



Orange County Hungarians Strategic Plan

History:

Orange County Hungarians began in 2000 with the Orange County Hungarians web page, www.orangecountyhungarians.com. Since that time, various volunteers have devoted time and effort to organize events and to develop the organization to its present size, approximately 200 members/names on the (email) list.

Mission:

The mission of Orange County Hungarians is to promote Hungarian culture and traditions, especially to second and subsequent generations of Hungarians located in Orange County, and to provide opportunities for fellowship and cultivating friendships with other Hungarians in a safe, harmonious, and positive environment.

Purposes:

- To provide opportunities to celebrate major Hungarian holidays—March 15, October 23, August 20.
- To provide opportunities for children to learn and appreciate the language, customs, history and culture of Hungary
- To provide opportunities for Hungarians to meet and share traditions and customs
- To provide opportunities for sharing information about Hungarian events in other nearby locales
- To support and help Hungarians to the extent possible
- To provide outreach efforts to communicate our mission and invite other Hungarians in the geographic area

Guiding Principles:

- Establish no ties, alignments with, nor promote any Hungarian or American political party

Hungary has a long and valiant history, but also a painful one. Many of the events over the past years include atrocities which must never be forgotten, and never repeated. Past political history as well as current politics still have much potential for controversy and divisiveness among Hungarians. In this spirit, Orange County Hungarians will establish

no ties or alignments with any political party or movement. Our intent is to be inclusive, accepting all who wish to share the positive, and unfailing spirit that is Hungary , and rejecting efforts to align with any particular political party, religion, or agenda to divide and polarize the group.

- Embrace, include, all who share our values

In the same way, we will embrace and accept everyone, regardless of religious persuasion, but not promote any specific religion(s). Our support of St. Stephen's Day is well grounded in Hungarian Culture and serves to unite all Hungarians on that day to commemorate the transition of the ancient country to the Christian world, under the leadership of King Stephen.

- Support LA Hungarians, Hungarian Scouting in Los Angeles, and San Diego Hungarians events

We will continue to support activities and share information with Los Angeles and San Diego Hungarians and invite them to participate in our events as well. Our intent is to enhance and expand their opportunities for experiencing Hungarian culture along with us.

- Protect membership from inappropriate communication/inappropriate use of mailing list

We will protect the privacy of our members and not share, sell, or otherwise compromise our membership list. At the same time, purposefully excluding any members from any mailing for any purpose is not acceptable. Therefore, all announcements will be made to everyone who has elected to be on our list, from one central data base. These announcements will always carry the Orange County Hungarians logo.

- Encourage the formation of special interest groups

All members are free to establish connections and relationships with other members and hold private parties and events. Members are encouraged to form such connections and relationships for social purposes and special interests outside of Orange County Hungarians.

- Appropriate protocol for special interest groups

It is vital that the freedom to form special interest groups be protected--this is a free country and freedom is the primary value of Orange County Hungarians. If special

interest groups form around shared political or religious interests, those freedoms and rights are also strongly recognized and supported. However, to maintain appropriate neutrality, Orange County Hungarians will not endorse such interest groups. Furthermore, such groups are not permitted to use the (copyrighted) names, Orange County Hungarians, or Orange County Magyarok to promote their events and agendas.

- Support Orange County Hungarian businesses

We will also encourage and support Hungarians businesses and enterprises to the extent possible. Exploitation of our members by spamming or repetitious advertising/promotional announcements will not be permitted.

- Assist Laguna Woods Village Hungarian Club to the extent possible

After many years, the Laguna Woods Hungarian Club (Leisure World at that time) disbanded. Many of our members reside in Laguna Woods Village. Efforts are underway to establish a new Hungarian Club in Laguna Woods Village. Our support includes technology, document preparation, and participation in activities.

Objectives:

- To conduct the Hungarian Childrens Program/Club monthly from Sept. to June
- To hold appropriate observances of March 15, October 23, and August 20.
- To provide informal monthly gatherings at various convenient locations
- To disseminate information about Hungarian cultural events in Orange County and elsewhere
- To support and assist the Laguna Woods Village Hungarian Club to the extent possible
- To maintain the www.orangecountyhungarians.com web page

Ethics Code:

Note: The names “Orange County Hungarians” and “Orange County Magyarok” are copyrighted and may be used only with permission. Using these names in conjunction with any event that violates Orange County Hungarians guiding principles is a violation of the ethics code.