office
700 Princess Ave, Suite 3M
Alexandria, VA 22314

American Hungarians' Voice Since 1906!

The American Hungarian Federation. (AHF), founded in 1906 in Cleveland, Ohio, is the oldest and largest American-Hungarian national umbrella organization in the United States. AHF was incorporated in Cleveland in 1907. Its charter is to further the cultural development of Americans of Hungarian birth or decent, to spread the knowledge of American Institutions among them so as to further their Americanization, to give material and moral aid to those who need it, to give free legal advice and aid to American-Hungarians without means, to promote cordial commercial relations between this country and Hungary, to defend the good name and reputation of Hungary against attacks and defamations, to organize branches for the purpose of accomplishing the several aims of the Federation.



Statue of 'George Washington donated by AHF to Budapest

Hungarian and American—from the Start! AHF's Motto, "Fidelissimus ad Mortem" (Híven Mindhalálig or Faithful unto Death), was taken from a letter to Benjamin Franklin written by the Father of the US Cavalry when he offered his sword in service to the United States during the Revolutionary War. He was Col. Commandant Michael Kováts, a decorated, heroic Hungarian hussar officer, whose life and service is celebrated annually by cadets at the Citadel Military Academy. The British called his American hussars, "the best cavalry the rebels ever had." Much history exists between Hungarians and the US military: Generals Asboth and Stahl, Hungarians, were heroes in the US Civil War; the Akos Szekely Memorial Medal in honor of its Silver Star recipient for bravery in the Vietnam War was co-sponsored by AHF. The victory by the armies of the founder of Hungary, King Árpád, against an overwhelming united West-European force in 907 at Pozsony, (today a city in the Hungarian part of Slovakia), is still taught at the Citadel.



Painted by G. Koszorús-Varsa

Over 110 years of achievements! 1906-2018

1920: The Tragedy at Trianon. In 1929, AHF organized a national assembly and the U.S. government recognized AHF as the official spokesman for American-Hungarians. One of AHF's first purposes was to coordinate efforts to publicize the gross injustice of the Treaty of Trianon that **cost Hungary 2/3 of her territory and 1/3 of her Hungarian population.**



1940: The Free Hungarian Movement. Led by Executive Committee Chair Tibor Eckhardt, AHF sought "to bring over, at the earliest opportunity, Hungary and her armed forces to the Allied side and to continue the fight against Nazism." Unfortunately subversive influences in both the US and Europe prevented this. Hungary, bordering on the Third Reich, was a reluctant participant in the War.

1956: Hungarian Revolution Against Communist Tyranny. AHF's work regarding the tragic events over 50 years ago, dates back to the early days of the Revolution. AHF and members such as the Verhovay Insurance Association (later the William Penn Association) purchased ambulances for the American Red Cross. The American Hungarian Relief Program, under the auspices of AHF, also collected \$1,216,167.00 (11.7 million today) in clothing, medicine, foodstuffs and money. In all, 200,000 care packages were sent. With the support of AHF, over 65,000 refugees arrived in the USA.



Albert Camus' Stirring Letter to the World in 1957: **"The Blood of the Hungarians"**. "In Europe's isolation today, we have only one way of being true to Hungary, and that is never to betray, among ourselves and everywhere, what the Hungarian heroes died for, never to condone, among ourselves and everywhere, even indirectly, those who killed them. "

Support of the Hungarian Minorities. Over the decades, AHF has continued to work to ensure that human and minority rights abuses by those countries which annexed

Hungarian lands, (e.g. Romania, Slovakia, and Serbia) did not go unnoticed. For example: AHF extensively educated Congress on these issues, and collected funds to help the Hungarian minorities in Transylvania (Romania). It issued a major communiqué, read in Congress, on the eve of the US President's meeting with Gorbachev in 1989: "...the most important problem remains the oppression of the Transylvanian Hungarians, which approximates ethnic genocide..."

1990: Kossuth in the US Capitol. AHF commissioned a bronze bust of Lajos Kossuth and presented it to the US Congress. The dedication ceremony took place on March 15, Hungarian National Day, in the magnificent Rotunda of the US Capitol.



The Federation Today.

AHF, as throughout its over 110 years of service to the American and Hungarian communities, continues to help preserve our Hungarian heritage, provides humanitarian relief to Hungarians where needed, and supports scholarships for the poor. It educates the public on common-ground issues, and is outspoken about democracy and the rule of law in Central and Eastern Europe. AHF supports minority rights, including the right to autonomy for the Hungarian historical communities in the Carpathian Basin. AHF works with the US Congress and the Executive Branch on key initiatives, and encourages an even-handed US policy to support the will of the people of Hungary. The following are a few highlights of AHF achievements.

VISA Waiver Program. AHF worked extensively through its contacts and through the Central and East European Coalition for inclusion of Hungary in the VISA Waiver Program, and attended the signing ceremony.

Restitution of Church Properties.

AHF supported House Res. 191 in May 2005, urging the Government of Romania to recognize its responsibilities to provide equitable, prompt and fair restitution to all religious communities of property confiscated by the former Communist governments.

AHF Publicizes Hungarian Heroes of the Holocaust.

AHF commemorated the tragic events of the 6 million Holocaust victims and publicized heretofore ignored Hungarian heroes who helped to save over 250,000 lives.