

Saint Lazarus Magazine

Newspaper of the Union Corps Saint Lazarus International

16th Edition



Dialogue with a Christmas tree



Report by Hans-Georg Pesch

As in previous years, after dark I went through the streets of our town and watched the hustle and bustle of the people. Occasionally, I was with friends on the way to chop down a tree, and if it was especially cold, to drink mulled wine. I often watched when the trees were cut and regretted it: because, for me, they were living things, which lost their lives for a few days of Christmas perhaps until New Year's Day.

So I sat quietly absorbed in my own thoughts, when I felt a soft voice in me.

"Why so sad, my friend?"

At first I couldn't tell who had spoken to me and looked around, to see which of the many people had spoken to me. For sure they were busy with chopping down trees or drinking mulled wine with their friends. They couldn't have spoken to me.

Nearby, I discovered a beautifully grown fir. Its branches were spread from the top to the lower branches in a beautifully shaped, symmetrical waffle pattern.

"I'm the one who had asked you about your sadness," said the fir, "Now tell me about your grief."

"I'm sad that you have to lose your life for one season of Christmas," I replied. "It's bad enough that we humans too often thoughtlessly deal with nature, including you--and

that only for a few days. Where is the sense in this painful matter?"

"Please, do not grieve because we serve you. We were grown in nurseries just for this time, in order to brighten the dark days through our green, our aroma, as well as the lights with which you decorate us. Look, it's better to set us up in your good homes and decorate us rather than those artificial and harmful Christmas trees made of plastic, which are very harmful to nature, as well as to us. Even if we have to die here, we are engaged in the eternal cycle of life. To be and to depart - and again to be. This is our nature, which must be followed, and also ultimately applies to everything that lives. So also to you.

Also we remind you, that nature takes its time to sleep and to awaken in the spring. We are the hope for growth and the emergence of the new life of the coming spring during these high holy days also. The lights with which you decorate us, to you, who are looking for the light during the dark period, show that the light that lit your homes, however, is even present in you.

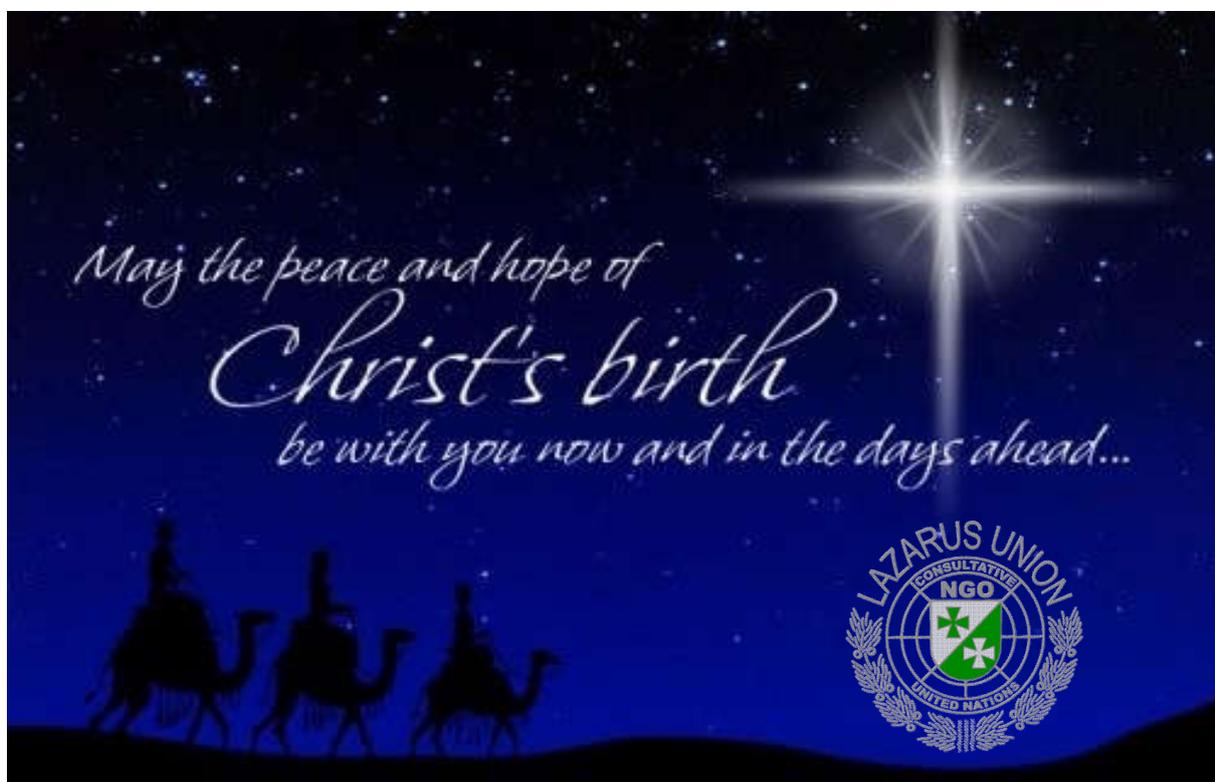
So, the way you decorate us, so are you also in your heart. We go outside the symbolic medium, and no artificial Christmas tree can achieve that, my friend.

For this reason, we are also not grieved if we have to die, for we are intended to serve you; we do so with great pleasure, and in the knowledge that we rise anew and grow, perhaps even in the next year to delight you once more and to kindle the lights in your hearts."

After I had heard the fir tree's words, I felt a little easier in my heart because I had well understood the deeper meaning in the short life of a Christmas tree and thanked it for enlightening me. And I began to hope that I would find this fir again next Christmas.

Now, after this conversation, I will go with an especially big heart through the streets of our city and look at every light-filled window and every Christmas tree on the squares and gardens in silence and bring the words of the fir tree with its waffle pattern into memory and with joy in all contemplation celebrate Christmas.

I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year, Dear Sisters and Brothers.



Christmas Donations to the Bugkunstadt-Tafel



Report by Sven Dietel

21th December 2017

BURKUNSTADT - Since the founding of the Burgkunstadter-Tafel and for the eighth time, Sven and Katja Dietel and Hermann-Dietrich Streit presented Christmas donations as representatives of the Corps Saint Lazare International (CSLI).

The donors of the CSLI and the Soldiers and Traditions Camaraderie (STK) Lettenreuth have collected over € 2,000 to make the table customers happy before Christmas. Especially the STK Lettenreuth, but also all other patrons of CSLI Germany deserve a big thank you for this annual fundraiser. This year Sven and Katja Dietel bought and bagged sweets for a total of 155 "children's bags" as well as sausage products for 89 food bags. Every year these presents are the highlights of the Christmas event of the Burgkunstadter Tafel and the special joy of table customers. Not one family goes home from this Christmas event, without thanking them warmly.

The Corps Saint Lazare International, to which the couple Dietel and Hermann-Dietrich Streit belong, is a civil aid organization that acts according to the ideals of St. Lazarus. Members of the Corps have taken up the cause of bringing joy to other people, providing disaster relief and providing for the disabled and the homeless. All members are volunteers. "It is very sad that in our civilized world more and more people need help and support in our immediate neighborhood," said Sven Dietel, "and here the Lazarus Union can and will help".

Silke Mohler, chairman of the Burgkunstadt-Tafel, thanked all table customers for the Christmas presents, which are very welcome just before the holidays. "Your commitment deserves great admiration and we can hardly believe that you've been able to make such a large donation for the eighth time," she said, evoking the joy of the whole dinner team and the dinner.

“Santa Claus”



Report by Spectator

VIENNA - Ludwig Brunner, our Vice President of the CSLI Lazarus Union, has long been a matter of the heart when Nikolaus in the nursery (Kindercompany 1030 Vienna, Rasumofskygasse) delight children with gifts.

Once again there were three large groups of children who could hardly wait to greet “their” Santa Claus with songs and poems and to receive the presents from Santa Claus.

A big thank you goes to Mrs. Dir. Anita Szladits, who has prepared this festival for the children with love and care.

Here the procedure in “poem form” (german):

*„Seit vielen Jahren, voller Freude,
beschenkt er schon die kleinen Leute.*

*Als Nikolaus im Kindergarten,
die Kinder können es kaum erwarten.*

*Drei Kinderguppen singen Lieder,
sprechen Gedichte und freuen sich wieder.*

*Mit viel Liebe gestaltet Anita Szladits die-
ses Fest,
das kein Kind entgehen sich lässt.*

*Der Nikolaus bringt schöne Päckchen dar
und freut sich schon auf das nächste Jahr.“*

Day of German Unity



Report by Spectator

3rd October 2017

VIENNA - Again in 2017 the ambassador in Austria of the Federal Republic of Germany, H.E. Johannes Handl, invited approximately 500 guests of the world of business, politics and society in the beautiful "Palais Liechtenstein" to celebrate the Day of German Unity.

As a high-ranking guest of honour the German Minister of Foreign Affairs Sigmar Gabriel came and he surprised everyone with a real good and remarkable speech about the way of the German Unity, the European Union at the present time and the requirements for the future.

The appropriate ceremonial address was given by the cabaret artist Werner Schneider in a very humorous and also a little satirical way and this was the source of a good deal of merriment and smiles.

As in previous years the Music Corps of the Lazarus Union carried out the music programme under the direction of the conductor Friedrich Lentner as its part for the Day of Unity and also during the agape that was arranged for the invited guests.

The Lazarus Union was represented by the Grand Protector Federal Minister ret. Dr. Werner Fasslabend, President Senator Prof.h.c. Wolfgang Steinhardt and the Vice President H.E. Chev. Ludwig Brunner.

The German Minister of Foreign Affairs who enquired about the Lazarus Union and got a brochure of the Lazarus Union as well as the ambassador talked with our conductor at the end of the ceremony and they both especially thanked for the support and the performance. We considered this a very nice and extraordinary gesture because both the ambassador and also the Minister of Foreign Affairs mentioned the Lazarus Union in their addresses.

During the following agape it was possible to talk with old friends and to get to know new friend. Again it was a very successful ceremony!

Big Band Charity Morning Concert



Report by Friedrich Lentner

27th August 2017

PERCHOLDSDORF - on Sunday, August 27th, 2017, the traditional Big Band Morning Concert of the Lazarus Union Big Band took place in the wine tavern Jezek in Perchtoldsdorf near Vienna.

As during the past years, there was splendid weather and the tavern was full to the last place. Numerous fans and guests of honour were present, so the President of the Deutschmeister Regiment LtCol. Michael Blaha, Lazarus Union President Senator Prof. h.c. Wolfgang Steinhardt and his deputy Ludwig Brunner could be welcomed.

The big band played many catchy tunes from composers like Glenn Miller, W.C.Handy, Ray Anthony, Cole Porter and many more.

Of course the centre was taken by W. Frankie Warner as Sinatra interpreter with all the famous songs of Frank Sinatra. It is noteworthy that he acts tremendously poised

on stage despite his age of 85. This is proof that music keeps one young.

Of course the audience demanded several add-ons too. Special thanks go to the host, Jack Jezek and his wife Danni, who make it possible to play in front of such a special audience.

A big thank you also goes to the audience for their large donations. Our president took it on himself to walk around with the donation box in person and to present the Lazarus Union to the audience.

As the Lazarus-Union is a charity organisation, a large part of the donations will go into charity Projects.

Charity Concert “Jemen”



Report by Prof. Hans König

12th October 2017

VIENNA - On invitation of our CSLI comrade Mag. Wolfgang A. Schatzl – an exceptionally gifted baritone by the way – a CSLI delegation consisting of Monika and Hans Rudolf Gries, Ludwig Brunner, and Hans König attended a charity concert for the “Children of Jemen“ in the modern „Haus Hofmannsthal“ event and concert hall in Vienna’s 3rd district, Reisnerstrasse 37, on October 12th, 2017.

The reason was a call for help to ease the catastrophic situation of children in Jemen. For years already the NGO Felix Arabia International tries to ease the pain of the children by organisational and medical help yet the inhuman civil war has used up nearly all resources. A huge cholera epidemic spreads all over the country and most medical institutions are almost completely destroyed. Another problem raises from increasing child marriages forcing young girls to marry at an age below 14. Domestic violence occurs on a daily basis. Over 90% of all young women are forcibly circumcised. Fathers sell their daughters for €4000.

All this transforms the formally famous and legendary country into an infernal boiling pot, especially for girls and young women.

Pictures and videos support the pledge of the relief organisation and deeply moved visitors opened their hearts as well as their purses.

The supporting programme of course assisted the emotional movement: “A musical trip around the world.” Female singers Maria-Magdalena Christova, soprano, Hristina Lazarova, mezzo-soprano, Shoko Kanno, mezzo-soprano and male artists Wolfgang A. Schatzl, baritone, Bojidar Abrashev, piano, and Markus Vorzellner, piano, offered a two-hour long dream journey into classical music from Europe and other countries far away. They had the audience feel a sensitive variegated fusion of spoken words and catchy tunes from opera, operetta, and other songs. Famous arias and duets from the world of the opera carried the audience away to rapturous applause. The programme concluded with a chorus of all singers performing a most moving “Amazing Grace”.

Commemoration for Field Marshal Radetzky



Report by Hannes Hochmuth

10th September 2017

HELDENBERG - In the morning on Sunday, September 10th 2017 the Federal Association Comradeship "Field Marshal Radetzky" invited to the commemoration at the Heldenberg that takes place every year. The event points out the merits of the Field Marshal Radetzky for the former Austro-Hungarian Empire. Many friendly traditional organisations and parades of banners of the Austrian Veteran's Association (ÖKB) and many traditional military formations in their colourful uniforms accepted the invitation to the honour of the famous commander.

After the welcome address by Hofrat Colonel ret. Alexander Wolfgang Ritter the messages of greeting followed. The ceremonial address was given by the Military Commander of Lower Austria. He pointed out that the preservation of traditions and values of the comradeship and loyalty is important for the society also in the future.

After the ceremonial address given by the Military Commander of Lower Austria, Brigadier Mag. Martin Jawurek also our President Senator Prof. h.c. Wolfgang Steinhardt spoke. He talked about the aims and the success of the Lazarus Union and conveyed the greetings and the respect of the whole Lazarus Union.

The field mass service was held by the Military Dean MMag. Dr. Wessely.

Afterwards there was a parade of all friendly associations. Many historical traditional military formations and comrades of the Austrian Veteran's Association with 38 banners in total marched past the guests under the sounds of military music – naturally a delegation of the Lazarus Union too.

The music was carried out by the Brass Band Klosterneuburg which – like always – gave a worthy setting for this event.

Johann Joseph Wenzel Anton Franz Karl Graf Radetzky of Radetz was born on November 2nd 1766 at Castle Trebitz near Seltschan, Bohemia, and died on January 5th 1858 in Mailand. He was a field marshal, a bohemian noble and probably the most important Austrian military leader in the first half of the 19th century. Due to his human qualities his subordinates called him lovingly "Father of the soldiers".

The memorial place Heldenberg in Lower Austria is a place for sculpture and busts of Austrian emperors and members of military forces. In 1849 it was established by Joseph Pargfrieder on his palace grounds near Kleinwetzdorf (community of Heldenberg). Due to the fact that Pargfrieder settled the debts of Field Marshal Maximilian Baron of Wimpffen († 1854) and Field Marshal Radetzky († 1858) they both were buried in the crypt at the Heldenberg where Pargfrieder was laid to rest too.



Austrian Naval Remembrance day 2017



Report by Spectator

20th July 2017

VIENNA - The President of the Austrian Naval Force (ÖMV) Prof. Dipl.Ing. Colonel dhMD a.D. Karl Skrivanek (Knight of Honour of the Lazarus Union from the very start) invited again to the Austrian Marine Day 2017 to strengthen friendships and the comradeship being together.

The CSLI Navy Corps maintains friendly relations with many naval comradeships and some of them are also group members of the Lazarus Union. The Lazarus Union was represented by the Chief Representative Senator Prof. h.c. Wolfgang Steinhardt.

This greatful day started with a devotion in memory of the 300th birthday of the Empress Maria Theresia on 13th May 1717 in the "Elisabethkapelle" of the "Kaiserjubiläumskirche" 1010 Vienna, "Mexikoplatz". (The place is named "Mexikoplatz" because Mexiko was the only country that protested before the League of

Nations against the invasion of the German Troops in Austria 1938.) The devotion was placed under the auspices of H.E. Military Bishop Dr. Christian Werner.

The music was arranged by an ensemble of the Marine-Traditional-Music under the direction of the conductor Reinhold Novotny (who gladly supports our Lazarus Union Big Band) and an absolute high-quality performance by the violinist Elena Denisova who interpreted "Recitativo und scherzo-caprice Op. 4" composed by Fritz Keisler in an extraordinary virtuosity.

An interesting lecture about the Empress Maria Theresia by Comrade Ehg.Mag. Markus Salvator Habsburg-Lothringen showed us in an extremely vivid way the history and the person of the Empress itself. The lecture was substained with many anecdotes.

The spiritual words were spoken by Spiritual Councillor Deacon Colonel Wilhelm Hold r.k. and Father DDDr. Alexander Lapin of the orthodox military spiritual welfare.

The devotion came to an end with playing "Die Himmel rühmen des Ewigen Ehre" composed by Ludwig van Beethoven and afterwards the bus took the guests to the festival area lying near the "Donau Marina" at the Handelskai of Vienna.

There the real ceremony took place under the auspices of H.E. Bishop Christian Werner, President of the Parliament Prof. Harry Kopietz and the Military Commander of Vienna, Brigadier General Mag. Kurt Wagner.

After the traditional associations and banners stepped up the Great Flag Parade has been starting just in time at 11.30 o'clock by the "Gardemusik".

Colonel Gebhard Bauer, who was also the moderator of the ceremony welcomed honourable and other guests.

The following honourable guests could be welcomed: The former Federal Minister Dr. Werner Fasslabend (Grand Protector of the Lazarus Union) and H.R.H. Ehg. Ulrike Habsburg-Lothringen and H.R.H. Herta and H.R.H. Sandor Habsburg-Lothringen.

Afterwards the welcoming addresses spoken by the delegate of the Republic of Croatia, Ambassador Branimir Loncor, and an interesting lecture by Prof. Dieter Winkler about "The seamanship at the time of Maria Theresia" followed and a lecture by the Ministerial Councillor Dr. Matthias Hoy.

Then Prof. Skrivanek talked about youth work and the youth sailing camps of the Austrian Naval Force.

The event was accompanied by many traditional marches by the "Gardemusik" under the direction of the conductor Lieutenant Colonel Johann Kausz so that the people were not aware of the incredible high temperatures (35 degrees without any shadow!). A big compliment and many thanks to the "Gardemusik" that has been connected with the Lazarus Union by a friendship agreement since 2013.

As always the remembrance of the dead was dignified. Traditionally accompanied by the composition "I had a comrade" after a short devotion by the Military Chaplain of the patrol boat "Wien" of the water guard under the command of Chief Inspector Erich Kraus (also an Honourable Knight of the Honourable Knighthood of the Lazarus Union) a wreath was handed out over to the floods of the Danube to the remembrance of the late comrades of all nations.

The ceremony was finished with the European anthem.

The following comfortable being-together was accompanied by a concert of the Marine-Traditional-Music while the guests could enjoy good food and cold drinks.

Many ship-models of the former Imperial & Royal War Navy presented in a tent could be admired. There was also an information desk of the Museum of Military History and the Military Commands of Vienna and the guests could visit the former patrol boat "Niederösterreich" of the Austrian Armed Forces.

It was a great, dignified, comradely day which unified nations and we are looking forward to the Naval Remembrance Day 2018.



Investiture KMFAP



A report by Spectator

7th October 2017

CHATEAU BELA (SLOVAKIA) - Following a long tradition (since 2009) this time again we accepted with pleasure the invitation to the investiture ceremony of the postulants of the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem / Knights of Malta of the United Grand Priories and we represented the Lazarus Union with our banner of the Knighthood of Honour of the Lazarus Union.

Early in the morning the representatives of the Lazarus Union, the President Senator Prof. h.c. Wolfgang Steinhardt and the Vice President Chev. Ludwig Brunner started their quite long journey to Chateau Bela in Bela, Slovak Republic. After a quick and easy drive there was enough time for a late breakfast and to welcome many good old friends we met in former joint events.

The day before the framework programme of this year's investiture started with a meeting of the Chapter and the personal presentation of the postulants.

With the move-in of the banners, the sword-bearers, the honourable and all other guests of friendly organisations from 22 countries of four continents the investiture ceremony began.

Right at the start our President could give his greeting message and could hand out awards to H.M.E.H. Prince José, H.G. Prof. George Popper, Lady Anna Popper and Lady Erika Mascári in gratitude for the friendship going back many years. Already in 2011 Prof. George Popper and Lady Anna Popper were admitted into our Knighthood of Honour during our very first investiture of the Knighthood of Honour of the Lazarus Union.

In his address the Grand Master of the KMFAP, H.M.E.H. Prince José, pointed out the importance of the tasks the postulants have to take up when being knights. The information concerning the status of a "knight" even at the present time was especially impressive. To live and to care for the

knight's traditions is more important and essential than ever.

We especially noticed that only the friendship ribbons of the Lazarus Union were fixed on the banner of the KMFAB (as a sign for loyalty this banner will be kissed by the postulants before the investiture). This is a gesture that symbolises the friendship, the commonalities and the appreciation more than words can do.

A musical duo (flute/guitar) arranged the music and showed the skills in a very im-

pressive way. There were also performances by two female singers and one male singer among the members of the KMFAP who could create a very beautiful and solemn atmosphere.

After the usual photo session all participants were invited to lunch where it was possible to make new friends and to renew old friendships.

In conclusion: It was a successful event and if we would get an invitation again we will certainly accept it with much pleasure.



Investiture of the UK-Commandery of the Order of Saint Joachim



Report by Lothar Gellert

27th-29th October 2017

LONDON - From October 27 to 29 the Investiture Ceremony of the UK-Commandery of the Order of Saint Joachim took place.

Three comrades from the Austro-German Commandery Leopold II travelled to this event: Next to our Union-President Wolfgang Steinhardt KCJ, who had run our Commandery until now and the recently appointed new Commander Oswin Hochstöger KCJ, for the first time comrade Lothar Gellert KJ was present in this Investiture Ceremony.

As venue the UK-Commandery had chosen the Union Jack Club in London.

The festivity started already on Friday evening with an informal get-together of the participants. With excellent food and beverages new friendships could be made and old ones could be intensified.

The morning hours of the next day were spent with military history: A visit of the former warship "HMS Belfast" stood on the program.

This ship forms part of the Imperial War Museum now and is anchored on the river

Thames. It was the biggest light cruiser of his class of the Royal Navy in WW II.

In the afternoon some of the participants visited the famous Tate Modern-Gallery, an exhibition hall, presenting modern art from 1900 until today. Just on time 18.15 hrs the annual Investiture-Dinner started and the Commander of the UK-Commandery Trevor Haynes KCJ welcomed all the guests.

The dinner-speech was given by Marc Griffith KCJ who presented the most important steps of his life in an entertaining way.

The second address was given by our President, who explained the reasons why he had put the Austro-German Commandery into the hands of comrade Dr. Oswin Hochstöger.

After having presented the CSLI-Chronical and the handing over of one version to our friend and comrade Trevor Haynes our President carried out a very special honoring: our friend and comrade Allan Wolley received the Cross of Peace of the Lazarus Union, one of the highest honor the Lazarus can distribute, for his commitment in peace-keeping actions in Ukraine.

And now our new Commander of the Austro-German Commandery Oswin Hochstöger had the opportunity to present himself to the participants.

After the formal speeches some toasts were made, i.e. "To the Queen", "To all comrades who could not be with us", "To the guests" and "To the future Knight James Richard Dickaty".

The reporter brought out a toast as a sign of gratitude to have the possibility to be present at this occasion for the first time and for the friendship of all members of chivalrous organizations. He pointed out that help for needy and poor people is only possible by working together.

The Investiture Ceremony as such took place on Sunday 28 October in an assembly room within the Union Jack Club.

Highlight of this event was the accolade of the new Knight of Justice James Richard Dickaty.

After the obligatory strike with the sword on both shoulders and the head, the new Knight was provided in a symbolic way with silver spurs by touching his heels with this spurs and with white gloves.

The Ceremony ended with the elevating of our comrade Peter Wyles into the rank of a Knight Commander of Justice.

A wonderful gesture was the presence of a group of sea-cadets, who stood trellis for the participants.

In the afternoon hours some participants used the time to go to the Imperial War Museum before all participants headed to their home countries and cities on Monday.

At the end it can be stated that it was again a wonderful event and we may be curious already now in which way the Investiture Ceremony of the UK-Commandery of the Order of Saint Joachim will be celebrated in 2018.



Sea Cadets



Report by Brian Bilverstone RNR

16th November 2017

LONDON - At the end of October, a contingent of Cadets and Adult Volunteer Staff from Training Ship Chester, Newham Cornwell VC Sea Cadets, travelled to the Union Jack Club in London, to provide a “Carpet Guard” (Honour Guard) for the Order of Saint Joachim’s annual investiture ceremony on 29th Oct. 2017.

It was there that they met Senator Professor h.c. Wolfgang Steinhardt, President and Union Commander in Chief of the Lazarus Union, who treated the young people with great generosity and kindness. He even gave some of them badges from his uniform, which was greatly appreciated.

And it was with great delight that, a short while later, the Cadets and Adults all received Decrees and Medals of Friendship from the Lazarus Union.

“I never expected anything like that,” said one of the Cadets, whilst another exclaimed, “This is my first medal. I will treasure it always!” As can be seen from some of the pictures, the Cadets could not help themselves and jumped for joy!

The United Kingdom Sea Cadet Corps is a national organisation for young people between the ages of ten and seventeen years. It provides adventure and training on a nautical theme and Cadets can achieve great things. Adding the fact that a young person is, or has been a Sea Cadet to a Curriculum Vitae is known to make employers look upon potential candidates favourably.

The Sea Cadets has no remit to place young people into the Armed Forces but instead the aim is to help them to become good citizens of the future.

Training Ship Chester is based in the London Borough of Newham, and is named after one of the Royal Navy’s ships that served at the Battle of Jutland in 1916.

Our Cadets proudly wear the name of John Travers Cornwell VC on their Cap Ribbons. “Jack” Cornwell was a local boy who, at the age of 16, gave his life in the service of his country aboard HMS Chester at that battle. He was awarded the Victoria Cross, Britain’s highest military honour, for his exceptional courage under fire.

4th CSLA firefighter day for disabled people



Report by Erwin Matzka

29th July 2017

GROSSWEIKERSDORF - The Corps Saint Lazarus Austria – On July 29th 2017 the CSLA organized for the fourth time the Fire Service Day for handicapped people in collaboration with the Voluntary Fire Brigade Großweikersdorf.

At 8:00 a.m. the preparation activities started. The cars in the garage were displaced by tables and benches. Information boards were placed and certificates were personally issued by the President of the CSLA Dr. Oswin Hochstöger and the Fire Brigade Commander HBI Norbert Mihle.

While waiting for the guests the Vice President of the CSLA Werner Winkelhofer explained the daily process. Each station was equipped with staff. In the meantime the Mayor Alois Zetsch arrived. The President and the Vice President of the CSLA welcomed the arriving guests.

As a sign of gratitude and appreciation for the long-lasting collaboration and cooperation the Mayor and the Fire Brigade Commander of Großweikersdorf were handed out

the Chronicle of the Lazarus Union “.... a vision became true....” with a personal dedication by the President of the CSLI Prof. h.c. Senator Wolfgang Steinhardt.

Afterwards the “red cars” went to the building yard, where some challenges waited for the guests. Before that we had to take care for a wheel chair. While the sky was blue and the temperatures increased permanently everybody got something to drink after a sweet ride to the building yard.

The water games could start.

The Commander himself operated the pump and so he took care for the right pressure at the jet tube. Everybody could try to spray away a canister from a barrel with the water jet. Everybody tried and made it – without or with support. To the chagrin of the Fire Woman who expressed her willingness to put the fallen canisters on the barrel again.

“One man’s joy is another man’s sorrow”.

After something happened with water the next station was waiting. Our guests got to know that it is possible to lift heavy loads. Everybody could operate the steering element for the set of lifting bags with or without support. With great care the load was taken from the puppet "Susi" and then it was released from its difficult situation.

Also our presidents of the CSLI & CSLA tried to show that it is possible to move something by pressing the lever in the right direction. Naturally the rescue of "Susi" was the most important thing.

After everybody finished all stations we went back to the fire station by the fire station cars. Here the next surprises waited for the guests. Those who wanted to could show their skills by operating the stirrup pump. In collaboration with a man or a woman at the pump you had to hit a hole in the fire panel until a signal sounded.

Those who succeeded got a bag and a cup from KAMASA-TOOLS. The future belongs to the brave or the view down onto Großweikersdorf. Those who dared could go up with the working basket up to 24 m and could enjoy the marvelous view. After the return to earth the courageous relaxed people could pick a sweet soft toy from McDonalds out of Monika's basket. Inside the fire station cookies were offered – sponsored by BILLA. Those who wanted to could relax after the previous hardships and adventures.

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Half time or repast.

The sausages were sponsored by the butcher Ehn, the rolls by the bakery Burger and the drinks by a sponsor who wanted to be anonymous. Afterwards there was ice cream for everybody – also sponsored by BILLA.

Who turned the clock....Yes, there will be a surprise.

Everything was packed together, everybody jumped into the cars and then we went to Altenwörth lying at the Danube. A surprise and certainly the highlight of the day.

The Fire Brigade Altenwörth-Gigging was already waiting with the working boat equipped with an engine with 150 HP, staff up to 11 people and an electric front flap that facilitates essentially the loading and unloading.

For the first time a barge was there. A barge is a water vessel operated by one or two Fire Brigade members by rowing or poling. A barge can only be operated by muscular power. Here there were also some brave people who took a trip with the barge together with a comrade of the fire service. Nobody denied the shipping tour on the Danube. For the barge however the queue was not so long.

Enough said, put on your life jacket and then out to water.

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If anybody got hungry or thirsty drinks and pastries were available. The waiting time was bridged by small talk.

The CSLA President and the Vice President said farewell to our guests. Everybody got a personal certificate and a bag filled with products of DM and TUI Magic Life Waterworld.

Many thanks to all helping People!



Activities of the CSLI Ukraine



Report by Olena Pavlenko

UKRAINE - The Ukrainian Sector of the Lazarus Union, which was build up at the end of last year, has used the recent months to carry out different activities of support.

Members of the student-administration within the University for Customs and Finance in the city of Dnipro, who are members of the Lazarus Union, collected several donations, which could be handed over to the City-Hospital and to the Hospital No 9, Section for the treatment of children-infections.

In the Hospital No 9 children are living who had been left behind by their parents. These children were so happy when the Lazarus-members appeared that they didn't want to let them go away after they had spent hours with them.

Next to that many donations of different goods could be collected for other needy people.

As a very particular help members of the Lazarus-Union, working for the legal department of the University offered five days a week a legal support for those who could not effort help in another way, in particular for the inhabitants of the war-regions.

Furthermore psychological help was offered for free.

The Ukrainian Section of the Lazarus-Unions offered help and support to the participants of the Paralympic Games too.

Last but not least the Ukrainian Section promotes a more healthy way of live in Ukraine all the time.

15.000 Euro Donation by martial artists



Report by Bernd Höhle

10th July 2017

DÜSSELDORF - Under the chairmanship of Bernd Höhle (SOF Commander, Deputy Union Commander & General CSLI) the Martial Arts Association – International has been organizing the Martial Arts Day for several years. This is a Martial Arts Seminar of the initiative “Martial Artists with Heart” established by Bernd Höhle. This event is one of the biggest benefit events of Martial Arts in Europe.

This year not only a record attendance but also a donation record could be set due to the high quality trainers and many committed helpers. More than 15.000,00 € could be handed out to the child welfare organization International Children Help e.V. The President of this organization happily confirmed this with the enclosed letter of thanks.

The preparations for the big event 2018 are already running at full speed. We say thank you to all participants because such an event is only possible by common work!



Kinderhilfswerk

ICH – Inter-NATIONAL CHILDREN Help e.V.



ICH e. V. Vornhäger Str. 36/38, 31655 Stadthagen

Martial Arts Association-Int.
Bernd Höhle
Fasanenweg 3a
31655 Stadthagen

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Wir danken Spendino für die Bereitstellung dieses Services.

Stadthagen, 10.07.2017



Sehr geehrter Herr Höhle, lieber Bernd,

ich bedanke mich, dass wieder einmal durch die Initiative „Kampfsportler mit Herz“ eine stolze Spendensumme von über **15.280,- Euro** für verschiedene Hilfsprojekte verteilt werden konnte.

Allen Beteiligten gilt großer Dank. Ohne die Mithilfe der Referenten und Organisatoren, welche ebenfalls persönliche Arbeit geleistet haben, wäre der Dank nicht perfekt. Gemeinsam sind wir stark!

Auf weitere Zusammenarbeit freue ich mich, sage dir, lieber Bernd und deinen Mitstreitern, im Namen des Präsidiums und unserer Schützlinge ganz besonderen Dank. Wir sind glücklich, dass ihr uns bei dieser notwendigen Arbeit unterstützt.

Auf diesem Wege wünsche ich dir weiterhin viel Erfolg und verbleibe, herzlichst

dein / euer

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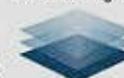
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Schirmherr: Costa Cordalis

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Children Hope Charity Foundation



Report by Bernd Höhle

24th July 2017

NEW DEHLI - During a benefit event of the MAA SOF Commander, Deputy Union Commander & General CSLI Bernd Höhle donated 1000,00 Euro for the Children Hope Charity Foundation in New Dehli/India on behalf of the MAA. The money will be used for an aid project for street kids which Höhle

personally could have a close look at during his last trip to India. "With thousand Euro you can do much good here in India in contrast to our home country and the people are really very poor", Höhle said.



A school for the king



Report by Bernd Höhle

12th August 2017

GHANA - Bernd Höhle (SOF Commander, Deputy Union Commander & General CSLI) supported several school building projects by his initiative “Martial Artists with Heart” in cooperation with the MAA-I and the child welfare organisation “International Children Help”. Together with its President Dr. Dieter Kindermann he dedicated and visited some building projects in Ghana.

His Royal Highness Togbui Ngoryifa Olatidoya Kosi Cephass Bansah – King of the of Ghana Hohoe (Western Africa), King and Spiritual Head of the Ewe Folk in Ghana, Benin und Togo with more than 2 million people appointed Bernd Höhle more than 10

years ago “Consultant for Sports“ of his kingdom in Ghana and his personal “Royal Trainer”. Last year he was appointed Grand Chancellor of the Royal Order of Merit of the Kingdom of Hohoe Gbi Traditional Ghana by King Bansah.

This year during an event Bernd Höhle promised King Bansah to finance the building of a school for his people until the end of next year.

Together with the SOF & Martial Arts Association – International, Bernd Höhle will be able to realize this grand project by means of sporting events.



Donation for the projects of His Majesty



Report by Bernd Höhle

12th August 2017

FRILLE/STADTHAGEN - Senator Jens Tegeler invited to the Summer Party of the Child Welfare Organisation ICH e.V. King Bansah assumed the patronage for this fantastic event. There were many personalities from the worlds of politics, business and entertainment and many other guests from Spain, England, Romania, Belarus and from Germany from near and far.

For example the Member of the German Parliament Maik Beermann and Frederic Akuffo, the nephew of the President of the Republic of Ghana.

Ambassador Bernd (SOF & MAA & CSLI Member of the Board) presented a great show with his martial arts skills for which he received a big applause.

After several song performances of different artists Bernd Höhle handed out a donation cheque to the value of 2000,- Euro to Togbui Ngoryifa Olatidoya Kosi Cephass Bansah – King of the Kingdom of Ghana Hohoe.

This cheque was generated by means of a sport benefit event. The donation will be used for social projects in his kingdom.

A Donation of Apple Juice to the Marktzeuln Nursery



Report by Sven Dietel

17th November 2017

MARKTZEULN - Last Friday, the Founding Board Members of the Corps Saint Lazarus International, German Command, Sven Dietel, Hermann-Dietrich Streit, Katja Dietel and Youth Member Alexa Dietel, who had diligently collected apples, presented a donation of apple juice to the Nursery in Marktzeuln.

Over 800 kg of apples were collected in local orchards. These were then pressed and processed into high-quality, local juice.

The Nursery in Marktzeuln happily now has over 400 litres of juice for the children to drink over the coming months. Sven Dietel particularly thanked the Marktzeuln Municipality and Mayor Gregor Friedlein-Zech for permission to harvest the apple trees in Horb am Main and Marktzeuln. This enabled

enough fruit to be collected for the delicious juice.

Sven Dietel, Commander of CSLI Germany, spoke about the good work of the Nursery in Marktzeuln saying how pleased he was that their relief organization could extend a helping hand to the Nursery.

He also briefly introduced CSLI Germany as an independent, private aid organization based on the ideals and spirit of Saint Lazarus. The members share the objective of giving pleasure to others through disaster relief, serving people with disabilities and helping the homeless. All members are volunteers.

He noted that the CSLI, which was founded in Austria, is now well-established in Germany with a large number of supporters.

“Spendenschiffchen”



Report by Lothar Gellert

LENGERICH - The Commander of the recently founded German Command of the Naval Comradeship Vice Admiral Archduke Ferdinand Max, Senior Commander NC CSLI Lothar Gellert handed over the first donation ship to the owner of the restaurant “Centralhof”, located at the seat of the German Command in Lengerich.

The German Command wants to support with this campaign the German Maritime Search and Rescue Service (DGzRS).

The owner of the restaurant said, that he hopes that many of his guests would participate in this donation campaign which is a benefit for all those, who travel through the seas.

Another donation-ship shall be placed within the next days in the restaurant where the Shanty choir “Original Osnabrücker Windjammerchor” meets on a weekly basis for their exercises. The German Command works closely together with this choir as the German Commander of the Comradeship is the drummer and singer within this choir.

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction



Report by Alexander Virgili

13th October 2017

NAPELS - For the second year in a row, the CSLI Italia has organized the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction in Naples, aiming to inform the citizens on the risks caused by disasters. The institution of this International Day was established by the United Nations (resolution A/RES/64/200).

This year speakers were: Lt. Gen. CSLI Antonio Virgili, CIC of CSLI Italia, Raffaele Del Giudice, Deputy Major of Naples, Marco Musella, University Professor of Economics and Giuseppe Cataldi, University Professor of International Relations. CSLI members, citizens and members of the civil protection of the City of Naples were among the participants to the convention. A representative of

the Guardia di Finanza (Financial Police) was at the meeting.

The main focus of the meeting was about the economical losses caused by disasters and environmental refugees. The links among disasters, economics and international events was particularly appreciated.

It was agreed to organize a specific further meeting to examine more in depth the economic aspects of disasters and how much prevention could reduce costs and economic losses.

The national, local and specialized institutions did provide an important support to the convention, hoping for another meeting next year that will probably be held in Rome.

Inauguration of the Tuscany District of CSLI Italia



Report by Antonio Virgili

21st October 2017

TUSCANY - According to the territorial organization of the CSLI Italia in the Country, we are now activating several local Districts to obtain a better link with territorial diversities, needs and different activities. Some of the CSLI Italia Districts also have a Nucleo Operativo di Protezione Civile - NOPC (our civil protection operating groups). On 21st October we have the pleasure to inaugurate the activities in Tuscany, by a suggestive ceremony at the famous XVIII Century Montenero Sanctuary, at the presence of H.E. the Bishop of Livorno, the Questor (head of State Police) of Livorno, representative of military bodies (Carabinieri, Guardia di Finanza, Polizia), Civil Protection groups, local institutions.

The "Distretto Toscana" will form, following our national and international standards, new

local operators/members both for volunteering and for civil protection activities. They have choose to specialize in the field of recovery and protection of artistic and cultural heritage and assets, a significant choice in Tuscany, one of the Italian regions well-known in the world for its art treasures.

The protection of historic artistic goods could thus become one of the areas that will characterize CSLI in Italy. Contacts and preparatory work are in progress to start training and practical training at museums and historical sites. From Livorno CSLI will seek to consolidate its qualified presence throughout Tuscany, also through a constant relationship between the headquarters and the local delegates. The CIC Lt.Gen. Antonio Virgili and two officers of the CSLI Italia presided over the event wishing the best results to new local CSLI Members.

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women



Report by Antonio Virgili

25th November 2017

NAPLES - The United Nations General Assembly has designated November 25 as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (Resolution 54/134).

The premise of the day is to raise awareness of the fact that women around the world are subject to rape, domestic violence and other forms of violence; furthermore, one of the aims of the day is to highlight that the scale and true nature of the issue is often hidden. The UN and the Inter-Parliamentary Union have so encouraged governments, international organizations and NGOs to organize activities to support the day as an international observance. So, this year too, the **Corpo Italiano di San Lazzaro** has been present for supporting the International Day aims, by participating to a meeting against violence, meeting organised by the association VISION (with whom we have a collaboration agreement).

The meeting has been associated with young dance performances, exhibition of products made by women craftsmen and artists, testimonies of women writers and jurists. Our representatives talked about specific women risks in civil protection emergencies and they have made known the activities of CSLI Italia also on the side of volunteering for women and children.

The **Corpo Italiano di San Lazzaro** since several years supports the *Girl Up* project of the UN Foundation for adolescent girls, spreading information in schools and organizing meetings and seminars about girls and women rights and social promotion. As the UN Foundation says: "*When girls are educated, healthy and safe, they transform their communities.*" So we have been pleased to give our contribution.

Friendship and collaboration agreements



Report by Antonio Virgili

NAPLES - We are pleased to inform that as CSLI Italia we have signed, in the past months, some further agreements of friendship and collaboration with organizations and associations to develop common activities and synergies. We have signed agreements with: Società Umanitaria – Fondazione Humaniter, European Amateurs Association ERA of Naples, TDB Italia.

Società Umanitaria - Fondazione Humaniter Napoli, founded in June 1893 in Milano as a philanthropic and humanitarian institution to help poor people to build by themselves a better future. This is why the Società Umanitaria organized many free vocational training courses, information about health care, cultural activities, educational activities, and so on. In 1996 the Società opened an office in Napoli and in the following years in several other towns, becoming one of the most esteemed organizations. CSLI Italia has already collaborated with the new partner through various infor-

mation gatherings on civil protection prevention and a seminar on disaster social psychology. Further activities have already been planned for the new year.

E.R.A. - European Radioamateurs Association is a specialized association of radio amateurs, has offices in various Italian cities and links with other countries. It operates in the field of radio broadcasts both in ordinary warships and in crisis and emergency situations with civil protection units. The collaboration will enable CSLI Italy's civil protection sector to strengthen its presence in the radiocommunication sector in emergency situations. Our operative group is already working to improve the radio communication sector of CSLI Italia.

TDB Italia is a volunteers association for civil protection; we have already worked together for helping homeless, for a fire emergency at the local Gypsy community, and some other activities.

Inauguration Ceremony of the “SUNLAND”



Report by Giedrius Kalninis

KLAIPEDA - Last week in November 2017, many honorable guests attended the inauguration ceremony of the first ship of the Saint Lazarus Lithuania Corps in Klaipėda.

On the quay where the vessel SUNLAND was moored, the guests were met with celebratory and vivacious march of the Orchestra of the Lithuanian Naval Forces; the guests were congratulated by the Commander of the Lithuanian Lazarus Corps, Major General Giedrius Petružis, and Captain Angelika Krause, Corps Communications Officer in Austria.

Bishop Kęstutis Kėvalas hallowed the ship's flag, which was solemnly raised while the Lithuanian National Hymn was playing. The ceremonial was finished by the solemn oath of the new Lazarus Corps officers, led by Romualdas Ramašauskas, the Corps Chaplain, Marine Captain, and received by Major-General Giedrius Petružis.

After the ceremonial event, the participants and guests attended the conference, which

presented the history and current activities of the international Union of Saint Lazarus, emphasized its special status and role in the United Nations, reviewed significant, coherent and focused structural development work and far looking for the route of the Lazarus Corps of Lithuania based on the project plans and objectives set forth since its establishment in 2014; also the strategy of the organization's activity and its main goals were presented while developing honorable historian traditions of St. Lazarus formations, socially oriented and civilian security and education-aimed activities in cooperation with state and non-governmental organizations of Lithuania.

The honored guests of the conference were granted original souvenirs; a special thanks was given to Leonid Stolerov, who is a businessman, owner of the ship SUNLAND, Ukrainian citizen living in Austria.

The vessel SUNLAND was built in Denmark in 1931. Therefore, it can be said that the vessel is both a historical and a trophy as during the World War II, the ship belonged to



the Wehrmacht military forces, and after the war it came back to the Danes. Later the vessel was renovated and adapted for searches of rescue, port quay deepening, as well as for searching of dangerous military

heritage, i.e. sunken projectiles and sea mines. This is the first, but certainly not the last ship sailing with the flag of the Lithuanian Lazarus Corps in Klaipėda and the Baltic States.



Action „Borderless Culture“



Report by Roberto Ortiz

SÃO PAULO - An action of great relevance and importance of the CSLI Brazil in the second half of 2017 was held by the CSLI State Command of Sao Paulo, which organized a large cultural and solidarity campaign in the city of São Paulo.

This action received the denomination of "Borderless Culture" was hatched and led by Lazarus Union Brazil-CSLI, and joined, in a sole campaign, important elements of citizenship, solidarity and charity.

In order to bring culture to people of poor communities that do not have access or means to it, CSLI Brazil-São Paulo offered 150 tickets to the musical play "Les Miserables" and on the same occasion collected donations of clothing.

On August 26th, the people who participated in this action, received not only tickets for the play, but also free transport, and for the vast

majority of them it was the first time they went to a theater.

The more than 350 pieces of collected clothing were donated to the APAE of Ferraz de Vasconcelos (Association of Parents and Friends of the Handicap Children).

At an individual cost of R\$125.00 for each ticket, the monetary value of this action exceeded R\$20,000.00 (approximately EUR 6,000.00).

This impressive action was orchestrated by one of the officers of the CSLI Brazil - State Command of São Paulo, which we hope will soon be able to take the lead in the State and perform other actions like these, showing once again the seriousness, the values and the commitment of the Lazarus Union Brazil - CSLI.



Missions of CSLI Group Sete Lagoas-MG



Report by Roberto Ortiz

SETE LAGOAS - In the second half of 2017 the Lazarus Union Brazil - CSLI created a new CSLI Group in the city of Sete Lagoas, in the state of Minas Gerais.

Under the impulse and initiative of the Liaison Officer for the state of Minas Gerais, which proposed as Commander of this new Group a dynamic and effective person, the Group Sete Lagoas-MG of CSLI Brazil was the most performing in these late 4 months of 2017.

Following the lead of its Commander, the Group Sete Lagoas-MG, still in the early stages of deployment, has already achieved in these first 4 months of existence to put in place 8 important charitable missions.

The inaugural mission of the Group was held on September 24, when the members of the Group organized a special day of actions dedicated to offer the community of Sete Lagoas a diversity of activities:

- Free haircut (approximately 75 people received free haircuts);

- Of these 75, 7 were collected especially for making wigs for cancer patients;
- Blood pressure measurement and doctor referral if necessary (132 people had their blood pressure measured);
- Gym Activities, stretching and dancing, with great participation of the community;
- Distribution of sandwiches, drinks and cotton candy for more than 250 people;
- Face painting for approximately 50 children and carnival playground for everyone;
- Collect of hygienic material to be donated later (approximately 200 items were collected)

The second mission took place on October 15, when the Group organized a festive afternoon in the Elderly Home St. Vincent de Paul Society, in Sete Lagoas. Several free of charge activities were offered to the 66 elder people living in this household:

- Free nail cutting
- Free haircut
- Artistic face Painting
- Painting of fingernails
- Adornments such as hats, glasses, feathers, masks, to take pictures.
- Live music, singing, guitar and accordion
- Donation of clothes and hygiene items

The third mission was a speech to encourage and help people stop smoking that was held on 25 October and attended by 21 people.

In early November the Group began the fourth mission, which will be continuous. On this mission, the members of the Group will collect uneaten food at parties, seminars, events, and other occasions and will distribute these foods immediately to entities in need of the city of Sete Lagoas.

These collects have been already carried out on two occasions and we hope to expand the partnerships so that next year happen even more.

In mid-November the Group started a long-term mission aimed at helping a family to rebuild their house. The Group Sete Lagoas works to collect donations of construction materials and organizes the participation of volunteers who will use these materials to rebuild the house of Ms Marilda and his two boys of 11 and 13 years.

The Group Sete Lagoas already got a donation of material worth more than R\$3.500,00 (approximately EUR 1.000,00) and will continue seeking help and this family.

In late November the Group began a mission with the goal of helping the Association Therapeutic Community Santa Catarina de Sena, non-profit institution specialized in treatment for women with disorders resulting from the use of alcohol and other drugs.

In this first action the Group donated clothes and magazines, which will be sold by the Association for fundraising, and secondly the Group will help in obtaining an official license so that the Association can sell the collected material at street and public fairs and markets.

The Group also participated in the launch of the project of creation of a reading room intended for children of the community of Sete Lagoas. The Group has donated 120 books for the initial formation of this reading room.

Finally, in an action that aims to support the creation of a library at CONCEPE (Council on Penal Execution of Sete Lagoas), the Group collected and donated 220 literary books, 80 educational books and 6 handouts.

Each of the books was duly verified in its literary content and quality, and only after this survey the books received the official donation stamp of the Lazarus Union Brazil.

The beginning of the activities of the Grouping Seven Ponds of Saint Lazarus Brazil Union has been admirable and we hope that in the year 2018 this cluster continue at this pace and be an example not only for Brazil but also for all other countries the Lazarus Union International.



Impressions about the work of the CSLI group



Mission 1



Mission 2



Mission 3



Mission 4



Mission 5



Mission 6



Mission 7



Mission 8



High Award to Finland



Report by Toivo Hujanen

8th December 2017

KARJALOHJA - Heikki Sario in Finland has been awarded on 8th December 2017 with one of the highest honor of the Lazarus Union by giving him Lazarus Union's Special Level of the Grand Gold Star of the Lazarus Union. The Star of Honor was handed over by Lazarus Union representative Juhani Hujanen. He says that the Lazarus Union's honors are usually distributed in Vienna, but this time it was better to hand over in Heikki Sario's home in Karjalohja, Finland.

"I have been known Heikki Sario for a long time, followed by his exemplary work and his activeness and the devotion to the help of fellow peoples. For decades, he has been working with his business partners to maintain a family care service that can not only be called to service, but also the nice and secure home" Hujanen says. Within 41 years Heikki Sario have been started one Steiner school, two family care homes and keep one of the family care homes by himself over those years.

The Grand Gold Star of the Lazarus Union was granted to Heikki Sario for decades of work for the benefit of the handicapped and the other peoples in needs. He has also

worked on the development of the organizations of care for the handicapped and has been creating collaborative networks to help the peoples in need.

"I'm grateful and humble about this. I worked for over 40 years for people with disabilities. In the dark of the world, also the dim light seems to shine far" Sario says.

Through the award, Lazarus Union wishes to thank people who have done irreproachable charitable work. Lazarus Union's one of the highest honor is a rare tribute, and is the first time it is awarded in the Nordic countries.

"This honor is high and very rare, so it is great that the important work that Heikki and his companions have done can also be taken into account internationally and brought as examples to people around the world" Hujanen says. Hujanen points out that there are many people in Finland and also the other countries who are doing their charity work throughout their lives, but they do not always get the credit they deserve.



IN MEMORIAM



People enter our lives and accompany us for a while. Some remain forever, for they leave their traces in our hearts.

Oberst i.R. Reinhard Wassertheurer	† 16.08.2013
Erich Kadlec	† 12.10.2014
Horst Schöffmann	† 22.02.2016
Mag. Werner Hartmann	† 12.08.2016
Prof. Mag. Gerhard Steinmetz MSc	† 06.11.2016
Manfred Renner	† 09.11.2017

ADVANCE NOTICE

The next solemn investiture of the **KNIGHTHOOD of HONOUR of the LAZARUS UNION** takes place on 14th April 2018, 15:00 in the **St. George's Cathedral** of the Theresian Military Academy



PROGRAM:
Concert of the Music Corps
Investiture of the Knights
Reception for the guests
Last Post tattoo

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