

Introduction

My Name is Johann Gutenbrunner.

It was in the year 1961, April 24 that I was born. Together with one younger brother and two younger sister I was raised on farm in a remote Austrian country side village.

My first profession was a trained chef. That's how I got interested in going out to the world to see and learn how other people live. For more than ten years I lived and worked abroad in countries like the USA, Belgium, The Netherlands, Denmark, South-Korea and Japan.

I was working for different non-profit organizations as volunteer.

In 1987 I met in Manhattan (New York City) a beautiful young Japanese lady with great virtue. Two years later we got married.

When I returned to Austria in 1992 together with my wife, I decided to go for higher education to make the best use of the language skills and valuable experience gained abroad.

For four years I attended evening courses in a business college which I completed with successful exams in the year 2000. This enabled me to get a position in a Computer

Software company within "Softwarepark Hagenberg" as a Computer Software localization manager for about seven years duration. Our company was re-publisher and global

distributor of the math software "Derive (TM)". A couple of years ago, development of "Derive (TM)" was discontinued. The company closed down and I was set free.

This was the time when I decided to setting up my own business offering translation and localization services as well as IT support. Making a living from this for my family seemed

to be difficult. Through an acquaintance in a Japanese travel agency I got motivated to take courses and the national exam for tourist guides (Austria Guide). Now since a year

and a half I am also working as an independent tourist guided based in Linz City, the third largest city of Austria. By the way, Linz City was chosen for this year 2009, to be European Capital of Culture along with Vilnius (Lithuania).

Since 2007 I hold an Austrian business licence for a consultancy which allows me to offer as an independent consultant what I call "Intercultural Assistance" which means assistance with intercultural communication. Especially in Austria there is a lot of work to do in this field.

We have now two children with the age thirteen and eleven. In 2001 I inherited my parents farm, an organic farm. We offer also farm vacation (Urlaub am Bauernhof). One of my hobbies is gardening and bee-keeping.

Currently I am working on a project called "Guide-Taxi" which is a combined service as a tourist guide and a cab driver in the Linz City.

Communication in an intercultural environment has become very important in my life. Having visited my Japanese in-laws several times, I can even communicate to my mother in-law in Japanese. It is my deep desire to be of good assistance helping to enhance communication and harmonious intercultural exchange in this world, thus hopefully to contributing towards world peace. However, I realize, that peace has to start within me, my family and I can only contribute within my sphere of influence.

One thing that I learned living abroad and having an intercultural family, is my deep conviction, that all human beings are equal and are meant to enjoy equal rights to partake in the resources and bounties of nature and having guaranteed the basic human rights.

I got very inspired by the US election of a black president. Hopefully soon we can have also in Austria politicians and officials with different colours and cultural background.

Thanks and acknowledgments

Ingrind Hauseder (Teacher and mother)

In 1979 on a journey through Austria I met Ingrid in Graz City. She introduced me to the teachings of the Reverend Dr. Sun Myung Moon and the Uncification movement. This encounter has made a profound impact on my life.

Reverend Dr. Sun Myung Moon

His teachings of true family values and guidance have enabled me to participate in intercultural and inter-religious exchange programs. Through his wisdom and love I got to meet my beloved wife Mrs. Tsuyako Shiotsuki from Japan. In January 1989 we received the eternal blessing for our marriage.

Mrs. Tsuyako Shiotsuki-Gutenbrunner

For all her love, sacrifice and support for more than twenty years now. For her care and love for our children.

Johann und Maria Gutenbrunner senior

To my parents for their love, trust and constant support.

Dr. Bernhard Kutzler

As my employer for his trust and support during the seven years of employment at Soft Warehouse Europe GmbH. As a patient teacher and a great friend in many situations.

Johann Gutenbrunner

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