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Antanas Rūkštelė

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# THE FAITH AND FREEDOM OF LITHUANIA

REV. ALBERT J. CONTONS

Lithuanian Americans everywhere commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of Lithuania's declaration of independence on February 16, 1918. But the gay holiday spirit of the American Fourth of July is missing for, today, Lithuania is oppressed and persecuted.

A small nation of three million on the shores of the Baltic, Lithuania was forcibly occupied by the mighty Red Army of the Soviet Union in June of 1940. During the mass deportations between 1941 and 1950 more than 300,000 were swallowed up by Siberian slave labor camps. About 75,000 fled to the West before the advancing Red Army in 1944. Some 30,000 Lithuanian freedom fighters were killed between 1944 and 1952 in guerilla warfare resisting the Soviet occupation.

## HOPE OF FREEDOM

Lithuania's physical resistance to Communist rule has been crushed. But her hope of freedom is still alive. This hope is sustained by her deep religious faith.

More than ever before, Lithuanian religious faith is under attack today. The Communist regime seems to have curtailed its bloody persecution of religion in recent years. But it has intensified its anti-religious campaign with more subtle and virulent methods.

To be sure, Article 124 of the Soviet Constitution of 1936 guarantees that "freedom of religious worship and freedom of anti-religious propaganda is recognized for all citizens". What Communists mean by "religious freedom" can best be understood from their record in Lithuania.

## ONLY ONE BISHOP

Lithuania in 1940 was 85% Catholic, with Jewish, Protestant and Orthodox minorities. Today there are only 850 priests left in Lithuania, most of them old and infirm. In 1940 there were 1640 priests. Now only one bishop is allowed to function freely, two others are restricted. This compares with 12 bishops in 1940. Today there is only one seminary still open and only 25 students studying for the priesthood, under severe restrictions. In 1940 there were four seminaries and 470 students.

Before the Soviet occupation Catholic organizations counted 800,000 members. There were 32 religious newspapers and magazines with a combined circulation of seven million copies. Convents and monasteries numbered 118. Today there are no Catholic organizations, religious publications,

monasteries or convents.

In 1966 Communist authorities allowed the first and only religious book, a Lithuanian ritual, to be printed. But the number of copies was limited and many priests find it difficult to obtain. A Lithuanian Missal and the documents of the Second vatican Council are still not available in Lithuania.

## CHURCHES ARE TAXED

All churches and chapels in Lithuania have been declared state property. They are taxed at a high rate, but people are making many sacrifices to pay the exorbitant taxes as long as possible. To date, 448 churches and chapels have been closed. Still open are 574 churches.

The cathedral church of Vilna has been made into an art gallery. St. Casimir's Church, Vilna, is now used as a museum of atheism. The imposing Resurrection Church in Kaunas has been converted into a radio factory.

The Soviet Constitution does not recognize or protect any right to print or teach religious doctrine. This is forbidden as religious propaganda. But the Constitution is careful to guarantee "freedom of antireligious propaganda." Communist authorities display a fanatical, relentless zeal in promoting atheism and fighting religion.

## ATHEISTIC PROPAGANDA

To spread atheistic propaganda, groups of agitators are formed from amongst teachers, professors, doctors, scientists, writers and artists. In 1962 these organized activists delivered 100,000 lectures on atheistic themes. To train more lecturers a two-year "atheists' university" was opened. Graduates are awarded diplomas as "certified atheists."

Every town and village is encouraged to establish a "School of Atheism" and an "Atheists' Center." Even "Museums of Atheism" are founded. About 400 books have been published on atheistic themes. A full-time staff works in Vilna translating Russian books, many of them dealing with the crudest atheistic attacks.

Schools are a fertile soil for atheism. The journal "Soviet Teacher" (1958) states that "the formation of a materialistic ideology in the student is an important challenge to all teachers of a school. In this task teachers of biology, physics, chemistry, history and literature can be of considerable service."

## STUDENTS BANNED

Students are punished for going to church. Often they are dismissed from school and cut off from any

higher education. Teachers are warned in the Communist press not to give high grades to believing students since they believe in "fables" and are "behind the times". Students are banned from serving Mass or taking part in processions and other church services. Not only is the student punished for any violation, but the priest as well.

Priests are strictly forbidden to teach religion to young people. Any lay person presuming to instruct children in Christian Doctrine is liable to be sentenced to Siberia for 10 to 25 years. Even parents who give religious instruction to their own children are accused by the Communist press of "corrupting the conscience of their children".

In spite of continual Communist harrassment of the Church in Lithuania, religious faith today is still firm. Even among youth indications of religious faith regularly appear. A twenty year old girl wrote a letter to the editor of a Communist newspaper and boldly affirmed, "I cannot divide my heart in two, for it all belongs to the Church. Religion is my very heart and to take away my religion would be to tear out my heart."

A youth who was first in his class and a member of the Communist Youth, was assigned an atheistic theme. He wrote it, but as he handed it to his teacher he confessed that he didn't believe what he wrote, that he believed in God. He left the room with tears in his eyes.

#### WEARING THE CROSS

In the free world many young people today have given in to the fad of wearing long hair and unusual clothes. Communist officials in Lithuania are dismayed by the latest fashion there. Young Lithuanians have taken to wearing a cross and chain around their necks. Communists try to explain it away as a meaningless fad. But Lithuanians have always revered the crosses of their wayside shrines, Church steeples and class room walls. The cross on a breast is the sign of Christ in a heart.

Communist pressure has not succeeded in destroying Lithuania's religious faith and hope of freedom. For Lithuanians are a proud people who have lived peacefully on the shores of the Baltic from time immemorial. Their language is the oldest in Europe today.

It was only in 1251 that Lithuanians united into a state under Mindaugas, their first king. In the 15th century the Grand Ducy of Lithuania extended from the Baltic to the Black Sea and almost to the gates of Moscow.

Lithuanian fortunes gradually declined and she was completely taken over by Russia in 1795. The next century was one of struggle, national revival, uprisings. Her independence was won back in 1918.

Remarkable progress was made during the brief period of independence between 1918 and 1940. Farms and roads were modernized, new industries and co-operatives were established, schools flourished, two universities were founded.

#### SPIRIT OF FREEDOM

Lithuanian sovereignty and independence were recognized by the Soviet Union in a peace treaty signed in 1920 and confirmed by treaties in 1926 and 1939. But in 1939 the Soviet Union signed secret agreements with Germany and freed Hitler to begin World War II. In violation of its solemn treaties, the Soviet Union occupied Lithuania in 1940. In June of 1941 the German offensive drove out the Soviet Army. But in 1944 the Reds returned and the military occupation has continued since then.

The Soviet Union considers Lithuania as a Soviet Republic, on the basis of a Communist-style election in 1940. But the United States and other sympathetic countries have steadfastly refused to accept this election. They still recognize Lithuania as a sovereign state.

The survival of religious faith today in Lithuania, together with the support of world leaders, gives hope that the spirit of freedom will not be crushed.



Cathedral of Vilnius converted into Art Gallery.



# DEPORTACIJOS

Žodis deportacija pas mus lietuvius yra susijęs su 1941 metų birželiniais išvežimais ir tų išvežimų minėjimais. Tačiau pas sovietus visai kas kita. Iš jų susidaro įspūdis, lyg tai būtų tik vienkartinis įvykis, ištikęs Lietuvą ir jos kaimines - Latviją ir Estiją klaikiomis dienomis. O iš tikrųjų dar platesniu mastu deportacijos vyko Lietuvoje 1948-49 metais. Ir nėra tikra, kad jos siauresniu mastu ir dabar nebūtų vykdomos užmaskuotai, kaip nepatikimo elemento ištrėmimas iš gimtojo krašto į tolimas Sibiro sritis.

Deportacijos yra viena iš komunistinių kovos priemonių su savo galimais priešais. Tačiau galutinas deportacijų tikslas - naikinimas asmenų ir šeimų, kurios komunistiniam režimui atrodo nepatikimos ir galinčios tapti priešinkėmis.

Tam tikslui sovietų komunistų vado Stalino įsakymu teroristui Serovui buvo duotas parėdymas paruošti deportacijų dekretą arba instrukciją, kuri dar keli mėnesiai prieš Lietuvos okupaciją 1939 m. spalio 10 d. išleista ir pavadinta "SSSR NKVD įsakymas nr. 001223 antisovietiniam elementui Lietuvoje, Latvijoje ir Estijoje likviduoti."

Remiantis ta instrukcija iš Baltijos valstybių buvo deportuota apie vienas milijonas visai nekaltų

POVILAS DIRKIS

žmonių. Tos deportacijos 1941 metų birželio mėnesio vidury, lietuviams paliko vieną labai liūdną sukaktį, kurią kasmet minime ir minėsime metų metais su giliu liūdesiu, skausmu širdyje. Atseit, istorinė, kruvina sukaktis, kuri niekuomet lietuvių skausmo nenuslopins.

Turiu galvoje ne tik masines deportacijas, bet ir gyvuliškas žmonių žūdines. Rainiai, Purviniškis, Panevėžys, Rokiškis, Suvalkai, Zarasai, Lenkeliškis, ir eilė kitų. Tai vietovės, kuriuose raudonojo okupanto smogiamieji enkavedistų būriai išžudė ištisus šimtus nieko nekaltų Lietuvos gyventojų: vyrų, moterų, mokinių, daktarų, kunigų ir net vaikų bei nėščių moterų. Jų lavonus nužudymo vietovėse brutališkai išniekinę kraujuose paplūdusius paliko pasityčiojimui. Gi likusieji gyvi nakties metu smurtu buvo išplėsti iš gimtųjų namų ir šautuvų buožėmis daužomi, kojomis spardomi, brutališkai buvo stumiami į sunkvežimius, į mėšluotus vagonus. Tai buvo klaikus ir neišivaizduojamas vaizdas: klykė kūdikiai, šaukė vaikai atplėsti nuo tėvų, dejavo ligoniai, seneliai ir aimanavo nėščios moterys.

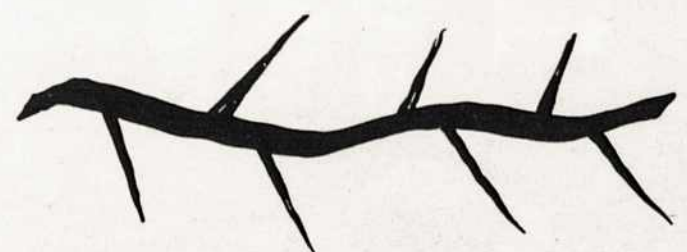
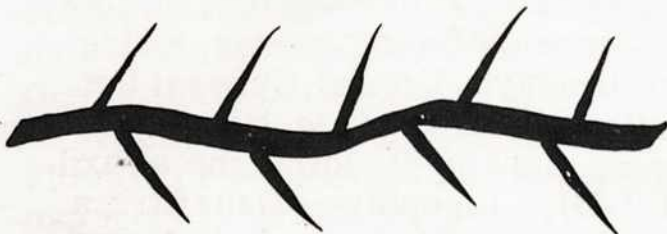
Jie kentėjo dvasines kančias išplėsti iš artimųjų tarpo, alko be duonos kasnio, troško be vandens lašo, mirė be oro, užtroško gele-

žiniuose vagonuose, šaukdami sielų pagelbos, bet veltui, nes vietoje paguodos susmukdavo nuo raudonarmiečio arba enkavedisto smūgio ar kulkos.

Aiškliai matosi, kad areštas, kalėjimas, dujų kameros ir net sušaudytųjų kančios neprilygsta sovietų deportacijų kankynėms. Nekaltai sušaudyti kenčia trumpai. Jų vardus puošia garbės aureolė. O deportuoti bei ištremtieji į šaltasias, snieguotas Sibiro taigas ir ten patalpinti už spigliuotų vielų tampa vergais iki mirties, ir kenčia badą, šaltį ir, iki širdis tvaksi, kenčia neišpasakytą baimę, rūpestį ir neviltį.

Deportavimai ne tik išryškino Sovietų tautinę politiką, bet parodė ir Sovietų praktiką. Aiškiai parodė koku būdu ten sprendžiamas tautinis klausimas: Iš to susidaro labai aiškus sovietų komunistų visos politikos vaizdas apie visuomeninį ir kultūrinį veikimą.

Nors buvęs sovietų diktatorius Chruščiovas ir pasmerkė Staliną, kaip viso to kaltininką, tačiau SSSR konstitucijoje neįvyko jokių pakeitimų, kurie Stalino įpėdinams užkirstų kelią vykdyti tolimesnius tokius nusikaltimus. Ir dar kas svarbu, kad deportacijų dekreto autorius ir deportacijų vykdytojas Lietuvoje Serovas iki šiolei liko nepasmerktas, bet dar tapo apdovanotas Lenino ordenu.



# Lithuanians in The NEWS



AMERIKOS LIETUVIŲ TARYBOS valdyba š.m. vasario 3 d. pasiskirstė pareigomis. Iš kairės į dešinę sėdi: ALTO Garbės pirmininkas L. Simutis, buv. pirmininkas A. J. Rudis, pirmininkas E. Bartkus, I-mas vicepirmininkas Dr. P. Grigaitis. Stovi: vicepirmininkas T. Blinstrubas, išdininkas M. Vaidyla, sekretorius J. Jasaitis, vicepirmininkas J. Evans, I-mas sekretorius Dr. Vl. Simaitis, finansų sekretorius J. Talalas. (Foto - V. Noreikos)



Pictured at the reception held for Sister Mercedes during her recent ART EXHIBIT at the BALZEKAS MUSEUM OF LITHUANIAN CULTURE are Mrs. Walter Lickus and C-112 members, Mrs. J. Jerome, Leon Pauksta, Nat'l. Membership V-P, and Betty Jozaitis. (Photo - J. Kasakaitis)



THIRD U. S. and CANADIAN FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL. July 7, 1968 at the International Amphitheater, Chicago. General Chairman, Dr. Jonas Kriaučeliūnas. Tickets may be purchased at Marginiai, 2507 W. 69th St., Chicago.



Mayor Kevin H. White issuing LITHUANIAN DAY DECLARATION. Pictured: Jackus Sonda, Lith. Press; Rita Kapocius, Lith. Encycl.; Algis Martisauskas, Lith-Amer. Community, Boston Youth br.; Mayor White; Attorney John J. Grigalus, S.B. Lith. Citizens Club; Juozas Kapocius, General Chr.; Lith. Consul Anthony O. Shallna; and Phyllis Grendal, honorary member of K of L and Committee's Exec. Sec'y. Lithuanian flag was raised in front on City Hall Plaza and Lithuanian Consulate.

(Left photo)

CHICAGO'S TARYBA held a reception commemorating the 50th Anniversary at the Jesuit Center. Seated: the Latvian Bishop, Charge d'affaire Juozas Kajekas, Bishop Vincentas Brizgys, Consul General Petras Dauzvardis. Standing: Leon Pauksta, Helen Zimmer, John Evans, Irene Sankus (holding the award presented to the I-I-D), Josephine Dauzvardis, Mary rudis, Leonard Simutis, Eleanore Laurin and Frank Savickus. (Photo - A. Raubiskis)

# LIETUVOS VYČIŲ SUKAKTIES IR ŠV. KAZIMIERO ŠVENTĖS ŽENKLE

Siais sukaktuviais Lietuvos nepriklausomybės atkūrimo metais, mūsų veiksnių konferencijoje praėjusių metų rudenį Washingtone pavadintas Laisvės kovos metais, įvyksta visos eilės lietuvių organizacijų sukaktuvių ir taip pat kai kurių mūsų veikėjų veiklos, amžiaus ar profesijų jubiliejų, kurie yra ir bus minimi spaudoje ir pubūbiais. Todėl apie tai plačiau kalbėti nėra prasmės. Bet pravartu ir reikia prisiminti apie Amerikos lietuvių katalikų jaunimo organizaciją - Lietuvos Vyčius, šiemet mininčius savo įsikūrimo 55 metus. Šią vyčių sukaktį pravartu minėti ryšium su šv. Kazimiero švente kovo mėn. 4 d., nes jie šią šventąją Lietuvos kunigaikštį yra pasirinkę savo globėju.

Lietuvos vyčiai pradėjo organizuotis 1912 m. Naujoje Anglijoje. 1913 m. Amerikos Lietuvių R. K. Federacijos kongrese Pittsburgėje jaunimo organizavimo idėja rado pritarimą ir gavo naują vardą - Lietuvos Vyčiai. Taip pasivadinti pasiūlė kun. Antanas Kaupas, tuo metu buvęs "Draugo" redaktorius ir miręs Chicagoy tais pačiais metais spalio mėn.

Džiugu yra konstatuoti, kad ši mūsų jaunimo organizacija ligi pat šiol išsilaikė gyva ir veiksminga, kuomet daugelis kitų lietuvių jaunimo sąjūdžių likvidavosi.

Penkiasdešimt penkeri metai išėivijos gyvenime ir veikloje yra ilgokas laikas. Ir per tą visą laiką mūsų vyčiai buvo veiklūs, nes jie ir savo veikla ir gyvenimu, kiek tik galėdami, kiek jų sąlygos leido, vykdė savo globėjo kilnias ir didžias idėjas.

Anot Maironio "Idėjos, jei didžios, nemiršta kaip žmonės"... Bandydami vykdyti, kiek jų jėgos leido, didžiausias religines ir tautines šv. Kazimiero, savo globėjo, idėjas, ir jomis persiėmę, jas išlaikė gyvomis per daugelį metų. Jau kelios Amerikos lietuvių jaunimo kartos perėjo per šią organizaciją. Mainėsi veiklos metodai ir sąlygos, mainėsi tiek centrinės, tiek skyrių vadovybės, tačiau vyčiai išliko ištikimi savo globėjo šv. Kazimiero idėjoms, kurios nemiršta taip, kaip mirė organizacijos kūrėjai, šimtai jos veikėjų, tūkstančiai narių. Katalikiškumo ir lietuviškumo idėja yra didelė, nemirštanti.

Lietuvos vyčiai pasirodė lietuvių išėivijos veiklos ir gyvenimo horizontuose tada, kada jų jaunatviška energija bei dinamizmas buvo labiausiai reikalingas. Jie skubiai organizavosi, kad patys tinkamai pasiruoštų šakotam darbui. Jie steigė jaunimui kursus, dramos ratelius, amatų mokyklėles, bibliotekas, steigė ir išlaikė chorus, jie leido ir tebeleidžia žurnalą "Vytis", lankiusi savo skaytotojus per 53 metus be jokių pertraukų.

Vyčiams teko kovoti su tuo gaivalu, kuris visokiomis priemonėmis bandė atplėšti lietuvių jaunimą nuo Dievo, nuo Bažnyčios.

Pirmojo Pasaulinio karo metu ir vėliau, buvo išsirikiavę dirbti Lietuvos nuo karo nukentėjusių žmo-

nių šalpai ir Lietuvos išlaisvinimui. Jie uoliai rinko aukas ir patys aukojė. Jie buvo labai veiklūs Tautos Fonde ir Amerikos Lietuvių tarybos pastangose. Pasibaigus karui, visa vyčių eilė vyko į Lietuvą stoti į kariuomenę, kad drauge su Lietuvos jaunimu gintų beatsikūriantią laisvą ir nepriklausomą valstybę.

Su ypatingu pasitenkinimu tenka pabrėžti, kad ir dabartiniuose vyčių organizacijos nariuose ir vaduose nėra išblėses lietuviškas patriotizmas. Ir šiaudien jie jungiasi į visus tuos darbus, kurie yra dirbami Lietuvai išlaisvinti iš žiauraus ateistinio komunizmo vergijos. Jų įnašas į šias mūsų tautos pastangas tikrai nėra menkas. Tarp kitko, vyčiai kasmet parašo tūkstančius laiškų laikraščiams ir žurnalams, informuodami jų skaitytojus apie Sovietų Rusijos okupuotosios Lietuvos dabartinę būti ir keldami jos išlaisvinimo reikalus. Rašo ir Amerikos valstybininkams bei politikams prašant remti lietuvių tautos pastangas išsilaivinti. Taip pat veiksmingai dalyvauja tiek Alto, tiek Balfo veikloje.

Tenka sveikinti vyčius ir už įvedimą gražios tradicijos - kasmet iškilmingai švėsti savo organizacijos ir visos mūsų tautos globėjo šv. Kazimiero šventę. Kur tik yra Lietuvos vyčių skyriai bei apskritys, ten yra surengtos specialios pamaldos šv. Kazimiero garbei ir atitinkami parengimai salėse. Illinois-Indiana apskritis šv. Kazimiero šventę iškilmingai minėjo Chicagoy šv. Panelės Nekalto Prasiėėjimo bažnyčioj 10 val. Reikia manyti, kad ši šventė šiemet ypatingai iškilmingai buvo vyčių švenčiama, nes tai yra jų sukaktuviniai metai, o mums visiems Lietuvos nepriklausomybės atkūrimo auktinis jubiliejus ir Laisvės kovos metai. Prašykime šv. Kazimiero globos ir tolimesniems mūsų žygiams už liasvą Lietuvą!

L. Šimutis



# Honorary Membership

MARY L. LUCAS - DAYTON, OHIO

Sponsored for Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania by the Mid-Central District.

1. Charter Member of Council 96 since 1932
2. Received the Fourth Degree in August 1959
3. Supreme Council Activities:
  - A- First Vice-President, Term 1958-1959
  - B- National Convention Secretary (Los Angeles), 1958
  - C- Member of Mandate Committees, Nat'l. Conventions 1963 & 1936
  - D- Member of Resolutions Committee, Nat'l. Convention 1966
  - E- Author of Juniors Guidebook, approved by Nat'l. Convention in Philadelphia 1959
  - F- Moderator of Panel Discussion on Juniors at Nat'l. Conv. 1959
4. Mid-Central District Activities:
  - A- District President, Term 1952-1953
  - B- District Secretary, Terms 1950-51, 51-52, 57-58, 58-59
  - C- District Cultural Chairman, Terms 1959-1960, 60-61, 61-62
  - D- District Delegate to National Convention, 1951
5. Council 96 Activities:
  - A- Council President, Years 1959 and 1960
  - B- Recording Secretary, Years 1935 thru 1940, 1953, 1957, 1961
  - C- Nat'l. Convention Planning Committee member, 1936
  - D- Delegate to Nat'l. Conventions of 1936, 37, 38, 56, 57, 58, 59, 61, 63, 64, 66
  - E- Trustee, Years 1941, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 58
  - F- Building Fund Trustee, 1949
  - G- Organized Folk Dance Group, 1960
  - H- Aided in Re-organization of C-96 Juniors, 1955
  - I - First Vice-President, 1955
  - J- Social Chairman for Years 1953, 56, 57, 58, 68
  - K- Chairman of C-96 Silver Anniversary Celebration, 1956
  - L- Representative to Council of Lithuanian R.C. Societies
  - M- Delegate to District Conventions of 1950, 51, 53, 57, 58, 60, 65
  - N- Vytis Correspondent, 1936, 37, 51, 58
  - O- Juniors Advisor, 1958
  - P- Co-Chairman of National Convention Planning Committee, 1951
  - Q- District Convention Chairman, 1959
  - R- Cultural Chairman, 1965, 66, 67, 68
  - S- Represented C-96 at Dedication of Our Lady of Siluva Shrine in Washington, D.C.
  - T- General Chairman of National Convention Committee, 1967
6. Chairman of the following working committees:
  - A- K of L Drama Circle 1938
  - B- Halloween Party, 1938, 1963
  - C- Mothers Day Parties, 1939, 49, 50, 52, 61
  - D- Socials, 1940, 61, 63, 64
  - E- K of L Committee for Parish Silver Anniversary, 1940
  - F- Folk Festival Foods Chairman, 1949
  - G- Communion Breakfast, 1949, 1955
  - H- Banquet (Dayton-Chicago Get-Together), 1950
  - I - St. Casimirs Day Celebrations, 1950, 57, 58, 61, 66
  - J- Council Christmas Party, 1951, 1952
  - K- Christmas Party for Sunday School Children, 1951
  - L- Annual Picnic-Kitchen Chairman, 1952
  - M- Fall Dinners, 1955, 1956, 1962
  - N- Variety Show, 1956
  - O- Bake Sales, 1958, 59, 60, 64
  - P- May Crowning, 1957, 58
  - Q- Variety Booth at Lithuanian Day Picnics, 1959 thru 1968
  - R- Dance, 1960
  - S- Whink Party, 1960
  - T- Columbus Day Parade - Representing K of L, 1950, 61
  - U- Smorgasboard Dinner, 1963
  - V- Mexican Fiesta, 1963
  - W- Golf Tournament Banquet, 1962
  - X- Lithuanian Independence Day- Foods Chrm., 1962, 63, 64
  - Y- Lithuanian Arts and Crafts Display, 1965
7. Served on the following Committees:
  - Bingo, 1935 & 1938
  - Halloween Party, 1935, 61
  - Membership Campaign, 1936
  - Dances, 1936, 37, 38, 39, 40, 51, 57
  - Outing, 1936





Russels Point Outing, 1937  
 Parents Party, 1937  
 Picnics, 1938, 39, 40  
 Socials, 1938, 39, 57, 61  
 Detroit-Dayton Get-Together, 1938, 39  
 Amateur Nite, 1938  
 Raffle, 1940  
 Communion Breakfast, 1940, 51, 59  
 Helped in organization of Springfield and Cincinnati Councils  
 Annual Picnics, 1949, 50  
 Ritual, 1950  
 Nominating Comm. 1951, 58, 59, 60, 61, 64  
 Lith. Affairs, 1951, 1961  
 New Years Eve Party, 1955  
 Mid-West Bowling Tourn. 1956  
 Real Estate Comm. 1958-61  
 St. Casimir's Day Brkfst.  
 Mothers Day Parties

By-Laws Comm., 1968  
 Conducted Lith. Easter Egg Decorating Classes,  
 4 yrs.

8. Holy Cross Parish Activities:  
 Member of Choir for past 36 years  
 Served as Foods Chrm. for Annual Garden Party for 12 years  
 Member of Parish Council  
 President of Altar-Rosary Society, 5 years  
 Co-Chairman of Parish Golden Jubilee Celebration and Chairman of Jubilee Program Book  
 Represented Lithuanians at many Civic Affairs and Folk Festivals  
 Helped to organize observances of Lith. Independence Day and Captive Nations Week

Also many other committees, works and activities too numerous to mention.

## MEMBERSHIP STANDINGS

(Totals as of 5-10-68)

	<u>% Pd</u>	<u>8/67</u>	<u>5/68</u>		<u>% Pd</u>	<u>8/67</u>	<u>5/68</u>
<u>100 and Over</u>				<u>11 - 29</u>			
79 Detroit	114%	181	206	* 41 Brooklyn	154%	28	43
* 112 Chicago	106%	156	166	90 Kearny	139%	18	25
29 Newark	97%	100	97	134 Cincinnati	117%	18	21
26 Worcester	51%	145	74	139 Detroit	115%	27	31
				78 Lawrence	109%	11	12
				111S Youngstown	106%	17	18
<u>60 - 99</u>				52 Elizabeth	104%	23	24
* 7 Waterbury	103%	96	98	103S Providence	100%	14	14
36 Chicago	91%	74	71	30 Westfield	97%	29	28
96 Dayton	89%	93	83	25 Cleveland	96%	28	27
				10 Athol	95%	21	20
				109 Great Neck	95%	21	20
<u>30 - 59</u>				New York Seniors	80%	25	20
* 100 Amsterdam	103%	37	38	113 Linden	39%	23	9
135 Ansonia	102%	50	51	13 Chicago	37%	12	7
116 So.Worcester	100%	52	52	1 Brockton	36%	19	11
25S Cleveland	98%	40	39				
12 New York	93%	31	29	<u>10 and Under</u>	(No Contest)		
3 Philadelphia	91%	44	41	67 Bayonne	150%	4	6
Chicago Seniors	87%	39	34	61 Paterson	100%	4	4
19 Pittsburgh	79%	39	31	133 Los Angeles	100%	5	5
17 So.Boston	66%	41	27	5 Chicago	70%	10	7
133S Los Angeles	60%	33	18	14 Cicero	60%	10	6
17S So.Boston	59%	32	19	Pittsburgh Seniors	50%	2	1
102 Detroit	35%	41	24	27 Norwood	0%	8	0
				82 Gary	0%	2	0

\* Group Winners

(The next report will be presented at the National Convention)

# OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

## OFFICIAL NEWS

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another year is rapidly drawing to a close and plans are being made by all of us to meet at our annual conclave at Philly. C-3 has a grand program planned and it should not be missed by anyone. After all, in commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Lithuania's Independence where is there a more appropriate place than at the birth place of America's Independence - Philadelphia. All are invited to come and all are welcome!

We of the Supreme Council feel we had a successful year and have accomplished much that you will hear about when we meet. Before the convention, some resolutions will be listed that will be brought up for debate and discussion. Please take action on these resolutions at your council meeting so that you will be prepared to voice your opinion.

See you in Philly!

AL WESEY, Nat'l. President

### RITUAL

Last call to all candidates for the 3rd and 4th Degrees who wished to be installed at the national convention in Philadelphia. If you have not already done so, send your application to the S.C. Ritual Committee at once. (Address inside cover)

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

Our National Financial Secretary Helen Zimmer reminds us that membership dues were due in January 1968. If a new member joins a Council, the dues should be as follows:

\$4.00 if member joins from  
January - March  
3.00 April - June  
2.00 July - September  
1.00 October - December

2.00 Non-Subscribing  
6.00 Couple (First Year)

Dues should be collected for a FULL YEAR. Collection of partial payment adds additional burdens to the Financial Secretaries and the "Vytiš" mailing staff.

Member record sheets and applications for new members are available without charge from the Financial Secretary.

### NOTICE TO DELINQUENT MEMBERS!

Unless the Nat'l Fin. Sec'y. has received your 1968 dues, this will be the LAST issue you will receive of VYTIS.

### MEMBERSHIP DRIVE ENDS

The Drive will officially end on July 10, 1968. All results will be announced and awards presented at the national convention.

### SCHOLARSHIP

Each year at this time, the Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Committee is prepared to forward an Official Announcement, Application and Reference Forms to be used by prospective candidates in your Council for the annual scholarship awards. The necessary forms will be sent directly to each applicant - prospective candidate - whose name will be submitted to our Scholarship Committee.

Please encourage qualified candidates in your Council to apply. The deadline JUNE 30TH, and forms may be obtained from the CHAIRMAN at the address given on page 2. The 11th Annual Scholarship Awards, totalling \$1,000.00 this year, will be announced August 25th, at the 55th National Knights of Lithuania Convention Banquet in Philadelphia, Pa.

Scholarship awards are given as grants for undergraduate or graduate work. Scholarly achievement, K of L organizational activity, and various recommendations, along with financial need are taken into consideration in the selection of scholarship winners.

We urge each Council to support this important Knights of Lithuania project financially. Many Councils urge their members to donate an extra dollar to the Scholarship Fund when paying their annual dues. Others prefer to sponsor an affair, a drawing, or to earmark a percentage of an affair's profit for the Scholarship Fund. Some Councils solicit patrons, businessmen and organizations to donate to our Fund.

All donations to the K of L Scholarship Fund should be forwarded to the Committee Treasurer, Joseph Paulukonis, at the address listed on page 2. He will acknowledge each donation.

We are counting on your assistance in this important Knights of Lithuania endeavor.

Dėkingai ir vytiškai Jūsų,  
Dr. Jack J. Stukas, Chairman



KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA COMMEMORATIVE STAMP. On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Restoration of Lithuania's Independence the Supreme Council issued a commemorative tri-color stamp. Available at \$1.00 per sheet from your council president or Mary Kober, national secretary. Chicago area, from Irene Sankus. Addresses page 2.



RACKING OUR BRAINS TO SEE WHAT WE MISSED . . .

BUT HERE IS WHAT WE HAVE

SO FAR

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1968**

9:00 a.m. Registration  
10:00 a.m. Historical Liberty Walk Tour  
2:30 p.m. Bowling Tournament  
8:00 p.m. Vakaruskos - Hospitality Evening  
St. Casimir's Hall

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 1968**

9:30 a.m. First Session  
11:45 a.m. Mass (Hotel)  
12:30 p.m. Luncheon  
2:00 p.m. Second Session  
8:00 p.m. Moonlight Cruise on the Showboat

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1968**

9:30 a.m. Third Session  
11:45 a.m. Mass (Hotel)  
12:30 p.m. Awards Luncheon  
2:00 p.m. Fourth Session  
7:00 p.m. Seniors' Session  
9:00 p.m. New Officers' Inaugural Ball

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 1968**

10:30 a.m. Mass - St. Casimir's  
(Convention Photo)  
12:00 Noon Brunch - Church Hall  
1:30 p.m. Ceremonies at Independence Hall  
2:30 p.m. Fifth Session  
6:30 p.m. Farewell Banquet

\*\*\*\*\*

**REGISTRATION FEE:** Due to increased costs, we have found it necessary to set the Registration Fee at \$33.00. Included will be bus transportation from the hotel to St. Casimir's on Thursday evening, to the pier on Friday evening, and to church and Independence hall on Sunday.

**EXTRA ACTIVITIES:** Thursday - Historical Liberty Walk. A two and one-half hour tour of the historical spots of our city. Bring a comfortable pair of walking shoes. You won't believe this - the cost of this tour is only 20 CENTS!

Bowling Tournament at Penn Center Bowling Alley in the heart of Philadelphia, Time - 2:30 p.m. Fee: \$2.50

From Thursday to Sunday exhibit of Lithuanian arts, crafts, amber, etc., at the hotel. Books, records etc. also available for purchasing.

Please Make your reservation as early as possible to assure you of accommodations and FREE PARKING.

Girls having Lithuanian costumes and able to bring them are requested to wear them to church Sunday.

\*\*\*\*\*

**BE A "PHILLY PAL" - SUPPORT OUR SOUVENIR JOURNAL!!!**

Full page - \$25.00  
Half page - 15.00  
Quarter page - 8.00  
"Philly Pal" - 2.00

Send your contribution to:

Mrs. Agnes Mickunas  
232 Mountain Street  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19148

**DEADLINE - - JULY 1, 1968**

\*\*\*\*\*

The members of Council 3 are earnestly awaiting August 22 to 25 to host all of you at the Knights of Lithuania 55th National Convention. Don't disappoint us, come in by droves. WE LIKE CROWDS.

DOES ANYONE REMEMBER ??? TUNE: MICHAEL ROW THE BOAT



Vyčiai, Vyčiai klausykit, Aleluia - Į Philly važiuokite, Aleluia  
Billy Penn matysite, Aleluia - Liberty Bell paringisit, Aleluia - Vyčiai, Vyčiai, etc.  
Session time mes dirbsime, Aleluia - In spare time pašoksime, Aleluia - Vyčiai, Vyčiai,  
Juoksim, šoksim, dainuosim, Aleluia - Real good time turėsime, Aleluia - Vyčiai, Vyčiai,  
Lots of things mes turėsime, Aleluia - Boy, oh boy, nemisykit, Aleluia - Vyčiai, Vyčiai, etc.

# LIETUVIŲ TAUTINIS MENAS

## Juostos

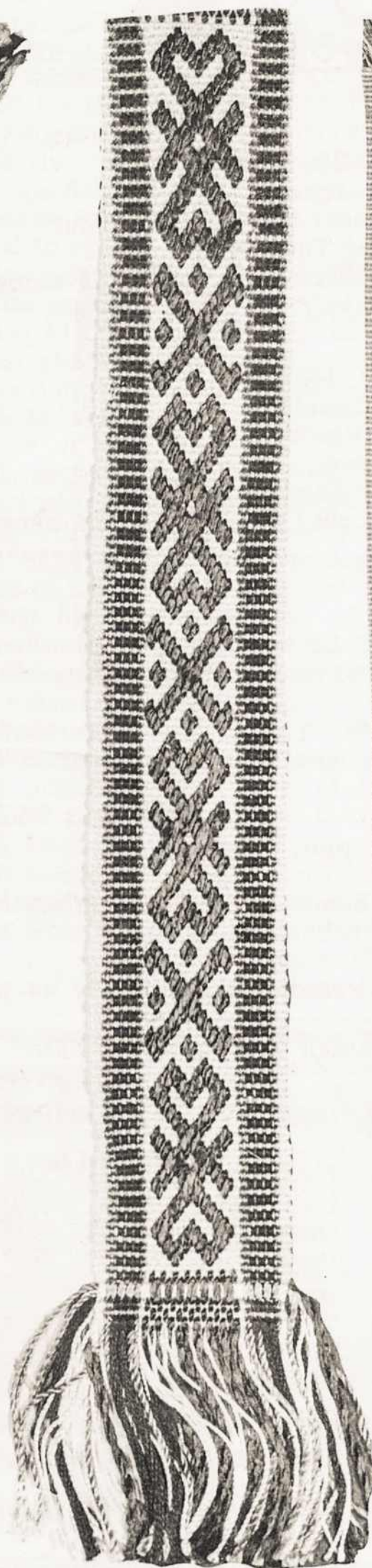
Juostos yra populiariausia lietuvių tautinio meno dalis. Dabar plačiai naudojame juostas įvairiems papuošimams. Jas gali matyti ant pagalvėlių, albumų viršelių, sveikinimuose ir t.t.. Kartais galima jas matyti ir tokiose vietose, kur jos nevisai tinka.

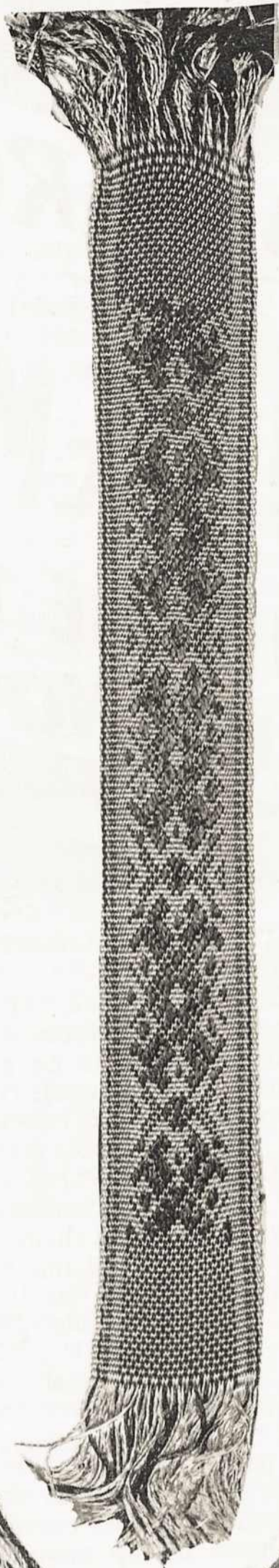
Juostos yra lietuviško apdaro dalis. Daugelis moteriškų kostiumų neapsieina be juostų.

Taip pat ir vyrai naudoja juostas

Kadangi juosta yra labai mažo audžiamo ploto, tad čia labai mažai vietos pasireikšti audėjų išmoningumui. Juostų raštai dažniausiai nesudėtingi. Užtat didelis dėmesys teikiamas spalvų derinimui. Nuo spalvų parinkimo pareina visas juostos grožis.

Nors juostos šiais laikais mažai betyri praktiškos naudos, tačiau daug lietuvių moka juostas austi. Išmokti nėra sunku. Taip pat ir audimo įrankiai labai nesudėtingi. Reikia tik noro ir truputį kantrybės.







Although dues have been pouring in and 25 of our 43 councils are at least 90% paid-up, there is plenty ground to recover before convention time. At last count we were short 265 members compared to last year's total enrollments.

It isn't quite fair to select any one council as the main target. But, present statistics focus attention to what was until recently one of the largest councils. According to dues payments records, Council 26, Worcester, Mass., as of this writing, is only 51% paid and 70 members short of the membership it had last year. That is almost one-fourth of the membership loss we are experiencing presently.

It is obvious that some cooperative efforts toward teamwork within such councils are necessary. In order for the K of L to be a viable organization, every council must enlist the aid of as many members as possible to keep present K of L'ers enrolled.

On a much happier note, congratulations to C-7, Waterbury, Conn., for being the first in its category (60-99 members) to become fully paid. In fact, Waterbury is 103% paid up, meaning a net gain in members.

Do not forget this year's rules. The 1967-68 Membership Drive Special Awards will be presented to councils in each of the following categories for being the first with 100% paid-up membership, or having the largest net gain in membership.

Awards for dues payments and membership will go to councils in each of the following categories: First Category - 11-29 members; 2nd - 30-59 members; 3rd - 60-99 members; and, finally 100 members and over.

Individual credit for enrolling members will be

earned only if the following rules and dates are observed:

TEN points were earned for each new or rejoin member enrolled from August until April 1, 1968.

FIVE points can be gained for each new or rejoin member you enroll from then until July 10, 1968.

Membership totals will be supplied by the National Financial Secretary according to her records as of August 1, 1967. Council awards will be presented for the greatest percentage of per capita increases based on these net gains.

As far as enrolling new members, it is already too late to obtain the 10 points that have been offered. But until July 10th - the final date of the DUES-MEMBERSHIP DRIVES - you can still earn FIVE points for each new or rejoining member.

Because the drive for new members is based on net membership gains, Councils that have reached 100% paid-up are now striving for the membership awards to be given at the next convention. Present standings in dues payments and new enrollments are shown in the membership chart. You can tell how your own council is doing compared with other councils of its size. And, if you are dissatisfied with the progress of your council thus far, do something about it. Don't blame overworked officers. Don't blame inactive members. If you have taken the time to read this - blame yourself. You have not taken the time to assist your own council. If you would have helped, the results would be apparent.

LEON PAUKSTA  
Membership Vice President

# JUNIOR NEWS

## SO. WORCESTER JUNIORS

The Junior Knights of Our Lady of Vilna Parish of So. Worcester, under the guidance of Miss Irene Adamaitis, have been very active this year. They have attended Bowling Roll-offs in Cambridge, Brockton, St. Casimir's in Worcester, and hosted a Roll-off in their own Council clubrooms. They have especially become very friendly with the young people in So. Boston and this has generated a great deal of interest in the K of L, both in So. Boston and in South Worcester, C-116. Our young people rehearsed for several weeks, under the direction of choir director and organist, William Burdulis, in preparation for the Golden Jubilee program of Lithuania's Independence held in Our Lady of Vilna Church Hall late in February. Then a group of Juniors attended our annual St. Casimir's Day Communion Breakfast early in March, and for the first time we had a table set aside expressly for the Juniors. Our Juniors attend-

ing the Junior Rally hosted by So. Boston on Apr. 21, for which they held a Bake Sale to raise money. Father Al also kindly donated \$25.00 for the cause, so that on Junior Rally Day four carloads of Juniors, driven by Anne Miller, Tony Miner, Norbert Juravich, and George Sakalauskas, loaded down with band instruments and Juniors headed for South Boston. All had a wonderful time renewing acquaintances with the youngsters from So. Boston. It was a day filled with all sorts of activity, business, culture, Bible readings, a fine colored film showing scenes of different parts of Lithuania, and then, in true Lithuanian fashion, a hearty meal and piece de resistance, the BAND. C-116 Juniors brought their own three-piece band for entertainment and it really rocked the place - So. Boston will never be the same again. If we can only provide transportation for the young people, we'll have an active Junior Council and that means new

hope and new blood for C-116!  
Ramblina

## DAYTON JUNIORS

School is over for another year. The Juniors wish to congratulate the Eighth Graders who are going to soon join the ranks of the various high schools in the area: Kathy Lavender, Irene Araminas, Christine Sluzas, Joe Cernevicus, John Prasmantas, John Berczelly, and Mark Vaitkus. We wish to congratulate Judy Scott, who teaches Religion to many of the Juniors, and John Petkus, President of the Servers, both of whom are graduating from High School. We had a very successful bake sale and thank everyone who helped. The Juniors also participated in the Easter and May processions. Under the direction of our advisors, Kitty Prasmantas and El-inor Sluzas we are planning an active K of L summer.

Mary Petkus

# Calling ALL JUNIORS

## SUMMER CONFERENCE FOR JUNIORS

K of L CAMP DAINAVA WEEK

AUGUST 11-18

MANCHESTER, MICHIGAN

Under the sponsorship of the Mid-Central District and under the direction of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. 1) Swimming; 2) Religious Instruction; 3) Hiking; 4) Handicraft; 5) Language Classes; 6) Indian Lore; 7) Baseball-Volleyball; 8) Nature Exploration; 9) Folk Dancing; 10) Movies. All this and more during K of L Week at Camp Dainava. For details, additional info and applications, write to Jos. Kazlauskas, 19183 Trinity, Detroit, Mich. 48219. I-I DISTRICT JUNIORS ARE WELCOME!

## JUNIOR CONTEST

"WHAT LITHUANIA MEANS TO A KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA JUNIOR"

### ESSAY CONTEST

1st Prize, \$50.00 U. S. Savings Bond  
2nd Prize, A surprise prize

(Essay may be written in Lithuanian or English)

DEADLINE - AUGUST 1, 1968

Mail to: Stanley Vaitkus, Juniors V-P (Address inside cover)

Be sure to include your name, address and age!

## Iš Sendraugių gyvenimo



K of L Scholarship Fund Raising Smorgasbord-Buffer sponsored by C-17 Senior (Alumni) group of So. Boston. Pictured are council officers and guests.

### SOUTH BOSTON, MASS., C-17 SENIORS NATIONAL K OF L SCHOLARSHIP FUND BENEFITED

The Knights of Lithuania Alumni celebrated its FIRST ANNIVERSARY by sponsoring a Smorgasbord-Buffer on Saturday eve., Apr. 20, 1968 at the Milton Hill House Restaurant, Milton, Mass. Over one hundred attended, including former K of L'ers and friends from Norwood, Cambridge, Providence, R. I., Worcester and Greater Boston.

Program consisted of Introductory talk by Phyllis Grendal, Hon. member; Rev. A. Baltrushunas, pastor of St. Peter's Church; Rev. Albin Janiunas, Spiritual Advisor of N.E.D.; Albert Jaritis, President N.E.D., who spoke on the obligations of the Senior Council to help and guide the Juniors; and the guest speaker, Rev. Albert J. Contons, former National Spiritual Director of K of L, now Professor at St. Sebastian's Prep School in Newton, Mass., who reviewed the past membership of the K of L and spurred the Senior Council members on to be proud of our Lithuanian heritage and keep alive the Knights of Lithuania organization. Longinas Svelnis, National Vice President and Senior Council President was master of ceremonies of the evening. Called for a bow were - Mrs. Madeline Druzdis (Tickets); Mrs. Anna Antanelis (Program Book); Joseph Bernato-

nis, vice pres.; Ann Kleponis, sec'y.; John Norinkavich, fin. sec'y.; Stephen Mickevich, treas.; Albin Neviera, trustee and Ritual chairman; Attorney A. J. Young, Hon. member; John Stoskus, host to the N.E.D. Convention in Providence, R.I.; Dorothy Sinkavitch and Ann Miller of Worcester; Dr. Wm. G. Duserick; Mrs. Gene Razvad, wife of the late Frank Razvad (National Pres.); Mrs. John Mazeika (Adele Masiulis, former C-17 member), wife of the proprietor of the Milton Hill House Restaurant; and John J. Valatka of Quincy, Mass.

The K of L C-17 Flag was on display. Frank Grigas, C-17's fin. sec'y., was the official photographer. Social hour and community singing was enjoyed by all.

Raffle prizes, donated by members Dr. and Mrs. A. L. Kapochy (Coffee Maker) was won by Mary Kleponis; Mrs. Anna Antanelis (Decanter) won by Mrs. Madeline Druzdis; and Al Jakutis, proprietor of Observatory Hill Flower Shop (Center Piece) won by Henry Cepas.

Committee on Arrangements, consisting of Mrs. Madeline Druzdis, Mrs. Anna Antanelis, Phyllis Grendal, Longinas Svelnis, Albert G. Jaritis, Joseph Bernatonis and Adam Druzdis were congratulated by Rev. Anthony Baltrushunas, spiritual advisor of C-17, Seniors, also all in attendance who helped to benefit the National K of L Scholarship Fund.

### DĖMESIO LIETUVOS VYČIŲ SENDRAUGIAI!

Lietuvos Vyčių 55-to seimo rengėjai, Lietuvos Vyčių 3-čioji kuopa nuoširdžiai kviečia Lietuvos Vyčių sendraugius skaitlingai dalyvauti šių metų seime, kuris įvyks rugpiūčio 22-25 dienomis Bellevue Stratford viešbutyje, Broad ir Walnut gatvių, Philadelphia, Penna.

Ypatingai prašome įsimėmėti, kad seimo metu yra skiriamas specialus laikas sendraugiams posėdžiauti, kur numatoma praversti pasitarimus, diskusijas ir pareiškimus, kaip pagyvinti, pajvairinti ir sustiprinti vyčių sendraugių veiklą. Kad šis posėdis būtų naudingas ir vaisingas, svarbu, kad atsilankytų kuo daugiau vyčių sendraugių.

Tad maloniai kviečiame Lietuvos Vyčių sendraugius, nedelsiant pradėti ruoštis dalyvauti Lietuvos Vyčių 55-tame seime Philadelphijoje.

### CLEVELAND, OHIO

#### ŽINELĖS IŠ VYČIŲ SENJORŲ

Balandžio 21 d. svetingųjų Žigmo ir Margaritos Turučių gražiais, plačialapiais medeliais papuoštuose namuose įvyko vyčių senjorų susirinkimas. Nutarimus skaitė M. Trainauskaitė ir finansinius raportus pateikė senjorų finansų vadovės S. Sankalaitė ir M. Tarutienė.

Iš A.L. Tarybos skyriaus pranešimą padarė J. Kuzas, I. Visockas ir S. Sankalaitė, kuri net buvo išrinkta A.L. Tarybos 2-ra vice-pirmininke. Taigi mūsų Stasė Sankalaitė yra jau įsijungusi į plačią lietuvišką, visuomenišką veiklą, būdama L. Vyčių organizacijos centro valdybos ir senjorų vyčių iždininke bei A. L. Tarybos skyriaus 2-ra vice-pirmininke. Sveikiname mūsų Stasę ir linkime jai išvartyti plačią vagą savo pareigoms.

Iš C.L. Kultūros Darželio sąjungos, raportą pateikė J. Sadauskas ir M. Trainauskaitė, kuri yra šios sąjungos finansų raštininkė. Šis darželis yra mūsų tautos istorinis papuošalas - paminklas, kokio nėra visame pasaulyje. Jame stovi mūsų tautos patriarcho dr. Jono Basanavičiaus, mūsų tautos didžiausio dainiaus-poeto Maironio, Lietuvos himno autoriaus dr. V. Kudirkos paminklai, Birutės fontanas, Lietuvos kunigaikščio Gedimino stulpai. Lietuviškas menas puošia šį darželį.

Dar trumpas pranešimėlis buvo padarytas iš L. Vyčių organizacijos centro valdybos paskutinio posėdžio per Stasę Sankalaitę, kuri



kaipo išdininkė tame posėdyje dalyvavo. Iš raporto nariai gavokiek daugiau žinių apie L. Vyčių organizacijos centro valdybos veiklą.



Baigiant susirinkimą, L. Vyčių trečiojo laipsnio ženklą buvo papuošta senjorų vyčių finansų raštininkė Kazimiera Sadauskienė, kuriai šį garbės ženklą prisegė J. Sadauskas, garbės narys ir senjorų vyčių pirmininkas. O J. Sadauskui Stasė Sankalaitė ir Margarita Tarutienė, įteikė Sheaffer's rašomąją plunksną ir pieštuką, senjorų vyčių skirtą dovaną, už jojo nepailstantį, per 45 metus, plunksnos darbą. Tai jau šešta tokia dovana iš L. Vyčių 25-tos kuopos.

Po maldos tuojau ir prasidėjo vaišės, kurias šauniai ir iškiliai buvo paruošusi M. Tarutienė. Visiems besėdint prie stalo, tuojau atvyko namų savininkas Zigmantas Tarutis ir didysis vyčių senjorų draugas kun. Al. Goldikovskis, kuriedu visus svečius pasveikino. Po to prasidėjo tos didžiosios vaišės. Jų metu buvo pagerbti net trys gimtadienininkai - Jurgis Kuzas, Marijona Trainauskaitė ir Juozas Sadauskas. Šiems namų savininkė prisegė po gėlę, o kun. Al. Goldikovskiu padovaujant, visi šių iškilmių dalyviams sugiedojo ilgiausių ir laimingiausių metų.

Šio susirinkimo dalyviai, mieliems namų savininkams - Z. ir M. Taručiams, reiškia nuoširdžiausią vytišką ačiū už jų parodytą tokį svetingą ir malonų visų priėmimą, kuris ilgai pasiliks šio susirinkimo dalyvių širdyse.

Norisi dar čia pažymėti, kad vyčiai senjorai pasiuntė pasveikinimą muz. Juozui Olišauskui, jam minint savo 75 metų gimtadienį, nes Clevelando lietuvių visuomenė ir kartu L. Vyčiai dar vis prisimena jojo gražų dainavimą ir jausmingą kanklių skambinimą.

Senelis

## CHICAGOS SENDRAUGIAI VYČIAI

Balandžio 16 dieną Chicagos sendraugių kuopa vyčių namuose turėjo mėnesinį kuopos narių susirinkimą, kuriame pagerbė ilgametį vyčių darbininką A. Petrulį. Po to, susirinkimas išklaušė Pov. Dirčio paskaitos "Velykų reikšmė Kristui prisikėlus" ir padarė vieną kitą nutarimą: lapkričio mėnesyje suruošti pagerbimą vyčių, kurie yra nusipelnę savo darbais ir aukomis vyčiams. Antra - kiekviename susirinkime supažindinti narius su spaudoje tilpusiais atsiliepimais apie vyčių darbuotę. Trečia - suruošti gegužės mėnesį išvyką į gamtą, kurioje laiką praleisti su kultūrinio turinio paskaitėle ir pokalbiais. Išvyką paskaitinti pavesta kuopos valdybai. Šis susirinkimą pravedė vice-pirmininkas Aleksas Buris ir Ona Aleliūnienė - sekretorė.

Tuo pačiu laiku ir toje pačioje patalpoje savo susirinkimą turėjo 112 vyčių kuopa, kurios pirmininkas pakvietė sendraugių kuopos susirinkimo dalyvius valandžiukę su jais pabendrauti prie puoduko kavutės. Pakvietimas mielai buvo priimtas ir tuojaus buvo išitraukta į bendrą bendravimą.



## NETEKUS ANTANO PETRULIO

Negailestinga mirtis balandžio mėn. 9 dienos ankstyvą rytą Veteranų ligoninėje pasiėmė iš gyvųjų tarpo vieną iš veikliausių ir seniausių vyčių organizatorių, veikėjų ir rėmėjų a.a. pirmūną Antaną Petrulį, kuris dar buvo uolus ir aktyvus narys Dariaus-Girėno posto ir Katalikų Susivienijimo bei karštas rėmėjas Vadavimo institucijų.

Velionis buvo gimęs 1894 m. Gakunų kaime, buv. Stubiškių valsč., Panevėžio apskr. Į JAV atvyko iš Lietuvos 1913 metais. Į vyčius įsirašė 1914 metais, būda-

mas kuopų organizatorium, kuopų sekretorium, išdininku ir choro nariu. 1914 m. pabaigoje buvo pašauktas į JAV kariuomenę, kurioje išbuvo virš dviejų metų Prancūzijos fronte ties Verdunu, iš kur kaipo kontuzintas buvo iš kariuomenės atleistas. Grįžęs į Chicago ir fiziniai pasveikęs vėl įstojo į pamiltą vyčių organizaciją, kurioje išbuvo iki mirties. Atseit velionis A. Petrulis JAV išgyveno 55 metus ir tiek pat laiko išbuvo Lietuvos Vyčių eilėse, globodamas vyčių namus. Jo palaikai buvo pašavoti P. Beliūno laidojimo koplyčioje, kurioje balandžio 12-tos vakare su juo buvo atsisveikinta. Vyčių dvasios vadai: kun. Savukynas ir kan. Juknevičius atkalbėjo rožinius, vyčių veikėjai: Pov. Dirkis, Ig. Sakalas ir Paliulionis pasakė atsisveikinimo griaudingas ir reikšmingas kalbas, vyčių choro dalyviai sugiedojo "Marija, Marija" ir "Angelas Dievo". Po to kariškomis apeigomis velionį atsisveikino Dariaus-Girėno komanda iš 15 vyrų. (Ji ir kapinėse dalyvavo, nes Petrulis buvo I p. karo veteranas ir posto narys.) Balandžio 13 dieną A. Petrulio karsatas buvo iš koplyčios įneštas į

Nekalto Pras. Mergelės Marijos bažnyčią trumpam laikui, o iš ten palydėtas į amžino poilsio vietą - šv. Kazimiero kapines.

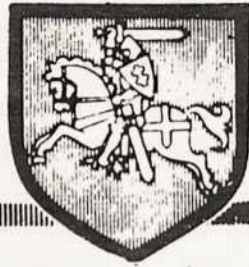
Už velionies sielą gedulingos mišios buvo atnašautos balandžio 15 d. Nekalto pras. Mergelės Marijos bažnyčioje su pamokslu, kurį pasakė 36-tos kuopos dvasios vadovas kan. Juknevičius.

Velionis buvo sukūręs grynai lietuvišką šeimą. Jis buvo vedęs Kazimierą Zubaučiutę. Augino sūnų Alfonsą, kurį išmokslino ir apveddino su čia gimusia lietuvaite. Be to turėjo anukių. Viena iš jų jau yra lituanistinės mokyklos mokinė. Iš to aišku, kad velionis buvo tikras šeimos inkaras, kuris ją traukė tikru lietuvišku keliu. Jo liūdi ne tik žmona, sūnus, anūkės ir artimieji, bet visos organizacijos, kurių jis buvo nariu ir atstovu, o ypač liūdi vyčiai, kurių velionis buvo didžiausiu globėju ir rėmėju.

Tegul būna lengva Amerikos žemė, kad ir svetima, bet svetinga, kuri priglaudė jo palaikus amžiams, o Dievas tegul laimina jo sielą. Ilsėkis ramybėje didis vyti ir Amerikos karžygi!

Povilas Dirkis

# VYČIAI VEIKIA



# COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

## MID - CENTRAL DISTRICT

DAYTON, OHIO, C-96 Alesei

Vacations, picnics and beautiful weddings! June initiates these summer events and our members are diligently planning for the family picnic, June 9th at K of L picnic June 22nd at Intract Park. June is the special month in which we honor our Fathers both living and dead. Some of our members have already enjoyed their vacations while others are still in the planning stage. Looking very rested are the Miller girls on their return from Florida. Pat Zelinskas is commenting on the beauty of the scenery in the West and visiting Dayton from Grand Rapids were the Boekes and from Cleveland, Pat Korosec. Welcome to Mr. & Mrs. Baskis who have arrived from New York to make their home in Dayton with their daughter and son-in-law, Fran & Mike Petkus. We were sorry that Dave Petroski left our wonderful City but are happy that he continues to be a member and hopes to see us in "Philly". C-96 welcomes John Monas, a new member. Many congratulations are in order. A very Happy Birthday to our Spiritual Ad-

visor, Fr. Narbutas who celebrated his birthday in May. To Mary Agnes, daughter of Frances and George Mikalauskas who had the most important day of her life, receiving Holy Communion. May you always remember this day, Mary Agnes and continue to receive Holy Communion often during your entire life. To Mary Lucas and Stan Vaitkus, who will receive their Honorary Degrees at the Nat'l. convention. Two most deserving people! We're proud of you. To Carol Noreikas, daughter of Joe and Bea Noreikas on her engagement. She is planning an August wedding. To Robert and Linda Omlor on the birth of a beautiful baby girl and to Ernie and Veronica Omlor the proud Grandparents. To Judy Scott and John Petkus, our Graduates. Remember Judy and John the saying; "The world steps aside to let any man pass if he knows where he's going", so may you both be successful in whatever you decide to do! Our sympathy to the Goldick and Scott family on the death of their mother, Anna Goldick. Keep in mind that June is also the month of the Sacred Heart. Find a place in your home and in your hearts for the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

## NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY DISTRICT

NEW YORK, N.Y., C-12

Our sincere condolences to Al Monckawitch, whose mother passed away in December - and to the family of Helen Kolek who died after a brief illness while on temporary duty in Florida. Please remember them in your prayers.

Much happiness to Irene and Ed Senken who were blessed with an addition to their fine family on Jan. 16. They've named him Paul. Because of a conflict in dates with Our Council held our Annual Mass and Communion Breakfast on Mar. 10.

Congratulations to our former President, Vincent Yatkauskas, who was recently married. Vinnie was always "Santa" during our Christmas parties; hope he won't forget us. Helen and Vinnie Cuprewich and family basked in the Florida sunshine. Our Financial Secretary and Treasurer, Steve Montvidas, is not only busy with K of L records, but is attending Community College four evenings a week. It's the busy one who gets busier.

Happy 15th Anniversary greetings to Betty and Leon Waskiewicz



DAYTON'S 50th Anniversary of Lithuania's Independence program held at Feb. 18. Pictured: Rev. Gintautas J. Sabataitis, S.J., guest speaker, Father Titus Narbutas, Mrs. George Barmann and Stanley Vaitkus. (The above photo appeared in the May issue with an incomplete caption. Our apologies)



Surrounded by sandbags in Bien Hoa, Vietnam is William Byville, son of Mr. & Mrs. Emil Byville of C-79. With Private Bill (left) are Jack Leonard and T.V. star Bob Denver (Gilligan) who was on a USO tour.

who celebrated on Betty's birthday, Jan. 31, and to Evelyn and John Bell who commemorated their 16th Anniversary on John's birthday, Feb. 24. Emily and Al Yatkaukas had another Anniversary on Jan. 16 and our President, Joe Sleder, was a year older in Mar.



At C-3's Communion Breakfast, in honor of having received their Fourth Degree in Dayton, Ohio this past August, Irene Svekla

was awarded a beautiful wood carved chapel of the "Rupintojėlis" and Walter Svekla with a large wood carving of the Vytis.

NEWARK, N.J., C-29

C-29 worked very hard to make the March 10th District's Annual Commemoration in honor of St. Casimir a memorable and interesting day for all who attended. Our hard working cooks, Mary Balchunas, Rose Yankauskas, and Julia Strolis, noted for their talents.

At our Council Meeting on Feb. 20, we were visited by our District President, Lary Janonis, who gave us a needed pep talk.

Frank Vaskas has been traveling again. He attended Supreme Council Meetings held in Chicago and in Philadelphia. Frank was recently pleasantly surprised, having received a very nice letter from the Honorable Thomas G. Dunn, Mayor of Elizabeth, N.J., making him an Honorary Member of Mayor Dunn's Public Relations Staff for 1968. Congratulations, Frank! He has also been doing an

excellent job on the Lithuanian Affairs Committee. As of this writing, since August, he states he has written 215 letters. Can YOU top this?

Belated birthday greetings to Julia Strolis, the energetic wife of our President, who blew out a few candles on Feb. 16th.

On Feb. 11, the Lithuanian American Council of New Jersey, the President of which is our Council Member, Valentinas Melinis, sponsored a Day of Prayer for the Church of Silence in Lithuania on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Restoration of Lithuanian Independence. High Mass was held at the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Newark, N.J. celebrated by His Excellency, Bishop Vincentas Brizgys, exiled Bishop of Kaunas, Lithuania. Con-celebrants were one priest from each Lithuanian parish in the Archdiocese of Newark. During the Mass, our well known Lithuanian-American Veterans and Ladies Auxiliary participated with their colors - as they always do for all Lithuanian occasions.

DEAR EDITORS:

I am writing to express my opinion in regard to the article "Accepted by Marriage" by A. Wesey. As a member of the K of L for the past ten years, I feel that the views Mr. Wesey expressed are more detrimental to the organization than they are beneficial.

First, I wish to disagree with Mr. Wesey that the K of L is enveloped in a selfish shell. Quite a few Councils participate in civic, cultural and social activities that are not necessarily or solely Lithuanian. At our National Convention we honor non-Lithuanians and even present an award to some outstanding person for his work.

I was led to believe that the Knights of Lithuania was founded as a Catholic Organization to keep the Lithuanian culture and language alive. How can a non-Lithuanian contribute to this premise. First, he in order to become a true and contributing member must feel sympathetic to the lost freedom of Lithuania. Second, he would have to throw off his former culture or heritage be it, Italian, Irish, German and adopt Lithuanism. It is my understanding that if we denounced our Lithuanian heritage that we were automatically released from the organization. Now how, can a person who has given up his birthright be considered for membership in the Knights of Lithuania.

I wonder if all this time and effort is worth a complete re-evaluation of the organization, which of course would mean a change in the philosophy. All this just to prove to others that the Knights of Lithuania is modern, integrated and a generous organization.

A very concerned Member



PHILADELPHIA, PA. (Upper photo) Supreme Council meets with C-3 as hosts. (Lower photo) C-3's St. Casimir's Communion Brunch. (Photo - Ozalis)

Greetings were conveyed by Archbishop Thomas A. Boland of Newark. Hymns during Mass were sung by the combined choirs of the Lithuanian parishes and the Rūta Lithuanian Ensemble. Soloist was Louis Stukas. Music was under the direction of Algirdas Kacanauskas and Vincas Mamaitis. Organist was Albinas Prizgintas. Our Council Member, Casimir Yakavonis, presented the gifts during Mass. Following Mass, the Golden Jubilee Banquet and Ball was held at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark. Master of Ceremonies was Prof. Dr. Jack J. Stukas. Many of our Council members were on the "working" committee: Loretta Stukas, Mary Stonis, Louis Stukas, Algirdas Kacanauskas, Eva Sharon, Eva Trečiokas, Kazys Sipaila, Isabelle Dilis, Helen Radisch, Frank Vaskas and Grace Yakavonis. Our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Peter Totoraitis intoned the Invocation. It was a very successful affair, and it was nice to see in attendance our District President, Larry Janonis and his charming wife, Jeanne, as well as many other K of L members from other councils.

#### ELIZABETH, N.J., C-52

If you read about a volcano erupting in Hawaii, don't get alarmed. It's only Pete Kasilionis christening a volcano in the name of the K of L - C-52. Pete spent a two-weeks vacation there - among the pineapples, coconuts, and the hula hula girls.

Our Council celebrated St. Casimir's Feast Day on Sun. Mar. 3. Members and guests received at the 9:00 a.m. Mass; breakfast followed in the Parish Hall. Former members attended. Mr. Valenti-

nas Melinis, President of the New Jersey Lithuanian American Council, was our guest speaker for the affair.

Mrs. Frances Milewski, a real Financial Secretary, is getting after the members for their dues any time, any place she sees them. Sometimes they run - but she manages to catch them. Charles Surplus is a good salesman, especially with the girls. He sold a ticket to one young lady, and now he seems to have cornered the market with the female sex. Vincent Mackelis will be leaving again for the high seas shortly. A few of our members are planning a trip to Hawaii to visit a former council member, Lillian (McKean) Garby. The lucky travelers will be Charlie Oskutis, Norbey Wysocki, Charles Cheponis, and our adopted Lithuanians, Ronnie and Buffy Deckerauskas and Juozas Pazaskas. Our President Edward Sharkus, Daniel Degutis and members are keeping busy between bowling, selling 50-50 ballots, attending meetings, conventions and parish socials, planning vacations, going to dances in town, etc., etc. Bill Senkus, a proud father, was seen taking pictures of his son's Boy Scout troop exhibit, which won an award. It was displayed in Uncle Charlie Oskutis' store.

Our parish and council were well represented at the 50th Anniversary of the Restoration of Lithuanian Independence Day Mass. Our Pastor and reorganizer of our present council, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael G. Kemezis was the speaker and gave an outstanding sermon both in Lithuanian and in English. Our assistants, Rev. Joseph Pragulbickas, Rev. Vladas Karalevicius and Rev. Vincent Svirnelis all

participated as concelebrants. Mrs. Irene Veblaitis was Narrator for the Cultural Program. Some of our parish children took part in the Lithuanian folk dancing. Our council was represented by Mary Motecus, Ann Baronas, Lorraine Staboris, and our important Council Photographer, Stanley Valatka, who also made a recording of the day's activities. Our Sisters of the Parish, Mrs. Joseph Matuza, Mrs. Joseph Degutis, Mrs. Joseph Szczepanski, and many other parishioners donated their voices to the "Church of Silence" and the success of this "Tribute to Lithuania" of which we are all proud to be members. "Lai gyvuoja Lietuva visada!"

#### AMSTERDAM, N.Y., C-100 Smile and Sparkle

Val Kerbelis of Kerbelis Insurance and Travel Agency was the guest speaker at our annual Communion Brunch which was held at the Sleepy Dutchman on Mar. 3. We saw the film "Wings to Hawaii". Our president, Don Nikstenas, was M-C.

A birthday cake was presented to Sandra Baranauskas, daughter of Ed and Eleanore, who was celebrating her 16th birthday.

The April meeting was held at St. Casimir's rectory. Rev. Robert K. Baltch opened the session with a prayer. In the absence of the President Donald Nikstenas, the business matters on hand were conducted by the V-P Genevieve Gobis. The council members voted to donate \$10.00 towards the national scholarship fund. The annual summer outing - tentative date chosen is June 30, the location - Dr. and Mrs. Adam Kindar's summer home in Lake Galway.

Slides and movies were shown by Rev. Robert K. Baltch. Scenes of Washington, D.C., various ski resorts, folk dances performed by the children of St. Casimir's School were included in the showing.

NEWS BITS. . . Birthday greetings were extended to Ann Radzevich at the April meeting. Pauline Urban celebrated hers on April 26. Gene Gobis was sponsor for Natalie Novak (daughter of Anthony and Edna Novak) on April 2. Who should be one of the visiting clergy for the ceremony but Rev. John Jutt, Worcester, Mass! He and Gene and Prof. Olsauskas got together and had a nice chat.



NY-NJ District's St. Casimir's Day Commemoration. Left: 3rd Degree recipients with Ritual Team members. Right: Guest speaker, Rev. Pindar of Seton Hall Univ. receives gift from Loretta Stukas.

### GREAT NECK, L.I., N.Y., C-109

Our Christmas Party was held at the Bali-Hi in Northport, L.I. With the Hawaiian atmosphere, and the hula girls dancing to the soothing music of the bongo drums, many forgot just what we were celebrating. Joan Haughey and Bill Bernatovich, our confirmed bachelor (apparently that was only our presumption!) were married on Feb. 11. Much happiness!

Imagine Ann Marten's excitement when she traveled to Philadelphia to witness the mens' figure-skating finals, and her cousin, John Petkevich, scored third and earned a place on the Olympic team. Wow! This 19-year old (who has a Lithuanian dad and French mother) came in sixth in Grenoble, France, and NOW we'll be waiting for the 1972 Olympics. Just remember the name. Starcy and Al Wesey have just returned from their California vacation - having visited with Star's two sisters who reside in that sunny state. Mary and Tony Kober recently attended the American Association of School Administrators Convention in Atlantic City, N.J. The Picardi's celebrated their 15th Anniversary on May 3. Lou Ann and Phil Rutha will also have another Anniversary on May 8th. Congratulations!

A very Happy Birthday to our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Frank Bulovas, whose birthday was April 21st.

### LINDEN, N.J., C-113

Our Christmas Party was rather belated, having been celebrated on Feb. 11 at Sleepy Hollow. Approximately twenty members attended and it was certainly enjoyed by all.

This is the season for Florida vacations. Adele Leraitis has just returned from a three-week vacation in Florida and John Tratulis soaked up that nice, warm sunshine. Joe Krotulis has been in Florida for the winter and will return soon.

Belated birthday greetings to Mary Pribush who celebrated on Jan. 24. Congratulations, too, to Mary and Andy Yorke who celebrated their 29th Anniversary on Feb. 19.

We have very little news to relate since our meetings have been poorly attended. We hope

the cause has been the cold weather (but not that we're too old to go out into it!). We look forward to renewed interest, some new faces as well as our "old faithfuls" at the next council meeting. We need your ideas so that we may plan activities of interest to all members. The warmer weather will soon be here; let's shift into high gear. Come on down!

### ILLINOIS - INDIANA DISTRICT

#### I-I DISTRICT "Taitytė"

There are only a few weeks left, for those who aspire to acquire titles and move in "Royal" circles, to brush up on kugelis baking and vie for the title of "Kugelis Queen" or "Kugelis King" at the July 4th Picnic. At 3:00 P.M. on the 4th, expert judges will taste, test and award trophies to three winners.

On the same day, between 4:00 and 8:00 P.M., trophies and titles will be given to the King and Queen of the Tango, the Waltz and the Polka, so everybody don the dancing slippers, warm up the phono and practice. In fact, a good time to "warm up" would be Wednesday evening, July 3rd, when our two-day festivities will officially begin.

There will be plenty of other treats in store for all who come to the K of L Building and Gardens July 3rd and/or July 4th. The "šeimininkės" will have plenty of taste buds teasers in the kitchen for all who come hungry or will work up an appetite later. There will be prize booths for all who would like to try their luck and bring home prizes as mementos of the affair. For the youngsters, the District Juniors will also have a game booth with plenty of prizes to please the young hearts. And, of course, there will be merriment aplenty because this is one of the favorite events for so many of the Chicago area Lithuanians to get together annually.

It is at affairs like this and the many social functions hosted by the individual councils that the membership chairmen can have a field day bringing prospects into our K of L fold. Council 36 is in there pitching but C-112 and especially Al Dagis deserve congratulations for again winning first place in the large council category dues



Robert Novak (C-41) was awarded 1st Place in his category at the recent Lithuanian Philatelic Society Exhibit. (Photo - A. Raubiskis)

drive. With three or four times as many dues to collect as some of the average councils have, it takes special interest, determination and a lot of hard work to earn this award. And though he is not in our District, we should congratulate another go-getter, Joe Chaps, for his efforts, and others in C-79, in helping the council reach the 200 total membership goal. If the "maxi" councils can do such an exemplary job, just think how much our organization would increase and prosper with a little cooperative effort on the part of our "midi" and "mini" councils.

There were two days in May when our members gathered, with heavy and sorrowful hearts. One was the May 5th Mass in remembrance of the fifth anniversary of the death of Rita Gorb. The Mass was sung by the K of L Choir at the Our Lady of Vilna Church, with Father John Savukynas, Pastor, officiating and was attended by the many, many members who offered prayers for Rita, who died tragically in an auto accident Apr. 29, 1963 at the age of 27. Rita will always be fondly remembered by those of us who were fortunate to have known this happy-go-lucky K of L'er. Our sincerest expressions of sorrow are extended to her mother, Elizabeth Gorb, and other members of her family.

Just a few days later, May 9th, the members met at the funeral chapel to pay their last respects to Alfonsas Plienaitis, member of C-36, for many years with the K of L Choir and the Building Trustees and a man who was one

of the first of the Lithuanian newcomers to join our K of L Choir. Alfonsas left our midst May 7th, at the age of 54, after a brief illness and he also left behind many fond memories of his ever pleasant personality and service to the K of L which could especially be seen in the various improvements to our building - part of his carpentry and woodworking talents. May we express our heartfelt sorrow to his mother Ona, his brother John and other relatives.

CHICAGO, ILL., C-112 Slim

We are very happy to make the engagement announcement of Lorraine Wainauskas and Frank Svelnis of C-36. Good luck, best wishes and congratulations to you both.

Our council had its quarterly Communion Sunday, May 5, in conjunction with the fifth year anniversary mass of Rita Gorb at our Lady of Vilna Church. Afterwards there was a brunch in the Knights of Lithuania Hall, compliments of Mrs. Gorb, Rita's mother.

May 17 our council members held a brush up practice, for the Detroit Tournament, at Woodmac Lanes.

On June 15 our council is presenting a "Night in Heidelberg" in the Knights of Lithuania Gardens. We will be featuring Anthony Geiselhart's International Orchestra. The ladies of our board will be dressed in German costumes to add to the atmosphere of the evening and the men will be serving beer in mugs with a friendly German smile. So don't miss it.

## NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

WORCESTER, MASS., C-26

Dzūkelė

Time between National Conventions seems to have dwindled in this age of dizzying speed, jets and space. The eternal convention questions that are always accented about this time of year is being asked with increasing crescendo. Boil it down, spin it around, look at it from any point: there's a great deal of interest in a National Convention. So, we'll see you there - Philadelphia 1968!

Our council is faithful to its parish, St. Casimir's. Lately, parish affairs have taken on the ap-

## COUNCIL CORRESPONDENTS

Deadline for the August-September (Pre-Convention) issue will be JULY 5th! The October 1968 issue will feature the 55th National Convention. No council news or other articles will appear. Please hold your articles until the November issue. Deadline, October 5th.

pearance of council affairs. The Bishop's Fund, moderator Father Jutt, chairman Charles Tagman, Sr., found so very many K of L's participating. And then, when Father Jutt held a "Tribute to Volunteers" banquet for the parish workers of the Bishop Fund, again there were in attendance many, many K of L's.

The annual Mother's Day Communion Breakfast was held with an excellent attendance. Each of us knew in his heart that he was blessed with a wonderful mother and that mother, whether living or dead, was remembered in a special way.

Our annual May Dance held May 17th at Maironis Park in Shrewsbury gave old friends an opportunity to reminisce about happy times in the K of L, and haven't there been many happy times to recall!

**KNIGHT NOTES:** It takes a discerning eye to tell one golfer on the course from another, but it certainly seems that the good weather has "forced" Bill Grigas and Steve Walinsky out on the green. Their wives, Carol and Ellie, are certainly gracious and understanding ladies... Betty Riddick will graduate this June from Worcester State College. Betty will be teacher number two in her family. Her sister, a former secretary of C-26, is a teaching nun in the order of Sisters of St. Casimir, Sister M. Joyce... Olga Kersis was recently awarded a 1000 hour pin by the bishop for her services at St. Vincent Hospital... Rita Pinkus was to have attended this volunteer event, but alas and alack, she had just been discharged from that very same hospital and was still recuperating at home. She looks so well now, and that's good news... To hear Janet Ginkus read the monthly Lithuanian Affairs articles is indeed a treat... Pauline Yanusis advises that she hasn't tired of accepting dues, so see her anytime...

Jack Mattrick, our president, a new father himself, wishes to con-

gratulate all fathers, and in behalf of our entire council, warm and sincere congratulations go out to each father on the occasion of Father's Day.

**IN MEMORIAM:** It is our sad duty to advise you of the passing of one of our members, Raymond Vasys, age 20, who passed away at St. Vincent Hospital on Fri., Apr. 26. He leaves in sorrow his parents, sister, brothers, and other relatives. His grand uncle is the Very Rev. Msgr. Konstantine Vasys of Our Lady of Vilna Church here in Worcester. Raymond was born in Germany, and was currently employed as a research assistant at the Worcester State Hospital. He was active in several Lithuanian organizations, and was an expert bowler in our council. C-26 gathered at the Dirsas Funeral Home to recite the Rosary and still we cannot seem to comprehend that Raymond will no longer be among us. We will miss him very much. We beg the prayers of all for his soul, and for his family that they may have the strength to carry this sorrow.

SO. WORCESTER, MASS., C-116  
Ramblina

Sat. night, Apr. 27, was an auspicious night for C-116, for at Maironis Park in shrewsbury the Council celebrated the 55th anniversary of the K of L organization, the 40th anniversary of C-116 and the 20th anniversary of the Council's monthly newspaper THE EQUESTRIAN. The 20 years the Council has been publishing its own newspaper is quite a milestone in the annals of the K of L, for we feel there are probably no other councils in the entire organization who have been publishing a newspaper every month continuously for the past 20 years. The present editor, Mrs. John Adamaitis, with the help of her co-editor, Miss Irene Adamaitis, spent a great deal of time and thought on the 20th anniversary issue. They sincerely hope everyone enjoyed the issue. Father Al,

our spiritual advisor, who has been so good about submitting copy every month either in person, by mail, or by carrier pigeon, came to our party, as did Father John Jutt, pastor of St. Casimir's, who was, as Tony Miner, put it, the "godfather" of THE EQUESTRIAN. Father Jutt, Tony Miner and Antonia Wackell submitted copy for the anniversary issue. Also, the president of C-26 sent us greetings, which pleased us very much. Charlie Lapinskas did the cover for us and ran off the paper on the mimeograph and Joan Adamaitis of the Juniors did the art work for us. Dot March covered the bowling news.

The meal was simply delicious at Maironis Park and the event was topped off with a beautifully-decorated Birthday Cake, candles blown out by Miss Irene Adamaitis - it was a gay, festive, happy occasion and the members had a wonderful time. Some of those in attendance were Rita and Robert Paluses, who had been editors of the EQUESTRIAN, Millie and Charlie Lapinskas, who also had edited the EQUESTRIAN in the past, John and Ann Yurkenas - John is chairman of the

Bishop's Fund for Father Al - Anne Miller and Dot Sinkavich and Dot Glaster, Stanley Grigas, Danny Nichols, Mr. and Mrs. John Andruski. Incidentally, Father Jutt presented John Andruski with a special placque commemorating all his work for the Lithuanian Affairs Committee and presented Mr. and Mrs. with a special scroll, a Papal Blessing. Rose Chestney and Helen Gillus from C-26 also attended and we were happy to have them with us.

On Sun., Apr. 28, two cars from C-116 took to R. 146 and headed for Providence, R.I. and the N.E.D. Convention. Irene Adamaitis drove her mother, Mrs. John Adamaitis, and Anne Miller, Dot Sinkavich, and Rita Skamrock and Tony Miner took Stanley Grigas. These seven represented 116 at the convention.

Mrs. John Adamaitis took the minutes of the convention, as she is Recording Secretary of the District, and Miss Irene Adamaitis reported on the Junior Rally, in her capacity as V-P. Miss Anne Miller, chairman of the sports committee, gave her report and awarded beautiful trophies to the winners. Tony Miner served on the

Resolutions Committee and will be co-chairman with Dorothy Blazavich for the Lithuanian Day Program at Maironis Park on Spt. 15 for the District. Mrs. John Adamaitis and Mrs. Helen Gillus were chosen delegates to the National Convention in Philadelphia in August and alternates were Miss Irene Adamaitis and Mrs. Mary Jankowski. A delicious meal was served by the host Council in Providence and everyone enjoyed themselves in true K of L fashion.

#### AN ACCOLADE TO THE KNIGHTS OF COUNCIL 116

We gain in perspective every 20 years - or so it would seem - where C-116 is concerned. First, to review a fraction of the past, the Council was established in 1928. Twenty years later the council's mimeographed journal "Equestrian" came into being. Now, 20 years after the council can rightfully congratulate itself on the journals long existence and the organizations longevity - 40 years of age.

A nonagenarian is often asked as to what he contributes his long



C-10 ATHOL-GARDNER, MASS. (Upper photos and lower left) Pre-Nuptial Party for Bill Wasleske (C-10) and Evelyn Humesey of Dorchester. (Lower right) C-10 members after attending St. Casimir's Day activities.

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life to. So one could ask what contributes to a small groups longevity. Is it scores of steady incoming members thruout the years? A compelling eagerness of youth to become Knights? It is reassuring to have a long roster of members to rely upon, however, a long list is not always possible and not always conducive to an organizations existence if the members do not work in harmony, or, there be a difference of principles.

What is essential to any organizations long life is loyalty, a need for preservation, cooperation, consideration of others, high-principles and productivity. These are the rare and valuable seeds for creation, development and continuity. If these do not exist, then a group's vitality, its lifeblood, its force will give way to dry-rot just as a once healthy prolific apple tree, left neglected, will succumb to dry rot.

Water flows under a bridge. We are intelligent enough to know that the same drops of water never return to flow under the same bridge. Hence, all the past accomplishments of an organization will never recur, can never be revived because what has happened in the past - is the past; and the past is left in the historical files to be reviewed as time goes on.

The list of our past activities, in a bygone era, is unending. We traveled with our plays in Mass. and into a neighboring state. Our dances, masquerades were the social events of the seasons. We had classes in domestic and cultural arts - even printing. Summer outings, via truck over pebbly dirt roads, to sister councils were eagerly anticipated. We attended regional conferences and our Lithuanian vocabularies broadened. Our N. E. renowned K of L basket ball team could always rely upon our encouraging participation because we also had a popular feminine team. Our baseball team had rooters in and out of city limits. All that, however, is in the past - fondly remembered but not to be recreated. And that is as it should be. Each generation makes its contribution and thereby forms its history for a Council's Family Tree.

Now it is another time and a new history of coming events must be recorded. That is the privilege of our future Knights to make and develop history or else a vacuum will exist. Councils in the past (in the present also) have weakened, remaining dormant until a new contingent of loyal, dedicated people appeared to revive it, nourish it with new blood.

Organizations are not perfect and each has its own flaws. The rules and regulations within a group are merely guide lines - some are good, others are weak and still others are too binding. Fortunately, rules and regulations can be amended. What was right and proper 40-50 years ago may well be wrong in these modern times.

Our motto "FOR GOD AND COUNTRY" should be the basis of a more careful, discerning and far-sighted study. In the dim past, married members were not encouraged to remain within the K of L. Now, the non-Lithuanian spouse of a knight is not accepted and yet, illogically, the offspring of such a union is accepted. Rejection, ostracism, exclusion - call it what you will, is an unreasonable rule. It can mean a division of family interests whereas the true interpretation of "FOR GOD AND COUNTRY" should be to safeguard and preserve the family unit. "Confession" someone once said, "was good for the Soul" and here, I say, amendments are good for a body.

May the high-principles of the Knights continue to motivate and inspire coming generations into their ranks.

ANTONIA M. WACKELL

## **K of L Calendar**

### **JUNE**

- 2 - NY-NJ DISTRICT MEETING, C-61 Paterson host, Robert Treat Hotel, Newark, N.J.
- 7 - I-I DISTRICT MEETING. K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
- 9 - C-96 Dayton, FAMILY PICNIC, Dayton, Ohio.
- 15 - C-116 So. Worcester, SQUARE DANCE, Our Lady of Vilna Parish Hall, Worcester, Mass.
- 15 - C-112 Chicago, "A NIGHT IN HEIDELBERG", K of L Gardens, Chicago, Ill.
- 16 - LITHUANIAN DAY PICNIC, Eintracht Park, Dayton, Ohio.
- 22-23 - AMERICAN LITHUANIAN CONGRESS, Washington, D.C.
- 26 - CAPTIVE NATIONS DAY, Dayton, Ohio.
- 30 - C-100 Amsterdam, ANNUAL SUMMER OUTING, Lake Galway, N.Y.

### **JULY**

- 3- 4 - I-I District Annual JULY 4th PICNIC, K of L Bldg. and Gardens, Chicago, Ill.
- 7 - THIRD NATIONAL LITHUANIAN FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL, Chicago, Ill.
- 16 - DARIUS-GIRENAS A.M. LEGION PARADE, 35th Anniversary, Chicago, Ill.
- 26 - C-96 Dayton, LUAU, Lucas Residence, Dayton, Ohio.
- 28 - C-96 Dayton, PARISH PICNIC, Eintracht Park, Ohio.

### **AUGUST**

- 4 - I-I District GOLF TOURNAMENT, Acadia Country Club, Chicago, Ill.
- 11-18 - K of L CAMP DAINAVA WEEK. (See Junior News for information)
- 22-25 - 55th NATIONAL CONVENTION, C-3 host, Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 31-9/2 - CONGRESS of the WORLD LITHUANIAN COMMUNITY, New York.