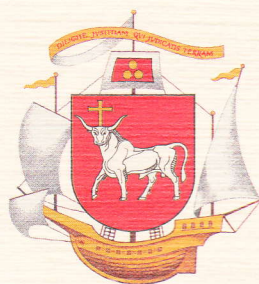


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KAUNO MIESTO SAVIVALDYBĖ

To the War History Clubs

Kaunas, 23-01-2012

Invitation to participate at the Life History Festival
Europe. Napoleon I in Kaunas. 1812

Dear investigators and cherishers of the military history,

With most cordial greetings from the City of Kaunas let me hereby to invite the members of your war history club to participate at the Life History Festival *Europe. Napoleon I in Kaunas. 1812* which will be organized in commemoration of the bicentenary of Napoleon Bonaparte's Campaign to Russia and held on **June 22- 24, 2012 in Kaunas City, Lithuania.**

The great French military campaign waded through many European countries and involved soldiers of different European nations. **The City of Kaunas** played an important strategic role in Napoleon Bonaparte's military plan. It served as a **transit point and a stronghold** on the way to Russia to store food, weapons, powder, to arrange bakery and hospital facilities for *the Grande Armée*, to use the port of Kaunas for the supply logistics and to keep military captives. **The most remarkable and successful military action** of Napoleon's I Army was **crossing the Nemunas River near Kaunas**. On the 24th-26th of June, 1812 in such a short time three pontoon bridges were made and such an amazingly great military escort of men, horses, wagons with heavy military equipment and camping facilities – about 140 thousand soldiers led by the Emperor himself and his marshals and generals (including Lithuanian) were transferred across the river.

On the 22nd-24th of June, 2012 **Kaunas Tourism Information Centre and Kaunas City Municipality** organize the Life History Festival and **invite war history clubs and history re-construction clubs** from France, UK, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Belarus, the Ukraine, Poland, Latvia and Lithuania to take a trip back to the year 1812. I hope that this Festival will bring a great pleasure with its interesting international meetings to you and your club colleagues. The camping of war history clubs will be arranged in the unique historical setting – the picturesque confluence of the Rivers Nemunas and Neris in the Old Town of Kaunas. Moreover, **the military reconstruction performance** will be accompanied by the craftsmen fair, street concerts, performances and the **authentic Lithuanian Midsummer Night celebration** during which you will be able to experience the ancient Baltic traditions and enjoy Lithuanian hospitality and delicious beer.

Please **find attached the details of the programme and important information for active participants** and I hope you join our Life History Festival *Europe. Napoleon I in Kaunas. 1812* on June 22- 24, 2012 in Kaunas City, Lithuania.

Sincerely,

Andrius Kupčinskas
Mayor of Kaunas City

