

The Lithuanian Connection

Published by Madison Vilnius Sister Cities, Inc.

January 2010

2010! MVSC welcomes in a
New Year, a New Decade!

Madison Vilnius Sister Cities, Inc. (MVSC) welcomes you to the New Decade with another electronic edition of the *Lithuanian Connection*! Historically, this newsletter has been published in print and arrived at your doorstep via the US Mail. To avoid the rising cost of postage and to keep membership dues at their present rate, the MVSC Board of Directors will keep you informed of events through this newsletter format. In addition to wishing you all the best in 2010, it is our hope that you will enjoy the content and efficiency of the new *Lithuanian Connection*.



Professor Alfred E. Senn to be
Our Main Speaker at
Madison's Lithuanian
Independence Day Celebration
Tuesday, February 16, 6:30 pm
Concourse Hotel downtown Madison

"Zaibas",
Lithuanian Folk
Dancers of
Madison
performs at
the Overture
Center for
International
Fest see next page
for details

Our traditional Lithuanian Independence Day Celebration will take place on Tuesday, February 16. The event, which is co-sponsored by UW's Center for Russia, East Europe and Central Asia (CREECA), will be held at the Concourse Hotel, (1 West Dayton Street, Madison, WI 53703). The designated room will be posted in the lobby.

MVSC and CREECA are proud and honored to present UW Professor Emeritus Alfred E. Senn as its main speaker for this event. Entitled "Independent Lithuania", his presentation will include highlights from his recently published books regarding Lithuania in the 1940s and the diplomats (with a local connection) living there. The presentation will begin promptly at 6:30pm.

Parking at the hotel for this event is discounted to \$2, but you must show your parking ticket (received at the parking entrance gate) to the lobby attendant in order to receive it.

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“Zaibas” performs at Madison’s Overture Center for International Fest

After many weeks of preparation, and even a trip to Argentina last month to perform at the World Wide Lithuanian Dance Festival, “Zaibas”, Lithuanian Folk Dancers of Madison, is ready to bring it home for its annual participation in our own city’s annual International Fest.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 6, to watch “Zaibas” as they perform fun and exciting folk dances for the public, free of charge, on the premiere stage of the Capitol Theatre, Overture Center at 1:45 pm. As always, “Zaibas” performers appreciate the attendance and enthusiasm of the Lithuanian crowd to cheer them on!



In addition, while you’re at the Overture Center, please stop by the Sister Cities Collaboration Committee’s booth (see following article). MVSC will be represented there and will offer Lithuanian souvenirs for sale as a fundraiser for MVSC.



City news and MVSC: **Sister Cities Collaboration Committee**

In 2009, a resolution was passed by the Common Council to establish a committee made up of representatives from the eight official sister cities, Arts Council, Rotary Club, UW, and others. The Sister Cities Collaboration Committee’s (SCCC) goals include unifying Madison’s sister cities to embrace common interests, raise the profile of sister cities to the community, enhance business connections, and ultimately, serve as a stepping stone to become a self-sustaining entity. Past President of MVSC, Daina Zemliauskas-Juozevicius, represents us on this committee. She and other members of SCCC recently worked on a new lobby display case at the City County Building, 210 MLK Blvd. This space features the various cultural gifts that Madison has received from its sister cities throughout the world. Please stop in whenever you are downtown!