

AHEA Conference
14-17 April 2011
John Carroll University, University Hts. (Cleveland), Ohio USA

ABOUT THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER, DR. NÁNDOR DREISZIGER

Saturday evening, 16 April 2011

Balaton Hungarian Restaurant (reservations required, see Registration form and/or AHEA Program)

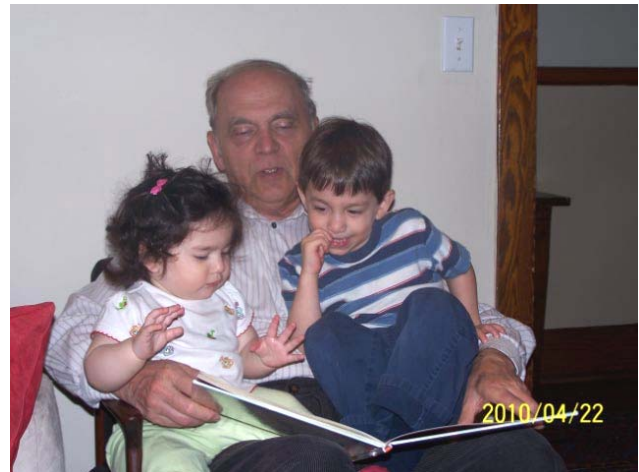
The keynote speaker for the AHEA Banquet at the Balaton Restaurant on Saturday evening, 16 April 2011, will be long-time AHEA supporter, Dr. Nándor Dreisziger.

Dr. Dreisziger will be addressing the audience on the topic of “*The Rise and Fall of the Hungarian Émigré Historian.*”

Dr. Nándor Dreisziger is currently Professor Emeritus of History at the Royal Military College of Canada. Born in western Hungary, Dr. Dreisziger emigrated to Canada in December of 1956. He was educated at the University of Toronto where he earned his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees as well as a post-graduate diploma in Russian and East European Studies.

During 1966-67, Dr. Dreisziger was a Historical Research Officer with what today is called the Library and Archives of Canada. In 1970 he joined the faculty of the Royal Military College of Canada where he taught European and Canadian history until his recent retirement. He has written and edited numerous books and his shorter studies have appeared in Canadian, American, British, Hungarian, Australian and other academic journals, as well as in conference proceedings, *Festschriften*, etc. Since 1974 he has been editing the *Hungarian Studies Review*, the Hungarian Diaspora’s oldest scholarly periodical.

For nearly three decades now, Dr. Dreisziger has been involved with the annual conferences of the Hungarian Studies Association of Canada (HSAC), usually as the presenter of a paper and/or a member of one of the organization’s committees. In 2010 the HSAC conference was held at Concordia University in Montreal, Québec, Canada, and Dr. Dreisziger was in charge of organizing its program. HSAC has been holding its annual conferences under the umbrella of the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences’ Congress which convenes each year on the campus of a different Canadian university. In 2010 over seventy scholarly associations participated in the Congress.



“Explaining the theory of the ‘Dual Conquest’ to his students” 😊

— Professor Dreisziger with his grandchildren.

Dr. Dreisziger's teaching fields included modern Canada, modern Europe, and Eastern Europe. He has published papers in journals, chapters in books, and on-line articles, especially in the field of Hungarian history, but many other non-Hungarian related areas as well. He has published numerous books and edited volumes. He has delivered papers at various learned societies' meetings, including papers at the AHEA Conferences in 1988, 1993, 1999 and 2006. He has delivered lectures at colleges and universities or university-sponsored conferences across the USA and Canada. He has published numerous book reviews including ones in journals such as *Szivárvány* (Chicago), *Hungarian Studies Review*, *Hungarian Studies* (Budapest), *Hungarian Studies Newsletter*, *Hungarian Quarterly*, and many others. He has also been awarded numerous research grants including one as Senior Fellowship in Canadian Ethnic Studies 1986-87, which was the first such grant awarded by the Secretary of State for Multiculturalism of Canada.

Dr. Dreisziger's research is of great interest to Hungarians and scholars of Hungarian topics, but his scholarship appeals to a much wider audience as well. One reason is that his books, essays, articles, and presentations transcend limitation to the two audiences mentioned above, because of his careful efforts to find or emphasize details which previous treatments of these subjects had overlooked. His most recent book (2007), *Hungarians from Ancient Times to 1956*, contains fifteen essays on such subjects as prominent Hungarians, ancient Magyar history, the image of Hungarians in the world, Magyar communities in the Americas, and the historical and international context of the Revolution in Hungary in 1956. The first essay in the book outlines the life, work and political opinions of Béla Bartók, twentieth century Hungary's most famous son. Three other essays deal with lesser-known Hungarians while the following four survey the controversies that surround Hungarian history before the arrival of Prince Árpád and his people in the Carpathian Basin at the end of the ninth century. These are followed by a group of studies dealing with Hungary and the outside world. The book's last few essays deal with Hungarian communities in Canada and elsewhere in the New World.

Dr. Dreisziger's most recent subject of research interest is the story of the so-called "Hungarian" conquest of the Carpathian Basin at the end of the 9th century. His readings on this subject have convinced him that the theory of this event dominant in Hungary (and to some extent also among Hungarians in emigration) is very much in need of re-examination.

Dr Nándor Dreisziger and his wife, the Budapest-born Zsófia Erdei, live in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. Dr. Dreisziger is a true scholar and a true gentleman, and AHEA is honored by his presence as our 2011 banquet speaker.