House of Lithuania

House of Pacific Relations, International Cottages, Inc., Balboa Park, San Diego, California

December 12, 2009 – Gruodis 12, 2009 ***Newsletter –Žinios*** Volume 7, Issue 12

HOUSE OF LITHUANIA

KUCIOS

Saturday, December 12, 2009

1 P.M. – Allied Gardens Recreation Center

GARDEN ROOM

5155 Greenbriar Ave., San Diego

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VISITORS WELCOME!!!

For directions call 619-507-7156

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PROPOSED MENU FOR KUCIOS (Christmas Eve)
[Non-Meat Items Only!]

Please consider your choices of what to bring as such as the following items:

Christmas Wafers - Plotkeles
Herring in Tomato Sauce - Silke su pamidoru padazu
Herring with mushrooms - Silke su grybais
Mixed Vegetable Winter Salad - Paprasta misraine - Ziemos salotai
Baked Sauerkraut with fresh Cabbage - Rugstus pasninkiniai kopustai
Baked or Fried Fish - Kepta zuvis
Mushroom side dish - several versions
Potato side dish - several versions
Christmas Biscuits in Poppy Seed Milk - Kuciukai/Slizikai su Aguonu pienu
Cranberry pudding - Kisielius : **Giedre**
Dried Fruit Compote - Dziovintu vaisiu sriuba (kompotas)

Please note these are "suggestions" for a traditional Christmas Eve table. All contributions are welcome.

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For information about the House of Lithuania, please contact Julie Benedict, 619-507-7156, Meilute@aol.com, http://houseoflithuania.org

TRADITION!
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A New Beginning!

The tradition of Kucios is essential to the Lithuanian culture, especially for Lithuanians far from the land of their origins. It is a time for families and groups of Lithuanians, to meet but also, symbolically, for Lithuanians to leave the old year behind, as do many other cultures, by cleaning their houses and themselves, they have a fresh start for the upcoming new year. Traditionally, Lithuanians would have fasted, as well as, abstained from meat on Christmas Eve. Today, though the Church has abolished abstinence and meatless meals on Christmas Eve, Lithuanians, for Kucios, still adhere to the custom of not eating meat. And in lands away from Lithuania, Lithuanian groups gather to maintain the tradition of the special Lithuanian Christmas Eve at this time of the year.

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BEGINIING OF A NEW YEAR:

The goal of the coming year is to encourage greater membership in the House of Lithuania. A very successful Open House was held at the Hall of Nations in November, with a beautiful display of amber jewelry, on-going videos of Lithuania and a display of books on Lithuania. Also shown were maps of Europe, at 100 year intervals, showing the changes from the Year 1000, when Lithuanians were only the indigenous peoples, through the glory days of the Grand Duchy, to independence. Also, elections of officers were held at the November meeting. 2010 officers are Julie Meilute Benedict, President, Giedre Milas, Vice President, Jim Balnis Treasurer, Francesca Williams, Treasurer, and Rita Bukauskiene, Membership Secretary.

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