



BHC-MSS 0184

Guide to the Joseph Balogh Collection of Hungarian and Hungarian-American
Material
by Meg Rinn
February 2022

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Balogh, Joseph

Title: Joseph Balogh Collection of Hungarian and Hungarian-American Material

Dates: 1990-2012

Quantity: 3 manuscript boxes

Abstract. Joseph Felix Balogh was born on April 27, 1922 in Bridgeport, Connecticut to Hungarian parents Jozef and Katalin Falkus. While he was born in the United States, the Balogh family chose to return to Hungary in 1932, remaining there until 1960. When he returned to Connecticut he acted as a bridge for many Hungarians and Hungarian-Americans through radio programs and his best-known work, the *Magyar News* whose full run is represented in this collection.

Language: English, Hungarian

Repository: Bridgeport History Center

Biographical History:

Joseph Felix Balogh was born on April 27, 1922 in Bridgeport, Connecticut to Hungarian parents Jozef and Katalin Falkus. While he was born within the United States, the Balogh family chose to return to Hungary in 1932. Joseph remained in Hungary during the Second World War, and remained until the 1960s. He left Hungary and its communist rule for London, eventually regaining his United States citizenship in 1967. He lived in Stratford, Connecticut for much of the rest of his life.

Balogh wrote extensively in his autobiography regarding this time in his life - being captured by the German army and placed in a Nazi prisoner of war camp, his work as the Adult Education Commissioner for Hungary to help increase literacy rates in rural parts of the country.

Once back in the United States, Balogh worked as a graphic artist. In his spare time, he acted in various capacities within Bridgeport's Hungarian American community, including working with the American Hungarian Heritage Society, as president of the Hungarian Pannonia Club, work with the International Institute, and as the host of "The Hungarian Mosaic" segment on WICC, the local radio station.

His presentation of "The Hungarian Mosaic" compliments the *Magyar News*, a long running newsletter about Hungary and Hungarian-American communities within Bridgeport and eventually, elsewhere in the United States. *Magyar News* is also noteworthy for beginning its publication history with the fall of communism in eastern Europe, and allows for monthly documentation of how immigrants, as well as second and third generation Hungarian communities,

interacted with their home country. Balogh moved on as editor of the newsletter in 2007, although the publication continued until 2021, rebranded as *Magyar News Online*.

Balogh was married twice - his first wife Larissza Foldi Balogh died in Hungary. His second wife was Claudia Margitay-Balogh.

Joseph Balogh died on November 17, 2017.

Scope and Content note:

The bulk of the collection is made up of the *Magyar News*, including all of the issues that Balogh himself published between 1990 to 2007. His autobiography is also included. There are also audio cassettes that include the various episodes of "The Hungarian Mosaic" radio program from WICC.

Arrangement Note:

Series I contains all copies of *Magyar News* including the born digital copies that were edited after Balogh retired as the editor. Series II contains broadcast versions of the "Hungarian Mosaic" radio program, and series III contains additional material including Balogh's biography.

Administrative information:

Provenance: Accession 2022.01, gift of Claudia Margitay-Balogh, digital Magyar News from Karolina Tima Szabo.

Preferred Citation:

Joseph Balogh Collection of Hungarian and Hungarian-American Material (BHC-MSS 0183), Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

Names and Subject Tracings

Personal names

Balogh, Joseph

Corporate names

WICC

Subject tracings

Hungarians

Hungarian Americans

Detailed box/folder listing

Box 1

Series I, *Magyar News*

1. Magyar News vol. I, 1990-1991
2. Magyar News vol. II, 1991-1992
3. Magyar News vol. III, 1992-1993
4. Magyar News vol. IV, 1993-1994
5. Magyar News vol. V, 1994-1995
6. Magyar News vol. VI, 1995-1996

Box 2

1. Magyar News vol. VII, 1996-1997
2. Magyar News vol. VIII, 1997-1998
3. Magyar News vol. IX, 1998-1999
4. Magyar News vol. X, 1999-2000
5. Magyar News vol. XI, 2000-2001
6. Magyar News vol. XII, 2001-2002

Box 3

1. Magyar News vol. XIII, 2002-2003
2. Magyar News vol. XIV, 2003-2004
3. Magyar News vol. XV, 2004-2005
4. Magyar News vol. XVI-XVII, 2005-2008

Born digital

Magyar News, 2007
Magyar News, 2008
Magyar News, 2009
Magyar News, 2010
Magyar News, 2011
Magyar News, 2012
Magyar News, 2013
Magyar News, 2014
Magyar News, 2015
Magyar News, 2016
Magyar News, 2017
Magyar News, 2018
Magyar News, 2019
Magyar News, 2020
Magyar News, 2021

Series II,
Hungarian Mosaic

Series III, Additional material

Box 3

5. American Joe, 2013
6. Clippings, 1982
7. Correspondence, including Senator Ribicoff, 1985
8. Visa to Vienna, 1965

Located in BHC-AUD box #1

Rozsika and Laszlo play Hungarian folk and dance favorites, R&L records, undated 33 1/3 RPM LP

Born digital file naming -do we want this to be public?

BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2007
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2008
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2009
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2010
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2011

BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2012
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2013
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2014
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2015
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2016
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2017
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2018
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2019
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2020
BHC-MSS0184.001-Magyar News 2021