

ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR: 2014

CSILLA GRAUZER
HONORARY CONSUL OF HUNGARY, MINNESOTA

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I. CONSULAR CASES

EXTRAMURAL CONSULAR DAYS

03/14/14-03/15/14

Number of the new naturalizations/citizenships : 8

Representatives from the Consulate General of Hungary (New York) were available for appointments for 2 full days.

HONORARY CONSULATE CASES

04/01/14 – 11/30/14

Number of cases: 18

Number of notarizations: 9

/passport extension, translation, power of attorney for representation (bank, tender, other), residency form/

Number of email consultations: 13

/simplified naturalization, notarization, other/

Case number	Date (start of the case)	Case Status	Case Category	Case Description
1 115/2014	04/28/14	CLOSED	Notarization of document	passport extension
2 email	05/31/14		Simplified Naturalization	Consultation
3 email	07/07/14	Pending	Notarization of document	notarization of translation
4 116/2014	08/18/14	CLOSED	Notarization of document	notarization of power of attorney for representation
5 118/2014	08/24/14	CLOSED	Notarization of document	notarization of power of attorney for representation
6 119/2014	08/24/14	CLOSED	Notarization of document	notarization of power of attorney for representation
7 120/2014	09/09/14	CLOSED	Notarization of document	notarization of translation
8 email	09/09/14	Pending	Simplified Naturalization	Consultation
9 121/2014	09/26/14	CLOSED	Notarization of document	notarization of residency form
10 122/2014	09/26/14	CLOSED	Notarization of document	notarization of residency form
11 123/2014	09/26/14	CLOSED	Notarization of document	notarization of residency form
12 email	10/06/14	Pending	Document request	Request a copy of birth certificate
13 email	09/29/14	Pending	Simplified Naturalization	Consultation
14 124/2014	10/08/14	Pending	Notarization of document	notarization of pension form
15 email	10/22/14	Pending	Simplified Naturalization	Consultation
16 email	10/28/14	Pending	Simplified Naturalization	Consultation
17 email	11/05/14	CLOSED	General	Consultation
18 email	11/17/14	Pending	Simplified Naturalization	Consultation

OTHER

Letters of recommendation by Csilla Grauzer as Honorary Consul of Hungary to Minnesota

1. Katie Bor, member, Minnesota Hungarians – participant in Reconnect Hungary 2014 Program
2. Klara Hagymassy, board member, Minnesota Hungarians – recipient of The Hungarian Initiative Foundation scholarship to study a semester at the University of Szeged, Hungary

II. CONSULAR EVENTS, NEWS

February 19, 2014

Event: Reception at Jamshed Merchant, Consul General of Canada's Residence
Location: Consulate General of Canada Official Residence, Minneapolis, MN
Note: Reception in honor of the Minnesota Consular Corps (<http://minnesotaconsularcorps.org/>)

March 5, 2014

Event: Annual Meeting, Minnesota Consular Corps
Location: Consulate General of Canada, Minneapolis
Note: Annual Meeting (<http://minnesotaconsularcorps.org/>)

March 14&15, 2014

Event: Extramural Consular Days in St.Paul & Minneapolis, Minnesota
Location: Honorary Consulate Office, St. Louis Park, MN
Note: The primary task of the consular days was to bring the simplified naturalization process and the possibilities provided by the "Magyar Simplification Program", by overcoming distances closer to those US citizens of Hungarian origin whose interests have been raised.

March 15, 2014

Event: Hungarian Citizenship Ceremony
Location: Unity-Church Unitarian, St. Paul, MN
Note: 8 new Hungarian citizenships / naturalizations
- Keynote speech by Dr. Zita Bencsik (Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of Hungary, New York)
- Oath ceremony facilitated by Dr. Zita Bencsik (Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of Hungary, New York) and Dr. Viktória Sass (Consul, Consulate General of Hungary, New York)

March 15, 2014

Event: Commemoration of the Revolution&Freedom fight of 1848-1849
Location: Unity-Church Unitarian, St. Paul, MN
Note: - commemorative speech by Csilla Grauzer
- program was organized by the Minnesota Hungarians

March 28, 2014

Event: **Ambassador György Szapáry's visit of the Minnesota Trade Office**

Location: Minnesota Trade Office, St. Paul, MN

Note: *business meeting*

Attendees:

- Ambassador György Szapáry, Hungary's Ambassador to the US*
- Ed Dieter, Deputy Director of Minnesota Trade Office*
- Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary, Minnesota*
- Timea Takacs, Assistant, Honorary Consulate Office*

Report (s):

Attachment #1 - Hungary to Open Honorary Consular Office in Minnesota, USA

March 28, 2014

Event: **Business meeting with the General Consul of Canada, MN**

Location: St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul, MN

Note: *business meeting*

Attendees:

- Ambassador György Szapáry, Hungary's Ambassador to the US*
- Jamshed Merchant, Consul General of Canada, Minnesota*
- Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary, Minnesota*
- Timea Takacs, Assistant, Honorary Consulate Office*

Report (s):

Attachment #1 - Hungary to Open Honorary Consular Office in Minnesota

March 28, 2014

Event: **Ambassador György Szapáry's visit of the Immigration History Center (IHRC), University of Minnesota, Minneapolis**

Location: IHRC, Minneapolis, MN

Note: *business meeting*

Attendees:

- Ambassador György Szapáry, Hungary's Ambassador to the US*
- Ellen Engseth, Curator, Head, Migration and Social Services Collections, IHRC*
- Sara Wakefield, Reference Librarian*
- Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary, Minnesota*
- Timea Takacs, Assistant, Honorary Consulate Office*

Report (s):

Attachment #1 - Hungary to Open Honorary Consular Office in Minnesota

March 28, 2014

Event: **Dinner in honor of Ambassador György Szapáry**
Location: Grauzer & Shahidi Residence, Minneatonka, MN
Note: *Dinner at the Honorary Consul's Residence*
Attendees: members of the Minnesota Hungarians leadership

March 29, 2014

Event: **Inauguration Ceremony of the Honorary Consul of Hungary**
Location: Unity-Church Unitarian, St. Paul, MN
Note: *Official Ceremony of the opening of the Hungarian Honorary Consulate Office in Minnesota*

Speakers:

- *Ambassador György Szapáry, Hungary's Ambassador to the USA*
- *Welcome Address: Jay Shahidi*
- *Tom Merrit, Unity Church Unitarian*
- *Kjell Bergh, President - Minnesota Consular Corps, Honorary Consul of Tanzania*
- *Greg Bohrer, Outreach Director, Office of Senator Amy Klobuchar*
- *Chao R. Lee, Senior District Office Representative, Office of Congresswoman Betty McCollum*
- *Jennifer Hartman, Minnesota Inter Medicine (MIM)*
- *Robert A. Flaten, Foreign Service Officer, former US Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary (Ruanda)*

Attendees of Minnesota Consular Corps:

- *Christa Tiefenbacher-Hudson, Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany*
- *Heino Beckmann - Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany, retired*
- *Marc A. Al - Consul, Consulate of the Kingdom of the Netherlands*
- *Marit Lee Kucer - Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic for Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota*
- *Patrick W. Ledray - Honorary Consul of Romania*
- *Gary L. Gandrud - Honorary Consul General, Norway*
- *Britt De Lange Ardakani - Vice Consul - Royal Norwegian Honorary Consulate*
- *Miro Medved - Honorary Consul, Republic of Slovenia*
- *Teresa P. Olson - Honorary Consul of Chile*
- *Estelle Arnaud-Battandier - Consular Affairs Officer, Government of Canada*
- *Rudolf Gutmann - Hon. Consul of Switzerland*
- *Mary L. Josefson - Hon. Vice Consul of Iceland*
- *Christina Carleton, Vice Consul to Norway*

Report (s):

Attachment #1 - Hungary to Open Honorary Consular Office in Minnesota consulate opens in St.Louis Park

Attachment #2 - Program

Attachment #3 Csilla Grauzer's inauguration speech

Attachment #4 Official Congratulatory letter from Senator Amy Klobuchar

Attachment #5 Official Congratulatory letter from Congresswomen Betty McCollum

Attachment #6 - Sun Sailor article: Hungarian Honorary Consulate opens in St. Louis Park

April 9, 2014

Event: **Minnesota Consular Corps event, lecture & luncheon**

Location: Eagan, Thomson Reuters , St. Paul, MN

Note: *Guest Speaker: Prof. Ragui Assaad, Humphrey School of Public Affairs on the topics of the "Global Economy and Development: Opportunities for Growth*

May 17, 2014

Event: **Norwegian Memorial Dinner**

Location: Minnesota Valley Country Club, Bloomington, MN

Note: *Hungarian Honorary Consul in Minnesota, Csilla Grauzer was invited by the Minnesota Norwegian Community to attend an evening of celebration in honor of Syttende Mai – Norwegian Constitution day on the 17th of May 2014. About 700 guests attended the event. The evening was included a delicious meal, traditional costumes, dancers and music.*

The event celebrated the 200th anniversary of Norway's independence.

Guest speaker: Kare Aas, Norwegian Ambassador to the US

Attendees:

- Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary, Minnesota

- Eszter Mészáros, KCSP 2014 Intern to the Minnesota Hungarians

June 8, 2014

Event: **Closing Ceremony of the spring semester of the newly opened MISI Hungarian Sunday School**

Location: Unity-Church Unitarian, St. Paul, MN

Note: *Speech by Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary, Minnesota*

June 19, 2014

Event: Visiting the last lesson of the Hungarian Adult Language School
Location: Pease Church, Minneapolis, MN
Note: Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary, visited the last lesson of the Hungarian Language School's adult class to congratulate the students attending the course.

June 25, 2014

Event: Canada Day 2014
Location: Consulate General of Canada Official Residence, Minneapolis
Note: Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary was invited by Jamshed Merchant, Consul General of Canada to the reception celebrating Canada Day 2014, a special tribute to 200 years of peace and friendship between Canada and USA following the end of the war in 1812
Special Guest: Gary Doer, Canada's Ambassador to the US

August 21 & 22, 2014

Event: Itt-Ott Conference
Location: Lake Hope, Ohio
Note: - round – table discussion about the KCSP Trainee Program
- community presentation about the Minnesota Hungarians

August 30, 2014

Event: Minnesota Consular Corps Garden Party
Location: Home of Mr. Kjell Bergh, President of the Minnesota Consular Corps and Honorary Consul of the United Republic of Tanzania, Stillwater, MN

September 17, 2014

Event: Minnesota Consular Corps event and lecture
Location: Minneapolis Club, Minneapolis, MN
Note: Presentation by Karen Motsenbocker, President, Minnesota Trade Office

September 23, 2014

Event: Hungarian Harvest Festival
Location: Millner Heritage Winery&Vineyard, Kimball, MN
Note: Welcome speech by Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary
-the event was organized by the Minnesota Hungarians

September 26&28, 2014

Event: HATOG Conference
Location: Boston, MA

October 3, 2014

Event: Day of the German Unity
Location: German Immersion Charter School, St. Paul, MN
Note: Csilla Grauzer attended an evening of celebration and reception of the Day of German Unity

Attendees:

- Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary, Minnesota
- Timea Takacs, Assistant, Honorary Consulate Office
- Eszter Mészáros, KCSP 2014 Intern to the Minnesota Hungarians

October 25, 2014

Event: Commemoration of the Revolution of 1956
Location: Unity-Church Unitarian, St. Paul, MN
Note: Commemorative speech by Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary, the event was organized by the Minnesota Hungarians

October 26, 2014

Event: Prestation by the visiting Hungarian Scout Leaders
Location: Unity-Church Unitarian, St. Paul
Note: Csilla Grauzer (Honorary Consul of Hungary) and Tamas Fellegi (CEO&President, The Hungary Initiative Foundation) visited MISI Hungarian Sunday School classes and the presentation by the visiting Hungarian Scout leaders /: Michael Szentkirályi(OH), Chantal Gagnon(NY)/

October 26, 2014

Event: Dinner in honor of Tamás Fellegi
Location: Grauzer & Shahidi Residence, Minnetonka, MN
Note: Dinner at the Honorary Consul's Residence

Attendees:

- school teachers, project leaders of the Minnesota Hungarians
- Michael Szentkirályi, Hungarian Scout leader, OH
- Chantal Gagnon, Hungarian Scout leader, NY

October 27, 2014

Event: Guided tour of the 3M Innovation Center
Location: 3M Innovation Center, Headquarter, St. Paul , MN
Note: guided tour of the 3M Innovation Center

Attendees:

- Tamás Fellegi, CEO, The Hungary Innitiative Foundation
- Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary, Minnesota
- Timea Takacs, Assistant, Honorary Consulate Office
- Balazs Kramer, Manager, Competency&Talent Development, 3M

November 6, 2014

Event: **Wine, Women & Wishes 2014**

Location: Crystal Kitchen, Crytal, MN

Note: *Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary, was happy to support, promote and represent chocoMe, a line of handcrafted artisan chocolate bars imported directly from Hungary, as a sponsor at the "Wine, Women & Wishes 2014" (Make-A-Wish MN) fundraising event. The event sponsored Nolan's wish to go to Disney's Animal Kingdom and also launched the Sapphire Circle Program to support Make-A-Wish's mission of granting wishes of children with life-threatening medical condition.*

November 7, 2014

Event: **Changemaker's Ball**, To benefit the American Refugee Committee

Location: The Depot, Minneapolis, MN

Note: *Csilla Grauzer attended at the Changemaker's Ball 2014, the American Refugee Committee's Annual Gala*
Report (s): Attachment #7 Changemaker's Ball

November 12, 2014

Event: **Meeting with city officials of Hatvan, Hungary**

Location: Hatvan, Hungary

Note: *- Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary, Minnesota*
- Richard Horvath, Mayor of Hatvan, Hungary
- Andras Szinyei, Deputy Mayor of Hatvan, Hungary
- Balazs Lestyán, Deputy Mayor of Hatvan, Hungary
Topic: partnership follow up, exchange program possibilities (partnership with the city started with a gift donation to the city in 2012)

November 13, 2014

Event: **25th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall**

Location: St.Thomas University, St.Paul, MN

Note: *Timea Takacs, Representative of the Honorary Consulate of Hungary attended the reception, celebration and lecture to mark the 25th Anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall*
Report (s): Attachment #8 25th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall

November 18, 2014

Event: **Meeting with the US representatives of The Hungarian Diaspora Council**

Location: Astoria Hotel, Budapest

Note: *Meeting&Workshop with the US representatives of The Hungarian Diaspora Council*

November 18, 2014

Event: Visiting „Csillagszemű” Children Folk Ensemble's rehearsal
Location: Budapest, Hungary
Note: *discussion about the possible partnership with Böske Timár, leader, Csillagszemű Dance Group*

November 19, 2014

Event: The Hungarian Diaspora Council Meeting
Location: Várkert Bazaar, Budapest

November 21&22, 2014

Event: Consular Corps Collage Symposium & Gala Dinner
Location: Holiday Inn, Washington DC
Note: *Forty-four countries and all six continents were represented at the very informative and useful symposium
Topics included: Understanding Immigration Law and Visas; Crisis Management; Legal, Health, and Death Issues; Law and Order for the Consul, Human Trafficking*

OTHER EVENTS:

Attachment #9: Minnesota Hungarians events & programs in 2014

OTHER PROJECTS:

May 5 - November 5, 2014

Project: Kőrösi Csoma Sándor Internship Program
Location: Honorary Consulate Office, St.Louis Park, MN
Note: *Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary mentored Eszter Mészáros, KCSP 2014 Intern to the Minnesota Hungarians*

June 1 - September 30, 2014

Project: Mikes Kelemen Program - Twin Cities collection location
Location: Honorary Consulate Office, St.Louis Park, MN
Note: *The Honorary Consulate Office promoted the program and served as the Twin Cities collection location for the Minnesota Hungarians. Minnesota Hungarians sponsored the transportation cost of the materials to the warehouse in Chicago.*

III. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1

Hungary to Open Honorary Consular Office in Minnesota

Honorary Consular Office Report - April 3, 2014

Ambassador Szapáry visited Twin Cities to open the Honorary Consulate. Csilla Grauzer will represent Hungary in the State of Minnesota as Honorary Consul. During his visit the Ambassador met the Hungarian community, visited the Minnesota Trade Office and the Immigration History Research Center.

To promote improved trade, tourism, educational opportunities and cultural exchanges between Minnesota and Hungary, the government of Hungary is for the first time in history setting up a consular office in Twin Cities. “This decision by the leaders of Hungary proves that Minnesota, its people and companies, are now major contributors within the international community”, stated Csilla Grauzer of Minnetonka, who shall serve as the first Honorary Consul of Hungary in Minnesota.

The Hungarian Consular Office officially opened in Saint Louis Park, when Hungary’s Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency György Szapáry visited Twin Cities on March 28-30, 2014. Ms. Grauzer was officially installed and inaugurated as Honorary Consul at a ceremony and reception on Saturday, March 29, 2014 at the conference center of Unity Church-Unitarian in Saint Paul. The Ambassador officially presented the Keynote Address at the Installation Ceremony on his government’s efforts to bring about closer ties between Minnesota, U.S. and Hungary. Tom Merritt (Unity Church-Unitarian, St.Paul), Kjell Bergh (President, Minnesota Consular Corps), Greg Bohrer (Outreach Director, Office of U.S Senator Amy Klobuchar), Chao R.Lee (Senior District Office Representative, Office of Congresswoman Betty McCollum) and Jennifer Hartman (Minnesota International Medicine) were also among the speakers.

The Official Ceremony was followed by a reception hosted by Csilla Grauzer and M.Jay Shahidi and the Vidéki Dancer Group Performance.

During his visit the Ambassador had a business meeting with Jamshed Merchant, Consul General of Canada and Ed Dieter, Deputy Director of Minnesota Trade Office. He also visited the Immigration History Research Center and Archives (University of Minnesota) and met Ellen Engseth, Curator and reference librarians.

Ms. Grauzer shall organize and conduct programs for expanded trade, economic development, mutual tourism, educational exchanges for university students, scholarly research, cultural exhibits and events, immigration and emigration issues, financial and host family arrangements for high school students, support and advice to Hungarian citizens in Minnesota, etc. She will strive to deepen the economic and cultural partnership between Hungary and Minnesota.

Please find more pictures about the Ambassador's visit and the Installation Ceremony & Reception in the Photo Gallery: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.270697916445113.1073741827.270686609779577&type=3>

Honorary Consul Csilla Grauzer's Speech:

[http://minnesotahungarians.com/UserFiles/file/Other/Csilla Grauzer Inaug_speech.pdf](http://minnesotahungarians.com/UserFiles/file/Other/Csilla_Grauzer_Inaug_speech.pdf)

Official Congratulatory letter from Senator Amy Klobuchar:

<http://washington.kormany.hu/download/2/c1/a0000/001%20%281034x1280%29.jpg>

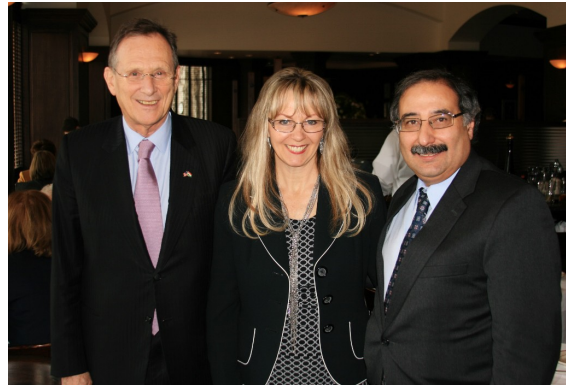
Official Congratulatory letter from Congresswoman Betty McCollum:

<http://washington.kormany.hu/download/3/c1/a0000/cs4%20%28987x1280%29.jpg>

Source:

<https://www.nemzetiregiszter.hu/hungary-to-open-honorary-consular-office-in-minnesota>

<http://hungary.honoraryconsulate.info/minneapolis/news/hungary-to-open-honorary-consular-office-in-minnesota>



*Photo (left): Ambassador György Szapáry and Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary in Minnesota
Photo (right): Ambassador György Szapáry, Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary in Minnesota
and Consul General Jamshed Merchant, Consulate General of Canada in Minneapolis*



*Ambassador György Szapáry, Csilla Grauzer (Honorary Consul of Hungary in Minnesota) and
Ellen Engseth (Curator, Immigration History Research Center Archive)*

Attachment #2

PROGRAM

Inauguration Ceremony
of Csilla Grauzer as the Honorary Consul of Hungary
and the opening of the Honorary Consulate in Minnesota

March 29, 2014 Saturday
Unity Church-Unitarian, Saint Paul

Welcome Address | **Jay Shahidi**

Tom Merrit | Unity Church Unitarian

Kjell Bergh | President - Minnesota Consular Corps, Honorary Consul of Tanzania

Greg Bohrer | Outreach Director, Office of Senator Amy Klobuchar

Chao R. Lee | Senior District Office Representative, Office of Congresswoman Betty McCollum

Jennifer Hartman | Minnesota Inter Medicine (MIM)

Robert A. Flaten | Foreign Service Officer, former US Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
(Rwanda)

Inaugural Address and Inauguration

presided by **György Szapáry** | Ambassador of Hungary to the United States

Csilla Grauzer | Honorary Consul of Hungary to Minnesota

Reception | hosted by Csilla Grauzer and Jay Shahidi
Vidéki Dance Group Performance

Exhibit Corner:

Hungarian Folk Art Pieces | Hungarian Touris information | Photos of Budapest and Twin Cities by Charles Hezsely, St. Paul-based photographer | Minnesota Hungarians History Board

RECEPTION MENU

Appetizers:

Curry Chicken Salad Crostini | Körözött – Hungarian Cheese Spread | Transylvanian Smoked Eggplants Spread | Chorizo mini sandwich | Roasted pork tenderlion with lemon saffron aioli | Endive boats with white bean and shrimp salad | Bacon wrapped dates with balsamic glaze, pritacio and blue cheese | Egg Salad Canape with smoked salmon and dill | Caponata Canape | Lobster roll with chipotly sauce | Spiced/herbed/buttered nuts

Desserts:

Lemon curd in chocalete shells with raspberry | Traffles and chocolate | Assorted macaroons | Rasberry crumble bars | Mocha hazelnut brownies | Viennese Hazelnut crescents | Poppy seed/apricot bars | Chocolate chesnut bars

Wine

Attachment #3

Csilla Grauzer's speech

Inauguration Ceremony of Csilla Grauzer as the Honorary Consul of Hungary in Minnesota

Saturday, March 29, 2014, 4 PM at Unity Church-Unitarian, Saint Paul, MN

Ambassador Szapary, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am indeed intensely moved and deeply honored to accept the position of the Honorary Consul of Hungary in Minnesota. As an ethnic Hungarian child born in Transylvanian small town, which was then and is now part of Romania, under a harsh and cruel dictatorship, which persecuted us for publicly expressing our language and nationality, I have indeed come a long way. My heartfelt thanks go to my mother, Jolanda Szekely, who instilled in me a sense of freedom, my father, Karoly Grauzer who was sent to Siberian gulags for engaging in free trade, and my two brothers who bravely cut the barbed wires of dictatorial communism and fled on foot to a new world of democracy called United States of America.

I thank the people of America for opening the doors of their enchanted land to my family and I, sheltering us in their embrace of generosity and offering us new horizons. People such as Olga and Tibor Zoltai, who opened the doors of their home to us, mentored us and guided us to proceed in our new country. People such as the Late Congressman from Saint Paul, Bruce Vento, who sponsored us as political asylum seekers. I am also sincerely thankful to my own American family, my friends and my associates, all of you here, who have supported me, encouraged me and believed in me. I find myself very lucky.

Source: <http://hungary.honoraryconsulate.info/minneapolis/news/hungary-to-open-honorary-consular-office-in-minnesota>

Attachment #4
Official Congratulatory letter from Senator Amy Klobuchar

AMY KLOBUCHAR
MINNESOTA

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 29, 2014

Csilla Grauzer
Honorary Consul of Hungary
733 Portland Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55104

Dear Mrs. Grauzer:

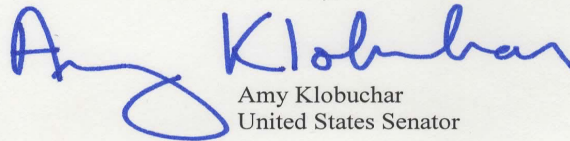
Thank you for inviting me to join you and your distinguished guests for your inauguration as Honorary Consul of Hungary in Minnesota. Though my schedule prevents me from joining you in person, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and recognize the important relationship between Hungary and the United States of America.

As the granddaughter of Slovenian immigrants, I have always been tremendously proud of my heritage, and I believe our state is richer for the contribution of eastern European immigrants. As President of the Minnesota Hungarians, you lead the efforts of the Minnesota Hungarian community to share their culture, heritage, and traditions with the wider community through events, education, and charitable giving. Your inauguration as Honorary Consul of Hungary is a testament to your involvement and leadership.

While we are all Minnesotans, it is the differences between us that enliven and enrich our society. We are home to immigrant communities from every corner of the globe and we are better for it. Your work, as Honorary Consul, will connect us to this shared heritage and keep Hungarian culture and traditions alive in Minnesota.

Thank you for all that you do and for inviting me to this happy occasion. I look forward to working with you to build a strong, enduring, and mutually beneficial relationship between Minnesota and Hungary.

Sincerely,


Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator

Attachment #5

Official Congratulatory letter from Congresswoman Betty McCollum



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

CONGRESSWOMAN BETTY MCCOLLUM
FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
MINNESOTA
(202) 225-6631

March 29, 2014

Csilla Grauzer
11705 Live Oak Drive
Hopkins, MN 55305

Dear Csilla:

Congratulations on your recent appointment as the first Honorary Consul of Hungary for Minnesota. Minnesotans share great pride in your new role representing the interests of the Hungarian people in our state.

I look forward to working with you to strengthen ties between Minnesotans and the people of Hungary.

Please let me know if I can be of assistance.

Again, congratulations and my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Betty".

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress

BM: CL

Attachment #6

Sun Sailor article: Hungarian Honorary Consulate opens in St. Louis Park

Posted on April 25, 2014

Sun Sailor-By [Seth Rowe](#) /April 25, 2014/



A link to the nation of Hungary is as close as a trip to the Miracle Mile Shopping Center in St. Louis Park.

In a small second-floor space at the end of a hallway, Minnetonka resident Csilla Grauzer is transforming an office space she uses in representing Hungarian companies associated with biomedical engineering software and chocolates into a newly authorized Hungarian honorary consulate office.

Ambassador György Szapáry of the Embassy of Hungary visited the Twin Cities earlier this month to open the new honorary consulate and to install Grauzer as its first honorary consul.

“Csilla will be a great honorary consul for Hungary: she is a successful business women, organizes and participates in numerous folk life activities and strives to keep together the Hungarian-American community of Minnesota,” Szapáry said.

Grauzer also serves as president of the Minnetonka-based Minnesota Hungarians, a more than 100-year-old organization dedicated to representing and promoting the Hungarian culture and heritage and in engaging in cultural, educational and philanthropic endeavors and fundraising activities. Many of the group’s activities take place a Unity Church in St. Paul, which has a sister church in eastern Europe.

The new honorary consul has sought to promote Hungarian ties on a global level. She is a member of the Hungarian Diaspora Council, which meets annually in Budapest to discuss ways to strengthen ties among people of Hungarian ancestry living in countries throughout the world.

According to the Hungarian Prime Minister’s Office, the council formed in 2011 to ensure Hungarians living in the diaspora receive attention in Hungarian national policy and as a way of promoting Hungarian’s image worldwide.

The new honorary consulate in Minnesota is one of 16 Hungarian honorary consulates in the United States, Grauzer said. Minnesota is home to permanent consulates representing the governments of Canada, Mexico and Ecuador, according to the University of Minnesota's Global Programs and Strategy Alliance.. The state also is home to an undozens of honorary consulates.

"It tells us something about the nature of the Midwestern hospitality of Minnesotans," Grauzer said of the number of honorary consulates in the state. "They're a welcoming people."

The honorary consulate provides fewer services than a full consulate but serves to connect individuals with Hungarian government services as well as to promote business and tourism ties withe Hungary.

The honorary consulate will assist Hungarian nationals with services relating to licenses, notarizations and birth certificates. The honorary consulate cannot process passports or visas but can assist individuals with processing for those documents through a full consulate.

About 14,000 Minnesota residents claim Hungarian heritage, according to 2012 census. Minnesota Hungarians serves around 400 registered families.

"Compared to other ethnic groups, we're talking small," Grauzer acknowledged.

However, Hungarians have a long history in Minnesota, with farmers who arrived from Hungary populating Elk River area at the turn of the 20th century. Other groups of Hungarian immigrants arrived intermittently in subsequent decades. Grauzer arrived in Minnesota as a seeker of political asylum in 1983.

Escape from Transylvania

She hails originally not from Hungary proper but from the Transylvanian region of Romania, within what had been Hungary's borders prior to World War I.

As a member of a Hungarian family who spoke the linguistically unusual Hungarian language, Grauzer said she grew up as a member of a minority under Communist rule in Romania.

Her brothers left first in 1978, risking the possibility of being shot as they fled.

"Things were so bad you didn't care," Grauzer said. "You said, 'Well, if I get shot, I get shot.'"

Her brothers escaped Soviet-led Romania but found themselves imprisoned in neighboring Yugoslavia before eventually being released and finding their way to a refugee camp in Italy, Grauzer said.

The rest of the family became even less popular with the Communist government when authorities learned her brothers had left, and Grauzer said they faced constant surveillance. When the Soviet Union agreed to allow some dissidents to leave its borders, Grauzer and the rest of her family managed to join her brothers, who by then had reached the United States. She traveled to Minnesota because a brother had found a job in the state at the time.

Nowadays, Grauzer said she loves to travel back to eastern Europe but appreciates how relatively simple business transactions can be in the United States.

“After 30 years of living here, I don’t believe I can live in Europe any more, but I need that fix,” she joked of her return visits.

She noted that only about 25 years have elapsed since the fall of the Iron Curtain.

“Democracy in Hungary is still pretty new,” she noted.

A new era

The country’s government is still a work in progress but continues to develop, she said. The country, which in modern times is about the size of Wisconsin, has also become more popular as an affordable tourist destination with high-quality restaurants, wineries, thermal baths and shopping. Minnesota businesses with offices in Hungary include 3M, Medtronic and Cargill.

Although neighboring Ukraine has faced unrest as of late with residents who seek to join Russia, Grauzer said such a movement does not exist in Hungary.

“It’s no love fest with Russia,” she said.

She noted Hungarians still remember people who died in the Hungarian Revolution of 1956 fighting the Soviet-led Hungarian People’s Republic.

“It’s still pretty raw,” she said.

Since Hungary became a member state with the European Union about a decade ago, freedom to travel and trade has helped ease tension among ethnic groups in the country, she added.

“I think we take it for granted when you look at what’s happening in Ukraine right now,” she said.

She said the United States has also been good to immigrants from eastern Europe.

“For all the faults we find in this country, it still is to this day the land of opportunity for many people,” she said.

Although Hungary and the surrounding area still has progress to make, Grauzer said she never expected the area to reach the level of freedom and openness residents there now enjoy.

“I didn’t feel it could happen in my lifetime because it was so bad and so embedded in the culture,” she said. “I thought I would never want to go back because it was so bad and horrible and degrading. But I went back and have been going back ever since.”

As the honorary consult to Minnesota, Grauzer hopes to continue to provide a bridge between Hungary and the United States.

The honorary consulate’s address is 5009 Excelsior Blvd., Suite 154, in St. Louis Park. Its phone number is 612-554-6227. Grauzer may also be reached at csgrauzer@hungaryconsulateminnesota.com.

Although the honorary consulate’s website was not operational as of press time, more information about ties between Minnesota and Hungary is available at MinnesotaHungarians.com.

Contact Seth Rowe at seth.rowe@ecm-inc.com

Source:

<http://sailor.mnsun.com/2014/04/25/hungarian-honorary-consulate-opens-in-st-louis-park/>

<http://hungary.honoraryconsulate.info/minneapolis/news/sun-sailor-article-hungarian-honorary-consulate-opens-in-st-louis-park>

Attachment #7

CHANGEMAKER'S BALL 2014 | To benefit the American Refugee Committee (November 7, 2014)

Posted on November 15, 2014

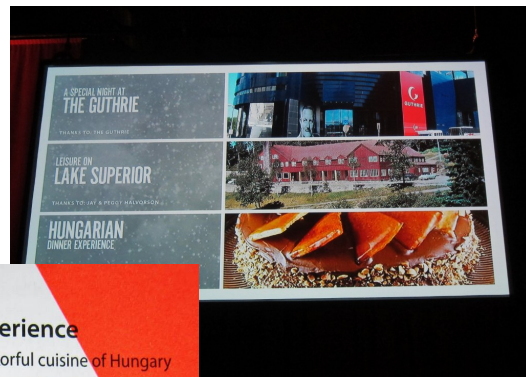


Csilla Grauzer attended at the Changemaker's Ball 2014, the American Refugee Committee's Annual Gala on November 7, 2014 at The DEPOT, Minneapolis.

Csilla and her husband, Jay Shahidi, ARC board member were among the 2014 Changemaker sponsors and they also donated a unique, Hungarian Dinner Package for the live auction.

Photo: Csilla Grauzer and Daniel W. Wordsworth, President/CEO, ARC

It was an unforgettable evening to celebrate the change we make possible. The event was a great success. Together they raised more than \$395,000! Proceeds support the American Refugee Committee (ARC)—a Minneapolis-based humanitarian organization which works to help 3 million refugees around the world recover and rebuild lives of dignity and hope. ARC is also building a 21st Century humanitarian organization rooted in co-creating with committed people to provide more meaningful solutions humanitarian crises worldwide.



Hungarian Dinner Experience

Experience the rich flavors and colorful cuisine of Hungary with a personalized dinner party for eight people at the home of Csilla Grauzer and ARC Board Member, M. Jay Shahidi. Ms. Grauzer is the president of the Minnesota Hungarians Association and the Honorary Consul of Hungary in Minnesota. She has years of experience as a chef, cooking instructor and travel guide leading cultural and culinary tours to Eastern Europe. You and your guests will dine on Hungarian specialties such as foie gras with Tokaji wine jelly, traditional charcuterie, sour cherry soup, chicken or mushroom paprikash, stuffed cabbage and roasted duck with chestnuts and a variety of Hungarian desserts, such as chocolate truffles, apple strudel and the famous Dobos torte. Dinner is complete with Hungarian spirits and wine pairings.

Source: <http://hungary.honoraryconsulate.info/minneapolis/news/changemakers-ball-2014-to-benefit-the-american-refugee-committee-november-7-2014>

Attachment #8

25th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall (November 13, 2014)

Posted on November 18, 2014

On the evening of November 13, 2014, representatives of the Hungarian Honorary Consulate in Minnesota attended the reception, celebration and the lecture to mark the 25th Anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall which was organized by the German Club at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Dr. Terence Langan, Dean of College of Arts and Sciences, gave a welcome speech followed by the evening's guest speaker, Dr. Daniel Hamilton, professor at Johns Hopkins University. The interesting and informative lecture entitled "Walls that fell and walls still to fall: what the fall of the Berlin Wall means today". Dr. Hamilton talked about the Berlin Wall - how it was cracked twenty-five years ago, dissolving the Iron Curtain and transforming the world.

The Berlin Wall no longer exists, but other walls still exist in today's world, and new walls are still being built. The physical wall came down in Berlin, but there are still intangible and invisible walls in minds and hearts that are much harder to tear down.



The East German regime started to falter in May 1989, when removal of Hungary's border fence opened a hole in the Iron Curtain. It caused an exodus of thousands of East Germans fleeing to West Germany and Austria via Hungary. The Peaceful Revolution, a series of protests by East Germans, led to the fall of the Berlin Wall and GDR's first free elections on March 18, 1990.

Thank you to Dr. Suzanne Wagner for inviting the Hungarian Honorary Consulate to this event. We were happy to commemorate and celebrate the Fall of the Iron Curtain with you, your students and the members of the German Club.

Watch/Listen the lecture (video): UST Celebrates the 25th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxiya0fjYV8>

Film produced by the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation: 1989 Year of Miracles:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FqnCxZ2Z1w0>

*Daniel S. Hamilton is an award-winning author, media commentator, US diplomat, and the Director of the Center for Transatlantic Relations at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)

Source: <http://hungary.honoraryconsulate.info/minneapolis/news/25th-anniversary-of-the-fall-of-the-berlin-wall-november-13-2014>

Attachment #9

Csilla Grauzer, Honorary Consul of Hungary organized or/and attended the following Minnesota Hungarians programs and events in 2014

January 11: Tanchaz

February 2: Farewell Party for Anna Boldog, KCSP Intern

February 15: Rajko Orchestra Concert

March 15: Spring Dinner/Commemoration of 1848 Revolution/War of Independence/Naturalization Ceremony

May 1-4: Festival of Nations

June 7: Kormoran Concert/Dinner

June 8: Closing Ceremony Misi Spring Semester

June 17: Notakor

August 4-6: St. Stephen Summer Camp for Children

August 23: Summer Picnic/Day Camp for Children

September 3: Koltai Gabor Presentation

September 14: Opening Ceremony Misi Hungarian School Fall Semester

September 23: Hungarian Harvest Festival at Millner Heritage Vineyard and Winery

October 25: Fall Fundraising Dinner/Commemoration of the 1956 Revolution

October 26: Open House/Presentation by Visiting Hungarian Scout Leaders

November 8: Minnesota Hungarians Annual Meeting