



Guests mingle at the Cleveland Hungarian Development Panel's Paprika!



Carolyne and Jim Balogh (Paprika!)



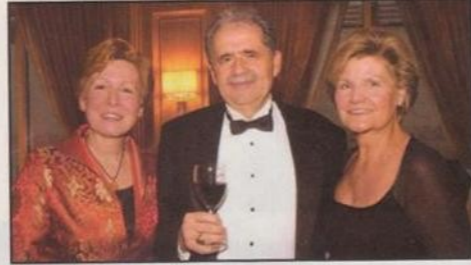
Christinea, Allen and Amry Ann Waddle (Paprika!)



Abbey Toth and Amy Dial (Paprika!)



Marika H. Megyimori, The Honorable April H. Foley and Catherine Hackney (Paprika!)



Monika Hargitai, Istvan Hargitai and Aniko Trombitas Kalnoki (Paprika!)

Cleveland Hungarian Development Panel

“Paprika! On the Orient Express”

Want to spice up a cold winter night? Head for Paprika! the annual gala for the Cleveland Hungarian Development Panel, and party with one of the most fun-loving ethnic groups around (I can say that, being married to a half-Magyar). This year's fundraiser took its 250 guests “on board the Orient Express,” turning the Ritz-Carlton ballroom into a first-class dining car and letting imaginations run wild with a silent auction that included stays in Budapest hotels.

One highlight was the presence of The Honorable Alice H. Foley, U.S. Ambassador to Hungary, and Patricia Gonzalez, Senior Commercial Officer in Hungary. This was a real coup for event chair Dr. Catherine Hackney as the Ambassador also spent three days meeting with CHDP members and people who have benefited by the organization's many business, educational, health and

human services exchange projects. The \$70,000 raised at Paprika! will support awards in 2008. Last year's projects included funding for Hungarian high school science labs in partnership with St. Ignatius High School, therapeutic programs for osteoporosis patients and support for Ohio University and University of Pecs (Hungary) students of international studies in economics and business.

The party featured folk music by Harmonia, pogasca biscuits among the hors d'oeuvres, a mystery “Wine Grab” and a menu that hit the highlights of gourmet Hungarian cuisine. Also included, of course, was the popular pálinka (apricot brandy) poured through an ice sculpture. A couple of those and you're ready to dance a czardas! STORY BY LINDA McMULLEN. PHOTOGRAPHS BY JEFF FARR

PAPRIKA BALL RITZ CARLTON HOTEL FEBRUARY 23, 2008

“They were the jewel that made our event great. The Ambassador was delighted to see the young people and commented on the beautiful costumes.”

*Marika Megimori, President
Cleveland Hungarian Development Panel*

Meeting Ambassador to Hungary, the Honorable April Foley

