

Please Join the Immigration History Research Center
In Celebrating the Publication of

My Flag Grew Stars

by Kitty Gogins

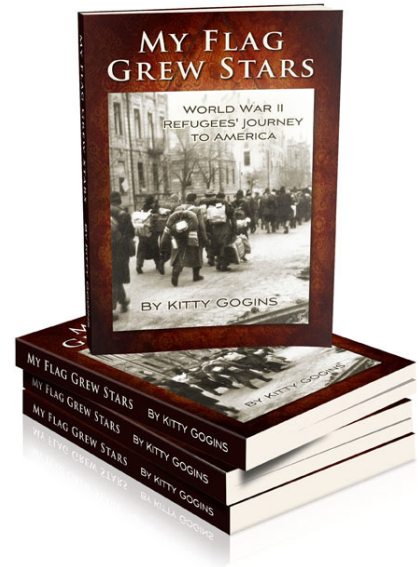
4-7 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2009

120 Elmer L. Andersen Library
222 – 21st Ave South, Minneapolis, MN 55455

Please join us for presentations by the author at 4 and 6 p.m.

Book signing, refreshments, and tours of the Andersen
Library caverns will be offered 5-6 p.m.

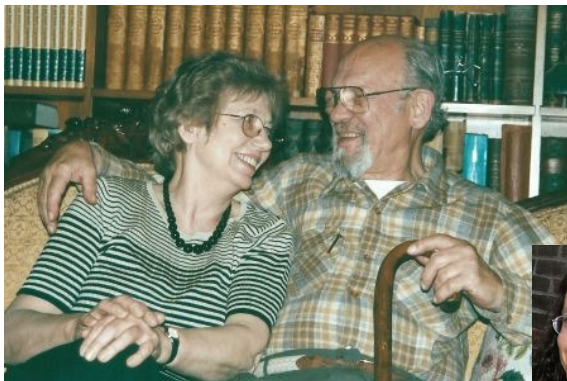


About

My Flag Grew Stars: World War II Refugees' Journey to America
by Kitty Gogins

Teenagers Olga and Tibor fled Hungary and a world destroyed by World War II – Olga minutes ahead of advancing Russian troops, Tibor conscripted by German forces and almost dying as an American prisoner of war. They emigrated as indentured agricultural servants and united, embarking on a cultural journey to become Americans. With perseverance and creativity, they learned to thrive – Tibor as a world-renowned professor at the University of Minnesota and Olga counseling refugees, earning the title “area immigrants’ patron saint.”

Their experiences in a devastating conflict and constructing new lives in Canada and the United States gave them a unique perspective about war, the actions of Americans, and the daily fight of refugees to survive. Tibor Zoltai’s scientific insights still shape the field of mineral crystallography even after his passing. As a caseworker at the International Institute of Minnesota, Olga Zoltai assisted the first Hmong family formally to resettle in Minnesota. She remains an inspiration to those resettling refugees and assisting their successful transition to Minnesota life.



Olga and Tibor Zoltai (above); Kitty Gogins (right).



“Individual faces often disappear when we speak of the years between 1900 and 2000 as the ‘century of the refugee.’ Here, in a single Hungarian family’s story, the emblematic refugee comes alive. A compelling read: Highly recommended,” writes IHRC Director Donna R. Gabaccia.

The IHRC welcomes this new contribution to immigration history, which includes material researched at the Immigration History Research Center, University Archives, Minnesota Historical Society, among other archives.

For more information about
My Flag Grew Stars, visit
<http://kittygogins.books.officelive.com>.

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Immigration History