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Annual Report 2015 Foundation Twin cities Goes – Panevėžys

History

Since 1994 our Foundation carries out the Pact of Friendship which the municipalities Goes and Panevėžys have framed and subscribed.

The Foundation concentrates his activities on the goals of this Pact, as attribution in enrichment on social, cultural, educative and economic domain in favour of the inhabitants of Goes and Panevėžys.

The Foundation coordinates the contacts between both municipalities and initiates and accompanies several small-scale projects and exchanges. In between the Foundation has built up good contacts in Panevėžys to guarantee the continuity of the relationship.

We hope to give you hereby a real impression from the realisations on behalf continuing and improving the contact with our Twin City Panevėžys during the past year 2015.

1. Activities and Exchanges

Lithuanian Evening



On the 10th of March the annual, so called, *Lithuanian Evening* took place in the *Erasmus Flat* in the city of Goes. Mrs. Nel van Leijen (conservator traditional needlework at the Historical Museum *De Bevelanden*) and her husband Mr. Reggie den Os had made a PowerPoint presentation of their journey to Lithuania and conducted us in this presentation through their Journey and the Lithuanian culture. Mr. Antoon Andela, chairman of the

Foundation showed a PowerPoint presentation on the basis of the Annual Report 2014 and member of the foundation Mr. Eric Debbaut gave an explanation of current and possible projects in the future in our Twin City, with the accent on healthcare and old people care.

Lithuanian trainees from the fruit growers Mr. Wil and Marc Steijn from 's-Gravenpolder and Mr. Adrie Smits from Ovezande were present. Also present was de Lithuanian Ambassador, Mr. Darius Semaška, who earlier took part in a businessdiner at restaurant *Karel de V* in presence of Mrs. Danny Hollestelle, businesswoman of the year 2015, Mr. René Verhulst, Mayor of Goes and two members of the foundation.

During this dinner was tested the interest from the Enterprises in Goes to possible set up themselves in Panevėžys under interesting conditions

The Ambassador and the Mayor, both held a short speech. Not only were the members of the board, but also friends of the Foundation and former board-members present.

At the end of the evening two Lithuanian trainees were singing a Lithuanian song accompanied by music of their mobile phone. There was a drink and a snack for everyone and there was the possibility to chat and tot exchange information.



Lithuanian Trainees working with Fruitgrowers in Zuid-Beveland

During the whole year 2015 Lithuanian students came from Panevėžys and Kaunas as Trainees' to the earlier mentioned fruit growers Mr. Wil and Marc Steijn and Mr. Adrie Smits. They got experience with different kind of work belonging to the fruit growing, as fruit reaping, assorting and pruning. Some students came for a second or even third year. There was cooperation with the Edudelta College. The school as well as the fruit grower give a judgement about the work of the trainee and his or her way of reporting. Afterwards the trainees receive a certificate. A local newspaper wrote an interesting article about those trainees. You can see the photo on our website.

Students and Teachers as Trainee from the Sport and Education School 'CIOS'



For the first time since several years, there was no interest from the students of CIOS for internship in Panevėžys. There could be a reason in the many possibilities there are for internships abroad, between which students can select. Our foundation hopes that in 2016 there will be new trainees in Panevėžys from CIOS.

One of the teachers from CIOS had the idea to realize internship not only for students but also for teachers, but he could not find the time to work out this idea. Our foundation will support such ideas but the initiative has to be taken by the School.

Eldercare / Homecare:

Our foundation was during some time looking for a possibility for employees from the nursing-home 'Ter Valcke' in Goes for a return-visit to the Old-peoples-home from Director Mr. Patrikas Skrudupis. He visited Goes in October 2014. Probably this return-visit will take place in springtime of 2016, after an official invitation of the Director himself. Boardmember Mr. Eric Debbaut is willing to prepare and to carry out this visit together with the employees of 'Ter Valcke'.

Nursing-home 'Ter Weel', also situated in Goes, will offer to the Old- peoples- home so called high/down beds, nightstands and mattresses, but the transport has to be organised by Mr. Patrikas Skrudupis.

Exposition of Lithuanian Sashes in Historical Museum De Bevelanden



On Saturday the 28th September a double exposition of Lithuanian sashes from the *Local Lore Museum* at Panevėžys and of traditional needlework from Zeeland was opened in Historical Museum De Bevelanden in Goes. After Mr. Hans Oomen, director of the museum, has welcomed the visitors Mrs. Nel van Leijen, conservator of the traditional needlework of HMDB,

held an introduction, followed by a musical performance by Mrs. Lina Vilienė, expert of the *Panevėžys Ethnography Museum* and her husband, Gvidas Vilys, director of the music-school in Panevėžys, his mother and their two daughters, all dressed in traditional Lithuanian costumes. After the two Expositions were officially opened by the Mayor of Goes Mr. René Verhulst. The Lithuanian ambassador Mr. Darius Semaška was also present.

Mrs. Lina Vilienė arrived with her family already on Thursday evening and stayed in a Bed and Breakfast accommodation in 's-Heer Abtskerke, a village near to Goes. On Friday the exposition was built up. That Friday and Saturday after the opening of the expositions the Lithuanian family looked around in the city of Goes guided by the board members Mr Jan van den Hondel and Mrs. Marian van Heugten and on Saturday evening the board of the

Foundation had a common diner with the family. On Sunday morning after celebration a catholic church service in Lewedorp the Lithuanian Family was invited to drink coffee with Mr. and Mrs Karelse. The board members Mr. Antoon Andela and Mr. Eric Debbaut were also present. They accompanied the family in the afternoon at a trip through the province Zeeland. On Monday morning family depart to Lithuania. The exposition of the sashes can still be visited until Easter 2016. On Monday evening Mrs. Nel van Leijen again held her introduction, but this time for the friends of the Museum.



Trip to Lithuania.

In the year 2015 the board of the foundation didn't visit her sister-city Panevėžys. The board is preparing a trip for the friends of the Foundation in September 2016.

2. Subsidies for institutions in Panevėžys

Educational programme Banda Children's Home

The children's home of director Mr. Sigitas Juodzevičius presented a request for subsidy for a lot of activities. The Foundation has given a contribution, showing a preference for one of the programs, letting the school free to make a choice between one of the activities inside this programme.

Schoolgarden at the Rimkevičaitės Technical School



Director Mr. Tautvydas Anilionis presented in the month October a request for subsidy to the foundation for replanting ‘the educative garden’. The foundation first asked the director for a clearer proposal and a planting scheme for the trees and also a quotation from the tree nurseries in the neighbourhood. The intention of the school was to let the students themselves carry out the project. As the foundation received a more detailed and specified plan the contribution has been remitted.

3. Developments in Panevėžys

- Panevėžys started a new twin-city-ship, the 11th, with Maramures in Romania.
- On 17th of April the new Mayor Mr. Rytis Račkauskas (1959, Kaunas) was inaugurated.

4. Developments and activities from the Foundation

- In 2015 the members of the board met each other 6 times. At the start of the year a ‘Scheme of action and policy’ was presented.
- Since the beginning of 2015 is the vacancy for the function of secretary filled by Mrs. Saskia Verheij, who from the start of the Foundation and the first years following, also was the secretary.
- Mr. Wil de Koning has for health reasons been forced to stop his activities as a member of the board.
- Chairman Mr. Antoon Andela held a lecture, supported by a PowerPoint presentation, on the half year meeting of the Dutch Baltic Union, the 7th of November in the city of Bilthoven, about the activities of the Foundation during the past twenty years.
- Mr. Anton Nellen carried out in 2015 an active recruiting policy for new donors.

At the end of 2015 the foundation had the following members of the board:

Name	Function	Attention area
Mr. Antoon Andela	Chairman/treasurer	Education, economy
Mr. Jan van den Hondel	Vice chairman	Education, religion, culture
Mrs. Saskia Verheij	Secretary	Secretaryship / website
Mrs. Marian van Heugten	Member	Welfare, culture
Mr. Eric Debbaut	Member	Healthcare, culture
Mr. Anton Nellen	Member	PR, economy, sport

5. Website

The Foundation found an extern webmaster willing to build a new website for the Foundation. On the new site actual developments and reports from activities and events will be showed. Of course this is just a start which will be further developed. The address of the website is: www.stedenbandgoes.nl