House of Lithuania

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

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HOUSE OF LITHUANIA

Saturday, January 9, 2010

1 P.M. – Allied Gardens Recreation Center

GARDEN ROOM

5155 Greenbriar Ave., San Diego

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VISITORS WELCOME!!!

For directions call: 619-713-2713 or 619-507-7156

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BEGINING OF A NEW YEAR:

The members coming to the January meeting of the House of Lithuania will have the opportunity to see what the visitors in Balboa Park in November saw: the highly successful Open House held in the Hall of Nations.

There will be a display of amber jewelry, and books about Amber, one or more videos of Lithuania, and a display of books on Lithuania.

Also to be shown are maps of Europe, at 100 year intervals, showing the tremendous changes from the Year 1000, and Lithuanians were the indigenous peoples of the Baltic area, through the glory days of the Grand Duchy, up to independence, and the year 2000.

The goal of the New Year is to achieve greater participation and membership in the House of Lithuania and its activities.

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More Election News

Also elected at the November 2009 meeting were:
HPR Member Delegate: Stanley Milas
HPR Member Alternate: Henry Gorodeckas
HoL Sergeant at Arms: Joe Gurskas

FACTS & FAIRY TALES

The internet is wonderful for researching the history of the Baltic tribes, also Wikipedia. The history of one family speaks of the Teutonic Order making its second crusade against the Prussians, a Baltic Tribe in the period of 1253 to 1257, and building the castle of Konigsberg. The account adds that in 1283 the Teutonic knights finally suppress the Baltic Prussian tribes, and sent out calls for new immigrants.

The Prussians mixed with the settlers and their language disappeared, though the name of Prussia lived on, as the Teutonic knights took the name of their new State from the indigenous Baltic tribe.

Now, the earliest mention of the Pied Piper story seems to have been on a stained glass window placed in the Church of Hamelin c. 1300. This window is generally considered to have been created in memory of a tragic historical event for the city. . The earliest written record is from the town chronicles in an entry from 1384 which states: "It is 10 years since our children left"

Although research has been conducted for centuries, no explanation for the historical event is agreed upon. Some surmise that the children were actually unemployed youths who had been sucked into the German drive to colonize its new settlements in Eastern Europe. The Pied Piper may never have existed as such, but, says one researcher, "There were characters known as Lokator who roamed northern Germany trying to recruit settlers for the East."

In any case, the rats that the Pied Piper was to have rid Hamelin of were first added to the story in a version from c. 1559 and are absent from earlier accounts. -- From Wikipedia and Google

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