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**LINKING GOD'S PEOPLE TO
REACH THE UNREACHED**

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FROM R.K.'S CORNER

This issue features a report from Steve and my overseas travel in August, during which we visited **England, Norway, and Lithuania**. Our primary purpose was to visit my homeland, Norway, to celebrate a family event.

Whenever possible, in order to be cost-effective with mission funds, we integrate personal travel with visiting missionaries in the field, so in this report, I am focusing on our time during this trip spent with our Bridge missionary partners.

We had free personal award tickets across the ocean, which permitted us a week stop-over in **London** where we stayed with **David and Rosemary Shaw**, mission friends with whom we have partnered for a number of years in serving **Serbia** with the Gospel.

Amidst a delightful time with friends and family in Norway, we had a terrific couple of days with **Enok and Marianne Hansen**, a dynamic couple who, more than two decades ago, crossed into the Soviet Union through the Norwegian-Russian border and brought the Gospel to a young generation of **Russians** in the Murmansk region on the Kola peninsula. The Bridge helped finance the early work there, in sponsoring their Bible school, and financing some of their Russian church planters.

While in Norway, I took a side-trip (at a great airfare) to **Lithuania** and spent a few days with **Peter and Solvei Stohl** on their home turf in the city of **Kaunas**. The Stohls have been long-term Bridge-sponsored missionaries to several formerly Soviet countries, with an emphasis on Biblically-based counseling and teaching. We had a great time as we shared life while walking, talking, eating praying, and together considering their future in a changing world.

Most of you have background knowledge on the people above and their ministries from prior Bridge Reports, so in this issue, I focus on the events from our the August travel. **Please pray for each of them, that they will continue to flourish in faith as they remain good ambassadors for Christ and pursue God's call in their lives according to Ephesians 2:10**

Cont. from p. 1 David brought me to an evening service at **Holy Trinity Brompton** (home of the Alpha Program), where an impressive 1000-plus crowd of young people were packed together (standing room only) in a large building — an old-fashioned brick high-church of England — passionately worshipping the Lord and lifting up the name of Jesus! It was encouraging, in light of the fact that the agenda of Islam has all but taken over London! There are many British intercessors that believe that a fresh revival is about to break out in England.

Today, I called David to receive a report from his two month stay in Serbia, which he and Rosemary just completed. *"This time, we found ourselves traveling around the country to different cities where we met with groups of believers who are hungry for more of God. Many of the traditional evangelical churches are steeped in legalism of the past. We encouraged the believers to come together and pray, instead of being passive and critical or discouraged; pray for one another, for the churches and their leaders, for the Body of Christ, and for their government; pray for revival! God hears the prayers of His people and moves on their behalf!"*

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LINKING GOD'S PEOPLE TO REACH THE UNREACHED

The Bridge Report

TRIP REPORT: ENGLAND, NORWAY, LITHUANIA



This trip was very special, in that **my husband, Steve, and I traveled together**. Due to a car accident when he was seven years old, Steve suffered for five decades with chronic back pain, which (although he did some traveling after we were married in 1987) had gradually caused him to remain at home while I kept visiting the mission field. In 2004, new medical surgical technology secured his spine, which, surprisingly, had been broken in several places! Although having some pain from nerve damage, Steve decided to again embark on an overseas trip. It was tough, nevertheless, very rewarding for both of us!

LONDON — ENGLAND

DAVID AND ROSEMARY SHAW live in a sprawling Edwardian house with a large back yard on a lovely street in central **London**. Although in their mid-seventies, the Shaws have an energy level, enthusiasm and appetite for life that leave even young people in the dust! They exude God's love for people and passion for His Kingdom! Close to **fifty years ago**, God called them to serve the **Serbian people** with the Gospel in what was then called Yugoslavia. David, a professional developer in London, and Rosemary would spend their summer vacations traveling to Serbia, the van filled with their seven children and plenty relief goods for distribution, with an attached "bubble" camper to live in. A "bubble" is still parked at their house, and David was busy getting it ready... *"right after you leave, we are going to Serbia for two months — do you want to come with us?"*

The hospitality of the Shaw household is well known. The week we were there, Steve and I were included into their family activities and had a wonderful time of fellowship and fun with them! We were impressed by the quality of character and faith of the many young adults visiting, several of whom were his grandchildren. David was the interim preacher at his church while his pastor was on vacation, so we were introduced to his church fellowship.

Cont. on back page

LITHUANIA: PETER AND SOLVEI STOHL — COUNSELORS AND ARTISTS TO GOD’S GLORY!



We had dinner with the Director of the Lithuanian Family Center, Dalia Lukeniene her husband, Kasantas. They are providing a much needed service!

Having known **Peter and Solvei** for over 18 years as friends and mission partners, while intersecting with them here in the States and in many countries overseas, it was very special for me to finally visit them in their own home in Kaunas, and have them introduce me to Lithuania — a country I knew little about — and to the people with whom they work.

Peter met me at the airport in Vilnius, the capital, and we made the two hour train ride back to the second largest city, **Kaunas**, where Solvei joined us.

Six years ago, they were able to purchase a two bedroom apartment in a vintage 1930s building in the center of the old city of Kaunas quite reasonably. They gutted it, and, on a limited budget, had it renovated, which transformed it into a

gorgeous upscale, state-of-the-art condo. It shows the quality of their aesthetic taste in bringing harmony between shape, design, and color.

During the three days I was with them, Peter and Solvei blessed me greatly. They shared their knowledge and insight of the country and its people with me while we were walking large stretches of Vilnius and Kaunas, enjoying their beauty. The center of both cities are restored to their original grandeur of the past, with a bustling downtown of shops, businesses, and picturesque street cafes.

Lithuanians are considered an intellectual, artistic people who are proud of their nation and its heritage, boasting a 100 % literacy and the largest number of



Walking past the campus of Vilnius University, we came across the Ms. World contest participants performing alongside with a duo singing folkore music. This symbolizes Lithuania today — caught between her past and her present, the East and the West. Who is she?



college graduates per capita in Europe. A recent member of the European Union, Lithuania was one of the fastest growing emerging economies till last year’s economic downturn.

There is a darker side to this beautiful picture, one with which Peter and Solvei are very familiar as Christian counselors: Lithuania, with the world’s second highest suicide rate per capita, is rife with depression, substance abuse, broken families and lack of identity. 79% are Catholic, and there are also a number of evangelical churches; but the church, as is, seems irrelevant to today’s young generation.

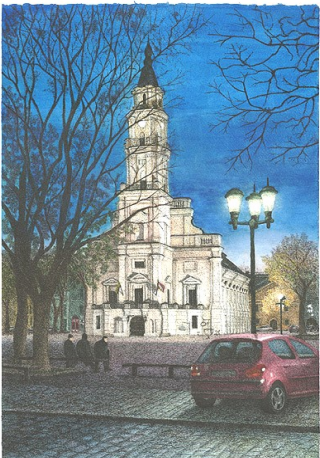
With this in mind, after almost twenty years of ministering among believers, Peter and Solvei have felt led

by the Lord to re-enter the world of art, and have started a part time art business to help supplement their income. As they continue to serve as counselors and teachers, they will **need ongoing financial support on a monthly basis**. The Stohls’ gift designation:

8335 Family Ministry Workers

Their website is : www.stohlpaper.com

Solvei is also an artist in her own right. She uses her keen eye through the lens of the camera to capture her motifs.



To the right: One of Solvei’s many photographs. To the left: One of Peter’s many drawings. These exemplify the outstanding artistic talents of both. This little picture of Peter’s drawing does not justify the original, but it may give you an indication of the quality of his work. A layman lover of arts, looking through Peter’s portfolio, I was struck by his exact, detailed, minute pen-strokes, and his use of contrasting light which gives depth perception and dramatic effect; his motifs come to life!



In 1993, Steve and I traveled with **Enok and Marianne to Murmansk, Russia**; subsequently helped them finance some of their pioneer out-reaches there. Now, they reach out to other parts of the world and finance themselves and the work by the profit from their thriving, international family business. Presently, they pastor a local church that had difficulties, but has had a major turnaround. We visited their church picnic and had a great time!

Enok and Steve (and their wives **Marianne and R.K.**) — two entrepreneurial businessmen from opposite sides of the ocean with

kindred hearts: a love for God and His people, and a passion to effectively propagate the Gospel in the nations through indigenous believers.

