

Committee for an American Hungarian

BICENTENNIAL MONUMENT

3216 New Mexico Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

Monument To Honor Hungarian Hero

The Committee for an American Hungarian Bicentennial Monument, Inc., opens its nationwide fund raising campaign for the erection of a statue of Colonel Michael Kovats de Fabriczi (1724-1779) who sacrificed his life in the War of Independence.

In the year when the United States of America celebrates its bicentennial anniversary of that independence, Americans of Hungarian origin thought it fitting to contribute to the celebration by paying this lasting tribute to Colonel Kovats. A native Hungarian, Colonel Kovats was so inspired by the American war for freedom that he offered his service to Benjamin Franklin as a cavalry officer to be "most faithful unto death". He was appointed by Congress and commissioned by General George Washington to command cavalry forces that fought in a number of crucial battles in the American Revolution. He lost his life in the battle of Charleston, S.C. The statue, to be erected in the nation's capital, will commemorate the sacrifice of Colonel Kovats and the contributions made by millions of men and women of Hungarian origin who followed him to help build this nation on his dream of liberty.

In order to achieve this goal the Committee for an American Hungarian Bicentennial Monument, Inc., was formed as a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the District of Columbia on January 27, 1976. Paul Takacs, the eminent Hungarian artist, is designer of Colonel Kovats' statue which will be cast in bronze. Congressman Gilbert Gude, who is a supporter of the goals of the Committee, on May 17, 1976, introduced in the House of Representatives a Joint Resolution as H.J. Res. 954, and on August 2, 1976, re-introduced it as H.J. Res. 1040, to authorize the Committee to erect this monument.

The Committee now opens its fund raising campaign, as a nation-wide movement, under a National Council representing Hungarian churches, cultural and social organizations. Scientific and art life is represented by noted persons among whom are Zoltan Bay, Antal Dorati, Astrik L. Gabriel, Gyorgy Kepes, Edward Teller, and Albert Szent-Gyorgyi.

The Committee for an American Hungarian Bicentennial Monument is a charitable organization as described under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is a publicly supported organization as described in Sections 309 (a)(1) and 170 (b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Code. Contributions are deductible for tax purposes or are exempt from taxes within the limits provided by law. Contributions may be sent to "Hungarian Bicentennial Monument" and addressed to: 10101 Lee Highway, Fairfax, Virginia 22030.