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BRIDGES IS PUBLISHED BY THE LITHUANIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY OF THE U.S.A., INC. THROUGH THIS NEWSLETTER, THE PUBLISHERS HOPE TO RE-ESTABLISH TIES BETWEEN THE DETACHED, MOBILE LITHUANIAN-AMERICANS AND THEIR LITHUANIAN HERITAGE BY PRESENTING ITEMS ON LITHUANIAN CULTURE, CONDITIONS IN THE HOMELAND, EVENTS AND PERSONALITIES IN AMERICA, AND THE ASPIRATIONS OF ALL WHO SUBSCRIBE TO THE IDEA THAT LITHUANIA DESIRES TO BE AN INDEPENDENT AND FREE NATION AGAIN.

LITHUANIA, IN SILENT AGONY

The day-to-day struggles of the small and the weak are infrequently acknowledged in the global village. The town crier of our electronic age, the international media, keeps one eye open for the spectacular with which to whet audience appetites: the other eye is fixed on more prosaic, more palatable items which won't disturb a regular diet. In between these extremes is a vast gray theater known intimately only to the actors, who suffer or rejoice in silent anonymity.

Such has been the case with Lithuania. Her seven hundred years of history are found in few textbooks... the fourteenth century kings who made her the largest nation in Europe, stretching from the Baltic to the Black Sea, have long since ceased to boast. On February 16, 1918, after 123 years of oppression under the Czars, her reestablishment as an independent nation was lost amid the tumult of a world emerging from war. During the next 22 years, Lithuania's brave steps through freedom, her achievements as well as her failures, made little headway against the banner headlines of world-wide depression and European rearmament. The experiment in autonomy was cut short in June in 1940, when the Soviet War Machine lumbered onto Baltic soil to stake its imperial flag. During World War II, Lithuania became the battleground of Nazi and Soviet armies. The Soviet victors claimed her as war booty in 1944 and, with western acquiescence, clamped a steel-jacketed glove over the lips of any who dared object. Over three hundred thousand Lithuanian lives were lost during that war. True, the Nazis killed some, but the Red Army killed more.

So it seems to continue. The Russian minions have followed a ruthless policy of forced assimilation in their captured lands. Immediately after the war, tens of thousands of Lithuanians were killed, imprisoned, or deported to Siberia. Others managed to find sanctuary in the forests and hills, for a time. A guerilla war carried on by Lithuanian patriots managed to last eight years, until 1952. It ground to a halt amid broken promises of amnesty and the bodies of 50,000 partisans and innocents.

The intervening years have seen a lessening of that "blood-dimmed tide." The repression is less obvious now, but no less invidious.

The Lithuanian language has always been a prime target of the Russians. A Baltic tongue which should never be confused with Slavic, the Lithuanian language has roots reaching back to the origins of the proto-Indo-European family of languages. Linguists credit it with being the oldest Indo-European language still spoken. The Soviet overlords, like the Czars before them, seek to eradicate it.

Roman Catholics have also become special targets. Lithuania, which was the last European nation to embrace Catholicism, now has the highest number of Roman Catholics in the Soviet Union and the only remaining seminary for training priests in the Latin Rite. Under the "official atheism" of the Soviets, churches have been converted to war museums or have been left to rot. Repairs need government approval, which is nearly impossible to obtain. Priests have suffered imprisonment and torture: churchgoers have been dismissed from their jobs; schoolchildren of the faithful are publicly harassed and ridiculed; supporters receive threatening telephone calls; and still more than half of the population of over three million regularly goes to Mass.

Repression of political dissent is more blatant. Those Lithuanians who voice their protests, like Balyš Gajauskas or Viktoras Petkus, are denounced as traitors and accused of anti-Soviet agitation. Their trials are closed, the juries and galleries are hand-picked, and the sentences are always long. Those who point out that the liberties being denied to Lithuanians are guaranteed in the Soviet Constitution are declared mentally insane, like Algirdas Žyprė. The prescribed therapy for such "deranged" minds in the Soviet Union's psychiatric hospitals is not intended to cure.

And so it continues.

The United States does not officially recognize the Soviet annexation of the Baltic States — Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. It is doubtful if the frequency or volume with which this policy is publicly stated will ever bore anyone. It is time that the United States government does more than pay lip service to its own policies. It is time that a voice be given to the silent agony of Lithuania.

You, the readers of *Bridges*, can play a vital role in achieving this end. Write to President Carter, to Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, to America's U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young, to your senators, congressmen, and state legislators, to your local editors, and to your TV and radio station managers. Let them know who you are; let them know that you're out there watching and waiting for their response; let them know that you care. By doing so, you'll encourage **them** to care. Think of it this way — the letter you send may be the one that keeps a Lithuanian citizen from spending the next twenty years in the cold, concrete box of a Soviet political prison.

Rimantas A. Stirbys

COMMUNITY WITH A CAPITAL "C"

The third annual session of Bendruomenė's Eighth Council was held on November 18th and 19th, 1978 at the Shoreham-Americana Hotel in Washington, D.C. The purpose of the council session was to discuss organizational guidelines and to vote on important issues relevant to Bendruomenė and the Lithuanian community in general. Included in the results of the council session was approval of procedures to govern the new election of council representatives in the Spring of 1979; announcements of work accomplished in the previous year; and plans for future activities by the

various Bendruomenė committies — culture, education, public affairs, young people's, and religion.

Rights Awards Banquet

The timing of the council session coincided with the first Human Rights Awards Banquet, staged by Bendruomenė in the Empire Ballroom of the Shoreham-Americana. Over 300 attended the banquet, with special guests **Simas Kudirka**, **Victoria Mongiardo** (White House Advisor on Ethnic Affairs), **Monsignor Geno**

Baroni (Asst. Secretary of HUD), **Thomas Longo** (Baltic Desk Officer at the U.S. Department of State), **Dr. Stasys Bačkis** (Charge d'Affaires of the Lithuanian Legation in Washington, D.C.), as well as representatives of other ethnic groups and Lithuanian organizations.

The keynote address was given by S. Algimantas Gečys, National President of the Lithuanian-American Community of U.S.A., Inc., who described the many contributions that Lithuanians have made to America. Three seats at the head table were left vacant in remembrance of Lithuanian prisoners of conscience; those we know of and those who will forever remain anonymous.

Lithuanian Heritage Awards were presented to Ms. Mongiardo and Monsignor Baroni for their contributions and efforts in raising ethnic consciousness in America, and to Dr. Bačkis for his dedicated service to Lithuania. The Human Rights Awards, engraved plaques mounted on heavy wooden shields, were presented to **Viktoras Petkus** for his valiant stand against Soviet oppression as chairman of the Lithuanian Group to monitor Soviet compliance with the Helsinki Accords, and to **President Jimmy Carter** for making basic human rights a cornerstone of American foreign policy and an internationally recognized issue.

Simas Kudirka accepted the award on behalf of Viktoras Petkus. Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, Special Advisor to the President on Foreign Affairs, accepted President Carter's award during a special briefing held the next day. (More on this briefing in a moment.)

The banquet was followed by a cultural program which featured Malūnas, the folkdancing group from Baltimore, Maryland; and Ms. D. Bankaitytė, a member of the Čiurlionis Ensemble of Cleveland, Ohio who played traditional compositions on Kanklės (a Lithuanian zither-like instrument).

Executive Briefing

One of the highlights of the weekend was a special briefing held at the Old Executive Office Building adjacent to the White House. The briefing was attended by over 250 Lithuanians, spanning all ages and all professions. Those in attendance had received engraved invitations and had to pass security clearance. Mike Chanin, Deputy Assistant to the President, spoke to the group of the Carter administration's concern for inflation. In the President's name, he called on the individuals in the group to support the President's economic policies in their roles as ethnic and civic leaders in their respective communities.

Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski then spoke to the audience about American foreign policy, Pope John Paul II, and human rights. The President "is deeply conscious of the present condition of your people," he said when accepting the Human Rights Award on behalf of



Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, holding the Human Rights Award he accepted on President Carter's behalf. To the right are Aušra Zerr, Mike Chanin, and Rimas Česonis

Carter. Dr. Brzezinski also accepted a copy of *Lithuania: 700 Years*, presented to him by Dr. Algirdas Budreckis, one of the authors of the book, a vice-president of Bendruomenė, and, as readers well know, the former Managing Editor of *Bridges*.

Although this special briefing was considered a great honor to all Lithuanian-Americans, those in attendance were disappointed at the shortness of Dr. Brzezinski's talk and at the fact that he had to leave before a question-and-answer period could be held as had originally been planned.

White House Reception

The briefing was immediately followed by a reception at the White House hosted by the First Lady, **Mrs. Rosalyn Carter**. Only two other ethnic groups have been accorded this privilege — Armenians and Italians. Each member of the reception line was greeted personally by Mrs. Carter. Coffee, tea, and exquisite petite-fours were served in the West Wing, and the guests were allowed to browse throughout the first floor, all the while accompanied by popular music played on a grand piano by a uniformed marine.

Mrs. Carter was presented with a bouquet of red roses and an amber necklace; she also accepted a brooch and a jewelry box decorated with Lithuanian motifs for her daughter, Amy.

Recently, Mrs. Carter sent a personal letter to Bendruomenė's Central Committee in which she expressed her joy at the opportunity to host the Lithuanian-American community at the White House. She also expressed her thanks for the gifts presented to her at the reception. She mentioned that her daughter, Amy, is overjoyed at having received the jewelry box and brooch. Mrs. Carter ended her letter by saying that she and her family wishes to assure us that they deeply appreciate the sincerity of their Lithuanian friends.



First Lady Rosalyn Carter accepting a jewelry box adorned with Lithuanian motifs. In the photo taken at the White House reception are, from left to right: Rimas Česonis (VP of Bendruomenė), Aušra Zerr (who chairs Bendruomenė's Public Affairs Committee), S. Algimantas Gečys (National President), Charles Zerr, Mrs. Carter, and an unidentified but ever-present Marine

THE CAUSE OF LIBERTY

The famous Lithuanian poet **Vincas Mykolaitis-Putinas** is remembered in many ways other than those stated in the Soviet press. Former close friends of the late poet wished to place a cross on his grave. The initiator of this effort, **Emilija Kvedaraitė**, brought the cross to the cemetery and was promptly arrested. The cross was confiscated. The woman was labeled by Soviet authorities as having a "nervous disorder" and was placed in the cardiology unit of a hospital. Visiting rights were nearly impossible to obtain and it was made known that Ms. Kvedaraitė would be transferred to a facility for nervous disorders, although everyone who knew her states that she never suffered from such a malady. It is a known fact that dissenters from the Soviet Union's way of thinking are often locked up in psychiatric hospitals. Meanwhile, on the grave of the poet who once studied to be a priest, stands a meaningless bronze figure.

Publishers in Lithuania apparently don't feel the need to abide by the ethical standards accepted in the rest of the world. *Gimtas Kraštas* (Native Land), an official publication of Soviet-occupied Lithuania, recently printed a selection of poems by **Živilė Bilaišytė**, a Lithuanian-American from Chicago who, in 1973, attended a summer course for foreign nationals at Vilnius University. According to *Gimtas Kraštas*, Ms. Bilaišytė had given the publishers three new poems while she was attending the course. However, Ms. Bilaišytė reports in the December 22, 1978 edition of *Darbininkas* that *Gimtas Kraštas* reprinted her poems without her permission and without even contacting her. She says the poems were created in 1977 and were given exclusively to Vytautas Kavolis, editor of *Metmenys* (a Lithuanian-American literature and arts journal) for publication. Reprinting these poems without notification or permission of the author constitutes plagiarism, and the impression that the poetess had given these new poems to *Gimtas Kraštas*—an outright lie.

CULTURE

The Lithuanian-American Community's Cultural Council is sponsoring a **Lithuanian drama competition** with a top prize of \$1,500 going to the author of the best play or dramatic presentation. Two-thirds of the prize money is being contributed by the Lithuanian Foundation, the rest by Bendruomenė's Cultural Council. The theme of the work is left to the discretion of the author. Manuscripts, written in Lithuanian, should be submitted by November 15th, 1979. Information on where to send completed manuscripts or where to direct inquiries will be provided in *Bridges* when the establishment of the evaluation committee has been finalized.

This past December, a **Lithuanian Christmas tree** decorated with genuinely traditional straw ornaments was exhibited by the Smithsonian Institution at the National Museum of History and Technology in Washington, D.C. This is the first time that this unique example of Lithuanian culture was so honored: the tree was even featured on local television. The Smithsonian apparently liked the decorations so much that the straw ornaments have been left in the care of the Museum for use next year. The Lithuanian Christmas tree was one of many that were exhibited from December 15th to January 2nd. A brochure which was distributed at the exhibition mentioned that the Lithuanian Christmas tree dates back to the 1800's.

The Smithsonian Institution is planning to feature information about Darius and Girėnas in its upcoming exhibition of world-famous pilots. To prepare this exhibit, the Smithsonian is searching for photographs of the aviators, especially those which include their air plane, "Lituanica". Photographs, documents, or anecdotes can be sent directly to the Smithsonian Institute, National Air and Space Museum, Washington, D.C. 20560. For those wishing to learn more about Darius and Girėnas see our feature in next month's issue.

Publications

This year *Lituanus*, the Lithuanian quarterly journal of Arts and Sciences, will commemorate **25 years** of service to the international academic community. During this past quarter century, the publishers have informed the world about the cultural, historic, artistic, and literary achievements of the Lithuanian people in an objective and scholarly manner. *Lituanus* can be found throughout the world in almost every major research library and university. *Lituanus* has printed 32 million pages of information, including recent articles which dealt with: annotated samizdat documents on human rights violations in Soviet-occupied Lithuania; the genius of the artist Mykolas K. Čiurlionis; the Lithuanian language; translations of modern and classic

Lithuanian literature; and the biased treatment of Lithuania in American history textbooks. We salute the publishers and editors of *Lituanus* for a truly outstanding international periodical. This English-language quarterly can be ordered by sending \$10.00 to: *Lituanus*, 6621 S. Troy, Chicago, Illinois 60629.

For the seventh year in a row, the Lithuanian-American Community of the U.S.A., Inc., has published *Violations of Human Rights in Soviet-Occupied Lithuania*. Copies of this latest document, a report for 1977, have already been ordered by such prestigious institutions as the University of Paris, Georgetown University, and Amnesty International. The book was published with "freedom funds" contributed by Lithuanian-Americans.

Language Corner

The Lithuanian language developed together with the other Baltic tongues as a result of the splitting of Proto-Baltic, the parent language of Lithuanian, Lettish, and Old Prussian. According to Kazimieras Būga, the distinguished Lithuanian linguist, Proto-Baltic divided into two branches during the 4th and 3rd centuries B.C. The Western branch featured the Old Prussian language: the main representatives of the Eastern branch are Lithuanian and Latvian. According to *Encyclopedia Lituanica*, the ancestors of the Lithuanians and Latvians had a common language which began to diverge approximately during the 8th century A.D.; by the 13th century, Lithuanian and Latvian became distinctly different languages.

Of the Baltic branch, Old Prussian (now extinct) exhibited a relatively larger quantity of ancient "morphological" characteristics which included a greater complexity of endings on nouns, verbs, and adjectives. Lithuanian features a number of innovations, but remains more conservative than Latvian.

Written Lithuanian dates back only to the 16th century. The first known printed text is Martynas Mažvydas' translation of Luther's *Catechism*, published in Königsberg in 1547. Throughout this period, Lithuanian writings were almost exclusively of a religious nature. However, they were based on a variety of dialects, and in their morphology there are found a number of common forms which have entirely disappeared from contemporary Standard Lithuanian. Only some of these forms are found in one or another dialect today.

As promised in the last issue, we will be continuing our examination of Lithuania's linguistic heritage, and will be accompanying it with a lexicon of English-loan words and their suitable Lithuanian equivalents. We should all strive to preserve the Lithuanian character of our language and be proud of its historical and, especially, linguistic importance.

<i>English loan word:</i>	<i>Lithuanian equivalent:</i>
6. draiveris	vairuotojas, -ja (driver)
7. karpenteris	dailidė (carpenter)
8. lojeris	advokatas, -tė (attorney) or teisnininkas, -kė (lawyer)
9. pėnteris	dažytojas, -ja (painter)
10. selsmonas	pardavėjas, -ja (salesman, saleswoman)

RELIGION

Pope John Paul II met with Soviet Foreign Minister **Andrei A. Gromyko** on January 24th, the eve of the Pope's visit to Mexico. The meeting was described by Vatican and Communist diplomats as being important for church-state relations in Eastern Europe. According to *The New York Times*, in an article printed the same day as the visit, the Pope's personal stature is such that, if he wants to, he can bring about changes in popular attitudes toward Communist regimes not only in Poland but also in the other East European countries with large Roman Catholic populations: Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany, and even in **Lithuania**, the only Soviet republic with a large Catholic population. However, the Pope is reported to feel that the relatively good external relations between the Vatican and Moscow have failed to bring about an adequate liberalization in government attitudes toward Catholic communities under Soviet rule; they remain subject to restrictions on religious teaching and most other church activities. The pontiff feels strongly that improved relations between the Vatican and the Soviet Union should be associated with a similar relaxation in ties between individual national churches and East European governments.

Religious freedom, human rights, and the Pope's plans to visit his native Poland next May are reported



Pope John Paul II greeting Monsignor Audris J. Bačkis, who, on November 23rd, thanked the Holy Father for including a greeting in Lithuanian in his address at the pontification ceremonies

to have been among the subjects touched on during the meeting. The Pope's trip to Latin America and the reaction of Mexican Catholics will be watched carefully by East European officials eager to gauge the far greater political and emotional impact that the projected visit of the charismatic Pontiff is apt to have on his own country, Poland. The Pope rested in mid-January that he considered it his duty to go to Poland this spring, on the 900th anniversary of the murder of St. Stanislaus by the King of Poland. According to East European diplomats, the Kremlin leaders are even more worried about the pontiff's visit than the Polish authorities. His presence may incite not only religious feelings, but also a wave of nationalistic fervor that the Russians should well fear.

MEDIA

Count **Nikolai Tolstoy**, a historian, is author of *The Secret Betrayal* (New York, Scribner's, 1978; originally published in Great Britain as *Victims of Yalta*, London, Musson). This book details the fate of refugees who first were liberated by the Allies from the Soviet Union after World War II, but who then were turned over to the Soviets against their will. Although Tolstoy names Great Britain and the United States as the greatest culprits in this forcible repatriation, a reference is also made to the 167 **Balts** betrayed by Sweden. Many of these exiles who originally fled to Sweden attempted to prevent their repatriation through suicide or self-mutilation. Still, they were rounded up by the supposedly neutral Swedish government and sent to Soviet-occupied **Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia** where they were either executed as "traitors" or imprisoned in slave labor camps.

Count Tolstoy, a descendent of the great novelist Leo Tolstoy, is currently working on another book in which he will examine Soviet atrocities, including those committed in the Baltic nations. He is asking the public for information on this subject, such as eyewitness accounts or reproduction-quality photographs of victims and mass graves. The documents can be in any language, but must be accompanied by a short synopsis in English. Material should be sent to: Count Nikolai Tolstoy, Cricket Court, Cricket Malherbie, nr. Ilminster, Somerset, Great Britain.

ORGANIZATIONS

The **Supreme Committee for the Liberation of Lithuania (VLIKas)** is searching for talented, hard-working young college students to serve as interns. Those interested in international law, history, or journalism, and who wish to contribute to Lithuanian liberation activities, are asked to send resumes to: VLIKas, Studies Committee, 29 West 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10019. Candidates who are selected for the program will receive scholarships to further their education.

The Program Committee of the **Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies, Inc.** is soliciting research papers for the Association's 7th Conference on Baltic Studies on any aspects of the Stalin and Hitler rule in the Baltic States, 1940-1953. Proposals or completed papers submitted to the Committee will be considered for presentation at the conference. Please mail 500-word summaries of research proposals to: Professor V. Stanley Vardys, Dept. of Political Science University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019.

Vytis, the monthly magazine of the **Knights of Lithuania**, reports that following last August's elections at the Vyčių convention in Syracuse, New York, the new K. of L. Central Committee consists of: Chaplain, Father Antanas Jurgelaitis (Providence, R.I.); President, Phillip Skabeikis, (Richmond Hill, N.Y.); Vice-presidents, Anne Marie Kassel (Downers Grove, Ill.), John Adoménas (Brooklyn, N.Y.), and Joseph White (South Boston, Mass); Secretary of Protocol, Eve Kazokas (Scranton, Pa); Treasurer, P. Trainer (Fairfield, Conn.); Secretary of Finance, Teresé Strolia (Oak Forest, Ill.); Comptrollers, Isabelle McKinley (Ridgefield, N.J.) and Elena Shields (Ridgefield, N.J.); and Legal Counsel, Anthony Young (South Boston, Mass.).

Incidentally, plans are already being made for the 66th Vyčių convention which will take place this summer in Chicago, Illinois. The last Vyčių convention to be held in Chicago was nine years ago. This summer's agenda cites four days of meetings and lectures. Included among the events will be an exhibit and cultural program at the Marquette Park Church Hall, and a Hawaiian-theme dance at the Vyčių Hall in Brighton Park. The children of Vyčiai attending the conference will not be forgotten: there will be tours of museums, swimming trips, and other fun-filled activities to keep them happy.

PERSONALITIES

"He wanted to be recognized as the world's greatest fall guy," they said about **A. J. Bakunas**. Tragically, his wish took an ironic twist. The 17-year-old professional stuntman died September 22nd, 1978 after trying to set a world record with a 323-foot free-fall. He was taking the plunge for the movie "Steel," being filmed in Lexington, Kentucky. The scene was to depict the death of a character portrayed by actor George Kennedy. It had been filmed earlier with Bakunas making a shorter jump, but the film's star, Lee Majors, arranged the longer fall so that Bakunas could regain the record he had lost earlier that month to another stuntman. Bakunas helped design the air bag that he used for the big fall but, unfortunately, it proved too weak to cushion the impact of his landing, estimated to have reached a velocity of 115 mph.

Asked if footage of the fatal fall would be used in the movie, a spokesman for the production company said, "most assuredly."

Through the efforts of Bendruomenė officials, notably Rimas Česonis (National Vice-president), Lithuanians are now being routinely included among the representatives of the American public at important White House events. Thus, the national president of the Lithuanian-American Engineers' and Architects' Association, **Vytautas Izbickas**, of Westwood, Massachusetts, was invited to attend the August 31st White House Conference on Energy Conservation. At this conference, 100 specially selected guests heard reports by President Carter, Energy Department head James Schlesinger, and the President's chief inflation fighter, Robert Strauss. Mr. Izbickas got a chance to pose two questions during the question-and-answer period following the speeches: one on the over-all direction of the United States' energy policy and the other on the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. More recently, Mr. Izbickas took part in the signing of the comprehensive energy package on November 9th, 1978, and was personally greeted by the President.

Mr. Izbickas is employed by the Chas. T. Main Engineering Company, for whom he supervises the construction of electric generating facilities and nuclear power plants.



Vytautas Izbickas, president of the World Lithuanian Engineer's and Architects' Association, being greeted by President Jimmy Carter

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This section will appear periodically in *Bridges* to inform our readers about special upcoming events in the Lithuanian community. We invite you to submit information about any such events in your neighborhood, city, or state. The information, which should be mailed at least two months in advance, can be sent to: *Bridges*, P.O. Box 2158, Jenkintown, PA 19046.

April 21, 22, and 28: The Lithuanian Opera Company's production of Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* will be presented in Chicago, Illinois. This extravaganza features a fully-costumed cast accompanied by an orchestra. Tickets range from \$5.00 to \$15.00 and may be ordered from the Lithuanian Opera Company, Inc., 6905 S. Artesian Ave., Chicago, IL 60629.

April 28: The Lithuanian Ethnographic Ensemble of Boston will present a musical performance of *A Lithuanian Wedding* at the Lithuanian Music Hall, (2715 E. Allegheny Ave., Philadelphia, PA). This group has toured in New York City, Chicago, and Baltimore. The performance begins at 7 P.M. and will be followed by a social and dancing. For more information, call (215) 677-1684.

May 25-28: The Institute of Lithuanian Studies, Inc. will hold a conference at the Kultūros Židinys, the Lithuanian Cultural Center in New York City (361 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn, New York). The conference will feature professionals in the field of Lithuanian studies.

June 24 to July 6: A two-week summer camp for 7- to 16-year old children of Lithuanian descent will take

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place in West Brattleboro, Vermont. The camp is conducted in English and instructors will teach Lithuanian songs, dances, folk crafts, and traditions. For information and reservations, write: Camp Neringa, I.C.C., Putnam, CT 60260. Be sure to act quickly, since available spaces are filled early.

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A Note to Our Subscribers:

Those of you who have subscribed to *Bridges* for some time will have noticed that you never received the October issue. We hope the U.S. Postal Service hasn't suffered any unwarranted criticism for this lapse, because the fault is entirely ours. Confusion during the editorial transition apparently proved too much for us, since that issue never even went to press. At this point in time, we feel that attempting to furnish an issue for October, 1978 would be inappropriate. Instead, and in lieu of the October issue, we intend to compile a special eight-page survey of recently published books that we are sure would be of interest to our Lithuanian-American readership. Look for this special issue sometime this Spring.

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