House of Lithuania

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

September 12, 2008 – Rugsejis 12, 2008 ***Newsletter –Žinios*** Volume 7, Issue 9

House of Lithuania

LITHUANIAN POTLUCK 1 P.M.

Monthly Meeting After Lunch

GUESTS WELCOME

Saturday, September 12, 2009

Allied Gardens Recreation Center

GARDENS ROOM

5155 Greenbriar Ave., San Diego

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For directions call
Julie-Meilute Benedict 619-507-7156, or
Francesca Williams 858-395-5168

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NEWS FROM VILNIUS

The tough style of Lithuanian President Dalia Grybauskaite in her press conferences has earned her the nickname "Steel Magnolia."

Lithuania celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Baltic Way. On Aug. 23, 1989, some 2 million people in the Baltic countries, including 1 million Lithuanians, linked hands and formed a living chain, stretching from Vilnius through Riga and up to Tallinn. The Balts demanded freedom and independence.

The Third World Congress of Litvaks was held in Vilnius August. 23-30. Representatives from 14 countries attended. Vilnius is known historically as the "Jerusalem of the North,"

NATO air command of the Baltic skies changed hands on Aug. 31, with German pilots, on a four-month rotation, operating out of the Lithuanian Air Force Aviation Base at Siauliai.

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STORY OF A "HOUSE" WITHOUT A HOUSE

Years ago, a group of Lithuanians, known as the Lithuanian-American Club, met periodically, to eat and socialize, going from place to place in San Diego,.

In this period a new couple joined, Titus Samys, and his wife, bringing with them their experience in the international groups in the Midwest. In 1974, the Club organized as the House of Lithuania and became a member of the House of Pacific Relations in Balboa Park.

In 1974, there were already 16 Houses in the Park, and the House of Italy, all built by the City of San Diego for the California Pacific Exposition San Diego 1935-1936. It is these cottages that, Post War II, became the House of Pacific Relations. Today there are 32 national groups that are members.

Four new cottages have been built since those days, paid for by the hosting group, and donated to the City of San Diego. This new cottages were built in space remaining in the Balboa Park Plan. Efforts are being made to build additional Houses pending a change in Balboa Park's Plan, and obtain funding by donations.

And that is why The House of Lithuania is a "House" without a House.

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Membership Information

For information about the House of Lithuania, please contact Francesca Williams, 858-395-5168 http://www.house-of-lithuania.org or visit the House of Pacific Relations site: http://www/sdhpr.org

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