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American and Lithuanian Military Share Ideas

by Florence Eckert

Colonel Eugene J. Klimash of Shavertown, PA, recently returned from a six-month assignment in Lithuania. Serving with the Pennsylvania National Guard's 28th Division, Klimash was former commander of the 55th brigade.

The Colonel headed a four-man team of military men assigned as a part of President Clinton's "Partnership for Peace" program initiated by former commander of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Colin Powell.

Pictured with him are the members of his team. From left, Major Tim Wells, U.S. Marines, Camp Pendleton, California; Captain Arunas Tamalaitis, Michigan Army Reserves; Col. Klimash; and Chief Petty Officer Gary Mason, Home Base Michigan, now stationed in Spain.

Klimash pointed out that military from Lithuania also come to Pennsylvania. "As a matter of fact," he said, there's a team at Indiantown Gap right now."

The "Partnership For Peace" program does not provide for supplying weapons, equipment or money, and unfortunately it's difficult for Lithuanians to understand why the U.S. isn't shipping in the military supplies so badly needed.

The Colonel points out that his team is there to share ideas as to how to do things. "We observe how they organize, how they staff plan and then when they're finished we tell them how we would have done it, how we would have conducted this par-



ticular exercise." He stressed that training is not a part of their program. "We don't even use the word training," he said.

"When we complete our recommendations, we then give them an opportunity to say, 'hey, that's a good idea' or 'that's not such a good idea' - they have to formulate their own ideas."

Lithuania now has her own military but very few bases. Many soldiers in the Lithuanian military are former Soviet servicemen, and that is especially noted in the higher ranking officers.

Presently Lithuania drafts young men for military service. They are known as conscripts and serve for one year. Klimash said most of them return to civilian life after their year is up simply because military pay is far below the average civilian pay check.

General Gerald T. Sajer, Adjutant General of PA, visited the team in Lithuania and had a

chance to meet some of the military. General Jonas Andriskevicius is the commander of all Lithuanian military forces.

The Partnership For Peace program is an example of democracy in progress. Participating countries share their democratic ideas and practices with the newly freed nations that had been dominated by the former Soviet Union for 50 years. These countries know very little about democracy and the people were taught to believe that America was the enemy.

With a 50 year gap of any linkage with the U.S., young Lithuanians knew nothing about the Americans. "They were taught in school that we were the 'bad guys'," Klimash said, "but people who remember back before World War II know the Americans were the 'good guys'."

(Continued on page 3)

Florence Eckert --- "Let's Take A Walk"

School was out for the day and suddenly the quiet neighborhood was filled with the beautiful noise of children. They were busy bouncing balls, running, jumping, laughing, and just letting off steam after sitting still in classrooms all afternoon.

Then, just as suddenly as the voices broke the silence of the neighborhood, they seemed to vanish. All that could be heard was the occasional barking of a dog or the whistle of the coal colliery signifying the end of the coal miner's work day. Where had they gone so quickly? It was no big, dark secret in that neighborhood. Not in that little community which was made up of mostly Catholic immigrants.

It was the Season of Lent and the children had gone to church to walk the Stations of the Cross. If you peered inside, you would see the back pews filled with bookbags while the children could be seen praying as they walked from one station to the next.

Lent was a very important time of the year for ethnic immigrants and they continued to practice all the old-country religious customs they learned from their parents in Lithuania.

Lent was a time to make reparation for sin through prayer, fasting and good works. Meditating on the "Way of the Cross" was a true act of repentance, an act of sorrow and an act of love. As you walk the road to Calvary you realize the gravity of sin and the suffering Christ went through to free you from your sins.

When did this practice begin

and how did the church arrive at the particular number of Stations?

In the year 325, St. Helena, mother of the first Christian Roman Emperor who had searched for and found the true Cross was told in a dream that Christ's tomb which she had been seeking, was covered with earth and a shrine of Aphrodite had been built above it.

Helena found the spot, had it cleared and left only the cave-like tomb and the rock surrounding it. She then had a church built leaving the tomb in the center and the church was named "The Church of The Holy Sepulchre."

It soon became a renowned Shrine and people traveled from near and far to pray at the spot. In the middle ages, it was not uncommon for a priest to assign penance of visiting the church of Holy Sepulchre to a person in confession.

Anyone who could make the trip to the Shrine received a Plenary Indulgence. But in the Middle Ages it was not without great sacrifice that you could reach the church. Depending on where one made his home, the trip could take days, months, and even years. Considering the dangers in those days some pilgrims never made it back home.

The Church realized this and it wasn't long before replicas of the Holy Sepulchre were built in some of the larger towns. This gave more people the opportunity to visit a likeness of the Shrine and to meditate on the steps taken by Christ on His way to Calvary, his three hours of

agony on the Cross and his burial in the tomb.

This replica was usually built around a particular focal point; some type of special monument or stone or just a plain marker on the ground which was meant to represent the sepulchre.

Eventually, other locations in the church were marked as "steps along the way," so pilgrims could follow the path of Christ and meditate on His passion from the moment He was sentenced to die to His burial in the tomb.

By building these churches, more people were privileged to receive the plenary indulgences formerly offered only to those who could afford to make the long, sometimes dangerous journey to the true church.

It wasn't until the 14th century that the Franciscans began placing wooden crosses in parish churches to enable parishioners who couldn't even reach the replica churches to now be able to walk from cross to cross in their parish church in commemoration of Christ's "Way of the Cross."

Fourteen crosses were erected with each highlighting a significant step along the way.

When the Franciscans saw the devotion of the people, they petitioned the Holy Father to grant a plenary indulgence to all who prayed the stations properly and it was approved.

It wasn't until the 18th century during the reign of Pope Clement XII Corsini that the number of stations was fixed at 14 and the Holy Father granted permission for them to be installed in every Catholic Church. The Holy Father signified they be erected by a designated member of the Franciscan order with the permission of the local ordinary.

The church's handbook on indulgences states that it is customary to add pictures or images depicting the various stations

along the way of the cross but it is however the cross that really matters and not the pictures. We are reminded it is the cross that was taken up by Christ and carried all the way to Calvary for our sins. And we must NEVER forget that!

Fifty years ago, the atheistic communists erased all these beliefs from the minds of the children of Eastern Europe and we in the free world prayed for their return to God. Our prayers were answered. Their churches are opened and the little ones are being taught the Way of the Cross and all the truths of the Catholic Church.

Who has taken this away from the children of America? Why aren't there any back-packs in the pews after school today and why aren't the children walking the stations? Who is their Christ? Who is their MADONNA? Who is now closing our churches and who will pray for America?

This Lent, while you still can, find a Catholic Church that remains open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and take your young ones by the hand and walk the Stations with them.

Introduce them to Jesus, their Lord and Savior, and to the "MADONNA," His mother and their Heavenly Mother.

You'll experience a love so overwhelming that you'll believe this is the first day of the rest of your life and your children will love you for it.

On the road to Calvary which was filled with hate and violence, the mother of God walked beside her Son -- all the way.

In this present day world filled with hate and violence, don't separate yourself from your children. They need your guidance, your protection, and most of all, your love.

Walk with them -- ALL THE WAY.

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Military

(Continued from page 1)

"The majority of these people were meeting Americans for the first time," he said. "The first Americans began to show up in 1992 and those under 40 never saw an American before, especially the military."

While in Lithuania, Klimash toured the country giving him an opportunity to learn more about the people who make up this little nation. Having arrived in July and departed in January, he experienced the heat of Lithuania's summer and the cold of the winter. The summer was extremely hot but he was told it was one of the hottest summers in 50 or 60 years. Generally their weather is much like ours, seasonal and unpredictable.

Snow plowing is only done on the major highways from Vilnius to Kaunas. "This is no Penn Dot operation," he said, one plow every 10 or 15 miles, not like eight plows every two or three miles for Penn Dot."

The Colonel's eyes light up when he speaks about the beauty of Klaipeda, especially the town of Nida. "It's absolutely beautiful!" The sand beaches, the water, the dunes. When they get themselves organized economically and some money starts coming in to the country, this will be a resort area. There's no doubt in my mind," he says.

He spoke highly of the opera house, athletic hall, amphitheater in Vengas Park and the large number of churches. "There are 23 churches in "Old Town" Vilnius alone," he said.

"Old Town" is a small segment of Vilnius that remained unchanged while everything was being built up around it. Buildings are 150 to 250 years old.

Klimash enjoyed Christmas in the old town section of Vilnius. He notes Lithuanians sure know



Lithuanian children enjoying a ride with Santa.

how to celebrate Christmas and they do it the right way.

"Families just stand around streets having a good time," he said. Little children ride around in horsedrawn carts with Santa at the reins and a huge Christmas tree stands in the heart of town. Attending Midnight Mass on Christmas, he found the church completely filled.

On Christmas Day, the U.S. Embassy held a party for the Colonel and his team which was appreciated by all.

Contrary to some reports coming out of Lithuania, the Colonel found the streets of Vilnius safer than some of the streets in many of our American cities. "It's not unusual to see a 22 or 23 year old young woman walking alone in old town Vilnius around 11 p.m. or midnight," he said. "The walkways are narrow, almost alley-like and dimly lit and there are no problems of robberies or muggings."

The American team operated out of the Lithuanian Home Guard (National Guard) headquarters and wound up eating there at least once every day.

Klimash said there are women in the Lithuanian military but they are not conscripts. They can join and they usually hold down supporting roles like in the Home Guard kitchens. Kopusta and potato pancakes along with the various

Lithuanian breads were some of the foods he bragged about. Pancakes were prepared with different fillings like meats and cheeses.

Once you get out of Vilnius, you're in rural farmland areas which make up the greatest part of the country. The farmers are hurting. They have hundreds of acres of land but no equipment to cultivate and no market to sell what they produce. The Soviets took all their machinery with them but Klimash notes native Lithuanians are a determined people and they will never starve.

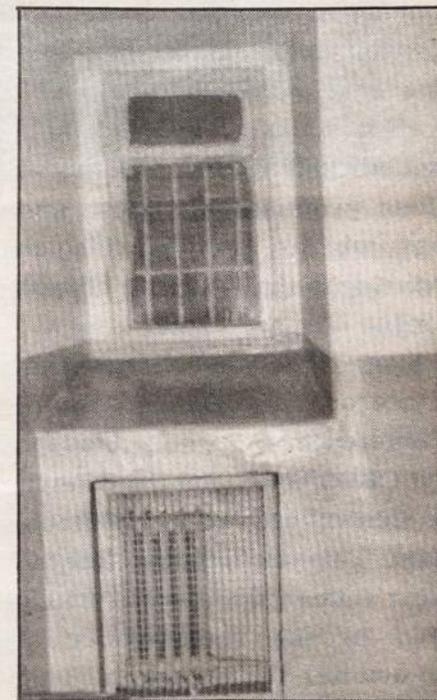
Vilnius has some nice markets and the Colonel saw no evidence of lines as there were a few years back. Although there is no comparison to our supermarkets, store shelves are well stocked. Western products like Coke, Pepsi, Colgate and Gillette are beginning to show up and the French have opened some very nice markets.

You can get a good meal in Vilnius for about 17 or 18 Lita or roughly \$4 or \$5 American dollars.

One grim reminder of the past is the infamous KGB building which is now a museum. A monument stands in front of the building in remembrance of all those who died there.

Many of those who were once held captive in this place are now used as guides to show what

the place is all about and what took place there. Some of the shredded documents have been salvaged and are on display. "Not only did they ruthlessly murder people but they took pictures of them also," Klimash said.



The small prison cell which appears constructed to crudely accommodate one prisoner was used by the KGB to hold 20 prisoners at a time. It is housed in the former KGB building now being used as a museum.

Lithuania continued resistance as late as the mid 50's, and was the last country to do so. Some of the old partisans were killed as late as 1953.

About 20 or 30 minutes out of Vilnius, 70,000 Jews were murdered and burnt by Nazi executioners. The spot is marked by a monument.

The Colonel's wife, Patricia, visited Lithuania in November and looks forward to the day they can both return as tourists. Klimash and his wife operate Lawyers Land Abstract, Inc. on Franklin Street in Wilkes-Barre. They have two children, a son, Eugene, Jr., who recently completed a tour with the U.S. Army, and a daughter, Kimberly, who is employed at Gentex Corp., Carbondale.

(Additional photo page 4)

Women Religious in Eastern Europe Need Assistance to Return to Their Communities

The U.S. bishops' annual Collection to Aid the Church in Eastern and Central Europe has been extended for three years. One of its goal is the continuing assistance to women religious of this region as they struggle to return to their communities, renew their formation, update their professional skills, and assume an active role in rebuilding the wounded church for the next generation.

Msgr. R. George Sarauskas, director of the National Conference of Catholic bishops (NCCB) Office to Aid the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, said, "This year's theme - For the Next Generation - is intricately tied to the reemergence of communities of women religious who have suffered greatly under communism."

He said that the renewal of women's religious orders for education, social ministry, hospitals, children's homes, and publishing is essential to rebuilding the Church for the next generation.

The young people look to these women religious to teach them and to run the newly opened Catholic elementary and

secondary schools, to organize youth ministries, to provide medical and nursing assistance, and to be active in publishing and communications, Msgr. Sarauskas said.

The horrible fates of hundreds of thousands of nuns under communist totalitarianism are becoming known, as the remaining nuns emerge from hiding, said Sister Lucianne Siers, OP, coordinator of volunteers for the NCCB Office to Aid the Catholic church in Central and Eastern Europe. Nuns were tortured, murdered, imprisoned, and exiled, she said. Since religious orders were banned and meeting as a community was illegal, many sisters went underground in order to survive. They shed their public religious identities, took jobs in factories, offices and hospitals. Many never spoke of their vocation even to close friends.

"As these women religious emerge from their terror and isolation, their spiritual and material needs are great," said Sister Margaret Nacke, CSJ, of Concordia, Kansas, who went as a volunteer to Romania.

"While they were in hiding, women religious were unable to absorb the teachings of the Second Vatican Council or experience the reforms it sparked in other parts of the world," Sr. Nacke observed. Many sisters are bewildered by the immense changes that took place. "They need to restructure their lives in the new conditions of freedom and form communities once again," she said.

According to Sr. Nacke, the current trying circumstances make this extremely difficult. The economy is weak and poverty is widespread. Many former communist officials - now ensconced in the new governments - refuse to return properties belonging to the sisters. Many of the sisters are in ill health from their long ordeal and are in need of medical assistance. They require the most basic necessities; furnished and habitable convents, books, education, and professional training.

More than a hundred nuns from the United States have gone to the region to help the

reemerging women's religious communities and their reentry into the active life of the church.

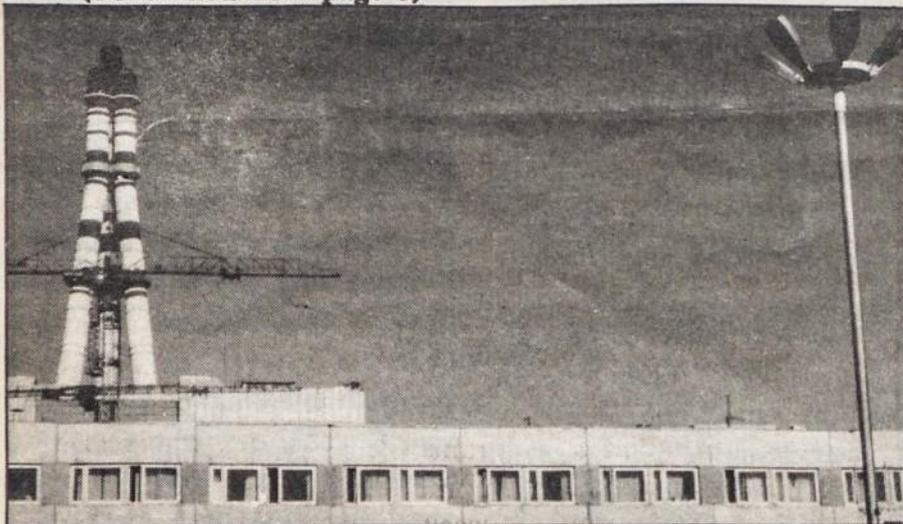
Hundreds of young women are petitioning the Church to enter religious life in these new nations, said Msgr. Sarauskas. "Religious materials are sparse and their quality questionable," he said.

The NCCB Office to Aid to the Catholic Church in Central and Easter Europe was begun in 1990 and has funded projects focused on the formation of priests and nuns; the development of educational materials; the reopening of Catholic schools; seminaries, and convents; the restoration of damaged and desecrated churches; and the use of mass media to spread the word of Christ to millions of people in the region.

The U.S. bishops, established the collection to aid the Church of the former Soviet bloc nations as it struggles to heal the deep spiritual, emotional, and physical wounds caused by decades of communist oppression. Catholic parishioners have made contributions of over \$20 million.

Military

(Continued from page 3)



Seventy-five percent of Lithuania receives its electric power from Ignalina, a two-reactor nuclear power plant, pictured above.

Built by the Soviets and designed like the failed Chernobyl plant, it employs 6,000 people and is of great concern to the Baltics.

Conference on Humanitarian Aid to Lithuania

The Lithuanian Human Services Council of the USA, Inc. invites all Lithuanian-American U.S. organizations, groups and individuals that provide humanitarian assistance to residents of the Republic of Lithuania to the conference on Humanitarian Aid to Lithuania, to be held in Chicago, Illinois, May 13-14, 1995.

The major purpose of this Conference is not only to create awareness of who is doing what and how, for whom,; but most

importantly to seek and find various methods and means for inter-organizational cooperation.

The Conference program will consist of plenary sessions during which, using lecture and symposium formats, topics of general interest will be presented;

For more information write to: Conference on Humanitarian Aid To Lithuania, 2711 West 71st Street, Chicago, Illinois 60629; Fax: (312) 436-6909.

Baltic Defense Chief's Pledge to Increase Cooperation

Meeting in Tallin, the commanders of the Baltic armed forces - Aleksander Einsehn of Estonia, Juris Dalbins of Latvia, and Jonas Andriskevicius of Lithuania, said their countries would cooperate more closely on military issues and would strive for a speedy integration into European military structures.

Asked about Baltic-Russian relations, Einsehn said there was currently "no particular military cooperation" between the Baltics and Russia and that this was an issue for the future. The three commanders also told BNS

that a joint working group, headed by Estonian Chief of Staff, Arvo Sirel, had been formed to coordinate Baltic activities within the NATO Partnership for Peace Program. They agreed that the Baltic States would seek to take part in NATO's Baltic Operations '95; but their participation in these naval maneuvers may be hindered by financial restraints. The three commanders also signed an accord on exploring the possibility of establishing a joint air-space control system.

EU Free Trade Agreements with Baltic States

The European Union Council ratified the free trade agreements with Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. The agreements go into force January 1995. Estonia will go over to free trade immediately, but Latvia and Lithuania will have transition periods of four and six years, respectively, during which they can place duties on some EU imports to protect their agriculture, fishing, and textile industries while adapting to EU standards. The Lithuanian parliament finally ratified its agreement and exchanged diplomatic notes with the EU stating that all requirements for enforcing the agreement had been fulfilled.

Lithuanian Supreme Court Chairman Appointed

The Seimas unanimously approved President Algirdas Brazauskas's nomination of Pranas Kuris as chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Court. The 56 year old Kuris was justice minister from 1977 to 1990, ambassador to Belgium, and from April 1994 a judge at the European Human Rights court.

RFE/RL

Lithuanian Local Elections to be Held March 25

Last December, the Seimas voted 59 to 10 with 15 abstentions to set the date of local elections for March 25. Candidates are to be nominated by political organizations and the winners determined by a proportional system. The parliament also ratified Lithuania's free trade agreement with Ukraine by a vote of 74 to one. President Algirdas Brazauskas nominated Pranas Kuris and Vladas Nikitinas as chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Court and prosecutor-general respectively.

Lithuanian Oil Refinery Resumes Work

After a four-week shutdown due to lack of crude oil, the Nafia refinery at Mazeikai resumed operations. Nafta concluded an agreement with Lukoil in January to receive six million tons of oil in 1994, but only one million had been delivered by December.

Talks with Lukoil on 1995 deliveries are underway, and it is thought that Lukoil will agree to ship 250,000 tons a month. Nafta will likely also refine about 100,000 tons of oil received from Rosneft. These supplies will then be shipped to the Kalingrad region.



Are the names of your parents or grandparents inscribed on the American Immigrant Wall of Honor at Ellis Island?

If not, you still have time to have this done. The wall is nearing completion and to date has 480,000 names inscribed. Space remains for only 20,000 more names.

Completion of the wall is scheduled for late in 1995. The

double-sided, semi-circular wall is 652 feet long and is engraved with names representing virtually every nationality from every inhabited continent on the face of the earth.

If interested, write to:
The Statue of Liberty - Ellis Island Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box ELLIS
New York, NY 10163

Insurance Commissioner Lists Accomplishments Benefitting Fraternal During Casey Administration

On January 17, when Governor Robert P. Casey left office after eight years as Governor, Insurance Commissioner Cynthia Maleski's term also ended.

"I became a member of the Casey cabinet in May, 1992," Maleski says in a release.

Maleski received her appointment in May of 1992. Looking back over her years of service under Casey, she notes the focus of the Casey administration was "to serve, protect and assist the citizens of Pennsylvania with compassion, dignity, integrity and a careful stewardship of resources."

She points out that during the Casey administration, legislation of particular interest to fraternal was passed. Included among these was, the Fraternal Benefit Societies Code. Passed in 1992, it places fraternal in accordance with the commercial insurance market and allows them to be more competitive with that market.

In 1994, the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed a bill to amend the statute to add fraternal benefit societies to the types of entities which may establish Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs). The bill states that fraternal operating under the PPO law are subject to insurance company laws which relate to the standard policy provisions of accident and health insurance.

At the suggestion of Insurance Commissioner Maleski, the Commonwealth continued the tradition of a fraternal week celebration in June during the week of Flag Day. Representatives from all the fraternal benefit societies in Pennsylvania are invited to the state capitol for a ceremony, complete with proclamation from the governor.

Lithuania's Army from 1918 to 1944

During the years of 1795 to 1918 while Lithuania was under Russian occupation, Lithuanians served in the Russian Army.

When revolution broke out in Russia in 1917, Lithuanian soldiers began organizing themselves into separate military units. Some 3,500 men planned to return to Lithuania as an armed division; however, their plans never materialized. After the Bolshevik coup, the Lithuanian units were disbanded in early 1918.

After Lithuania regained her independence in 1918 and the first government of Lithuania was established in Vilnius, officers returning from Russia were commissioned to organize a Lithuanian army.

On November 23, 1918, the composition of the Supreme Headquarters was announced but its members had a tough job.

The Lithuanian nation's political status was uncertain and the Army possessed few weapons. As the Germans retreated, the Red Army occupied Vilnius on January 5, 1919. The Lithuanian government withdrew to Kaunas along with its Army and some officers and soldiers. Volunteers made up of farm youths and students brought the ranks of the Army

in Kaunas to about 10,000 and on March 15 all 20 and 21 year old men were drafted into the army.

The size of the Army gradually increased and by 1920 there were many units of cavalry, infantry, air force, and artillery with the infantry the largest and most important fighting force.

Although the end of World War I brought recognition of Lithuania's Independence, the army had trouble organizing because it was still occupied with the Wars of Independence.

After the end of the Wars of Independence, the Lithuanian Army had an infantry comprised of 14 regiments and two special battalions. A force of this size was not needed in peacetime so disbanding was begun and by 1935 the 14 regiments were cut in half with but seven remaining.

In peacetime, the Lithuanian Army numbered between 22,000 to 28,000 men. There was also a National Guard numbering 42,000 trained guardsmen by 1940 who were at the disposal of the Army.

During the period of 1919 - 20, military expenditures made up 70% of the total expenditures of the state. The very existence of the state depended largely on its military success. Peacetime

military expenditures counted for 22 to 24% of the budget and by the year 1939 - 40, 28% of the budget was allocated for defense.

Lithuanian law required all males 21 years of age to serve in the Army and in time of war that age dropped to 18 and over. Men were drafted in May and November and were known as recruits. Upon completing training, they became known as privates, and in eight months could be elevated to Private First Class. Compulsory military service lasted for 18 months after which time they were considered part of the active reserve until they reached their 35th birthday. From 35 to 45, a man was considered a part of the inactive reserve. Even men who had never served in the army but were in good health were included in reserve units until age 45.

With the incorporation of Lithuania into the Soviet Union on August 3, 1940, the Lithuanian Army became a part of the Soviet Army.

The military school was Russianized and some 300 Russian commissars were integrated into the Lithuanian units. Communist indoctrination, constant surveillance, and poor food brought discontent and some 2,000 members of the

Lithuanian Corps were arrested in the winter of 1940 and mass arrests took place again on June 14 - 15, 1941, when approximately 45,000 Lithuanians were deported to Siberia.

On June 22, 1941, war broke out between Germany and Soviet Russia and an anti-Soviet revolt erupted in Lithuania.

In January of 1944, the Germans began to suffer defeat. They urged the Lithuanians to recruit more men and integrate into the German Army. The Lithuanians denied the request and as a result, some 3,500 were deported to Germany.

In the Fall of 1944, the Soviet Army reoccupied Lithuania. Armed resistance came from the Lithuanian freedom fighters led by former officers and non-commissioned officers of the Lithuanian Army who were counting on receiving help from the Western democracies. In the Atlantic Charter, both President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill had expressed their wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those countries forcibly deprived those freedoms. Unfortunately no help came from the West and the freedom fighters were forced to give up armed resistance.

Information taken from Encyclopedia Lituanica

Every Child Deserves to be Loved

"Whatsoever you do to the least of my people, that you do unto Me"

We're all familiar with the above words but too often we don't think they refer to us as individuals.

In today's society, God's little ones are being more abused than ever before. To pick up the paper and read of child molesters, abusers, beaters, and even murderers is becoming every day news. It's not news that's con-

finied to big cities anymore. It's happening in small town USA! Quiet little towns that once were filled with happy, carefree youngsters can no longer be sure the child next door is not being abused by its own parents.

To protect these little ones, government agencies have introduced the Foster Care Program.

What is Foster Care? Simply stated, it's the temporary placement of a child with another

family.

Some children are merely the victims of circumstance, losing their parents to death or illness. Others are victims of poverty. However, most of the children are the victims of abuse as well as neglect - having suffered through sexual abuse, excessive physical punishment, incest, or abandonment.

If you would like more information on becoming a foster parent, contact the Volunteers of

America in your area. In the Wilkes-Barre area write:

Volunteers of America NEPA, Inc.
106 S. Main Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701
Tele. # (717) 825-5261

Why be a Foster Parent?..... because everyone deserves a home!

Recipes

Traditional Easter Table (Velyku Stalas)

Homemade Horseradish
Stuffed Roast Goose or Duck
Crullers
Cold Baked Ham
Homemade Sausage
Vegetable Salad
Easter Bread
Easter Butter Lamb
Homemade Cheese
Sour Cream Butter
Fruit
Coffee

Horseradish With Vinegar (Krienai Su Actu)

Put grated horseradish into a glass dish and cover immediately so that it will not discolor. Dilute vinegar with boiled water, add salt, sugar to taste. Stir until sugar and salt melt and pour into grated horseradish.

Horseradish may be colored in the following way: pour diluted vinegar over a couple of tablespoons of grated cooked red beets. Let stand 1/2 hour. Strain vinegar, add sugar and salt and pour into grated horseradish.

Keep prepared horseradish in a tightly covered jar.

Deep Fried Pasty Strips (Zagareliai)

"Zagareliai" are delicate pastry dough cookies, deep fried in fat. It is best to use lard or oil for deep-frying these cookies.

The main ingredients are flour, eggs and sour cream. All ingredients should be kneaded together, then the dough should be beaten with the rolling pin, folding the dough toward the center, until blisters start to form on the dough. Then cool the dough to set. Roll it out 1/8 inch thick, and using a pastry cutting wheel, cut into 4 to 5 inch long and 1 inch wide strips. Make a slit, lengthwise, in the center of each strip and slip one end of the strip through this slit.

Bring fat to a boil in a shallow, wide pot. Remove from heat, and add one tablespoon of whiskey or a couple slices of raw potato

(this will prevent the pastry strips from burning). The fat will bubble up with this addition. Wait until bubbling action stops, then put back on heat and bring to a boil. Zagareliai must be put into boiling fat. A pastry strip put into the fat - must immediately rise to the surface and sizzle. If this happens, then the fat is just right for deep frying. When one side of the pastry strip is brown, turn it over, using a fork, and finish frying. When done, place Zagareliai on paper towels so that excess fat is absorbed. Then sprinkle each with powdered sugar, flavored with vanilla.

2 cups flour
2 tablespoons butter
1/2 cup sour cream
3 egg yolks
1 tablespoon sugar
1 teaspoon rum (optional)
1 teaspoon salt

Roast Fresh Ham (Keptas Sviezias Kumpis)

In order to facilitate carving of the prepared ham, bone the meat before roasting.

Wash the ham, rub with salt, place in roasting pan and roast in hot oven. When it begins to brown, baste with pan juices. Do not add fat, since a lot of fat is contained in the ham. Add pepper, bay leaves, parsley, and other flavorful vegetables. Baste and turn frequently.

Bake 3 to 4 hours. Prick deeply, using a fork, in several places so that the meat cooks faster and more evenly. When the ham is almost done, add several cut-up sour apples to the pan juices. Well baked apple pieces are forced through the sieve and added to the gravy.

When done, the ham, just like other roasts is left to stand for a short while. Then it is carved into one finger thick slices and

arranged on a platter. It is served with cooked carrots, potatoes, braised or raw cabbage. A strong-tasting gravy such as horseradish or mustard, may also be used.

Fresh ham may also be roasted after marinating. The meat is first marinated for 2-3 days in a cooled vinegar marinade, cooked with various spices, and then roasted.

Roast Goose or Duck with Sauerkraut (Kepta Zasis Arba Antis Su Kopustais)

Use about 2 lbs. of sauerkraut per goose. If the sauerkraut is too tart, wash; put into a pot, add boiling water to half-cover. Add chopped onion sauteed in fat, 3 peppercorns, 3 aromatic peppercorns, salt. Cover and braise. Stir so that the sauerkraut does not stick to the bottom of the pot. When done, stuff goose with the sauerkraut. Sew up cavity. Cut off wings and legs. Roast until browned. Then add 1 to 1 1/2 cups water and roast in a covered pan basting constantly.

Roasting time for a goose is about two hours. Serve hot. Carve, arrange pieces of meat on a platter. Put the sauerkraut on one side of the meat, fried potatoes on the other.

It is advisable to rub a goose or duck, inside and outside, with salt and onion the night before roasting. Wash and dry before roasting.

Potato Sausages (Bulviu Vedarai)

7 lbs. potatoes
1/2 lb. hog fat
Salt
Wide hog casings
1/2 lb. fresh bacon

Peel the potatoes, wash them well and grate. Add salt to taste. Fry the bacon until crisp and add to the mixture.

Mix well. Pack loosely into

pork casings. Tie the ends. Place into a well greased pan and bake in a medium hot oven. Baste often so the casings do not burst. Prick each with a needle a few times. When the sausages are golden brown (about 45 minutes) turn them over and bake the other side the same amount of time. When serving cut into small pieces and pour on crisply fried bacon.

Vegetable Salad (Darzoviu Misraine)

4 medium potatoes
3 medium red beets
2 carrots
1 onion or some scallions
1 egg
2 pickles
1/2 cup white beans
1/2 cup sour cream
Salt, sugar to taste

Separately boil potatoes, beets, carrots and beans. Potatoes should be cooked unpeeled, carrots should be diced and cooked in a small amount of water with a little fat added. Beans should be boiled in salted water. Red beets are best cooked or baked unpeeled. When cooked and cooled, peel the vegetables (if necessary), dice and place into a wide dish. Add peeled, diced pickles, finely chopped onion, salt, sugar, dash of pepper, and adding the cream, mix lightly and carefully with two forks. Now the salad is ready for putting into the serving dish and garnishing with slices of hard boiled egg and vegetables.

The base of this salad is potatoes and red beets, the other vegetables may be changed or varied. Sauerkraut, or fresh shredded cabbage, may be used instead of pickles. Fresh vegetables in season may always be added to this salad. Meat or fish may also be added if desired.

Oil may be substituted for sour cream, but it should be used sparingly. It is best to prepare each vegetable separately and service in a dish divided into sections.

Recipes from

"Lithuanian Cookery"
by Izabele Sinkeviciute

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Obituaries

GIEDRAITIS, Zuzana

...Lodge 42

P.O. Box 513
Simsbury, CT 06070
Died: 1/19/95
Buried: 1/23/95
Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery
Bloomfield, Ct.

REGULA, ADELLA A.

...Lodge 212

43 Elder St.
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18702
Died: 2/12/95
Buried: 2/15/95
St. Francis Cemetery
Plains Twp., PA

MARCINCAVAGE, Stanley

...Lodge 12

426 Webster Street
Ranshaw, PA 17866
Died: 2/9/95

YANULEWICZ, Margaret

...Lodge 28

344 Main Street
Swoyersville, PA 18704
Died: 2/4/95
Buried:
St. Ann's Cemetery
Lehman, PA

PETRAUSKAS, Peter

...Lodge 171

6124 Cronin
Dearborn Heights, MI 48127
Died: 12/23/94
Buried:
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery
Southfield, MI

Sincere sympathy is extended to Veronica Didgeon, member of Lodge 212, on the death of her brother, Sylvester Brackna, which occurred February 3, 1995.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Leona Montville, member of Lodge 212, whose husband, Alexander Montville, died February 28, 1995.

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