

Moterų Dirva

WOMEN'S FIELD

Published by American - Lithuanian R. C. Women's Alliance





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(CENTRO VALDYBA)**

1985—1987

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Our 73rd Year

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Christmas Thanksgiving



It's traditional to express gratitude to God at Thanksgiving around a table blessed with his bounty. Although I enjoy this feast, I much prefer praising him during the Christmas season.. So much can go *wrong* this time of the year that each successful season presents another opportunity to remember his love and care.

For the terrific hiding place I discovered yesterday to keep scissors, ribbon and wrapping paper safe from "borrowers," *I thank you Lord.*

For the sweaters that were not only on sale but the right color and fit for the older boys and Uncle Fred, *I thank you, Lord.*

For a child who spends all afternoon mixing, cutting, and baking sugar cookies (and considers it fun), *I thank you, Lord.*

For my husband, who can set up a perfectly angled tree, coax reluctant light strings to work, and only step on two ornaments — all the while keeping an eye on the TV football game, *I thank you, Lord.*

For friends who accept our invitation to dinner by asking, "What can we bring," *I thank you, Lord.*

For home-crayoned Christmas cards, smudged by toddler hands but carrying the unmistakable message of love, *I thank you, Lord.*

For the six-year-old's easy woolly sheep costume for the pageant, which I made in ten minutes out of an old bathroom rug, *I thank you, Lord.*

For the hungry and the lonely, whose needs compel us to share and enrich our spirits, *I thank you, Lord.*

For the manger scene whose cracked statues and dented stable are tributes to other Christmas seasons, other times of warmth and love, *I thank you, Lord.*

For the Gloria of midnight Mass, the crunch of snow under our boots as we walk home along the quiet waiting streets, for the hush of the household as I wrap one last gift, *I thank you, Lord.*

For your birthday, dawning crisp and promising, for glad cries, crackling paper, cocoa, and "thank you"s...

For heads of every color and size bowed in prayer around a festive table; for life and laughter and celebration; for a lump in my throat as I realize what I have been given...

I love you, Lord! Thank you.

Joan Wester Anderson

President's message...

A New Direction Requires Help

I want to welcome everyone on the start of a new fiscal year for the Alliance, and, another term of office for the national board.

These are special times for all of us Catholics, this being the Marian year, and also special for us Lithuanians because we have just celebrated our 600th year Anniversary of Christianity.

The Pope's warm reception of us Lithuanians who visited in Rome this last June, and his visit to America in September, has brought about a wish for renewal of faith; a hope that we can bring our religion into our everyday life.

The early Christians were "different" because they displayed an unselfishness in their lives that set them apart from the majority. They loved one another. Have we made progress? Are we unique so that our actions make us stand out? We may complain about some lack in our local parish, but what have we, **each one of us**, done to contribute? What little or big thing or action have we pledged to ourselves and stuck to it? What have we shared with others to bring our faith into our daily life? If we moved a mountain then it would be easy to see our accomplishment but most lives are not made up of mountains. We need just a small gesture, a small action, to influence others and to make a positive statement to renew our faith, to make our faith a part of our life.

Our organization is, hopefully, at the start of a new direction. The Alliance was formed by women to help women where there was a need at the time — life insurance and sick benefits. There were studies to share information for new immigrants and support for new-

ly formed parishes of Lithuanian Catholics. We see that needs have changed in some areas and the sick benefits have been eliminated some time back. We are working to end our life insurance, since the regulations make this a cumbersome task and often a duplication for our members. We are paring down the Alliance, but the skeleton organization remains. Now we should all be thinking how we are going to flesh it out. What are we going to be doing as **American-Lithuanian Roman Catholic Women**? What activities will make you proud to be a member? What task needs to be done? What task needs another pair of hands, more Alliance members, to finish something worthwhile? Let us share our thoughts and our deeds.

Sincerely,
Aldona Shumway

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

On Decemter 13, we will be 73 years old! Our 75th is **only two years away**. How shall we mark **THE** big event?



In Memoriam

A.†A. Marijona Jokubaitė (Mary Jakub)

It is my sad duty to report the death of one of our pioneer members, Honorary member Marijona Jokubaitė of New Haven, CT., August 31 at age 88.

In 1917, with the assistance of then pastor Fr. Karkauskas, she founded chapter 33, became its first president and remained such for the next 66 years. She served on the board as national president and treasurer, also 12 years as Connecticut state director. She was a lovely human being with an unusually good disposition, very affectionate, thoughtful, complimentary — and above all, a 100% "sąjungietė."



I had the pleasure of meeting Marijona last year at an anniversary dinner in New Haven and was pleased to see her so alert and informed.

Our organization was fortunate to have Marijona in its ranks, and, Marijona was fortunate to have such wonderful friends in her chapter, who drove her to meetings, church, appointments, etc., after she retired to a nursing home. She will be missed by her sister-members, and by all who knew her. May she rest in peace!

*Aldona Shumway, nat. pres.;
all board members and editor*

AMŽINĄ ATILSI!

In brief

Goal Achieved

...Our secretary, **Roma Kuprys**, informs us that additional donations of \$25 for the Endowed Chair and \$25 for Camp Dainava were received from Chapter 67, Chicago, and \$50 for Camp Dainava from Chapter 75, Chicago. She happily reports that our goal of \$500 for the Endowed Chair **has been reached!** Although it seemed like an uphill battle at times, we reached the top. Thanks to all who contributed to these very worthwhile endeavors.

Additional Donations

... Recent donations to **Moterų Dirva**: \$50 from **Ann Dougall** in memory of her mother **Ona Bruozis**, a member of Chapter 5, Worcester, MA. Also, \$50 from **Diana Vargofcak** in memory of her mother **Augusta Satkus**, a member of Chapter 2, Cicero, IL. Mrs. Satkus, an honorary member, was a signatory on our original charter and an active and concerned member throughout her lifetime. Our thanks to both for their thoughtfulness.

A Fond Farewell to Pastor and Spiritual Director

...**Father Anthony Miciunas** arrived in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1972 to become pastor of St. Casimir parish. The association between pastor and parishioners was very close, so it was very difficult to accept the fact that after 15 years, he would be leaving to accept the pastorate of another Lithuanian parish, St. Peter's in Kenosha, Wisconsin. He



Fr. Miciunas receives tribute from **Olga Keršis**, parish organist and director of the men's choir. (Also a member of Ch. 5).

had been a very active spiritual director of Chapter 5, as well as other parish organizations. He became national spiritual director in 1975 and served until August, 1987. Father was always an interested spiritual director, no doubt made easier because the national president also resided in Worcester. He has contributed many interesting and informative articles to our publication through the years — for that we are grateful, and, we wish him God's blessings in his new assignment.

Vytautas Skuodis Arrives in America

...After seven years of degrading imprisonment in Soviet jails, American-born **Vytautas Skuodis**, his wife, Irena, and his daughter, Daiva, left their homeland to begin a new life. They were met Sept. 8 in Zurich, on the first leg of their journey, by **Mary Rudis**, president of BALF. This Lithuanian na-

tional charitable organization, organized after World War II to assist displaced and needy Lithuanians worldwide, continues its efforts today. About 100 other Americans were there with flowers and song to welcome the new arrivals. They have been provided with a completely furnished apartment in Chicago's Marquette Park and all are anxious to learn the English language and become productive citizens.

Mr. Skuodis was born in Chicago in 1929 and was baptized at Our Lady of Vilnius parish church. The family returned to Lithuania when he was a small child. He is a geologist who taught at the University of Vilnius, from which institution he was fired, when an illegal search of his home produced underground anti-soviet reading materials.

His wife has studied geology and enjoys writing. His daughter is a graduate of the Fine Arts Institute and worked in the Museum of Fine Arts.

When Mr. Skuodis was first imprisoned, our Alliance, at its convention, resolved to join in the worldwide petitioning for his release to the chairman of the Soviet party. Many of our chapters did an outstanding job of collecting signatures. So, if you were part of this in any way, you can be proud of this accomplishment.

Thanks to Delegates

...Honorary member, **Juliana Rotsko**, sends her thanks to all the convention delegates who signed the lovely get-well card. Her recuperation from bypass surgery has been very slow, but she is at long last able to get out and be with people. She has kept busy working on crafts for her St. Anthony parish bazaar.

A Special Anniversary

...From the **Sisters of St. Francis**:
 „This year is a special moment in the history of the Sisters of St. Francis — the year of celebrating our 65th anniversary of journeying with the Lord and His people. As we cherish our past, celebrate the present and trust in our future, we wish to acknowledge God's goodness present among us and the goodness of all who have contributed to the spiritual and material growth of our community... Praise be to the Lord for friends and benefactors who gifted us with their loyalty and support through personal sacrifices assisting us in furthering the works of charity. May God bless them and reward them meeting their every need and hope. Together we work for the reign of God...”

Our heartiest congratulations to the Sisters of St. Francis, many of whom are daughters, sisters, teachers, relatives and friends of Alliance members. Their address is Grove & McRoberts Roads, Pittsburgh, PA 15234. AD MULTOS ANNOS!



* WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU NEVER HEARD OF 'GOING MY WAY'?

SIX GOOD REASONS TO CELEBRATE THE CRANBERRY

If the word cranberry calls to mind visions of Pilgrims, you would not be wrong. This sassy red berry, which grew wild a tomahawk's throw from Plymouth Rock, is as American as apple pie, only more so. It's one of only three fruits native to America (the Concord grape and blueberry are the others). Although Thanksgiving is an appropriate time to pay homage to the fruit American Indians introduced to white settlers in 1620, cranberries are also a staple of the Christmas table, as well. To help in the celebration of either holiday, here are eight recipes for a variety of items from relishes, desserts, and even tea.

CRANBERRY PEAR RELISH

- 1 bag (12 ounces) cranberries
- 3 ripe pears
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 splashes pear brandy or white wine
- ½ cup cranberry juice

Dice cranberries and unpeeled pears. Put into large non-metal bowl. Mix in sugar, brandy and cranberry juice. Cover and refrigerate for several hours. Makes 1 quart.

CRANBERRY SALAD

- 2 cups raw cranberries ground
- 2 cups peeled and coarse ground apples
- 1½ cups sugar
- 1 (6 oz.) pkg. lemon gelatin
- 2 cups very hot water
- 2 cups pineapple juice
- 1 cup grapes, halved
- ½ cup pecans coarse ground

Combine cranberries, apples and sugar. Dissolve gelatin in hot water. Add pineapple juice. Chill until partially set. Add cranberry-apple mixture, grape halves and nuts, blending well. Pour into a 9 x 13 inch pan and refrigerate until firm. Serves 12. NOTE: This salad is very sweet so the amount of sugar may be cut to as little as ½ cup.

LEMON-HONEY CRANBERRY SAUCE (12 servings)

- 1½ pounds cranberries
- 1 cup water
- Grated rind of 1 lemon
- 1 cup honey

Put cranberries and water in saucepan, cover and simmer 5 minutes or until berries burst. Remove from heat. Stir in lemon rind and honey. (NOTE:) Sauce can be refrigerated up to 1 week. Serve at room temperature. For less tart flavor, use orange instead of lemon juice and reduce amount of honey according to one's taste.

CRANBERRY BARS

- 1 cup oatmeal
- ¾ cup packed brown sugar
- ½ cup sifted flour
- ½ cup flaked coconut
- ½ cup butter or margarine
- ½ cup chopped walnuts
- 1 (10 oz.) can whole cranberry sauce
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Mix oatmeal, sugar, flour and coconut in large bowl. Cut butter or margarine into crumb mixture until crumbly. Press half of the mixture over bottom of a buttered 9-inch square baking pan. Mix the nuts, cranberry sauce and lemon juice in small bowl. Spread mixture on top of crumb mixture in pan. Sprinkle with remaining crumb mixture. Bake until crisp and golden, about 35 minutes. Cool on wire rack. Cut into bars.

CRANBERRY-ORANGE BROWNIES

- 4 cups cranberries
- 2 cups sugar
- ½ cup salad oil
- 2 beaten eggs
- 1 tspn. vanilla
- 2 tablespoons orange juice
- Rind of 1 orange grated

2 cups flour
 1 tspn. baking soda
 1 tspn. salt
 1 tspn. nutmeg
 1 cup walnuts or pecans,
 coarsely chopped.

Slice cranberries in half. Add sugar, oil, eggs, vanilla, orange juice and rind. Stir well. Combine dry ingredients and add to batter. Fold in nuts. Stir until flour is moistened. Dough will be stiff. Spread in a greased 9 x 13 inch pan. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for about 1 hour or until top is browned and cake tests done. Cut into bars about 2 by 1½ inches. Makes about 3 dozen. This also can be served cut into larger pieces and topped with whipped cream or whipped topping.

CRANBERRY TEA

1½ cups strongly brewed tea
 1 cinnamon stick
 4 50 5 each cardamon seeds and
 whole cloves
 3 Tbls. sugar
 2 cups cranberry juice
 ½ cup orange juice

Make tea as directed on package. While tea is still hot, add cinnamon stick, cardamon, cloves and sugar. Stir until sugar is dissolved about 1 to 2 minutes. Allow to cool at room temperature. Steam over bowl to remove cinnamon stick, cardamon seeds and cloves. Add cranberry juice and orange juice. Stir to mix. This may be reheated over low heat. Do not allow to boil. Or serve well chilled.



Pre-convention Board Minutes

The pre-Convention Board meeting of the American Lithuanian Roman Catholic Women's Alliance took place on Wednesday, August 5, 1987, at 9:00 p.m. at the Hilton Inn of Oak Lawn, Oak Lawn, IL. Present were President Aldona Shumway, 1st Vice-president Emilie B. Prose, 2nd Vice-president Ruth Berzanskis, Secretary Roma Kuprys, Treasurer Vida Sakevičius, Trustees Sophie Diržius and Anna Šliteris, Editor Dale Murray, Circulation Manager Pam Breidenbach, and Michigan (East) Director, Bertha Janus.

The donations submitted from each Chapter to Camp Dainava and to the Chair of Lithuanian Studies were reported by Roma Kuprys to be \$250.00 and \$275.00, respectively. Because several Chapters had sent donations to the Chair of Lithuanian Studies prior to the announcement of the Alliance fundraiser, the actual amount donated by the Alliance to the Chair of Lithuanian Studies is higher than the one presented here.

Roma Kuprys reported that votes for the Outstanding Lithuanian Woman of the Year Award were received from 20 Chapters. Sr. Mercedes, SSC, of Northbrook IL received the majority of votes. Dale Murray suggested that the award be presented to Sister at the Convention banquet on Saturday. This was agreeable to all those present. Emilie B. Prose moved that in addition to the plaque, Sister also will be presented with a corsage and a check for \$100.00. Ruth Berzanskis seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Biographies of the five members

whose names were submitted for elevation to Honorary Membership were read. After some discussion (regarding the requirements for Honorary Membership), Dale Murray moved and Anna Šliteris seconded that Elizabeth Alavosius (Ch. 5, Worcester, MA) be elevated to Honorary Membership. Ruth Berzanskis moved and Pam Breidenbach seconded that Emilie B. Prose (Ch. 46, Chicago, IL) also be elevated to Honorary Membership. Both motions passed. Ruth Berzanskis told of how Chapter 66, Elizabeth, NJ, honors worthy Alliance members on a chapter level. Each receives the *Motery Dirva* and membership, compliments of the Chapter.

Ruth Berzanskis and Bertha Janus proposed new options for guidelines for selecting future scholarship winners. The options dealt with the eligibility and the credentials of the candidate, the amount of the scholarship, and the type of school to be attended. Aldona Shumway suggested that these items be presented for consideration to the Convention delegates.

The need for transfer of monies from one fund to another was discussed.

Aldona Shumway reported on the extent of progress in the liquidation of the insurance portion of the Alliance. A letter describing a plan of liquidation had been received from the Alliance's actuary, Nathan Moscovitch. After Aldona Shumway read the letter, discussion followed. Roma Kuprys was requested to call Mr. Moscovitch and invite him to address the Convention in person.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

Roma Kuprys
Secretary

Aldona Shumway
President

American-Lithuanian R. C. Women's Alliance
42nd biennial convention, August 9, 10, 11, 1987,
Chicago, Illinois



Delegates and guests, seated (from left): Editor Dale Mur-
ray; Trustees Anna Sliteris and Sophie Dirzius; District
president Stella Kaulakis; national president Aldona
Shumway; Rev. J. Vaškas, MIC; I V.P. Emilie Prose; II

V.P. Ruth Berzanskis; convention com. sec. and corresp.
Grasilia Meilus; Circ. Mgr. Pam Breidenbach; special
guest Mary Rudis, Outstanding Lith. Woman — 1981. Not
present: secr. Roma Kuprys and treas. Vida Sakevičius.

Official Minutes

42nd Biennial Convention

The 42nd Convention of the American Lithuanian Roman Catholic Women's Alliance began at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 9, 1987, at the Hilton Inn of Oak Lawn, Oak Lawn, IL. Holy Mass was celebrated and a homily given by Rev. Jonas Vaškas, MIC. The Convention photo was taken after breakfast.

First Session

The opening session of the Convention was called to order at 10:40 a.m. by Stella Kaulakis, President of the Chicago District. Following her warm welcome, Aldona Shumway was invited to preside as president of the Convention. Convention officers were as follows: president — Aldona Shumway, secretary — Roma Kuprys, assistant secretary — Dale Murray, treasurer — Vida Sakevičius, assistant treasurer — Grasilija Meiluvienė.

The names of Honorary members deceased since the previous Convention were read. All deceased Alliance members were remembered with a moment of silence.

Mary Rudis, Outstanding Lithuanian Woman of 1981, extended to the delegates her own personal greetings, as well as those from BALFas, for a successful Convention. Additional greetings were received and read at various times throughout the Convention from the following: Sister M. Aloyza, Bishop Paulius Baltakis, OFM, Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, Sister Marian Blodis, OSF, Vaclovas Kleiza, Lithuanian Catholic Alliance, Prel. Juozas Prunskis, Juliana Rotsko, Vicky Leone and Emilija Šaulienė.

The Credentials Committee, headed by Jadvyga Tamasevičienė, reported

that there were 15 insurance, 23 social, 3 social-alternates, and 4 guests present during the first session.

These accredited delegates were present during the Convention:

Chapter 2, Cicero, IL: AGNES BIGELIS (ins.), PAM BREIDENBACH (ins.), SOPHIE DIRZIUS (ins.) Board member, MARY GENIS (ins.), LOUISE JELIK (ins.), ROMA KUPRYS (ins.) Board member.

Chapter 3, Chicago, IL: JOANA DANILEVIČIENĖ (soc.), ANGELE KATELIENĖ (soc.), E. KOLBIENĖ (soc. alt.), VIDA SAKIČIUS (ins.) Board member, LAIMA VAIČIŪNIENĖ (soc. alt.).

Chapter 5, Worcester, MA: IRENE ADOMAITIS (ins.), ALDONA SHUMWAY (ins.) Board member, JADVYGA SPIRAUSKIENĖ (soc.).

Chapter 20, Chicago, IL: JOSEPHINE KILKUS (ins.), GRASILJA MEILUVIENĖ (soc.), ANELE RAŠTIENĖ (soc.), JADVYGA TAMASEVIČIENĖ (soc.), PETRONELE ZAKARAITE (soc.).

Chapter 29, Woodhaven, NY: Eugenia Kezienie (soc.).

Chapter 42, Grand Rapids, MI: URŠULĖ ASTRIENĖ (soc.), SHIRLEY KRYGER (ins.), SOFIJA LASTIENĖ (soc.), ANELE LUKASEVIČIŪTĖ (soc.), ALICE ROCK (soc.), ANN SZEIVA (ins.), BRONE SEDARSKIENĖ (soc. alt.).

Chapter 46, Chicago, IL: DALE MURRAY (ins.), BETTY ŽIBAS (soc.), Alternates and guests: STELLA KAULAKIS (soc.), HELEN KODIS (soc.), EMILIE B. PROSE (soc.) Board member, and FRANCES URNAZUS.

Chapter 54, Detroit, MI: CECILIJA

BALSIENĖ (soc.), STELLA H. HOTRA (ins.), BERTHA JANUS (ins.), MARIE KASE (ins.), ALBINA LINGIENĖ (soc.), ONA RUKŠTELĖ (soc.).

Chapter 66, Elizabeth, NJ: MARY BERZANSKIS (soc.), RUTH BERZANSKIS (soc.) Board member, ZEPHY YUKNAVICH (soc.).

Chapter 67, Chicago, IL: ANNA ŠLITERIS (ins.) Board member.

Chapter 75, Chicago, IL: MATILDA MONTE (soc.), BERNICE NEDVECKAS (ins.), MONICA PUISZIS (soc.), HELEN VAIČEKAUSKAS (soc. alt.).

Total: insurance — 17, social — 25, social alternates — 4.

Grievance committee chairperson Jadvyga Tamasevičienė reported that there were no grievances received.

Spiritual Director Rev. Anthony Miciūnas, MIC, was not present and no report had been submitted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

My duties as a national board member continued with attending the pre and post convention meetings in Grand Rapids, Michigan in August 1985. I continued to have meetings with outgoing president of the Alliance, Julia Mack. Since the convention in Grand Rapids and since assuming the duties of the president in October 1985, I have continued correspondence and telephone conversations with board members and other members of the Alliance.

In September 1985, Julia Mack and I had a meeting with an independent insurance agent/broker and his associate having to do with our insurance. The idea was to have the death benefits obligation assumed by another carrier offering the option of surrendering the policies for each member or continuing life insurance. Another meeting followed 2 months later and also several phone calls. These agents had our actuary's books to work with so that their picture of our standing was quite accurate. They were not able to place us with an insurance carrier and sent a letter in January 1986 stating so. (A copy is attached to the original report in home office.)

I had been in touch with Mr. Hanson of the Illinois Ins. Dept. and he transferred my inquiries to Ms. R. Peck. She has been in touch with Roma at home office and was to send me additional information to answer questions about dissolving our present charter and following directives to continue in an orderly fashion. I did not receive any mail from Ms. Peck.

In other matters in the fall of 1986, since I was not able to do so myself, I asked vice-pres. Emilie Prose to represent the Alliance at Mrs. Dauzvardis' retirement party and present our greeting and check. This event took place in Chicago. Along the same lines of national participation, I had asked Vida Sakevičius, our treasurer, to be our representative on the 600 Christianity Jubilee Committee, and attending the planning meetings in the Chicago area, and presenting a check of \$100 as seed money for the affair.

I have received some request for cookbooks and had these mailed from our supply in Worcester thru the assistance of Chapter 5.

For the record, I usually include our spiritual director, Rev. Miciūnas, in notices and board correspondence. I have also talked with Fr. Miciūnas in person about the Alliance and our activities.

The Illinois Insurance Department had been in touch with home office inquiring about changes in by-laws since 1979. This was the date of the last printing and revision. Both Roma and I went over our notes and convention minutes and listed the few changes made. The changes were forwarded to Moterų Dirva and mailed as a supplement to each chapter to be included with each copy of the chapter's by-laws.

As a publicity activity, Julia Mack and I had our oath of office administered during the Lithuanian Mass in St. Casimir's Church in Worcester.

I have attended the local Mother's Day celebration and joined several other organizations for Mass, breakfast and programs presented by the local Lithuanian class children.

I have also represented the Alliance at a special dinner honoring the first visit of Bishop Baltakis to Worcester, Mass. During the visit the bishop administered Confirmation to a group of 27 youth from both Lithuanian parishes.

I attended the board meeting in the home office in May, 1986 and prepared the necessary report and agenda. Through the hospitality of our national secretary, I was able to stay overnight

at the Kuprys' home. The next day, I attended the Chicago District meeting. After the business meeting I was welcomed and answered questions from attending members. At that time I requested the Chicago District to undertake the 1987 Convention. They graciously agreed to do so with the help of Emilie Prose as general chairman. There have been letters and phone calls between that committee and myself since that time.

In other areas of activities, on Sept. 29, 1986, Julia Mack and I were invited to attend the board meeting of the PLKOS in Putnam, Conn. We went to the meeting and now have faces to go with names. PLKOS stands for „Pasaulio Lietuvių Katalikų Organizacijų Sąjunga“. For many years the president has been Dr. A. Slepetytė-Janacienė of New York. Besides their meetings and correspondence, my impression is that they represent the Lithuanian women's organizations behind the Iron Curtain at the WUCWO meetings, that is the WORLD UNION OF CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS. They are looking for our support and gave us a copy of their by-laws and promised to maintain ties.

As national president, I represented the board at the New England District meeting organized by directors, Milly Lapinskas and Anna Miller in Putnam, Conn. on Oct. 19 1986. This meeting was organized for 2 reasons. The last convention mandated district meetings and also to encourage discussions and increased Christian activity. All attending felt the meeting was very successful. There were members from Hartford, New Haven, Manchester and Putnam, Conn. and also Athol and two chapters from Worcester, Mass. Sister Ignė of the Putnam Sisters, who is a member of the Jubilee Central Committee, informed us of the many activities resulting from the preparation for the Anniversary. There will be a publication of a new Lithuanian children's catechism, new hymns, new prayers and discussions to encourage a renewal of faith. The guest speaker at the meeting was Brita Meilus, a chapter 5 member but better known as a volunteer extraordinaire. Brita is blind but runs programs and often lectures on volunteerism and blindness.

On Nov. 30, 1986, I represented the Alliance at the St. Casimir's Parish Dinner with a greeting and a personal donation.

In Feb. 1987, I represented the Alliance at the

Lithuanian Independence Day celebration in Worcester by attending Mass and the meeting at Maironis Park. The city mayor and his wife were present along with other city council members and state representatives and other organization representatives.

On March 19, 1987, I drove to New Haven Conn. with 3 other members to participate in their 70th Anniversary celebration. I had the chance to address the chapter members in English and Lithuanian at dinner and enjoyed a varied program of Lithuanian music and an Italian presentation by friends of the Lithuanian Parish.

The 600 Christianity Jubilee Central Committee had a meeting in New York City in April 1987 which I attended. As you know, our representative at most of those meetings held in Chicago has been our treasurer, Vida Šakevičius, but this gave me a personal view of how much work something of this size is to put together. The dedication and diplomacy of some of the members is remarkable.

I also plan to travel to Rome, Italy in June for that part of the celebration and will represent the Alliance where necessary.

Besides the above activities, I have answered correspondence (scholarship information, donation requests and other various general inquiries) as well as members letters. There is also routine monthly correspondence between the national office, secretary, treasurer and myself to keep the Alliance affairs moving. A good deal of time and worry has been the task of moving the insurance question along. I have had to enlist the help of Attorney Saulius Kuprys. The Illinois Dept. of Insurance seems to prefer to work that way. Also after discussion with my accountant in Massachusetts, I have asked our actuary of many years, Mr. Moscovitch to come up with a plan of distribution for the mortuary members. We had hoped to present a plan to the convention.

Letters have been authorized by the board at the last meeting to ask each chapter for donations of \$25 or more for the Endowed Chair of Lithuanian Studies and the restoration of camp „Dainava“. Responses were to be sent to our national treasurer. This was done.

Since the board meeting in Chicago on May 16, 1987, I was in touch with Mr. Moscovitch and authorized him to proceed with a resolution to finish the insurance activities during the up-

coming convention. I sent a letter on May 29, 1987 authorizing the go ahead (with the board's approval) to Mr. Moscovitch. In my letter, I reminded him of the man at the Illinois Dept. who is to work with him, suggested the one month time limit so that the plan can be submitted to the insurance department before being presented to the convention. I received a letter and a plan from Mr. Moscovitch dated June 11, 1987 along with a plan for liquidation. With my husband's help, I was able to send an abstract of the board meeting and a letter on June 16, 1987 by Express Mail (overnight) accepting the plan. We were on schedule and looked like we were all set for the insurance department to do their part.

I started to pack and concentrate on the upcoming trip to Rome and the beatification of Archbishop Matulaitis. Having participated in a planning meeting and reading all the pre-trip notices, the trip was uppermost in my mind.

Three days before leaving for Rome, I received a phone-call from Mr. Moscovitch telling me that he had to rescind his letter and plan because there had been a change in the insurance law as of late 1986. So now I have received a new letter with a draft resolution from Mr. Moscovitch. The board was made aware of this new letter at the pre-convention meeting and is considering the recommendation and will look to our attorney for his advice. We have asked Mr. Moscovitch to come to the convention for a direct meeting with the delegates. The convention will have to help make a decision.

In other areas, I have studied the by-laws and volume of material received from the National Council of Catholic Women, which we joined last year. This is an area that we may consider greater involvement in even though we have our own special interest as American Lithuanian Catholic Women. You will be seeing more in this area in the future announcements in the *Moterų Dirva*.

Since we plan to change some of our activities in the near future, namely discontinue our mortuary activities, we will have to change our charter and now is the time for new ideas to keep our organization alive and relevant to our lives.

I hope that our convention will take the time to define our goals and activities for the future of our Alliance.

Aldona Shumway

I VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

At this writing, I'm asking myself, "what did I do since elected first vice president of the *Moterų Sąjunga* in 1985 at the Grand Rapids Convention?"

First of all, there was the meeting of all the nice women in the organization, getting acquainted with their functions within their own chapters, by attending their meetings, besides being attentive and active in my own chapter, the 46th.

Since election in August 1985, the president asked me to help find a suitable, energetic, hardworking Secretary for the society to fill the vacant space on the Board at that time. Because the home office is located in Chicago, the principal area of operation of the society, we were asked to find such a person in this locality. We were lucky! With the recommendation of the 20th Chapter, Roma Kuprys became the official Secretary of *Moterų Sąjunga*. And what a wonderful, hardworking, energetic, committed person **Roma** is!

Attended all Executive Board meetings of the organization except one when the same date conflicted with the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae Conference in Baltimore, where I had to attend as Editor of the IFCA Bulletin and Past President of the organization.

After the May 16, 1986 Board Meeting at the Home Office of *Sąjunga*, the president, Aldona Shumway, attended the Chicago District Meeting on May 17, at the Marian Fathers Monastery. At this meeting, Aldona presented the possibility of the Alliance having its Convention in Chicago. The District, consisting of 7 Chapters, accepted to host the 42nd Convention in the Chicago Metropolitan Area. The president, Aldona Shumway, appointed me as the General Chairman of the Convention. The District immediately elected its own committee to prepare for the Convention. And since May 17, 1986, we have been very busy!

Committee meetings were frequent; search for hotel accommodations, etc., progressed in full force. We are doing our best to give you a good meeting, sealing friendships all over again, and enjoying yourselves.

And, so, this is what I was doing since the 1985 election of the first vice president of Mo-

terų Sąjunga, enjoying what I have been doing, loving every minute of it!

Kaip malonu yra su jumis gyventi taikoje darbuose.

Emilie Prose

II VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As this is my first report as a national vice-president, I will try to be as brief as possible.

The by-laws of the constitution charge the second vice-president with the promotion and fulfillment of the educational aims of the society, but give no guidelines to do so. Without guidelines there is no way of knowing what is wanted or needed by the members. The only indication of a potential future course of action in this area seemed to arise with the possibility of a change in our chapter activities when the insurance status is resolved.

For four years, I have worked closely with Bertha Janus on the Scholarship Committee. You will hear the results of our work for the past two years when Bertha presents the Scholarship Committee report. We do have some recommendations and expect a discussion to ensue regarding the Scholarship.

In 1986, representing the A.L.R.C.W.A., I went to Trenton, New Jersey, for the signing of Lithuanian Independence Day in the state of NJ by Governor Kean. At that time I presented Governor Kean with one of our Alliance cookbooks.

In the interest of time, the New Jersey District report will brief you on other activities.

Regarding board meetings, I was unable to attend the board meeting in 1986 but kept abreast of what was taking place through the Moterų Dirva and our president, Aldona Shumway, whom I might add is doing an admirable job.

On May 16, 1987, I flew (at my own expense) from New Jersey to Chicago to attend a board meeting at the home of our new secretary, Roma Kuprys. Through her correspondences to myself and the local chapters, she had already established herself as being very proficient in her duties. It was not surprising to find out that this young mother had, in a short period of time, acquainted herself with the various existing situations, overcame many obstacles, and brought semblance and order back from the muddled backlog of work that had been handed over to her. She is a true asset



II V.P. M. Ruth Berzanskis, Elizabeth, N.J.

to the organization and must be commended for her work, especially in the area of acquainting herself with the insurance situation.

Many issues were discussed at that meeting and will be recounted during this convention. The key item of interest to me was the insurance status. At this meeting I had hoped to find that the insurance standing was solved and that we could go ahead with plans for the future. This was not quite the case.

Various details regarding the insurance had to be settled and as a social member I had the opportunity to discuss various aspects but, as a social member, was not permitted to vote on matters pertaining to insurance.

This tenure has given me the opportunity to become acquainted with the national board members, committee members and many chapter members. I have enjoyed the experience and have had the opportunity to learn the functions that go into the running of this organization. It has been enlightening and will be a lasting experience, with many memories.

I am still looking forward to the future when ALL MEMBERS could vote on ALL matters affecting our organization and when ANY MEMBER may be elected to fill ANY position on the board, which is not the case at the present time with the insurance restrictions. I strongly believe that if this organization is to continue and grow, it must give these rights to all members.

M. Ruth Berzanskis

SECRETARY'S REPORT:



Exec. Sec. Roma Kuprys, Riverside, IL.

During the past two years as National Secretary, I have tried to keep the Home Office functional and accessible. On a monthly basis this involved maintaining a current record of dues paid by social and insurance members; reconciling monthly receipts and disbursements with Vida (the Treasurer); taking care of insurance-related matters (i.e., death benefits, discussions with the actuary); and corresponding with the financial secretary of each chapter, with Aldona (the President), with Dale (the *Moterų Dirva* Editor), and with Pam (the Circulation Manager).

On a quarterly basis, monthly fund standings were prepared and submitted to the Department of Insurance in all the states in which the Alliance is licensed (CT, IL, MA, MI, and PA) and also to each of the Board members.

On a yearly basis, I prepared the Alliance's raw financial data for the actuary who used it to compile the information necessary for the Annual Statement. Each year the Alliance is required to complete 10 copies of the Annual Statement.

Preparation for the Convention involved mailing to each chapter secretary a „Convention in-

formation" packet and helping prepare the Convention Ad book.

Additional work that was done during these past two years was:

- 1) mailing to each chapter secretary a set of by-laws and approved changes, and a letter requesting donations from each chapter for Dainava and the Endowed Chair for Lithuanian Studies;
- 2) renewing the Blanket bond;
- 3) working with the Main Post Office in Chicago in updating *Moterų Dirva* compliance with postal requirements (statement of ownership and I.D. page);

4) managing in conjunction with Vida the finances of the Cookbook Fund;

5) updating Home Office records; and

6) updating the *Moterų Dirva* subscription file.

Since our last Board meeting of May 15th, congratulatory wishes to both Hon. President Julia Mack and Prel. Juozas Prunskis were sent.

The Alliance's request for payment of monies owed by the U.S. Department of Treasury was received and reviewed by that Department. It is to be concluded from photographs of cancelled checks sent from the Treasury that the only money owed to the Alliance is \$187.50 from 1986 interest on U.S. Bonds.

Lastly, an overall picture of the vitality of the Alliance has been prepared so that you can be better acquainted with its overall state. The first two hand-outs describe the Alliance's financial picture, while the third one shows the status of the Alliance's membership.

AMERICAN LITHUANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ALLIANCE FUND STANDING FOR JUNE, 1987

Social	\$10,261.76
Mortuary	284,301.40
Expense	-11,750.17
Scholarship	10.00
Donations	1.00
U.S. Bonds	3,275.00
Savings & Loan	—
Banks	2,973.59
Overpayment	16.03
TOTAL	\$289,088.61
Balance as of June 1, 1987	\$290,364.55
Receipts — June, 1987	1,128.36
Disbursements — June, 1987	2,404.30
TOTAL	\$289,088.61

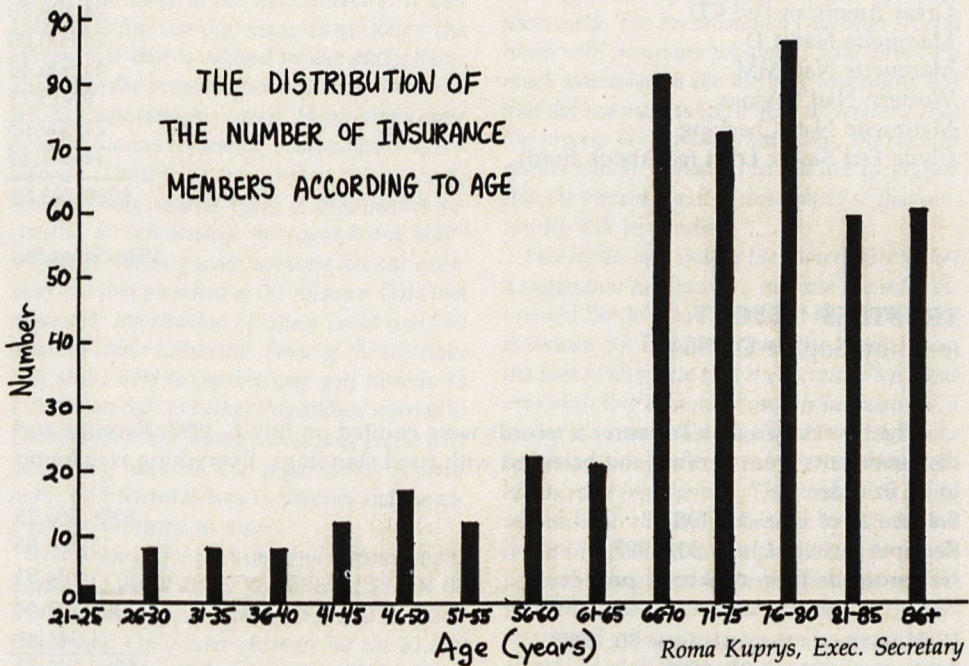
COOKBOOK FUND

		Interest earned	Receipts	Expenses
May-December, 1985				
May, 1985	\$11,006.02	\$471.01	\$561.00	\$28.65
	<u>1,003.36</u>			
TOTAL	\$12,009.38			
	* * *			
January-December, 1986				
January, 1986	\$12,009.38	\$718.18	\$1,048.07	\$19.10
	<u>1,747.15</u>			
TOTAL	\$13,756.53			
	* * *			
January-June, 1987				
January, 1987	\$13,756.53	\$382.85	\$332.06	\$10.00
	<u>704.91</u>			
TOTAL	\$14,461.44			

CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF ALLIANCE MEMBERS (Nov. 1985 — July, 1987)

Chapter	City	Ins./Soc.	New Members	Deceased Members	Change
1	Home Office	41/10	1	6	-5
2	Cicero, IL	36/9	3	5	-2
3	Chicago, IL	3/17	2	0	+2
5	Worcester, MA	42/75	3	4	-1
8	Baltimore, MD	5/8	0	3	-3
9	Rockford, IL	3/0	0	0	0
11	Daytona Beach, FL	0/8	0	0	0
15	Brockton, MA	1/27	0	4	-4
17	Hartford, CT	11/47	3	9	-6
18	Dania, FL	3/13	0	1	-1
20	Chicago, IL	10/51	8	3	+5
25	Pittston, PA	30/19	0	4	-4
26	Cleveland, OH	4/5	0	0	0
29	Woodhaven, NY	3/31	0	3	-3
33	New Haven, CT	2/36	9	2	+7
36	Cleveland, OH	4/35	1	3	-2
38	New Britain, CT	10/8	0	1	-1
42	Grand Rapids, MI	25/41	5	5	0
43	Waterbury, CT	1/21	0	2	-2
46	Chicago, IL	3/15	1	0	+1
49	Chicago, IL	0/23	0	0	0
53	Linden, NJ	10/7	0	2	-2
54	Southfield, MI	56/60	4	11	-7
56	Springfield, IL	4/1	0	2	-2
57	Manchester, CT	7/4	0	2	-2
59	Shenandoah, PA	15/40	2	2	0

63	Kearney, NJ	4/15	0	2	-2
64	Detroit, MI	6/3	0	1	-1
66	Elizabeth, NJ	0/68	5	8	-3
67	Chicago, IL	15/3	0	3	-3
68	Kearney, NJ	0/41	3	1	+2
69	Worcester, MA	16/3	0	5	-5
70	Westville, IL	18/6	0	2	-2
73	Lowell, MA	12/0	0	0	0
74	Los Angeles, CA	1/39	3	3	0
75	Chicago, IL	7/21	6	7	-1
76	St. Petersburg, FL	5/28	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL			60	107	-47



we will go before God
to be judged, and God
will ask us,
"where are your wounds?"
And we will say,
"we have no wounds."
And God will ask,
"was nothing worth fighting for?"



TREASURER'S REPORT:

Balance, December 31, 1986		\$288,266.15
Receipts	15,166.88	
Disbursements	<u>14,344.42</u>	822.46
Net proceeds from cookbook project		<u>704.91</u>
Balance, June 30, 1987		\$289,793.52

Total Assets

U.S. Bonds	\$80,000.00
Western Natl Bank CD	50,000.00
Western Natl Bank CD	10,000.00
First Natl of Cicero CD	20,000.00
Great American Fed CD	24,109.26
Marquette Natl CD	15,000.00
Marquette Natl MM	44,506.44
Western Natl Savings	9,915.75
Marquette Natl Checking	21,800.63
Clyde Fed Sav & Loan (cookbook fund)	<u>14,461.44</u>
	\$289,793.52

*Vida Sakevičius***TRUSTEES' REPORT:**

(read by Sophie Diržius).

The Secretary's and Treasurer's records were audited on July 1, 1987. Receipts and disbursements were verified and balanced with fund standings. Everything was found to be in order.

Balance as of Dec. 31, 1986	\$288,266.15
Receipts through June 30, 1987	15,166.88
Net proceeds from cookbook project	<u>704.91</u>
	304,137.94
Disbursements through June 30, 1987	<u>14,344.42</u>
Balance as of June 30, 1987	\$289,793.52

TOTAL ASSETS

U.S. Govt. Bonds	\$80,000.00
Western National Bank CD	50,000.00
Western National Bank CD	10,000.00
First National Bank of Cicero CD	20,000.00
Great American Federal S&L CD	24,109.26
Marquette National Bank CD	15,000.00
Marquette National Bank M. Mkt.	44,506.44
Western National Bank (Savings Acct.)	9,915.75
Marquette National Bank (Checking Acct.)	21,800.63
Clyde Federal S&L (Cook Book Acct.)	<u>14,461.44</u>
	\$289,793.52

Anna Sliteris and Sophie Dirzius
(Trustees)

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT:

(Director's report read by Roma Kuprys).

My intentions of attending this convention were such, that I had accepted to be a delegate from chapter 5, but was caught up in involvement which prohibited my being with you. I regret that I will not be able to spend the very important days with you, my SAJUNGIETES FRIENDS.

My duties commencing with the 1985 term were pretty heavy due to the fact that many continued to write about Sajunga problems. I directed them to write to our new secretary. It was amazing to find out that many do not follow the information that is relayed in our publication. Thanks to the present efficiency at the home office, the inquiries have ceased. Many letters came from the sources requesting information on scholarships. These were answered as they arrived. Am enclosing several types of information requested, for scholarship, for research and information of reaching some members like our organizer and first president of the Alliance. Data was requested; information of where books could be obtained about Lithuania. Some of the information about who to contact was sent directly to Lithuanian Aid, to Father Pugevičius, referred to Draugas for books. Many were young people who were doing research. Our organization is listed in the Gale Research book in libraries and the address is still listed as mine.

Thank you all for the wonderful response to the Statue of Liberty drive. We collected \$8,094.00 total. Many of you worked very hard to attain this figure. Only three chapters hit the \$1,000 quota and that was Grand Rapids, Mich., Hartford, Conn. and Worcester, Mass. You have seen in the Motery Dirva the chapters that were working hard towards attaining the thousand mark. The fact remains that all tried to give of themselves and thus we did very well, thanks to all of you.

Thank you for the co-operation and the prayers of all the members and others, who helped to bring about the eventual beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis. Many copies of the last push went out to organizations, requesting their prayers. The Lithuanian newspapers — Draugas and Darbininkas, Observer and others who were very helpful. I think that it was a miracle that

we did see the beatification. I could not attend, due to commitments which have been very heavy.

I would like to express my thoughts on the present status of the Alliance regarding insurance. I know that much worry has gone into this area. Our President has kept in touch with me and I am aware of the agonizing moments she has given to the fulfillment of her duties as President. The advice that I had contributed at the onset of the new Board was that a personal meeting with the insurance powers be held in Springfield, Ill., in order to follow the steps as outlined at the last convention. This was based on the fact that the Insurance Dept. had been very co-operative previously. The President and I did meet several times with insurance personnel, who were very much interested in the merging procedure, but that did not materialize. Please understand that the process is slow and, hopefully, the wanted results will be realized. I would like to suggest that the present Board be reappointed so that continuity will be present.

I see by the last issue of the Motery Dirva that a suggestion was made to increase the salaries. I would like to recommend that they remain as is because we DO NOT have the money. I am the first to recognize that the secretary's job was overwhelming because of unfinished business. I see by the report that she is back on track now and functioning as expected. Her workload will not increase from here in. The President's salary was raised at the last convention by \$25.00. We can at this point eliminate the \$25.00 for a P.R. person because most of the notifications and invitations come to either the President or the Secretary and a Board member can be appointed to attend. Most of the meetings are held in Chicago. I have not received notifications of any of the meetings — therefore for this term, I recommend the power be put in the hands of the Board. I speak from experience of doing the job; this calls for more time to carry out the orders and eliminates procrastination between notifications.

About the Board's minutes regarding the scholarship. I would hate to see the scholarship changed to give to other than a member or a member's son or daughter. THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE WAS TO SIGN IN MORE MEMBERS. THIS WAS THE COME-ON TO GET WOMEN TO JOIN.

About the Outstanding Woman! There

should be some thought given to what constitutes and outstanding woman. A member does get an honorary member standing, that is true. What the organization is doing is „CUTTING OUT“ the recognition of the members for an outstanding award. This award is NOT FOR WHAT ONE DOES FOR JUST LITHUANIAN ACTION. This award is for her contribution of every phase of her work, which constitutes the WHOLE PERSON. I objected to this when it was inaugurated on those grounds and I think that the time has arrived that the overall commitment to the people, that is ALL the people and not just the LITHUANIAN people, is the criteria. How many of our own members are we cutting out? We have many women who can qualify, or, are we a barren group of women, void of thinking, producing? This requires thinking. We broke the rule the day that was voted in therefore it is not a sacred rule.

I was at my chapter meeting when the outstanding women were being discussed. My question remains: What is a nationally outstanding woman?????

Please accept my regrets for not being with you. I love you all and I have been very fortunate to have met you, worked and worried with you, respected your thinking and your stamina, I know that you will remain a part of me forever after so many years of trials and errors. My future is very uncertain. Since graduation I have received the standing of a professional actress — believe it or not. I have been asked to perform in other plays since completing the leading role in "The Ladies Who Lunch", which ran for 9 days and evenings. My future, I do not know. I hope to continue in the academic field but I do have several offers on a new Federal program. Life will stop when I run out of steam. Maybe the next convention, I will see you all.

Julia Mack

Grasilija Meiluvienė announced the amount of donations received, and then those present adjourned at 12:15 p.m. for lunch.

Second Session

The business of the Convention was resumed at 1:50 p.m.

Jadvyga Tamasevičienė of the Credentials committee read the delegate

names. Present were 17 ins., 23 social, and 3 soc. alt. Aldona Shumway then asked each delegate to introduce herself and say something about herself.

Aldona Shumway announced that the Alliance's actuary, Nathan Moscovitch, would be arriving at 3:00 p.m. to discuss with Convention delegates the issue of insurance liquidation and to answer any questions.

The By-Laws committee report was read by Roma Kuprys. It is as follows:

Just to review, in 1979 the By-Laws were reviewed at great length. The approved changes and deletions were accepted by the delegates at the 1979 convention. All chapters were requested to note the changes.

In 1985 the various changes and deletions were suggested. As a result, the following changes, etc. are now part of our Constitution and By-Laws:

1) Dues were changed to \$7.00 plus the rate for each Beneficial members.

2) a- A quorum necessary for a chapter meeting is that a majority of officers are present plus any members able to attend.

b- No member can hold more than one office in a chapter.

3) Failure to hold meetings — a minimum of 3 meetings in a year.

The Committee welcomes any suggestions, etc. regarding the content and changes, etc. at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Elizabeth M. Alavosius,
Chairman By-Laws Committee

Mrs. Sally Jarmal, member By-Laws Committee

Mrs. Marie Kase, member By-Laws Committee

Aldona Shumway then read a letter received from Nathan Moscovitch, concerning a proposal for insurance liquidation.

Mary Berzanskis and Ruth Berzanskis brought up the point that social members feel left out of voting and appear to be second-class members. However, Dale Murray explained that all members are social members, but some of the so-

cial members chose to have life insurance. Additional discussion followed.

After Nathan Moscovitch was presented to the Convention by Aldona Shumway, he explained his letter concerning the proposed plan of insurance liquidation. Because of this addition to the Illinois Insurance Code, "300.1. (b) Any changes, additions or amendments to the laws of the society duly made or enacted subsequent to the issuance of the certificate shall bind the owner and the beneficiaries and shall govern and control the benefit contract in all respects the same as though such changes, additions or amendments had been made prior to and were in force at the time of the application for insurance, except that no change, addition or amendment shall destroy or diminish benefits which the society contracted to give the owner as of the date of issuance," in his opinion the way for the Alliance to proceed is to buy from another life insurance company paid-up life insurance for each of its insurance members (using Mortuary funds) and to divide up the unassigned funds in an equitable way amongst them (after having set aside sufficient monies for liquidation expenses and for the new organization).

Dale Murray and Roma Kuprys asked about the feasibility of „polling“ each insurance member individually with respect to her choice of plan of liquidation (paid-up life insurance versus cash return). According to Nathan Moscovitch, those members who do not opt for a cash return would be problematic, in that probably no life insurance company would be willing to take them on. However, Roma Kuprys suggested that possibly those handful of members desiring to continue their life insurance policies could be placed with the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Alliance of

America (Wilkes-Barre, PA). Irene Adomaitis moved that the Board be empowered by the Convention to act upon the advice of the actuary Nathan Moscovitch and attorney Saulius Kuprys in furthering the plan of insurance liquidation, in preparing a sample polling card wherein each member will be asked for her choice of plan of liquidation. Stella Hotra seconded the motion. Vote in favor — 16. Stella Hotra suggested that to avoid delays the Home Office send the cards to each financial secretary who then would contact each member and return the cards back to Home Office.

Sophie Diržius inquired whether or not the unassigned funds **must** be returned to the members. Nathan Moscovitch replied that they do not have to be returned to the members. The Alliance could in fact keep this money.

Roma Kuprys asked how feasible it would be for the Alliance to revamp and remain a fraternal life insurance organization. Nathan Moscovitch answered that today's insurance market is too competitive. Moreover, the Alliance would have to issue larger insurance policies, based on current actuarial tables, and this would be costly.

Nathan Moscovitch was also asked to recommend how to transfer monies from the mortuary fund to the expense fund, which presently has a negative balance (please refer to Secretary's report). He recommended that monies not be transferred. After all, the bills are still paid, and the Illinois Department of Insurance has not requested a transfer.

Aldona Shumway thanked Nathan Moscovitch for coming to the Convention to answer questions.

Stella Hotra read the report of Alliance representative on the Board of

Directors of Camp Dainava, Valentina Bulota.

CAMP DAINAVA REPORT:

Due to work commitments, I am unable to present in person my report as the Women's Alliance representative on the Board of Directors of Camp Dainava.

As many of you know, Camp Dainava is about two miles west of Manchester, Michigan. During the summer several hundred children spend from one to two weeks practicing the Lithuanian language, learning about their heritage, and having fun. On weekends, many families come to Dainava for a chance to relax and picnic with their friends against a background of pine trees and hills dotted with Lithuanian crosses. The Lithuanian Folk Dance Institute and the Lithuanian Teachers Group use the camp at the end of the summer to meet with their colleagues from other cities, exchange ideas, and prepare for the coming school year. With the coming of autumn, the camp does not close down. On the contrary, local school districts use the camp for nature studies, religious groups come for retreats, and Lithuanian and non-Lithuanian organizations come for weekend meetings. Last year only two weekends were not reserved.

To ensure that the camp facilities are properly maintained for year-round use, the thirteen members of the Board of Directors meet at least four times a year. The meetings are held either at the camp or at Divine Providence Church in Southfield, Michigan. I attended all but two of the meetings. (After I moved last year, two notices never reached me.) As a member of the board, I was involved in the establishing of the summer camping schedules, setting priorities for maintenance projects, deciding administrative matters, approving expenditures, and raising funds.

The donations from individual chapters and the Women's Alliance Board are greatly appreciated. The financial statement that I have enclosed with this report does not mention in any detail all the work that has been done in the past year and a half: All the buildings have been painted; the roads have been resurfaced; the lavatories in the dining hall have been renovated; the cement floor of the pavilion has been repaired; the windows in the svetaine (hall) have been replaced. In addition, new stoves and refrigerators have been

purchased to replace the ones that finally stopped after 20 years of faithful service. Please continue supporting Camp Dainava.

(To protect the property from vandalism and to provide for year-round maintenance, the Board of Directors has obtained the services of a live-in caretaker.)

Valentina H. Bulota

Elected to Convention committees were: Irene Adomaitis, Pam Breidenbach, Alice Rock (NOMINATING); and Ruth Berzanskis, Shirley Kryger, and Sofija Lastienė (RESOLUTIONS).

Roma Kuprys read the report of Alliance representative to the American Lithuanian Council (ALT-as), Daina Dumbrienė:

AMERICAN LITHUANIAN COUNCIL REPORT:

Sveikinu visas susirinkusias seimo metu ir linkiu sėkmingo seimo. Nors ALT-o centras pat perduos savo linkėjimus, prašė manęs dar pridėti Centro Valdybos linkėjimus ir trumpą pranešimą.

ALT-o Centro Valdyba susirenka kas mėnesį aptarti veiklą kuri liečia Lietuvą ir Amerikos lietuvius politinėje srityje. Valdyboje nariai yra pasiskirstę pareigomis ir komisijomis, pvz. politinė, finansinė, visuomeninė ir t.t. Visi valdybos nariai priklauso kelioms komisijoms ir dirba savo komisijos uždavinius. Vienas pavyzdys būtų politinė komisija, kuri rūpinasi Amerikos lietuvių politiniais reikalais kartu su kitais Baltijos kraštais per JBANC — tai yra Joint Baltic American Committee. Su tuo ir asmeniškai, komisija rūpinasi ALT-o atstovavimu mūsų Amerikos valdžioje, kad lietuviams aktualūs reikalai būtų pristatyti kaip reikiant Amerikos valdžiai ir visuomenei.

Dabar ALT-as labai susirūpinęs OSI — Office of Special Investigations reikalais. Tai yra apkaltinimas žmonių už jų „nusikaltimus“ antro karo metu.

Finansinių reikalų komisija rūpinasi pinigų telkimu, kad ALT-as galėtų šituos darbus atlikti.

Valdyboje pareigoms renkami asmenys balsavimo būdu iš valdybos narių tarpo: pvz. pirmininkas, vice-pirmininkai, išdininkas, sekretorius ir t.t. Šiais metais balandžio mėnesi mane išrinko būti ALT-o Centro Valdybos

iždininke ir vadovauti finansų komisijai.

Man labai malonu asmeniškai, kad manim taip pasitiki ir aš gaunu atlikti šias pareigas, bet taip pat malonu, kad gaunu mūsų sąjungą atstovauti tokiose pareigose.

Man labai įdomų ir yra didelė garbė, kad gaunu atstovauti Moterų Sąjungai ALT-e. Ačiu už jūsų pasitikėjimą manimi, ir tikiuosi, kad leisite toliau jose pasilikti. Po eilės metu darbo ALT-e, Centro Valdyba parodė pasitikėjimą manimi išrinkdami mane į iždininko postą, ir kai taip pat vienbalsiai išrinko mane suorganizuoti 10-tą ALT-o Kongresą 1984 metais.

Meldžiuosi, kad Šv. Marija padės mums su mūsų darbais ir sprendimais dabar ir visada.

Daina Dumbrienė

CIRCULATION MANAGER'S REPORT:

Circulation Report
(1985 — Aug. 1987)

Outside U.S.	3
Free Exchange copies	16
Free Clergy	12
Editor extras	14
Breidenbach extras	2
Kuprys extras	2
Extra copies from Publisher — Draugas	16
Insurance Members	431
Social Members	943
	1374
These members do not want copy of Dirva	66
	1308
	1308
	1473
Membership Passed away	1985 47
	1986 55
	1987 21
Total	123

Also each delegate received a detailed report of membership by chapter and names of all members who died during the past 2 years.

REPORTS OF STATE DIRECTORS:

Connecticut — The report of Director Emilija Šaulienė was read by Roma Kuprys.

Mūsų valstybėj dar yra 5 veikiančios kuopos: 17 HARTFORDO kuopa, turi virš 60 narių. Ruošia parengimus ir dalyvauja kitų kuopų pobuviuose. Tai yra mūsų apygardos stipriausia kuopa.

28 MANCHESTER kuopa, turi mažiausiai narių. Sąžiningai užsimoka nario mokesčius ir, pajėgesnės narės, dalyvauja kitų kuopų rengiamose iškilmėse bei pobuviuose.

33 NEW HAVEN kuopa, viena iš stipresnių Conn. valstijose kuopų. Nors 2 narės mirė, bet įstojo 6 naujos. New Haveno kuopa turi savo narių tarpe didžiausią skaičių jaunų moterų.

38 NEW BRITAIN kuopa, narių turi nemažai, bet dauguma vyresnio amžiaus. Duokles išrenka, atsiskaito su Centru, bet vietinės veiklos nepajėgia sustiprinti. Kviečiamos, atsilanko į kitų kuopų parengimus.

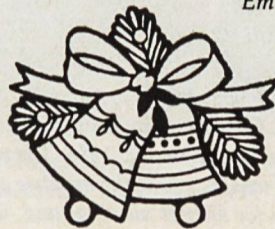
57 WATERBURIO kuopa, buvusi pati stipriausia Connecticut valstijoje, šiuo metu veikla jau nepasižymi. Mirus ilgametei kuopos pirmininkei, apie kurią sukosi visas kuopos gyvenimas, veikla susilpnėjo. Kuopai dar nespėjus atsigausti po šio smūgio, mirė ir kuopos sekretorė. Taigi šiuo metu viskas tebėra persiorganizavimo stadijoje. Nauja kuopos vadovybė deda visas pastangas atsigausti ir toliau gyventi. Yra vilties, kad kuopa vėl bus stipri ir veikli kaip praėityje.

Prieš kiek laiko 17 Hartfordo kuopa šventė savo 70 metų jubiliejų. Iškilmėse dalyvavo daug svečių įskaitant ir Centro valdybos atstoves.

Šiais metais, balandžio mėn. 33 New Haveno kuopa minėjo savo 70 metų jubiliejų. Minėjimas buvo ypatingas tuo, kad jame dalyvavo pati tos kuopos įsteigėja, dar gana stiprios sveikatos Marijona Jokubaitė. Dalyvavo ir Centro valdybos pirmininkė Aldona Shumway su 5-tos Worcester kuopos atstovėmis ir kitų Conn. valstijos kuopų atstovės.

Connecticut Apygardoje yra viso 165 narės, iš jų 127 yra socialiniame skyriuje. Laike paskutinių 2 metų mirė 7 narės ir išstojo iš Sąjungos 4 narės.

Em. Šaulienė



Florida (West Coast) — The report of Director Donna Kamm was read by Roma Kuprys.

The Florida west coast, as is the east coast, is spread for miles. Many Lithuanians live, or have retired, on our shores, but the largest number of relocated, or permanent, residents live in the city of St. Petersburg and environs. My activity is centered on the St. Petersburg area; others of our descent live far and far between. This is the trend.

Our 76 Chapter is not large, but our members are active in two or three other organizations, and they exert much energy to the Lithuanians and their causes.

Our meetings are opened and closed with a prayer in Lithuanian. Discussions are held in both languages, as one wishes. Our members are one great family, respecting one another, in giving a helping hand. We find it hard to recruit new members because there are about two dozen other organizations here...

I take this opportunity to report on the activity of the Los Angeles chapter. I have a brother living near L.A. whom I visit annually, so this gives me an opportunity to contact the local chapter's president, Isabel Oksas. She is the heart and soul of her chapter. Their members, as other chapter members, are devoted to many parish causes. Their chapter is not very large, but supportive of one another. The chapter has a very nice bank account, doing very well.

In conclusion, may I say I enjoyed my appointment — regret more was not done. I wish the delegates patience and may this be a very fruitful convention.

Donna Kamm

New England — The report written per telephone call by Director Anne Miller to Aldona Shumway was read by Aldona Shumway. Director Mildred Lapinski had informed Aldona Shumway of her resignation.

A New England district meeting was organized in Putnam, Connecticut by Anna Miller and Mildred Lapinskas on Oct. 17, 1986. The reason for organizing was because of the mandate at the last convention for district meetings and, also, as a

Christian activity encouraged by the 600th Anniversary of Christianity in Lithuania.

The meeting was addressed by Msgr. Baskys of Rome, who was visiting his parents near Putnam. He described activities in preparation for the upcoming celebration and invited everyone to „come to Rome” in June of 1987.

Present at the district meeting were members from Chapter 17, Hartford, Conn.; Chapter 33, New Haven, Conn.; Chapter 71, Athol, MA; Chapter 69, Worcester, MA; Chapter 57, Manchester, Conn.; and, Chapter 5, Worcester, MA.

Sister Ignė, who is on the Central Planning Committee for the celebration, addressed the meeting and told us of the many activities generated by the occasion. Lithuanian hymns and prayer books will be published. A new Lithuanian children's catechism will be published, also commemorative medals, stamps and banners. Discussion groups and seminars will be encouraged in parishes and Lithuanian centers. There are themes for each of the three years leading to the ceremonies in Rome, starting in 1985 through 1987.

Reports were presented by each chapter's representatives with membership and activities described.

New Haven announced they would be having 70th anniversary dinner and invited everyone to come and help celebrate.

The invited speaker was Brita Meilius, who is a Chapter 5 member and a blind person, who often lectures on "Everything you wanted to know about being blind, but were afraid to ask". She also had a question and answer period after her presentation and spoke on volunteerism.

The district meeting voted, as a special activity, to have each chapter present "adopt" a woman prisoner of conscience in the USSR and write letters to her. Names were taken from the list in The Observer.

After the Alliance hymn was sung, there followed a wine, tea and pastries reception.

Along the same line, Albina Lipčienė of Putnam, CT was present in Worcester in June, 1987 to address a new members meeting and tea.

Illinois — The report was read by Director Grasilija Meiluvienė.

Pereitame seime buvau antrą kartą išrinkta Illinois Direktore. Kiek galėjau, pareigas atlikau.

Dalyvavau Chicagos apskrities Moterų Sąjungos susirinkimuose ir juos aprašiau „Drauge“ ir „Moterų Dirvoje“.

Buvau įgaliota atstovauti Moterų Sąjungai kartu su kitomis organizacijomis, kada buvo ruošiamas Konsulų pasikeitimas ir konsulų pagerbimas. Viso buvo 3 kartus. Kai buvo vakaronė, aukojaus maistą ir dirbau prie bufeto, Moterų Sąjungos vardu.

Dabar dalyvavau Seimo ruošiamo komisijoje, kiek galėjau, tiek padėjau.

Savo kadenciją baigiu ir prašau išrinkti naują Illinois direktorę. Aš nelabai tinku tai vietai.

Grasilia Meiluvienė

Florida (East Coast) — Director dr. Aldona Rugis was not present and there was no report sent.

The second session was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

On Friday, August 7th, the Convention delegates toured the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, Chicago, IL, and viewed a video recording entitled „On the Wings of Fame.“

Third Session

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. in the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, Chicago, IL. Present were 16 insurance, 25 social, 1 social alternate, and 1 guest.

REPORTS OF STATE DIRECTORS:

New York — The report written by Chapter 29 secretary E. M. Juškienė was read by Eugenija Kezienė.

M.S. kuopa gyvuoja su energinga pirmininke E. Kežiene. Suruošia kas met keletą parengimų Apreiškimo parapijos salėje, kur susirenka apie 100 ir daugiau svečių. Nors susirinkimus sunku sušaukti, bet parengimai visada praeina su didele pasisekimu. E. Kežiene su sekretore E. Juškienė dalyvavo kelionėje į Romą ir sustojus Vokietijoje vasario 16 d. gimnazijoje pirmininkė paaukojo sąjungos vardu 100 dol., Lietuviškai mokyklai New Yorke paaukota sąjungos vardu 100 dol., „Dainavai“ 25 dol.; Lituanistinei katedrai 25 dol. Per paskutinius 2 metus Apreiškimo parapijos bažnyčios remontui suaukota 1150 dol.

Aukojam „Darbininkui“ ir „Laisvės Žiburio“ radijai po 25 dol. kas met.

Iškilmės Romoje buvo labai įspūdingos ir gražios. Lietuvos vardą Šv. Tėvas išgarsino per visą pasaulį sukviesdamas visus akredituotų kraštų diplomatinius atstovus dalyvauti bazilikoje, palaimintojo arkivyskupo J. Matulaičio paskelbimo palaimintuoju iškilmėse ir vėliau įvairių akademijų proga.

Garbė centro pirm. Julei Mack, kad ji suorganizavo maldos sąjudį, kuris tikrai prisidėjo prie greitesnio paskelbimo palaimintuoju ark. J. Matulaičio, nes daugelis žmonių meldė ir tebesimeldžia, kad greitai būtų paskelbtas ir šventuoju. Mums lietuviams šis įvykis turi nepaprastai svarbos. Šv. Tėvas parodė daug dėmesio lietuvių tautai.

P. J. Mack suorganizavo vaju ir Laisvės Statulos remontui New Yorke. Tuo ji išgarsino Lietuvių vardą Amerikoje.

Labai prašau visų sąjungiečių paskirti kelionės išlaidoms p. Janacienei, kuri garsina Lietuvos vardą viso pasaulio kat. moterų suvažiavimuose.

Linkiu Dievo palaimos seimo nutarimuose.



(Iš k.) Uršulė Astrienė, Grand Rapids, MI ir Eug. Kezienė, Brooklyn, NY.

Michigan (West) — The report was read by Director Alice Rock.

The 42nd chapter of Grand Rapids, Michigan has the following membership record from the last convention to the present.

24 Insurance members

41 Social members

8 New members

5 Deaths Total of 65 members

Immediately following the last convention, the 42nd chapter, upon agreement by all the members, decided to make our main project for the coming year a full-out effort to gain new memberships. We would strive to interest the younger women because our older members are limited to their activities. We pledged to make our meetings as interesting as we could. In this effort we have greatly succeeded. At most meetings we have been between twenty and thirty members attending. After our business meeting we have a social hour which works very well. Three women serve as hostesses. Our members really enjoy this format because it keeps us in close contact with each other. Our Pastor always joins us for the Social Hour.

Our two most popular events of the year are "Mother's Day" program and our "Christmas Get Together". On these special days we all attend Mass then we gather for a dinner or potluck. All family members are invited to attend. Last Christmas we decided to renew an old Lithuanian custom — we planned to have a „Kūčios" celebration, this met with so great an approval that we are now planning to invite the parish members to join us. These programs are so well attended that we are now looking for larger accommodations.

Another tradition in our chapter is to sponsor a remembrance of our dead during the month of November. We have a special Mass in the morning and in the afternoon we have a prayer service in the cemetery chapel or on the grounds, depending on the weather. Candles are lit and placed on the graves, also a procession with lighted candles makes a very impressive sight. The newspaper usually carries an article about this event. These services are called „Vėlinės". Many people attend these services.

In December we participate in the "Annual Parish Christmas Festival". We have a booth



Michigan West Director, Alice Rock, Grand Rapids, MI.

with baked goods and Lithuanian cheese. We also hold a "Raffle" on many donated articles, this function is one way we augment our treasury.

In February, we participate in the "Lithuanian Independence Day" celebration. A special Mass is held in the morning and in the afternoon a special program is held in the school auditorium. Since most of the Lithuanian choir members are „Sąjungietės" we always sing for these functions.

At our Easter meeting we are fortunate to have in our group Mrs. Astras, who conducts an Easter Egg coloring demonstration. Everyone is invited to attend this showing.

We participate in all the special „Prayer Day" celebrations that Sąjunga sponsors. We attend Mass and occasionally we go out for breakfast. We also have a special Mass offered for Archbishop Matulaitis in conjunction with the celebration in Rome, we had a beautiful church ceremony for this event. We also had a Mass for the 600th Anniversary of Christianity in Lithuania.

In June our chapter sponsored a „Bus Trip" to Marquette Park (Chicago) for their festival, also to enjoy the delicious Lithuanian food at the various ethnic eating places. We also took the tour at the Balzekas Museum. This outing proved to

be very successful in helping us to send delegates to the convention.

Grand Rapids is fortunate to have a Radio Program called the „Lithuanian Heritage Program“ which airs each Tuesday at 8 p.m. We have access to this program whenever the need arises. This program is very well presented and is very generous to „Sajunga“.

Since the convention in Grand Rapids, we have had some sadness too. Our President, Janina Puodžiūnas passed away on March 6, 1986. She was very grateful that she was able to participate in the convention happenings even if it was difficult for her. May her soul rest in Heavenly Peace.

Our monetary contributions consisted of the following:

Each year we make a donation to the church in the amount of \$200.00

We remember our Pastor at Christmas with a \$25.00 gift. This year we helped him celebrate his „Silver Jubilee“. A gift of \$50.00 presented to him.

A donation of \$120.00 was sent to the Balzekas Museum.

A \$25.00 gift is sent to the Lithuanian Independence Day program.

A sum of \$50.00 was sent to the committee for the 600th Anniversary of Christianity in Lithuanian Studies at the University of Illinois.

A \$10.00 donation was sent to the Lithuanian Heritage Radio Program.

This year we sent a gift of \$25.00 to Father A. Vainavicz on his „Silver Jubilee“. His mother is a member of long standing in our chapter.

We also sent our requested contribution of \$25.00 to the „Dainava Camp Program“ and \$25.00 for the Lithuanian Studies at the University of Illinois.

Alice Rock

Michigan (East) — The report was read by Director Bertha Janus. A supplemental report was read by Chapter 54 President Cecilija Balsienė.

My report is short. I feel I have done very little to deserve the title of „Eastern Michigan Director.“

I have tried to interest members in attending meetings. Even though it was my duty as Chap-

ter Recording Secretary, I also, as Michigan Director, would have written approximately ninety letters and cards urging members to participate in the two special masses for the „Persecuted Catholic Church in Lithuania“ and the recent mass commemorating 600 years of Lithuania's Christianity. On the average, about twenty five attended the first two masses. Exactly six drove to Lansing (80 miles away) for the 600th anniversary.

Besides the fact that my age and health are not what they used to be, I must drive thirty miles to meetings. Thus far I have been fortunate and have been able to attend all meetings except two in the last two years. But it is very discouraging (when we have at least 100 members) and only nine or ten attend meetings.

As I said in my report two years ago — I am no longer capable of instituting new ideas into our organization and have exhausted my capabilities to strengthen it.

I am sorry I failed to live up to the title of „Michigan Director,“ but have hopes my successor will do what I have not been able to.

Bertha Janus

New Jersey — The report was read by Director Ruth Berzanskis.

This past year has been a very sad time for the district of New Jersey. Two chapter presidents passed away, Christine Ochs (Chapter 66 — Elizabeth) and Rose Basile (Chapter 68 — Newark). Both presidents were very active and are missed very much. We hope that they and all the members who have passed away this past year will be remembered in the prayers of the members and delegates attending the National Convention.

The following membership was reported by each chapter's president:

Pres. Elizabeth Petuchovas, Chapter 53 (Linden), 21 members.

Pres. Ona Silvestravicius, Chapter 63 (Kearny), 19 members.

Pres. Betty Luciw, Chapter 68 (Newark), 42 members.

Pres. Mary Berzanskis, Chapter 6 (Elizabeth), 69 members.

New Jersey District Convention — April 13, 1986 — hosted by Newark, Chapter 68. Mass was held in Holy Trinity Church followed by a

luncheon. The luncheon was attended by representatives from all chapters. The members of Chapter 68 were gracious hostesses, and the successful luncheon would please any gourmet.

At the convention meeting, the delegates reported raising funds through dinners, cake sales, bread sales, cookbook sales, and raffles to support, maintain or aid various projects, such as:

Lithuanian Parish Churches

The 600th Anniversary of Christianity in Lithuania

Statue of Liberty

BALF

Bishop Baltakis

Lithuanian Radio Hour (Jack Stukas, Director)

Endowed Chair of Lithuanian Studies (Chicago, IL)

Camp Dainava

Support of the Lithuanian Parish is the main activity project for most of the chapters. In turn, their activities are supported by the pastors, priests, parishioners, and friends.

Delegates also reported membership participation in Prayer Days, reciting the rosary for the freedom of Lithuania, attending masses for deceased members, requesting and attending Masses for Bishop Matulaitis, and attending mass and receiving communion before regular meetings.

Much discussion at this meeting revolved around getting members to attend meetings. Also, new membership was of great concern. Many questions were asked regarding the dissolvment of the insurance. The latter could not be answered at that time.

At this meeting, the New Jersey District Convention was scheduled to be hosted by Chapter 63 (Kearny).

As it happened, the New Jersey District Convention was not held this year. As related, the members felt they are too old to prepare a district convention. No other chapter could prepare for a convention in time due to the short notice and previous schedule commitments.

The 1988 New Jersey District Convention is scheduled and accepted to be hosted by Chapter 53 (Linden).

This is a very appropriate time to acknowledge the members of Linden, Chapter 53. The small group of active members do not have outside facilities to conduct their meetings. They go to each other's home for meetings and are striving to keep

their chapter going. As they are unable to do any type of fund raising, they are always supporting the activities of the other chapters. Much credit must be given to these women for their past accomplishments and their acceptance to hold the next New Jersey District Convention, which will probably be at the home of one of the members.

Ruth Berzanskis, Director

Mary Berzanskis, Assistant

Ohio — Director Stefanija Stasiene was not present. Her report was read by Dale Murray.

ALRK Moterų sąjungos 36 kuopa Cleveland, Ohio yra Dievo Motinos parapijoje. Nariu sąrašė yra 43, tačiau dauguma yra silpnos sveikatos.

Anksčiau susirinkimai įvykdavo kiekvieno mėnesio pirmąjį sekmadienį. Vėliau ėmė retėti. Kuopos pirm. yra Elena Nainienė. Parengimų nepadoroma, tad ir kasos stovis labai menkas. Tačiau kuopa paaukavo 400 dol. Dievo Motinos šventovės atnaujinimui, 100 dol. pasiuntė Vasario 16 gimnazijos neturtingai Urugvajaus mokinei Mar. Aleksejūnaitei.

Palaikoma Verbų sekmadienio tradicija. Narės dalyvauja su vėliava Mišių aukoje, o po to turi agapę. Dalyvauja dvasios vadas gerb. kleb. G. Kijauskas, S.J. narių šeimos ir kviestiniai svečiai. Programą atlieka narės paskaitydamos relig. eilėraščių ar savo kurybos.

ALRK Moterų sąjungos 26 kuopa priklauso Šv. Jurgio parapijai. Narių turi 10. Narės vyresnio amžiaus, tad veikimo neįmanoma išvystyti. Susirenka tik pasikalbėjimui, palaikymą draugystės, vaišingumo.

Pennsylvania — There were no delegates present, and no report had been submitted.

EDITOR'S REPORT:

Not too much has changed since our last convention two years ago, except for our inside front cover page. This was done in accordance with the instructions of the new Postmaster in Chicago.

Chapter correspondence has been about the same. A few chapters are heard from regularly, these include Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury, Connecticut; Chicago chapters 20, 46 and 75; Brockton and Worcester, Massachusetts; Southfield, Michigan; Elizabeth and Newark,

New Jersey. We know our Grand Rapids and St. Petersburg chapters are very active, but they don't share their activities with us very often.

The following were heard from ONCE during the last two year period: Los Angeles, CA; She-nandoah, PA; Lowell, MA; Linden, NJ, and both chapters in Cleveland, Ohio. And, from the rest — nothing.

There was a time when we had over 70 chapters, most of whom held monthly meetings and couldn't wait to tell us what was going on. We were also printing monthly and I prayed they wouldn't send anything in so there would be room for something else besides financial reports and chapter news. Times certainly have changed. We are finding it much easier to pick up the 'phone than put pen to paper!

I regret there was a lack of communication from our national board, particularly regarding the liquidation process. I had many inquiries, but no information to pass on.

I represented our organization one day of the General Assembly of the NCCW in Milwaukee in October, 1986 and was amazed at the scope of its activities. I introduced myself to the national president and received a very warm welcome for our organization.

One of the workshops I attended was the Works of Peace, a program of the NCCW in cooperation with Catholic Relief Services. The Madonna Plan assists mothers and children through a broad range of projects, including mother-child clinics, training programs, water projects, income generating projects and emergency aid in impoverished countries all over the world. From July 1, 1985 to June 30, 1986 funds generated by the Works of Peace totaled \$438,658.

Through this workshop, I received the information from the Catholic Medical Mission Board which I shared with you in "Moterų Dirva". This is an excellent project for our members. Many who are unable to physically participate in chapter activities, could feel useful and needed by being given the material and instructions for rolled bandages, hospital shirts and gauze compresses. It was heartening to learn that Chapter 17, Hartford, had picked up on the suggested soap drive and sent off their first packet containing 116 bars of soap. The need in foreign missions is great. We should ask ourselves if we couldn't spare an hour or two a week in this regard. Roll-

ed bandages, for that matter, could be done while sitting in front of the 'tube.'

There is a great wealth of material sent to member organizations from the NCCW and it all goes to the national president. This material should be shared with the membership **as it comes in**. Space for this informative material will be happily provided in our publication. Our membership in the NCCW will be useless, if this information is not disseminated. I have brought along all the material handed out at the assembly. Please look through and take whatever may benefit your chapter.

This past February, I got involved in a letter writing campaign after reading an article in the Wisconsin State Journal, titled „Fostering Friendship". In part it stated: „Soviet officials will visit Madison this spring to formally make the **Soviet City** of Vilnius and Madison Sister cities... Vilnius was chosen because it is similar to Wisconsin and Madison in several ways: it is the site of Vilnius University, one of the oldest in Eastern Europe; it is the capital of Lithuania; and Lithuania is a dairy-producing republic..."

I immediately got to work on an article titled, **Lithuanians Are Not Soviets; They are Soviet-Occupied**. I sent it to the editor of the newspaper together with a strongly-worded letter of protest, plus a Chronology of Communist Imperialism since 1917. I sent another letter of protest to the Mayor of Madison, with the above-mentioned material included. I also got in touch with the president of the American Lithuanian Council for our area. He asked me to write the leaders of the Polish and Ukrainian segments in the area, asking them to send letters of protest to the Mayor of Madison. I also contacted as many friends as I could to do the same.

After several weeks, we received a letter from the mayor, saying a resolution was adopted by the Madison Common Council approving a sister city relationship with the city of Voronezh in the USSR. This is the only official action taken by the city of Madison with regard to a Madison-Soviet sister city. There has been no such action regarding the city of Vilnius."

It also informed us that Madison citizens of Lithuanian ancestry recently met to organize a local chapter of the Lithuanian American Council. So, our efforts were not in vain.

I mention the above because we should all be **very, very vigilant**. There are just too many sister-city relationships being fostered and encouraged in this country. And, anywhere that you read where Lithuanians are referred to as Soviets, please take the time to set the record straight.

And, lastly, you are well aware that our organization is 73 years old this year. For 32 of those 73 years, I have edited our official publication. I find that the longer I stay on, the more I have to do including information that should come from the board, or chairmen; notices, news items, articles, announcements, etc. I have run the gamut of ideas. It is time for change. I am asking everyone to be on the lookout for a replacement. The right person can bring new vitality and new interests for our publication. Please have them contact me for a job description and the sooner, the better.

My sincere thanks to all who have contributed, commented and assisted in any way. God bless!

Dale Murray

STANDING COMMITTEES

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:

In 1986 our scholarship recipient was Vija Bublys from Richmond Heights, OH, a suburb of Cleveland. She is a very Lithuanian-oriented young lady, belonging to and involved in many of their activities. Her mother Ingrida and grandmother Stefanija Stasas are members of Chapter 36 in Cleveland. Vija is now attending Loyola University in Chicago.

We had only one applicant in 1987 — Christine Brosnihan, from Northborough, MA. She was very happy to receive the award. Her mother Mary, grandmother Matilda Paulukonis and great-grandmother Veronica Lutkus all belong to Chap. 5, in Worcester, MA.

During my two years as Scholarship Committee chairperson, every piece of mail I received concerning our committee matters, I had duplicated and sent on to the other two members of the committee for their information, or decision.

Through letters and telephone communication we resolved several problems where decisions had to be made. I always received prompt cooperation

from Ruth Berzanskis and Shirley Kryger.

Bertha Janus

Scholarship Committee member Ruth Berzanskis presented a series of proposed changes in the guidelines for selecting scholarship winners. The changes involved: 1) the length of time a member must belong to the Alliance before eligibility for scholarship is possible, 2) the type of school to be attended, 3) the amount of the scholarship, 4) the amount of academic information to be required from the applicant, and 5) who will be eligible to apply.

Alliance representative at the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation of America Grasilija Meiluvienė reported that the Federation is organizing a bilingual Convention and symposium to be held in Chicago, IL, during the upcoming Thanksgiving weekend.

Aldona Shumway informed those present that Stanely Balzekas, Jr., would be able to place old Alliance photographs and additional items of historical value in the museum's archives. Stella Hotra reported an unfortunate finding with archival material. During a visit to Kent State University, she found donated Alliance materials stacked in boxes in a closet. The materials were not being utilized.

MOTIONS

Dale Murray informed those present that several motions had been received after the deadline. Delegates moved they be sent back for possible resubmission at the next Convention.

Aldona Shumway presented a motion from Chapter 5 (Worcester, MA), namely, that four members (two American-born and two Lithuanian-born) be appointed to a Committee that would collect information about candidates for the Outstanding Lithuanian Woman of the Year Award and then decide the

winner. Ruth Berzanskis moved that the procedure for obtaining the winner of the Award remain the way it is presently (i.e., through the Home Office). Emilie B. Prose seconded. Vote in favor — 37, opposed — 0.

Dale Murray moved that the biographies of nominees for the Award be submitted earlier, so that a decision about the winner can be made in advance of a Convention year. Bertha Janus seconded. Vote in favor — 36, opposed — 0.

NEW BUSINESS

Of the five nominations submitted for Honorary Membership, the Board at its pre-Convention meeting found two members who did meet all of the qualifications. They were Elizabeth Alavosius of Chapter 5, Worcester, MA, and Emilie B. Prose of Chapter 46, Chicago, IL. There was enthusiastic applause following the reading of each of the biographies of these two members.

The donations received from chapters for Camp Dainava and the Endowed Chair of Lithuanian Studies were reviewed. To date, \$250.00 was donated to Camp Dainava and \$275.00 to the Endowed Chair. The goal was \$500.00 for each cause. Several chapters reported that donations had been sent to the Endowed Chair prior to the Alliance's fund-raiser. Roma Kuprys will find out whether these donations could be credited to the Alliance.

Stella Hotra asked if there were any guidelines for pro-rating dues if a member joins at a time other than the beginning of the year. Mary Berzanskis told of how in Chapter 66 new members are asked to wait until the start of the next calendar year before joining. Roma Kuprys asked that chapter secretaries make it a policy to have everyone pay at the beginning of the year.

The session was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Fourth Session

The session was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Present were 16 insurance, 23 social, and 3 social alternates. Ruth Berzanskis presented the scholarship application requirements as they are now. She also presented five possible new options.

Present Scholarship Requirements

- 1) Open to alliance members and children of alliance members.
- 2) Open to Secondary School students only.
- 3) Name of College that has accepted student must be submitted.
- 4) Abilities, goals, and needs are requested.
- 5) Letter of request from parish pastor required.
- 6) Letter of request from another person, other than family.
- 7) Transcript of current year's record must be submitted.
- 8) Scholarship request must be submitted by the student.

Possible options to get more students to apply

Option 1: Open the scholarship to all secondary school students of Lithuanian descent going on to a four year college with priority consideration to members and children of members. This would give positive publicity to the alliance when submitted to local newspapers (hopefully throughout the United States) and perhaps encourage new members to join the alliance or even new chapters to be formed. Strict requirements and guidelines would have to be formulated for this option.

Option 2: Give one large scholarship every year.

Option 3: Open the scholarship for resubmission to students in college with

specific requirements, i.e. being on the Dean's List or a B average for that year. (Colleges are very expensive today).

Option 4: Open the scholarship to include students furthering their education in schools other than a four year college (junior college, art school, business school, trade/technical school, music/dance school, etc.)

Option 5: Open the scholarship to include students graduating from a four year college and continuing with their education (going for their Master's Degree, entering medical school, etc.). Strict requirements and guidelines would have to be formulated for this option.

Items for discussion regarding requirements:

Item number 1 should be discussed regarding how long a person is a member before they or their children are eligible for a scholarship. Should the scholarship be open to members or children of members who have been with the alliance less than a year?

Item number 2 has not been stipulated for the past two years.

Item number 3 assumes a four year college but does not stipulate it.

Item number 7 only requires the current year's report card. It should require the entire high school transcript including the current year and the student's class standing with the number of students expected to graduate from that class.

Item number 8 is not stipulated clearly.

Alice Rock moved that 1) the scholarship be open to Alliance members, children of Alliance members, and children whose legal guardians are Alliance members; 2) students be required to submit with their applications complete high school transcripts, class rank, and

number of students in the class; 3) the Alliance give one \$500.00 scholarship per year; 4) the delegates table until the next Convention all of the additional options submitted; and 5) each Chapter organize a scholarship fund drive of their own choosing. Stella Hotra seconded. The vote was as follows for Item 1 (31 for, 0 against), Item 2 (33 for, 0 against), Item 3 (31 for, 1 against), Item 4 (34 for, 0 against), and Item 5 (33 for, 0 against).

Aldona Shumway presented the proposed salary increases for the Board. The present salaries are:

President — \$75.00/month, office expenses, and convention expenses.

I Vice-president — \$25.00/year and office expenses.

II Vice-president — \$25.00/year and office expenses.

Secretary — \$150.00/month, \$25.00/for renting of office space and use of telephone, office expenses, and convention expenses.

Treasurer — \$55.00/month, office expenses, and convention expenses.

Trustees — \$25.00/year and office expenses.

Public Relations — \$25.00/month and office expenses.

Editor — \$80.00/issue (6 issues/year), office expenses, and convention expenses.

Circulation manager — \$15.00/month and office expenses. The proposed changes were as follows: increase secretary's salary to \$400.00/month plus \$100.00/month rent; eliminate position of Public Relations; increase Editor's salary to \$160.00/issue plus \$50.00 month rent; increase Circulation Manager's salary to \$20.00/month; all other salaries to remain as they are. Aldona Shumway suggested that each salary be

considered individually and that each Board member express her wishes. The majority of delegates voted to accept these proposed changes (with the exception of that concerning the secretary). Prior to this vote, Dale Murray moved that the secretary's salary be \$400.00 including rent. Bertha Janus seconded. The secretary agreed to a sum of \$350.00/month salary and \$50.00/month rent. The majority of delegates (28) were in favor.

Discussion arose about compensating the II Vice-president for travel expenses to Board meetings and/or other meetings. The general opinion was that the I or II Vice-president is entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses only when she is representing the President at the President's request.

Dale Murray discussed the real need for a Public Relations person. Discussion arose about the extent to which the Alliance's name had appeared in the press. Jadvyga Tamasevičienė suggested that each chapter have their own public relations person. Ruth Berzanskis suggested that members write to the American newspapers about Alliance activities. Emilie B. Prose suggested that the Board investigate the PR matter and appoint someone.

Dale Murray moved that the Alliance continue membership in the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) (at dues \$100.00/year) for the next two years. Roma Kuprys seconded. Vote in favor — 33. Alice Rock explained about the Council and its positive aspects. Aldona Shumway asked if anyone would like to be the Alliance's delegate to the NCCW Convention in Minneapolis in November, since she would not be able to attend. There were no volunteers, and Emilie B. Prose moved that the discussion about the Alliance's delegate be left to the Board. Roma Kup-

rys seconded. The majority of delegates were in favor.

The session was adjourned for lunch.

Fifth Session

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.. Present were 15 insurance, 23 social, and 3 social alternates.

Aldona Shumway asked Ruth Berzanskis to present to the delegates the U.S. English Amendment to the Constitution. U.S. English is an organization whose aim is to make the English language the official language of the United States. Ruth Berzanskis moved that the Alliance endorse the U.S. English movement. Bernice Nedzveckas seconded. Vote — 31 in favor. The Alliance will send letters of support to the Congressional sponsors of this Amendment.

Because Rev. Anthony Miciūnas, MIC, will no longer be able to be Spiritual Director for the Alliance, Aldona Shumway asked for suggestions of priests who could be Spiritual Directors. Suggestions were: Rev. Jonas Kuzinskas, Rev. Antanas Saulaitis, SJ, Rev. Jonas Velutis (all from Chicago) and Rev. Justin Steponaitis (Athol, MA). Emilie B. Prose also suggested that the Board contact the Marian Fathers in this regard. She then moved that with the list of names already supplied the Board investigate further. Roma Kuprys seconded. Vote — 34 in favor.

Committees

The following were elected as representatives: to **The American Lithuanian Council** — Daina Danilevičiūtė-Dumbrienė (Ch. 3, Chicago, IL), Anėlė Raštienė (Ch. 20, Chicago, IL), and Anna Šliteris (Ch. 67, Chicago, IL); to **The Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation of America** — Grasilija Meiluvienė, Anėlė Raštienė, and Jadvyga Tamasevi-

čienė (all from Ch. 20, Chicago, IL); to the **Board of Directors of Camp Dainava** — Sofija Lastienė (Ch. 42, Grand Rapids, MI).

The following were elected as committee members: **By-laws** — Irene Adomaitis, Elizabeth Alavosius, and Helen Banis (all from Ch. 5, Worcester, MA); **Grievances** — Bernice Nedzveckas and Monica Puiszis (both from Ch. 75, Chicago, IL); **Motions** — Sally Jarmol, Shirley Kryger, Alice Rock (all from Ch. 42, Grand Rapids, MI); **Scholarship** — Ruth Berzanskis (Ch. 66, Elizabeth, NJ), and Stella Hotra and Bertha Janus (both from Ch. 54, Detroit, MI).

State Directors

The following were elected:

Connecticut — Emilija Šaulienė (Ch. 33, New Haven, CT).

Florida (West Coast) — Donna Kamm (Ch. 76, St. Petersburg, FL), (East Coast) — ?

Illinois — Frances Urnažus and Betty Žibas (both from Ch. 46, Chicago IL).

Massachusetts (New England) — Irene Adomaitis and Ann Miller (both from Ch. 5, Worcester, MA).

Michigan (East) — Cecilija Balsienė (Ch. 54, Detroit, MI). (West) — Alice Rock (Ch. 42, Grand Rapids, MI).

New York — Eugenija Kezienė (Ch. 29, Woodhaven, NY).

New Jersey — Mary Berzanskis and Ruth Berzanskis (both from Ch. 66, Elizabeth, NJ).

Ohio — Stefanija Stasiene (?).

Pennsylvania — to be filled by Board of Directors.

Editor — Dale Murray (unanimous, with applause).

Circulation manager — Palmera Breidenbach.

Bertha Janus moved that the Board take care of all correspondence after the Convention. Dale Murray seconded. Vote — majority in favor.

Alice Rock (from the Nominations Committee) presented the slate of nominations for the Board of Directors, namely, the members presently on the Board. There was unanimous agreement amongst the delegates to retain the present Board members.

Shirley Kryger (from the Resolutions Committee) presented the following resolutions:

Be it resolved, that the Board send out all necessary correspondence regarding this Convention, according to protocol.

Whereas, Lithuania is an oppressed nation under Russian rule, Be it resolved that members be very vigilant of Soviet sister-city arrangements, particularly if they include Lithuanian cities, which are termed „Soviet.” Protest any other references to Soviet Lithuania in all media.

Whereas, the Alliance has goals to strive for, Be it resolved that the members augment the Scholarship Fund as a special goal.

Whereas, the insurance status is not settled, Be it resolved, that the National Secretary send questionnaires to all Chapter financial secretaries to be completed by all insurance members and returned to the National Secretary by the deadline date.

Also, Be it resolved that Attorney Saulius Kuprys and Actuary Nathan Moscovitch compile the necessary language acceptable for presentation to the Illinois Department of Insurance before the questionnaire is sent out.

Also, Be it resolved that the Board use their previously given authority to expedite the insurance matter in any way necessary.

Be it resolved, that the 42nd Convention, held in Oak Lawn, IL, is bestowing Honorary membership to Elizabeth Alavosius (Ch. 5) and Emilie B. Prose (Ch. 46).

Whereas, the date for submissions and processing for the Outstanding Lithuanian Woman nominations and elections conflict with convention preparations,

Be it resolved, that all chapters submit to the National Secretary nominations for and selection of the Outstanding Lithuanian Woman take place during non-convention years.

Whereas, the guidelines for requirements for a scholarship are not clear,

Be it resolved that the phrase „or legal guardian, who is a member“ be added to the requirements. Also be it resolved, that the entire high school transcript, including that of the senior year, and also the student class rank with the number of students expected to graduate from that class, be included in the application form.

Be it resolved that there will be given one \$500.00 scholarship each year.

Be it resolved, that all financial secretaries submit to the National Secretary all dues to be submitted, by the end of March of each year or as early as possible before then.

Whereas, the *Moterų Dirva* records must be kept up to date and publication of the *Moterų Dirva* is expensive,

Be it resolved, that it will be obligatory that every chapter secretary send names and addresses of all members, so unnecessary names may be removed from the list.

Emilie B. Prose moved that the Resolutions be accepted with corrections (namely, that a specific deadline be set for submission of the names for the Outstanding Lithuanian Woman and that Jan. 1-Mar. 31 be the time during which dues and addresses be sent to the Home Office). Vida Sakevičius seconded. Vote — unanimously in favor.

Ruth Berzanskis moved that \$100.00 be donated by the 42nd Convention to

the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid. Emilie B. Prose seconded. Vote — unanimously in favor.

Aldona Shumway asked that all photos of the 42nd Convention be submitted to the Home Office or *Draugas* for the Alliance write-up in *The Observer*. She also announced that the winner of the **Outstanding Lithuanian Woman** was **Sr. Mercedes, SSC**, who would be honored at the Convention banquet. She will receive a plaque and a \$100.00 check.

Additional suggestions for recipients of Convention donations were the Scholarship Fund, Holy Family Villa, Chair of Lithuanian Studies (to complete the Alliance's Commitment for \$500.00).

There were no volunteers to host the Alliance's 1989 Convention. Emilie B. Prose moved that the Board locate the site. Shirley Kryger seconded. Vote — unanimously in favor.

Aldona Shumway thanked everyone involved in helping prepare for the Convention. Emilie B. Prose, Convention Chairperson, also thanked all who helped. The Closing prayer was „Sveika Marija“.

The fifth and last session of the 42nd Convention was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Aldona Shumway
Convention president

Roma Kuprys
Convention secretary

CONVENTION DONATIONS

Anna Pocius	\$25
Sally Dolmas	25
Chapter 66, Eliz. NJ	25
Vicky Leone	20
Charlotte Serwo	10
Ruth Berzanskis	10
Zephy Juknavich	10
Mary Berzanskis	10
Ch. 53, Linden, NJ	10

Ch. 70, Westville, IL	10
Julia Valentine	10
Josephine Kilkus	10
Fran Urnazus	10
Jus. Kuseliauskienė	5
E. Kezienė	5
A. Lukoševičiūtė	5
	<u>\$200</u>

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Ch. 20, Chicago, IL	\$25
Ch. 5, Worcester, MA	25
Ch. 42, Grand Rapids, MI	20
Dale Murray	15
Alda Budrick	10
Mary Genis	10
Bertha Janus	10
Ch. 54, Southfield, MI	10
Juliana Rotsko	10
Pam Breidenbach	5
	<u>\$140</u>

MOTERŲ DIRVA

Julia Mack	\$50
Ch. 42, Grand Rapids, MI	15
Ch. 20, Chicago, IL	10
Ch. 54, Southfield, MI	10
Marija Medlin	5
Bertha Janus	5
	<u>\$95</u>

Vida Sakevičius
National treasurer

Post-Convention Board Minutes

The post-Convention Board meeting of the American Lithuanian Roman Catholic Women's Alliance took place on Sunday, August 9, 1987, at the Hilton Inn of Oak Lawn, Oak Lawn, IL, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Irene Adomaitis, Cecilija Balsienė, Pam Breidenbach, Sophie Diržius, Roma Kuprys, Dale Murray, Emilie B. Prose, Alice Rock, Vida Sakevičius, Aldona Shumway, and Anna Šlitteris.

Emilie B. Prose, as Convention Chairperson, will send out the necessary thank-yous.

Aldona Shumway will contact the various priests mentioned as possibly being interested and available to be Spiritual Director for the Alliance. First to be contacted will be Rev. Jonas Velutis, then Rev. Justin Steponaitis.

The time-table for the Outstanding Lithuanian Women will be as follows: the deadline for submitting chapter recommendations/nominations to the Home Office will be June 30th of the year prior to that of the convention. The recommendations should stress individual accomplishments. Roma Kuprys will draft a short set of guidelines for the chapters to help in choosing an Outstanding Woman. Dale Murray will help correct the guidelines. The deadline for sending in chapter votes for the Outstanding Lithuanian Woman Award will be Jan. 1st of the year of the Convention. This timetable will make it easier to coordinate the Award ceremonies with the Convention banquet.

The deadline for the Honorary member will remain as before — a part of Convention deadlines.

Irene Adomaitis will inquire about the possibility of a convention site in Connecticut.

Roma Kuprys will send to *Motery Dirva* a list of chapters which may be suspended soon or may be merged.

Vida Sakevičius was asked to make Great American Federal Savings and Loan account (upon maturation) a 6 months term account.

Roma Kuprys suggested that to increase publicity about the Alliance, articles to *Darbininkas*, *Draugas*, and *The Observer* would be a start in public relations.

The meeting was adjourned at about noon.

Aldona Shumway, President
Roma Kuprys, Secretary

TRUMPAI...

Tikslas Atsiektas

...Centro sekretorė, **Roma Kuprienė** praneša, kad gavusi dar aukų iš **67-tos kp. Čikagoje** Lituanistikos katedrai 25 dol. ir „Dainavai“ 25 dol. ir iš **75-tos kp. Čikagoje** „Dainavai“ 50 dol. Tad, mūsų užsibrėžtas tikslas suaukoti \$500 katedrai ir \$500 „Dainavai“ yra baigtas. Dėkojame visom kuopom ir pavienėm narėm prisidėjusiom prie šio gero darbo.

Girtinas Gestas

...Mirusių narių dukros atsiuntė aukas savo motinų atminčiai pažymėdamos Moterų Dirvos reikalams, tai **Ann Dougall**, kurios motina **Ona Bruožienė** buvo 5-tos kp. Worcester narė ir **Diana Vargofcak**, kurios motina buvo mūsų organizacijos pirmūnė ir garbės narė, **Augusta Šatkienė**. Nuoširdžiai dėkojame.

Atsisveikinimas

...Rugsėjo 20 d., buvo paskutinis sekmadienis, kada kleb. **kun. A. Miciūnas, MIC**, Šv. Kazimiero parapijos bažnyčioje, Worcesteryje atnašavo šv. Mišias, pasakė pamokslą ir savaitės bėgyje išvažiavo. Dovanos, gražūs sveikinimai, dar gražesni daugelio pasakyti linkėjimai per išleistuves, meilė, maldos, širdyje, o kaip kurių ir ašaros akyse išlydėjo mylimą kleboną į naują pastoracijos vietą — Šv. Petro parapiją, Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Kun. Miciūnas buvo parapijos vyrų choro, Lietuvių Labd. dr-jos, Moterų sąjungos 5-tos kuopos ir kitų organizacijų dvasios vadas. Moterų Sąjungos cen-

ro dvasio vadu išbuvo nuo 1975 metų. Linkime sėkmės!

Vytautas Skuodis Laisvėje

...1981 m. seime delegatės sudarė rezoliuciją pasižadėdamos visomis jėgomis gelbėti savo brolius ir sesės Lietuvoje, suimtus ir nuteistus sunkiems darbams už tai, kad per kratas jų namuose buvo rasta požemės literatūra, ir pan. Sąjungietės sudarė peticiją ir surinko tūkstančius pasirašymų, kurie kartu su kitų organizacijų peticijomis buvo pasiųsti Brežnevui. Dabar po septynių metų okupantų kalėjime iškankintas **Vytautas Skuodis** su žmona Irena ir dukterimi Daiva yra laisvi. Rugsėjo 8 d. atskrido į Zurich, kur juos pasitiko BALF pirmininkė **Marija Rudienė**, kuri per visą laiką stengėsi V. Skuodi atgabenti į jo gimtąją žemę — Ameriką. Čikagoje jie rado jiems išnuomotą butą su visais įrengimais.

Jau yra buvę keli visuomenės susitikimai su Skuodžių šeima įvairiuose vietovėse. Spalio 7 d. Washingtono buvo susitikimas su kongresmenais specialiaame bendrojo Baltų komiteto priėmime. Taipgi dalyvavo 37-metų Estonijos disidentas Tiit Madisson, kuris rugsėjo 12 d. buvo išstremtas ir 21-metų Rolands Silaraups iš Latvijos, taipgi Sovietų priverstas palikti savo tėvyne už tai kad demonstravo Rygoje.

ALT Suvažiavimas

...Amerikos Lietuvių Tarybos 47-tasis suvažiavimas įvyko spalio mėn. 17 d., Lietuvių Tautiniuose Namuose, Čikagoje. Suvažiavimo išvakarėse įvyko atstovų ir svečių susipažinimas

ALT patalpose, o suvažiovimo vakare iškilminga vakarienė, kurioje buvo pagerbtas ilgametis ALTo informacijos direktorius prel. **dr. Juozas Prunskis**.

M.S. 3-čios kuopos narė **Daina Dani-levičiūtė-Dumbrienė** yra Tarybos išdininke. Kitos mūsų atstovės tai **Anelė Raštienė** iš 20-tos kuopos ir **Ona Šliterienė** ir 67-tos.

Dėkingas

... **Tėv. Juozas Dambruskas, MIC** rašo: „Iš Romos sugrįžęs, džiaugiuosi dalyvavęs Šv. Petro Bazilikoje įvykusiose iškilmėse, kurių garsas nuaidėjo per visą katalikišką pasaulį, kada Šventasis Tėvas Jonas Paulius II-sis iškilmingai paskelbė mūsų tautietį, Marijonų Vieniulijos Atkurėją Dievo Tarną Ark. Jurgį Matulaitį palaimintu... Labai dėkingas esu Jum už maldas ir aukas, kurias gausiai, per tiek metų, nenuilstamai dėjote, kad Dievo Tarnas Ark. Jurgis būtų paskelbtas palaimintu...“

Kotryna Grigaitytė

KALĖDOS

*Vystyklai išsitiesia per dangų
Iš saulės rietimo,
Debesų verpalo,
Iš vaivorykščių gijų.
Supasi pasaulio vygė varpu:
Supasi jūros gelme,
Žemės širdimi.
Palmės, eglės ir pušys
lenkia karūnas.
Ko Tu verki,
Vargano kūdikio verksmu,
Ko Tu verki?*

— — — —

*Į Tavo akis rieda ašarų švinas.
Į Tavo guolį byra
Vinys, vinys, vinys...*

— Marių Vėjui Skambant



1988 METŲ MALDŲ KALENDORIUS

Džiaugsmo kupinomis širdimis ir ašaromis akyse dėkojame Dievui už suteiktą šiais istoriniais mūsų tautos — krikšto 600 metų ir Marijos Metais suteiktą malonę, kad Dievo tarnas ark. Jurgis Matulaitis tapo paskelbtas Palaimintuoju. Šis garsas nuskambėjo per visą pasaulį. Pasiliko tik vienas žingsnis, ir bus paskelbtas šventuoju, o kad tai greičiau įvyktų tęskime ir toliau maldos žygį:

Sausis (January)	Ch. 31	Minersville
Vasaris (February)	Ch. 33	New Haven
Kovas (March)	Ch. 36	Cleveland
Balandis (April) — meldžiamės visa Moterų sąjunga, nes švenčiame Palaimintojo ark. Jurgio Matulaičio Vardo dieną.		
Gegužis (May)	Ch. 38	New Britain
Birželis (June)	Ch. 42	Grand Rapids
Liepa (July)	Ch. 43	Waterbury
Rugpjūtis (August)	Ch. 46	Chicago
Rugsėjis (September)	Ch. 49	Chicago
Spalis (October)	Ch. 51	Detroit
Lapkritis (November)	Ch. 53	Linden
Gruodis (December)	Ch. 54	Southfield

*Janina Miliauskienė,
Maldų Kalendoriaus Koordinatorė*

KVIEČIAME PRIE BOČIŲ STALO

Kruopų košė su tarkuotomis bulvėmis

300 g kruopų, 2 l vandens, 0.5 bulvių, druskos pagal skonį.

Kol kruopos išvirs, sutarkuoti bulves ir gautą masę, palengva maišant, pilti į išvirtas kruopas. Įdėti druskos ir dar 15 minučių pavirinti. Valgyti karštą su sviestu bei rūgščiu pienu.

Ant rinkių kepti kukuliai

Sutarkuoti 10-15 nuskustų bulvių, gautą masę gerai nusunkti (geriau per lininę medžiagą). Po to tešlą užplikyti verdančiu pienu ar vandeniu, pagal skonį įberti druskos ir išminkius daryti plokščius kukulius. Juos kepti ant įkaitusių, švarių vyryklos rinkių. Vienai pusei iškepus, apversti antrąją.

Valgyti su saldžiu pienu.

Kastinis

0.5 l grietinės, keletas kvepiančiųjų pipirų arba kmynų, pagal skonį druskos.

Grietinę supilti į molinį puodą ir, įstačius į šiltą vandenį, mediniu šaukštu sukuti, kol išsileis. Po to iškelti, įstatyti į šaltą vandenį ir vėl sukuti, kol pasidarys panaši į sviestą. Po to vėl statyti į karštą vandenį ir sukuti tol, kol sugers pasukas. Tada sudėti pipirus arba kmynus, druską ir, supylus į lėkštes, atšaldyti.

Prie kastinio tinka bulvės, išvirtos su lupenomis.

Kraujiniai kukuliukai

Puslitrės paršelio kraujo, svaras miežinių miltų, pagal skonį druskos, truputis mėtų.

Iš kraujo ir miltų padaryti tešlą, o iš jos — kukuliukus. Virti pasūdytame vandenyje. Išvirus valgyti su spirginiais, smulkiai supiaustytais lašinukais ir padažu.

SŪRIAI

Senelės varškė

2 gorčiai (1 gorčius — 3 litrai) saldaus nenugriebto pieno, 3 gorčiai rūgštaus pieno, 5 kietai virti kiaušiniai.

Į užkaitintą saldų pieną supilti rūgštų. Viską dar pakaitinti ant lėtos ugnies 15 minučių. Po to pilti į sūrmaišį, sluoksniais dedant po kiaušinį. Varškė dedama į slėgtuvus, kad turėtų gerą formą.

Lietuviškas sūris

6 l saldaus pieno, 4 l rūgštaus pieno, 1-2 kiaušinio tryniai ir 100 g sviesto. Druskos dedame pagal skonį ir truputį cukraus.

Rūgštų pieną sušildyti iki +38°C. kada pienas susitraukia į varškę, gerai išspausti išrūgas ir gautą varškę pertrinti per sietelį ar rėtį, kad nebūtų gabaliukų. Paskui užvirinti saldų pieną, sudėti ištrintą varškę ir laikyti, kol susitrauks pienas ir pasidarys žalsvos išrūgos. Tada pilti į sūrmaišį ir išspausti išrūgas. Po to dėti į pakaitintą puodą ir įstatyti į karštą vandenį. Į gautą varškę sudėti išplaktus trynius, sviestą, cukrų, druską ir su šaukštu gerai išmaišyti, kad pasidarytų vientisa masė. Palaikius kurį laiką, reikia sudėti į šlapią sūrmaišį, užrišti ir palikti inde, kuris įmerkta į kitą indą, pripiltą šalto vandens. Sūrmaišį su varške reikia paslėgti. Po 5-6 val. išimti vartojimui. Toks sūris yra labai skanus, bet ilgai nesilaiko, valgyti tinka, kol šviežas.

Virtas sūris

Gero pieno varškę sudėti plona eile į medinį ar molinį indą, kuriame turi būti pastovi temperatūra (12-14 C). Laikas nuo laiko sudėtą varškę maišyti, kad geriau praeitų oras. Kuomet jau pakankamai pastovi, reikia virti ant lengvos ugnies, kol visiškai išsileis. Kuo daugiau išgaruos verdant, tuo bus kietesnis sūris. Verdant šį sūrį, dedame įvairių prieskonių: druskos, kmynų, pipirų, gvazdikėlių, cinamono. Išvirusi masė supilama į formą, išteptą riebalais, kad neliptų prie sienelių. Šis sūris greit stingsta, yra skanus.

Pipirų sūris

Gerai šaukštu sutrinti varškę, pridėti druskos pagal skonį, miltų, pipirų. Viską gerai išminkyti, sudėti į sūrmaišį ir paslėgti. Pipirų sūris yra labai skanus.

Jautienos troškinys

1 kg jautienos, 5 šaukštai kapotų svogūnų, 5 šaukštai smulkių juodos duonos džiovėselių, 100 g sviesto, 0.5 stiklinės grietinės, 3 lauro lapai, pipirų ar kalendros grūdelių, druskos.

Nuo mėsos nuimamos plėvės, kaulai, supiaustoma gabaliukais, gerai išmušama, pasūdoma, apvelinama miltais.

Į troškintuvą dedamas sviestas, lauro lapai, pipirai ir kalendros grūdėliai, išmušti ir miltais apvelti mėsos gabalai, kurie užbarstomi kapotais svogūnais ir duonos džiovėseliais. Įpilama stiklinė karšto vandens, uždengiama ir ant silpnos ugnies troškinama, kol mėsa suminkštės. Troškintuvą dažnai pakratomas, kad neprisiviltų. Jei reikia, užpilama dar kiek karšto vandens. Baigiant troškinti, supilama grietinė.

Valgoma užpylus tuo padažu, kuriame troškinta, apdėjus virtomis bulvėmis.



VĖLINIŲ PROGA

*Tėvelių kapus aplankyk,
Nunešk gėlių.
Jiems ilgesį mano išsakyk,
Aš jų užmiršti negaliu...*

*Vis stovi akyse
Tos pievos, tie laukai.
Kai vaikščiojau su jais
Mano vaikystės laikais.*

*Saulėleidžių mielių
Ir tų neužmirštu,
Kai iš lauko darbu
Grijom visi kartu.*

*O jaunimo daina
Užburdavo laukus.
Ir mieli tie garsai
Aidi dabar sapnuos.*

*Tėviškėle brangi,
Ar matysiu tave?
Svetur kaulai paliks,
Tokia mano dalia...*

Mama Ada



Sąjungiečių veikla

Chapter and District Activity

Naujos Narės — New Members

Ch. 54, Southfield, MI
Aldona Steponaitis

Ch. 59, Shenandoah, PA
Pat Nitolo
Helen Sampson

WELCOME!

**“Remember those
who have gone before us ...”**

New Jersey

Ch. 66, Elizabeth — Paula Budrienė.

**God grant Eternal Rest to all our
deceased members.**

CONNECTICUT

NEW HAVEN

A. a. Mary Jackub (Jakubaitė) 88 metų amžiaus, mirė rugpjūčio mėn. 31 d. ir buvo palaidota rugsėjo mėn. 3 d. Šv. Lauryno kapinėse.

Prieš 70 metų ji buvo mūsų New Haveno 33-čios kuopos steigimo pradininkė ir išbuvo kuopos pirmininkė virš 65 m. Ji buvo nuoširdi tėvynės mylėtoja, gyveno lietuviškais rūpesčiais. Iki paskutinės savo gyvenimo valandos aktyviai domėjosi lietuvių veikla. Buvo kilni asmenybė. Užsitarnavusi visų ją pažinusių gilią pagarbą.

Liūdime netekę Jos.

*Stasė Leikienė,
Finansų raštininkė*

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO

Chapter 46

At our first meeting after summer vacation, we gathered at the Marian Fathers' Monastery to celebrate „Everybody's Birthday“. After an absence of several years, due to her husband's long illness, Vicky Leone returned to the chapter with an appropriately prepared program. First we began "the rest of our lives" with a Litany of Humility. As the member's birthday month was called, each member lit a candle on the beautifully decorated birthday cake. A short resume of that month's virtues, faults, gem and flower was read, as well as famous people born in that month. The member was then serenaded by the other members with a "song of the month" and she selected a present from the „birthday gift table“.

During the meeting, we heard reports of our August convention from Franny Urnazus, Betty Zibas and Emilie Prose. Emilie was also serenaded with „Ilgiausių Metų“ in honor of being elevated to Honorary Membership.

Because November is the month of the Holy Souls, the chapter will remember our deceased members with a Memorial Service in the Marian Fathers' Chapel on the 14th. Rev. Anthony Švedas, MIC will lead us in prayer.

Sąjungietė

NEW JERSEY

ELIZABETH

Netekome darbščios narės

Rugpiūčio 13 d., mirė Paula Budris, labai daug pasidarbavusi mūsų 66-tos kuopos narė. Visa širdimi darbavosi, kur tik reikėjo. Buvo virėja, ir prie pyragų, ji visada dirbo. Nėra gana gerų žodžių išreikšti jos asmenybę, bet tikrai negalėsime jos užmiršti.

Paula Budris gimė Lietuvoje, gyveno Vokietijoje ir Belgijoje, į Ameriką atvyko 1952 metais ir apsigyveno Elizabethe. Ji buvo patyrusi virėja ir dirbo Šv. Petro ir Povilo parapijos mokykloje. Virė ir draugystėms ir vestuvėms. Kada buvo jaunesnė prižiūrėjo ir užaugino gražių rožių mūsų parapijos kieme. Visada turėjo laiko kitiems ir mėgino visus patenkinti. Ji taipgi buvo vietinės Lietuvių Bendruomenės narė. Paliko liūdinti vyrą Vytautą, dukterį Lillian De Vincenta su vyru, du anūkus ir tris seseris Lietuvoje.

Kuopos narės gausiai susirinko šermenyse ir kartu su klebonu Petru Žemeikiu ir kun. Juozu Pragulbicku sukalbėjo rožančių. Sekančią dieną sąjungiečių garbės palyda pasitiko prie bažnyčios ir įlydėjo į bažnyčią Šv. Mišioms. Vargonus grojo Liudas Štukas, solo giedojo B. Miškinis ir Julia Leona. Kapinėse visi sugiedojo „Amžiną atilsį“ jos sielai. Po to visi dalyviai buvo pakviesti pietums, kur šeimos nariai nuoširdžiai priėmė.

Reiškiamo giliausią užuojautą likusiems, o Paulos sielai meldžiame amžinos ramybės.

M. Beržanskis



MASSACHUSETTS

WORCESTER

5-ta kuopa

Rugpiūčio 30 d. Šv. Kazimiero parapijos svetainėje įvyko susirinkimas pirmas po vasaros atostogų. Kp. pirm. J. Spirauskienė pradėjo ir pakvietė dvasios vadą kleb. kun. A. Miciūną MIC sukalbėti maldą, po kurios tarė trumpą atsisveikinimo žodelį nes rugsėjo mėnesį išvyksta į naują pastoracijos vietą Kenosha, Wisconsin, pagal Tėvų Marjonų vienuolijos provincijalo paskyrimą. Pakėlėme vynelio taureles į klebono sveikatą, sugiedojome Ilgiausių Metų... Parapijos taryba rugsėjo 6 d. Maironio parko didžiojoje salėje rengia išleistuvių pietus ir programą, ten dalyvaus gausus būrys kuopos narių, pirminkė įteiks dovaną.

Seimo delegatės išdavė pranešimus: I. Adamaitis apdraudos skyriaus, pirm. J. Spirauskienė — apšvietos.

Džiaugėmės, kad seimo delegatės priėmė mūsų kuopos rekomendaciją pakelti finansų rašt. E. Alavosius į Garbės nares. Pirmininkė parvežė Garbės narės ženklelį ir iškilmingai per susirinkimą prisegė entuziastingai narėms plojant.

Kuopos pirm. J. Spirauskienė gavo auką, kurią jai Čikagoje įteikė A. Repšys, vyras mirusios prieš 30 metų mūsų kuopos narės a.a. Adelės Repšienės, kuri buvo ne tik narė, bet gražiausiai išsiuvinėjo mūsų kuopos vėliavą po kuria ir dabar žygiuojame. Auka bus panaudota a.a. A. Repšienės atminimui.

Rugpiūčio mėnesį netekome trijų narių: D. Kunsaitienės, N. Rajeckienės ir Lozoraitienės. Jos duktė — B. Saviskas, finansų rašt. E. Alavosius priminė, kad nors jos mama nepajėgė skaityti *Moterų Dirvą* bet ji visada skaitydavo, E. Alavosius pakvietė ją įsirašyti į mūsų kuopą nare ir toliau skaityti *Moterų*



Pirm. J. Spirauskienė prisega Garbės narės ženklelį Elz. Alavošienei.

Dirvą. Sveikiname B. Saviską. Visų mirusių narių šeimoms ir giminėms reiškiamo giliausią užuojautą ir dailinamės skausmu.

Svarstėme apie dalyvavimą Lietuvos Krikščionybės jubiliejaus minėjime Bostone spalio 5 dieną, tai viso Naujosios Anglijos ir kaimyninių valstijų minėjimas, kuriame dalyvaus kardinolas B. Law.

Pirmininkė pageidavo, kad padarytume išvyką į New Yorką pamatyti atnaujintą Laisvės Statulą. Susirinkimas buvo ilgas ir darbingas. Pirmininkė užbaigė perskaitydama Krikščionybės Metų maldą ir pakvietė prie vaišių, kuriuos buvo skirtos pagerbti finansų raštininkę E. Alavosių pakeltą į Garbės nars.

Užuojauta

Kuopa reiškia giliausią užuojautą narei Gražinai Bazikienei šeimai ir visiems giminėms iškeliavus į amžinojo Tėvo Namus tėveliui a.a. Kaziui Šimulynui.

Skaudi nelaimė

Rugsėjo 18 d. po pietų Šv. Kazimiero parapijos parapijietė, mūsų kuopos narė, Marijos Nekalto Prasidėjimo vienuolijos rėmėja ištiko skaudi nelaimė. Įvyko gaisras name, kuriame gyveno Vaclova Dėdinienė. Sudegė jos turtelis, bet pati pajutus dūmų kvapą atidarė duris pažiūrėti ir vos spėjo nultipti nuo antro aukšto ir išeiti iš namo. Duktė Rasa Grigaitienė atskubėjus pasiėmė mamytę į savo globą. Giliai užjaučiame mielą kuopos narę V. Dėdinienę.

Janina M.



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Mažoji Didvyrė

Mokytoja, pasistačiusi prieš visą klasę geriausią mokinę Marytę barė, kad ji nestoja į komjaunimo organizaciją, — lanko bažnyčią ir gieda chore. Marytė aiškinosi, kad ji negalinti stoti į organizaciją ir būti komjaunuole, nes ji yra praktikuojanti katalikė, myli Dievą, todėl ir lanko bažnyčią. Lankydamą bažnyčią, ji niekam bloga nedaro, nes ir konstitucija tai leidžia. Be to, ji priklauso organizacijai negali, nes turinti paruošti maistą, sutvarkyti ir prižiūrėti butą.

Nekreipdama dėmesio į Marytės žodžius, mokytoja pradėjo užgaulioti ir pašiepti Marytę, vadindama ją atsilikusia, prisigėrusia religinio raugo, ir pabrėžė, kad Marytė nebegalvotų apie aukštuosius mokslus, nes tokiems kaip ji vietos aukštosiose mokyklose nėra.

Nuleidusi galvutę Marytė tylėjo. Jos rugiagėlių spalvos didelės akys patvino ašarų lašais. Jos tankūs auksinės spalvos plaukai, taisyklingi veido bruožai ir meili šypsena skyrė ją iš kitų. Jei ne per daug liesas veidelis ir ištįsęs, liesas kūnelis, Marytė būtų gražuolė.

Marytė gimė 1941 metų birželio 12 dieną. Tuo metu jau svetimieji valdė Lietuvą. Jos tėveliai abudu buvo studentai, kaip pamilę vienas kitą, sukūrė šeimą. Tėvelis ruošėsi studijas apvainikuoti inžinieriaus diplomu, mamytė—medicinos studentė. Abudu gražiai išauklėti, religingi, karšti patriotai. Laukdami pirmojo kūdikio, apsigyveno su mamytės tėveliais, nes sunku buvo finansiniai verstis. Be to, mamytės sveikata buvo trapi. Tiek tėveliai, tiek seneliai stengėsi niekam neužkliūti, nes buvo bejėgiai esamą padėtį pakeisti.

Jaunoji šeima su meile ir džiaugsmu sutiko gimusią mergytę. Po poros dienų močiutė ir tėvelis išsivežė mažytę į kitą parapiją, kur krikšto metu jai davė Marijos vardą.

Grįžę į namus, neberado mamytės ir senelio, kuriuos įsiveržę pareigūnai, liepę per pusvalandį pasiruošti, išvežė į geležinkelio stotį, kur su daugeliu kitų nelaimingųjų sukimšo į prekinis vagonus ir keletą dienų išlaikė užkaltauose vagonuose be vandens, maisto, sanitarinių įrengimų ar priemonių. Ieškojo tėvelio ir močiutės. Veltui senelis maldavo palikti po gimdymo neatsigavusią, silpną dukrą. Stotyje atskyrė dukrą nuo tėvo.

Mamutės mamytė, neatgavusi jėgų, jau kelionės pradžioje mirė. Jos lavoną ginkluoti kareiviai išmetė į griovį. Bendrakeleiviai stebėjosi, kad kentėdama ji nesiskundė, džiaugėsi, kad jos kūdikis liko su tėveliu ir močiute, ir kad jaunoji motina iškeliavo Amžinybėn su šypsena lūpose.

Tėvelis ir močiutė giliai širdyje paslėpę skausmą, pradėjo rūpintis dukrele. Tėvelis dirbo. Močiutė, gabi muzikė, pasišventė žentui ir dukraitei. Nors rūpinosi dukros ir vyro likimu, karštai meldėsi už juos, bet svetimiesiems to nerodė, nes tuo metu jau buvo per daug išardytų šeimų — vienų nariai kalėjimuose, kitų išvežti, kaip ir jos vyras ir vienintelė dukrelė. Sunku buvo gauti kūdikiui pieno, maisto ir vaistų, tik močiutės ir tėvelio meilės nestokojo kūdikis. Abudu dažnai būdavo alkani, kad tik mergytė būtų soti.

Močiutė, Marytei dar gulint lopšely, savo skambiu balsu dainuodavo

lietuvių liaudies daineles, skambindavo pianinu pasaulinių kompozitorių kūriniais. Vietoj vaikiškų pasakų pasakojo apie garbingą Lietuvos praeitį, jos didvyrius, apie kunigaikštienę Gražiną, Kęstučio žmoną Birutę. Pasakojo apie savanorius-kūrėjus, kurie sveikatos nustojo ar net gyvybes paaukojo, kad Lietuva atgautų laisvę... Pasakojo apie laisvą, nepriklausomą Lietuvą, apie milžinišką pažangą įvairiose srityse, pasakojo apie jos senelį — Lietuvos gynėją, apie jos gražuolę, linksną ir geraširdę mamytę... Pasakojo apie šventųjų gyvenimą, apie kankinius už tikėjimą... Ji mokė Marytę deklamuoti eilėraščius — Maironį, Vyte Nemunėlį... Dar tik trejų metų Marytė deklamuodavo tėveliui ir močiutei Meškiuką Rudnosiuką ir Maironio eilėraščius. Tėvelis vakarais pasisodinęs kūdikį pasakojo, kokia graži buvo jo vaikystė nepriklausomoj Lietuvoj, kaip jis stengėsi mokytis ir padėti Lietuvos žmonėms kurti gražesnę rytojų. Močiutė vesdavosi Marytę į bažnyčią, kurioj ji buvo vargonininkė ir kur ji giedodavo. Marytė savo vaikišku balseliu stengėsi močiutei padėti. Užmiesty mažų vaikų kaimynystėje nebuvo, Marytė jų ir nepasigedo.

Marytė buvo penkių metų, kaip atėjo pirmieji laišškai pažįstamiems su Marytės mamyte ir seneliu — išvežtųjų. Sužinojo apie mamytės mirtį, o iš kitų laiškų, kad senelis mirė tolimojoj Antarktikoj, nes žiauriam klimato, prie sunkių darbų, be maisto, nuolatinio šalčio kamuojamas kūnas, nebeturėjo jėgų kovoti...

Močiutė ir tėvelis ilgą laiką, skausmo dėl mylimųjų žiaurios mirties kankinami, užmigdę Marytę ieškodavo paguodos maldoje. Močiutė pradėjo akyse nykti. Mažąją Marytę ji pradėjo mokyti namų ruošos darbų, mokė virti, skalbti, nes jautė, kad neilgai ji bus

šiam pasauliui... Ant kėdutės atsistojusi Marytė virė, ruošė pietus tėveliui ir močiutei.

Aštuonerių metų Marytė dažnai nustebindavo mokytojus savo nebe vaikišku protu. Mokslas jai sekėsi, ji buvo pirmoji visuose dalykuose. Tuo metu sustojo močiutės širdis, ir liko Marytė su tėveliu vienu du, nes tėvelio tėveliai mirė dar Lietuvai džiaugiantis nepriklausomybe.

Marytė guodė tėvelį, tėvelis Marytę. Ji tapo namų šeimininke. Anksti, kai kiti jos amžiaus vaikai dar saldžiai miegodavo. Marytė stovėdavo eilutėje prie pardotuvių, kad gautų šį tą nusipirkti. Tėvelis dirbo inžinieriumi ir dažnai turėdavo išvažiuoti ir likdavo Marytė nuošaliame užmiesčio namelyje visai viena. Ji nebijojo. Ji atsimindavo, kad Dievas globoja našlaičius, ir kad pikti žmonės gali pražudyti tik jos kūną, bet jos siela nemari.

Vis bardama ir pašiepdama Marytę, mokytoja pasakė, kad ją palieka po pamokų. Pasibaigus pamokoms, mokytoja liepė Marytei sutvarkyti klasę, o po to uždarė Marytę malkinėn ir, užrakinusi nakčiai, pati išėjo namo.

Likusi viena Marytė meldėsi. Ji prašė jėgų sau ir tėveliui, nes ji gerai žinojo, kad turi nemalonumų ir tėvelis, bet, nenorėdamas gaudinti dukrelės, jis apie tai nepasakodavo, kaip ir Marytė nesakydavo tėveliui apie mokytojų užgauliojimus. Malkinėj lakstė pelės. Maldoj paskendus Marytė negirdėjo. Ji buvo alkana. Pasimeldusi, susirietusi užmigo.

Rytą atrakinusi duris, mokytoja išleido Marytę, prigrasiusi nesilankyti į bažnyčią, negiedoti chore, nes, priešingai, būsią dar blogiau.

Nors išvargusi ir alkana, Marytė padėjo klasės draugams, kuriems mokslas nesisekė. Po pamokų grįžusi namo Marytė ėmė ruošti pietus, nes tą

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vakarą turėjo grįžti tėvelis. Ji meiliai pasitiko tėvelį, klausinėjo apie kelionę, bet nei žodelio neužsiminė apie malkinėį praleistą naktį ir mokytojų grąšinimus.

Bėgo dienos. Tėvelis vėl buvo išsiųstas į fabrikus patikrinti darbą. Vakare Marytė pajuto nepaprastą norą pasimelsti bažnytelėje. Apsirengusi ji išskubėjo žinomais takeliais į bažnyčią, kurioje taip gražiai vargonuodavo ir giedodavo močiutė, į bažnyčią, kur ją pakrikštijo... Per šonines duris Marytė įėjo į apytamsią bažnyčią. Suklupusi suole netoli altoriaus Marytė meldėsi už mirusius artimuosius: mamytę, senelį, močiutę, senelius, už savo vienintelį mylimą tėvelį, karštai prašė Aukščiausio jam jėgų nepalūžti...

Jos malda nutrūko, nes neįprastas triukšmas ją nutraukė... Pakėlusį galvutę, Marytė pamatė jai pažįstamą vyrą, iškėlusį taurę su Ostijom... Iškratęs iš taurės ant žemės Ostijas, pakėlęs koją norėjo ant jų stotis, kai surikusi „ne, ne, „„Marytė puolė artyn ir savo kūnu ir išskėstoms rankoms pridengė mistinį Kristaus kūną. Piktadarys nenorėdamas, kad Marytė jį atpažintų, smogė jai peiliu į nugarą... deginantis skausmas pervėrė Marytę, bet šypsena sužibo jos lūpose...

Išgirdęs šauksmą, senelis klebonas įėjo į bažnyčią. Jis rado Marytę jau mirusią. Iškviesta milicija kaltino kleboną, kad religinius nuodus skiepi-

ja į jautrias vaikų širdis, kad jo kaltė, kad Marytė žuvo...

Skubiai iškviestas tėvelis buvo lyg suakmenėjęs. Partijai pasiūlius orkestrą ir apmokėti visas laidotuvių išlaidas, jei bus laidojama be bažnyčios, tėvelis griežtai atsisakė. Nors mokyklos vaikams buvo uždrausta dalyvauti laidotuvėse, daug mokinių lankė Marytę ir palydėjo ją į bažnyčią ir kapus. Mergaitės laidotuvėse kukčiojo, šluostėsi ašaras ir berniukai, o suaugę šnibždėjosi, kad atvirose Marytės akyse atsispindi jos žudiko atvaizdas... Be orkestro ir liaupsinimo kalbų, bet draugų ir suaugusių palydėta, atsigulė mažoji didvyrė šalia savo senelės.

Jos tėvelis po laidotuvių užrakinęs namus, pražuvo. Kalbėjo, kad jis ieško dukrelės žudiko, kiti — kad jis tamsią naktį perėjo sieną... Niekas tikrai nežinojo. Greičiausiai likęs vienas nuėjo pas miško brolius ir paskutinių mūsų metu žuvo... Taip iš tos rinktinės šeimos nei vieno nebeliko, tik žmonės ilgai kalbėjo apie mažąją didvyrę Marytę.

(Autorius nežinomas.)
(Pateikė Janina M.)

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*Linksmu
Kalėdu Švenčiu*