



Toledo teachers take their talents to Szeged, Hungary, some for a second time. Pictured above are, back row, left to right: Tom Davis, Richard Kozbial, Ann Milkie, Paul Jasco, Jean Davis, and Linette Heinlin; front row, Beth Morrin, Jane Duross, Molly Drew, Judy Jasco, and Becky Summersett.

Teachers return to Hungary

Last summer, 18 Toledo teachers reached their summer school classes by traveling to Szeged, Hungary. For the second year, volunteers from the Toledo area went to the Hungarian city of 150,000 to teach English to children and adults at the Caroline Elementary and Secondary School. The four-week program used music, dance, art, and drama to embody language instruction, an approach very different from the formal, structured methods traditionally used by teachers in the former Soviet-bloc country. The students seemed to appreciate the difference: classes were well attended and the Americans were "treated like royalty," according to Molly Drew, one of the organizers of the program.

our standards, life is not easy in Hungary. Goods are scarce, few people own cars, and waiting in long lines to buy necessities is common. The Toledo teachers took their own teaching supplies, including colored markers, glue sticks, paper, and chalk, because these things are not readily available at the Caroline School.

Perhaps the lack of excessive material wealth and its distractions helps the Hungarians maintain strong family ties. All of the Americans were impressed by the warmth and closeness of the families they met. Nearly all businesses are closed on weekends, and families spend these days doing things together. "Weekends

are family business," Molly remarked. "Families seemed free of many of the distractions that often loosen family ties in our culture."

Each two-week session of the program ended with the students performing a skit, a reading, or a musical number in English for the other students. This was the first time they had ever performed for each other. The school does not hold student-centered assemblies as American schools commonly do.

The teachers from Toledo brought a glimpse of life in America to their students in Szeged and took home memories of a generous and friendly people.



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