



BOOK FANS
CLUB „KNYGIUS“
FOR THE
MEANINGFUL
LEISURE SPENDING
AND PERSONALITY
DEVELOPMENT

KUPIŠKIO VIEŠOJI BIBLIOTEKA
2022 M.

There is nothing better than spending time with a book that enriches, teaches you something, encourages someone to be determined, points the right path, wisely advises, and sometimes soothes, comforts, or cheers, saves from loneliness. The modern library is no longer just a bookstore, limited to lending books, it is increasingly perceived as a meeting place for visitors, providing opportunities for rich, cultural and interesting leisure and personal development.

It was an old dream to put together a book lovers club. After the library changed its premises, left the old building to be renovated and moved to temporary premises, a cozy corner, called the "Readers' Corner", was installed in the Readers' service department. It all started with one sofa, then another appeared and so little by little, a cozy place for readers was formed.



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In October, 2017 a group of ten readers decided to meet once a month, chose a club manager, and began to think about the name of the club. It was decided that such meetings of book lovers would be a kind of self-improvement, pleasant communication with reading people, learning tolerance for the opinion of another and an opportunity to express one's own.



The leader of book fans club **Edita PETRULIENĖ**

Meetings of book lovers are a building of relationships, real live communication. These values have accompanied active readers for four years of the club's existence, which is attended by 30 people of all ages and professions from 30 to 80 years old. Currently, only women attend the club, although there were men.

The main activities of the club are conversations about the books read, presentations and discussions of new books, participation in various reading campaigns. One book read in advance by readers was usually presented and discussed at the meetings, but recently the choice is no more limited by one book.



Guests are invited to join the club for a meeting. Lionė Lapinskienė, a guest publisher and editor of the club and a philologist from Panevėžys, introduced the literary work of the writer Bronė Buivydaitė.



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The author of the books, Juozas Brazauskas, presented his book "Mano kelias" about writers Antanas Strazdas, Jonas Biliūnas and others.



Another topic of the meeting is bibliotherapy: a book has healing power too. "Will reading books really make us happier?" - **Skaistutė Paulauskienė**, a club guest, teacher, psychologist and public figure, helped to find the answer to this question. She advised to choose books according to the need of the moment.



Always welcomed visitor to the club's meetings is dr. Genovaitė Dručkutė from the Department of French Philology, Vilnius University, who is a translator as well. In one meeting, the professor introduced the members of the club to French literature, and the next meeting was dedicated to the world-famous Czech prose writer Milan Kundera.



A meeting with Dainius Vanagas, the author of debut, dystopian novel *Oderis*. This was a new genre in club meetings.



Every year, the Lithuanian Literary Translators' Union announces the Year of Literature of a particular country. In this context, French, Czech, Israeli and Greek literature was read and discussed. Discussing Greek literature, Rita Kavaliauskienė, a tour guide, took part in the meeting and told about the largest island in Greece, Crete.





Another activity of the club is literary trips: rich and fun, allowing you to broaden your horizons and get to know the authors better. The club traveled on the route **“People and Flowers of Vabalninkas Plains”** prepared by Biržai Public Library. They got acquainted with the surroundings of that district, the people who created there and their stories. People got to know what flowers grow in a traditional Lithuanian flower garden, what teas can be made from them.



In commemoration of the year of the writer Juozas Tumas-Vaižgantas, and as the writer's birthday approached, a group of book lovers went to Svėdasai, walked in the writer's hometown, visited the museum.



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The members of the book club are always actively involved in various reading campaigns. This is the "Book of the Year Elections", when the book of the year by Lithuanian authors is collected, and it goes to the Book Fair every year. The most favorite campaign of the club is "Summer with a Book", which invites you to read five books on a given topic. The members of the club eagerly wait for the topics and the discussions usually are extremely emotional!



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The book "Knygius" does not avoid challenges either. Inspired by the Lithuanian fans of Tolkien, they read the books of this author and discussed them. It was a new genre for the club.



Club "Knygius" has a tradition of presenting their five favourite book's of the year at the club's Christmas meetings. The club members not only read books all year round, but also pick five of their favorite ones.



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A very popular activity of the club is that everyone goes to watch movies or performances based on books. The performance based on P. Pukytė book "Bedalis ir labdarys", the performance "Aklumas", based on J. Saramago's book with the same title, "Motinos pienas" based on N. Ikstena's novel and many others caused a lot of emotional discussions. The film based on R. Šepetys' novel "Tarp pilkų debesų" on a very painful topic of deportation did not leave anyone indifferent, so an interesting discussion awaited after the film.



 D. Grinkevičiūtė „Lietuviai prie Laptevų jūros“

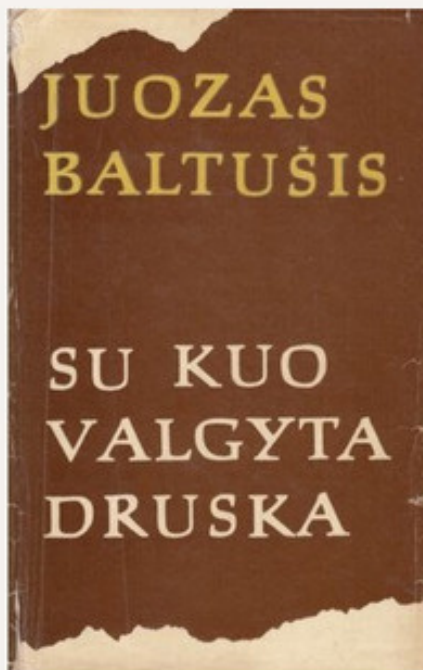
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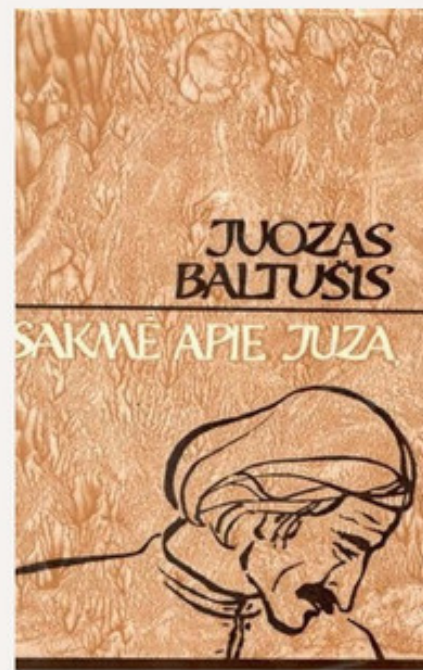
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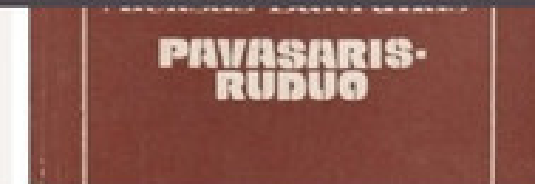


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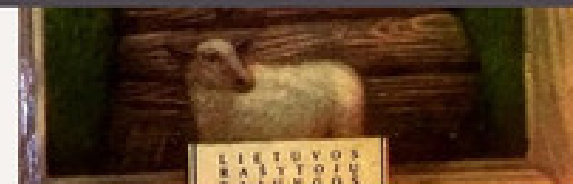
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The activities of the club did not stop even during the pandemic period. Covid-19 and quarantine adjusted club's activities. Discussions about the books they read have moved to a Facebook club group. The discussions were organised remotely. To make it more attractive for others to listen to, the club members made excerpts from the books. Several excerpts from fiction books by Lithuanian and foreign authors have been made – from famous detective, historical and classic novels. The records were uploaded to the library's website and became available to everyone.

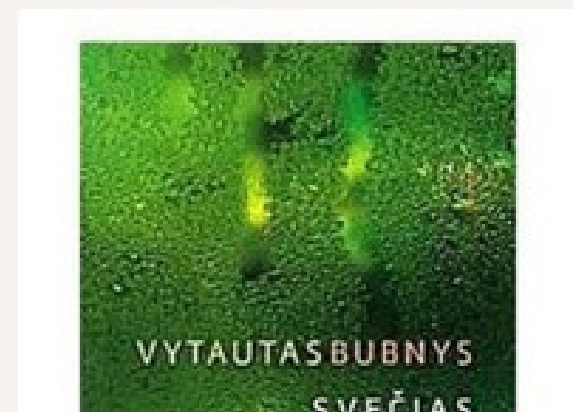
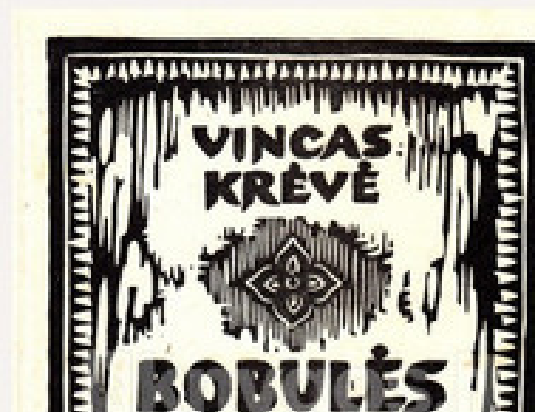
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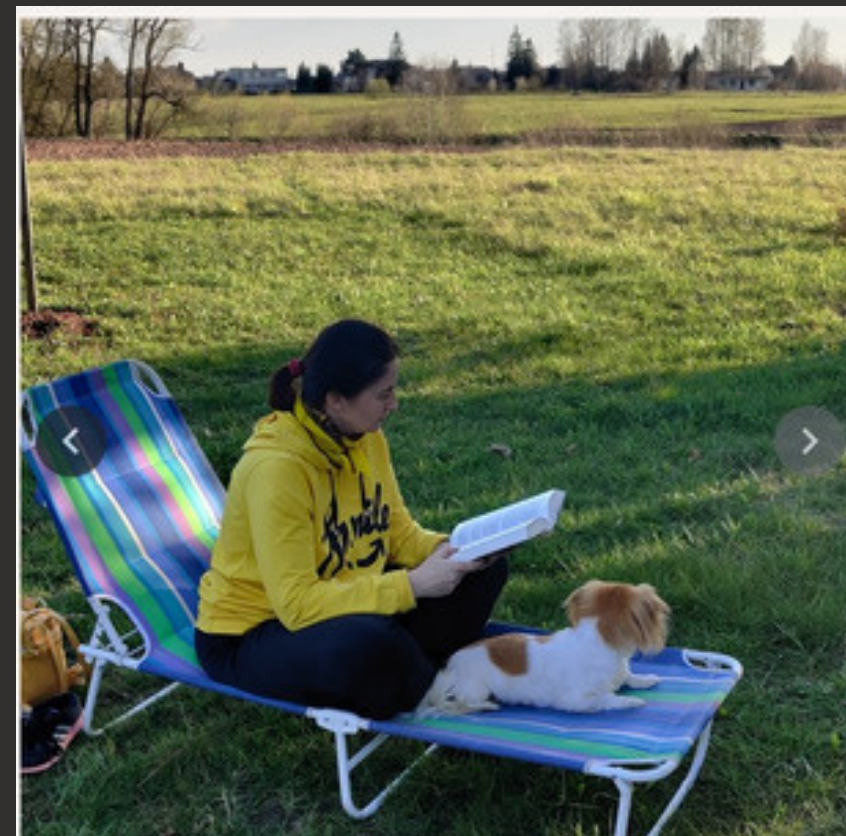


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Pasakos mamai, Nijolė Vilimienė.

During the quarantine, a photo gallery "**Knygius in Quarantine**" was created on the library's website. The members of the club themselves took photos and sent them to the library. The photos showed what and how they read while staying at home.



Kupiškio viešoji biblioteka - „Knygius” karantine

Knygą pristato E. Petrulienė

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The club mates willingly share their thoughts about the books they have read, exchange opinions and discuss. During each meeting, the news on Lithuanian and foreign literature is discussed. Books that have received various prizes are read. The anniversaries of Lithuanian writers are commemorated, and the club strives to learn about the author and his literary work as much as possible. Every year, the birthday of the club "Knygius" is celebrated, and a festive cake is shared.

The book lovers' club "Knygius" has started its fifth year of existence. The ongoing meetings are useful for adult readers of all ages not only to develop a literary taste, but also to enjoy nice communication, conversation and to reduce a sense of loneliness. Club members have made friends, discovered more common interests, new members are always welcome.



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Kupiškis Public Library will soon return to the renovated premises. "Knygius" already awaits for a cozy space for inexhaustible discussions and fun leisure time.

