House of Lithuania

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

March 11, 2006 – Kovas 2006 | ***Newsletter – Žinios*** | Volume 4, Issue 3

Lithuanian Word for March

"The Battle"

Kovas (March) - a time of change, of struggle ("kova") between the cold and spring. One day it's snowing, the next it's freezing, the following day the weather again turns warmer. Birds begin to return, among them the rook (kovas), a member of the crow family, a large black bird with a blue and purple sheen to the plumage. They circle above the treetops settle on the fields in scores to march about in search of food. The air is filled by a chorus of caws and croaks as the rooks court, build their nests and mate. The cawing proclaims that spring has nearly arrived. It can thus be said that the month d erives its name from two sources: the winter's battle (kova) with spring and the returning of the rook (kovas).

by Voras Internet Services, Ltd.
http://lithuanian-american.org/educate/tradicijos/months.html

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A GRANDMOTHER'S VILLAGE

House of Lithuania's Treasurer, Mary Murray, had long been looking for her grandmother's village, Piliakalniai. Fortunately, she had a document identifying the village as being in the Vilkaviskis Diocese. However, it was the affection in which Dr. Jonas Basanavičius, the Father of Lithuania's rebirth as a nation in the 1800's, held a small village near his home in Suvalkija, and it was in his writings that the village of Piliakalniai was discovered:

"Together with tales about the crusaders, the mounds held a fascination for me since my earliest days. Close to Ožkabaliai, in the fields of Piliakalniai village stands a beautiful mound. Since my youth I had begun paying visits to this large and very beautiful mound, which brooding in an area of untold beauty and peacefulness, stands on the shore of Aista river."

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Dr. Basanavičius was born in 1851 in the village of Ožkabaliai, in a peasant household. In 1873, upon finishing Marijampolė high school, he entered Moscow university, where in 1879 he received a doctorate of medicine.

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House of Lithuania

Meeting & Potluck

Saturday, March 11, 2006

1 P.M. – Allied Gardens Recreation Center / GARDENS ROOM
5155 Greenbriar Ave., San Diego

Hosted by Marv and Jack Murray

LITHUANIA'S 2nd INDEPENDENCE DAY

The first of the Lithuanian Independence Days in the last century is recognized as February 16, the date was 1918. The interlude of independence was short. And with another World War, freedom was lost. It took the peaceful uprising of the people, the "singing revolution" and the holding of hands across the Baltic States, to obtain freedom in the face of Soviet tanks. The Lithuanian people declared the second restoration of Lithuanian statehood on March 11, 1990. The meeting of the House of Lithuania on this coming March 11 will honor the sacrifice of those who earned the modern day freedom of Lithuania.

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STILL TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Don't miss the opportunity to be a formal member of the House of Lithuania and help us to educate and inform the citizens of San Diego and other visitors about Lithuanian culture. When they hear our history we earn new friends for Lithuania!

LITHUANIA REMEMBERS CHERNOBYL

On April 25, Seimas, the Lithuania's parliament, will commemorate the 20 years since the Chernobyl nuclear plant tragedy on April 26, 1996. There will be an exhibition at the Seimas gallery on Chernobyl's after-effects in Eastern Europe. Rewritten fron The Baltic Times.

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For information about the House of Lithuania,
please contact Francesca Williams at (951) 763-4682,
or visit http://houseoflithuania.org

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